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PHOENIX ELKS TRACKS

Phoenix Elks Tracks



June 2024

Phoenix Elks Lodge No. 335      14424 North 32nd Street      Phoenix, Arizona 85032      Phone (602) 482-2335

2023-2024 Volume g8, Issue No. 3

Lodge Events in June

Saturday June 1	Texas Hold 'Em 7pm
Saturday June 1	Fun Bingo 7pm
Monday June 3	Bunco 1pm
Monday June 3	House Committee Meeting 6:30pm
Tuesday June 4	Fun Bingo 6pm
Tuesday June 4	Trustee Meeting 7pm
Wednesday June 5	Orientation 7pm
Wednesday June 5	Steak Night Dinner 5:30pm
Thursday June 6	Lodge Meeting 7pm
Friday June 7	Dinner 5:30pm
Friday June 7	Line Dancing 7:30pm
Friday June 7	Membership Meeting 6:30pm
Tuesday June 11	Fun Bingo 6pm
Tuesday June 11	Kids Comm. Meeting 5pm
Wednesday June 12	Song Bingo 7pm
Friday June 14	Dinner 5:30pm
Friday June 14	Live Music 6:30pm
Saturday June 15	Texas Hold 'Em 7pm
Saturday June 15	Fun Bingo 7pm
Sunday June 16	PER Breakfast 9am
Sunday June 16	Flag Day Events (see Calendar pg 6.)
Monday June 17	House Committee Meeting 6:30pm
Tuesday June 18	Fun Bingo 6pm
Tuesday June 18	Trustee Meeting 7pm
Wednesday June 19	Applications Meeting 7pm
Wednesday June 19	Line Dancing 6:30pm
Thursday June 20	Lodge Meeting 7pm
Friday June 21	Dinner 5:30pm
Friday June 21	Live Music 6:30pm
Friday June 21	Membership Meeting 6:30pm
Tuesday June 25	Fun Bingo 6pm
Wednesday June 26	Live Music 6pm
Thursday June 27	PER Meeting 7pm
Thursday June 27	Veterans Meeting 6pm
Friday June 28	Dinner 5:30pm
Saturday June 29	Fun Bingo 7pm

Articles and Photo Submissions for Next Month's Edition via the QR Code or email 335elks335@gmail.com. Deadline for submissions to Tracks is the 10th of each month by 5pm.



Exalted Ruler, Joe Brown

Greetings to all brother and sister Elks,

We have some news for you. First, the pool should be open for all our members to enjoy this summer by the time you read this. A big thank you to our Trustees for getting it completed in time for the swimming season.

We have had a busy month; your officers attended the mid-year Arizona Elks Association convention.

We competed in the Initiation Ritual, and here are the results: Laura McCray received Best Candidate and highest score in the contest of all officers performing. Lionel McCray received Best Esquire and Most Impressive Esquire as well. Karen Seaman received Best Loyal Knight. I (Joe Brown) received Best Leading Knight. Diane Bodwell and William Darr Jr. received Best Coaches. Carol Brown received Runner-Up for Best Exalted Ruler. Becky Simons received Runner-Up for Best Lecturing Knight. Clint Thompkins received Runner-Up for Best Chaplain, and our team came in 1st place and will represent the great state of Arizona at the Elks National Convention in Austin, Texas at the end of this month. All the officers thank you for all our members' support; we could not have done this without you. Thank you, members. We would like to congratulate all the other teams for their hard work and dedication to the Ritual competition.

We are still looking for volunteers for all our committees. If you are interested in getting involved, contact the chairperson or the chair officer for the committee of interest. If you have talents in trades or skills that you could help out with in the Lodge, we would love to have you. You can contact me at 602-791-6894 or by email at Joebrownelks335@gmail.com.



Esteemed Leading Knight, Karen Seaman

Greetings to all our members of Phoenix Lodge 335, from your Leading Knight!

As we step into June, I extend warm wishes to each of you. This month, we look forward to lively events including Father's Day and Flag Day rituals, where we'll honor traditions and celebrate unity. It's great to see familiar faces returning to our Lodge. Let's continue to create a welcoming atmosphere where camaraderie flourishes through shared experiences.

I'm excited to provide a sneak peek into an upcoming event close to my heart – the Charity Ball.

Mark your calendars for February 15, 2025, as we transport ourselves to the enchanting streets of Paris with the theme "Midnight in Paris." Stay tuned for further details in the coming months as we unveil more about this unforgettable evening. Remember to save the date and be part of this magical affair! Wishing you all a joyful month!



Esteemed Loyal Knight, Becky Simons

Summer begins on the longest day of the year, but it feels like it's already here—and it's a warm one! Thank you to all the volunteers who have worked or donated to the events I've chaired so far. Your support for our picnics, Veterans, and everyone who contributes to the Elks National Foundation is deeply appreciated. I encourage all our members to get involved in volunteering for any activities that catch their interest. As always, if you see me around, come and chat. You are not just friends; you are my inspiration.



Esteemed Lecturing Knight, Clint Tompkins

Thank you to all the coaches and participants of the Ritual team. We performed well, receiving a high rating, and will be moving on to compete in Austin! We are looking forward to an incredible June — celebrating Flag Day, Father's Day, and hopefully enjoying a day by the newly refurbished pool on the longest day of the year, June 20th, or watching the evening's Strawberry Moon on June 21st!

THE ELKS TRACKS IS THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF PHOENIX LODGE 335, PUBLISHED MONTHLY AND DISTRIBUTED TO ALL LODGE MEMBERS. CONTENT IS SUBJECT TO EDITING, ACCEPTANCE, OR REJECTION BY THE TRACKS STAFF. CERTAIN ARTICLES ARE PRINTED AS SUBMITTED WITHOUT EDITING, PER DIRECTION OF THE EXALTED RULER AND/OR THE LODGE SECRETARY. ALL WRITTEN ARTICLES MUST BE SUBMITTED IN PAPER, EMAIL, TEXT, OR WORD FORMAT. GRAPHICS, PICTURES, AND PHOTOGRAPHS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN AN "ACTUAL SIZE" FORMAT. VERBAL CHANGES TO THE CONTENT ARE ACCEPTABLE WITH AN EMAIL / RE-SUBMISSION.

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**Secretary’s Information**

**Sickness and Distress:**

Ken White, PER was in ICU, he is doing better now.

Please keep Ken and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

**Proposition for Membership:**

Read on the floor of the Lodge April 18 and May 2, 2024 Lodge sessions.

**By Initiation**

Stephen Albrecht

John Scott

Michael Senger

Edward Hopkins

Fred Humphrey

Stone H. Senoski

Irma Stewart

Kim Szeg

**Proposer**

Keith J. Evans

Brian Massrock

Brenda Kayal

Martin Griffith, PER

Mike Mazor

Floyd Senoski

Norm J. Bertram

Robert S. Griffiths

**By Transfer Dimit:**

Kevin McGourty from Scottsdale Lodge #2148

Frank Dolezal from Raceway Lodge #2852

Karen Dolezal from Raceway Lodge #2852

All applications were referred to the Applications Committee.

**Applications Committee Report:**

The following candidates were favorably recommended by the Application Committee at the April 17, 2024 committee meeting.

**By Initiation:**

Maverick Courtney

Tammara Gage

Don Mohrmann, Jr.

Richard Rosky

Kim Szeg

Rebecca Escarcega

Joyce Kissner

Dennis Rohrman

Stone Senoski

**Transfer Dimit**

Frank Dolezal

Karen Dolezal

**Balloting:**

The following candidates were balloted on in the affirmative at the April 18, 2024 Lodge session.

**By Initiation:**

Maverick Courtney

Tammara Gage

Don Mohrmann, Jr.

Richard Rosky

Kim Szeg

Rebecca Escarcega

Joyce Kissner

Dennis Rohrman

Stone Senoski

**Transfer Dimit:**

Frank Dolezal

Karen Dolezal

All applicants were balloted on in the affirmative.

**Initiation:**

The following candidates were initiated into Phoenix Lodge #335, B.P.O.Elks at the May 2, 2024

**Lodge session:**

Rebecca Escarcega

Joyce Kissner

Dennis Rohrman

Stone Senoski

Tammara Gage

Don Mohrmann, Jr

Richard Rosky

Kim Szeg

**Membership/Lapsation Report:**

Beginning Membership Total 4/1/2023	
1052	
Increases:	
Initiated	13
Affiliated	2
Reinstated	1
Subtotal	16
Decreases:	
Dropped	0
Transferred Out	0
Absolute Dimit	0
Deaths	0
Expelled	0
Subtotal	0
CLMS Active Members	1068
Average Age	65.69
Gain/Loss	16
Delinquency:	
Six Months	206
One Year	0
Over One Year	0
Total	206
Lapsation Rate	19.58%
Life Members	151
Honorary Life Members	0
Total	151
Life Percentage	14.35%

save

the

date

**July 27th: Kids Back to School Swim Party at 5 PM**

**Sept 14th: Redneck Party! Grab bag items wanted – text Linda at 307-421-4683 if you have items or want to help.**

**Nov 2nd: First Annual Elks Car Show! Call Kathy Jones for more information at 602-777-1366.**





**Left to right:** Stone Senoski; Tammara Gage; Rebecca Escarcega; Joyce Kissner; Don Mohrmann Jr.; Richard Rosky; Dennis Rohrman; Kim Szeg; Joe Brown, Exalted Ruler



**Left to right:** Will McDermott, Treasurer; Aramus Kullkian, Chaplain; Claire Miller, President; Pia Kashyap, Secretary; Sri Moukthika Malladi, Trustee Community Service; Not pictured: Surabhi Abhilash, Vice President; Konnie Johnson, Trustee Membership; Shaurya Sharma, Trustee/ Social Committee

## Meet Our Members

Submitted by Karen Seaman, Esteemed Leading Knight

Lt Cmdr. James S. George's life story unfolds like a narrative of unwavering patriotism and selfless dedication. Born in the vibrant city of Chicago, Illinois, he felt the call to serve his nation from an early age, inspired by a family legacy of valor and sacrifice. His journey into the Navy commenced



in 1942, a pivotal moment that would shape his destiny.

From the bustling streets of Chicago to the sun-kissed shores of Arizona, Lt Cmdr. George's path was one of relentless service and remarkable valor. In 2013, he made Arizona his home, purchasing a condo and embracing a new chapter of his life amidst the desert landscape. However, his heart remained tethered to the call of duty, leading him to the distant shores of Vietnam.

Lt Cmdr. George's service in Vietnam exemplified the essence of bravery and sacrifice. Amidst the chaos of war, he served with distinction, undertaking perilous missions as a combat swimmer. His duties ranged from reconnaissance to personnel recovery, where he demonstrated unparalleled courage in rescuing downed pilots from the treacherous waters below.

Tragically, the battlefield exacted its toll on Lt Cmdr. George, as he faced the harrowing reality of combat injuries. In the midst of the Battle of Hue, an explosion rocked the waters around him, leaving him injured and in harm's way. Despite the ordeal, Lt Cmdr. George's resilience and determination prevailed, as he navigated the treacherous waters of recovery and healing. He was transferred back to the United States.

Beyond the battlefield, Lt Cmdr. George found solace and strength in the love of his family. In July of 1970, he met his beloved wife, Barbara, and their bond flourished into a lifelong partnership. They exchanged vows on May 7, 1977, embarking on a journey filled with love, support, and shared dreams. Together, they built a family rooted in values of loyalty and compassion.

Their love bore fruit in the form of two children, a daughter named Amy and a son named Brendan. Amy resides in Wilmette, Illinois, while Brendan calls Palatine, Illinois, home. Their children, now grown, carry forward the legacy of service and sacrifice instilled by their father, embodying the principles of honor and duty in their own lives.

In 2015, Lt Cmdr. George's journey intersected with the Elks Lodge, marking the beginning of a new chapter in his service to the community. Recognizing the shared values of patriotism and dedication, he became an integral part of the Lodge's mission, fostering camaraderie and support among its members. The partnership between the Elks Lodge and the Sea Cadets blossomed, as Lt Cmdr. George's leadership ensured the continued success and growth of both organizations.

As Lt Cmdr. George's journey continues, his legacy stands as a testament to the enduring values of honor, courage, and commitment. In every chapter of his storied career, he embodies the finest traditions of the Navy, the unwavering spirit of American patriotism, and the transformative power of family and community.

## Cowboy Cookout

Submitted by Lizanne Luke, Veterans Committee Chair

The Cowboy Cookout, held on April 6, was a great success. We sold 172 tickets, well beyond the 150 we initially planned for. We served ribs, chicken, coleslaw, and potato salad. The 50/50 raffle, baskets, and auction were all successful. Everyone



seemed to enjoy the Grab Bags. The Veterans Committee helped raise over \$3,500 to assist our Veterans. We look forward to the next Cowboy Cookout and hope everyone will join us again next year. Special thanks to all our volunteers who helped out this year.

**Photo Left to Right:** Dawn Quinn & Sheila Dufield

## Lodge Cleanup Day

Submitted by Linda Thompson

Take a look around! A tremendous thank you to our volunteers who put their blood (there was a little), sweat, and tears into beautifying your All American



Lodge on April 20th. Trustee Mark (Smurf) Thompson and PER Marty Griffith led the outdoor crew to spread gravel, remove brush and weeds, and collect trash. The fifteen Elks workers were joined by 18 members of BSA Troop 607 and 12 members of GSA Troop 181. A huge thank you to them! Their hard work really made a difference. You can clearly see our Lodge from the street, and it looks great! PER Clem Brown worked with a team to organize the storage containers, where we keep holiday decorations, banquet supplies, and other items that seem to collect each year. You can find things now! Linda Thompson and a team cleaned up the foliage surrounding the lounge and banquet rooms. The plants have a new shine and brighter colors to them.

Thank you to chef Marty, who again supplied and grilled lunch for the hungry volunteers! Look for future opportunities to make your Lodge shine. It only takes a little of your time to make a difference. Linda needs a helper or two on a weekday in June to clean up the trophy cases—text her at (307) 421-4683 if you can help. And, don't forget to clean up after yourself after a meal or drink. It shows that you care.



**Pictured top to bottom left to right:** Smurf Thompson, James Burch, Lizanne Luke, Bill Darr, PDDGER; Cookie Nanni



## Paint 'N Sip Fun

Submitted by: Linda Thompson, CCSS Chair

It was another great day for the Children's Christmas Shopping Spree on April 20th, when we had 31 participants for our Painting on Glass class. Everyone let out their inner artist, creating fabulous sunsets, flowers, beaches, and patterns on glasses and table decor. Thanks to Leading Knight Karen Seaman and Cookie Nanni for putting together the tasty charcuterie boxes, and to Nicole Beach for organizing the event and the music. A big thanks to Cindy Pendergrass for cooking and serving our delicious taco bowls. With a little help from our DD Ritual Clinic participants, we raised about \$1,400 for the charity. It's a small drop in our \$25,000 budget bucket, so please keep supporting the cause.

Mark your calendar for the Redneck Party on Saturday, September 14th at 5:30. It takes a lot of volunteers to make this event a success, so please consider if you can help decorate or set up, sell raffle tickets or put together baskets, run games, or help serve food. Please contact Linda Thompson at (307) 421-4683 or lthompsonncua@gmail.com if you are able to lend a hand.



**Pictured top to bottom left to right:** Kathy Pacsun; Debbie Sather; David Tevis and Les Oilund

## Cinco de Mayo!

Submitted by Kathy Jones, Membership Committee Chair



The fundraiser for our membership held on Cinco de Mayo raised approximately \$225.00. Although attendance was modest, the event was fun with music, raffles, and lunch. The highlight was the kids' piñata, which everyone enjoyed watching being broken open in the Vista room. Special thanks go out to Rich Becker for his help with the food, and to all the members of the Membership Committee who pitched in so wonderfully. The Membership Committee showed that they can indeed "pull a rabbit out of a hat" when needed. Thank you to everyone who attended that day. We also hope to set up a buddy system for new members. Anyone interested in participating should contact Kathy Jones via email at kajones0809@gmail.com. Thanks again!



**Pictured left to right:** Sylvia Carruthers; Elijah; granddaughter and grandson of Laura Browne; Laura Browne

## Youth Week

Submitted by Clint Tompkins, Esteemed Lecturing Knight

On May 4th, we celebrated our youth groups with pizza, ice cream, awards, and a movie. A BIG thank you to The Antlers, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Sea Cadets and their leaders. All these people help maintain our Lodge, participate in ceremonies, and will soon become some of the leaders

of our Lodge and further its activities. Let's continue to celebrate these young people's achievements and volunteer work as they grow and become amazing adults.

Thank you to our Hoop Shoot and Soccer Shoot participants and winners. Cookie Nanni, Karen Seaman, and Anton Jones (Elroy) were there to represent drug awareness and the dictionary program. Thank you to Joe Brown ER, Clem Brown PER, Heather Leal Photos, Becky Simons, Nicole Beach, Debora Sector, & the Vanwey Family for all the help with the day.

If you would like to help with next year's "Youth Week" or have ideas to make this event better, please join our Kids Committee that meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 5 p.m. in the pool room.



**Pictured top to bottom left to right:** Clint Tompkins, Esteemed Lecturing Knight; Joe Brown, Exalted Ruler; Damien Speck, Scout Liaison; Clint, Joe, Kayla Wolfe, Girl Scout of the Year; Clint, Joe, Sydney Swanson, Antler of the Year; Clem Brown, PER; Jeff Beasley, Esquire; Elroy, Drug Awareness mascot; Jan Mitchell

## Essay Winners!

Submitted by Kirby Everingham, Americanism Essays Chair



Always the first Sunday in May is when our Lodge hosts the Awards Dinner for the Essay Contest winners and the high school seniors who have been lucky and skilled enough to win our scholarships. This past May 5th was no exception, as seven essay contest winners and seventeen scholarship recipients were honored.

Our theme this year was "What the Bill of Rights Means to Me." Rules and flyers were sent out to 50 schools within a 5-mile radius of our Lodge. We received 86 essays from 4 schools. The topic was more difficult to write about, so we had fewer participants than usual. However, the essays were very good, and our panel of judges enjoyed reading them. My thanks to our judges, Billy Walker, Perry Bishop, Kathy Allasia, Bill Janson, and myself.

### **The essay winners were:**

#### **Division I, 5th grade**

Kingston Henson, Eva Jones, and Andrew Shetlar, Quail Run Elementary School in Mrs. Forkum's class.

#### **Division II, 6th grade**

Derick Pierce, Quail Run Elementary School in Mrs. Forkum's class.

#### **Division III, 7th grade-** No winner.

#### **Division IV, 8th grade**

Jessica Scerbo, Christopher Shivers, and Khloe Zenk, all from Shea Middle School in Mrs. Kabaj's class.



Our essay winners received certificates and \$100 gift cards from Office Max/Office Depot. We want them to continue writing and expressing their ideas. Their essays go on to the District Level and, if they win, then to the State, and if winners at State, then on to National. This is a national Elks event, and the national winners are announced at the convention. Good luck to all our kids.



**Picture from left to right:** Kirby Everingham, Americanism Essays Chair; Essay winners and Bill Janson, Co Chair

## Arizona Elks Association State Convention Recognition of President Al Kayal

Submitted by: Clem Brown, Past Exalted Ruler, Chair of Trustees

The 109th Annual Arizona State Convention was held Thursday, May 9th through Saturday, May 11th, 2024, at the Tempe DoubleTree Hotel and Convention Center. It was well attended by over 600 members, comprised of friends, family, and fellow Elks. On Saturday, May 11th, during the near-close of the last business session, the Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 Past Exalted Rulers (“PERs”) presented outgoing Arizona State President Al Kayal, Past District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler and member of the Phoenix Lodge, with a commemorative gift acknowledging Al’s considerable service to the Order and his leadership during his year as the Arizona Association President. West District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, Larry Bodwell, PER, presented Al with an Elk’s tooth gold pendant, signifying his term. The gift was procured by the Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 Past Exalted Rulers and paid for from their fund. Al was genuinely surprised and extremely appreciative as he received the award from Larry. Congratulations, Al, on the completion of your successful year as State President! Al will continue serving as 5th Year Trustee for the Association, as well as the Phoenix Lodge 5th Year Trustee.



**PICTURED:** Larry Bodwell, PER Al Kayal, AEA President

## Arizona Elks Association State Convention Names Public Safety Officer of the Year

Submitted by: Clem Brown, Past Exalted Ruler, Chair of Trustees

The Phoenix Lodge tradition of excellence in honoring our police, firefighters, and first responders at the Public Safety Appreciation event was held Thursday, November 9th, 2023, in our Vista and Heritage Banquet rooms.

Of the nine participating agencies this year, the Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office (MCSO), Sergeant Anthony Menella presented a departmental award to Deputy Michael Bytnar of the Sheriff’s Office. Officer Bytnar, a nine-year veteran of the MCSO, was instrumental in saving several lives while off-duty during a domestic dispute service call in 2023 with a knife-wielding suspect who had already claimed two lives. Later the same year, Officer Bytnar was respond-



ing to a house fire in Gila Bend, Arizona, when an unruly and violent crowd attacked the responding firefighters. Officer Bytnar’s quick actions secured and calmed the area so that the firefighters could safely fight the fire.

As noted in the January 2024 Elks Tracks Edition article concerning the Public Safety Appreciation event, all of our awardees were submitted and reviewed by the Lodge’s Public Safety Recognition Committee and the top recommended recipients were then provided to the Arizona State Elks Association for final consideration and selection of “Officer of the Year” to be presented at the May 2025 State Elks Convention in Tempe.

The 109th Annual Arizona State Convention was held from Thursday, May 9th through Saturday, May 11th, 2024, at the Tempe DoubleTree Hotel and Convention Center. On Saturday, May 11th, our Phoenix Lodge’s #335 submission of Officer Bytnar for consideration as Arizona Public Safety Officer of the Year was recognized by Past Grand Exalted Ruler and Arizona Sponsor Louis J. Grillo, current Grand Exalted Ruler Randy P. Shook, and Arizona State President Al Kayal, who presented Officer Bytnar with the State’s highest award while his family members and fellow officers looked on. Congratulations, Officer Bytnar!

This story highlights the importance of serving our communities through our Elks programs. This event resulted in heartwarming lifetime memories for all of those involved and brings to the forefront an important opportunity for Elksdom through our Lodge’s good works to increase awareness of public relations within the community, the State of Arizona, and perhaps the nation.

**Picture from left to right:** “Jim” Grillo, PGER & AZ State Sponsor; Louis; Randy Shook, Grand Exalted Ruler; Officer Bytnar; and Al Kayal, AEA President

## Flag Day History

Submitted by Linda Thompson and Clint Tompkins, Esteemed Lecturing Knight

“In July of 1908, the Elks’ Grand Lodge provided for the annual nationwide observance of Flag Day on the 14th of June each year, making it mandatory for each subordinate Lodge in the Order. June 14 was officially established as Flag Day by a proclamation by President Woodrow Wilson in 1916. Flag Day was not a national observance until 1949—President Harry Truman, himself an Elks member, was inspired through his Lodge in Independence Missouri, to sign an act of Congress that dedicated June 14 to the symbol of our country.”

-Grand Lodge Elks Site-

On the “Red Skelton Hour” on January 14, 1969, Red Skelton (1913-1997) shared a memorable story: “I had this one teacher, Mr. Lasswell, the principal of Harrison School in Vincennes, Indiana. To me, he was the greatest teacher, a true sage. During one Pledge of Allegiance recitation, he noticed our delivery had become monotonous. He asked if he could recite it, explaining the meaning of each word to us. ‘I—me, an individual, a committee of one. Pledge—dedicate all my worldly goods to give without self-pity. Allegiance—my love and my devotion. To the Flag—our standard, Old Glory, a symbol of freedom. Wherever she waves, there is respect because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts freedom is everybody’s job. Of the United—that means we have all come together. States—individual communities united into 48 great states, each with its own pride and dignity but united for a common cause, love of country. And to the Republic—a state in which sovereign power rests in representatives chosen by the people to govern, with government being from the people to the leaders, not the other way around. For Which it Stands—One Nation, so blessed by God. Indivisible—incapable of being divided. With Liberty—which is freedom, the right to live one’s life without threats, fear, or any sort of retaliation. And Justice—the principle of dealing fairly with others. For All—meaning it’s as much your country as it is mine.’ Now, let’s say it again...” His words remind us of our deep connection to the flag and our nation.”

Thanks to Fort Madison, IA Lodge 374 for sharing this anecdote. The Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 is proud to be part of an organization responsible for this national holiday.

## Arizona Elks Association State Convention Ritual Report

Submitted by: Clem Brown, Past Exalted Ruler, Chair of Trustees

The 109th Annual Arizona State Convention contests for the 11 o’clock Toast, Flag Presentation, and Ritual were held on Thursday, May 9th, and Friday, May



10th, 2024, at the Tempe DoubleTree Hotel and Convention Center. The Saturday evening's formal banquet and presentation of awards were as follows:

11 o'clock Toast Champion: Randy Kittenhausen, Tucson East Lodge #2532, with a score of 99.275. Phoenix Lodge #335 was represented by Past Exalted Rulers Clem Brown and Randy Sterling in the contest.  
Flag Presentation Champion: Randy Kittenhausen, Tucson East Lodge #2532, with a score of 98.656. Phoenix Lodge #335 was represented by Past Exalted Rulers Clem Brown and Randy Sterling in the contest.  
Ritual Runner Up: Yuma Lodge #476, with a score of 96.5641.  
Ritual Champions: Phoenix Lodge #335, with a score of 97.2981.  
Phoenix was also the Ritual word champion with a score of 209.58 out of a possible 210, meaning that the performing officers approached perfection in their memorized delivery of the initiation ritual. The Phoenix Lodge #335 Team will represent Arizona at the National Convention Ritual Contest, to be held during the convention from June 30th through July 3rd, 2024, in Austin, Texas. Additional details of the individual and team awards will appear in the July edition of the Phoenix Elks Tracks.



**Pictured left to right:**Joe Brown, Exalted Ruler; Jeff Beasley, Esquire; Bill Darr, PDDGER & Coach; Louis “Jim” Grillo, AZ State Sponsor; Randy Shook, Grand Exalted Ruler; Carol Brown PER, Karen Seaman, Esteemed Leading Knight; Diane Bodwell, PER & Coach; Esteemed Leading Knight; Becky Simons, Esteemed Loyal Knight; Al Kayal, AEA President; Laura McCray, Candidate and Lionel McCray, Esquire

## The House Committee Corner

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

At a previous House Committee meeting, the subject arose regarding service animals allowed in the Lodge. Our Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 House Rules address this issue quite sufficiently, specifically HR-23: “No animals or pets shall be permitted within the facilities except when appearing upon the bills of special entertainment or required by the handicapped.”

The House Committee conducted some research on this subject to clarify it for our members. The United States Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Arizona Revised Statutes describe service animals as “dogs of any breed or size, trained to perform a task directly related to a person’s disability.” Service animals are not emotional support or comfort dogs, as providing emotional support or comfort is not a task related to a person’s disability.

Our employees may ask for certain information using two questions:

Is the dog a service animal required because of a disability?  
What work or task has the dog been trained to perform?  
They are not allowed to request any documentation that the dog is registered, licensed, or certified as a service animal, require that the dog demonstrate its task, or inquire about the nature of the person’s disability.

Of course, any member asked these questions regarding a service animal’s status would answer honestly, thus not violating their oath of obligation. For any further information, visit [www.ada.gov/topics/service-animals](http://www.ada.gov/topics/service-animals).

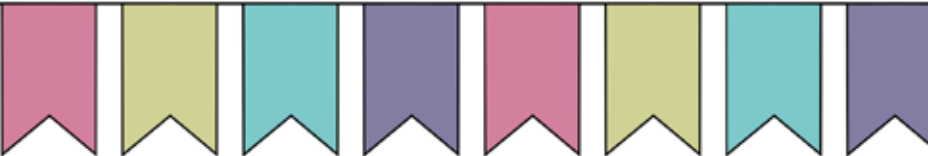
It has also come to our attention that there may be some misunderstanding by the membership about the duties and responsibilities of the House Committee. The duties of supervision and management of the club, social parlor,

and facility shall always be subject to the control and direction of the Lodge, except for those actions and decisions pertaining to employee relationships and the fixing of prices for goods and services. Members may locate this and more information in the BPOE Statutes Annotated 2023 Section 16.040, Exalted Rulers-Lodge Officers-Committee Members Manual Page 8, and House Committee Handbook Page 2. The House Committee encourages all members to access [elks.org](http://elks.org) for information and activities of our Order.

The House Committee will be as informative as possible to assist our members in the awareness of activities, procedures, and events affecting our Lodge.

Fraternally,  
*Bill Darr*  
William B. Darr, Jr. (PDDGER)  
House Committee Chair  
(415) 850-5250  
[slidarr628@cs.com](mailto:slidarr628@cs.com)

To get House Rules:  
Go to [Elks.org](http://Elks.org).  
Upper right, select Login.  
Enter Username and Password; select Login.  
(You are now on your own page in the Member Center.)  
Under your name, select Web:[www.elks.org/335](http://www.elks.org/335).  
You are now at Phoenix Lodge #335 Home Page.  
Left side of page, select Members Only. Select by-laws from the Drop Down Menu.



# ARIZONA ELKS ASSOCIATION STATE RITUAL CHAMPIONS! THE TEAM IS OFF TO AUSTIN, TX REPRESENTING ARIZONA IN THE NATIONAL CONVENTION!

Phoenix Lodge #335 Annual  
Scholarship Banquet  
Submitted by: Diane Bodwell, PER Scholarship Chair

On Sunday, May 5, 2024, the Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 Scholarship Com-



mittee held their annual Scholarship Awards Banquet in conjunction with the Americanism Essay Contest Awards. Over 100 people attended to honor these amazing young people. The Lodge awarded \$20,000 to 17 high school seniors from our community to assist them in furthering their education. In addition, we presented them with the scholarships awarded by the Arizona Elks Association and Grand Lodge. Our congratulations go out to these intelligent, talented, and benevolent future leaders of our nation. Phoenix Lodge #335 is very proud of all of them.

#### Scholarship Recipients:

- Sarah Witte - Paradise Valley High School: \$2,000 Lodge Scholarship, \$2,000 AEA Scholarship
- Sydney Swanson - AZ Agribusiness & Equine Center – PV: \$1,500 Lodge Scholarship, \$2,000 AEA Scholarship, \$4,000 Legacy Scholarship
- Nathaly Rodriguez - Franklin Police & Fire High School: \$1,000 Lodge Scholarship
- Aani Nagaiah - Arcadia High School: \$1,000 Lodge Scholarship
- Mary-Angel Sannapu - International Institute of Excellence: \$1,000 Lodge Scholarship
- Jacquelyn Pena Ramirez - North High School: \$1,000 Lodge Scholarship
- Caralynn O'Connor - Horizon High School: \$1,000 Lodge Scholarship
- Makenzie Kelley - Sandra Day O'Connor High School: \$1,000 Lodge Scholarship
- Yameen Ahmad Sekandari - Mountain Ridge High School: \$2,000 Lodge Scholarship, \$4,000 National MVS Scholarship
- Connor Carlson - Horizon High School: \$1,500 Lodge Scholarship, \$2,000 AEA Scholarship
- Punarvash Mitta - BASIS Scottsdale: \$1,000 Lodge Scholarship, \$4,000 National MVS Scholarship
- Eeshaan Malladi - Paradise Valley High School: \$1,000 Lodge Scholarship
- Arnab Misra - BASIS Phoenix: \$1,000 Lodge Scholarship
- Aanand Mehta - BASIS Phoenix: \$1,000 Lodge Scholarship
- Abhiraj Gedela - Paradise Valley High School: \$1,000 Lodge Scholarship
- Jacob Bagley - Shadow Mountain High School: \$1,000 Lodge Scholarship
- Yuva Sai Alavala - Mountain Ridge High School: \$1,000 Lodge Scholarship



For those of you who may know next year's high school seniors, the Most Valuable Student Scholarship Applications open for 2025 on August 1, 2024. Please encourage them to go online and submit their applications.



**Pictured left to right:** Joe Brown, Exalted Ruler; Scholarship awardees; Diane Bodwell, PER, Scholarship Chair



## Elk OF THE MONTH RANDY STERLING



Randy has been a loyal member of our Lodge for 10 years. He has gone through the Officer Chairs and is a Past Exalted Ruler. Randy chairs the Public Safety Appreciation Committee, serves as the West District Chair for Hoop Shoot, and participates in the Hoop Shoot and Soccer Shoot committees. As the Ritual team word coach, he has assisted in achieving a 209.5480-word accuracy score out of 210 points possible. He often fills in for other officers who can't attend Lodge meetings. Additionally, Randy teaches Basic First Responder classes, First Aid, CPR, and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) courses. His involvement extends to the Inventory Committee and House Committee, and he has contributed to picnics, children's shopping sprees, and the Veterans Committee.

Randy is an invaluable asset to our Lodge and to Elklod. He is always willing to lend a hand and provide advice to officers and members. Hats off to you, Sir.

**PHOENIX 335 PER ASSOCIATION**

*Fathers Day Ritual at 12pm*

**Fathers Day  
Sunday Breakfast!**

**Prepared and Served  
by Your Phx Lodge  
Past Exalted Rulers  
and Friends of the  
PER's. \$15 Per Person,  
Kids Eat Free. Bring  
the Whole Family  
Sunday, June 16th  
Serving 9am-12pm**

**BISCUITS AND  
GRAVY  
EGGS TO ORDER /  
OMELETTE STATION  
TOAST, WAFFLE  
STATION, PASTRIES  
BACON, SAUSAGE  
JUICE, COFFEE, AND  
TEA**



Elks Lodge 335

With Americanism Committee,  
Scouts and Sea Cadets

FLAG DAY EVENT

LET US REMEMBER HISTORY TOGETHER.

JOIN US FOR-

-FLAG DAY RITUAL

-PROPER RETIREMENT OF A FLAG CLASS

-FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY

-LUNCH AND DESSERT WILL BE PROVIDED

JUNE 16, 2024 STARTS AT 10 A.M.

WIN A FLAG POLE INSTALLED AT YOUR HOME

BUY A NEW FLAG TO FLY

BRING IN A FLAG TO RETIRE

LEARN ABOUT YOUTH GROUPS AT THE LODGE

MEET THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW!





FUN AND GAMES!

POKER GAME EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY 12PM-4PM FOR INFORMATION CALL TED HUNT 602-518-0175

TEXAS HOLD 'EM 1ST AND 3RD SATURDAY AT 7PM

EVERY TUESDAY AT 12PM

CONTACT SHARON MCGUINNESS 602-615-3825

POOL PLAYERS CLUB 9AM-12PM MONDAY/WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY. CALL ART VANCE 602-740-9241 OR ROGER CLARK 602-568-1437

CANASTA GROUP, FRIDAYS AT 11 AM. PLAY AS LONG AS YOU LIKE. BEGINNERS WELCOME - WE'LL TEACH YOU! INTERESTED?

CONTACT JANET SMITH: 216-544-1521

INDEPENDENCE DAY BBQ

GREAT BBQ  
FUN & GAMES  
50/50 & RAFFLES  
KIDS ACTIVITIES  
KARAOKE @ 4PM

KIDS UNDER AGE 10 EAT FREE

SATURDAY JULY 06

NOON ~ 4PM

FOOD: \$10

PHOENIX ELKS 335



Summer Entertainment

JUNE 2024	<div>Fri, Jun 7</div> <div>Line Dancing Lesson 7:30 PM</div>	<div>Wed, Jun 12</div> <div>Trivia Night \$5/player 7:00 PM</div>	<div>Fri, Jun 14</div> <div>Signature Blend 6:30 PM</div>
	<div>Wed, Jun 19</div> <div>Line Dancing Lesson 6:30 PM</div>	<div>Fri, Jun 21</div> <div>Palmer &amp; Rossana 6:30 PM</div>	<div>Wed, Jun 26</div> <div>Dave Clark 6:00 PM</div>
JULY 2024	<div>Sat, July 6</div> <div>Independence Day Picnic Noon Karaoke 4:00 PM</div>	<div>Wed, July 10</div> <div>Line Dancing Lesson 6:30 PM</div>	<div>Fri, July 12</div> <div>Classic Jukebox 6:00 PM</div>
	<div>Sat, July 20</div> <div>70's Groovy Party 6:00 PM DJ RON 7:00 PM</div>	<div>Wed, July 24</div> <div>Lonnie Lee 6:00 PM</div>	<div>Fri, July 26</div> <div>Line Dancing Lesson 7:30 PM</div>
AUG 2024	<div>Sat, Aug 3</div> <div>Outdoor Movie = Top Gun Maverick 7pm &gt; Dinner 6pm</div>	<div>Fri, Aug 9</div> <div>Dave Clark 7:30 PM</div>	<div>Wed, Aug 14</div> <div>Trivia Night \$5/player 7:00 PM</div>
	<div>Fri, Aug 16</div> <div>Line Dancing Lesson 7:30 PM</div>	<div>Fri, Aug 23</div> <div>The Jokerz Band 6:30 PM</div>	<div>Wed, Aug 28</div> <div>Joe Baker 6:00 PM</div>

To help the Social Planning Committee ~  
Contact Nicole 602-679-1319



**Phoenix Elks Lodge 335 Presents**



**Song Bingo**

**JUNE 12 @ 7PM**  
\$5 | win prizes

with Host ~ Nicole Beach  
Must be 18 & older

**Phoenix Elks No. 335**



**Let's Help Each Other**  
**Donations Needed**

**SUPPORT**  
Social Planning  
Childrens Shopping Spree  
Veteran's Committee  
Charity Ball




**Donation Period June 1 – Sept 1**  
All **NEW ITEM** donations will be directed toward raffle baskets, silent & live auctions, mystery boxes, etc.!

**Donate Now**

**Elks Care – Elks Share**

PHOENIX ELKS LODGE 335



**Country Line Dancing Lessons**  
FOR BEGINNERS-INT

**DATES:**

JUNE <i>For Donations</i>		
FRIDAY	07	7:30 – 9:30PM
WEDNESDAY	19	6:30 – 8:30PM

JULY		
WEDNESDAY	10	6:30 – 8:30PM
FRIDAY	26	7:30 – 9:30PM

AUGUST		
FRIDAY	16	7:30 – 9:30PM

**WED NIGHT \$10 LIGHT DINNER = MENU TBD**  
\*\*SEE TRACKS, TV'S & MENU BOARD FOR FRIDAY DINNER MENU & PRICE

**LET'S GET GROOVY 70's party**

**JULY 20** | DJ RON STARTS @ 7PM | **SAT 6PM**  
PHOENIX ELKS 335

**Best Dressed Contest**

**Dinner \$10**

**70'S TRIVIA QUIZ**

**SPLIT THE POT RAFFLE**  
\$5 = 1 TICKET  
\$20 = 5 TICKETS

**PRIZES**

**MYSTERY BOX raffle**

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP THE SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE ~ CONTACT NICOLE 602.679.1319



FRIDAY

MENU

Dinner served 5:30pm to 7:00 pm  
Groups of 8+ please call a day in advance  
(602) 482-2335

June 7th  
Meatloaf \$16  
Baked fish / Beer battered fish & chips \$14

June 14th  
Prime Rib \$23  
Baked fish / Beer battered fish & chips \$14

June 21st  
Hawaiian Chicken & Rice \$16  
Baked fish / Beer battered fish & chips \$14

June 28th  
BBQ Ribs \$16  
Baked fish / Beer battered fish & chips \$14

Every Friday night:  
Soup and Mixed Greens & Coleslaw - \$9.00  
Kids menu – Only \$5.00

Desserts: Donation please  
Any substitutions or changes will be on the menu board in the lounge.

All dinner prices flat fee, includes tax



Lounge Hours:  
Monday-Thursday: 11am-10pm  
Friday and Saturday: 11am-11pm  
Sunday: 11am-7pm

Hours:  
Monday-Thursday: 9am-10pm  
Friday: 9am till close  
Saturday: 11am till close  
Sunday: 11am -7pm

Office Hours:  
Monday-Thursday: 9am-2pm

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div><div>JUNE</div><div>Friday Night Food Servers Needed! Come in, join a team and help once a month for just a couple of hours on a Friday Meet Members and make new friends, contact Cindy Pendergrass to get involved &amp; on the schedule! Phone: 623-582-4298 ***ATTENTION*** TUESDAY BINGO IS TEMPORARILY CANCELLED***</div></div>						
						<div>1</div> <div>7pm Texas Hold'em 7pm Fun Bingo</div> <div></div>
<div>2</div> <div>2pm Dart League</div> <div></div>	<div>3</div> <div>9am Pool Players 12pm Poker Games 1pm Bunco 6:30pm House Comm Meeting</div>	<div>4</div> <div>12pm Texas Hold'em 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Fun Bingo 7pm Trustees Meeting</div> <div></div>	<div>5</div> <div>9am Pool Players 5:30pm Steak Dinner 7pm Orientation</div> <div></div>	<div>6</div> <div>12pm Poker Games 7pm Lodge Meeting</div> <div></div>	<div>7</div> <div>9am Pool Players 11am Canasta 5:30pm Dinner 6:30pm Membership Meeting 7:30pm Line Dancing</div> <div></div>	<div>8</div>
<div>9</div> <div>2pm Dart League</div>	<div>10</div> <div>9am Pool Players 12pm Poker Games</div> <div></div>	<div>11</div> <div>12pm Texas Hold'em 5:30pm Kids Comm Meeting 6pm Fun Bingo</div> <div></div>	<div>12</div> <div>9am Pool Players 5:30pm Taco Night 7pm Song Bingo</div> <div></div>	<div>13</div> <div>12pm Poker Games</div>	<div>14</div> <div>9am Pool Players 11am Canasta 5:30pm Dinner 6:30pm Signature Blend Band</div> <div></div>	<div>15</div> <div>7pm Texas Hold'em 7pm Fun Bingo</div> <div></div>
<div>16</div> <div>9am-12pm PER Breakfast 10am Flag Day Ritual Class 11am Flag Retirement Ceremony 12pm Fathers Day Ceremony 12pm Flag Day Ritual 1pm Lunch</div>	<div>17</div> <div>9am Pool Players 12pm Poker Games 6:30pm House Comm Meeting</div>	<div>18</div> <div>12pm Texas Hold'em 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Fun Bingo 7pm Trustees Meeting</div>	<div>19</div> <div>9am Pool Players 5:30pm Chili Cheese Dogs 6:30pm Line Dancing 7pm Applications</div> <div></div>	<div>20</div> <div>12pm Poker Games 7pm Lodge Meeting</div> <div></div>	<div>21</div> <div>9am Pool Players 11am Canasta 5:30pm Dinner 6:30pm Membership Meeting 6:30pm Palmer &amp; Rossana</div>	<div>22</div>
<div>23/30</div> <div>2pm Dart League</div>	<div>24</div> <div>9am Pool Players 12pm Poker Games</div>	<div>25</div> <div>12pm Texas Hold'em 6pm Fun Bingo</div> <div></div>	<div>26</div> <div>9am Pool Players 5:30pm Pulled Pork 6pm Dave Clark 7pm PER Meeting</div> <div></div>	<div>27</div> <div>12pm Poker Games 6pm Veterans Comm Meeting</div>	<div>28</div> <div>9am Pool Players 11am Canasta 5:30pm Dinner</div>	<div>29</div> <div>7pm Fun Bingo</div> <div></div>





\$2.00



\$2.00



\$1.00

Lounge Food

HOT FOODS

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\$7.00

HOTDOG W/ CHIPS

\$6.00

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ASK BARTENDER FOR KINDS

BURRITO

\$6.00

ASK BARTENDER FOR KINDS

CHICKEN NUGGETS

\$4.00

SOFT PRETZEL

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WITH CHEESE

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PIZZA

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CHEESE, PEPPERONI, SUPREME

CHEESE CRISP

\$7.00

ADD 2OZ. SOUR CREAM

\$0.50

ADD 4OZ. JALAPENOS

\$1.00

ADD 4OZ. SALSA

\$1.00

SNACKS

PEANUTS, CASHEWS

OR HONEY ROASTED

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BEEF JERKY

TERIYAKI OR REGULAR

\$2.50

POPCORN

BUTTERED OR KETTLE CORN

\$2.00

CANDY BARS

ASK BARTENDER FOR KINDS

\$2.00

CHIPS & DIP

ASK BARTENDER FOR CHIP TYPE

FRENCH ONION OR RANCH DIP

\$7.00

WHOLE DILL PICKLE

\$1.00

NOW SERVING

SOUP DU JOUR

\$2.00

CUP

\$4.00

BOWL

CHICKEN NUGGETS

\$4.00

HOTDOG W/ CHIPS

\$6.00

CHEESEBURGER

\$7.00

\$7.00

\$7.00

\$6.00

Mother’s Day Ritual

Thank you to all the mothers we were able to honor, both present and in memory, for this beautiful ritual, Sunday, May 12. We hope all moms had a great day!

**Pictured left to right:** Clint Tompkins, Esteemed Lecturing Knight; Randy Sterling, Chaplain; Carol Brown, PER; Joe Brown, Exalted Ruler; Becky Simons, Esteemed Loyal Knight; Diane Bodwell, Treasurer & PER; Jeff Beasley, Esquire

FLAG DAY

June 16,2024

Flag Retirement Class

Class starts at 10am

Heritage Room

Learn how to properly retire and recycle a nylon Flag yourself

Flag retirement Ceremony

Ceremony starts at 11am

Vista Patio

Come and watch our Scouts and Sea Cadets perform a Flag retirement Ceremony

Flag Day Ritual and food to follow

SCAN THE QR BOX TO ANONYMOUSLY SHARE YOUR OPINION! LET US KNOW WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE OR LESS OF. YOUR FEEDBACK IS APPRECIATED!



JUNE MUSIC LINEUP

FRI. JUNE 14 ~ SIGNATURE BLEND @ 6:30PM


FRI. JUNE 21 ~ ROSANNA & PALMER @ 6:30PM

WED. JUNE 26 ~ DAVE CLARK @ 6:00PM





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**Non-Member Rates**  
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 Pro-rated April 1st- October 1st

