



Pueblo Elks Lodge trumpets first female Exalted Ruler

For the first time in its 117-year history, Pueblo Elks Lodge No. 90 elected a female Exalted Ruler.

Marcie Morgan was installed on April 7.

"It's a little scary," admitted the 49-year-old mother of two and grandmother of four. "It's always been a man's world, but a lot of the men have been supportive. At my installation I asked the members not to judge me because I'm a woman, but to judge me on the work I do and the past work I've done."

Women were allowed to join Elks lodges nationally in 1997. Lodge No. 90 has about 1,400 members, of which about 40 are women.

Morgan, now a full-time grandmother who worked in various local jewelry stores, has been married 32 years to husband Dennis, a 15-year member of the lodge.

"I am real proud of her," he said. "It kind of makes you nervous when you're the only woman and you're in a man's world. She has a lot of responsibility and I'm glad she hung in there."

In her seventh year with the lodge, Morgan's reign will last a year, after which her husband is slated to take command.

For laughs, Morgan introduced her husband as her "first lady" at a recent banquet.

"They all got a big laugh out of it," Dennis Morgan said with good humor.

The road to being exalted was not easy for Morgan, who had to memorize 1,700 words and numerous lodge rituals before being elected.

"It takes quite a bit to learn all that stuff," Dennis Morgan said.

On top of lodge ceremonies, Marcie Morgan is in charge of all the nonprofit's community events and fundraisers.

