

2025-2026 Volume 99, Issue No. 5

CHARITY * JUSTICE * BROTHERLY LOVE * FIDELITY ALL-AMERICAN LODGE

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Arizona Elks Association Lodge of the Year 2023-2024

PHOENIX ELKS TRACKS



August 2025

Phoenix Elks Lodge No. 335

14424 North 32nd Street

Phoenix, Arizona 85032

Phone (602) 482-2335



Exalted Ruler, Karen Seaman

Upcoming August Events Get ready for a month full of fun and community spirit!

- Kids Movie / Pool Party
- Labor Day Picnic
- Sock Hop fundraiser and MORE!

Watch the marquee for specific dates and keep an eye on

the Flash for updates!

Elk Convention Update - Kansas City, Missouri

Though we didn't bring home the trophy from the Ritual Contest at the National Convention in Kansas City, we accomplished something just as meaningful—we showed up with pride, performed with heart, and represented Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 with true Elk spirit.

It was an incredible honor to stand on a national stage among Lodges from across the country. Our team gave it their all, and we returned home with heads held high, full of new insights and inspiration. We attended countless meetings, networked with fellow Elks, and gathered ideas that will help us grow stronger together.

This experience has only deepened our determination. We now look ahead to Regionals, then State, and—if the stars align—Nationals in Chicago next year.

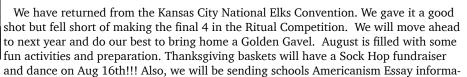
To our Lodge family: thank you. Your unwavering support and encouragement made all the difference. While we may not have taken home a trophy, we brought back something even greater—a renewed sense of unity, purpose, and pride.

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

PAID nix, Ari



Esteemed Leading Knight, Clint Tompkins



tion. We are looking for volunteers for these committees too. Please contact me if you are interested. I look forward to seeing and talking with everyone this month. Have a great August.

"August is a time of growing up, of forgotten forever's, full of the sweetest intent." - Meka Boyle



Esteemed Loyal Knight, Tyler Vanwey

Wow! Just like that August is here, I would like to extend a big thank you to last year's ritual team for their stellar performance at the Grand Lodge convention. Although the outcome is not what they wanted they went there and represented our Lodge with class and style. Well Done!

I would also like to send a big Thank You to our picnic committee and volunteers. We had a great turnout for the 4th of July picnic with great food, family, and fellowship. The food prepared by Cindy was as expected delicious! This was a great event and I look forward to our next event, the Labor Day picnic.

The Veteran's Committee is hitting the ground running in August with many activities involving Valley Vets. We are serving pizza and playing bingo with the Vets at the VA in downtown Phoenix and more specifically the CLC (community living centers). The CLC provides short- and long-term housing to eligible veterans. This event is Sunday July 27th between 12:30 and 1:30. If you would like to participate let me know! Thank you all for being an Elk and I hope to see you around the Lodge!



Esteemed Lecturing Knight, Jeff Beasley

Upcoming Youth Programs

Phoenix Elks Lodge #335 is proud to support youth in our community through a variety of programs and initiatives. We invite all members to participate and encourage families to get involved.

Our Drug Awareness Program includes a Poster Contest for grades 3-5, an Essay Contest for grades 6-8, and a Video Contest for grades 9-12. This year's theme is: "Drugs are a grave mistake."

In August, we'll be hosting a family-friendly Back to School Movie Night. Mark your calendars—more details will be announced soon. During the event, we'll also be giving out backpacks to Elks kids and grandkids only.

We continue to recognize multiple students each month through our Elks Youth of the Month and Student of the Month awards. If you would like your school to participate, we would love to engage

To learn more or to volunteer for any of these events, contact Jeff Beasley at 918-808-2605

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

TRACKS NEWSLETTER STAFF

Production/Publication Editor: Heather Leal 602-434-6046 HeatherLeal.HL@gmail.com Proofreaders: Brenda Kayal, Lynette Quigley, Carrie Hebert, Betty Chamberlain, Kathy Allasia, Robin McDermott, Kathy

Visual Arts Design & Advertising Content Creator: Nicole Beach

PHOENIX LODGE #335, B.P.O.E.

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PHOENIX ELKS LODGE #335 CONTACTS

2025-2026 bpoephx335@gmail.com Office 602-482-2335

Exalted Ruler

Karen Seaman 602-315-0939 Punkimonki@AOL.com

Esteemed Leading Knight

Clint Tompkins 602-400-4431 Clint.Tompkins.elks335@gmail.com

Esteemed Loyal Knight

Tyler Vanwey 816-863-1101 vanweyt@gmail.com

Esteemed Lecturing Knight

Jeff Beasley 918-808-2605

jeff@elks.life

Secretary

Brenda Kayal 602-380-2349 bkayal@msn.com

Treasurer

Diane Bodwell, PER 602-989-8940 elks335treasurer@gmail.com

Esquire

Shawna Lang 480-327-8082 shawna.7@live.com

Chaplain

Becky Simons 602-697-1175 ocheltr@aol.com

Inner Guard

Lisa Ferguson 253-678-8502 lmmf77@hotmail.com

<u>Tiler</u>

Patricia Stewart 602-316-1548 pstewartaz@gmail.com

Vocalist

Vacant

1 Year Trustee

Ken Stewart 602-568-6050 kstewartaz@yahoo.com

2 Year Trustee

Marty Griffith, PER 602-614-8663 martygriffith53@gmail.com

3 Year Trustee

Clem Brown 602-790-0546 Chairman campmaster@cox.net

4 Year Trustee

Al Kayal, PDDGER, PSP 602-451-8413 akayal@msn.com

5 Year Trustee

Terry Jones 602-432-1645 tljonesazinc@gmail.com

Phoenix Elks Committee Directory

Accident Prevention:

Marty Griffith, PER 602-614-8663 martygriffith53@gmail.com

Americanism:

Americanism Essays:

Kirby Everingham 480-201-5997 r2k2ever@gmail.com

Antlers:

Eileen Austin 602-644-6343 rubyrhino@cox.net

Applications:

Linda Thompson 307-421-4683 lthompsonncua@gmail.com

Arizona Elks Major Projects (AEMP)

Larry Bodwell PDDGER 602-989-5896 LDBodwell@gmail.com

Audit & Accounting:

Tim Woods, PDDGER 602-762-4629 tim@azwoods.com

Banquet Reservations Manager

Nadine Lucas 602-482-2339 elksroomrentals335@gmail.com Bingo:

Tim Woods, PDDGER 602-762-4629 tim@azwoods.com

Blood Drive:

Becky Simons 602-697-1175 ocheltr@aol.com

Charity Ball:

Children's Shopping Spree:

Linda Thompson 307-421-4683 lthompsonncua@gmail.com

Club Manager

Nadine Lucas 602-482-2339 Clubmgr335@gmail.com

Dictionary/ Young Readers Day/Read

Across America:

Dawn Ferguson 602-651-4902

Drug Awareness:

Michelle Black 602-694-6095 mmblack32@gmail.com

Electronic Lodge Communications ONE:

Dan McDermott 909-994-0369 ddmcdermott@gmail.com

Elks Kids:

Stephanie Beasley 480-600-3968 stephanie.beasley20@gmail.com

Elks Kids Family Night:

Rhonda Houtz 480-703-7411

Elks National Foundation:

Diane Bodwell, PER 602-989-8940 elks335treasurer@gmail.com

Flag Day:

Becky Simons 602-697-1175 ocheltr@aol.com

Facilities Committee:

lim Bowe 602-466-8451 jimbowe@cox.net

Friday Volunteer Servers:

Nadine Lucas 602-482-2339 clubmgr335@gmail.com

Funeral:

Al Kayal, PDDGER, PSP 602-451-8413 akayal@msn.com

Golf Programs

Kurt Albertson 602-770-8763

Government Relations:

Al Kayal, PDDGER, PSP 602-451-8413 akayal@msn.com

Hoop Shoot:

Jason Begalke 480-322-2451

House Committee

Larry Bodwell PDDGER 602-989-5896 LDBodwell@gmail.com

Membership:

Clint Tompkins 602-400-4431 Clint.Tompkins.elks335@gmail.com

Past Exalted Rulers Association:

Clem Brown 602-790-0546 campmaster@cox.net

Picnics:

Denny McFadden 860-805-0045 dfmcfadden49@gmail.com

Presiding Justice:

Philip Whitaker 602-423-8118

Protocol: (Co-Chairs)

Randy Sterling 602-616-3871 bullelk335@gmail.com & Dawn Sterling 602-242-4470 dawnscandles@cox.net

Public Relations

Jeff Beasley 918-808-2605 jeff@elks.life

Queen of Hearts:

Diane Bodwell, PER 602-989-8940 elks335treasurer@gmail.com

Salvation Army Bell Ringers:

Patricia Stewart 602-316-1548 pstewartaz@gmail.com

Scholarships:

Al Kayal, PDDGER, PSP 602-451-8413 akayal@msn.com

Scouts Liaison, Boys & Girls:

Damien Speck 602-399-2277 dspeckelks335@gmail.com

Soccer Shoot:

Michael Finical 602-284-6254 mfinical@cox.net

Steak Fry Dinners

Vacant

Thanksgiving Baskets:

Becky Simons 602-697-1175

ocheltr@aol.com **Tracks Editor:**

Heather Leal 602-434-6046 HeatherLeal.hl@gmail.com

Trustees:

Clem Brown, PER 602-790-0546 campmaster@cox.net

Veterans:

Tyler Vanwey 816-863-1101 vanweyt@gmail.com

Wheel O' Elkdom:

Alice Brown, 602-770-8618 campmaster@cox.net

Youth Activities:

Jeff Beasley 918-808-2605 jeff@elks.life

Secretary's Information

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS:

The following Sickness and Distress was reported at the June 19, 2025, Lodge session.

Clem Brown, PER, Trustee Chairman reported that Alice Brown's sister passed away on June 7th

Jeff Beasley, Est. Lecturing Knight reported that it was the two-year anniversary of his and Stephanie's daughter

Please keep these members and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

PROPOSITION FOR MEMBERSHIP:

The following applicants were read on the floor of the Lodge at the June 19, 2025 Lodge sessions.

Proposer

Tim Woods, PDDGER

Marina Brown Randy Doescher Roy W. Doten Brenda Kayal Arun Gupta David McMaster Jacob Scott Hockenberger Matt Sahhar Ted K. Blaner Bill Hodgkins Matthew Nawrocki Harry Magnan Valerie Shafran Lisa Nocella Frederick Simms Valerie Hardy James "Jim" Smith Randy Doescher Leslie Waldron Brenda Kayal

Reinstatement Allan Krpata

Committee.

Kerry Woods

By Initiation

Associate Member

Richard Flores - Member of Scottsdale Lodge Mike Schulte - Member of Scottsdale Lodge

Applicants were referred to the Applications

APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT:

Report of the June 18, 2025 Applications Commit-

tee Meeting.

The following applicants were favorably recommended for membership by the committee

By Initiation

Daniel Baran Roy Doten Elisha Fiore Laura Gravina Arun Gupta Ricardo Mediano Gena Moley Joseph Moley Heidi Pantera Andrea St. John Ross Strozewski Wolfgang Wiemer Kerry Woods

Associate Members

Richard Flores Dennis Klein Kent Nelson Mike Schulte

BALLOTING:

The following applicants were balloted on at the June 19, 2025 Lodge session.

By Initiation

Roy Doten Daniel Baran Elisha Fiore Laura Gravina Ricardo Mediano Arun Gupta Gena Moley Joseph Moley Andrea St. John Heidi Pantera Ross Strozewski Wolfgang Wiemer Kerry Woods

Associate Members

Richard Flores Dennis Klein Kent Nelson Mike Schulte

All applicants were voted on in the affirmative.

<u>Membership/Lapsation Report:</u> Beginning Membership Total 4/1/2025

Increases: Initiated 21 Affiliated 2 Reinstated 2 Subtotal 25 Decreases: 7 Dropped Transferred Out 0 Absolute Dimit: Deaths Expelled 0 Subtotal 12 **CLMS Active Members** 1094 Average Age 65.21 Gain/Loss 13 Delinquency: 157 Six Months One Year Over One Year 0 158 Total Lapsation Rate 14.62% Life Members 147 Honorary Life Members 148 Total Life Percentage 13.69%

1/2 OFF DINNER **COUPON**

C'MON...CUT IT OUT!!!!

Buy one Dinner at Regular Price & get a 2nd Dinner for Half Price with this coupon and your August Issue mailing address label on reverse side

The "Fine Print":

No photocopies! Both meals must be purchased together. The 1/2 price meal is the least expensive Good on any Monday, Wednesday or Friday evening August 2025

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Don't Miss The Phoenix Elks Fair!!!

Submitted by Linda Thompson; Children's Christmas Shopping Spree Chair



You'll want to be at Lodge 335 on Saturday, September 13th, starting at 3 p.m. for our 2025 Phoenix Elks Fair! We have so many exciting things

- Dunk your favorite officers and Lodge 335
- Balloon animals, temp tats, and magic for the kids
- Try your luck with the Human Slot Machine
- Get your entertaining tarot card reading
- Win great prizes and cash at many games of skill and chance, including shooting and golf
- Feed your face with pie for great prizes
- Make jewelry or other crafts for kids and adults
- Eat your favorite fair foods and enjoy bar specials and great music. Kids are Free!

Tell your friends—this event is open to the public, and all proceeds benefit our Children's Christmas Shopping Spree charity!

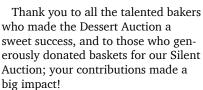
With so many activities, we will need loads of volunteers. Please contact Linda Thompson to see how you might help: (307) 421-4683. Thank you for your support!

Win big cash with the Children's Christmas Shopping Spree Cash Calendars, on sale until August 15 or until we run out. Your \$20 ticket/calendar gets you 30 chances to win cash. Every day in September, we will draw a winner: \$100 every Wednesday, \$200 every Saturday (except September 13th, when we'll draw a \$500 winner), and \$50 on any other day of the month. See Linda Thompson or one of our CCSS volunteers to purchase your calendar. You can win more than once and do not need to be a member or present to win! 300 maximum sold. Get in!

4th of July Picnic! Submitted by Denny McFadden, Picnic Chairman

The 4th of July picnic was a huge hit, with more than 100 adults and children joining in the fun at Lodge 335!

This festive day wouldn't have been possible without the dedication. energy, and teamwork of our amazing volunteers. Their hard work and enthusiasm turned an ordinary summer day into something truly special.



We're already gearing up for our next big event: the Labor Day Picnic, coming up on Sunday, August 31st. Mark your calendars and plan to join us for another fun-filled celebration with food, games, and great company.

Once again, thank you to each and every volunteer for sharing your time and talents to make our celebration a true success. We couldn't do it without you!







Elk of the Month

Submitted by Karen Seaman, Exalted Ruler



This month, we are proud to honor a truly extraordinary woman: Darlene Shephard.

Born in Buffalo, New York, into a bustling family of **nine siblingsseven boys and two girls—**Darlene was number four in the lineup. When asked if they were all alike, she laughed and said each had a different

personality, describing herself as "the caregiver". Anyone who knows Darlene will wholeheartedly agree with that title.

Her roots run deep—both sets of grandparents were from Poland and spoke the language fluently. Darlene was fortunate enough to learn some of the polite phrases, which she still cherishes today.

Her father volunteered for the military during WWII, and although the war ended four months after his deployment, he stayed on to assist with the post-war cleanup. With three brothers serving in the Navy and two in the Army, it's no surprise that Darlene developed a profound commitment to Veterans. That devotion shines in all she does at the Lodge, especially in support of Stand Down, the Veterans Committee, Honor Flights, and Veterans Bingo.

After attending business school in New York, she began babysitting for a stewardess who encouraged her to apply to the airlines. That advice changed her life. In 1967, she joined American Airlines, where she proudly served as a flight attendant until her retirement in 2008. With her seniority, she secured the best routes—Hawaii was her favorite, with Germany a close second.

Darlene met her beloved Ron Shephard in Buffalo. After five years of dating, Ron was transferred to Phoenix with Western Electric, while Darlene was assigned to San Diego. Just four days into being in two separate states, Ron proposed, and they married in 1974, settling in Phoenix where they enjoyed 43 wonderful years together before his passing.

One of Darlene's most impactful and ongoing commitments has been to troubled teens. For 50 years, she has worked at a residential facility for youth ages 10 to 17. Though she never had children of her own, she has lovingly mentored thousands of young girls, forming deep, lasting connections that span decades.

When asked about her involvement with the Lodge, Darlene said, "I love my Elks Lodge and all of these people-it is my safe haven."

Thank you, Darlene, for your heart, your service, your love for Veterans, and your tireless dedication to young people. You truly deserve the title of Elk of the Monthand so much more!

Meet Our New Grand Exalted Ruler



Submitted by Karen Seaman, Exalted Ruler Just a quick sneak peek at our

newly elected Grand Exalted Ruler, chosen at the Grand Lodge Convention in Kansas City, Missouri. Bryan R. Klatt of DeKalb, Illinois Lodge

#765!

Many of us know Bryan as the immediate past Grand Secretary, and now, with his new title, he steps into a larger role with poise, professionalism, and an undeniable sense of humor. During his introduction, he had the entire audience in stitches—his natural charisma and warm personality made for a memorable and uplifting experience.

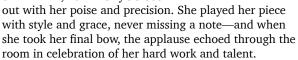
While he brings a barrel of laughs to the podium, Bryan is equally known for his dedication, leadership, and commitment to the principles of Elkdom. With him at the helm, this promises to be another meaningful and exciting year for the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. We wish him nothing but success in all his responsibilities and endeavors. Congratulations, GER Klatt—we're honored to be part of your year!

Elks Member Spotlight! Submitted by Karen Seaman, Exalted Ruler

What a joy it was to witness one of our Lodge's shining young stars, Liberty Sharpe, perform at her piano recital at the Yamaha Music School on 32nd Street and Thun-

derbird. Liberty, the daughter of proud parents Karen and Jim Sharpe and loving sister to Lyric, truly shined during a day filled with music, smiles, and community spirit.

The recital featured talented students of all ages playing beautifully on finely tuned pianos. Each performance brought its own charm, but Liberty's stood



Lyric, her sister, is no less impressive. Not only does she support her sister with pride, but she is also an accomplished gymnast. I'm patiently waiting for the day I receive an invitation to see her dazzle us with her athleticism and skill on the mat!

To Karen and Jim: thank you for raising such wonderful young ladies and for sharing them with our Lodge family. Your commitment to nurturing their talents and character is evident, and we are all the better for having them (and you) in our Elks community. The future is bright with kids like Lyric and Liberty leading the way.

Thanksgiving Baskets Fundraiser

Submitted by Becky Simons, Chair, Thanksgiving Baskets

Mark your calendars: Sock Hop Fundraiser, August 16 at 6 p.m. Please join us for a fun-filled evening to raise funds for our Thanksgiving Baskets program. Tickets are just \$10, and all proceeds will help support local school children and Veterans' families in need.

We'll be serving up classic favorites like hot dogs, hamburgers, fries, and root beer floats—plus offering plenty of old-fashioned fun! Join in the pie walk, test your skills in the hula hoop contest, and challenge your friends in jacks and a marble shoot. If you're interested in baking a pie for the pie walk, please let me know-we'd love your help!

We hope to see you there for a great time, all for a great



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Arizona Elks Major Projects

Submitted by Jeff Beasley, Esteemed Lecturing Knight

Phoenix Elks #335 members alongside members from all over the state volunteered their time at the Arizona Elks Major Projects booth to help support the Steele Children's Research Center in Tucson and the AZ Elks Youth Camp during the 2025 Elks National Convention in Kansas City, Mo,

"It was an honor to represent Arizona Elks and welcome our brothers and sisters from across the nation with warmth, smiles, and that signature Arizona hospitality!"

— ER Karen Seaman



Elks National Convention 2025

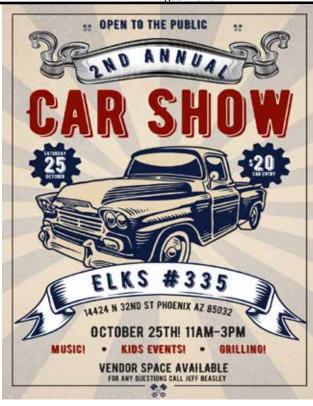
Submitted by Jeff Beasley, Esteemed Lecturing Knight

What an incredible gathering of brotherly love, service, and tradition! From Arizona to every corner of the nation, Elks showed up strong to celebrate everything that makes ELKDOM so special.

"We are grateful to be a part of so many Arizona Elks and all the other states celebrating everything about ELKDOM." – Karen Seaman, Exalted Ruler

United by charity, justice, brotherly love, and fidelity - this is what being an Elk is all about.











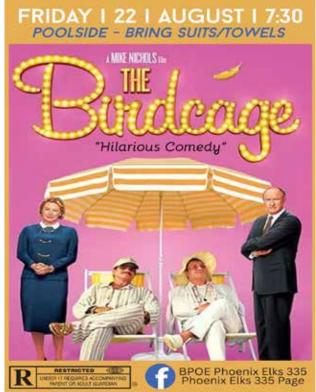






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New Phoenix Elks Lodge Pins Available for Sale! See the Bartender for Purchase - Only \$5 each

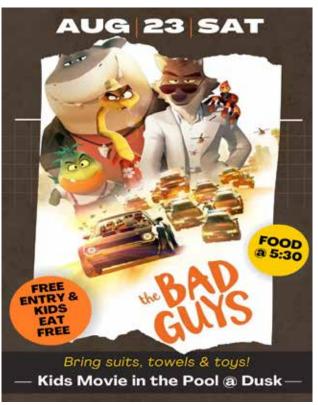










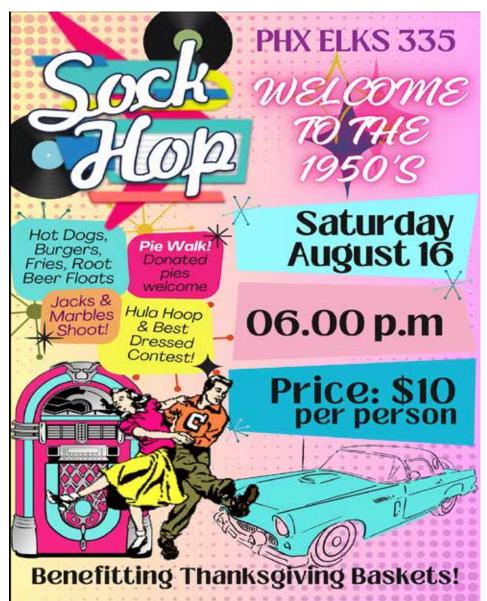




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Dinner served 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Groups of 8+ please call a day in advance: (602) 482-2335

August 1
Salisbury Steak \$14
Baked Fish / Beer-Battered
Fish & Chips – \$14

August 8
Prime Rib – \$23
Baked Fish / Beer-Battered
Fish & Chips – \$14

August 15
Parmesan Crusted Chicken

Baked Fish / Beer-Battered Fish & Chips – \$14

August 22 Meatloaf \$14 Baked Fish / Beer-Battered Fish & Chips – \$14

August 29
Barbecue Ribs \$14
Baked Fish / Beer-Battered
Fish & Chips – \$14

All dinner prices are a flat fee and include tax.

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

Desserts: Donation, please

Any substitutions or changes will be listed on the menu board in the lounge.

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



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I will donate 15% of referrals back to the Lodge

Brian Thompson ARIZONA | LICENSE #SA661935000 (480) 299-7775 Brian@HomesByBrianT.com

w.homesbybriantho





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Jeff Beasley

Jeff@bluefrog.ai SMS 918.808.2605

Veteran Owned





DJ RoBro

Ron Browne, CEO Chief Entertainment Officer ronalddavidbrowne@vahoo.com

2230 E. Kelton Lane Phoenix, AZ 85022 989,859,9340



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