

# UTAH ELK



State Convention, May 2024

## GER SHOOK "WE ARE THE ELKS!"

The Utah Elks Association held their Spring Meeting in St. George at the Dixie Lodge in March, highlighted with the attendance of Grand Exalted Ruler, Randy Shook and First Lady Wanda, State Sponsor and Past Grand Exalted Ruler, Jim Grillo and Arizona State President and First Lady, Al and Brenda Kayal. Their attendance was an honor and privilege.

State President Cindy Shephard and First Gentleman, Bob, planned and executed a busy and informative weekend that included meetings, breakout sessions, along with visiting Millcreek High School, Ivans Veteran's Home, and the former polygamy community of Hilldale. Mrs. Shook was honored at a luncheon Saturday hosted by the Utah Ladies of Elks under the direction of President Jessica Hardy. Those that attended the closing banquet were treated to comments and an action of a gold coin by GER Shook.

Dixies Lodge and Dixie LOE hosted flawlessly and entertained everyone Friday night with a fashion show that left everyone laughing. And wondering where they could purchase these incredible styles. Hearing our Grand Exalted Ruler Randy sing "The Auctioneer" was incredible.



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## **Cindy Shepherd , UEA President**



UEA Members & Guests,

I would like to welcome all the visiting dignitaries, members, and guests to our State Meeting.

As Bob and I come to the end of our year as State President and First Man. We would like to thank all of you for the support you have given us throughout the year. We enjoyed the many things that we were able to do to represent the Utah Elks. The people we have met and the long-lasting friendships we have made on our journeys.

As we conclude this year and start a new, I hope we leave this year with a little more knowledge and new perspective of the true things that matter to the Elks. I hope you will all go forward and do great things and remember the principles of the order: Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity. As these four principles should guide us in life, they absolutely guide us as Elks.

Once again, I would like to thank you for spending your money and most importantly your time to come to these meetings.

Thank you for the great opportunity you gave Bob and I to represent all of you this year. You are all the Best People on Earth.

Fraternally,

Cindy Shepherd, UEA State President

## **Grand Lodge Area 7 Fraternal Committee Member, Ron Brooks**

Brother and Sister Elks,

As we begin the 2024-2025 Fraternal Year, I would like to congratulate the newly installed elected and appointed Lodge officers.

Thank all of you for taking the lead for your Lodges forward on to a new, Lodge year with great success. Please remember that your Lodge officers sacrifice their time and themselves to make your Lodge a better place for you , the members .

If you joined to give back to your community please volunteer for a Lodge fund raiser community.

The District Deputy's will have their clinics all are invited to attend.

All going to Grand Lodge will need to attend the travel meeting.

Come out to meet our State Sponsor's Grand Lodge Officers and CHEA's State President.

Fraternally, Ronald Brooks GL Fraternal Committee member Area 7

## **Message from Special Deputy GER Pagnani**



The Utah Elks Association year is over, and we want to thank our Madame President and First Gentleman, Cindi and Bob Shepherd for a fantastic year representing our state. They showed everyone that Utah Elks are the best people on earth. We are sure they had an incredible time visiting Utah lodges, other states, and Grand Lodge. Congratulations to our two DD's Sharon Goetzman DD South and Jared Wanlass DD North for their hard work and dedication.

We want to welcome our two State Sponsors, PGER Jim Grillo and Lucia and PGER Robert Duitsman and Beth. We want to also welcome California State Present and First Lady Ted and Jeannie Talbot and Area 7 Hoop Shoot Chairman Larry Torres and his wife Betsy. Welcome also to 2024-2025 UEA State President Brenda Shaw and her husband, Greg. This year is like no other you will have in Elkdom so do everything and enjoy yourself.

Remember as the year is just starting and new leadership is taking over, our PER's need to step up and mentor them. The future of your Lodge leadership is in play. Recruiting new leadership and maintaining it is the most important task I can think of for a successful and lasting Lodge. PER's if you are interested in moving up to District Deputy for next year, get your resume to your PER Association.

I would like to take a few minutes to remind the Exalted Rulers, officers, and members that your lodge prospers if you make it a team effort. Start your committees right away, pat yourself on the back for all you do with social media and Charitable Reports. Involve your community and show them what Elkdom is all about. Grants, grants, and grants; these are funds waiting for you and you need to take advantage of it.

Have a wonderful year and remember your PSP, PDD PER's, are full of knowledge so please reach out to them for support.

Fraternally,

SDGER Utah, Robert D. Pagnani

## **REMEMBER CAMP WAPITI CLEAN—UP MAY 18, 2024 at 8:00 AM**

### **PRESIDENT ELECT, BRENDA SHAW**

I would like to welcome you all to my home lodge. I hope you have a great time while you are here. I am both excited and a little nervous, to become your state president. I know that with your support together with the state officers, chairman, and guidance within our state it will be a great year. I will do my very best to make you proud!

Respectfully Brenda Shaw Utah President Elect.

## **STATE VETERANS COMMITTEE**

This quarter has been very busy throughout the State with winter and the Holidays.

At the Ogden Home, the Veterans celebrated their Birthdays and were visited each month.

The Committee that volunteers at the Payson Home helped with a Halloween Party for over 800 kids plus parents and everyone had a great time. In December, the Committee purchased stockings for all the Veterans at the Home and filled them with candy and flashlights. They also contacted a local credit union who supplied each Veteran with a calendar. These treats were delivered on Christmas Eve.

The Committee who works at the Salt Lake City VAMA coordinated with the Homeless Veterans Department to purchase needed items for the winter. They purchased 21 pairs of boots, 14 pairs of gloves and 21 pairs of winter socks. They were also able to distribute 50 winter jackets that had been donated.

Volunteers from St George Lodge 1743 donated many hours to helping with programs at the Southern Utah Veterans Home in Ivins. They supply help to Bingo two days a week, a Birthday Cake and visit each month, assisted Veterans with shopping at Walmart, assisted the Veterans at restaurants for breakfast or lunch and travel in the vans for fun excursions to help with wheelchairs and walker dependent veterans. Additionally, we provided many volunteers to assist at the Halloween party with over 800 kids and parents. This is an annual event that the community looks forward to and we were able to provide eight volunteers, in costume, to help the Veterans and Trick or Treaters. Christmas was a busy time in Southern Utah as we held our Christmas Tree event again this year. 173 Veterans names were on the tree this year. The Stars with gift wishes were taken by Lodge members very quickly and Veterans at eight different homes and care facilities received much that they asked for. The Ivins Home allowed the Veterans Committee to deliver the gifts to each of the 100 Veterans at 8:30 a.m. on Christmas morning. What a great way to start this special day with a gift, a Merry Christmas wish, and a big smile. We were met with a sincere Thank you!

I would be happy to share activities from the individual Lodges if you would forward your information to us.

Remember to always reach out to our Veterans with care and honor.

Dick Wilson

Utah State Veterans Chair

435-773-6974

## **STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Well, you must put up with me for another year. I have agreed to be the Utah Elks Association State Public Relations Chair for Brenda Shaw, President-Elect, next year. I have managed to get 9 out of 10 Lodges to submit their monthly reports to me. If only I could get the last one to submit their report. We have managed to go from 490 points total to 1,230 total points from last April until February...who knows what March will bring. My motto, during the time I was an Exalted Ruler, was "Working Together to Make A Difference" ...that is what I am trying to do with this Utah Elks Association Public Relations Chair... trying to Make A Difference in how we report our bragging.

Please work with me!

Robert "Bob" Matteson

Utah Elks Association Public Relations Chair



As this 2023-2024 comes to a close it is not the end for me. I have agreed to stay on as the State Drug Awareness Chairperson. I am looking forward to attending the training again in July with the hope I can learn better ways to assist the lodge chairs to achieve some of the tasks we are asked to take part in and get a lot more of our message out to the community.

We were able to get a very good response of the poster, essay, and video contest from the St. George Lodge and a poster from the Tintic Lodge. That is one more lodge than last year. I also received a beautiful plaque for the State winner of the Camarena "KiKi" award. It was received after our spring meeting, and I am now trying to set up a time to present it to Detective Brett Gibson from the Washington County Drug Task Force. Currently, I have not received word as to the National winner.

I am including the following quote that was in my report at spring meeting and is directly from an article by William J. Bryan, National Director, Elks Drug Awareness Commission on the Elks DAP site and the February Grand Lodge Newsletter:

*"The DAP directors have been busy this winter putting together a new budget and program for the coming Elks year. We are asking Lodges and specifically incoming ERs to plan, in conjunction with their State Association's Drug Awareness Chair, a year full of drug awareness activities. We are all in this fight together and we need all Lodges on board."*

I am here to assist you all in any way I can, please reach out.

Priscilla "Perk" Matteson

UEA State DAP Chairperson

## **HOOP SHOOT**

I hope you took the time to tune into the Hoop Shoot live broadcast recently. It is such a great experience to be there live, but we like to encourage everyone to cheer from home.

As of yet we do not know the outcome. We just want to wish all the participants the best of luck and hope their visit to Chicago for the National Hoop Shoot is an amazing experience!

Sincerely Brenda Shaw Utah State Hoop Shoot Chairman



Wow what an amazing year it has been serving as Utah Ladies of Elks President! I am sad to see my year come to an end, but excited to see the great things the ladies will continue to do for years to come. I want to personally thank my mom (Geri Lyons), my aunt (Donna Bumgarner), Mindy Williams and especially my husband, Rusty and my beautiful daughter, Cheyenne. I do not know what I would have done without these amazing people by my side! I would also like to thank my local lodge, Golden Spike Elks #719, for supporting me during my year.

A special thank you to Lisa Amiden and Rob Wolfe for helping raise funds for our state project - Little Warriors. It was through "Teamwork, that we reached the stars" and exceeded my goal of raising more than \$10,000 for our State Project - Little Warriors! Little Warriors holds and will always hold a special place in my heart.

I wish Shani and her officers an amazing and fun year. Please continue to support the Ladies of Elks, their charities, as well as supporting the Elks!

Respectfully,  
Jessica Hardy  
Utah LOE President 23-24



#### **NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**

Thank you for letting me serve our Order as Editor these past years. I have had fun. Steffany Wanlass will do an excellent job in the future.

Adele Pagnani