



# ELKNOWLEDGE

## Madras Elks Lodge #2017

A Fraternal Organization

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
TO ROBIN!**



*Photo by Sandra Ihrig*

## Special Lodge Initiation Meeting Sunday, Oct. 27

October Initiation will be on Sunday, Oct. 27th at 4pm. The dual purpose for this is for those candidates having difficulties making the Thursday night meeting time due to work schedules.

Secondly, in the month of October, the last Thursday falls on the 31st, which is Halloween. The Lodge will have a short business meeting, and still be able to offer our community "Trunk or Treat" for the safety of our children.

## October 2024

### Upcoming Lodge Events

- |       |                |
|-------|----------------|
| 10/31 | Trunk or Treat |
| 11/11 | Veterans Day   |
| 11/30 | Charity Ball   |

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## Officer Spotlight

*Which Madras Elks Lodge officer was an Associate Member of the Elks while at Oregon State University?*

## MEETING DATES & TIMES

### Lodge Monthly Meetings

Last two Thursdays of the month, 6:30 pm

### House Committee Meetings

1st Wednesdays of each month, 5:00 pm

\*Members are welcome

### Past Exalted Rulers (PER) Meeting

First Thursday each month

### Board of Directors (All officers & trustees)

2nd Wednesday each month, 6:00 pm

Last Thursday each month, 5:00 pm

\*Members are welcome

### Ladies of the Elks (LOE) Meeting

2nd Wednesday each month, 6:00 pm

**To have your newsletters  
emailed, let us know at  
[elks2017news@gmail.com](mailto:elks2017news@gmail.com)**

## 2024-25 Madras Elks Officers

Exalted Ruler Keith Baker

Leading Knight Joe Smietana

Loyal Knight Mike Williams

Lecturing Knight Felix Durfee

Secretary Valarie Highfield

Treasurer Greg Horn

1st Year Trustee Dennis Trebino

2nd Year Trustee Guy Chittenden

3rd Year Trustee Dennis Miller

4th Year Trustee Bill Wayne, Jr.

5th Year Trustee Tim Surgeon

Esquire Ervey Dominguez

Chaplain Marla Rae Watson

Tiler Don Kraus

Inner Guard Terry Black

PDDGER Keith Haworth

PDDGER Gary Hamlet

*\*PDDGER: Past District Deputy  
to the Grand Exalted Ruler*

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## Elks Care - Elks Share

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### How To Contact Us:

Madras ELKS Lodge #2017

PO Box 609

Madras, OR 97741-0077

541-475-6046

[elkslodge2017@gmail.com](mailto:elkslodge2017@gmail.com)

### Lodge Contacts:

**Exalted Ruler:** Keith Baker

**Secretary:** Valarie Highfield

**Newsletter:** [elks2017news@gmail.com](mailto:elks2017news@gmail.com)

Tammie Schongalla & Colleen Fletcher

## ***From the Exalted Ruler***

First of all, we need to pay tribute and pay our respects to the passing of PGER James Damon on August 25th of this year. His biography is below.

The Swine and Dine appeared to be a big hit. Darryl and Val were your Chairs at this event. They pulled together a terrific team of volunteers to make this event happen.

We are in need of Candy, Volunteers, and Vehicles for our Halloween “Trunk Or Treat” on the last Thursday of October, the 31st.

After that we are rolling right into Veterans Day on November 11th. Contact Mike Williams, Kay Paris, or Keith Baker about the events for Veterans Day.

Be thinking about Charity Ball/Auction coming on Saturday, Nov. 30th. ~**Keith Baker**

### **In Remembrance of James (Jim) Damon Oregon State Sponsor Emeritus**

James Damon was born in Pasadena, California on February 22, 1929. In 1937, his family moved to Mt. Vernon, Oregon where he completed elementary and high school. He enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1947, serving with the Air Training Command and the 20th Air Force Heavy Bomb Group, before being honorably discharged in 1950.  
1990-1991.

Brother Damon joined John Day Lodge No. 1824, as a Charter Member in 1950, serving on its first Board of Trustees, Chairman in 1954-55. He served as Exalted Ruler in 1961-62 and is the first member of his Lodge to be voted as Honorary Life Member, a distinction awarded him in 1974.

Brother Damon served the Oregon State Elks Association with distinction: rising through its ranks to President in 1974-75, served on its major project committee for seven years, was instrumental in the formation of the Oregon Federated Organization of the O.S.E.A. in 1977, and served as Chairman of the State Government Relations Committee from 1978 to 1984. His dedication and distinguished leadership was recognized by his selection to the O.S.E.A. Hall of Fame in 1983.

He has served our Order on the Grand Lodge Level as District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler 1965-66; Americanism Committee for three years, Chairman in 1976-78; served on the Government Relations Committee from its inception in 1979 until 1984. Following this, he was elected to a four-year term on the Board of Grand Trustees, serving as its Vice-Chairman in 1987-88. In 1989-90, prior to assuming the role of Grand Exalted Ruler, he faithfully carried out the duties of Special Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler with distinction. (Edited for space)

# Print or Email?

As you know the Lodge is looking for ways to save money. We know many of you really enjoy the newsletter in print; however, if you know you would be fine with it emailed to you, please let us know.

You can reach us at:  
elks2017newsletter@gmail.com. We will need your name and current email address. We send it as a PDF and we can walk you through how to open and print if needed.

A bonus to the email version is that it's in color. There are no plans to discontinue printing the newsletter. Thank you.

## *From the Ladies of the Elks:*

- Lady Elks Meeting 10/9
- Chicken Fried Steak 10/24
- Bingo Burgers on Fridays



*Photo Submitted by Sandra Ihrig*

## SICKNESS & DISTRESS

- **PGER James Damon passed away on 8/25/24**
- **Leading Knight Joe Smietana's Father passed away**
- **Member Kelly Simmelink's Father passed away**
- **Loyal Knight Mike Williams wife passed away**
- **For those above and anyone not mentioned by the time we went to press, our most heartfelt sorrows for your loss**

**To add someone to this list, contact us**

## SAVE THE DATE

### **Trunk or Treat**

October 31

### **Veterans Day**

November 11

### **Charity Ball**

November 30

### **Elks Memorial**

December 1, 1pm

### **Christmas Parade**

December 7

### **Santa & Grinch**

December 21

### **New Year's Eve Party**

December 31

## **TAKE NOTE:**

**Bar Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 4pm**

*To continue to meet the costs of the newsletter, please consider making a small donation to help with postage, the USPS permit, paper, and labels  
Drop off donations with our secretary Val*

## How can you help?

Volunteer to help with:

- Trunk or Treat on Halloween

**\*\*\*\* CANDY NEEDED \*\*\*\***

**The basket is up and ready for Halloween  
Fill it for "Trunk or Treat"**

## Elks Hoop Shoot

**LOTS OF  
VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

**December 14**

**at Madras High School**

**Interested in Volunteering?**

**Contact Ed McDaniel**

**or sign up at the Lodge**

## ADD ME

Get breaking news about activities and meals on your phone. To be included, just text "Add Me" and your name to Kay Paris-- 503-708-0192

## And the Winners Are . . .

### 25-25-50 Raffle Winners

\$1000 each: Bobby McDonald and Jose Pineda

### Cornhole Tournament

1st Place: Kevin and Charlie

2nd Place: Steve and Zach

# October 2024

| Sunday/Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday  | Saturday                      |
|---|--|--|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Bar Closed  | 1<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>Dinner – Taco Tuesday<br>(soft tacos)              | 2<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>LOE – 6pm<br>House Committee – 5pm<br>Dinner – Soup or Pizza | 3<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>PER – 5pm, Dinner  | 4<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>Music with Bob Medina<br><b>Queen of Hearts</b><br>Bingo – 6pm to 9pm, doors<br>open at 5pm     | 5<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close  |
| 6-7<br>Sunday<br>Breakfast 9-11:30am<br>Menu Varies. \$8<br>Elks Orientation – Noon-3   | 8<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>Dinner – Taco Tuesday<br>(soft tacos)<br>Elk Races | 9<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>BOD – 6pm<br>Dinner – Soup or Pizza                          | 10<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>Dinner by Kay   | 11<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>Music by the Elk Jammers<br><b>Queen of Hearts</b><br>Bingo – 6pm to 9pm, doors<br>open at 5pm | 12<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close |
| 13-14<br>Bar Closed   | 15<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>Dinner – Taco Tuesday<br>(soft tacos)             | 16<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>Dinner – Soup or Pizza                                      | 17<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>Dinner – Chris is Cooking                                       | 18<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>Music with Bob Medina<br><b>Queen of Hearts</b><br>Bingo – 6pm to 9pm, doors<br>open at 5pm    | 19<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close |
| 20-21<br>Sunday<br>Breakfast 9-11:30am<br>Menu Varies. \$8<br>Elks Orientation – Noon-3 | 22<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>Dinner – Indian Tacos<br>Elk Races                | 23<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>Dinner – Soup or Pizza                                      | 24<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>Dinner – LOE Chicken<br>Fried Steak<br>Lodge Meeting –6:30pm    | 25<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>Music by the Elk Jammers<br><b>Queen of Hearts</b><br>Bingo – 6pm to 9pm,<br>doors open at 5pm | 26<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close |
| 27-28<br>Bar Closed<br>Sunday – Initiation - 5pm  | 29<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>Dinner – Taco Tuesday<br>(soft tacos)             | 30<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>Dinner – Soup or Pizza                                      | 31<br>Bar Open – 4pm to close<br>Dinner<br>BOD – 5pm<br>Lodge Meeting – 6:30pm<br>Trunk or Treat |   |                               |

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

01 Kelsey Carroll  
02 Terry Black  
05 Blaine Buckle  
06 Larry Renfro  
07 Rick Kurz  
07 James McDonald  
07 Gary Stewart  
10 Stephen Ott  
10 Jim Prince  
11 James Macko  
11 Austin Say  
16 Robert Medina  
16 Theodore Meeker

16 Greg Williams  
17 Valarie Highfield  
17 Bill Walker  
18 Raymond Dendauw  
19 Richard Willson  
20 Carl Olson  
22 Jerud Rhen  
22 Victoria Woods  
24 Colleen Fletcher  
25 Robert Ashburn  
25 Gary Fitts  
25 Bob Pennington  
26 Jodie Hume

26 Stephen Pewonka  
26 Tim Surgeon  
27 Aaron Ahern  
27 Lawrence Anthony  
29 Bill Randolph  
30 James Waldorf





## Officer Spotlight: Meet Leading Knight Joe Smietana

Joe joined his hometown Elks lodge 338 in Baker City, Oregon at 21. He was an associate member of Corvallis Elks Lodge 1413 during his college tenure at Oregon State University while helping with the upkeep of the shooting range. Joe is also the Mayor of Metolius, Oregon, just right down the road! Joe is a native Oregonian with a deep passion for land conservation and restoration in the state. Over the past 18 years, he has worked in the fisheries field for county, state, tribal and federal agencies, as well as in the private sector, focusing primarily on fish habitat restoration. Away from work, you will find Joe fishing, hunting, camping, and most importantly spending time with his wife and dogs.



## From the Club

The Madras Elks Lodge hosted a successful pig roast fundraiser to support the lodge on 9/21. Attendees enjoyed a delicious feast featuring slow-roasted pork, accompanied by a variety of side dishes and desserts. The event included music by DJ Bob, a cornhole tournament, and a silent auction. Participants created a festive atmosphere with families and friends. Local businesses and community members generously contributed items for the raffle, enhancing community involvement and support. Proceeds from the fundraiser will go toward the Lodge's needs at this time.

We would like to express our gratitude to all participants, sponsors and volunteers involved who made the event a success, fostering a spirit of camaraderie and service within our community. The silent auction brought in over \$2500.

**Sponsors:** IdentityZone, RipQ, New Basin Distillery, KOA Culver, Chinook Place, Penelope Soaps, Madras Roasters, Flex Network, The D. I., Madtown Fitness, The R.B.I., Teal Rose, Madtown Barber, Jodi's Hair Salon, Bright Wood, Mark Wunsch, Larry Semm, Fish Surgeon, Dennis and Teri Trebino, Davida Plaisted, Vicki McKelvy, Larry Renfro, Tonya Dixon, Hal Lewandoski. My apologies if I forgot anyone. **Volunteers:** Darryl and Robin Thompson, Lonnie and Steve Parsons, Scott and Jill Surgeon, Fish Surgeon, Stacy Chiddix, Mike Dougherty, P.W. May, Tonya Dixon, The Lady Elks, Bob the DJ, June Lewis, Kellie Shepherd, Barbara Smith. The 25/25/50 drawing was held and Bobby McDonald and Jose Pineda were the lucky winners of \$1,000 each. ~Val

# Membership News

New Member: Kellie Shepherd

Proposed: Tina Shine, Kellie Jones Jim Goodson, Alfredo Pineda, Rudy Sanchez, Jenniffer Grant, John Guerin, Elias Pacheco, Alejandro Pineda, Orlando Nava, Sabrina Stout, and Amy Teal

## CHARITY BALL November 30th

It's that time of year again folks. We have our upcoming Charity Ball to prepare for which takes place on November 30th. There will be a silent auction for those that can donate. Please be mindful of that. If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact or text Kellie Shepherd 541-325-1654

## Breakfast is Back

Breakfast will be the first and third Sundays of the month. Scrambled eggs, sausage, and ham (Menu may vary)

**Cost: \$8**

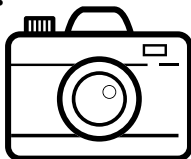
**Time: 9-11:30am**

## We need your photos!

Please send your event photos to [elks2017news@gmail.com](mailto:elks2017news@gmail.com).

We will give you photo credit!

Thank you!



# Membership Report

## Increases

|             |    |
|-------------|----|
| Initiated   | 10 |
| Affiliated: | 0  |
| Reinstated: | 1  |
| Subtotal:   | 11 |

## Decreases

|                                     |              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Dropped:                            | 3            |
| Transferred Out:                    | 0            |
| Absolute Dimit:                     | 0            |
| Deaths:                             | 2            |
| Expelled:                           | 0            |
| Subtotal:                           | 5            |
| <b>Calculated Membership Total:</b> | <b>321</b>   |
| <b>CLMS Active Members:</b>         | <b>308</b>   |
| (Membership out of balance.         |              |
| <b>Average Age:</b>                 | <b>65.47</b> |
| <b>Gain/Loss:</b>                   | <b>6</b>     |

## Delinquency

|                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Six Months:            | 39            |
| One Year:              | 0             |
| Over One Year:         | 2             |
| <b>Total:</b>          | <b>41</b>     |
| <b>Lapsation Rate:</b> | <b>13.02%</b> |

## Applications on Hand

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Waiting to read at next lodge meeting:       | 12        |
| In the hands of the investigating committee: | 1         |
| Ready for balloting:                         | 0         |
| Ready for Orientation:                       | 0         |
| Ready for Initiation:                        | 1         |
| Ready for Affiliation                        | 0         |
| Ready for Reinstatement                      | 0         |
| Other  | 0         |
| <b>Total:</b>                                | <b>14</b> |

## Life Members

|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Life Members:           | 21           |
| Honorary Life Members:  | 0            |
| <b>Total:</b>           | <b>21</b>    |
| <b>Life Percentage:</b> | <b>6.67%</b> |





# **SWINE & DINE**



Volunteers were the key to making Swine & Dine a very big success this year. Proceeds will be used to help the Lodge. See related article in "Club News" on Page 8.

*Photos Submitted by  
Tammie Schongalla  
Colleen Fletcher*



*If you would like to help out at Bingo, please contact Kay. There are times when we have had to cancel when Kay is not available. Email her at tkparis@outlook.com*

## Advertise Here

Contact the Newsletter Team  
elks2017news@gmail.com

Rates: \$100 per year  
\$10 per month  
(pro-rated)

The newsletter is always looking for information.  
Please email information to  
elks2017news@gmail.com  
The deadline is the 20th of each month for the next month's edition



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