

# Utah Elk Newsletter



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BRENDA SHAW,  
 UTAH ELKS  
 ASSOCIATION  
 PRESIDENT  
 FIRST GENTLEMAN,  
 GREG SHAW



Greetings all, Greg and I would like to welcome our Grand Exalted Ruler Douglas Schiefer and his lovely wife Julia to beautiful Southern Utah. Let's show them that the heart of Elkdom is alive and strong our state. We would also like to welcome Arizona State President Sue Krausman and her fun loving husband Jim.

Recently I had the pleasure of volunteering to work on our Elks float in Pasadena this was an experience I have waited for since I was a teenager. I loved it so much I'm already planning on going back.

We have completed 8 of our 10 in state visits and each and everyone have been great. We have enjoyed meeting new members within your lodges and seeing the different activities that each one of your lodges are involved in. I look forward to my final 2 visits and am sure they will be just as great as the rest.

Sincerely, Brenda Shaw Utah State President



UTAH ELKS ASSOCIATION  
 PRESIDENT ELECT  
 GLEN SMITH & HIS WIFE,  
 JERI.



Hi Utah Elks!

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas this year and wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year. Jeri and I are looking forward to seeing you all again at the UEA Spring Meeting, and hoping St George can provide us with some of that great Southern Utah spring weather while we are there. We are also looking forward to the opportunity to meet our Grand Exalted Ruler Douglas Schiefer and First Lady Julia Schiefer. Time seems to be moving by very quickly for us these days, and we are doing our best to get prepared for what lies ahead in the upcoming year. I really appreciate all the support I have been receiving. See you all soon.

Fraternally, Glen Smith



Dear State Officers, Committeemen and Members,

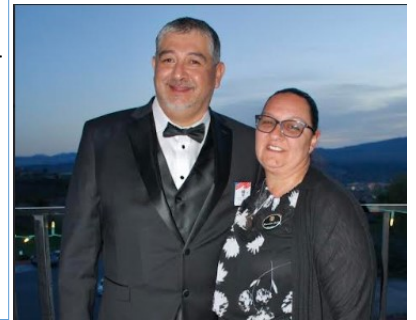
Bernadette and I would like to start off with a great big Happy New Year 2025 and we look forward to seeing you all again at Spring Meeting in warm St. George. As you all may know we are going to have a special guest our Grand Exalted Ruler and First Lady, the Honorable Douglas A. Schiefer and his wife Julia from Bucyrus, Ohio Lodge #156.

I am looking forward for business meetings to be productive as we finalize this fiscal year. As always, we encourage all lodge officers and members to be there to help them and answer any questions they may have. It also gives you the perfect reason to meet officers and members from other lodges, And as they say "put a face with a name".

Bernadette and I want to thank everyone for such a wonderful year so far and we both look forward to all of journeys ahead with the "Best People On Earth" all of you!!

Fraternally, Jesse Gallo 1st Vice President, Utah Elks Association

UTAH ELKS ASSOCIATION  
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT  
JESSE GALLO & HIS WIFE,  
BERNADETTE.



Welcome all Utah Elks Association members and guests to our 2025 Spring Meeting. We are honored to welcome our Grand Exalted Ruler Douglas A. Schiefer and wife Julia. Let us show them what a great organization the Utah Elks Association is. We also welcome our State Sponsors, Jim Grillo, PGER, and Lucia along with Bob Duitsman, PGER, and Beth. Congratulations to our State President Brenda Shaw and husband Greg on their an amazing year. I hope you enjoyed every minute. I would also like to thank our District Deputies, Sharon Goetzman, Utah South for her three years as District Deputy and the outstanding work you have done. District Deputy North, Jared Wanlass, has served our Order for two years and has helped me through his work with your lodges.

Thank you. Two new District Deputies will be installed at Grand Lodge in July and are eager to help the UEA Lodges. I am selling pins for our Endorsed Candidate for GER Brian Klatt. We would like to welcome all the new UEA Lodge officers for 2025-2026. You are the foundation of your Lodge and the UEA. Seek guidance from your Past Exalted Rulers (PER's) and show new members how proud you are to be and Elk. Remember members: Section 9.070 section 16 states, "Vile, obscene, and insulting language used in Elks club is an offense against the Laws of the Order." We need to show respect to one another and our visiting guests. Mark Twain said, "Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see." We are reminded of this in the obligation we have all taken as Elks. Always keep in mind, "Do unto others as you would, they should, do unto you."

Fraternally, Robert D. Pagnani SDGER Utah



Greetings from the Utah State Ladies of Elks President,

I am so pleased to lead this organization this year and contribute to all of the amazing work this amazing legacy of women have conducted and the amazing aid they have provided over the past 81 years. Over the past 8 decades the Utah Ladies of Elks organization has given hundreds of nursing scholarships, given more money than any other organization or local lodge to Camp Wapiti and aided other worthwhile projects in support of the Elks. And this is just on the state level. In the local lodges the ladies of Elks began as wives of Elk members supporting their spouses and hosting most activities behind the scenes in aid of the Elks. Fast forward a few decades, many of those same wives, daughters, and now installed Elk members themselves are still working just as hard supporting the Elks in their activities and also running their own events and aiding many additional charitable recipients in addition to those aided by the Elks. This year while conducting my visitations, I have been able to see first hand the work these ladies accomplish and the many ways they are able to work with and for their communities to make this state and nation a better place for all. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to lead you this year.

Shani Green, Utah State Ladies of Elks President

Happy Spring Utah Elks.

I hope you all got a chance to see the Elks float at the Rose bowl parade. Did you notice the girl on the bike? She had a sharp looking Camp Wapiti hoody, shirt and visor. We were honored to have UEA special project Camp Wapiti represented on the float. Utah Elks are very fortunate to have such an amazing place as our state project. I would like to tell you about some of the camps that use Camp Wapiti and some wonderful stories of the impact this space has.

Camp Hobé offers psychosocial support for children with cancer and similarly treated disorders and their families, through summer camps and family outings. Our mission is to create an atmosphere that enhances self-esteem, fosters independence and friendships, and creates a feeling of belonging.

*“During camp, I felt like I was able to be myself. I was able to step out of my comfort zone and talk to so many awesome people. I’ve seen myself blossom out and be so much more energetic than I have ever been at camp. I love Hobé!” -Teen Week Camper, 2024*

*“I loved music, drama, high ropes, swimming & the big swing. I learned teamwork. Camp helped me to forget about my troubles.” - Kids Week Camper, 2024*

*“This week I was able to strengthen friendships with past campers and create new ones. I feel I have come out of my shell. Being able to connect with others who have gone through cancer in a positive setting has really helped me.” -Teen Week Camper, 2024*

*“Coming to camp as a volunteer this year gave me a glimpse of things from the other side. I had previously been a camper but this year I helped the campers. I was able to try and share the experience at Hobé that I also once had. This camp has a special place in my heart. Although it was difficult with memories of past friends here, this place makes me feel closer to the ones I miss; building lifelong stories for myself and others.” -Volunteer, 2024*

*“Because of Camp Wapiti, we can have Camp Hobe! So many children are blessed from opportunities that you help provide. I really enjoy working with Eric and Shelly and appreciate all their hard work. Cant wait for another great camp season! “*

*Ashley Clinger Deputy Director Camp Hobé*

Camp Royal Family Kids Camp: (RFKC) is a summer camp for children in foster care. The camp's goal is to help children build self-esteem, hope, and resiliency. Currently, there are an estimated 442,995 Children in the Foster Care System in the United States. Due to the opioid epidemic, the number of children in the U.S. foster care system has increased each of the past four years.

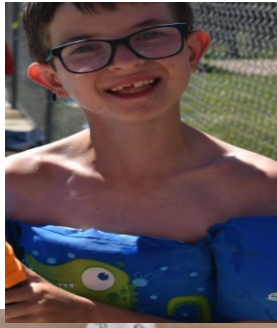
RFKC is more than just a summer camp; it's a transformative experience that aims to break the cycle of abuse and neglect by providing children with positive memories, caring relationships, and a sense of belonging. By addressing both the immediate and long-term needs of these children, RFKC plays a vital role in fostering hope and resilience among some of the most vulnerable members of society. While the kids are at camp they enjoy activities every day. Outdoor adventures: swimming, hiking and nature exploration allow children to connect with the outdoors and enjoy physical activities in a safe and supervised environment.

Arts and Crafts: creative projects help children express themselves and develop new skills, while also providing a sense of accomplishment and pride. Sports and games: team sports, games, and physical challenges encourage teamwork, cooperation, and healthy competition. Special Events: Unique events such as birthday parties, tea parties, and talent shows are designed to make every child feel special and celebrated. These are just two of the many groups that utilize Camp Wapiti. The number of children,

and adults that have been impacted by the programs that are facilitated at Camp Wapiti is amazing. These programs and impacts could not be achieved without your support. Thank you for your support with Our State Project. Elks truly do care and share and are

in fact the Best People On Earth.

Justin Muir, Camp Wapiti President.



From Camp Wapiti Director:

Happy Spring, The camp did well over the winter due to the lack of snow. We are always making updates and improvements to the camp. The water purification system has been completed and will provide safe drinking water for all our campers. Donations have been at an all time low for Camp Wapiti, we ask for all to consider making a donation, no matter how small to the camp. As these donations made directly to Camp Wapiti are for the maintenance and operations of the camp and benefit all campers. Mark your calendars for the weekend of May 17th for camp clean up. If you are planning staying in a cabin or bringing your rig up to the camp, please schedule with Eric Crocker (435) 840-8156 cabins are a first come first serve basis. There will be 2 new hotels in Tooele soon, so be sure to call in advance.

Eric Crocker, Camp Director



We love  
Camp Wapiti





Wow!!! Can I just say Wow!!! I asked....You delivered!!! Right now, at the writing of this article, our State has donated \$81,208 to ENF and we still have a couple of months to go! I can't even believe it!!! In the past, we were lucky to get to \$50,000 and with the help of UBET make our \$56,000, but this year...we will not have to have their help!! So keep on rocking it!!

Remember when our Grand Exalted Ruler asked that we get our Fidelity Club to 100....well we did it!!! Right now we are at 109!! Again, you are rocking it!!! At Spring Meeting, we will be having our Fidelity Club Member breakfast. Saturday, March 8th at 7:30 am, we will be meeting for breakfast. If you would like to invite a guest, it will be \$5 for the guest. Invitations will be sent out to your ENF Chairman or ER.

Again, thank you for all you do for ENF and let's keep rocking it!!!

Respectfully submitted, Lil Barron-Barnes



We are well underway through another great hoop shoot season. I congratulate each lodge on a successful hoop shoot and thank your Chairman and volunteers for your hard work to accomplish this. I would also like to congratulate all 12 district winners, and thank our district Chairman Brian Lindsay and Jeri Smith and all your volunteers for a great job.

Let me introduce you to our 6 state champions! 8-9 girl Chanci Lisonbee sponsored by Provo Elks Lodge #849. 8-9 boy Coy Nelson sponsored by Golden Spike Lodge #719. 10-11 girl Scarlett Nelson sponsored by Golden Spike Lodge #719 10-11 boy Jackson Fuller sponsored by Golden Spike Lodge #719. 12-13 girls Daniel Deem sponsored by Golden Spike Lodge #719 12-13 boys Luke Rector sponsored by Golden Spike Lodge #719. We have some great shooters this year and I look forward to giving you an update on the regional shoot at our meeting. I would like to sincerely thank all the members who came to volunteer at the State Hoop Shoot. Thank you all so much for your help!

Sincerely, Brenda Shaw Utah State Hoop Shoot Chairman



Things for the DAP volunteers have been a bit slow since the Fall meeting report, however, a few of the lodges set up a table at their lodges Hoop Shoot competition and were able to pass



out various pamphlets to parents and coloring books to the children. At this time they are busy getting the information "Throw away drugs - Not your future." to the schools regarding the poster, essay and video contest. Looking forward to an increase in participation for this year. We did get an officer nominated for the Enrique Camarena award, and the paperwork was sent to GL for judging in March. I just want to say how very sorry that we lost one of our DAP chairman from Golden Spike, Deanna Royer due to complications. She will be missed by many. Look forward to seeing everyone at the Spring Meeting in St. George.

Respectfully, Priscilla "Perk" Matteson, UEA State DAP Chairperson



Hello Utah Elks Association

Steffanee and I are looking forward to seeing each one of you at the upcoming Spring meeting in St. George. As your state scholarship chairman, this meeting is my favorite meeting. Not only do we get to meet the GER and First Lady of the Elks and reunite with our Elks family but I get to announce the Utah students that will be advancing to the National level of the Most Valuable Student scholarship, as well as, awarding the UEA scholarships to the lodges in our state association. This year I will be awarding \$35,000.00 to students that applied for the MVS scholarship as well as the UEA alternative scholarship.

I would like to thank all the lodge chairmen who devote their time and energy to this amazing program. Applications for the ENF legacy scholarship are closed and will be announced after the Spring meeting and the announcement on these winners will be at the May convention in Cedar City.

I am available for any questions on my cell phone at 801-509-8766 or email at [jared.wanlass74@gmail.com](mailto:jared.wanlass74@gmail.com)

Fraternally, Jared Wanlass, Scholarship Chairman

#### PUBLIC RELATIONS



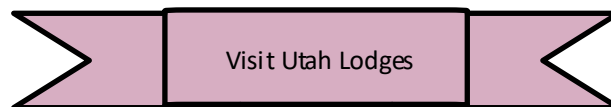
We started out the year 2024 with 7 lodges reporting and ended with 10 reporting for a percentage of 100%. We had 43 articles in the Elks Magazine. We had 2633 posts on Facebook during the year 2024, and in total we had 274 mentions in articles overall. We are doing much better as a Public Relations group in 2024!

We are getting much better with Public Relations...doing much greater things and getting our Elks name out into your communities.

Bob Matteson, Public Relations Chair for the State of Utah

Message from the Editor;

I truly appreciate everyone who has submitted articles to make this newsletter informative for all of our membership. I hope you, the readers are enjoying these submissions as well. Please be sure to thank those who contributed to this newsletter. This newsletter will be printed to be mailed to everyone's home, in addition to this emailed version. Due to the rising costs of printing, not to mention the increased postage costs, I have streamlined the printed mailing to *attempt* to have 1 printed newsletter per household. You should receive this printed newsletter sometime during the month of February. If you do not receive a printed newsletter, I encourage you to check with your lodge secretaries to ensure that you have a current and correct mailing address on file. Lodge secretaries, please have a copy or two available for viewing at the lodges. Respectfully, Steffanee Wanlass, Editor Utah Elk.

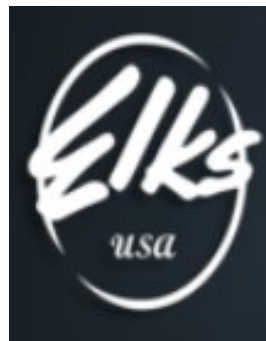


\* Tintic #711 (435) 433-6822 \* Golden Spike #719 (801) 773-1682 \* Park City #734 (435) 649-9960 \* Provo #849 (801) 373-0849 \* Price #1550 (435) 637-1550 \* Cedar City #1556 (435) 586-8332 \* Tooele #1673 (435) 249-0192 \* St George #1743 (435) 673-1743 \* Vernal #2375 (435) 789-4517 \* Bountiful #2442 (801) 298-1631

Hours of operation may vary at each location. Please call ahead or check their Facebook for more information.



Fall meeting fun!



In Memory of our Absent Members



Utah Elks Association  
Spring Newsletter