



THE SALEM ELKLET

The newsletter for Salem Elks Lodge #336

Volume CXXV No. 10 ~ *Since 1895 - Celebrating 125 Years of Elkdom* ~ January 2021

Lodge Meeting:
Thursdays 7:30 PM

Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday
9AM - 1:30 PM

Club Hours:

Tuesday 1-9pm
Monday, Wednesday,
and Thursday 4-9pm
Friday 4-11pm
Saturday 4-9pm

**CLOSED
SUNDAY
MAY BE OPEN FOR
SPECIAL EVENTS**

Address:
2336 Turner Rd SE
Salem, OR 97302

Lodge Office:
503-364-6839

RV Park:
503-586-3157

Online:
www.salemelks.org
or @salemelks336 on
Facebook/Twitter/Instagram



Elklet Editor
editor@salemelks.org

Exalted Rulers Message

Members,

Happy New Year!!!! I know there is quite a few people that love to hear those words. First of all, it was a very interesting year to say the least, it was a difficult year in the fact of how many close friends we all lost. I am hoping this year is going to be bigger and better! We will open up as soon as we get the green light from the powers to be. Members you should be proud of your lodge. This last year we put over \$40,000 back into the community with our charity work. We set up over 70 move in boxes for vets transitioning into housing, we bought x-mas gifts for 90 children this impacted 50 families, 25 families were given gift cards to buy food. We have been busy, just because the lodge is closed, it does not mean we stop with our charity work. The x-mas gifts done in part with your donations from the Thanksgiving raffle. Before I sign off, I would like to thank all of the volunteers who made this happen. I would like to give extra kudos to Blake and Freddee Whitson who spent countless hours shopping for the home boxes for our vets and organizing the Christmas shopping! Stay safe out there and I can't wait to see you all soon.

Fraternally,
Mike Carter

COVID-19 Lodge Closure Update

Greetings members, as with last month we held the Elklet as long as possible hoping for any news about the COVID-19 Closure as mandated by the State of Oregon. At this time Marion county is still designated as being at the level of Extreme Risk of COVID-19 spread. As such we are still limited to carry out meal service only. These restrictions also require us to keep the lodge facilities closed to social gatherings which includes lodged meetings. So until further notice we are continuing to cancel lodge functions and meetings. Please keep up to date with additional announcements and any change in status by following the lodge social media accounts or signing up for the lodge blast emails. To sign up for the blast email please email volunteer@salemelks.org to be added to the mailing list.

We know this is difficult and that many wish we could reopen. Please know that we are working our best to keep on top of the situation and will re-open as soon as it is allowed and the board deems it safe to do so for our members and our employees. We hope to see you again soon.



Charity Continues No Matter What

This past year has truly been unbelievable. A year most of us would like to forget. It presented extraordinary and challenging times for all of us, especially as Elks.

Our new Lodge year began in quarantine. Who would have thought that would ever happen, not to mention the cancelling of conferences and conventions? Even Grand Lodge was not exempt from the effects of the virus. And yet the new officers in our Lodges have risen to the occasion and shown their resilience and their ability to think outside the box. They carried on with charitable projects in spite of quarantines and government lockdowns. Now with Lodges reopening in whatever manner permissible in their respective states, it becomes imperative to continue charitable giving.

We have just celebrated the seasons of Thanksgiving and Christmas, two of the most charitable times of the year. Many Lodges celebrated by helping the less fortunate in their communities through their clothing drives, Adopt a Family, Christmas basket, and food pantry programs. As Elks, the daily gifts we bestow increase our own riches. The help we extend to those in need is added to our own strength. The real benefactors of mankind count their store in what is given, not in what is saved.

In addition, meaningful Memorial Services were held following CDC guidelines. This is an important part of our service to Members and their families. "Elks are never forgotten, never forsaken."

Even in these challenging times we have been increasing our volunteer hours—not only in actuality, also in our reporting. We continue to work closely with our Lodges and State Associations to ensure accurate reporting. We continue to monitor the agendas of state and federal governments to collect information important to the Order. Our mission as the Government Relations Committee is to guide the Grand Lodge, State Associations, and Lodges in preserving the right to exist as a private, non-profit, charitable organization. Reporting charitable hours is greatly important in assisting Grand Lodge with maintaining our federal tax status. Far too often we forget about all the activities with which we are involved on a community level. Not to mention the hosting of events as mentioned previously.

Report these hours to your Lodge Secretary to enable him/her to complete the reporting in CLMS. This information is passed on to the federal government, making them aware of our charitable works across the nation. All this helps to improve our non-profit status.

One last important item: Please take the time to individually thank all the volunteers in your Lodge who participate in charity events. This simple act will make them feel appreciated and will remind them that they are part of a great organization.

Fraternally,
Robert Bohnsack
Committee Member
Grand Lodge Government Relations Committee

From the Lodge Secretary

Dear Members,

I was hoping to have good news that we were opened again but this is still up to our Governor. As of this message, we have not heard when we can open again. I never thought I'd miss going to the lodge meetings but I really miss the meetings and being with the officers and members.

We still have 49 delinquent members and I understand that many of you may be elderly and don't feel safe being at the lodge or are unemployed and need to take care of your families. We understand. In Elkdom, families come first. We continue to take care of our charities while we are shut down. We were able to take care of our Veterans families so they had a nice Christmas. Unfortunately, we had to cancel all the Christmas parties scheduled for December. We hope this new year will bring good things to all.

I can't think of any words of wisdom to leave you with other than:

“ GRATITUDE is one of the sweet shortcuts to finding peace of mind and happiness inside. No matter what is going on outside of us, there's always something to be grateful for.”

From the Lecturing Knight

Despite the challenges of the last year this Christmas season we have seen some incredible acts of brotherly love. There will be more on our Christmas Charities in this edition of the Elklet. But I want to focus for a minute here on the incredible acts of our members. By all accounts we are still in the middle of a surge in this pandemic. And yet when we asked for help to go out and shop for Christmas presents for strangers, our members answered. In fact we had almost 20 members and their families go out all across the Salem area to buy Christmas presents for total strangers. For no other reason that they wanted to help those in need.

There is no better exemplification of brotherly love than these members taking the time, and frankly the risk, to give back to those in need. Given all that our lodge has accomplished with charity this past year even with all of the challenges and hurdles we faced I look forward to seeing what we can do next year. With this spirit of brotherly love, and indeed charity, I am thinking we can accomplish a lot more. Thank you to everyone who has supported our Elks National Foundation fundraising, our grant projects, and our charities.

Fraternally,
C. Blake Whitson

Lodge Officers

Exalted Ruler

Mike Carter, PER/PCB

Leading Knight

Darrell Rysavy

Loyal Knight

Duane Haggeman

Lecturing Knight

Blake Whitson, PER/PCB

Secretary

Jan Sloan

Treasurer

Linda Loop, PCB

Inner Guard

Randy Peckham, PER

Tiler

Tim Maerz

Esquire

Dustin Yancey

Chaplain

Dan Loop, PER

Trustees

Rod Bowman ~ Ken Eschliman
Bob Moody, PER ~ Bill Myers, PER

Past Exalted Rulers/Past Chairman of the Board Association

President Blake Whitson, PER PCB
Secretary Linda Loop, PCB

Grand Exalted Ruler

Paul R. Ryan

Willmar, MN Lodge #952

North Central District Deputy

Grand Exalted Ruler

Mark Johnson

Independence Lodge #1950

North Central District OSEA

Vice President

Dan Buckholz

Silverton Lodge #2210

Honored Elks

Officer of the Year 2019-2020

Darrell Rysavy

Elk of the Year 2019-2020

Bill Myers, PER

Honorary Life Members

Gary Felling, PER ~ Bill Myers, PER~
Bob Staples, PDDGER/PER/PCB

PDDGER

Bob Staples, PER/PCB

Esquire to the DDGER

Bob Moody, PER/PCB

NC District Laws and Public Relations/Marketing Committees

C. Blake Whitson, PER/PCB

JANUARY 2021 EVENTS

Special Events

Due to state restrictions, the lodge is closed until further notice. Please sign up for email updates at volunteer@salemelks.org to know the latest on when we will be able to re-open and when we will be offering take out dinners.

Standing Events

Tuesday— Join us on Tuesdays for the return of Taco Tuesday!!! Dinner is served from 5-7:00 pm

Wednesday Night Dinners— Join us on Wednesdays for dinner from our new Wednesday menu. Dinner is served from 5:30-7:30 pm

Thursday Lodge—Join us on lodge night. Bar Bites served from 5-7 pm

Friday Night—Join us on Friday night for the Queen of Hearts. menu service is available from 5:30-7:30pm with bar bites until close. We also have Karaoke back!!

\$6 Saturday Meals—Join us on Saturday for Mikes \$6 Meal Deals! Dinner is from 5 –7:00

Other Events



Tuesday -Taco Tuesday is back!!!!



Wednesday- Grill Night with dinner specials. Also Horse Race Bingo is back



Thursday Lodge Night - Join us on lodge night. Bar Bites served 5-7.



Friday Night - Join us Friday Night for the Queen of Hearts at 8 pm.

Happy Birthday to You!!!
Present this coupon during your birthday week for 1/2 off any single menu item

Name & Member #

Present coupon to the server when ordering
excludes special events

January Important Date

To be Determined

Lodge Dress code

This is a reminder that members should be properly dressed when in the lodge. We have had several complains lately about how people are dressed. And while we are not the fashion police proper decorum should be maintained. We ask that undershirts not be worn in the lodge. Shirts should also have sleeves. We also ask that athletic-wear not be work in the lodge. If there are issues with how someone is dressed please direct those concerns to a lodge officer. The officer on duty will make the judgment as to how to handle the situation.

JANUARY 2021

Sunday Closed	Monday Closed	Tuesday 4pm - 9pm	Wednesday 4pm - 9pm	Thursday 4pm-9pm	Friday 4pm - 9pm	Saturday 4pm - 9pm
					1 Happy New Years Lodge Closed	2 TBD
3 Lodge Closed	4 Lodge Closed	5 TBD	6 TBD	7 TBD	8 TBD	9 TBD
10 Lodge Closed	11 Lodge Closed	12 TBD	13 TBD	14 TBD	15 TBD	16 TBD
17 Lodge Closed	18 Lodge Closed	19 TBD	20 TBD	21 TBD	22 TBD	23 TBD
24/31 Lodge Closed	25 Lodge Closed	26 TBD	27 TBD	28 TBD	29 TBD	30 TBD

The Call of the Open Road, The Salem 336ers RV Club

By John Trammell, RV Club Reporter

The last RV Club meeting was in November because the meeting for December was not held due to virus restrictions. We do not meet in January so nothing to report about that. The next scheduled meeting is February 2nd but it is most likely that you will not get the Elklet until after that date. If the February meeting takes place those of you who have paid your 2021 dues will be given a paper receipt at the meeting. By that time there should be a schedule of 2021 activities and camp outs to be handed out and an updated club membership roster should also be available.

If we are lucky, by then most of us will have the vaccination for the Covid-19 Virus and more social interactions will be possible. In regard to social interactions we have several members in the club who no longer have RVs. These members are more than welcome and have been valuable contributors to the overall success of the club through many years past. Most of you know Judy Sawser had her motor home up for sale and it has been sold. Judy will continue her membership in the RV Club. Well this the shortest article I have ever written, if any of you have newsworthy information send it to me for the next article I will write for February.

From Grand Exalted Ruler Paul Ryan

Frohes Neues Jahr, Godt Nyttår, Feliz Año Nuevo, and Happy New Year!!!! No matter how you say it, 2021 can ONLY be a better year!

Do you still have resolutions? Or maybe they are goals. I had a few goals as your Grand Exalted Ruler for my year as your representative of this organization. My biggest thing is to make sure that the Order builds on what we already have. Create more ways to give back, add to the programs to help others, build on our benevolence. But, we can all say that—are you doing it? Knowing what I know about all of the Members that we have had the opportunity to meet, there is no doubt in my mind that we are doing a lot, but can we do more!

Because of our wonderful new program, the Financial Reporting System (FRS), normally at this time I would be suggesting that it is time to get your Auditing and Accounting Committee on regular meetings to look at the budgets and prepare the financial documents to ship to CPAs. But because of the FRS, we only need to prepare, compare, and send for your 990s to be completed. Although our “Lodge year” is different, the IRS needs your information for a calendar year. Make sure to get them prepared.

This is also the time to start preparing for your PER Night. Get your new officers ready to start their year. Help your future officers and prepare for the next regime. But, don't stop your current momentum. This is what is going to take you into the new year. It will also teach your future leaders to Create Momentum for the Future of Elkdom.

I had the honor of participating and being a part of the 150th anniversary celebration of this great Order. I will never forget what an honor that was, and the fact that two of my children were also able to be a part of it. February is the birthday of our Order. Use this to have a celebration, a dinner, or an outing to help create funds for your Lodge, to help with the community, or to help another organization. No matter what you do, make the birthday of the Elks an event in your Lodge. For ERs, Secretaries, and PERs, this is the time also to choose your Elk of the Year, Officer of the Year, and Citizen of the Year. As always, take time to deliberate and choose thoughtfully.

Lapsation should also be a focus of your Membership Committee. My Lodge has reported that we are nearing 2% in lapsation. Although for me that is a small number, for many it is huge. Let's make this another year of growth.

Salem Elks Lodge Christmas Charities - Update!

It should come as no surprise given the challenges of the past year that our annual Christmas Giving projects faced unprecedented demand this year to provide assistance to those in need. And our lodge rose the occasion to meet that need. As with prior years we provided Christmas gifts for the students at the Oregon School for the Deaf, and for the children of veterans and national guard members referred to us by either Easterseals Oregon or the Oregon National Guard Family Assistance Program. All told this year we bought Christmas for 93 kids in over 50 families, and provided winco gift card good for food purchases only to 24 of those families in place of our traditional food boxes. After sitting down and adding up the numbers it is truly impressive what his lodge does for its community. For all of our Christmas Giving we spent a total of \$7,851.24. Our volunteers through their diligent shopping received a minimum of \$2,823.21 in additional discounts and savings. This makes the total impact of our 2020 Christmas Giving to be more than \$10,674.45. This is something we should all take pride in.

I want to take a moment and thank those who help make this possible from our incredible volunteers to our community partners. This years volunteers include: Rhonda Morgan and Mike Scott, Jan Sloan, Cindy Faulkner, DeeDee Friedhoff, Deb Keady, Doll Body, Josephine Fejeran, Jim and Sherry Knaup (and their daughters Terry and Hailey), Bob Rossi, Mike Carter, Darrell Rysavy, and Freddee Whitson. These volunteers spent countless hours shopping, loading and unloading presents, and helping coordinate pickup with the families.

I also want to recognize our community partners for one again taking the time to work with us and to help us identify those in need. Tara with the Oregon National Guard, the team at Easterseals Oregon, and Anne at the Oregon School for the Deaf. These individuals helped identify families, filled out our intake form, and helped identify the families Christmas wish lists so our shoppers knew what to go out and get.

And finally, we need to thank the Elks National Foundation Community Investment Program for putting \$3500 into this project. But we also need to give ourselves a round of applause as well. The rest of the money used for this project came from lodge fundraising. Without your generosity, none of this would be possible. Thank you all for another successful year of our Christmas Giving

C. Blake Whitson
Christmas Chairman

48 Delinquent Members Remain

The following members are still delinquent as of 12/28/2020. If you know anyone on the list please encourage them to pay their dues today. And if a member of the list is experience financial hardship encourage them to discuss options.

- Gina Allenby
- Kenneth Armstrong
- Carl Atalig
- James Ault
- Aaron Bales
- Dennis Belfils
- George Buckner II
- Paul Cochran
- Sheila Cunningham
- Steven Falkenstein
- Robert Hayden
- Gene Irish
- Ted Johnson
- Cory Jones
- Donald Knepp
- Arthur Mack
- Greg Martin
- Dan Miller
- Link Miller
- George Moeller
- Michael Muna
- Blain Nix
- Kenneth page
- Damon patton
- Maria Ramirez
- Dorothy Read
- Art Reinke
- John Robinson
- Donald Rochefort
- Donald Rollofson
- Richard Ropp
- Veronicsa Russell
- Delmer Sabrowski
- Don Schuetz
- Twila Shirley
- Grace Tangalin
- Manuel Tenorio
- Evan Thompson
- Mark Tikunoff
- Melissa Tippey
- Joaquin Tudela
- John Volbeda
- Ed Wagoner
- Rodney Wagoner
- Christopher Watts
- Brandon Weatherson
- Robert Weis
- April Estrada

Salem Elks Lodge #336

2336 Turner Rd SE
Salem, OR 97302
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Find us online at:
www.salemelks.org
or @SalemElks336 on
Facebook/Twitter/Instagram



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2021 *Elks*



extraordinary people

Moving ELKDOM Forward