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OKLAHOMA NEWS

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Thoughts from our State President—Ron Hancock PAGE 3



A note from our Oklahoma Elks Association President

Hello once again. This will be my final newsletter, and I will miss reporting to you about my experiences as your State President. It has been an awesome experience.

Not many people have the opportunity to serve an organization at this level. My year started out with a big challenge....replace Jack Hepler as the State National Convention Chairperson for our state. It took several months to find the best person for the position, but I finally found the perfect person...Kevin Johnson. He and his wife, Dailene, established a great committee and pulled off an excellent convention in Austin Texas. Cuddos to Kevin and his team!!!

My next challenge resulted from multiple tornadoes in our state. The Grand Lodge provided us with some much-needed funding and our neighboring Elks in Arkansas and Louisiana donated thousands of dollars to help the unfortunate victims of the tornadoes. The Exalted Rulers from the areas affected identified the families most in need and the Vice Presidents of each District spearheaded the distribution of the funds and the families were able to begin rebuilding their lives. Cuddos to all involved in the distribution process.

My most recent experience as President was to go to Texas and witness our Hoop Shoot State Champions compete with the State Champions from Texas, Louisiana and New Mexico. The winners of the Regional competition will go to Chicago and compete for the National Championship. What an exciting time it was!!! Four of our six competitors won 1st Place, and our two other competitors took 2nd Place. We should all be proud of each and every one of them. Once again, cuddos to our boys and girls for their outstanding performance.

I hope my performance this year has met your expectations and I hope to see you at our Spring Convention in April. God bless you all....

Ron Hancock, President Oklahoma Elks Association (405) 812-8076 Rndokc@att.net

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OKLAHOMA NEWS

To our lodges,

Today's rapidly evolving technology mirrors the dynamic nature of our lodges. With that in mind, information is now constantly changing and readily accessible.

To facilitate communication and event promotion, I have established a public Facebook page for the state at <u>https://www.facebook.com/OklahomaElksPublic</u>. I kindly request that each lodge provide me with the name, email address, and phone number of the individual responsible for managing your lodge's Facebook page or the top contributor for your page. This information will enable me to grant them access to post on your lodge's behalf, your events, thereby informing your community about your lodge's activities.

Furthermore, I have attached a QR code that, upon scanning, will direct your current members and new members to the <u>okelks.org</u> registration page. I strongly encourage each lodge to distribute several copies of this QR code with in your lodge and meeting room. You could also save a copy to your photos in your phone to assist others when not at your lodge.

While I have received suggestions to have new members complete the registration process during their indoctrination, the most effective approach is to ensure that all members are aware of this registration process. This will hep us disseminate all information to as many members as possible.

Should you have any inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact me at (918) 810 -4863 or via email at statewebmaster@okelks.org.

GET CONNECTED TODAY! SCAN THE CODE BELOW!!!

THIS CODE WILL TAKE YOU DIRECTLY TO THE REGISTRATION PAGE.



Please have your new members And current members scan this code to get registered. It is the best way to stay INFORMED!

Brett Burton OEA State Webmaster

OKLAHOMA NEWS

This evening Kingfisher Elks <u>Kingfisher Elks Lodge #2416</u> #2416 installed new officers for 25/26 year!

Your new ER is Daniel Ruhl, Leading Knight is Brenda Detamore, Lecturing Knight Randy Mowdy, Loyal Knight Jack Leitner, Secretary Crystal Ludwig, Treasurer Brenda Keene, Inner Guard Quentin Cline, Tiller Kathy Mueggenborg, Esquire Steve Svoboda and Chaplain Brien Detamore!

Congratulations to you all!





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Shawnee Installed 2025-2026 Officers on Friday evening.

We would like to welcome our new officers and thank the continued officers.



Cushing-Drumright Elks Lodge 2712 All About Helping the Community

A huge thank you to McAllister Elks Lodge for bringing a trailer load of clothing to Cushing Drumright Elks Lodge. This was a huge help for all the people that lost everything in the wildfires.

It was a busy week with volunteers sorting and sending out boxes of new clothes to affected areas. We had a Large load go to the blessing closet at 9645 N Oaknoll Ave, Mannford OK 74044. They supplied help and relief for surrounding towns, such as Manford ,Cleveland, Jennings, Hallett, Tarlton,Oilton, and West Point. we really appreciate their help for getting everything to the people that really needed it.

Thank you so much.

We also had many victims come and pick clothes up directly from Cushing Drumright Lodge







News from the Grand Exalted Ruler PAGE 7

Grand Exalted Ruler— Douglas A. Schiefer



Incoming Leaders Start Year with Proactive Mindset

April is here and spring has finally arrived. It always feels like a new beginning in April, especially if you live in the colder regions of our country.

A new fraternal Lodge year begins. I want to congratulate all the newly installed Exalted Rulers and Lodge Officers. It is a proud moment to be installed and take on the challenge of providing leadership within your Lodge. Be sure to review and implement the programs of the 2024-2025 Grand Lodge Program booklet so you can continue showing "Elkdom's Heart For America." Make sure that you have all your committees prepared and that committee members know their responsibilities. Communication is the key.

Financially, it is the Trustees and Officers who need to submit a budget to the Lodge for adoption no later than the last regular meeting in April or the following regular meeting. Your Lodge should be ready to present a sound budget to your Members. The annual report for the previous year is also due May I so make sure that your FRS financial reporting system is up to date.

On a housekeeping note, you should review any by-laws or house rules and regulations that need to be updated. It's for the good of the Lodge to make everything orderly and that you always prioritize the integrity and safety of the Lodge.

On a festive note, it's time to make a calendar of social events for your Lodge. Create reasonable, achievable monthly events that will excite and attract your membership. Outside of your Lodge you are encouraged to establish a community project that emphasizes charitable work. Your Lodge life should always have a balance of what you do inside your Lodge and outside in the community you serve. Don't forget to set aside May 1-7 as Elks National Youth Week. All Lodges are urged to sponsor programs dedicated to the youth of our country.

Julia and I wish you a blessed Easter season. It is a celebratory time for our family.

This is What Helping the Community is All About!

McAlester ER Tracy Walling and I just delivered over 5,200 new clothing items to the <u>Cushing Drumright</u> Lodge for those impacted by the fires in the counties near them. T shirts, inner wear hoodies, female pajama sets, female underwear and bras. Please pass the word. The Cushing- Drumright lodge is preparing for a time and date for pickup.

OKLAHOMA NEWS



Wishing El Reno Elks Lodge 743 Fabulous 2025-2026 Lodge Year

El Reno Elks Lodge 743 installed our new officers. Excited for what we have in store for the next year.

Leading Knight- Dan Deardorff, Lecturing Knight- Melanie Statton, Treasurer-Chris Johnson, Exalted Ruler- Jared Holden, Secretary- Dr. Lacey Carder-Holden DC, I year Trustee- Brandon Payton, 3 year Trustee- Chuck Titterington. Not pictured: Loyal Knight- Tracy Higgins and 2 year Trustee- Jim Darragh.



Okmulgee Lodge #1822 held its annual Installation of Officers on Saturday, March 29, 2025.

We are committed to continuing our mission of charity, service and community!

Congratulations to the new officers. Wishing you a fantastic 2025-2026 Lodge year!





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Golf Anyone?

Now is the time to get your teams together and get registered!

Check out the flyer for some of the Elks Golf Tournaments happening across the state this year!

If you would like to add your lodge's or a district tournament, please share the details in the comments below we will update the flyer, and make sure it gets added to the state webpage as well. Im slowly getting these added as we speak!

A big thank you to Shannon Brewer for creating the flyer!



PAGE 11 **OKLAHOMA NEWS**

SW DISTRICT COOK-OFF'S

On December 14th, the SW District Cookoff was held at the Midwest City Lodge. The challenge was to cook the best fried chicken possible and a side dish. I have to say that we DO have some excellent cooks in our district. The lodges that were represented were, Ardmore, Chickasha, Edmond, Midwest City and Oklahoma City. They all did a fantastic job with their chicken and the sides.

Congratulations to the winners of this competition

Ist Place, Jack Roper, OKC Lodge

2nd Place, James Roberts, Ardmore Lodge 3rd Place, Melissa Malm, Midwest City Lodge



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were

The next Cookoff was at the Chickasha Lodge on Janu-18th. Lodge doors opened at 2pm. The items of choice

Chili / Soup. They had several activities going on that day at the lodge. Our own Michelle Patton was our cook for this event. The lodge members who went to support Michelle were Jay (of course, Jerry and Fran). Jack was there as a judge. Drum Roll.....and Congratulations to the winners!

James Troutman—Lindsay	l st Place Chili/ Sou[/Stew
Michelle Patton—OKC	2nd Place Chili/Soup/Stew category.

lennifer Roberts—Ardmore Ist Place Dessert - Chickasha

2nd Place Dessert



PAGE 12 OKLAHOMA NEWS

Hoop Shoot Contest Continues...

Oklahoma did not disappoint! These kids came to Dallas and did some work! I am extremely proud of our state today. Our region is comprised of Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, and New Mexico From regional competition, 6 kids advance to the national shoot. Oklahoma has 4 of those spots!!!

- 8/9 Boys Paxton Terrell 21/25 2nd Place
- 8/9 Girls Lillee McMath 17/25 2nd Place
- 10/11 Boys Iven Turner 23/25 1st Place
- 10/11 Girls Pressley Page 19/25 1st Place
- 12/13 Boys Cooper Thompson 24/25+ Shoot Off 1st Place
- 12/13 Girls Amalyn Switzer 22/25 1st Place

Congratulations to these winners and we wish them well at the National Contest.

Oklahoma Elks from <u>Claremore Elks Lodge #1230</u> and Sapulpa Lodge #1118 represented at Hot Springs, AR Lodge #380 last night! We had a great visit with the Grand Exalted Ruler and First Lady



Oklahoma Elks Association Stuffed Elks

Get your OEA Stuffed Elks today. Cost is \$20.00. For every stuffed Elk that is sold the money collected is divided between Oklahoma Elks Association, Oklahoma Elks Major Projects, Elks National Foundation and to Veterans Services.

> \$10 to OEA \$5 to OEMP \$2.50 to ENF \$2.50 to Veterans Services

Get with your District Vice President or Brett Burton if you want one of these cute little Elks.



Please join us at the Oklahoma State Capitol, Supreme Court Hallway on April 10, 2025 for the annual Vern Ogden Memorial Root Beer Float Day.

Please bring posters, displays, etc., to highlight what your local

lodge is doing to support our communities. 10 am-3 pm. We will serve Root Beer Floats for our legislators from 12:30 until 2:30 pm.



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Kingfisher is on the Move Initiating New Members!

On February 17th, we initiated 8 new members! Ethan Kale, Tanner Mueggenborg, Jeremy Stafford, Taylor Willms, Kaden Mueggenborg, Trey Borelli, Buddy King and Evan Endres!

Welcome to Kingfisher Elks Lodge #2416!



April is an exciting time for Elks Lodges across the Nation. Just like spring comes with new growth and so to our Lodges grow and bloom with new Officers and new Leadership and new ideas and new programs. The Installation of Officers is an opportunity to recognize the

accomplishments of the past year and recognize those leaders that made it happen. The introduction of the new Officers and an outline of their goals for the coming year in-

spires all of us to help them make it another great year. April is also our State Convention where we can visit with the other leaders of our Lodges

and State Officers can recognize the accomplishments of the Lodges. April is the most exciting and inspiring month in Elkdom and I encourage you to take that excitement and enthusiasm and invite your friends to join your Lodge and become a part of

this great fraternal organization, The Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks.

A note from the SW DDGER—Jack E. Roper

The Southwest District is alive and well. We've had a couple of cook-offs since the last newsletter, as well as our District Convention. A big thank you to Midwest City Lodge #1890 and Lindsay Lodge #2351 for hosting the cook-offs.

Our District Convention was held February 28th through March 2nd, 2025, at Lake Murray State Park Lodge in Ardmore, OK. We held our Spring District Deputy Clinic in the morning and started the afternoon with our District Vice-President's meeting which included electing the incoming VP. Congrats to Clay Allison for becoming the 2025-2026 Vice President for the Southwest District.

Our District Deputy Clinic focused heavily on Public Relations with examples of both Good and Bad. How to accentuate the Good and protect yourself from the Bad.

We rounded up the meeting portion of the District Convention with a Ritual Contest put on by District Ritual Chair Stan Mills, congrats to the winners and hope to see you participate at the State Level.

Ardmore lodge received the traveling attendance trophy for having the most members in attendance at the District Deputy meeting.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the coming events across the District and State.

Jack Edward Roper,

DD-SW



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From David and Anita,

As we embark on another year filled with opportunities and responsibilities as members of this incredible organization. As we look ahead, I want to share a few important areas of focus that will guide us in our journey together. First and foremost, let us foster an atmosphere that is open and welcoming.

The Elks Lodge is a home away from home for many of us. We must remember that every person who walks through our doors is seeking connection and community. Our hospitality is our strength, and it is essential that we embrace it fully. Let us greet newcomers with warm smiles and open hearts. Make it a point to introduce yourself, share a little about our mission, and invite them to join us in our activities. Every new face is an opportunity to build friendships and strengthen our lodge. As we welcome new members, we must also encourage participation in our major projects and initiatives.

This year, we have an incredible chance to contribute to the Oklahoma Elks Major Projects and the Elks National Foundation. These programs are at the core of what we do as Elks. They enable us to make a difference in the lives of those who need it most. I urge each of you to get involved. Whether it's volunteering your time, donating resources, or simply spreading the word about our mission, every effort counts. Each contribution, no matter how small, adds up to something monumental.

Another critical focus this year must be the principle of B.I.T.S. This stands for Butts In The Seats. When we talk about participation, we are not just referring to involvement in projects. We need to ensure that our lodge is filled with energy and enthusiasm. Let us make it a priority to attend our meetings and events. Encourage your fellow Elks to join you. Share the joy and the camaraderie that we experience together. The more we come together, the stronger our community becomes.

As we engage in these efforts, we must follow the protocols that have guided us for so long. Our traditions are not mere formalities. They are the foundation upon which we build our lodge and our legacy. By respecting our procedures, we show that we value our history and the hard work of those who came before us. Let us honor that history by upholding our standards and conducting our meetings with decorum and respect.

Finally, as we focus on these goals, let us remember the importance of being friendly and approachable. Our interaction is not just a transaction; it is an opportunity to build relationships and nurture our community. Let kindness and understanding be at the forefront of our actions. A simple smile or a kind word can have a profound impact on someone's day, and it can strengthen the bonds within our lodge.

In conclusion, as we move forward this year as Elks, let us focus on being open and welcoming, participating actively in our projects, filling our lodge with enthusiasm, adhering to our protocols, and fostering kindness in all our interactions. Together, we can make this year one of growth, friendship, and lasting impact. Thank you for your commitment to our values and for being part of this incredible journey. Let us make this year unforgettable.

J. David Babcock, President-elect

Meet Oklahoma City Lodge 417 new officers for the Lodge Year 2025-2026

- Exalted Ruler—Jay Patton Leading Knight—Diane Carr
- Loyal Knight—Michelle Patton
- Lecturing Knight—Jim Purcell
- Esquire—Cameron Cain
- Inner Guard—Adam Adegoke
- Chaplain—Alex Sisson Tiler—Dallas Billing Treasurer—Darla Morley

Secretary – Frances Bovee

lyr Trustee- Rob Moore

2 yr Trustee-Charlie Turpin

- 3 yr Trustee—Jerry Bovee
 - 4 yr Trustee—Tammy Moore
- 5 yr Trustee—Ted LaPoma

Congratulations and we wish your new officers a great 2025-2026 Lodge year







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A note from the Grand Secretary, Brian R. Klatt

Online pre-registration for the Grand Lodge Session in Kansas City opens April I and will be available at elks.org/ convention/prereg.cfm through June 25.

Registration will be open on Friday, June 27, from noon until 4:00 p.m. in the Kansas City Convention Center. Be advised, Exhibitors and Vendors will not be open at this time. Normal registration and Vendor/Exhibitor hours will begin Saturday, June 28, at 8:00 am. The online pre-registration fee is \$50 for all Members.

The on-site registration fee will be \$60.A current credit card for PayPal will be needed. There is no fee for a non-Elk spouse or guest.

A registration badge will be required to enter the exhibit hall and all business sessions.

$\label{eq:leave-four-bound} \textbf{Leave-Your-Doubt} \ \textbf{at the Door}$

By Rick Gathen – Membership Marketing Manager

Every year, when it is time to renew your Elks membership, a thought may creep in: Does my membership really matter?

Maybe you've felt that moment of hesitation. But let us tell you this, loud and clear: Leave your doubt at the door.

Because when you walk through that Leave your doubt at the door Lodge door, you stand in a place where heroes are honored, children are lifted, communities are strengthened, and kindness wins. You are part of something that stretches across generations, across towns and cities, across this entire nation.

You are an Elk. And that matters more than you may ever know. So, Leave your doubt at the door.

Congratulations to the new Board Members. I know you are looking forward to a fantastic 2025-2026 Lodge year.

Congratulations to the award winners. Well deserved honors for sure.

During the business meeting at the SW District Convention Jennifer Roberts was awarded Elk of the Year for the SW District.

Again, Congratulations to all and wishing you a fabulous new Lodge year!



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Elks National Foundation - Fidelity Club

The Foundation's Monthly Giving Program



Do you contribute to the Elks National Foundation often? What if you could donate without having to think about it? Well, you can! Enroll today and become a member of the Fidelity Club—the ENF's monthly giving program.

Why Join the Fidelity Club?

- **Ease:** The ENF Fidelity Club recognizes automatic, regularly scheduled donations through your bank account or credit card. These donations occur monthly (minimum \$5).
- Eco-Friendly: Save a tree and save time with paperless donations!
- **Convenience:** No need to purchase stamps or mail a check. It takes just five minutes to sign up, and you're good to go!
- Flexibility: You can increase, modify or cancel your gift at any time.
- **Security:** It's safe, reliable and allows the ENF to spend less time on administration and more time on our charitable mission.

Ready to Join?

Becoming a member of the Fidelity Club is simple! Enroll online at <u>enf.elks.org/recurring</u> and start your gift today! If you prefer to sign up through the mail, <u>click here</u> for an enrollment form.

Questions? Contact <u>enf@elks.org</u> or 773/755-4728 for additional information about starting a monthly gift and joining the ENF Fidelity Club.

Already a member? If you have an active monthly gift agreement with the ENF, you have automatically been enrolled in the ENF Fidelity Club! <u>Click here</u> to learn more about your monthly gift.

Lodges

The ENF Fidelity Club is an individual giving and recognition program. We are unable to accept enrollments from groups or Lodges. We encourage Lodges to submit donations via the Online Remittance form and credit individual donors. <u>Click here to make a one-time online donation</u>.

What are the Benefits?

The longer you are a member of the Fidelitu Club, the more benefits you'll receive!

- **Fidelity Club Sticker**: Following your firest monthly gift, you'll receive a special Fidelity Club Sticker for your membership card, and your name will appear in the online Fidelity Club Honor Roll. At the end of each calendar year, you'll receive a new sticker with your annual statement.
- Fidelity Club Pin: Once you've made 12 monthly gifts, you'll receive the ENF Fidelity Pin!
- **Pin Attachments**: Each time you reach an additional benchmark-starting at 25 monthly gifts, you;; receive a pin attachment to wear with your Fidelity pin. Additional attachments will be sent at 50 and 100 gifts.
- Bagels with the Board: An open-house breakfast at the Elks National Convention exclusively for Fidelity Club Members



03/27/2025

A note from your AREA 6 Committeeman - Rick Medlin

April is an exciting time for Elks Lodges across the Nation. Just like spring comes with new growth and so to our Lodges grow and bloom with new Officers and new Leadership and new ideas and new programs.

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spires all of us to help them make it another great year.

April is also our State Convention where we can visit with the other leaders of our Lodges

and State Officers can recognize the accomplishments of the Lodges.

April is the most exciting and inspiring month in Elkdom and I encourage you to take that excitement and enthusiasm and invite your friends to join your Lodge and become a part of

this great fraternal organization, The Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks.

Rick Medlin Committeeman Area 6

Public Relations Membership and Marketing

From: J. David Babcock, President-elect Oklahoma Elks Association

To: State Committee Chairs Grand Lodge Officers State Vice Presidents State Officers

Subject: State Organizational Meeting

The State Organizational Meeting will be held on April 27, 2025 at the Broken Arrow Elks Lodge #2673 at 10266 South 241st East Ave. Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. The Meeting will start at 11:00 am with lunch following the meeting. Also Anita and the Broken Arrow Lodge Ladies Auxiliary will be providing entertainment for wives that are not members of the Elks.

All district chairs are welcome and encouraged to attend. This meeting is very important, it will set the tone for the upcoming year. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me.

Have a great day in Elkdom!

Fraternally,

J. David Babcock, President-elect Oklahoma Elks Association 918-637-2722 davidbaelks@windstream.net B.I.T.S.

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It's time for the 118th OEA Spring Convention. The dates are April 11—April 13, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Edmond.

Is your lodge competing in the Ritual Contest, Flay Tribute or the 11 O'clock Toast?

Now is the time to get your registrations in and hotel reservations booked. The registration form is available on Facebook for you to download. Be sure you send your registration form to Kevin Johnson.

Hope to see everyone at the convention!

118th Annual Oklahoma Elks Spring Convention Registration Form

The Oklahoma Elks Association 118th Annual Spring Convention will be held April 11-13, 2025 at the Hilton Garden Inn & Edmond Conference Center, 2833 Conference Dr., Edmond, OK 73034.

Please Contact the Hilton Garden Inn at 405-285-0900 to make your reservations, and please let them know you are an Oklahoma Elk (**Reference: Oklahoma Elks Convention 2025**) to receive the special rate of \$134.00/night plus taxes (this **DOES** include breakfast buffet). <u>Reservations must be made by April</u> <u>1st, 2025</u>, to receive the Elk rate. After this date, the rate is <u>NOT</u> guaranteed. All reservations will require a first night room deposit with a major credit card. The rooms are guaranteed; therefore, if you need to cancel your reservation, you must give notice at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the arrival date. Members are responsible for their own rooms – DO NOT send payment with this registration.

Prepaid convention registrations should be returned to the Convention Committee by April 1st, 2025.

Last minute changes may be necessary to the Schedule of Events. Please watch the State Website or the Bulletin Board in the State Hospitality Room.

REGISTRATION FORM FOR OKLAHOMA ELKS 118th ANNUAL SPRING CONVENTION

Registration with Banquet \$55.00 per person Must be received prior to April 1st, 2025 Registration for Conference only, no banquet: \$25.00 Please Print Name(s) Legibly

NAME		TITLE		LODGE	
NAME		TITLE		LODGE	
ADDRESS:		City		State	Zip
EMAIL:		city		June	
REGISTRATION	QTY_	at \$55.00 each	\$		
REGISTRATION NO BANQUET	QTY	at \$25.00 each	\$		
PSP Dinner (PSP's Only)	QTY	at \$55.00 each	\$		
Youth Banquet	QTY	at \$30.00 each	\$		
TOTAL ENCLOSED			\$		

Make checks payable to "OK Elks Assoc State Convention" and remit by April 1st, 2025:

Kevin Johnson Convention Committee Chair 20760 Gun Club Rd Morris, Ok 74445-2861 (Please return this portion with payment for registration.)

Upcoming Elks Events

April 10 - Vern Ogden Memorial Root Beer Float Day State Capital Supreme Cour Hallway 12:30pm-2:30pm

April 11/13 OEA State Convention—Hilton Garden Inn Edmond, OK.

April 26 I 4th Annual Backyard Smoke-a-Thon 2025 - Broken Arrow, OK.

May II Mothers Day Brunch and Ceremony - Oklahoma City Lodge

May 13 State Volley Ball Tournament TBD

May 31-June 1 Lindsay Guys and Gals Golf Tournament - Lindsay, OK.

June 13/15 Billy O Wilson Golf Tournament - Shawnee Elks Golf Course

June 13 Flag Day Service All Lodges

June 29-July 2 Elks National Convention - Kansas City, MO.

July 12 Annual Golf Fundraiser Lake View Golf Course Ardmore, OK.

If you have something you would like in the newsletter, please forward it to francesnicholson086@yahoo.com by the 15th of the month.

Our Mission Statement

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the U.S.A.

A Fraternal Organization

To inculcate the principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity; to recognize a belief in God; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its Members; to quicken the spirit of American patriotism; to cultivate good fellowship; to perpetuate itself as a fraternal organization, and to provide for its government, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America will serve the people and communities through benevolent programs, demonstrating that *Elks Care* and *Elks Share*.









Who Are the Elks?

Elks Care, Elks Share. Are YOU an Elk?

Elks Lodges bring so much more to their communities than just a building, golf course or pool. They are places where neighbors come together, families share meals, and children grow up.

Elks invest in their communities through programs that help children grow up healthy and drug-free, meet the needs of today's veterans, and improve the quality of life.

- Elks in Alexandria, Va., hold a soup kitchen at the Lodge each weekday at lunch, serving 30 people, many of whom are veterans.
- Wheeling, W.Va., Elks Lodge hosts local youth once a week for a wholesome meal. They also provide homework help and invite community leaders to speak at the meals.
- Elks in Lockport, N.Y., provides an annual weeklong summer camp tailored to meet the needs of people with disabilities.

