

THE ELKS PASO NEWS



EXALTED RULER'S MESSAGE

May is blooming at the Elks!

This month the lodge is bursting with flowers, fun, and all the pretty things that make our Elk family shine. We've packed the calendar with exciting events for EVERYONE — charity events, seasonal celebrations, ritual nights, fun dinners, and so much more.

Just showing up for even ONE event helps keep the heart of Elkdom beating strong in our community. Your presence matters. Your energy matters. YOU matter.

We work hard to make sure there's something for every Elk to enjoy — laughter, fellowship, purpose, and those "only at the Elks" moments we all love.

So come on over and enjoy everything you have access to as part of this amazing fraternity. This is YOUR lodge. YOUR family. YOUR place to belong.

Dues Reminder — Let's Keep Our Lodge Thriving!

If your dues are past due, no stress — just swing by, call, or hop on the website to take care of it. Paying dues is honestly one of the most powerful ways you support the lodge. It keeps our programs running, our doors open, and our community impact strong.

Even if you can't make it to every event, your dues alone help fuel all the great things we do for El Paso. It's your quiet but mighty contribution to the mission of the Elks.

May your month be bright, your events be fun, and your dues be paid.

Your Exalted Ruler
Rosie

"fraternal organization"

Established May 23, 1891

Official Bulletin of El Paso (Texas) Lodge No. 187

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[New Mexico Elks Association](#)

See what's happening around NMEA SW District this month.

[Click here](#)

[Click Here](#)

[to read](#)



135 YEARS OF ELKDOM IN EL PASO-LODGE # 187



Secretary's Message

Members,

Exciting events are coming your way, and we want you to be part of the fun! We need your help to make these occasions truly special.

Mark your calendars: on May 8 at 6:30, join us for a Mother's Day Ritual—mothers eat free with an RSVP.

Join us on May 12 for a heartwarming picnic with our veterans from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Kick off your morning on May 17 with a delicious breakfast fundraiser starting at 10.

Celebrate America's incredible 250th anniversary with the Freedom Truck mobile museum on May 22, 23, and 24. A special shoutout to member Donna Juarez for securing our spot in this patriotic event. Check the flyer for all the details.

Honor and remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice with us at a wreath-laying ceremony on May 23 at 8:30 a.m.

Support the Memorial Day Forgotten Veterans Ceremony at Concordia Cemetery on May 25, 2026.

Don't miss our Sip and Paint fundraiser on May 30, and save the date for a milestone celebration—our 135th anniversary—on June 6 at noon. We'll also be recognizing and appreciating all our members!

Wrap up the month with the Flag Day ritual at Flags Across America on June 14.

We're looking forward to celebrating these meaningful moments with you!

Save the dates:

- **May 4**— 6:30 — Membership meeting; 7:00 — House and Board meetings
- **May 14** — Lodge Meeting at 7:00

See you there!

Cheryl Kelly
Secretary

El Paso Lodge #187 Officers For 2026-2027

Exalted Ruler Rosie Pena
 Leading Knight Henry Davis
 Loyal Knight John Gomez
 Lecturing Knight Jermaine Henderson
 Secretary Cheryl Kelly
 Treasurer Arturo Vega
 Inner Guard Laurie Maly
 Esquire Bobby Salazar
 Chaplain Noel Knight
 Tiler Vacant

Board Members

1 year Gladys Vega
 2 year Tori Scott
 3 year Karen Henderson
 4 year Carmen Graham
 5 year Josie Davis

Past Exalted Rulers - Officers

PER President Joe Gallegos
 PER. Secretary/Treasure Juan Sandoval

Also a friendly reminder to please to visit www.elpasoelks187.org where you can RSVP & pay for events, donate, pay dues, buy t-shirts and more!!
 Thanks!!



Leave your membership doubts behind

When it's time to renew your Elks membership, a question may cross your mind: Does my membership really matter?

Yes. It does. So leave your doubt at the door.

When you walk into your Lodge, you walk into a place where veterans are honored, children are protected, and communities are lifted. You stand shoulder to shoulder with Elks across this nation—past, present, and future—who believe in service, compassion, and doing the right thing.

Your membership is not symbolic. It feeds families. It funds scholarships. It supports veterans. It changes lives.

You may not always see the impact—but it's there, every day, in every community we serve.

Being an Elk means showing up. It means caring. It means belonging to something bigger than yourself.

So, renew with pride. Move forward with confidence. You are an Elk. And that matters. Leave your doubt at the door.

A special time slot on Saturday, May 23 at 11:00 has been exclusively reserved for Elks, their families, and friends! We just need to know if you'll be joining us and how many will attend. Let's make this a unforgettable celebration of America's 250th

★ FEATURE ATTRACTION ★
FREEDOM 250 TRUCK
STEP INSIDE A MOBILE MUSEUM!

The Freedom 250 initiative features a fleet of six 18-wheeler "Freedom Trucks" operating as mobile museums touring all 48 contiguous U.S. states in 2026 to celebrate America's 250th anniversary.

★★★★★

These interactive, state-of-the-art exhibits bring American history directly to communities, featuring digital signings of the Declaration of Independence, a hero wall, and immersive displays on the nation's founding.





MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY, TOGETHER!

WOW—time is flying!

We are nearly halfway through the year, and it's incredible to see the impact we've made together in such a short time.



We are proud and excited to share that we have officially received the **Elks National Foundation \$10,000 Impact Grant**, and successfully completed our **2nd Quarter Toiletry Distribution Drive**.

In honor of **Youth Month**, this quarter's efforts focused on supporting children and families in crisis. Through this initiative, we provided essential hygiene items—such as toilet paper, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, and toothbrushes—to six outstanding local organizations:

- Advocacy Center for Children
- Center Against Sexual and Family Violence
- Child Crisis Center
- Ciudad Nueva
- Lee & Beulah Moor Children's Home

Total TTP Community Impact (April): \$7,333.75 in essential toiletries distributed



Gratitude & Community Impact

We are incredibly grateful to the **Elks National Foundation (ENF)** for their continued trust and support of our TTP program. Because of their support, our Lodge has been able to serve **thousands of individuals and families over the years**, while strengthening our presence and purpose here in the El Paso community.

A heartfelt **THANK YOU** to our amazing TTP Q2 team:

- **Teddy & Cheryl** for loading and unloading donation boxes
- **Teddy & Shirley** for delivering toiletries to our nonprofit partners

Your dedication truly makes this mission possible.

Why the TTP Program Matters

WHY it matters: Our mission is simple yet powerful—to **improve health, dignity, and safety within our community**. Access to basic hygiene is essential in preventing illness and promoting overall wellness.

HOW we make an impact: We provide critical toiletry items to those in need—serving **seniors, families, veterans, youth, and children**. These are everyday essentials that many of us take for granted, yet they make a profound difference in someone’s life.

Beyond physical health, our efforts also support mental and emotional well-being. Feeling clean and cared for can boost confidence, restore dignity, and provide comfort during difficult times.

Whether it’s a child at school or a veteran facing hardship, **something as simple as hygiene can change how someone feels about themselves—and their future**.

How You Can Help

We continue to ask for donations of:

- Toilet paper
- Toothbrushes & toothpaste
- Body soap
- Shampoo & conditioner

Every donation—big or small—helps us extend our reach.

We also encourage all members to get involved. Whether you donate supplies or volunteer your time, **your contribution truly matters**.

Your generosity, time, and commitment are the foundation of this program’s success. Together, we are making a difference and lasting impact in our community.

Let’s continue to build on this momentum and make 2026 even more remarkable—**together**.

Because at El Paso Elks Lodge #187, we don’t just say it—we live it: Making a Difference - Together!

Respectfully,

Tori Scott

El Paso Elks Lodge #187



★ EL PASO ELKS LODGE #187 ★

2026 ANNUAL FUNDRAISING ROADMAP

— Every Event Makes a Difference —

- 

MONTHLY BREAKFAST
3rd Sunday of Every Month
🕒 10AM – 2PM
Consistent Community Impact
\$12 Each
- 

QID & PAINT PARTY
5/30, 8/15, 10/10 & 3/20/27
Unleash Your Creativity
Fun • Friends • Fundraiser
\$25
- 

\$1,000 CASH GIVEAWAY
MAY – JULY 2026
DRAWING: JULY 10
Big Prize. Big Impact.
\$20 EACH
- 

SEAFOOD BOIL
AUGUST 2026
Great Food. Great Friends. Great Cause.
- 

TRIP FOR 2 TO RUIDOSO
SEPT – NOV CAMPAIGN
Great Escape for a Great Cause!
\$20 EACH
- 

GOLF TOURNAMENT
SEPTEMBER 19, 2026
Tee Up for a Great Cause!
Teams • Sponsors • Prizes
- 

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER
NOVEMBER 6, 2026
An Evening of Mystery & Fun
\$25
- 

DINNER & MOVIE NIGHT
NOVEMBER 2026
Big Screen • Great Food
Great Night Out!

QUEEN OF HEARTS ♠️

EVERY FRIDAY
6:30PM – 8PM

FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS WEEKLY
6:30PM

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT:

- ✓ Lodge Operations
- ✓ Community Programs
- ✓ Local Outreach

★ **ELKS CARE – ELKS SHARE** ★
TOGETHER, WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

📍 2278 Trawood Dr El Paso, TX 📞 (915) 532-4441 🌐 elpasoelks187.com 📱

2026 ELKS LODGE 187 ANNUAL Fundraising Highlights... (MARK YOUR CALENDARS!)

Your participation helps fuel everything we do—supporting our Lodge, our programs, and our community.

Show Volunteers Respect

Volunteers are donors; the gift is time, not money
Treat your volunteers as you would a major gifts donor.



Too Valuable to lose

Summer Fun, Food & Fundraising at El Paso Elks Lodge #187 (June–August)

As the temperatures rise in El Paso, so does the energy at your Lodge!

From **June through August**, we're turning up the fun with our summer theme:

"It's 5 O'Clock Somewhere" – Beach Vibes All Summer Long!

Think laid-back evenings, great food, cool drinks, and even better company. Whether you're a longtime member or bringing a guest for the first time, Friday nights at the Lodge are your go-to summer hangout.

Friday Night Dinner Lineup – Something for Everyone!

Only **\$12 per person** – incredible value, great food, and community connection.

★ EL PASO ELKS LODGE #187 ★

SUMMER DINNER ROADMAP

It's 5 O'Clock Somewhere
JUNE – AUGUST 2026

GOOD FOOD. GREAT FRIENDS. STRONG COMMUNITY.

1ST FRIDAY 		<p>BAKED ZITI + GAME NIGHT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baked Ziti Pasta Salad Bread Dessert <p>Poker • Pictionary • Cornhole Win Prizes!</p>
2ND FRIDAY 		<p>ENCHILADA NIGHT + GIVEAWAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheese Enchilada Casserole Rice Salad Dessert <p>\$50 CASH GIVEAWAY @ 8:30PM Must be present to win!</p>
3RD FRIDAY 		<p>TAQUITOS + BINGO NIGHT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taquitos Queso & Chips Salad Dessert <p>BINGO + PRIZES!</p>
4TH FRIDAY 		<p>BURGER NIGHT + BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hamburger w/ Green Chili Queso • Chips Dessert <p>★ FREE BIRTHDAY DINNER ★ for Members!</p>
<p>♥ QUEEN OF HEARTS ♥ EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT! 6:30PM – 8:00PM <i>Don't miss your chance to WIN BIG!</i></p>		
<p>INTRODUCING DIRTY SODAS!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Fun & Refreshing ✓ Customizable ✓ With or Without Alcohol ✓ Perfect Summer Vibes! <p>NEW SUMMER FEATURE!</p>		
<p>★ LOYALTY PROGRAM ★</p> <p>ATTEND 3 DINNERS, GET YOUR 4TH DINNER FREE!</p> <p>1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 REMAINS INTACT FOR 26-27 FREE!</p>		
<p>COME FOR THE FOOD • STAY FOR THE FUN <i>Leave with Memories</i></p>		



PAINT N SIP FUNDRAISER

GRAB YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS

JOIN US FOR A FUN-FILLED AFTERNOON!

SAT MAY 30TH - 12P
ONLY \$25 PER PERSON
BEACH THEMED



- Includes:**
- Wine, Soda, Water
 - Snacks
 - Paint & Brushes
 - Canvas 16"x20"
 - Step by step guidance
 - Raffle & prizes

RSVP BY WED. 5/27 @ 532-4441

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! GUARANTEED TO HAVE A GOOD TIME!

PLEASE HELP US REACH OUR GOAL OF 50 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE!

CASH GIVEAWAY \$1000

Enter For Chance To Win!

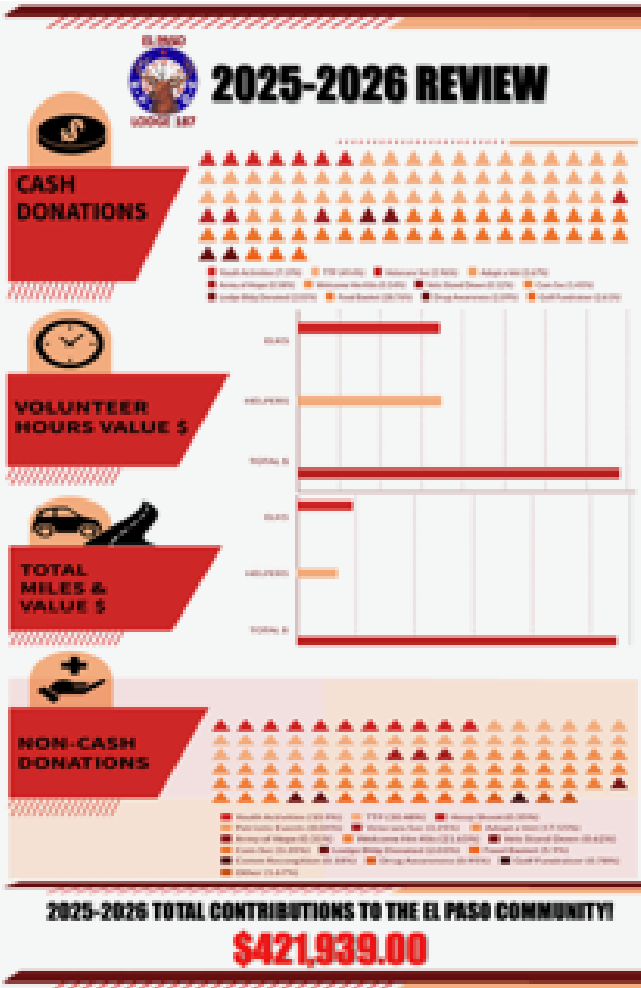
Enter now to win \$1000 CASH to spend however your heart desires.

BUY YOUR \$20 RAFFLE TICKETS NOW for chance to win!

DRAWING FR. JULY 10TH, 8 PM AT THE LODGE.

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING BOXES. NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN.

135 YEARS OF ELKDOM IN EL PASO-LODGE # 187



This is a little story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody.

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it.

Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job.

Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it.

It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

Volunteer at your Lodge



Our lodge members lit up with happiness as we hosted an Easter egg hunt for some extraordinary children—truly a day of love, hope, and togetherness.



Stand up Elk!

Thank you, Henry, for being the new representative for Ambrosio Guillen Texas State Veterans Home. A big shout out to Bruce Greigo for the many years as the representative.

Our lodge donated 5 laptops and



through the VAVS program Henry was able to get them flags, camera and baskets. Together serving veterans.





**Welcome
Home Kits!
Thank you!
ER Rosie,
Shirley Celia**

and Henry
went shopping and delivering them.



We proudly honor Sal with an Outstanding Service Commendation for giving so much of himself to our lodge. From Trunk or Treat to mastering the grill at our 2025/2026 fundraisers, Sal brings heart, flavor, and fun to every event. And we celebrate Marissa too — because her support and involvement help make all that magic possible. Thank you both for making our Elks events exciting, deli-



cious, and unforgettable for members of all ages.

We proudly commend Tori for bringing creativity, care, and fresh ideas to our lodge. Her Sip n Paint events have turned countless Elks into Picassos, and her leadership with our major project, TTP, has delivered meaningful support to veterans, children, and our entire



community. Tori's passion and dedication truly reflect the heart of what Elks do. We are grateful for everything she brings to our lodge.

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL
**MOTHER'S Day
Ritual & Dinner**

THE WHOLE FAMILY IS WELCOME!


**BRISKET DINNER WITH ALL THE
TRIMMINGS + DESSERT**

**MOMS FREE with RSVP!
\$12 per plate**

**FRIDAY
MAY
8**

Ritual 6:30 pm

Music provided by DJ
Charlie
EL PASO



LODGE 187
RSVP BY 5/5 @ 915-532-4441

We proudly honor Doctor Carmen Graham as our 2025/2026 Officer of the Year for leading our lodge with vision, heart, and unstoppable energy. Her work with the Board and her launch of our first Golf Tournament have truly put the Elks on the green and made our lodge shine. We also celebrate Mr. Ray Graham — her biggest fan and our longest-standing Elk — whose passion and encouragement keep our Elk spirit strong.

Together, Carmen and Ray are a powerhouse team whose dedication continues to make a real difference for our lodge and our community.



We proudly honor Mr. Terrel as our Elk of the Year for his quiet determination and all the behind-the-scenes work that keeps our lodge shining. From upgrading the bar with beautiful lights to installing our new fridge for the delicious drinks we love, his touch is everywhere. And we celebrate Nikki, his amazing wife and our world-class bartender, who keeps every-



one refreshed, welcomed, and ready for every event. Thank you both for everything you do — you keep our lodge sparkling.

We proudly honor John and Amy with the Stand Up Elk Award — a powerhouse duo who joined us this 2025/2026 year and immediately lifted our lodge with their energy and dedication. Whenever the lodge needs a boost, they jump in and get things looking amazing again. Their enthusiasm, teamwork, and 101% volunteer

spirit have brought light, love, and heart to our lodge, and we are truly grateful for all they do.



We are truly grateful to the Christ Child Society for their generous donation of



non-perishable goods, which will make a meaningful difference in our community.



Thank you, Ascarate Fishing Club, for hosting our veterans—what a fantastic day! A special shout-out to Sal and Marissa for taking the day off work to fire up the grill and make it extra memorable.



MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND EVENT
HONORING OUR HEROES

2026
Freedom 250

★ EVENT HOURS ★
FRIDAY, MAY 22
 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM
SATURDAY, MAY 23
 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
SUNDAY, MAY 24
 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

★ WREATH LAYING CEREMONY ★
SATURDAY, MAY 23
 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM
 Honor and remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

★ SCHOOL YOUTH LOOK! ★
A DAY OF HISTORY, PRIDE & INSPIRATION!
 Explore interactive exhibits & artifacts
 Learn about the founding of our nation
 Honor the courage of our heroes
 Be inspired to make a difference!
★ GREAT FOR STUDENT GROUPS! ★

★ SCHOOL INVITATION ★
WE INVITE SCHOOLS!
 Bring your students to experience history, honor our heroes, and explore the Freedom 250 mobile museum.
 Educational Experience Inspiring History Honoring Our Heroes
CONTACT US TO SCHEDULE A GROUP VISIT!

★ FEATURE ATTRACTION ★
FREEDOM 250 TRUCK
STEP INSIDE A MOBILE MUSEUM!
 The Freedom 250 initiative features a fleet of six 18-wheeler "Freedom Trucks" operating as mobile museums touring all 48 contiguous U.S. states in 2026 to celebrate America's 250th anniversary.
 These interactive, state-of-the-art exhibits bring American history directly to communities, featuring digital signings of the Declaration of Independence, a hero wall, and immersive displays on the nation's founding.
EL PASO ELKS
 ESTABLISHED IN 1891
 LODGE #187

★ GROUPS ARE WELCOME! ★
 Reserve a 1-hour visit over the three days.
★ ★ ★ WALK-INS ARE VERY WELCOME! ★ ★ ★

— OLD GLORY MEMORIAL —
 — FLAGS ACROSS AMERICA —
 9550 GATEWAY N (HWY 54 & DIANA)
 Easy to find – look for the giant flag!
 OldGloryMemorial@gmail.com

★ ★ ★ BRING YOUR FAMILY. EXPERIENCE HISTORY. HONOR OUR HEROES. ★ ★ ★

Our first Elks month has flown by, and it was truly a fantastic experience! We celebrated by installing new officers and packing away last year's offices to welcome a new year.

Rosie, Cheryl, Nikki, and Terrell joined me at Ft. Bliss to honor the Month of the “Military Child.” Cheryl and one of the soldiers taught flag folding techniques to the children, creating a memorable moment.

We have many fun activities coming up. Check your email for more information and support your lodge.

Shirley Clere
 Youth Chair



PLEASE JOIN US
PANCAKE FUNDRAISER



MAY 17TH
STARTING AT 10 AM
Come out & support our organization with a delicious stack of pancakes, eggs, pozole, sausage, fruit, orange juice & coffee
\$12.00 PER PLATE
RSVP BY 5/14- 532-4441
2278 TRAWOOD, SUITE C

The House Committee is seeking volunteers to assist with Friday Night Meals. If you're interested in helping out, your support would be greatly appreciated!



Not sure how to help out in the Lodge?

Please contact any of the following:

TEAM COORDINATORS / CHAIRPERSONS

- [Tori Scott](#), PR/Web/Social Channel Communications
- Christina Stokes , Audit Committee Chair
- [Shirley Clere](#), Americanism & Drug Awareness
- [Teddy & Jesus Martinez](#), Scholarships
- [Horacio Porras & Shirley Clere](#), Youth Activities
- [Bruce Griego](#),Lodge Bulletin
- Carl Dwyer, Hoop Shoot
- [Bruce Griego](#), and Henry Davis, Veterans
- [Rosie Pens](#) ENF
- Carmen Graham, Indoctrination & Investigation
- [Art Vega](#), Lodge Safety Inspector
- Nicole Gonzales, Lounge Manager
- [Cheryl Kelly](#), Charity Chair and Grant Coordinator
- [Dr. Noel Knight](#), House Committee Chair



May Birthdays

- May 4 Joseph P. Casarez
- May 6 Manny Aguirre
- May 17 Aprille Cruz
- May 20 Omar Estrada
- May 21 Andrew Wilson Stokes
- May 22 Alexander P. Pustinger
- May 23 Donna Laverty



The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the USA has joined forces with Donate Life America to increase donations of organs, eyes and life-saving tissue.
Become a donor today and save lives.
Go to www.donatelive.com

Just as Lodges need members to grow, we are also looking for people capable of becoming the next generation of leaders within the Elks. Time commitments vary by position, and skilled mentors are there to guide you as you gain experience.

Accept the challenge today. Talk to a current officer to get started.

