



OREGON ELKS NEWS

The Official Newsletter of the Oregon State Elks Association
Volume I Issue No. 6 November 2021

OSEA President's Message



Hello **Best People On Earth**

As we launch from Fall into Winter, please be extra careful with daytime hours getting shorter and the weather becoming much worse. Only a couple of short months ago we were enduring 115 degree temperatures in much of Oregon, and now we are enduring heavy rain, snowfall, flooding, and

high winds. But the changing seasons is what makes Oregon so charming for many of us. So too is the continual work the Oregon Elks do for those less fortunate. Pam and I have witnessed this firsthand as we continue our voyage to the districts and beyond our beautiful state.

When we visited Metro District, Hillsboro Lodge was decked out in motorcycle decorations and many attendees wore leather conducive to our theme. The weekend event was well attended, and our excursions included golf for some and wine tasting for many others. The food and entertainment were sensational, and this would have traditionally been our Oktoberfest and Open House at the Oregon Elks Children's Eye Clinic. But under OHSU policies, we still cannot visit the eye clinic which bears our name, but hopefully we will be able to see the new facilities very soon. We have produced a new video showcasing the clinic, which can be accessed from this website, and each Lodge was provided a DVD at Fall Seminar. We raised approximately \$2500 towards our selected charities.



When we visited the South Central District hosted by Corvallis Lodge, they pulled out all the stops on somewhat short notice due to Springfield being unable to host us with the pandemic restrictions in their county. We visited a moonshine operation and then a distillery named after four fallen soldiers, and a gun range owned and operated by the Lodge. It was great to see the customized weapons and their owners as they shot round after round into a very tight pattern at 600 yards! Many were ex-military. We raised approximately \$2000 for our charities.



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As a reminder, if you have suggestions for future issues of the OSEA Newsletter please send them to the OSEA Public Relations and Marketing Committee at Blake.ORNCElks@gmail.com. You can also email to be added to our new email distribution list to receive these newsletters and other updates directly in your inbox.

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President's Message (Continued)

Fall Seminar was a huge success hosted by Oregon City Lodge due to the dedication of its officers, members and volunteers. There was a lot of good training both from within the state and outside of it. Thank you to all of the presenters and to the attendees, and it was good to rock the place with our President's reception and all of the entertainment throughout the weekend, and we celebrated Pam's birthday as we do each year at Fall Seminar. I heard nothing but praise from our guests and dignitaries. A couple of thousand dollars was raised for charity.

Brookings was our next stop for our visit to Southwest District. What a luau they put on! They have two large concrete pits built into the ground with a crane and associated hardware to have fantastic pig roasts and beef barbecues. The weather was very stormy, so our excursions were cut short, but the entire weekend was full of cheer and companionship, and we raised about \$2000 for our charities.

As of a couple of weeks ago, Oregon has 487 candidates waiting to be initiated. We have added 2,198 new members this fraternal year, and we have a delinquency rate of 8.8%. Great work but let's close those gaps and keep bringing in new members!

Please be safe, stay healthy, and above all be faithful to God, your families, and to Elkdom.

Fraternally,

Richard K Shipley
OSEA President
2021-2022



The golfing group from the Metro Visitation

The Americanism Essay Contest

Grand Lodge once again is pleased to offer the national Americanism Essay Contest to fifth and sixth graders for Division I and seventh and eighth graders for Division II.

For 2021-2022, the Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee has selected the theme, "What does it mean to love your country?" This very important patriotic contest gives school children the chance to express their views on their pride in America. Kindling our youth's appreciation and respect for patriotism is central to understanding our country's heritage. Our youth come to understand the symbols that represent what this country stands for, and can get a deep appreciation for the individuals who sacrifice everything so all can enjoy its freedom.

Another academic year has begun and students all across our great country are back in classrooms or distance educating to study, learn, and grow into our future leaders. Lodges should have already contacted local school districts, private schools, home schools, charter schools, and teachers (who may also be Elks) to provide them with the new Americanism Essay Contest to add to their fall curriculum. In this time of distance learning, employing the help of groups like the PTA and hosting zoom meetings are great tools to spread the word about this contest.

Entry information and contest rules are available for download on-line, or you can contact your local Lodge Americanism Chair. All Area DDGERs and ERs should have thumb drives with instructions and forms. If you do not have your thumb drive with information, contact your DDGER immediately to get yours, or have the zip files e-mailed to you. All information is also available on-line at elks.org.

This contest is important because it shows Americanism at its best to school children in your area. Plaques will be awarded by the Grand Lodge for first, second and third place for winning essays in Division I and Division II. Winners will be announced at the Grand Lodge Session in Atlanta in July 2022. Essays must be submitted to Local Lodges by December 15, 2021.

Your action now will shape the youth of our country, which impacts all of our futures. I urge all ERs and Americanism Committee Members to implement this contest in your local schools, or follow up on the essays if your school districts already have the contest underway.

November is Elks Veterans Remembrance Month

In an effort to recognize and support our nation's veterans, Elks National President Keith Mills has proclaimed November to be Veterans Remembrance Month.

This month, we urge all Americans to join the Elks in service to the veterans in your community. Let us remember the words of Elk member and President John F. Kennedy who said, "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them."

Despite the challenges of the last year, the Elks lived by their pledge to never forget our veterans. When the pandemic created a crisis for many veterans, Elks were there. Our members re-purposed funds from hastily canceled events to buy masks, hand sanitizer and protective equipment for veterans and caregivers at risk of COVID. When VA food pantries shut down and veterans' dinners were canceled, Elks packed and delivered food baskets directly to local veterans.

Elks supported hospitalized veterans by delivering books and art supplies to VA Medical Centers, entertained homebound veterans by playing bingo over the State Veterans Home intercom, and purchased iPad's for veterans so they could virtually visit with their families. And in a year when home was the safest place to be, Elks outreach programs allowed thousands of veterans to stay or become housed, giving them not only shelter but supplies, furniture and food.

There are nearly 1,800 Elks Lodges across the country with a total membership of around 800,000. Elks members must be American citizens who are at least 21 years of age and must believe in God. To learn more and to join us in service, visit www.elks.org. For membership information visit Join.Elks.Org.



Veterans in Need Sometimes Let Pride Get in the Way.

By Past Grand Exalted Ruler Paul R. Ryan.

Here we are in the fall. I just received my invitation to assist during an Elks/Disabled American Veterans Deer hunt at the famous Camp Ripley in Minnesota, one of the largest National Guard training facilities in the country. This is always the time I cherish because it allows me to meet a new veteran and share his or her stories. November is Veterans Remembrance Month for us Elks. Not that we need a special month to remember our veterans—One of our slogans is, "So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them." However, during this month we should really pay close attention to our veterans, especially those veterans in need.

One thing I learned on my travels is that our veterans are a very proud group of people. During my Washington, D.C. visit last year, many leaders of our country who advocate for veterans acknowledge they often don't know if the people who are in the food pantry or in the shelters or looking for county or state assistance are veterans. The people are too proud to let us know, and therefore our numbers do not really reflect the true state of veterans in need. If your Lodge is having an event that feeds people of the community, make sure to ask if people are veterans. It will help us discover more realistic statistics to get our leadership in this country to realize the magnitude of what is really going on.

Recently, I was offered to put a sign in my yard for the Veteran Crisis Hot-line: Suicide Prevention. This is really something we should all put up in our Lodges, our homes, and everywhere else we can. Put this number in your phone and label it so if you come across a veteran who is in dire straits, you can call it for them or share it with them. The number for Veteran Crisis Line: Suicide Prevention is 1-800-273-8255. If you come across a soldier who has recently come home from Afghanistan due to our recent evacuation, please acknowledge them with respect and thank them for their service. They have retreated from a country with the knowledge of leaving Americans behind. This is going to weigh on them. Let them know that if they are hurting the Elks are here to help!

November 11 is Veterans Day. Plan an event in your Lodge, recognize the veterans who are members and the ones who are not. Invite veterans to come to the Lodge and have a meal or a cocktail. See if you can get them as Members, but even more importantly, show them that Elks Care—Elks Share.

The Elks Drug Awareness Program



Announcing the 2021-2022 DAP Contests

The Elks Drug Awareness Program Poster, Essay, and Video contests are now open until April 2022. The theme for the 2021-2022 contest is "The Best Me is Drug Free".

The purpose of these contests is to involve children, schools and parents in the Elks Drug Awareness Program. These contests can also be used to generate publicity for your lodge and to build community partner relationships with your local public and private schools. In addition, the poster contest winners are used to make the Elks Drug Awareness Program Coloring Book and the Essay Contest winners are used in ENF publications and on the Elks Website as are the videos from the video contest.

Who can participate?

- The poster contest is for boys and girls in grades 3-5.
- The essay contest is for boys and girls in grades 6-8.
- The video contest has two categories, pre-high school and high school.

What size should the poster or essay be?

- The poster or essay should be presented on standard 8.5 by 11 inch paper - larger can be accepted, but encourage the smaller size.
- The poster or essay should contain an anti-abuse message.
- With the exception of Elroy, the poster should not depict any copyrighted character or Trade Marks.
- The essay contest should contain no more than 200 words and may be handwritten, type written or printed.

What is required to accompany the poster or essay?

- Name of the student.
- Age & Grade of the student.
- Name of the student's school.
- Name and number of the sponsoring Elks Lodge

- Parental form (Hold Harmless Waiver) for all three contests.
- Video parental release form for minors.
- Students should be informed that their posters, essays and videos become the property of the BPOE and may be posted on our website and on social media.

Video Criteria?

- The video should be between 1 and 5 minutes in length.
- The video should contain an anti-abuse message.
- With the exception of Elroy, the video should not depict any copyrighted character or Trade Marks.

For more information about the Elks Drug Awareness Program contests, contact your district Drug Awareness Chairman! Elks National President Keith Mills has proclaimed November to be Veterans Remembrance Month.

OSEA Website Updates

Have you been to the Oregon State Elks Association website recently? The OSEA Website and Public Relations and Marketing Committees have been busy updating content on the OSEA website, www.oregonelks.org. Current updates include:

- **OSEA Presidents Visitation Schedule:** The full calendar for the visitations and functions for the OSEA President. This can be found on the officers page.
- **Oregon Elks Children's Eye Clinic:** We have updated the information on the page as well as adding the new virtual tour video showing off this world class facility for the treatment of children's visual needs.
- **Camp Meadowood:** We have updated the information available.
- **Training Materials:** We have uploaded the presentations from the 2021 Fall Seminar as well as some new resources for your lodge social media managers.

Keep checking back as we are continuing to make regular updates to the website and will be highlighting our charitable works as we head into the holiday season and launch our upcoming billboard campaign. In addition, if you have pictures that meet Elks media guidelines that show what we do with any of our major projects and charities that you think could be featured on the website please submit them to us!

Spotlight: Fall Seminar 2021

To Ginny Van Loo chairperson of the Fall Seminar Committee, the officers and members of Oregon City, and especially all of the volunteers who participated in the Fall Seminar.

I want to thank you for all of the work that went into putting on that event for the State Association. I am very aware of the long hours and hard work that you all put in.

I feel like the event was a success due to in part to your hard work, so please give yourselves a round of applause. And you have my eternal thanks, I didn't meet you all but I thank you all.

Fraternally

Ben L. Adams Jr.
President Elect
Oregon State Elks Association



Betty Hise for Cancer Research

Hello from Betty Hise for Cancer Research

It was a successful Fall Convention for Betty Hise for Cancer Research fundraising! Thank you to all who contributed as we raised \$2865 raffling 6 fun filled baskets and more. A special auction was done for a "welcome" plaque painted by Marilyn True featuring an Elk head and the 11th hour clock. Also donated for the auction were 2 bottles of Peach Crown by Trudy Seadorf. Our thanks to Marilyn and Trudi and all donations!

Betty Hise Directors total 8 and we come into the board in pairs, advancing each year in responsibilities over a 4-year tenure. We would like to introduce you to the newbies, our 2 new first year Directors, Pam Shipley and myself, Laurie Flatt Roberge. We have big steps to follow in the directors ahead of us. We extend a big thank you to them and the past Directors now staying on serving as Secretary, Treasurer and Advisors to those of us learning our way.



Pam Shipley, our lovely first lady, says it's an honor and a privilege to be on the Betty Hise board. With everyone's help in the local lodges, we can help more women "fight the fight". As many know, some of Rick and Pam's fundraising this year is aimed to benefit Betty Hise Cancer Research. Laurie Flatt Roberge, I have great memories of growing up with Frank and Betty Hise in my home. I have always hoped to join the Betty Hise Directors. My Mom, Peggie Flatt, was active in early Betty Hise activities and when she passed Betty Hise donated \$20,000 to research in her name. I am honored and privileged to serve in her footsteps. Thank you for your interest and support!!

Betty Hise for Cancer Research Directors,
Pam Shipley, Laurie Flatt Roberge, Barbara Smith, Lillian Estep, Deborah McFerron, Sheri Bowers, Jan Lowe & Diane Deseve



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November 2021 OSEA Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 Idaho Elks Convention - Rupert	6 Idaho Elks Convention - Rupert
7	8	9	10	11 Veterans Day, honor those who served!	12 OSEA Presidents Visitation North Central District - Salem Lodge	13 OSEA Presidents Visitation North Central District - Salem Lodge
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Thanksgiving	26	27
28	29	30				