



OREGON ELKS NEWS

The Official Newsletter of the Oregon State Elks Association
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SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED

OSEA President's message



It is March already,

Yes, it is March already, that means the new lodge officers have been voted on and are now awaiting installation. I enjoy going to these events, it's like a new perspective every year.

I also want to congratulate all of the new officer-elects. I hope you have a successful year. Remember, always do what is good for the lodge, do no harm and leave the lodge better than when you found it.

This month I will be traveling to Pasco, Washington for the regional Hoop Shoot. This will be my first trip to a regional shoot so I'm looking forward to seeing young people from all over our region compete. I am amazed at these young people. The skill and determination these kids possess is awe inspiring.

We are also deep in the planning for the upcoming Summer Convention! I am looking forward to seeing you all there.

The etched metal Elk plaque that Joedy and I auctioned off at our visits, I found that we have a spare if someone would like to make a donation to my charity, veterans suicide prevention. Please contact me and we can make it happen.

Thank you for being beside us as we travel our State and beyond.

Fraternally,
Ben L. Adams Jr.
Oregon State Elks Association
President

Pre-registration for Convention opens in April

Online pre-registration for the Grand Lodge Session in Minneapolis opens April 1 and will be available at elks.org/convention/prereg.cfm through June 28.

Registration will be open on Friday, June 30, from noon until 4:00 p.m. in the Minneapolis Convention Center. Be advised, Exhibitors and Vendors will not be open at this time. Normal registration and Vendor/Exhibitor hours will begin Saturday, July 1, 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.

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Newsletter articles can be submitted to the OSEA Public Relations and Marketing Committee at Blake.ORNCElks@gmail.com.

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Grand Exalted Ruler: New leadership pushing forward with positivity



April begins with the changing of the guard. It is extremely important that the new Officers, Board of Directors, and Trustees work hand in hand to accomplish the important programs in each of your Lodges.

It is crucial to develop a budget for your Lodge that each committee can work with. You must develop a budget that will keep your Lodge financially sound throughout the new Lodge year. Pick out a night and invite all the Officers, Board of Directors, and your committee members and take this opportunity to review your Lodge budget. Discuss ideas to make your Lodge programs even better. Discuss your goals for the Elks National Foundation, your state's Major Project, and any other community activities that your Lodge may be involved with. Listen to what your Members have to say. Always consider their input and be open and flexible to new ideas. Perhaps say, "OK, let's try it."

Another area of critical focus at the onset of a new Elks year is membership. Work with your appointed Membership/ Membership Retention Chair as a team. All of your Lodge Members are a part of your membership committee. It is important to reach out to delinquent Members in order to bring them back into your Lodge. It may only take one phone call. There is a chance that by speaking with the delinquent Member, you may get them to renew their dues and become an active Member again.

Your Lodge Secretary plays a very important role for Members who were dropped for nonpayment of dues. I encourage you to review Statute 14.180. This Statute is very clear that your Lodge Secretary shall advise the unaffiliated of his/her rights to reaffiliate within 60 days.

Make +1 in membership a priority during your term. I know our Grand Lodge Membership Marketing Manager Rick Gathen would be very proud to say your Lodge achieved a +1 in membership. With the leadership team you have put together, I know how hard you will be working on "Promoting Elkdom With Enthusiasm."

April also is the month when families get together for Passover and Easter. Helen and I want to wish you and your families a wonderful holiday celebration.

In closing, thank you for your continued leadership this year by working hard within your communities to show that "Elks Care — Elks Share."

God bless each of you. God bless our troops, past and present. And most of all, God bless America.

The all new OregonElks.org

The Oregon State Elks Association is continuing to grow our on-line presence. We have an active [Facebook Page](#) as well as our new [YouTube Channel](#) that we told you about last month. This month we are pleased to announce that we will be launching an all new www.oregonelks.org website for the Oregon State Elks Association.

The new website integrates video content from our YouTube page, new graphics, and more dynamic content for members and those wanting to learn more about us. And not only is the new website more visual, it is also faster than the old site so pages load quicker and look better than ever before. We have also expanded the lodge information available on the website to include a lodge's contact information as well as website and social media links. So far we have about 25% of lodges built in. To get your lodge page set up please [fill out this survey](#) to submit your information.

In the future we hope to add additional information such as open hours, RV information, and more. The new website will include a new member only area as well. Users who had an account on the old website will receive an email inviting them to set up an account on the new website. Special thanks go out to the team who got our new website built out and ready to launch in around 20 days.

If you have suggestions or feedback on the new OSEA Website please send them to us at blake.orncelks@gmail.com. We will continue adding content to the site and building out more of it in the coming months. So make sure to check back often to see the latest.

Good deeds become official after documentation

There is an old adage that I think about once in a while, the punch line of which is, “The job ain’t done ‘til the paperwork’s done.” I won’t describe the picture that accompanies this saying, but the punch line surely summarizes the problems we face with regards to our survey of Volunteer, Youth, Charitable and Community Service Programs.

If some find this topic to be repetitive with regards to Grand Lodge Government Relations Committee newsletter articles, you are correct. That’s because of the extreme importance of an accurate, Lodge-by-Lodge, state-by-state summary of what we do and what we contribute in the name of charity. The significance of our survey cannot, in any way, be overly emphasized because of its usefulness for the survival of our Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Previously, our committee has warned that some governmental individuals and agencies believe our fraternal organization is simply a source of wealth, waiting to be tapped for the benefit of governmental projects and programs. Combating that perception was a purpose for which our Grand Lodge Government Relations Committee was originally formed. Committee members on the national, state, district, and local level continually work to challenge the misconception that we are just another business that should be subject to full taxation.

Over the past many years, Government Relations Committee members at all levels have strived diligently to defend our charitable organization. We have improved the overall procedure of keeping track of our charitable reports, including donations, hours of service, and mileage in order to make it easier to track and forward all such information to Grand Lodge. We have also worked to spread the burden of inputting statistics to include other Members of the Lodge, so as to lessen the work of our Lodge Secretaries, who have borne the brunt of this task for many years.

These endeavors are working, but progress has been slow. It is suggested that Lodges reassess their present practices so the clerical system associated with our survey becomes easier to manage and maintain, thereby making the procedure more accurate and time efficient. Doing so will involve some changes, and we all know most individuals and organizations

are afraid of change—yet change is necessary to insure our future.

Continuing to improve our reporting system must be accomplished, in addition to increasing our influence within our communities through a consistent effort that builds relationships with local, county, and state elected officials. Doing so will validate our importance within our communities and improve our reputation.

New orientation video now online

We have worked to restructure and shorten the Orientation video, making the messaging more concise and well-organized. It’s been nine years since the orientation video was changed.

The BPOE continues to strive to attract a younger and more diverse membership. The restructured orientation video better reflects those goals along with our progress.

We’ve also eliminated the need to produce DVDs, which have become obsolete.

The restructured orientation video can be found on Elks.org. Go to the Manuals menu, select Membership Guide, and scroll down to section two—Orientation & Initiation. The video can also be found on the [BPO Elks of the USA Youtube Channel](#).

Graphics and social media

A few weeks ago, you received an email from Area 8 Grand Lodge Membership and Marketing Chair Steve Meier regarding the use of non-Grand Lodge officially branded graphics on social media. From his message, you should only be using graphics from approved Grand Lodge or OSEA approved pages. These pages are:

[BPO Elks USA Facebook Page](#)

[Jolly Cork Facebook Page](#)

[Grand Lodge Membership And Marketing](#)

[Oregon State Elks Association](#)

Several of you have responded that you do not know how to tell what is an approved graphic and what is not. There are two very easy ways to tell that a graphic is not from an approved source: First, if the logo on the graphic IS NOT the official Elks USA Logo used by the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks nor the official logo of the Oregon State Elks Association. Further the logo has never been a logo of the organization nor is one of its trademarks. Second, officially released graphics from Grand Lodge sources or the OSEA do NOT include any artist attribution on them. They are only branded with either the official logo of the Elks or the Oregon State Elks Association.

Below, is an image released from Grand Lodge links that shows what official Grand Lodge Images look like. Note the appropriate Grand Lodge Logo and lack of artist attribution. These links also include graphics available for a variety of holidays, lodge events, rituals, and more. Further, Grand Lodge is also actively developing more. If you have suggestions for graphics, please send them to me and I can forward onto the appropriate individuals for consideration. In the meantime, please refrain from sharing items on your lodge social media and websites that are not aligned with Grand Lodge branding and messaging. It is important that the Elks brand is identifiable, and use of unapproved images not using proper logos or messaging does not help that effort.



Betty Hise for Cancer Research

Thank you to Salem Lodge # 336 for the March 4th, 2023 scheduled 'Comedians Against Cancer'. This fundraiser for Betty Hise for Cancer Research, Inc. features the comedy of Adam Pasi, Drew Wilson-McGrath and Dianna Potter. We look forward to reporting fun around contributing to Cancer Research!

Betty Hise Directors are planning for our luncheon at Summer Convention in Seaside on Friday April 28. Check-in 11:30a for the "Birthday Party" theme as we celebrate 35 years of fundraising for Cancer Research! Invite is included in the Registration information recently sent to all lodges. Our Speaker this year is Tammie Eslinger, Senior Manager of Clinical Research at St. Lukes Cancer Institute (SLCI) in Idaho. Our 2022 end of the year funds have been redirected from previously reported ADEPT program to a colon cancer research study they are currently involved in. SLCI is in collaboration with Dana Farber Harvard Cancer Care Alliance examining why colorectal cancers are increasing at an alarming rate in people under the age of 50. This is a worldwide issue, and Idaho has one of the highest increases. They are studying samples as well as asking extensive questions about lifestyle and diet in attempt to identify something similar that is causing colon cancer. Specimens are saved for use in identifying or developing drugs to give these patients a better chance of survival. To compare the differences between people who get cancer and those who don't, they are gathering the same information from healthy volunteers. We look forward to hearing more about this program from Tammie Eslinger who has 24 years experience in Cancer Research.

To all supporters of Betty Hise for Cancer Research, Inc., we appreciate your interest and loyalty! Betty Hise Directors and Advisors.

Veterans Activities



VAVS Rep John Buckley dropped off 200 cupcakes for the veterans at the The Dalles Veterans Home's Valentine Day party. Along with the cupcakes, a pickup load of snacks and beverages were also given to them.



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March 2023 OSEA Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 OSEA State Officers Meeting - Florence	4 OSEA State Officers Meeting - Florence
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 OR/WA PER Association Dinner - Olympia WA
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 OSEA Ritual Contest - Hillsboro Lodge starts at 10am
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Regional Hoop Shoot at Pasco
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 1st day of new lodge year