

ALL AMERICAN LODGE 2003,04,08,09,10,11,12,13
BPO ELKS 2399

WAPITI WIND

December 2024



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Want to volunteer at the Lodge?

Please contact Elizabeth Ledingham:

E-mail: escogan@yahoo.com

Phone: 928-453-3557

(If no answer, please leave a message)

MEMORIAL SERVICE

December 1, 2024

Join us in this beautiful service in honor of our fellow Elks that are no longer with us. Service starts at 11:00AM.



Exalted Rulers Message

It is that time of the year when the Holiday Season is upon us. Eva and I want to wish all of you a very safe and happy "Holiday".

Where has the year gone? Here we are in the last month of 2024. All in all, it has been a pretty good year. There is a lot going on in the Lodge and the Expansion Project is well under way. I am excited for the Lodge and it's members as this Project continues. With over 4,400 members in our Lodge, it is a very much needed addition to the Lodge. The Expansion will make our Lodge a better place for our members to meet and socialize.

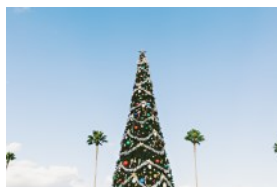
November was a very busy one at the Lodge, with the Expansion Project, participating in the Veteran's Day Parade, the Veteran's Day "Free Hamburgers and Hot Dogs" event, the Elkettes Craft Fair, and the Thanksgiving Day Pot Luck. The Lodge also served beverages at the Military Cowboys Rodeo Association Rodeo at the Rodeo Grounds. Thanks to all of the Lodge Officers and members that participated in these events to make them all a huge success. We also paid tribute to several of our members that have passed and conducted the Elks Lodge of Sorrow for Past State President Richard "Dick" Conway, Past District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Henri "Hank Thonnard" and Past Exalted Ruler Jack Zehr. As with all of our members that are no longer in our midst, we say "Good-Bye", they will be missed and in our hearts forever more.

December was also very busy, with our annual Memorial Service for our departed members, the Elkettes Christmas Dinner Dance, the Christmas Basket Program, the Exalted Ruler's Wassail, Christmas Day and the New Years Party. All of these were successful. December also saw the celebration of Christmas Parties by many of the Lodges Clubs.

Eva and I have enjoyed working with all of you and the Lodge Officers these past months, and are looking forward to the rest of this Fraternal Year serving you. There are a lot of changes coming in the months ahead with the upcoming new look for our Lodge. I want to give a "Thank You" to all of the members for being patient and ask that you continue to give "Your" Officers and the Lodge Employees your support. You are what makes this "Lodge" an All-American Lodge and a great place to come and enjoy your fellow members company and comradery. I am honored to be able to work with all of you and will continue to strive for keeping "Our" Lodge the great one that it is.

As we start the new year, please be safe and I will see you around the Lodge.

Chuck Fox
Exalted Ruler



"HAPPY HOLIDAYS"



ELK OF THE MONTH

- March 2024 Cindy Quarto
- April 2024 Wanda Parsons
- May 2024 Steve Stockett
- June 2024 Gary Parsons
- July 2024 Stephanie Michels
- August 2024 Pam Depweg
- September 2024 Charlie Ferguson
- October 2024 Paulette Nainteau
- November 2024 Tracy Konkel



October



November

"CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR LODGE EXPANSION"

Remember, all donations to the Expansion Project to make our Lodge a comfortable place to enjoy are **Greatly Appreciated**. This project benefits everyone! If you have not already donated, please do so today.

Donations can be dropped off at the Lodge Office

OFFICERS

LAKE HAVASU CITY
LODGE 2399 OF THE
BENEVOLENT AND
PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA

EXALTED RULER

Chuck Fox

LEADING KNIGHT

Pam Depweg

LOYAL KNIGHT

Joyce Bradley

LECTURING KNIGHT

Nikki Harvey

ESQUIRE

Steve Stockett

CHAPLAIN

Tom Bradley

INNER GUARD

Jackie Turcotte

TILER

Amy Fowler

SECRETARY

Janeen Lembke

TREASURER

Tony Fowler

TRUSTEES

Tom Harvey

Tracy Konkell

Gabriele Medley

Jon Villalobos

Pat Costello

ORGANIST/MUSICIAN

TBD

Wapiti Wind

The Wapiti Wind is published by BPOE 2399 to communicate with members of the Lodge. The Wapiti Wind is published at the discretion of the Lodge, normally 10 times per year. Deadline for submitting material is the 10th of the month prior to publication. Material should be typed or e-mailed.

Lodge No. 2399

3532 McCulloch Blvd.

Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406

928-855-2800 928-453-3557

OFFICE PERSONNEL

Karen Turpin

Elizabeth Ledingham

Stefanie Michels

KITCHEN MANAGER

Kevin Rogers

CLUB MANAGER

Vanessa Brewster

Attend Meetings

Lodge business is conducted during the official Meetings - not at the end of the bar. Get the facts at a Lodge Meeting or House Committee/Trustee Meeting. Meeting times are posted on the calendar.

Elks Websites

Want more information about the Elks? You can get limited access to these sites without an account. Creating an account will give you access to the Members Only sections for even more information.

www.elks.org for any information regarding Elkdom.

www.arizonaelksassociation.org for any information about our state association.

elks2399.com for Lodge 2399 information.

To join our **Facebook Page**, search Lake Havasu City, AZ Elks Lodge #2399

Website & Email Statistics 4/23-9/23:

Website Visitors 1,838, Hits 3,974

Email Members 3,326, Emails sent 32

Total Emails sent 105,917

Wapiti Wind Editor Information

Contact information:

E-mail: evasfox@yahoo.com

Phone: 916-335-2784

If you send a text, please add your name so I know who it is from. Your number may not be in my contacts, so I have no idea who your are. Thanks.

Chuck Fox, PER
Wapiti Wind Editor

"ANNUAL EVENTS"

- June 15 Elkette Concert/Show
- June 16 Father's Day Breakfast
- July 4 Hamburgers/Hot Dogs/Potluck
- August 4-18 Lodge Closed (Cleaning)
- September 2 Labor Day Bar Open
- September 8 Family Pic Nic
- September 15 1st Ladies Event
- October 14-15 District Deputy Visit
- October 26 Halloween Party
- October 27 Drug Awareness Lunch
- October 31 Halloween Main Street
- November 17 PER Pizza
- November 28 Thanksgiving
- December 1 Elks Memorial Service
- December 7 Elkettes Christmas Dinner
- December 20-21 Christmas Baskets
- December 24 ER Wassail
- December 25 Christmas Day
- December 31 New Years Eve Dinner
- January 1 Bar Open 10AM
- January 26 Special Olympics Lunch
- February 1 Charity Ball
- February 8 Fashion Show
- February 9 PER Super Bowl/Pizza
- February 22 Old Timers Dinner
- February 23 Volunteer Dinner
- March 1 Crazy Auction
- March 9 Elkettes Concert/Show

Auditing & Acct. Audit/Acct. Inventory	Chairman TBD Trustees	Public Relations Queen of Hearts Retail Sales RV Club (Vagabonds) RV Parking Scholarships Soccer Shoot Special Olympics Taco Tuesday Night Volunteer Coordinator Yacht Club Commodore Youth Activities	Eva Fox Joyce Bradley Lodge Office Marty Weston Tom Duff Chuck Fox Pam Depweg Debbie Herd Donna Pineau Elizabeth Ledingham Julie Talbert Debbie Herd
Activities Committee Activities-Volunteers Awards Banquet Bingo Blood Drive	Chairman Elizabeth Ledingham Jackie Turcotte Chuck Davis Paulette Nainteau Jackie Turcotte Steve Shirley Wanda Parsons Pam Depweg Jon Villalobos	Fraternal Committee All American Lodge/Training Americanism Constitution & By-Laws Elks National Foundation	Chairman Gary Parsons Pam Depweg Gary Parsons Jerry Gillen Eva Fox Joyce Bradley Gary Parsons Gary Parsons Sue Thomas Paulette Nainteau Pam Depweg Pat Costello Gary Parsons Eva Fox Pat Costello Sheri Sanderson Nikki Harvey Jay Bidwell Vanessa Brewster Jackie Turcotte TBD Bud Watts Chuck Fox
Bowling Bulk Mailing Charity Ball Christmas Baskets Community Activities Decorating Committee Door Greeters Drug Awareness Elkettes Entertainment Committee	Eva Fox Sheri Sanderson Pam Depweg Vanessa Brewster Eva Fox Sheri Sanderson Pam Depweg Jerry Boyce Vanessa Brewster Scott Brown Debbie Herd Dan Dieter Pam Depweg Tom Harvey Bud Watts Wanda Parsons Gary Parsons Gary Parsons Gabriele Medley Patrick Lee Paulette Nainteau Glen Petty Chuck Fox	Flag Day Elks Training Government Relations Guest Monitoring Interview Committee Orientation Lodge Inspection/Accident Major Projects Major Projects (Purple Pig) Mediator Membership/Lapsation Memorial Service Presiding Justice Protocol Ritual Coach Ritual Word Coach Veterans Services Wapiti Wind	

December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 11:00am Elks Memorial Service FOOTBALL 11am-2pm Hot Dogs No Bingo 5-9pm Desert Singles X-Mas Party</p>	<p>2 11am-2pm Hot Dogs 4-7pm Pasta Night 4-6:30pm Queen of Hearts 7pm Monday Dancers</p>	<p>3 11am-2pm Taco Tuesday 4-7pm Taco Tuesday 7:30pm Lodge Meeting</p>	<p>4 11am-2pm Lunch 12pm Sheriff's Lunch 4pm Desert Singles 4-7pm Ribs 6:30pm Music: Lounge Lizards</p>	<p>5 11am-2pm Lunch 4-7pm Dinner 6pm Karaoke</p>	<p>6 11am-2pm Lunch 2pm PER Meeting 4-7pm Dinner 7pm Music: Tim Hope</p>	<p>7 11am-2pm Hot Dogs No Dinner 5pm Elkettes X-Mas Dinner Dance 5pm OutCast X-Mas Party 7pm Music: Tim Hope</p>
<p>8 FOOTBALL No Breakfast 11am-2pm Hot Dogs 11:30am Bingo 6pm Golf X-Mas Party 6pm Vagabond X-</p>	<p>9 11am-2pm Hot Dogs 4-7pm Pasta Night 4-6:30pm Queen of Hearts 7pm Monday Dancers</p>	<p>10 11am-2pm Taco Tuesday 4-7pm Taco Tuesday 6pm Elkettes Mtg 7pm House Committee/Trustee Meeting</p>	<p>11 11am-2pm Lunch 4pm Desert Singles 4-7pm Ribs</p>	<p>12 11am-2pm Lunch 4-7pm Dinner 6pm Karaoke</p>	<p>13 11am-2pm Lunch 4-8pm Dinner 7pm Music: Swamp Donkey</p>	<p>14 11am-2pm Hot Dogs 4-8pm Dinner 5pm MCL X-Mas Party 7pm Music: Swamp Donkey</p>
<p>15 FOOTBALL 11am-2pm Hot Dogs 11:30am Bingo 5pm Fishing Club X-Mas Party 5-9pm Yacht Club</p>	<p>16 11am-2pm Hot Dogs 4-7pm Pasta Night NO QUEEN OF HEARTS 7pm Orientation No Monday Danc-</p>	<p>17 11am-2pm Taco Tuesday 4-7pm Taco Tuesday 7:30pm Lodge Meeting/Initiation</p>	<p>18 11am-2pm Lunch 4pm Desert Singles 4-7pm Ribs</p>	<p>19 11am-2pm Lunch 4-7pm Dinner 4-9pm Bingo Christmas Party 6pm Karaoke</p>	<p>20 8am Christmas Basket Build 11am-2pm Lunch 4-8pm Dinner 7pm Music: Fritz</p>	<p>21 9am Deliver Christmas Baskets 11am-2pm Hot Dogs 4-8pm Dinner 7pm Music: Fritz</p>
<p>22 FOOTBALL 8-11am Breakfast 11am-2pm Hot Dogs 11:30am Bingo</p>	<p>23 11am-2pm Hot Dogs 4-7pm Pasta Night 4-6:30pm Queen of Hearts 7pm Monday Dancers</p>	<p>24 Bar Open 10am-4pm 11am-pm Exalted Ruler Wassail</p>	<p>25 "Christmas Day" Lodge Closed</p>	<p>26 OFFICE CLOSED 11am-2pm Lunch 4-7pm Dinner 6pm Karaoke</p>	<p>27 11am-2pm Lunch 4-8pm Dinner 7pm Music: Chuck E. Bumps</p>	<p>28 11am-2pm Hot Dogs 4-8pm Dinner 7pm Music: Chuck E. Bumps</p>
<p>29 FOOTBALL 8-11am Breakfast 11am-2pm Hot Dogs 11:30am Bingo</p>	<p>30 11am-2pm Hot Dogs 4-7pm Pasta Night 4-6:30pm Queen of Hearts 7pm Monday Dancers</p>	<p>31 10am-4pm Bar Open Re-open 6pm for Ticket Holders 5pm New Year's Party 8pm Bar open to all Members</p>				



Daily / Weekly Events			
Monday	11:30 am Pinochle 4-6:30 pm Queen of Hearts 7 pm Monday Dancers	Thursday	12-4 pm Hand & Foot 11 am—?? Bridge 6 pm Karaoke
Tuesday	12-4 pm Hand & Foot	Friday	12-4 pm Poker
Wednesday	3 pm Desert Singles		

(Note): Card Players check with Club Manager for Availability.



Pictured above and right are Elk Members riding our Float in the Veteran’s Day Parade on November 11, 2024. Following the Parade Members and guests attended a gathering at the Lodge for “Free” Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and Chips for Veterans.



Pictured below are the “Pin-Up” Girls that assisted in serving Lunch to our Veteran’s and their guests at our Veteran’s Day Free Hamburgers and Hot Dogs event. The girls were very busy and all of the Veteran’s enjoyed visiting with them. They have assisted us with this event for the past two years. A huge “THANK YOU” to all of them.

!!! Notice !!!

The paper copies of the “Wapiti Wind” newsletter will no longer be mailed to our members. The Wapiti will now be distributed electronically and can be viewed at the Lodges Website (elks2399.com). There will be limited paper copies available at the Lodge. The company that previously provided this service has been sold and the new company has requested an increase in the price that we pay. Going all online will save the Lodge approximately \$25,000 per year.

This change was approved by the Lodge House/Committee and Trustee’s and will be effective beginning with this issue of the newsletter.

Chuck Fox (Exalted Ruler)



NEW YEARS PARTY

Tickets go on sale November 1st at 9:00am in the Lodge Office. Seats are LIMITED, so get them early.

Cost: \$75.00 per person

Menu: Prime Rib & Lobster

Includes: Party Favors, Midnight Champagne Toast, Entertainment by Kenton Weaver (Las Vegas Theme—Rat Pack Style Singing Impressions and DJ).

Cocktails @ 6:00pm Dinner @ 7:00pm

Come and bring in the New Year with your fellow Elks!



Elkette's President Message

Merry Christmas!

Connie Jones did an amazing job of making the Craft Fair come to fruition. This year she faced a few challenges we have not faced before and she took it all in stride. As with every event we hold the mighty Elkettes show up, and do things so effectively and effortlessly they make all seem so easy. They are truly a special group of people.

Kids Turn to Shop was a great success. Many local children were able to shop for loved ones. A giant "Thanks" to Karen Ford for stepping up to chair this special event. All of the Elfettes who showed up to shop, wrap, serve cookies, set up, clean up and everything else, thank you; because of each and everyone of you we do great things. Thank you Santa Jim Travis the kids were thrilled to see you.

The Elkettes will be holding their annual Christmas Dinner Dance December 7th, everyone is welcome you do not need to be an Elkette to attend. Tickets are available for purchase in the office for \$25. Tuesday December 3rd is the last day you can purchase tickets. You will have a choice of Flat Iron Steak or Roasted Chicken. Your ticket includes one adult beverage. You will enjoy the vocal stylings of Debby Wesselo and Tim Hope, TNT Entertainment. Elkettes who joined this year, 2024 and past Elkette Presidents receive a complimentary ticket.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas. May you be surrounded by love, laughter, family and friends.

Vanessa Brewster
Elkettes President 2024/25

Veterans Day Volunteers

Thank you "so much" to the volunteers who participated in the free hotdogs, burgers and chips for our Veterans, on Veterans Day. We served 93 free meals to our local veterans and 77 others who came as guests.

We received \$475.00 in donations which will be used to purchase gifts for the Veterans in the VA Hospital for Christmas. A special "thank you" to Kathy Wright for her very generous donation.

It is with deep appreciation that I thank the following individuals for their efforts to support our Veterans:

Bill and Debbie Horton, Larry Branguin, Pat Martino, Dennis Danielson, Jim Travis, Pam and Bob Depweg, Kathy Fairbanks, Kevin Rodgers, Don Carter, Chuck and Eva Fox, Diane Watts and our 5 pin up girls who, as usual, did a wonderful job of serving our Vets. A total of 89.5 hours were donated by those who assisted with our event, in order, to make sure our Veterans were "Honored" on their very special day.

Fraternally,

Bud Watts
Veterans Committee Chair



The Elkettes contributed \$500 to the HAVAdopt Children's Christmas Project. This donation was raised through pie sales at the lodge. Pictured from left to right are Elkette Treasurer Donna Pineau, Pie Chair Lisa Nutt, HAVAdopts Director Merrilyn Thompson, VP of Fundraising Kat Crispino, Secretary Wendy Holloway, and Treasurer



DECEMBER MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT

Following is the scheduled music for the month of December. Come out and enjoy, cocktails, dinner, music and dancing.

December 4th - Lounge Lizards

December 6th and 7th - Tim Hope

December 13th and 14th - Swamp Donkey

December 20th and 21st - Fritz

December 27th and 28th - Chuck E. Bumps

December 31 - Kenton Weaver



VAGABONDS CLUB NEWS



Hello Vagabonds friends:

Well fall is here and we already have a couple of campouts behind us. As I'm writing our Wickenburg campout is just finishing. This annual event was hosted by Joyce/Mike Grabowski and Kelly/

Don Whilhite.

Next up is our annual Vagabonds Christmas Party on Sunday, December 8. Tickets will be available in the Lodge office until December 1. The Christmas Party Committee went all out this year and we will have some fun new things to enjoy. The Committee: myself, Joyce Grabowski, Barbara Hjort, Barbara Campbell, Windy Geiske and Peter Back all wanted to be involved in making the party successful. A BIG thanks to all who took time to help out.

We have future events that space is being held for our group but every resort has a group release date. If you're interested in going to one of these events, please look at your Campout Calendar that will tell you what the release date is. This means the resort will only keep the block in our name until that date at which time they open up the remaining spaces to the general population.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving!!!

Jackie Newbeck
Vagabonds Secretary



In October 2024, Gary Parsons, Past Exalted Ruler of Elks Lodge #2399 in Lake Havasu City, along with his wife, donated 80 pounds of aluminum pull tabs to the Ronald McDonald House, marking the largest donation to date. The members of the Elks Lodge accumulate these pull tabs at their bar, and a collection point is also set up in a McDonald's-style house situated in the lodge's foyer.

Fishing Club News



No Fishing Club news received for this issue of the Wapiti Wind. Club News coming in January.

Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler Douglas A. Schiefer

Share charity and compassion this holiday season

Merry Christmas! Let's focus on the reason for the season: Remember to be kind and compassionate to one another as you attend social events at your Lodges. It must be a time when we can be the best of who we are. At the end of the day, it's truly about putting our hearts toward enjoying family, friends, and service to others.

The Elks Memorial Service is to be held on the first Sunday of December. It is an occasion to honor those Elks who have passed away. It's a time to remember the honorable way these Elks have served our Order. The great heart of Elkdom in our Eleven O'Clock Toast symbolizes how we feel about our departed Members.

Think of ways to serve your community by donating presents to underprivileged children and families and giving veterans a gift or holiday card. Giving is always better than receiving. Be sure to spread the word of your charitable works through your membership. I'm confident you'll receive a positive response and many helping hands.

In 2019 GER Michael T. Luhr issued a challenge to Elks Members to raise funds for the Pearl Harbor National Memorial in Hawaii. There is no better way to honor the service and dedication of Americans, whose profound contributions to our nation should never be forgotten, so that generations to come will know and appreciate the enormous sacrifice of the "Greatest Generation."

Julia and I want to wish you a happy, joyous Christmas season. We wish your loved ones a heartfelt safe and enjoyable holiday season as you demonstrate "Elks Care—Elks Share" and show "Elkdom's Heart For America."

God bless our great Order and our troops, and God bless America!

Highway Clean-Up

Thank you to all of the Highway clean up crew that helped on November 14th. The next clean up will be held on February 13th, 2025. More information will be available as that date draws near.

Dan Dieter
Highway Cleanup Chairman

"HEADS-UP"

Charity Ball
53rd Annual
February 1, 2025



Theme:
Denim and Diamonds
Tickets to be mailed
in December.



“ENF”

Many thanks to Bingo Chairs Chuck and Doreen Davis along with the entire Bingo crew for the donation of \$2,000 they made to the Elks National Foundation from a night of Bingo. This Charity helps with local organizations that rely on and give to the needy through the Elks National Grant Program.

Jerry Gillan, ENF Chairman

Elks Lodge #2399 in Lake Havasu City was honored with a visit from DDGER Brad Lucas and his wife Yvonne on October 15th. They were welcomed by the Lodge Officers and witnessed the initiation of 28 new members.



Elks Lodge #2399 in Lake Havasu City took part in the 2024 Fall Festival on October 26th. They featured a booth with a prize wheel where children were asked a fun question to encourage conversation before spinning the wheel to select a prize. The prize, either candy or a toy, was determined by the color on which the wheel landed.

In Photo holding child is Pam Depweg Elks Leading Knight and Drug Awareness Chairperson with Elks Chaplain and Wheel Spinner Tom Bradley



The Elks of Lake Havasu City #2399 have donated \$250 to the Shop with a Cop program for the upcoming holiday season. This initiative allows children to go shopping with a police officer at Walmart. Featured in the photo is Chris Lutgen, President of the Fraternal Order of Police Association, alongside Chuck Fox, Exalted Ruler of the Elks.



The Elks Lodge #2399 donated \$500 to the Dementia Connection in October. Pictured from left to right in the back row are volunteer Joanne Jensen, Elks Exalted Ruler Chuck Fox, and Dementia Connection volunteer Chealene Howe. In the front row, Dementia Connection volunteers Terrie Colella, Jennifer Capovilla, Libbe Gilbert, Heather Minery, and Chancicy Bryant,

CHRISTMAS BASKETS

We are excited to announce that it's time again for our annual Christmas Basket food drive! Please help us bring joy to those in need by dropping off canned and nonperishable food items in the barrels located at both entrances of the lodge.

Donations are being accepted from October 19 to December 14, 2024.

- Items Needed:**
- Canned Fruits & Vegetables
 - Cranberry Sauce
 - Gravy (Jars or Packets)
 - Boxed Mashed Potatoes
 - Boxed Stuffing/Dressing
 - Pancake Mix
 - Maple Syrup (24 oz.)
 - Cereal
 - Peanut Butter
 - Jelly

Thank for your generosity!

If you have any questions or would like to sign up to volunteer, please contact Jon Villalobos (602-820-3896) or Heidi Albrecht (702-845-7972).



“Drug Awareness Poster Contest”

Pictured below are this years winners of the Lodge Drug Awareness Poster contest. All winners and their families enjoyed lunch with the Mayor and received Certificates of Appreciation from the Mayor and awards from the Elks Lodge.



BPO Elks
 A Fraternal Organization
 3532 N McCulloch Blvd
 Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86406


ELKS CARE



ELKS SHARE

NON PROFIT ORG
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 LAKE HAVASU
 CITY, AZ
 PERMIT NO. 2

IN GOD WE TRUST



To Our Absent Members:

**Fred Wichelhaus
 Bobby Bowman
 David Billick
 Thomas Rose
 Sandy Cossette**

**Until the Hour of Eleven
 Regularly Returns**