



# OREGON ELKS NEWS

The Official Newsletter of the Oregon State Elks Association  
Volume I Issue No. 1 June 2021

## OSEA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings Fellow Elks!

I wish to extend a heartfelt thank you for supporting Pam and I throughout the years as the Metro District representative. I also wish to extend a warm welcome to the 2021-2022 OSEA Elected and Appointed Officers and their spouses/significant others. We are going to have a great year and I am counting on everyone

to perform our duties diligently, contribute and help bring our Lodges back from the throws of the pandemic, and take care of our members, families, and communities. I also once again, thank Past State President Kim Duty, for her outstanding leadership through what became a very tough year for all.

Seaside was not what we had planned for our Summer Convention due to the Governor's directives for each County during the pandemic, but Seaside Lodge did an outstanding job pulling off a near impossible task. Their Officers, Members, and Volunteers were absolutely incredible all weekend! We did get to hear some reports such as Veterans, Hoop Shoot, Meadowood, Credentials and Nominating, Grand Lodge, EYES, Officer of the Year, and Hall of Fame among others, and we had some limited social gatherings for our honored guests, Grand Exalted Ruler Paul Ryan, and his lovely wife Stacey. Pam's and my biggest regret is that many of you were not able to attend due to our restricted numbers allowed.

Sadly, for the second year in a row, we were not able to have the Memorial Service performed by the Past State Presidents. We did have a great Installation of Officers ceremony, which is also traditionally performed with Past State Presidents present but we couldn't do so this year. However, I was

honored to have our Endorsed Candidate for Grand Exalted Ruler and Oregon Special Deputy, Keith Mills install myself and the other Officers, and this year was very special as we had sitting in attendance Keith's wife Amy, Grand Trustee Joe Basil and his wife Virginia, Past Grand Exalted Ruler and Co-Sponsor Roger True, and current Grand Exalted Ruler Paul Ryan and his wife Stacey. Paul even assisted Keith in conducting the ceremony! We celebrated at the Lodge that night with Karaoke, and I will leave it at that!

The entire session was conducted via Zoom, and according to the hits while we were on-line, many, many of our fellow Lodge Officers and Members were watching the live stream. It was recorded, and below are the links and a message from Webmaster Chris Bellamy, and I personally thank Vice President Blake Whitson for driving the video stream.

All of the Amendments to our Bylaws and Articles passed with majority votes from our delegates. We also welcome Blake and Frank Zaccone as our newest Vice Presidents, and Randy Morgan as our newest Trustee, along with several new Appointed Officers, Eric Michael, Tom Sagers, Corey Sweeney, and Don Lewis. The rest of the current team remained intact. I have signed our new ByLaws, Articles, and Trust documentation, along with some other forms which have been sent to Grand Lodge Judiciary as appropriate for final approval.

Fall Seminar will be held at Oregon City Lodge October 15-16 (note that the Directory says Milwaukie-Portland which is incorrect). We will have many of the traditional training presentations for the Esteemed Leading Knights, but we will also be inviting this year's Exalted Rulers who were not able to attend Summer Convention, again due to the pandemic restrictions. So we will have some additional sessions, the Memorial Service, as well as the full blown President's Reception at the Lodge Saturday afternoon.

(Continued on the next page)

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**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE CONTINUED**

Pam and I had the extreme pleasure of attending a fundraiser for Keith and Amy Mills as they prepare for their biggest journey in Elkdom, at Baker Lodge on May 8th. What an absolute blast! I have not been given the total amount raised, but I know that many Members and Guests went home happy with a plethora of outstanding baskets and prizes so generously donated. The food was exquisite, and it was great to hear the Baker Drum and Bugle Corp play again. I have requested them to come to Fall Seminar, so let’s hope that they can. On June 12th at Milwaukie-Portland Lodge, another fundraiser for Keith and Amy is being held, so I encourage those that have not already purchased tickets to please do so. Attendance will be limited! Jayne Kell and her team have promised a fantastic night!

The traditional work party held at Camp Meadowood Springs over Memorial Day Weekend was canceled once again this year due to the pandemic, and there also will not be a camp held or Open House. The Eye Clinic Open House traditionally held in June at Oaks Park in Portland will also not be held this year due to the pandemic. We still hope that we can hold an Open House and Oktoberfest in early October. We also hope to have a Grand Opening of our new Oregon Elks Children’s Eye Clinic in the upcoming months. They are open for business though! The new legal name of our major project entity is EYES (Elks Youth Eye Service).

Gateway and Gresham Lodges have approved a merger between the two Lodges, and the Institution will be held at Gresham Lodge (soon to be named Gateway-Gresham Lodge #1805) on July 10th, immediately after some of us return home from Grand Lodge in Tampa. Pam and I are proud to represent Oregon at the Idaho State Convention June 3-6 in Caldwell, the Washington State Convention June 17-20 in Pasco, and we look forward to also representing Oregon at Grand Lodge Convention in Tampa July 1-8 along with many other officers and members as our travels are just beginning.

Stay protected and healthy, be prosperous and wise, and above all, God Bless you and your loved ones.

Fraternally,  
 Rick Shipley, OSEA President 2021-2022  
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**OSEA 2021 SUMMER CONVENTION**

by OSEA Webmaster Chris Bellamy

Two videos from the 2021 OSEA Summer Convention live stream have been posted to the Oregon State Elks Association YouTube Channel. The first is the [full three hour recording of the session](#) with only breaks removed. This video is only accessible with the link and is not publicly listed on YouTube and should not be shared with non-members. The second, is a [35 minute video of the Installation of Officers and President Shipley’s speech](#). This video is publicly accessible and can be shared with anyone who would like to view the installation ceremony.

These videos have also been posted to the Oregon State Elks Association Website under the [Summer Convention Page](#)



**DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT: NORTH CENTRAL**

Lodges:

Independence 1950 ~ Keizer 2472 ~ McMinnville 1283  
 Salem 336 ~ Sherwood "Robin Hood" 2342 ~ Silverton 2210  
 Tualatin Valley 2780

Like all our lodges, the lodges of the North Central District spent much of last year shut down due to COVID-19 related restrictions. However, despite all that was thrown against them the lodges of the North Central District managed to continue to serve their members and their communities throughout all the challenges of the last year. Some of the highlights include:



Multiple lodges in the district came together partnering to support the Lebanon Veterans Home during an outbreak early in the pandemic. This included providing the residents of the facility with some of their favorite drinks and snacks such as Coca-Cola, candy bars, and chips. In addition to supporting the honored residents of the facility, the lodges also helped provide four

meals for the 120 staff members who helped care for the veterans in the facility during the COVID outbreak. The Elks efforts led others in the community to step up and provide additional meals as well.

The McMinnville lodge hand made over 700 face masks which they distributed to those in need, as well as sold, to raise money for the Elks National Foundation. In addition, they have distributed over 200 food boxes to those in need who have been shut in because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The lodge has also distributed toys for Christmas to children and donated to support local law enforcement as well as distributed sack lunches to first responders during last year's devastating fires.

The Independence Elks Lodge has been busy this past year donating sleeping bags, socks, duffel bags, personal hygiene products, and food to the Polk County Warming Center for the homeless. The lodge has also maintained a blessings box with diapers, non-perishable food, and sanitary products. This is the fourth year for the lodge blessings box and the lodge has now got the community involved in keeping it stocked year-round. The lodge also donated money to the Gates Community and had members volunteer at the Polk County

Fairgrounds helping care for animals displaced by the fires.



The Keizer Elks Lodge made sure Christmas and Santa still came for children in their community. The lodge held a Kids Christmas Drive Thru. At this event masked and gloved lodge

volunteers dressed as elves and had more than 60 cars with 150 children come through. Each car received a family gift and activity bag as well as each child received an individual gift, activity bag, and a full-sized plush toy.

The Sherwood Elks Lodge got into the Christmas spirit in 2020. The lodge was able to fill 140 requests for food baskets with food and toys for the children. The lodge had enough left over to make donations to the local food bank and other charities so local kids could have a Merry Christmas.



The Silverton Elks Lodge spent two months with their food cart in the Gates Community. This community was devastated by the fires our area faced last year. The lodge and its

volunteers worked to provide breakfast, lunch, and dinner every day for the two months the lodge spent serving those in the community. First responders, as well as residents, were able to eat for free thanks to the generosity of the Elks.



The Salem Elks Lodge successfully launched its class of 2020 Impact Grant Project putting together over 80 welcome home boxes for homeless veterans transitioning into stable housing with essential

household goods needed for the veterans as they moved into their new homes. The lodge also continued its annual holiday projects of providing Christmas presents for the students at the Oregon School for the Deaf and kids of veterans and National Guard members in need, this past year serving close to 100 kids with toys and clothing for Christmas. The lodge also provided several families with food cards.

## CAMP MEADOWOOD SPRINGS



Unfortunately due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 restrictions we were not able to hold the Memorial Day weekend work party this year. We know that many of you look forward to the camaraderie and fun of getting the camp ready for the kids. But hopefully we will be able to have the work weekend as well as the return of campers next year.

## ELKS YOUTH EYE SERVICE

Unfortunately we will not be holding the June Open House this year. We are still hopeful that we will be able to have our open house and Oktoberfest celebration in early October. If you missed our presentation at the OSEA Summer Convention make sure to check out the recording and see some of the images of our beautiful new facility. It was a pleasure to show it to Grand Exalted Ruler Paul Ryan and his wife Stacey during their visit to Oregon.



## NEW OSEA NEWSLETTER

We hope you have enjoyed this first issue of the Oregon State Elks Association Newsletter. If you have something you would like to see included please send to your District Vice President or member of the Public Relations and Marketing committee for consideration. Or you may contact OSEA Public Relations Chairman Blake Whitson at [Blake.ORNCElks@gmail.com](mailto:Blake.ORNCElks@gmail.com) with any questions or submissions. It is our hope that this newsletter will come out monthly. So make sure to keep an eye out for future issues!

## THE ELKS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

By OSEA Public Relations and Marketing Chairman Blake Whitson

More and more people today are turning to social media to get information and to interact not just with friends and family but with their favorite brands and businesses. Today 90% of companies maintain a social media presence to market themselves, interact with customers, increase sales, and build brand awareness. As Elks we need to keep several things in mind in our interactions on social media sites like Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Here are some quick do's and don'ts of social media:

1. Use social media to promote the charitable works of your lodge, share information about your ENF Grant projects, and about your community events. Remember, unlike with traditional media like newspapers and the TV news you can control the message you put on social media. Make it a positive one.
2. Promote your lodge functions for your members as well as for the public to see what you do for members. But DO NOT advertise events as open to the public on social media unless it is a designated membership drive.
3. Keep in mind your obligation. Social media is not a place to post any of the confidential matters of the Order or about lodge business.
4. Keep in mind applicable laws. OLCC considers advertising drink specials on a website, including social media, as advertising outside the licensed premises which is not allowed.
5. Social media is not your lodge laundry room. Members should not be engaging in fights with other members on lodge social media or tagging the lodge in posts involving disagreements with other members.

Most importantly, follow Grand Lodge guidelines which are to first promote the Elks as a charitable organization and not perpetuate the image of the Elks as beer and bingo halls. And most importantly, find people to run your social media who are tech savvy and who are willing to be active monitors and administrators of your pages. Keep in mind, social media may well be how a lot of people have their first encounter with your lodge. To learn more on how to use tools like Facebook analytics and targeted advertising to promote your lodge stay tuned for future social media training opportunities.



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# JUNE 2021 OSEA CALENDAR



@OregonStateElksAssociation

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3 Idaho Elks Convention	4 Idaho Elks Convention	5 Idaho Elks Convention
6 Idaho Elks Convention	7	8	9	10	11	12 Fundraiser for Keith & Amy Mills at Milwaukie-Portland Lodge
13	14	15	16	17 Washington Elks Convention	18 Washington Elks Convention	19 Washington Elks Convention
20 Washington Elks Convention	21	22	23	24	25	26 OR/WA PER Assn Meeting Forest Grove Lodge
27	28	29	30			