



OREGON ELKS NEWS

The Official Newsletter of the Oregon State Elks Association
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Persevere & Innovate

OSEA President's message



Six years ago, when I was standing at the end of the line of officers, waiting to be installed for the first time, I turned to my right and thought that this is going to take forever. Now, when I turned to my right, I thought uh-oh, now the real work begins.

First, a huge thank you to the Elks of Oregon for allowing me the great honor of serving as your state president. The last time Roseburg #326 had a state president was in 67-68. I was a senior in high school. I want to thank Past State President Don Fenn for his participation as the Installing Officer. I also want to thank the Past State Presidents for the great job of escorting the officers into the room to be installed. Roseburg Lodge #326 deserves a huge thank you for their support over the past 46 years and especially the last six years. And then there is the South District, formerly Southwest, without whose support I definitely wouldn't be here today.

My motto, slogan, or theme for this year is "PERSEVERE & INNOVATE." What is it to Persevere? According to the dictionary, it is "to continue a course of action even in the face of difficulty." I know a lot of lodges think they have been doing this forever, but it really hit all of us in 2020. Back in the dark days of COVID, our lodges persevered in keeping our members involved and informed with how their lodge was coping with the situation. You modified activities, to allow your members to participate, while keeping them safe. We will continue to persevere, but we must stay vigilant, because the disease is still with us.

And that brings us to the other half, "Innovate." To innovate, to me, is coming up with completely new activities for your members to take part in. And, that is where your new members can be a great help. Being new, they probably don't know what you have done in the past. But, they might have a new twist on something you tried, but it didn't work out the way

you hoped. Believe me, we've all been there. New members also bring in completely new ideas. As long as they are within our statutes and rules, give them your consideration.

Lastly, when they ask "Why is this done like this?", don't blow them off and just say, "Because that's the way we've always done it.." Give them the reason. If you don't know it, find it or find someone who does know. Before I close, I need to mention fund raising. It seems to be a major part of any state president's responsibilities. This year I'll have the usual pins and a banner to sign for a donation, and basket auctions at the official district visits. The proceeds from these will be split evenly between EYES and the LIFe fund. Something new will be a one of a kind stained glass decoration created by Roseburg's Past Exalted Ruler Randi Kobernik. Each is unique to the district and all proceeds from these will go to the LIFe fund. Lastly, an antique cuff link/tie clasp was donated to raise funds for EYES. This will be a year long raffle, with the winning ticket being drawn at the state convention next year. Once again, thank you all for your support. With all your hard work, while having fun, let's make this the Oregon State Elks Association's best year ever.

Steve Malone

Oregon State Elks Association President

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Newsletter articles can be submitted to the OSEA Public Relations and Membership Committee at info@oregonelks.org.

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Grand Exalted Ruler: May calendar has events for moms, military, youth



May is a busy month for the Elks. There are several different opportunities to show our communities that “Elks Care—Elks Share” and “We Are THE Elks.”

The Elks National Youth Week is celebrated May 1–7. This is an excellent time to show our support for the many programs

dedicated to our youth such as scholarships, Hoop Shoot, Drug Awareness, and the Dictionary Project, just to name a few. They demonstrate to our communities the dedication we have for the youth of today and our commitment to helping them become the leaders of tomorrow.

The second Sunday in May is Mother’s Day, a time to honor mothers and grandmothers. Our mothers spent endless hours teaching and guiding us, shaping who we are. They inspired us, protected us, taught us about devotion to family, and loved us unconditionally. We give them gifts, take them to dinner, cook them a special dinner, or send them flowers— anything to make them feel as special as they are. To them, Mother’s Day is a day to be surrounded by loving family. Happy Mother’s Day.

This is also the month we celebrate Armed Forces Day, on Saturday, May 18. This is the day to say thank you to all men and women in all branches of the military. These individuals protect and defend this great country of ours. Please show them that Elks Care and appreciate their service to our country.

Memorial Day, on May 27, is a time to demonstrate patriotism for our great country, exhibit pride in our flag, and show our commitment and appreciation for those veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice so we can live free. There are many services that honor these deceased military men and women. Please take the time to hold a ceremony or participate in a community remembrance for the heroes who served.

Finally, remember GER Award for DDs deadline is on the 15th. The Annual Report and Annual Charity Report are due May 1.

Contest theme centers on patriotism

The Fraternal committee has chosen this year’s Americanism theme: “What does patriotism mean to me?”

This should prove to bring a wide variety of essays. We look forward to reading the different interpretations of this year’s subject. The contest has separate divisions for fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students. For each division, first place wins \$1,000, second place earns \$500, and third place gets \$250. There are some important dates to remember. If you miss your deadline, your essay will be ineligible to win. Keep in mind all initial essays should go to the Local Lodge first for judging. It is important to communicate this information to your schools and teachers. Also, you should send your essay to the Elks Lodge nearest to your home, and only to one Lodge! Each level of judging will send the top three in each division to be judged on the next level.

Deadlines

- Student/teacher sends essays to Local Lodge: No later than December 15, 2024.
- Local Lodge sends to District Chair: No later than January 31, 2025.
- District Chairman sends to State Chair: No later than February 28, 2025.
- State Chair sends to Contest Administrator: No later than March 31, 2025.

Rules

1. No more than 300 words. Essays must be typed or legibly printed in ink (by the entrant).
2. Must be submitted to the Lodge nearest their address.
3. The participant must be identified by name, grade, school attending, and the sponsoring Elks Lodge on the essay itself.
4. The cover page provided on our website must be attached to the essay. This cover sheet will follow the essay through each level of judging.

Judging and Scoring

1. Originality. Avoid the use of clichés and worn-out words and phrases. 30 points.
2. Development of the theme. Stay focused on ideas and thoughts. Don’t ramble. 40 points.
3. Mechanics and neatness. Use proper spelling, grammar, and punctuation. 30 points.

The 2024 Oregon Elks Summer Convention

What a fantastic summer convention! Well, maybe the weather was less than fantastic, but the convention itself was great. We enjoyed performances by the Milwaukie-Portland Hollywood Nights crew at the VIP dinner, held numerous informative workshops put on by our various committees and programs and welcomed our friends from the Washington, Idaho, Montana, and Alaska State Elks Associations. We also had the chance to meet our Grand Exalted Ruler Randy Shook and First Lady Wanda Shook, show them the great work we are doing in Oregon to promote Elkdom and how we give back to our communities. Here are some highlights:

Your 2024-2025 OSEA Officers

- President - Steve Malone, Roseburg
- President Elect - Blake Whitson, Salem
- Vice President - David Backlund, St. Helens
- Vice President - David Whitlock, Springfield
- Vice President - Charlie Caughlin, John Day
- Vice President - Robert Marks Jr, Grants Pass
- Trustee Chair - Joyce Middleton, Florence
- 2nd Year Trustee - Rocky King, Ashland
- 3rd Year Trustee - Randy Morgan, Enterprise
- 4th Year Trustee - Greg Wilhelm, Beaverton
- 5th Year Trustee - Tom Nodurft, Oregon City
- Executive Secretary - Emma Pletz, Milwaukie-Portland
- Treasurer - Don Lewis, Gateway-Gresham
- Sergeant-At-Arms - Joel Buoy, Roseburg
- Asst. Sergeant-At-Arms, Mike Cronk, Milwaukie-Portland
- Chaplain - Christopher Kitto, Sherwood 'Robin Hood'
- Inner Guard - Jennifer Braibish, Albany
- Tiler - Dennis Flippence, John Day
- Organist - Dean Lemire, St. Helens
- Photographer - Tom Winters, John Day

2024 OSEA Hall of Fame Inductees

- Jan Jackson, Seaside
- Jack Madison, Keizer
- Richard Shipley, Hillsboro
- Francis Estep, Burns

2023-2024 OSEA Elk of the Year

- John Rhodes, Oregon City

2023-2024 OSEA Officer of the Year

- Sean Williams, St. Helens

Membership Recognition - Top Gains

- Milwaukie Portland - Net Gain of 325 Members
- Sherwood "Robin Hood" - Net Gain of 112 Members
- St. Helens - Net Gain of 112 Members
- Sweet Home - Net Gain of 79 Members
- Ashland - Net Gain of 79 Members
- Burns - Net Gain of 35 Members
- Grants Pass - Net Gain of 33 Members
- Hillsboro - Net Gain of 31 Members
- Salem - Net Gain of 22 Members
- John Day - Net Gain of 20 Members

Membership Recognition - Top Retention

- South District
 - Grants Pass #1584 - 91.89% Retention
 - Roseburg #326 - 88.24% Retention
 - Klamath Falls #1247 - 86.21% Retention
- Central District
 - The Dalles #303 - 100% Retention
 - Silverton #2210 - 89.75% Retention
 - Gateway-Gresham #1805 - 85.19% Retention
- North District
 - Tualatin Valley #2780 - 90.48% Retention
 - Astoria #180 - 86.21% Retention
- West District
 - Florence # 1858 - 87.13% Retention
 - Springfield #2145 - 86.79% Retention
- East District
 - Heppner #358 - 97.06% Retention
 - Burns #1680 - 92.31% Retention
 - John Day #1824 - 89.86% Retention
 - Enterprise #1829 - 86.67% Retention

Membership Recognition - Top Proposers

- Carly Spidle - Milwaukie-Portland
- John Masley - Sherwood 'Robin Hood'
- Bill McCormick - Corvallis
- Kara Newell - Hood River
- Janice Sloan - Salem
- Russ White - Ontario
- Faye Clemens - Beaverton
- Christine Turner - St. Helens
- Terry Rosen - Salem
- James Bates - Prineville

Sweet Home Elks Lodge named Organization of the Year



The Sweet Home Chamber of Commerce held its 80th Annual Awards Banquet on Saturday March, 9th. Lagea Mull, Executive Director of the COC hosted the event with the help of emcee Don Knight, pastor of Sweet Home LifePoint handing out Chamber Awards in a star-studded diamond and decades themed dinner.

The Organization of the Year was awarded to the Sweet Home Elks Lodge for their significant impact on the community through services and community involvement.

“Tonight we celebrate an organization that has served as a pillar of support services and unity in our community,” said Knight while he recognized the 70 years the Elks Lodge has been present in the community. “This group has profoundly impacted Sweet Home, their benevolence and volunteerism has enriched our community.”

Knight continued, “Through events that mark the milestones of our lives to the unwavering commitment, to supporting youth, patriotism and those less fortunate.”

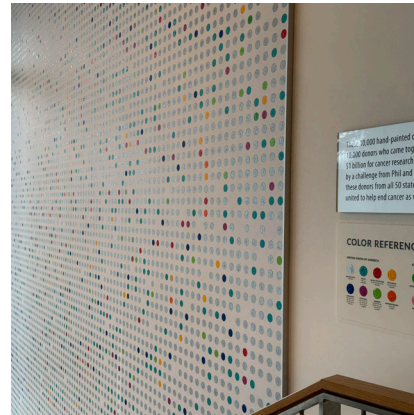
Camp Meadowood Springs

Magic on the Mountain.

May is here and the Camp is waking up from its long Winter. Time to make the list and get ready for the Big Work weekend during the Memorial Holiday. Mark your Calendar, make your plans, come join the Elk’s from all over Oregon and parts of Idaho, and make a difference for the Camp to be ready in July for the Kids. Even with all the work to be done the time there is fun and they feed you really well.

So come join your fellow Elk’s and make a difference. Everyone has a specialty that they can contribute to the Camp. Bring your skills and your special tools and create some magic of your own. Want to know more of how you can help, contact me: Maggie Dillard at (503) 709-0158. Or email at mdillardelks@gmail.com. Want to know more about the Camp? Visit our website - www.meadowoodsprings.org

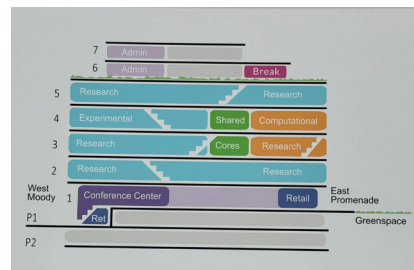
Betty Hise for Cancer Research



Recent tour of the Knight Cancer Institute was given to members of our Board by Lisa Nolen, scheduled speaker for the Betty Hise for Cancer Research Luncheon at Seaside.

Of interest in photo is an artist display of 10,000 hand-painted dots representing 10,000 donors who came together to raise \$1billion for cancer research to be housed in the Knight Cancer Institute. This challenge inspired by Phil and Penny Knight brought donors from all 50 states and 15 countries united to help end cancer as it’s known.

The Knight Cancer Institute is 320,000 sq ft with four stories dedicated to Research. See the blue levels noted in photo. With a capacity of 650 occupants, the building houses the majority of researchers contributing to the Knight Cancer Institute’s mission. The building will house CEDAR — Cancer Early Detection Advanced Research Center — the first large-scale early cancer detection program of its kind.



Key building features include intellectual and social hubs; centralized, shared equipment and research core facilities; and an open laboratory design, all with the intent

to foster collaborative work. The research labs are a balanced mix of wet labs, which use liquids, chemicals or drugs to conduct experiments, and dry labs, which use computers or computer-generated models in analyzing biological data.



Thank you for your interest and support.

Directors: Barb, Lillian, Pam, Laurie, Cassandra, Virginia, Sharon, and Helen



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May 2024 OSEA Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Bend Eye Clinic Open House	24	25 Meadowood Work Weekend
26 Meadowood Work Weekend	27 Meadowood Work Weekend	28	29	30	31	1