



A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION

Myrtle Creek Elks Lodge BULLETIN



APRIL 2026

The friendliest little Lodge in Oregon!
www.elks.org/lodges

2026-2027 OFFICERS

- Exalted Ruler Cheryl Knutson
- Leading Knight Richard Schmidt
- Loyal Knight James Hausotter
- Lecturing Knight Ron Anderson
- Secretary Andrew Knutson
- Treasurer Randy Boles
- Tiler {vacant}
- Inner Guard Rodney Peet
- Chaplain Laura Boles
- Esquire Jackie Hollingsworth
- Trustees: Ted Romas, Jeff Ohmen,
Scott Mead, John Flores and Allen Ray Dean

Officer of the Year: Cheryl Knutson
Elk of the Year: Jackie Hollingsworth

- Bulletin Editor: Eadie Calkins
- Lounge Manager: {vacant}
- Lodge Cyber Assistant: Ted Romas
- Lodge Photographer: Ronald Anderson
- PER President: Andy Knutson

State Committee Members:
OSEA Hall of Fame: Richard Schmidt



- OSEA STATE PRESIDENT — Blake Whitson
- SOUTH DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT — Robert Marks, Jr.
- SOUTH DISTRICT DDGER — Randi Kobernik
- Public Relations & Membership Co-Chair and Scholarship Committee Member — OSEA SOUTH District — Ted Romas

Upcoming Events

Farmer's Market begins April 11th!
10am-2pm and each Saturday through
the Spring & Summer.
Birthday Potluck — Saturday, April 25th
Mother's Day Brunch — Sunday, May
10th

Myrtle Creek Elks
Farmers Market
Starts
Saturday, April 11th
10am – 2pm

Then every Saturday
Through the
Spring & Summer
Elks Lodge Parking Lots

EXALTED RULER'S MESSAGE



Hello Fellow Myrtle Creek Elk Members,

I would like to start my term as your elected Exalted Ruler by saying I am looking forward to serving you. Andy has been an amazing Exalted Ruler who has accomplished many remarkable things during his two terms. With the help and dedication of some of our members, he was able to purchase our own ATM machine, install new card locks for the doors, new bingo machine, new karaoke sound machine, new reader board, remodel the bar area upstairs and much more. I am happy and proud to have him as a mentor. One of my goals for our lodge this year is to have more of our members participating in events, getting more involved and having fun doing it. Some of the events this year are the Fly-In Pig BBQ competition, UCC Renaissance Fair, Mother's Day Brunch, Rodeo Breakfast and Summer Festival. I look forward to an enjoyable and successful year.

Fraternally yours,
Cheryl Knutson
Exalted Ruler

From the Secretary's Desk.....



It seems odd now to write from the viewpoint of my new position as Lodge Secretary. But I know in some ways we really are all just continuing forward on many of the projects that were started over the last few years. On March 21st, the Officers were Installed for the 2026-2027 Lodge Year. I hope everyone continues to give Cheryl all the help needed to keep up the momentum.

By the time you are reading this, the new reader board sign should be installed, wired and running. Special thanks to **Ray Dean** for spear-heading the fabrication and collection of equipment to put the sign in place. Also, he has been instrumental in the construction of the Lodge's very own "Beer Wagon." The Board of Directors is optimistic that this can be a valuable tool to help provide the funds to support our charitable work in the community.

Currently we don't have any new propositions for membership, but I would like to encourage everyone to contact friends, co-workers and former Elks to help our Lodge grow.

Andy Knutson
Lodge Secretary

DRAWING NUMBERS

1771 2210 2281 2589 2597 2662 2700 2728 2733 2736 2811 2816 2820 2846 2851
Good Luck!



OREGON STATE ELKS SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Again this year, seniors from our South District high schools fared well at the annual **Oregon State Elks Association (OSEA) Scholarship Awards Banquet**, held this year at Gateway-Gresham Lodge #1805 on Feb 21, 2026. **Ted Romas, OSEA South District Scholarship Committee Chairman**, attended the awards banquet/dinner where he served as a judge, with the other four district chairs, during the interviews of the top scoring females and males from the five districts. Every student interviewed performed exceptionally well and all will receive scholarship funding for their continued education. Three of the top seventeen awards went to students from our South District. **Rebecca Ngigi, Glide High School** and sponsored by **Roseburg Lodge #326**, was the top scoring female among all female applicants and will receive a total of **\$9,500** in scholarships. Rebecca has committed to the University of Pennsylvania where she will major in nursing. Rebecca is not only a top student. In early March 2026 she was crowned Miss Douglas County's Teen 2026 at a competition that is a preliminary to Miss America's Teen. Two other South District students receiving awards were: **Tyler Senn, Bandon High School** and sponsored by **Coquille Valley Lodge #1935**, was awarded a total of **\$8,000**. Tyler plans to attend Bushnell University and

major in business, and **Anna Kliewer, Lost River Junior-Senior High School, Merrill, OR** and sponsored by **Klamath Falls Lodge #1247**. Anna was awarded a total of **\$7,800** in scholarships. Shown in photo are, center, **Ted Romas**, South District Scholarship Committee Chairman. To his left are **Rebecca**, her father and sister, to his right are **Tyler** and his parents. Photo courtesy of **Tom Winters, OSEA Photographer**. In other scholarship news, our Lodge will host the OSEA Scholarship Awards Banquet in Spring 2028. While that may sound far away, planning and coordinating this major OSEA event needs to start soon. Ted is already moving forward and will be calling for help.



CALL FOR BREAD WAGON & BEER WAGON VOLUNTEERS!

As mentioned in our March 2026 BULLETin, we have, in addition to Music in the Park most Thursdays in July and August and the Myrtle Creek Summer Festival, one new and one returning fundraiser opportunity for both our bread wagon and our new beer wagon. The new event will be on Saturday, May 2, 2026 during the **Renaissance Faire** at Umpqua Community College. The one returning is the **2026 Fly-In Pig BBQ Competition** at the Myrtle Creek Municipal Airport on Saturday & Sunday, May 16 & 17. It's now time for volunteers to sign up for various shifts during these fun events. According to a press release from 2025 the UCC Renaissance Faire is "a free event that offers a day of family adventure with Renaissance costumes, tasty food, one-of-a-kind vendors and non-



stop entertainment, a great opportunity for families to enjoy a fun-filled day". We already know that the 2026 Fly-In Pig BBQ two-day event will be bigger and better than the past two years. Nearly 40 BBQ competitors have already confirmed they will participate, in addition to over 30 vendors, a chili cookoff, kids activities and live music. Sign-up sheets have been prominently posted in the Lounge area. **Help us help our Lodge!** Need more information?.....contact **Ted Romas** at the **Lodge** or by phone at **541-860-2037**.



← Treasurer Randy is ready for the Renaissance Faire on May 2nd at UCC....get **YOUR** costume together and join in on the fun!

Thank you



From a "PER", Past Secretary, "PAE"* and Present Leading Knight (for a while).....

Thank You for trusting me with your affairs as Lodge Secretary and Exalted Ruler status for many years.... 64 years, as it says on my Membership Card. I asked for and was granted a paid up Life Membership last fall. A GREAT BIG Thank you for that privilege. I do not plan on a Leading Knight's column in the monthly BULLETin, and that's OK with me! In signing off -- thanks for the opportunity of being a Big part of the GREAT HEART of ELKDOM and being a member of Myrtle Creek Lodge #1943 - "THE FRIENDLIEST LITTLE LODGE of ELKS in OREGON".

Richard R. Schmidt, Member #0713
Esteemed Leading Knight

*PAE = Past Almost Everything!

A RECORD NUMBER OF PETS WERE VACCINATED

As the Lodge Hall was both busy and noisy during the third consecutive **Spring Discount Pet Vaccine Clinic** on Saturday, March 14th. For the **Love of Paws** and **Umpqua Woofstock** once again partnered to put on the clinic that was made possible in part by the **Gratitude Grant** we applied for and was approved by the Elks National Foundation. This year the grant was increased from \$2,500.00 to **\$4,000.00**. In 2024 a total of 110 pets (mostly dogs, but also several cats) were examined and vaccinated. That number slipped to 84 in 2025, but significantly increased this year when 138 pets were examined and vaccinated. While some were noisy or nervous, or both, one



large canine (shown in photo) waited patiently. In addition to staff, the clinic requires many volunteers, as seen in group photo. This year there were certified dog trainers on site to provide information and advice to pet owners. Many pet owners said they appreciated having the clinic return to South Douglas County.

Elks Care~Elks Share

*—Photos courtesy of
Ron Anderson
and Ted Romas*





Mother's Day Brunch

May 10th

Let's make this coming Mother's Day Brunch the most successful one in years! One of our best methods of advertising is word of mouth. Tell all your friends and family. Tell the person behind you at the grocery store. That is something you can do as a member of the Elks. Invite people to join you for the meal.

If you are willing and able, we also need volunteers to cook, wash dishes, serve, collect money at the door, bus tables, keep food containers full, set up tables, decorate, clean up and tear down.

There are many donated items needed as well, such as eggs, bacon, sausage, biscuits, gravy, hashbrowns, fried chicken, desserts and roses.

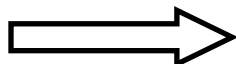
Please join us any way you can. Call me to volunteer or donate.

Yours truly,
Exalted Ruler Cheryl Knutson
541-604-4985

OUR NEW READER BOARD

Our new **Secretary and PER Andy** mentioned in his message that by the time you receive this April 2026 BULLETIN our new double-sided reader board will be installed and providing information about our Lodge and community events.

Everyone attending the 2026~27 Installation of Officers and Dinner on March 21st got a sneak preview, shown here.....



THANKS FOR THE DONATIONS!



We always appreciate donations to our Lodge, whether they are food for Friday Night dinners, raffle items or time volunteering for Lodge events and activities. **Elk Mark Jones and Paula** have donated several items and volunteer time to our Lodge but they will soon move from Oregon to continue their retirement years. They recently donated several items to our Lodge, including the brand new double boiler set shown in photo and bar stock. Thank you, Mark and Paula, for your service to Myrtle Creek Elks Lodge #1943. We wish you well.





VETERAN-THEMED QUILTS PRESENTED

Since 2020 the **Servants Hands** group of quilters at **Tri-City Baptist Church** have made at least ten veteran-themed quilts each year. After displaying them in the church for several weeks, and knowing that the Elks honor veterans, they donated the quilts to our Lodge to present to local veterans. This year the **Volunteer Services Office at the Roseburg VA Medical Center** selected six of those quilts to be raffled at the **Vietnam Veterans of America Welcome Home** event held at the Douglas County Fairgrounds on March 25, 2026. Look for more information about that in our May 2026 BULLETIN. Two of the other four quilts were presented to Elk veterans new to our Lodge who attended our Installation of Officers ceremony and dinner on March 21st. Shown in photos with **Lodge Trustee/U.S. Air Force/Retired veteran Ted Romas** are **Elk Elden Barnett, a U.S. Navy/Retired veteran** initiated on September 22, 2025 and **Elk James “Brad” McCauley, a U.S. Army veteran**, initiated on January 12, 2026. The two remaining quilts will be presented to Elk veterans in the near future. Elks pledge that **“So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them”**.



READER BOARD INSTALLED!!

Elk member & Trustee Ray Dean, with Ron Atkinson and David Shelton have put the sign in to place! David fabricated the custom pole and mount for the sign. Ray and Ron provided the equipment to place it. PER / current Secretary Andy Knutson wired it and got it running on Tuesday. Thank you! What a great team!

APRIL 2026

LOUNGE HOURS:
 Tuesday thru Saturday 4 PM — ?
 Closed Sunday & Monday
 unless otherwise noted

MEETINGS:
 Board of Directors — 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 6:30 PM
 Lodge — 2nd & 4th Mondays at 6:30 PM
 House Committee — TBA
 PER Meeting — 3rd Thursday at 6:00 PM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Bar Menu available Tues-Sat (except during Friday Night Dinner)	Please call the Lodge @ 541-863-1943 for reservations for Friday Night Dinners to guarantee your dinner. Reservations have first priority of having their requests filled. <u>Dinners served until 7:00pm.</u> Thank you!		1 APRIL FOOLS DAY BINGO 6PM	2 Thirsty Thursday	3 <i>Steak Night</i> KARAOKE Good Friday	4 BINGO—Noon Lounge Opens at 4pm
5 HE IS RISEN HAPPY EASTER Lodge Closed	6 Lodge Closed	7 Board of Directors 6:30pm Taco Tuesday	8 BINGO 6PM	9 Thirsty Thursday	10 Spaghetti KARAOKE	11 Farmer's Market 10am—2pm OPENING DAY! Lounge Opens at 4pm
12 Lodge Closed SOUTH DISTRICT DD CLINIC 10AM COQUILLE VALLEY LODGE #1935	13 LODGE MEETING 6:30PM Lodge Closed	14 Taco Tuesday BULLetin Input Due by the 15th: Email magicdeed@hotmail.com	15 BINGO 6PM	16 PER Meeting 6pm Thirsty Thursday	17 Baby Back Ribs KARAOKE	18 Farmer's Market 10am—2pm Lounge Opens at 4pm
19 Lodge Closed	20 Lodge Closed	21 Board of Directors 6:30pm Taco Tuesday	22 EARTH DAY BINGO 6PM	23 Thirsty Thursday	24 Gumbo KARAOKE	25 Farmer's Market 10am—2pm Birthday Potluck!
26 Lodge Closed	27 LODGE MEETING 6:30PM Lodge Closed	28 Taco Tuesday	29 BINGO 6PM	30 Thirsty Thursday	Check out our FACEBOOK PAGES..... Myrtle Creek Elks Lodge or South County Elks Volunteers or Myrtle Creek Elks-Members Only Find us on: facebook®	

APRIL DINNERS

Friday Dinners Served between 6:00-7:00PM
 (Steak Night 5-7pm)
 —Call 541-863-1943 for reservations by Wednesday to guarantee your dinner—

3rd — Steak Night — Rib Eye Steak \$25, add Shrimp Skewer for \$3, or Hamburger Steak \$17, both dinners include mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable, bread, soup & dessert

10th — Spaghetti with salad, bread & dessert — \$15

17th — Baby Back Ribs, cheesy bacon potatoes, bread, vegetable, soup & dessert — \$20

24th — Gumbo Night by Scott & Robin — \$17

April Birthdays

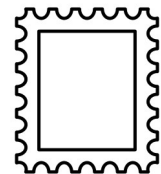
02 — Jerry Green	17 — Michael Jones
03 — Steve Dean	18 — Robert Jones
03 — Michael Rhodes	18 — Breezy Kennedy
04 — Anthony Verlezza	18 — Kandy Solina-Swanson
05 — Johnnie Gill	18 — Chuck Sweet
06 — David Bentz	26 — Ray Dean
07 — Stephen Andrecht	26 — Robert Paine
07 — Duane Heard	
13 — Edward Collins	



Myrtle Creek Elks Lodge
B.P.O.E 1943
PO Box 703, 106 South Main St.
Myrtle Creek, OR 97457
(541) 863-1943
www.elks.org/lodges



A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION



Return Service Requested



Bingo — April 4th at Noon
Farmers Market is Opening on
April 11th

10am-2pm — Then Every Saturday!

DD Clinic — April 12th 10am at Coquille Valley Lodge
#1935

Birthday Potluck — Saturday, April 25th
Mother's Day Brunch — May 10th

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We initiated two new members on March 23rd, just two days after installation of our 2026~27 officers. This was the first time these officers, some in new and challenging roles, and others continuing, conducted an initiation. Overall, it went pretty smoothly. We WELCOME **Angie Criss**, self-employed retail owner of Grocery Outlet/Myrtle Creek, proposed for membership by Elk Ted Romas, and **Sherry Taylor**, an analyst for the State of



Oregon, proposed for membership by Elk Scott Mead. Both are shown in photo with new **ER Cheryl Knutson**. Light snacks, donated by members, were served after initiation. This was the last new member initiation conducted during Elk year 2025-26. Members are our lifeline....it's now up to **all members** to propose others for membership as we begin the 2026-27 Elk year.

Welcome



Portions of the Elks Lodge can be **rented** for PARTIES & EVENTS. Upstairs multi-purpose room is 42'Wx62'L (2,604 square feet). The deck overlooking Millsite Park is 20'Wx60'L (1,200 square feet). For more information contact the Lodge at 541-863-1943.