



Elks Tale

TUCSON LODGE #385



1800 N ORACLE ROAD • PO BOX 86836 • TUCSON AZ 85754-6836 • (520) 299-5105

FEBRUARY 2025

Greetings & Message from

EXALTED RULER

Richard Bernard



Dear Brother and Sisters,
Happy Valentines Day to ALL!
Come on down to the Lodge for a great dinner and dessert on Friday, February 14.

January found us busy as Elks! If you missed the first Friday dinner, you missed one incredible drum solo by our very own Big John Aceves... WoW Terrific!! Fun was had by all great night.

JANUARY EVENTS:

On January 11, at the District Hoop Shoot, we had a young man, Rene Cortez (12-13 age group), who shot 22 out of 25!

FEBRUARY 2025 EVENTS

2	Golf Club: EL RIO GC 8:22 AM
4	Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 PM
7	STEAK or Salmon Dinner Music by DREW KAT DUO 
9	SUPER BOWL PARTY 3:00 PM
10	Crafty Critters Workshop 9:30AM-2:00 PM
11	LODGE MEETING 7:00 PM
13	House Committee Meeting 6:30 PM
15	Valentines Italian Spaghetti Fundraiser
16	Golf Club: San Ignacio GC 9:00 AM
22	ARC Blood Drive: 9 AM -2 PM
25	LODGE MEETING 7:00 PM
26	Visiting Veterans Dinner (SAVAHCS BRC)

MARCH 2025 EVENTS

2	Golf Club: TBD
4	BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 6:30 PM
7	STEAK OR SALMON DINNER
10	Crafty Critters Workshop 9:30AM-2:00 PM
11	LODGE MEETING 7:00 PM
13	House Committee Meeting 6:30 PM
16	Golf Club: TBD
25	LODGE MEETING 7:00 PM
26	Visiting Veterans Dinner (SAVAHCS BRC)

He is going to the Arizona State Hoop Shoot on February 3rd, this makes our Lodge #385 so proud! Youth Programs build tomorrow's Elks and Leaders, so it is so very important that we support the children.

On January 22, the Past Exalted Rulers (PERs) put on the annual Military & Veterans Appreciation dinner. Entertainment was provided by a men's Choir and in attendance were our guests of Honor Veterans from the Southern Arizona Veterans Administration's Blind Rehabilitation School.

FEBRUARY EVENTS:

First Friday Steak or Salmon dinner is on February 7. Please call the Lodge for reservations. The musical group, DrewKat Duo, will be playing.

On February 15, the Crafty Critters Charity Group will put on a Valentine's Italian Spaghetti Dinner FUNDRAISER for AEMP, sure to be another fabulous dinner, with raffles & items for sale!

February 22, from 9 AM – 2 PM, you can give the Gift of Life for our 1st Blood Drive of 2025 at the Lodge!!

As your ER, I have only 3 more meetings to run. This has been an experience I will not forget going forward as an Elk, and where ever I land, you can be assured I will be involved in the Order. Your New Officers will start the new Fraternal Year on April 1st, and I know you will give them all your support, as you have me.

Get involved, the Lodge needs your help.

Sincerely,
Rick Bernard, Exalted Ruler



Follow Us Online!



[Tucson Elks Lodge 385](#)



[Elks Lodge 385 Website](#)

SECRETARY'S CORNER

Fraternal Year 2025/26 Dues Statements have been mailed.

If you have a question, please contact John at bpoe385@gmail.com. Prior to March 25: Please mail a Check, Stop By, or call the Lodge to pay by Credit Card; leave a message & we will call for your card information.

LODGE & OFFICE HOURS

- Tuesday - Friday: 4:00 PM - Close
 - Saturday / Sunday: Prior Arrangements Only (Rentals)
 - Subscribe to the weekly email "BLAST" OF EVENTS
- Send an email to: bpoe385@gmail.com

Dinner Reservations or Event Planning?

Please call Lodge 520-299-5105

2024-2025 LODGE OFFICERS

EXALTED RULER	Richard Bernard
LEADING KNIGHT	Robert Crawford
LOYAL KNIGHT	Michael Lessley
LECTURING KNIGHT	Mark Dunn
1ST YEAR TRUSTEE	Martha Megerle
2ND YEAR TRUSTEE	Jesse Lugo
3RD YEAR TRUSTEE	Wayne Burns
SECRETARY	John Aceves
TREASURER	Diane Gruschke
ESQUIRE	Joe Jablonski
CHAPLAIN	Joe Riley
INNER GUARD	Betty Craven
TILER	Trudi Sofias

2024-2025 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Accident Prevention	James Sanford
Americanism	Susan Trecartin
AEMP-Arizona Major Projects	Bob Holyoak
Audit & Accounting	Alyce Dice
Blood Drive	Katrina Sharp
Bike-In-A-Box	Jesse Lugo
Clothe-a-Child	Martha Megerle
Community Activities	Richard Bernard
Crafty Critters	Teen Morgan
Decorating	Sandi Mittelstaedt
Drug Awareness	Susan Trecartin
Elks National Foundation	Bob Holyoak
Elks Tale Newsletter & E-Blast	Katrina Sharp
First Responders Event	Dennis Scanlan Jim Sanford
Flag Day	Richard Bernard
Fraternal	Joe Jablonski
Golf	Matilda Lopez / Bob Holyoak
Government Relations	Wayne Burns
Hoop Shoot / Soccer Shoot	Wayne Burns
House Committee	Wayne Burns
<i>Bar Manager / Special Events / Room Rentals</i>	Laura Ruiz
Lodge Activities	Richard Bernard
Membership & Lapsation	John Aceves
Memorial Day / Veterans	Wayne Thompson
Mentor	Joe Riley
PER President	Joe Jablonski
Public Relations	John Aceves
Protocol	Joe Riley
Ritualistic	Susan Trecartin
Scholarship	Wayne Burns
Special Olympics	Wayne Burns
Veterans' Services	Richard Bernard
Website	John Aceves
Youth Activities	Wayne Burns

MEMBERSHIP AT APRIL 1, 2024: 269

TOTAL GAINED		TOTAL LOST		DELINQUENT	
Initiated	15	Dropped	0	1-6 Months	2
Affiliated	11	Transfers Out	7	1 Year	21
Transfer Dimit	0	Absolute Dimit	0	Over 1 year	0
Reinstatement	0	Deaths	13	TOTAL:	23
TOTAL: 26		Expelled	0		
		TOTAL:	20		

APPLICATIONS ON HAND

With Investigating Committee	0
Waiting to Read at next Lodge Meeting	0
Ready for Balloting	0
Ready for Orientation	0
Ready for Initiation	0
Ready for Affiliation	0
Reinstatement	0



Life Members:	38
Honorary Life Members	2
TOTAL:	40

CURRENT MEMBERS:

275

@ 01/31/25

Grand Lodge Dues: Changes for 2025 - 2026

Grand Lodge fees are set into our annual Lodge Dues. Currently, FY 2024-2025 Grand Lodge total fees are \$34.50 + \$2.50 for Arizona State Fee, totaling \$136.50 Membership Dues. Starting April 1, 2025, Grand Lodge fees will slightly increase for Fraternal Year 2025-2026.



National Elks Links:

<https://www.elks.org/default.cfm>

Check out the **Member** Section!

ELKS MAGAZINE ONLINE:

<https://www.elks.org/elksmag/>

Arizona Elks Links:

<https://arizonaelksassociation.org/links>

Join Our Elkdom:

<https://www.elks.org/membership/join.cfm>

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

	ELK DAY	YEARS
Thomas Carl Gist	01	23
Joseph Jablonski, PER	02	17
James Johnson	06	20
Patricia Baltos	07	19
Robin Irish	07	3
Frances Gordon	08	18
Robert Humphrey	09	59
Sheron Jones	09	2
Miland Mike Wilken	09	15
Dan Bonillas	11	2
Deborah Johnston	11	2
Robert Rodriguez	13	2
Barnett Barney Brenner	15	3
Thomas Drielick	17	32
Dennis Smith	18	3
Walt Lewandowski, PER	19	36
Charles Goehring	23	53
Charles Block	25	67
Patricia Orr-Bonura	27	3
Diane Winters	28	2

NEW MEMBERS WELkome to ELKdom!

On January 28, 2025, the following new members were initiated into Tucson Elks Lodge #385.

L-R: Proposer James Vickers (Jen), ER Richard Bernard; New Members Jen Vickers, Merry Archunde, Proposer Teen Morgan



Sunday, February 9, 2025

3:00 pm



Hot Dogs provided by the Lodge

- Please bring Appetizers, Salads, Sides, or Desserts
- Wear Your Favorite TEAM Jersey!

Queen of Hearts

Jackpot: \$1,027 @ 2/1/25

Come on Down & Support our FUNDRAISER

Queen of Hearts drawings!

Tickets Available to Purchase TUESDAY – FRIDAY @ 6:45 PM

4:00 PM – CLOSING

DRAWING ON FRIDAY NIGHT @ 7 PM



VETERANS SERVICES

RICHARD BERNARD, CHAIRMAN



Fellow Elks and Veterans,

Love is in the air... especially for our Veterans! Donations keep pouring in... the Brown Trunk seems to be always full.

On January 22, the PERs hosted the annual Military & Veterans Appreciation Dinner with entertainment from a men’s choir, and guests of Honor were Veterans from the SAVA Blind Rehabilitation Center.

The Veterans Committee supplied Challenge Coins and presented one to each member of the SAVA Blind Rehabilitation Center in attendance. We also have them available for purchase for \$10, if you want to give one to a veteran you know. All proceeds from the coins go into the Veterans Fund.

As most of you know, I will be stepping down from the position of Veterans Chair at the end of March. It has been an Honor and Privilege to be able to serve my fellow Veterans over the past 20 years as a VA volunteer, Service Officer, and Veterans Chair through different organizations. I can assure you I will continue to do what I can for my Brother and Sister Veterans. So as not to leave you high and dry, the Lodge now has, not 1 or 2, but 3 Service Officers who will be working along side with me till I go. Jerry Houseman, Merry Archunde, and Gary Johnson; so please give them all the support you can. Thanks to you all for stepping up!

Sincerely,
Richard Bernard



VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

For more information on the services provided by the Southern Arizona Veterans Administration Healthcare System:

<https://www.va.gov/southern-arizona-health-care/health-services/mental-health-care/>

VETERANS' HOMELESS SHELTER

► **CLOTHING IS GREATLY NEEDED!!**

PLEASE DROP OFF in Lodge Collection Box

- ★ New WHITE T-shirts: MD, LG & XL
- ★ New Briefs or Boxer Underwear: MD, LG & XL
- ★ Sweat Pants / Shirts / Hoodies / Polo Shirts
-light weight: SM, MD, LG & XL

- ♦ The Veterans' Hospital greatly **needs SNACKS** for the Vets: *individually packaged* breakfast bars, soups, jerky, chips, nuts, crackers, cookies, juices, cases of bottled WATER, etc.!!

All Donations are immensely appreciated!

**Gently used clothing is accepted,
Socks & Underwear must be NEW.**



The **Brown Trunk** in the Lodge Reception Room is for Homeless Veterans donations. Slightly used clothes, new underwear/socks, bottled water, AND prepackaged SNACKS are appreciated.
Again, Thanks for all you do in helping our Heroes!

★ Thank You to ALL our Veterans for your Service! ★



Steele Children's
Research Center

<https://peds.arizona.edu/steele>

ARIZONA ELKS MAJOR Projects to benefit the UA Steele Children's Research Center



CRITTER HAPPENINGS

CRAFTY CRITTERS BELIEVE: To Give, To Share, To Show We Care



We are as busy as Bees

Sewing burp towels for new babies, pillowcases for the Steele Center kids, Valentine treat bags with goodies to be passed out at the Steele Children's Hospital.

- ❖ **AEMP Fundraiser: Family Spaghetti dinner is February 15, door opens at 4 PM** ~ See the flyer. Call the Lodge for Reservations for your Group ~ 520-299-5105, leave a message if necessary.
- ❖ **Raffle Baskets are ready for Arizona Elks Major Projects (AEMP)**
Only a \$1 a ticket OR \$5 / 6 tickets OR \$10 / 13 tickets. Just think how much you are helping the kids out.
- ❖ Check out the Baby Care Basket for Veterans Women's Health Center. We will be giving away 40 baskets this year to new mothers.



Think as it this way: every gift / raffle you purchase from us goes to help our Charity Projects.

FUTURE PLANS

- **VETERANS WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTER:** making 40 baskets for new mothers. We will fill them with new baby care necessities: shampoo/lotion/soap, onesies, bottles, bottle brushes, swaddle blankets, burp cloths, socks, diapers, homemade baby quilts, & baby bibs.
- **VALENTINE MYSTERY BOX:** The Christmas box winner was Elsa Ludena, Martha Megerle's sister-in-law. It had Trident Grill \$100 Gift Card, Cracker Barrel meal tickets, and lots of other goodies.
Who knows what will be in the next box!

The Crafty Critters is a fun group, we love it when men come out and support us. So, join us as we do community work. Upcoming workshops: January 13
Bear Hugs,
Teen Morgan

Upcoming Workshop Dates
February 10, March 10, April 14

We are always welcoming newbies to the Group to help with our projects! Join us as we sew, iron, stuff, cut fabric, socialize, & EAT together to Do Good!

CRAFTY CRITTERS CHARITY GROUP

Ernestine 'Teen' Morgan, Chairman/Coordinator

Next Workshop

Monday, FEBRUARY 10, 2024, 1800 N Oracle Rd (Elks Lodge #385)
9:30 AM to 2:00 PM

Potluck Lunch @ 11:30 | Please Bring a Dish & Join Us!

"A little touch of kindness was going back to our room after surgery to find a special pillow cover with little pink fairies on it!"

These are some of the behind the scenes ways Organizations bless families going through treatment!
So Much Support from People with Big Hearts & a Vision!"



Know someone who may like to join us? Let me know!

Contact: Teen Morgan, 520-237-5873, or email thebeartree1@hotmail.com

PER MILITARY & VETERANS APPRECIATION NIGHT

A fantastic time was had by all at the well attended Military and Veterans Appreciation Dinner. The event was organized by the Past Exalted Rulers, held on Wednesday, January 22, 2025.



11/27/24: Thanksgiving Appreciation Award received from SGT Paul Herrera, with Reserve Army Unit A-Company 3/140 AVN/BN S&S. 32 members of unit attended the Thanksgiving dinner. They were stationed in Tucson Sector to assist US Customs & Border Patrol.

EASTER CLOTHE-A-CHILD EVENT

EASTER CLOTHE-A-CHILD SHOPPING SPREE SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2025



Once again, it is time for our Easter Clothe-a-Child Shopping Spree.

WHEN: Saturday, March 29, 2025

WHERE: 8:15 am at JCPENNEY TUCSON MALL at the LOWER LEVEL,
West Entrance (Oracle & Wetmore)

The children from Nash Elementary School will arrive about 8:30 AM.
We will go back to the Lodge after shopping, have lunch, and meet the Easter Bunny.

Please come and participate in one of our shopping sprees, you will enjoy a great day that is both a rewarding and heartwarming experience.

If you want to shop, or to help at the Lodge, please use the Sign-Up Sheet in the Green Binder at the Lodge Reception Counter, or call **Martha Megerle at 520-235-3448**.

Thank you for your attention and time.

Two short informal gatherings will be held to discuss what needs to be done & share ideas.

1st gathering: Friday, January 31, @ 5:00 pm at the Lodge

2nd gathering: Friday, February 28, @ 5:00 pm at the Lodge



Please, come join the Fun!

Very Truly, Martha Megerle, Clothe-A-Child Chairman



MEMBERSHIP IS ABOUT FAMILY & COMRADERIE

Discover Elks State Projects



Elks Build Stronger Communities

Discover Benefits for Elks Members!

ElksBenefits – Elks Members Benefits and Discounts

<https://elksbenefits.com>



LADIES' BUNCO GAME NIGHT RAISES MONEY TO SUPPORT CLOTHE-A-CHILD PROGRAM

~ 2nd Wednesday Night of the Month ~



LADIES BUNCO GAME NIGHTS

- ❖ Dinner served at 5:00 pm (RSVP for dinner reservation)
- ❖ Games begin at 6:00 pm (rules & format discussed prior to playing)

Players Fee: \$10.50 (donation & prize money)

- ✓ Menu will be texted to players 1 week before
- ✓ RSVP with your dinner selection



Please Call with Questions:

Carol Lugo: 520-490-6163 Laura (Lodge) 520-299-5105

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Oro Valley, AZ 85755

5151 E. Broadway Blvd, Suite 1600
Tucson, AZ 85711

520-297-6800



American Red Cross
Together, we can save a life.

SCHEDULE YOUR DONATION NOW!

American Red Cross Blood Drive



Saturday, FEBRUARY 22, 9 AM – 2 PM



Location: Tucson Elks Lodge #385, 1800 N ORACLE RD, 85705

75 Pints Donated!!

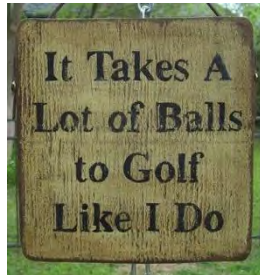
Schedule Appointments Online (www.redcross.org)

search in “LOCATION” for “ELKS385”

OR use the Red Cross Blood Donor APP

Thank YOU!!

OR Contact: Katrina Sharp, 907-888-6331, kmsharp907@gmail.com



GOLF NEWS

The two golfing events took place in January; January 5 was played at Randolph North and January 19 at Forty Niner Country Club.

2025 TEE TIMES

Date	Course	Time
Sunday, 2/16	San Ignacio GC	9:00 AM
Sunday, 3/2	TBD	TBD

Randolph North GC: January 5, 2025

- 1st place Jim Sanford
- 2nd place Katrina Sharp
- 3rd place Angelo Daniels
- 4th place Wayne Thompson
- 5th place Wayne Burns

Forty Niner CC: January 19, 2025

- 1st place Jim Sanford
- 2nd place Matilda Lopez
- 3rd place Wayne Burns
- 4th place Angelo Daniels
- Closest to the pin: Matilda Lopez, Wayne Thompson

Additional golfers & guests are always welcome to join us!

GOLF CLUB CONTACTS:	Matilda Lopez	Cell: 520-271-6842	Jim Sanford	Cell: 520-241-5844
		Email: ladybugmat@cox.net		Email: jimsan1167@q.com

The Elks Tale
 Tucson Lodge BPOE 385
 PO BOX 86836
 TUCSON AZ 85754-6836

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APPETIZERS AVAILABLE:
 ♦6-pc Shrimp Cocktail ♦ 2-pc Chicken Tenders w/ celery & carrots
 ♦ 6-pc Wings (Regular or Hot) ♦ Fries ♦ Onion Rings

						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
						2
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
GOLF CLUB El Rio GC 8:22 AM Just Minerals Show		Burger or BLT, Fries or Onion Rings OR Chicken Caesar Salad Lodge BOD, 6:30 PM Sailing Club BOD	Burgers, Fries or Onion Rings Club Bunco American Legion Riders	Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Vegetable Tucson Street Rod	FIRST FRIDAY! Steak OR Salmon, Vegetable, Baked Potato, Salad Music by DrewKat Duo	Just Minerals Show
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
SUPER BOWL PARTY 3 pm * Please Bring Appetizers, Sides, or Desserts Hot Dogs provided	Crafty Critters Workshop 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM Project Linus Group NEVER UNDERESTIMATE A CRAFTY WOMAN	Burger or BLT, Fries or Onion Rings OR Chicken Caesar Salad Lodge Meeting 7 PM	Lasagna, Garlic Sticks, Salad Ladies' Bunco Night 5 PM Games Begin 6 PM	Taco Bowls House Committee 6:30 PM	Valentine's Day! Longhorn Parmesan Chicken Orzo Pasta, Broccoli Florets OR Fried or Baked Cod, Fries, Coleslaw	VALENTINES ITALIAN DINNER FUNDRAISER Spaghetti, Meatballs or Chicken; Red Cream or Basil Garlic Red Sauce, Salad, Bruschetta, Dessert
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
GOLF CLUB San Ignacio, Time TBD MUFON 12 – 2 pm		Fish & Chips OR Chef Salad Sailing Club	Pork Tenderloin, Roast Potatoes, Vegetable OR Chef Salad Scuba Club	Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Vegetable Tucson St Rod BOD	Stuffed Shells, Meatballs, Garlic Bread, Salad OR Fried or Baked Cod, Fries, Coleslaw	American Red Cross Blood Drive 9 AM – 2 PM
23	24	25	26	27	28	
		Burger or BLT, Fries or Onion Rings OR Chicken Caesar Salad	Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Vegetable	Burgers, Fries or Onion Rings	Carne Asada, Refried Beans, Spanish Rice OR Fried or Baked Cod,	