



Reno Elks Call

Volume 2025 • December • Issue 12

Dear Members of Reno Elks Lodge #597

Uncle Dan's Charity Dinner was a great achievement! A successful event led by Antonio Ricci and volunteers. Funds raised will go toward the Charity Account. We will keep you posted on total monies raised.

Socktober! Our Lodge collected over 22000+ pairs of socks and underwear. All donations were given to Veterans in need, local area schools, Women and Children's Center of the Sierra, and Project 150. Thanks to Sue Babb for spearheading this effort.

Each year, we take time to remember our members that have passed away during the year at the Lodge's annual **Memorial Sunday**, which will be conducted on Sunday, December 7th at 1:00pm in the Lodge Room. Please take the time to come to this very special ceremony conducted by Heidi Julius, Lodge Chaplain and the Lodge Officers, followed by refreshments.

On Sunday, December 21st Santa Claus is coming to the Lodge for the **31st Annual Elks Children's Christmas Party**. This is a free event that is open to all children and grandchildren of Elks in Good Standing, ages infant to 12 years old. There will be two sessions, morning seating doors open at 10 AM. Santa arrives at 11 AM sharp. Afternoon seating doors open at 1 PM. Santa arrives at 2 PM sharp. Reservations are required. Please contact Santa's Special Elf, Bill Dreher to make your reservations.

New Year's Eve Black & White Ball. Doors will open at 6:00pm for cocktails. Dinner will be served at 7:00. Tickets are \$75 and can be purchased online or from the office. Tickets will be limited to 150. Get them as soon as you can. This will sell out. Dinner will be Surf and Turf prepared by Benny Shaff and crew. Music by White Water band. Champagne toasts at 9:00 PM (East Coast) and midnight (West Coast).

Lastly, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all our members who contributed their time, creativity, and spirit to make the Lodge festive and welcoming this holiday season.

December 25th. Merry Christmas! ** Lodge is Closed **

That's all for now. Until we meet again, always have in mind the cardinal principles of our order – **CHARITY, JUSTICE, BROTHERLY LOVE and FIDELITY.**

Be proud to be an Elk.

Rachel Drake, Exalted Ruler, 2025-2026, Reno Elks Lodge #597



ELKS LODGE 597 • DECEMBER 2025

Dinners & events are often changed after publication of The Call.

Please listen to the weekly robocalls or go to the website for the most current information!

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
SUPPORT OUR TROOPS by wearing RED every Friday until they come home.	1 Social Hour 4p to 6p MNF 5p-7p FREE Buffet Donations accepted	2 Lodge BOD meeting 6p Lodge Home Co. BOD 7p Taco Tuesday 5:30p \$10	3 VSC Meeting 5:30p	4 Mike's Comfort Food 5:30p \$14 Lodge Meeting 7p	5 VVA Breakfast Closed 9a/11a \$20 Social Hour 4p to 6p NO DINNER	6
	7 VSC Breakfast Omelete 9a/11a \$10 BLOOD DRIVE 9a-12p Tom Payne's Sunday Dance 5p - 8p \$10	8 Social Hour 4p to 6p MNF 5p-7p FREE Buffet Donations accepted	9 Wing Buffet 5:30p \$9/\$16	10 Bar Committee Meeting 6p WAC Hybrid Meeting IBS - closed	11 Italian Crew Dinner 5:30p \$20 Singalong Lodge Meeting 7p	12 Social Hour Bingo 3p to 5p \$20 Entry Social Hour 4p to 6p NO DINNER
14 9a-11a Kitchen Safety Meeting	15 Speaker lunch 11a \$25 Social Hour 4p to 6p MNF 5p-7p FREE Buffet Donations accepted	16 Dept. Heads Meet 10a ENF 5pm Baked Potato Bar 5:30p \$8 New Member Orientation 6:30p	17 11am Senior Cooking WAC Bingo Dinner 5:30p \$10 SDOI- closed	18 New Member Initiation Dinner 5:30p \$18 Lodge Meeting 7p	19 Commun. Meeting 12:30p Social Hour 4p to 6p Basket Assembly QB - closed NO DINNER	20 Food Basket Distribution Kids Christmas Set Up
 21 Tom Payne's Sunday Dance 5p - 8p \$10	22 Social Hour 4p to 6p MNF 5p-7p FREE Buffet Donations accepted	23 Trustee meeting 5:30p PER Assoc. Meeting 5:30p RV Meeting 6p	24 Bar Hours 2p to 5p	 25 LODGE CLOSED	26 Social Hour 4p to 6p NO DINNER	27
28 Line Dancing No Food	29 Social Hour 4p to 6p MNF 5p-7p FREE Buffet Donations accepted	30	31 	LODGE MEETINGS December 4th, 11th and 18th - New Member Initiation		

DECEMBER ENF DRINK OF THE MONTH

The Rudolph

1 oz Vodka / 1/2 oz Champagne

1/2 oz Cranberry Juice / Splash of Ginger Beer

\$7.00. One dollar goes to ENF.

BAR HOURS

Sat-Thur 2pm to 7:30pm • Fri 2pm to 9pm

ALWAYS CLOSED DURING LODGE MEETINGS



Accordion Christmas Carols!!

Dec 11th at the Lodge.

5:30pm Italian dinner and sing-along after.

Must be with a member to get in. (We have plenty of members to assist!)



RENO ELKS BLOOD DRIVE

Dec. 7th
9am - 12pm
FREE breakfast w/ blood donation

In the banquet room. See ad on p.23



The Reno Elks Food For Families Angel Tree

Food Basket Preparation Friday December 19th, in the Lodge Banquet Room 12p to 6p Ad p.11

Santa Claus is Coming

MORNING SEATING:
AM SESSION FULL
SANTA ELVES AT 11AM SHARP
(AM seating is opened to first 75 children only)
NO EXCEPTION

AFTERNOON SEATING:
DOORS OPEN AT 1PM
SANTA ARRIVES AT 2PM

This is a FREE event open to children & grandchildren from 0 to 12 years old of Elks & their families

31ST ANNUAL
Elks Children's Christmas Party
SUNDAY
DECEMBER 21ST 2025

PLEASE BRING COOKIES OR CUPCAKES

ARRIVE EARLY AND ENJOY THE SPECIAL EVENTS BEFORE SANTA ARRIVES.

To make sure your children receive a gift, please call or e-mail Santa's Elves, **BILL AND LINDA DREHER** with Children's names, sex & ages on or before **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13TH.**

When sending an email, please put "Elks Christmas Party" in the subject line. If you don't receive a confirmation email after a couple days, please call 775-826-6654.

DO NOT MAKE RESERVATIONS ONLINE

BDREHER5@GMAIL.COM | 775.826.6654

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE LODGE WITH THE INFORMATION AS IT MAY NOT GET TO US.

BLACK & WHITE BALL

Dec. 31st
8pm - 12am
Ring in the New Year at the Lodge
See Ad on p.11



December is packed with events so we're taking it off. We'll be back in January!



11am to 1pm Senior Cooking Class. Door prizes and raffles. Ad p. 23

INAUGURAL SOCIAL HOUR BINGO

at the Reno Elks Lodge
Bingo Prizes Galore!
December 12th
3p to 5p
\$20 Buy-in
Charcuterie plate provided. Ad p. 28



Notes from the Office Manager's Desk

Office Manager Kellianne Turner

Our membership total today, 11/15, stands at 2739 active members, 45 candidates, and 144 unpaid dues. Be sure to register online at elksreno.org (new website).

PLEASE READ THIS IS IMPORTANT!

There is a lot of confusion going on with new applicants and Sponsors not knowing the process to becoming a member.

1. A member who agrees to Sponsor a new applicant, (Sponsor must know the applicant), is responsible to guide them through the steps, answering their questions, and familiarize them with the Lodge and what it means to be an Elk.

2. The Sponsor, who is an Elk in good standing, starts the online application process through the Grand Lodge website, elks.org.
3. The application then automatically forwards to the applicant to complete the rest of the application. This includes complete information of (2) additional Elk members in good standing that know the applicant.
4. Once the application is submitted directly to Grand Lodge, the Reno Elks office receives an email of the new application. We then send an email to the applicant requesting the \$250.00 application fee (the process does not begin until payment is received).
5. After payment is received, the office will email a request to the references to complete the attached reference letter. There is almost always a delay in receiving both letters back.
6. The applicant's name will be posted for three days on the bulletin board outside the front office. and the applicant's name will be proposed at the next meeting.
7. Once the completed letters are returned, the application is prepared for investigation. An interviewer will reach out and schedule an interview.
8. Next step the applicant will be balloted on in the next ballot meeting (held on the first Thursday of the month).
9. Within three days after ballot, if the applicant was balloted favorably, they will get an email with attached informational letters about the next Orientation and Initiation. The Sponsor and Candidate must RSVP so that the office can prepare.
10. If the Sponsor is not available, it is their responsibility to find an alternate.

October Propositions for Membership

JAMES E. COOK

By Transfer
Proposed by Secy. Larry Drake

BOB COSTELLO

By Initiation
Proposed by Rick Casazza

MICHELE DAVIS

By Initiation
Proposed by Toni Taylor

LAURENCE F. ETTER

By Initiation
Proposed by Kenneth Etter

KACEY FALLERT

By transfer
Proposed by Secy. Larry Drake

AUSTIN GIBBS

By Initiation
Proposed by Stephen Amos

EDWARD JAGELS

By Transfer
Proposed by Secy. Larry Drake

CAROL KOLTAR-MCMILLAN

By Initiation
Proposed by Orlene Malloy

SARA SCHWEPPE

By Initiation
Proposed by William Bowen

TIM SCHWEPPE

By Initiation
Proposed by William Bowen

VANESSA VAUPEL

By Initiation
Proposed by Stacey Shinn

KYLE AITON

By Initiation
Proposed by Kyle Kimber

LINDA M. BISSETT

By Reinstatement
Proposed by Vinson Guthreau

RANDI GRINSELL

By Initiation
Proposed by Susanne James

JAMES SCHREINDL

By Initiation
Proposed by Paul Draper

MARTHA SLAVONIC

By Reinstatement
Proposed by Secy. Larry Drake

LISA TAITEL

By Initiation
Proposed by Susanne James

WILLIAM GRANATA

By Initiation
Proposed by William Tuttle

DENNIS KEAN

By Initiation
Proposed by Ross Bausone

CHANDRA MAYER

By Initiation
Proposed by Gene Savoy

SANDRA OLGUIN

By Initiation
Proposed by Blake Vanderwell

RICHARD WAIT

By Initiation
Proposed by Donald Cavallo

WENDI WAIT

By Initiation
Proposed by Donald Cavallo

Monthly Committee Meeting Schedule Open to all Members

Lodge Meetings 1st, 2nd and 3rd Thursday @ 7pm
 Board of Directors 1st Tuesday @ 6pm
 Home Company Board of Directors 1st Tuesday @ 7pm
 Veterans Service Committee 1st Wednesday @ 5:30pm
 Women's Athletic Center (Virtual) 2nd Wednesday @ 4pm
 Bar Committee Meeting 2nd Wednesday @ 6pm
 Kitchen Crew Meeting 3rd Wednesday @ 6pm
 ENF Community Involvement 3rd Tuesday @ 5pm
 Department Heads 3rd Tuesday/Board Room @ 10am
 Communications Committee 3rd Friday 12:30pm Terrace Rm
 Reno Roll'n Elks RV group 4th Tuesday @ 6:30pm
 PER Association 4th Thursday @ 5:30pm



If you would like to join one of our Lodge committees or participate in upcoming events, please sign up at the table in the lobby and GET INVOLVED.



Crying Towel

OCTOBER 2ND

WILLIAM ASMAR - \$500.00
NOT PRESENT

RICHARD GLASS - \$500.00
NOT PRESENT

JUSTIN OAKES - \$392.00
NOT PRESENT

OCTOBER 9TH

MARY CARRABBA - \$500.00
NOT PRESENT

JENNY HUNT - \$500.00
NOT PRESENT

ROGER HOLLIDAY - \$392.00
WINNER!

OCTOBER 16TH

KEN DUBOIS - \$392.00
WINNER!



AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST

**What Does Service to Your
Country Mean to You?**

This contest is for current 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th grade students. See flyer in the lobby for details and qualifications. The deadline is December 1, 2025.

Please include the required cover sheet and submit to Reno Elks Lodge #597, attention Diane Takach, in person, mail, or email: dbareccranch@gmail.com.

Please share and encourage students to apply for these monetary awards. Winners will be announced in July 2026.

RENO ELKS LODGE #597 "Nevada's Mother Lodge"

597 Kumle Lane, Reno NV 89509

Phone: 775-825-0597

For membership dues:
renoelks@renoelks.com

For table reservations:
renoelksrsvp@gmail.com

For vendor billing questions:
renoelksbills@gmail.com

For rentals:
elksrenolodge@gmail.com

Website:
www.elksreno.org

Facebook: [renoelkslodge](https://www.facebook.com/renoelkslodge)

The Reno Elks Call is published monthly for the members of Reno Elks Lodge #597. There is no charge for subscription.

It is supported in part by paid advertisements.

Editor: Greg Mason
wapiti597@gmail.com



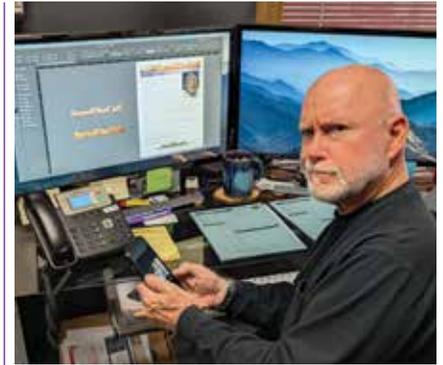
Please let Bill know of repair issues, facility use requests, new Lodge event ideas, bar requests, meal ideas, etc. He is here to assist all members.

Elks Lodge Manager
 Bill Johnson 775-722-6059
 Elksrenolodge@gmail.com

We are sad in the Events & Rental office to announce Andy Cassidy is stepping down from her position. Andy has been instrumental in the growth for the Lodge in space rentals and growing our events and catering sales. She truly will be missed and we Thank her for her for the time and energy over the past few years that she gave the Reno Elks Lodge.

MarBeth Blackington who had been helping with Event Cost Sheets will be the primary for space rentals now and Sharon Wolinski will be assisting. They both will work with members on the event cost sheets until we find a new volunteer to assist with that process (see mayBeth if interested)

Please do not bother Andy by phone or email anymore and send all requests to: elksrenolodge@gmail.com



When sending me photos for your story.

Some of you like to send your story and accompanying photos via a text message. While it does take me a little extra time to copy and paste into an email to send to myself, the issue is the photograph(s).

When they are texted, they lose some image quality, and some may become unusable as their file sizes become too small. So please send your photos and stories via email. It's easier for me to keep track of them and to ensure they don't fall off my radar. Many thanks, and thank you all for indulging me during the year. Happy New Year!

DEADLINE FOR CALL SUBMISSIONS IS THE 15th OF THE MONTH PRECEDING THE NEXT ISSUE.

Thank you, Greg Mason
 Email: wapiti597@gmail.com

ADVERTISING RATES

Advertising in The Call is an affordable way to market your business to over 2700 members of Reno Lode #597.

Please submit ads in JPEG or PDF format by the 15th of the prior month.

Classified Ad\$15.00
Business Card\$25.00
Quarter Page\$45.00
Half Page\$60.00
Full Page.....\$80.00

54th Annual (Since 1971)
Elks Hoopshoot
Free Throw Shooting Contest
Saturday, December 6, 2025

Anytime between 9:30am – 12noon
Event held at the Boys and Girls Club
1300 Foster Drive, Reno
 across from Reno High Football Field

Takes less than one hour to complete

Age Groups for Boys & Girls
8-9 • 10-11 • 12-13 (as of 04/01/2026)
All skill levels are encouraged to attend

FREE to all Participants

8-9 Boys/Girls use 28.5 ball & shoot 4 feet closer

Sponsored by Reno Elks Lodge #597
Contact Al Babb
(775) 846-2811 for more info
 Elks Care – Elks Share

Lodge News - Be in the know

Members ask what's happening at the Lodge

Here are the ways to find out:

- The Website www.elksreno.org
- E-blasts that are sent to your email
- Robocalls and this newsletter

Want to SELL something?

We are accepting Classified-style ads in The Call. Cost is \$10 per month and must be paid in advance of the ad placement. Maximum word count will be 75. Remember to add your contact info and membership number.

Lodge Maintenance

To my fellow Elks; if you see a maintenance issue, please contact **Robb Smith** 775-750-1530 or email him at: renoelksvets@gmail.com.

Sales Tax

As of December 1st, 2025 the Lodge will no longer reimburse any sales tax with respect to expenses submitted. They will be considered a donation. You can view or get a copy of the tax letter in Bill J's. office to present to merchants so they won't charge a sales tax.

Not getting the Robocall or Email?

Make sure you alert the office with your information if it has changed or provide your info to start receiving it to: renoelks@renoelks.com or call 775-825-0597.

WE NEED KITCHEN HELP

We still need kitchen help; cooking, cleaning, food prep, and dish washing. Call **Bill J.** for more info at 775-722-6059 and orientation.

Tech Committee Lead Needed

If you have a background in computer or the internet please contact Bill Johnson (775-722-6059), any Trustee or Board member for more information.

Sunday Breakfast at the Lodge

All members and guests are welcome to join the Veterans Service Committee and other Committees for a great breakfast Sunday mornings, Dec. 7th. Includes cooked to order eggs and pancakes. \$12. Volunteers are also needed to cook and serve.

RED SHIRT FRIDAY RED SHIRT FRIDAY

Remember
Everyone
Deployed

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS
NO MATTER WHERE
YOU ARE
WEAR RED EVERY
FRIDAY ...
UNTIL THEY COME HOME

SHOW YOUR AMERICANISM

Elks 597 1st and 3rd Sundays dance

Live music dance 5 to 8 pm, bar is open!

Dances: cha-cha, rock n roll, country, slow and more.

Music by T-N-Keys 12/7. Chris Costa 12/21.

Come out and dance away the evening. Cost \$10.

If it's your birthday month the 3rd Sunday is FREE!

Your host: Lodge member:

Tom Payne - cell 775-240-4193

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lawarren@paychex.com
The Virgil - 301 Vassar St. 89502

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Gina Nolte Branch Manager

Reno 597 #14061

Phone: (775) 232-5559

gnolte@themoneystore.com

NMLS# 202742 | Branch NMLS# 1149501



NMLS# 1019 | nmlsconsumeraccess.org 

High Electric Bill?

It's Time to Have
A Conversation
About Solar!

No Cost Solar is now
available in Reno!!
Find Out if Your
Home Qualifies!

CALL TODAY!

Chris O'Sullivan

"The Solar OG"

(775) 232-2767

Chris@TheSolarOG.com



Reno 597 #13181



1st
Raymond Elledge
Ryan Hopkins
Phillip Priewe
Tamara Weltz
Robert Williamson

2nd
Brandon Burns
Stephen Butts
Raymond Carlson
David Elsner
Andrew Galea
Lucinda Lichty
Martin Murphy
Steve Simons
Kellianne Turner

3rd
Jacob Holmes
Francis Jacobs
Heather Korbolic
Georgina Saaranen
Lawrence Smith

4th
Christopher Booth
Bonnie Days
Erik Engh
Laura Ferencik
Erin Hanahoe
Nicole Kattelman
Robert Kronenberger
Bo Pollard
Harry Thompson

5th
Joanne Ciafardini
Walter Grady
Barrie Minogue
Jessica Morning
Sandra Selby

6th
G Baker
Joseph Curtis
Michael Dillon
Brian Egan
Kim Small

7th
Randy Brown
Terry Bush

Angela Gilhula
Jon Landa
Mitchell Landsinger
Kenneth Penn
Krystal Pinkston
Thomas Prutzman
Bruce Smith
Alison Stewart
Mathew Teske
Joshua Vittori

8th
Luis Ayala-Zapata
Clint Durocher
Thane Moore
Richard Purdy
Ron Rinden
Kristine Wines

9th
John Burton
Karen Degney
Ryan Gold
Gary Miner
Anthony Peper
Nigel Reece
Tim Tobin
Tyler Zimmerman

10th
Richard Filipowicz
Sam Gilbert
Joseph Lubek

11th
Kevin Bertonneau
Carl Dunn
Kurt Fisher
Christianne Hamel
Anita Noble
Lynda Parks
Francis Picone
Lisa Shapiro

12th
Michael Alt
Gregory Chech
Mary Fenton
Jeremy Gabbard
Roderic Geddes
Hugh McDermott
Susan Meier
Melissa Palange

13th
Christopher Cunningham
Mary-France DuBois
Dale Edwards
Forrest Hill
Laroy Hutchinson
Michael Majors
James Meyers

14th
Lorna Corkery
Christopher Dondero
Karl Gambrall
Michael Johnson
Herbert Klemm
Michael Leonard
Glenn Van Valkenburg
Michael Welch

15th
John Carlton
Rachel Drake
Christina Ferguson
Skyler Kachurak
Michael Kivett
Pete Koliastasis

16th
Nancy Cecchini
Amanda Lavi
Nicholas Webber
Ronald Wolff

17th
Ken Avey
Kevin Berry
Timothy Callahan
Alex Faust
Pride Hansen
Dennis (Mike) Hart
Patricia Jeffers
Brenda Podnar
Desiree Valles
James Watkins

18th
Marcia Beers
Robert Cornell
Barbara Dunivan-Elder
Jon Hamel
Maricarol Rodgers
John Stallings

19th
Riley Beckett
Mark Brander
Christopher Graff
Douglas Hildebrand
Jan Hilton
Jeremy Huntsman
Edward Kinney Jr.
Michael McDonald
Michael McKinley
Robert Plant

20th
Paul Brosy
David Green
William Kane
Michael Leonard
Ronald McCall
John Oliver
Cynthia Scott
Mitchell Ziegler

21st
Mark Crosby
Todd Hanlon
John Hasenau
Theresa Nordquist
John Sinsel
Douglas Timney
Ronald Triglia
Thomas Villa
Faye Voisard

22nd
Jed Bodger
Richard Fagan
Dana McKinney
Chris McQuattie
Susan Stinchfield

23rd
James Forbus
David Hunt
Erik Jimenez
Jerry Pfarr
Juan Sparhawk
David Tullgren
Elizabeth Winters

24th
Lisa Aguirre-Simcoe
Elizabeth Basset
Sarah Bredesen
Jeffery Cates
Angelo Petrini
Elizabeth Sheppard
Anthony Wallace

25th
Eric Anderson
Leslie Barlow
Nate Dolan
Etel Gause
Michelle King
Antoinette Schiavone
Max-Noel Shen
Neil Thomas
Jonathan Vanhooose

26th
Holly Dasilva
Wesley Duncan
Jennifer Lewis
Thomas Link
Linda Miller
Donald Parrillo
Bethany Pointer

27th
John Barsanti
Dominic Gonzales
Alison Hastings
Steven Tillman
Philip Whinery

28th
Ryan Braun
Russell Browne
Jona Cardenas
John Gagliardi
Nunnally Johnson
Paul Joyce
Amy Nesler
Patrick Reardon
Darci Redding
Susan Standish
Ricky Stebbins
Scott Wulforst

29th
Thomas Bissell
Jeff Heinzen
Greg Hoffman
Daniel Hopper
Kenneth Lancaster
Kristan Mihelic
Scott Newton
Matthew Schultz
Robert Smith
Vernon Smith
Candace Streeper
David Thiel
Carolyn Valle
Walter Watt
David Woods

30th
Grant Anderson
Marc Bebout
Kevin Borsz
Timothy Brooks
Tami Creek
Matthew Goedert
Gary Luchetti
Steven McLanahan
Christopher Moltz
Kathleen O'Connell
Robert Rusk
John Topoian

31st
Randy Acosta
Jim Carpenter
Gary Crain
Jerry Gann
Stephen Graves
Andrew Howard
Jesse Hummel
Rick Jaramillo
Charles Marks
Minda Welch

DECEMBER DRINK COUPON

Present this coupon along with your driver's license and your Reno Elks Lodge #597 Membership Card, and receive a FREE DRINK on the Exalted Ruler. Valid only during your birth month. Limit 1 (one) per person. Non-transferable.

Name: _____ #597 Membership No. _____

Verified: _____

Holiday Gift Wrapping

Please support our Elks choir's Christmas gift wrapping day.

Let the "Treble Makers" take the trouble out of holiday gift wrapping. Stop by the Lodge, relax, watch some football, and let us do all the work.

- Saturday, December 20th
- 10am- 7pm in the PER Room

Donuts & Coffee in the AM

Donations Accepted to Benefit The Reno Elks Treble Makers.



The Reno Elks Treble Makers were very busy the past few days honoring veterans with a patriotic program of songs at Cascades of the Sierra 55+ community, Arbors Memory Care, and Holiday Sky Peaks 55+ community. They were greeted with enthusiastic participation by veterans and residents alike at these facilities.

SAVE YOUR HIDES!

DON'T LEAVE THEM IN THE FIELD, OR WORSE, IN THE GARBAGE

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has a program to collect your unwanted hides to have wheelchair gloves made for wheelchair bound Veterans. At no cost to Veterans.



Contact your local Elks Lodge, The Reno Elks Lodge at 775-825-0597 or www.renoelks.org



The Reno Elks Food For Families Tree

The food for families tree will be located in the lobby, and will be filled with tags representing families in need. For each tag, you should plan on spending about \$50 in food or donation. Please pick a tag, shop for items, and bring them by the Lodge on **December 20th between 9:00 and 10:00.**

This year you will have the option of delivering the box yourself, or we will deliver it for you.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- **DECEMBER 19TH AT 11:00:**
Food Sorting
- **DECEMBER 20TH AT 8:30:**
Help With Food Delivery

To volunteer, or if you have any questions, please call Joy Brackney (775) 342-7590.

NEW YEAR'S EYE BLACK & WHITE BALL

Doors will open at 6:00 for cocktails.
Dinner will be served at 7:00.

Tickets are \$75 and can be purchased online or from the office. Tickets will be limited to 150. Get them as soon as you can. This will sell out. Enjoy a Surf and Turf dinner prepared by Benny Shaff and crew.

Music by White Water band. Champagne toasts at 9:00 PM (East Coast) and midnight (West Coast).

December 31st 8pm to 12am



Dance the night away to your favorite rock, blues and country music performed by White Water.
Cheers! Salud! Prost! And Cin cin!

597 WAC

WOMEN WHO MOVE

REFLECTIONS | BY OUR CHAIRWOMAN



As we walk into the holiday season, we're embracing a slower, cozier pace, which is the perfect moment to reflect on the memories we've made this year. If you've seen our recent photos, you already know: a picture truly is worth a thousand words.

Our monthly meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of each month are now hybrid (both online and in-person). We won't be meeting in December due to the holidays; our next meeting is scheduled for January 14th at 4pm. Join us!

Our only event this month is a fun one: Ugly Christmas Sweater Bingo on December 17th! Pull out your wildest, brightest, most wonderfully tacky holiday sweater and join us for an evening of laughs, lighthearted competition, and a little end-of-year magic. With fewer events this month, this is the perfect chance to connect, unwind, and celebrate everything we've built together before we gear up for an exciting year ahead.



WAC597's 1st Ladies Social was a packed house, and tons of new friends were made. A featured floor plan of the Women's AC renovation was shared with attendees. Thank you to all who made this event a sheer success!



L to R: Gloria Salem, Aimee Comte, Lanea Warren, Nancy Slatin, Mary Johnson, Melody Parker, and Sheila Young



& Juliet was a smash hit with the ladies.



L to R: Christina Lafoon, Lanea Warren, Aimee Comte, Joanne Klebes, and Cynthia Knowles



Aimee and Isabel Comte as Cinderella and her Fairy Godmother



Susan Lister and Sue Babb sporting their Halloween outfits.

Upcoming Events
December 10th - WAC Meeting Cancelled
December 17th - WAC Ugly Xmas Sweater Bingo
January 14th - WAC Meeting Hybrid

ELKS LODGE 597 WAC's

BINGO

B4NANZA

3RD WEDNESDAY

PRIZES!! BINGO ROUNDS!! RAFFLES!!

FAMILY FUN! DRESS TO THE MONTHLY THEME!

Mark your calendars
EVERY 3rd Wednesday

5:30 PM - \$10 DINNER
\$5 KIDS CARDS & \$10 ADULT CARDS

Hosted by: The Women's Athletic Center

Exciting Opportunity: Lead Our New Members Welcome Events!

To warmly welcome our newest members, the Communications Committee is launching a quarterly New Members Event — and we're looking for an enthusiastic Chairperson to lead the charge! With over 2700 members, surely we have one or two that might be interested!

This is a fantastic opportunity to help new members feel at home, guide them through all the Lodge has to offer, and connect them with the committees and activities that best match their interests.

If you enjoy meeting people, building community, and making a meaningful impact, this role is perfect for you!

Remember; an Active Elks is a Good Elk!

Contact Greg Mason @
waptit597@gmail.com



Line Dancing Lessons 4th Sunday

5:30-7:30
\$5 member
\$10 guests
21+ please

Professional instruction
See Melissa Fitch for more details

Attention Realtors

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For more info call Greg Mason 775-825-6555
or email: mgreg141@gmail.com




Reno 597 #14790

Uncle Dan's a Huge Success! Thank You All.

By Antonio Ricci, Esteemed Leading Knight

I want to once again extend my gratitude to everyone who contributed to this event. Thank you to all the members who donated a prize to Uncle Dan's—your generosity played a major role in making the event a great success. This lodge thrives not only because of support like this, but also because of the many volunteer hours our members dedicate. I can't thank you enough—from those who gave a few hours to those who committed countless hours—none of this would be possible without you. The theme was fun, the decorations were amazing and the food was fit for The

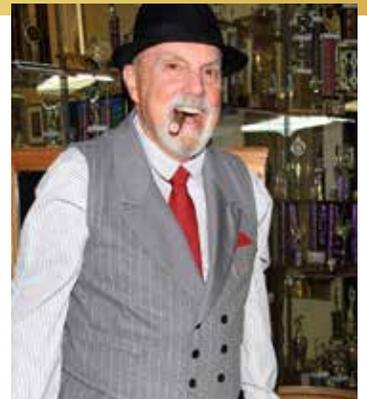
Godfather. We would also like to give a shout out to the Scouts and young people who stepped up to serve the antipasto trays, serve dinner and make the raffle prizes run so smoothly.

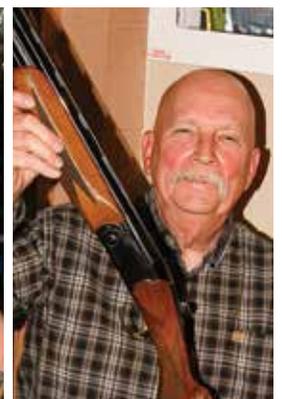
We are still tabulating the amount earned from the event and have not collected receipts for all the expenses but so far, we have calculated over \$56,000 for our Charitable Fund!! Again, we are so thankful for all of your support and for the support of the businesses in the area.

Set Up



The Event







The ENF Committee, getting it done!

by Gale Bowen ENF Grant Writer

One way the ENF helps Reno Elks Lodge 597

Our Lodge can apply for the Gratitude Grant which is \$2,000. If we meet the following criteria, we can obtain an additional \$2,000 for a total of \$4,000. This helps our very active ENF Committee help our community. There are 4 categories to get a \$500 bonus. We have met 2 out of 4 of our goals set by Grand Lodge so far this year.

Membership – At least 15% of our members must donate. We have 21.72%

Fidelity – We must increase our Fidelity members to 59 – we have 56

Fundraising Goal – We must increase last year's donations (\$44,168) by 10% which is \$48,586.

Chair Challenge – Your ENF Chairman must complete different activities, which I have done.

The Grand Lodge goals are set by the number of members in each lodge. We are based on 2,739 members. If each member of our lodge donated at least \$5.15 (our Grand Exalted Ruler's per member goal) we could raise \$14,106 a year, which would be wonderful. Luckily our lodge has some very generous people who help us meet our goals. Thank you everyone that has donated to the Elks National Foundation. You are appreciated.

A Fidelity member is someone that commits to monthly payments on their credit or debit card. \$5 a month is the minimum donation. Go to Elks.org to make donations.

This and That at Our Lodge



Alan Squailia, PER, presenting to ER Rachel Drake City of Reno Proclamation celebrating Reno Lodge's 125th Anniversary.



Loyal Knight Justin Hoch (Army) and Esquire Sean Brennan PER (Air Force) spoke to pre-school students about what being a veteran means. The kids asked many great questions. Teaching our future about our past while honoring Americana, and those who served. Elks Care. Elks Share.



LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY JANUARY 7, 2026



The Americanism Committee is seeking a few proud Elks to step up as warm-hearted hosts and ambassadors for a day of gratitude!

Come be part of the team as we roll out the welcome mat for our local law enforcement heroes—on duty or off! Officers are invited to drop by the Lodge anytime from noon to 6 p.m. for a hearty, all-American meal—compliments of your fellow Elks!

This is your chance to shake hands, share stories, and say “thank you”.

Want to be part of this uplifting tradition?
Contact Diane Takach at 775-431-7410!

Know a law enforcement officer? Spread the word and personally invite them to join us for a meal and a large helping of appreciation. Let’s show our finest how much they mean to our Elks family!

*Join us for a knight
on the ice.*

Elks Hockey Night at the Tahoe Knight Monsters is set for Saturday January 10th. Tickets are \$60 and can be purchased at The Bar (Melissa, Tara and AJ) - limited to the first 50. Roundtrip Bus leaves for the Tahoe Blue Events Center in Stateline, NV promptly at 5pm - January 10, 2026. It's also Military Appreciation Night at the rink.



For more information
contact brother Mike Sasko
at (916) 802-0638.

From the Desk of *Christi Spiker*

A Huge Thank You for a Spooktacular Trunk-n-Treat!

Our Trunk-n-Treat event on Sunday, October 26, 2025, was an incredible success — and it's all thanks to YOU, our amazing Elk's family!

We had 13 wonderfully decorated cars, each one creative, festive, and overflowing with Halloween spirit. From classic spooky themes to fun and colorful displays, every participant brought joy and excitement to the kids who attended. And speaking of kids — we welcomed over 100 little trick-or-treaters this year! Their smiles, costumes, and endless energy made the whole event truly magical.

A very special thank-you goes to Blaise, whose hard work and dedication helped pull everything together. Blaise not only located and secured the carnival games, but also put the parking lot blockade in place to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone. Your support made a world of difference!

To all volunteers, decorators, candy-givers, helpers, and attendees: Thank you for making this a fun and memorable afternoon for our community.

We couldn't do it without the heart and spirit of Elkdom—where we show, once again, that a good Elk is an active Elk!





We're already looking forward to next year!

Interested in being part of the Reno Elks leadership team? Now is the time ... It's a great year ahead

Elections are held every year for your Officers, these are dedicated members who care about the Lodge and want to give back in a special way. If you would like to run for an office, you must be a member in good standing and be willing to spend some extra time at the Lodge and be a member of the team. If this is something you would like to consider, please get a short resume to Bill Johnson at elksrenolodge@gmail.com and have a member prepared to nominate you at the first meeting in February 2026. The elections will be held on the 3rd Thursday in February. If you want to know more about what the

duties of the officers are, the information is in the by-laws or you can contact any current officer.

Elected positions include:

- Exalted Ruler
- Esteemed Leading Knight
- Esteemed Loyal Knight
- Esteemed Lecturing Knight
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- 5-Year Trustee

Thank you for your interest and dedication to the Reno Elks Lodge

The Lodge Leadership Team 2025-26



THE ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION HELPS ELKS BUILD STRONGER COMMUNITIES BY:



- Providing scholarships to students in our state.
- Helping to end veteran homelessness.
- Supporting programs that unleash gritty kids.
- Offering grants to our Lodge and State that help meet local needs.

The ENF strives to give back more to each state than it received from that state in donations. For every \$1 donated, our state gets back:

1.587%



For more information, scan this QR code or visit enf.elks.org.

HOW OUR LODGE SUPPORTS THE ENF

Our Lodge has given:

\$22,469

Our Lodge's per-member giving is:

\$8.68

Our Lodge's Fidelity Club* member count:

56

Our Membership Support is:

21.72%

Our fundraising goal is:

\$48,586

The GER's per-member-giving goal is:

\$5.15

Our Lodge's Fidelity Club* member goal:

59

*The Fidelity Club recognizes donors who make automatic, monthly gifts to the ENF through their credit card or bank account. Scan or visit secure.elks.org/FidelityClub for more!



Poster last updated 11/11/25

by Mary DuBois



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Reno Roll'n Elks RV group

Join us the 4th Tuesday
of the month at 6:30pm.

For more information call
775-691-1687 or 775-771-6068

Our motto: Just Have Fun!

Rolling Elks wrap it up for the season.



The Elks Rolling Elks have ended the travel season after a very successful year on the Road. We have visited Eagle Lake, Bordertown, Carson Valley Inn, and Quincy.

Bingo seemed to be a hit this year as well as ladder throw. Corn Hole has faded off in the sunset. Our pot lucks are as good as any casino buffet. Members continue to outdo each other. We almost always have a restaurant close by have a dinner away from our rigs.

We just had our annual White Elephant Party at the Lodge after third Sunday breakfast. It is our main fundraiser and we have a lot of laughs.

We continue to bring socks for Socktober at every meeting. We are proud to be part of this community wide project started right here at #597.

Hope you can attend a meeting to find out what we are all about. We start up again the 4th Tuesday in January. Come have a smash burger for dinner and join us.





Veterans Service Committee (VSC)

Tom Brenzovich - Veterans Service Committee, NNSVH Liaison

VSC and VVA Sponsor Pancake Breakfast for annual Stand Down

15 October 2025, nine members of the Veterans Service Committee (VSC) made their quarterly trip to the Northern NV State Veterans Home (NNSVH) and sponsored the quarterly Nerf gun competition. The competition is one of the Veterans' favorite activities. Eleven Veterans participated: Navy Vet Michael H, 1st place, Air Force Vet Ron C, 2nd place, and Navy Vet Jon O, 3rd place. The VSC donated \$100 as prize money, and each winner received a small trophy and a gift certificate for the NNSVH Silver State Store.



(l-r) Tommy B, Courtney Welch, Jim Mort & Chuck Johnson with two Vets getting ready to shoot.

(l-r) Jim Mort and Carol Hawkins helping a Vet to shoot



(l-r) Winners, 2nd place Air Force Vet Ron C, 1st place Navy Vet Michael H, and staff member Abbey filling in for 3rd place Navy Vet Jon O, standing Tommy B & Jim Mort

The Veterans Service Committee will again participate with Wreaths across America to place wreaths on graves at the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery on Saturday, December 13, 2025.

Parking is limited and we encourage car pooling out to the Cemetery. We will meet at the Lodge parking lot Saturday morning Dec. 13th at 7:45 AM and depart at 8:00 AM.

We will be at the Cemetery until approximately 11:30 AM. Please bring any collapsible carts to carry wreaths around.

**Remember the fallen. Honor those who serve.
Teach the next generation the value of freedom.
It's the mission of Wreaths Across America.**

Scan the QR code to view or download the events packet



Any member wishing to host an event at the Lodge — whether it's a fundraiser, bingo night, a dance, wine and cheese hour, or gift-wrapping party — and does not plan to rent the space as a private party must complete the event packet and submit it to the Exalted Ruler, Rachel Drake, and John Whitesides, Special Representative. Below is their contact information.

The Event's Packet is located outside the "events" office on the wall file organizer, or you can email: eventsrenoelks@gmail.com and the events team will email you the version you can fill out online and email it over to Rachel Drake, Exalted Ruler at exaltedruler597@gmail.com. Or you can fill it out by hand and deliver it to Rachel for approval.

Once the event gets approval, then you can move forward with the "Instructions and Procedures" (located in the packet).

Rachel Drake (Exalted Ruler 2025): exaltedruler597@gmail.com (775) 830-3883

John Whiteside (Lodge Advisor appointed by Grand Lodge)

SENIORRES MAGAZINE presents

SENIOR COOKING CLASS

Mark your calendars for the third Wednesday of the month, like always, December 17, 2025 at 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM At the Reno Elks Lodge 597 Kumle Ln, Reno, NV 89509

CHEF BECKY DEGN

We're stirring things up this time with door prizes, raffles, special guest chefs, local food businesses, and a feast of flavor that proves cooking on a budget doesn't mean sacrificing deliciousness. Come for the food, stay for the fun—and maybe take home a prize or two!

Bring your appetite and your curiosity. We promise it'll be one tasty Wednesday!

Holiday Surprises Galore!

Questions? Call 775-848-6556
Sign up by scanning the QR code:

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FREE breakfast with donation!

In Remembrance of Pearl Harbor Day

RENO ELKS BLOOD DRIVE

Sun., December 7th
9:00am – 12:00pm

Donate in the Banquet Room
597 Kumle Lane

Please sign up today!
To book your appointment scan the QR code or email Frank at FMREYNOLDS3@ATT.NET

Before you donate: Eat. Hydrate. Bring your photo ID

GIVE BLOOD TODAY | vitalant.org

Socktober Wrap up

Socktober is closing down shop for the Winter. Thanks to the generous donations from Elks, family and friends, Boy and Girl Scout troops, we overachieved our goal of 10,000 socks and underwear with over 22,300 socks delivered by 30 volunteers.

Some of the major contributors were Marce Herz Middle School, Manogue Sophomore class, Solisbetter, DePaoli Middle School, United Federation Credit Union branches, Sam's Sparkle, and the Rolling Elks—many thanks to the WAC for hosting October bingo and donating \$1184 from the raffle.

We received a Freedom Grant from Grand Lodge thanks to Gale Bowen. We were on television twice and on the radio once, thanks to media coordinator Linda Lannon: Bunco, Book Clubs, and PEO were collected at every meeting. We also received several thousand dollars in donations.

We have warmed many feet. On Nov 12, 70 Elks sorted, bagged, and delivered 22,368 articles to ten Veteran, Women's, and Children's agencies. By the way, this year the Socktober project is in every Lodge in Nevada.

Our Committee consists of Sue Babb, Al Babb, Frank Picone, Robb Smith, Christy George, and Allyn Hildebrand. Want to hop on the sock train next year? Contact Sue Babb at 775-721-1616.





The Hair Whisperer

Rachel Drake

775.830.3883

Reno 597 #13833



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RENO ELKS 597
597 Kumle Ln, Reno, Nv, 89509

Joy Brackney
775.342.7590
joybrackney@gmail.com

Reno 597 #14068



Frank Picone
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Reno 597 #016269

Welcome new members

Initiated
November 13th
2025



Seated L to R: Randi Grinsell, Nanette Furrer, Dominic Gonzales, Austin Gibbs, Jeremy Cortese, and Kyle Aiton.
Standing: Tom Diani, Jack Colpo, Bill Granata, Robert Clarkson, and Earl Christensen.



Seated L to R: Lara Horgan, Mona Heater, Carol Holetar, Lisa Taitel, Sara Scheppe, and Wendi Wait.
Standing: Jonathan Hodges, Susan Skidmore, Mark Levy, Milton Sorensen, Tim Scheppe, and Richard Wait.

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**From the Reno
Elks Call
newsletter team,
a Happy New
Year to all!**

**INAUGURAL
SOCIAL HOUR
BINGO**

at the Reno Elks Lodge



597 Kumle Ln, Reno, NV 89509

December 12, 2025 at 3-5PM

Entry fee is \$20.00
with

Bingo Prizes Galore!

Charcuterie snacks provided.



For more information or to reserve a seat call 775-848-6556

Fundraiser for the Charity Account



**CHRISTMAS
COOKIE**

DECORATING WORKSHOP

The Reno Elks Treble Makers are Proud to Sponsor:

A New Holiday Favorite - Join us for a hands-on holiday workshop where you'll learn the art of decorating Christmas cookies.
Perfect for beginners and anyone 16+.

 Saturday, December 14  11:00 – 3:00

 Reno Elks Lodge, Terrace Room  \$25 Per Person (credit card required to reserve spot)
(includes supplies & take-home cookies)

What's included:

- Step-by-step instruction from a professional baker
- All decorating supplies (cookies, icing & miscellaneous edible decorations)
- Light refreshments and holiday music to keep your spirits bright.

 **Bonus:** Enter our Best Cookie Design contest for a chance to win a festive prize!

LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE!

Reserve your place no later than December 4, 2025

To RSVP (credit card required at time of reservation):

- Call or Text Cheryl: (775) 848-0466
- Email Cheryl: captaincheryl@hotmail.com

