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THE EVERGREEN VIEW

VOLUME NO.11 | EVERGREEN, COLORADO | 457 MEMBERS | NOVEMBER 2026

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXALTED RULER



ER, Paula Belleggie

Dear Fellow Elks,
Welcome to November! As the crisp autumn air settles in and the leaves finish turning, we are reminded of the true spirit of our Order—charity, justice, brotherly love, and fidelity. November is a time for reflection, gratitude, and community, and your Lodge has a busy month ahead as we head into the holiday season.

First and foremost, November brings Veterans Day. The Elks pledge has always been, "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them." This month, we honor that promise. I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our Lodge members who have served our country. Please join us for our annual Veterans Day Event on Saturday, November 7th at 6:00 PM for our Veterans Appreciation Dinner. All veterans eat for free, so please come out, bring a friend, and help us show our deep appreciation for their sacrifice. It's going to be a "Steak Out," and we are serving steak with all the fixin's. Thank you to our Veterans Committee for their tireless work putting this together.

As always, our Evergreen Elks are preparing a wonderful Thanksgiving Dinner for the residents at Green Ridge. Libby and crew are heading up the preparations, and feel free to reach out and ask how you can help! This dinner was funded by a grant from Grand Lodge so that we can make a difference in our local community. Thank you to all who help out and especially to our Secretary, Ellen La Rivere, who wrote the grant.

As we look toward Thanksgiving, let us celebrate the growth of our Lodge. We are thrilled to welcome our newest class of members, initiated last month. Each new member brings fresh energy and new opportunities to serve our community. Our Lodge thrives because of your dedication, whether you volunteer in the kitchen, support our charity fundraisers, or simply stop by the club to share fellowship with your brothers and sisters.

NOVEMBER ELK OF THE MONTH

Patrick Fleming

Thank you, Patrick, for helping to rebuild our trash gate to "discourage" our local bear visits. I appreciate that you always look for ways to help your lodge selflessly.

Thank you,
Paula

Finally, as you gather with family and friends later this month to celebrate Thanksgiving, remember those in our community who may be facing difficult times. Let's continue to show that Elks Care and Elks Share by supporting our holiday food basket drive. Donations of non-perishable goods can be dropped off at the Lodge anytime during normal operating hours.

Thank you all for everything you do to make our Lodge a pillar of strength in the community.
I wish you and your families a healthy, happy, and safe Thanksgiving.

With Gratitude,
Paula Belleggie, ER

EVERGREEN ELKS LODGE #2363

Lodge meetings are held the first and third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm
The Lodge is located at 27972 Iris Drive, Evergreen, CO
Mailing address: PO Box 298, Evergreen, CO 80437
Telephone 303 674-5591, FAX 303 679-1814
Email address: bpoe2363@evergreenelkslodge.com
Website - evergreenelkslodge.com
Webmaster - bpoewebmaster@evergreenelkslodge.com

OFFICERS 2026 - 2027

Exalted Ruler – Paula Belleggie
Leading Knight – Justin Adams
Loyal Knight – Valli Crockett
Lecturing Knight – Dan Venters
Treasurer – Connie Greenberg
Secretary – Ellen LaRiviere
Esquire – Steve Nelson
Chaplain – Ryan Cotton
Inner Guard –
Tiler – Forrest Murphy

TRUSTEES

5 Year: David Hardy
4 Year: Gene Lewis
3 Year: Jack Jordan
2 Year: Brian Mihalik
1 Year: Kevin Burgess

STAFF

Editor: Jany Schindler
Circulation: Dolores Shedlin

CLUB MANAGER

Patty Andreae

The Evergreen View is published monthly by Evergreen Elks Lodge #2363. Deadline for articles is the 18th of the month. © 2026 Evergreen Elks.

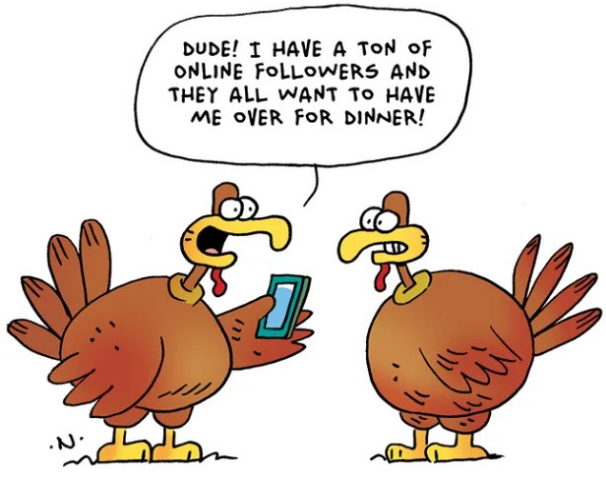
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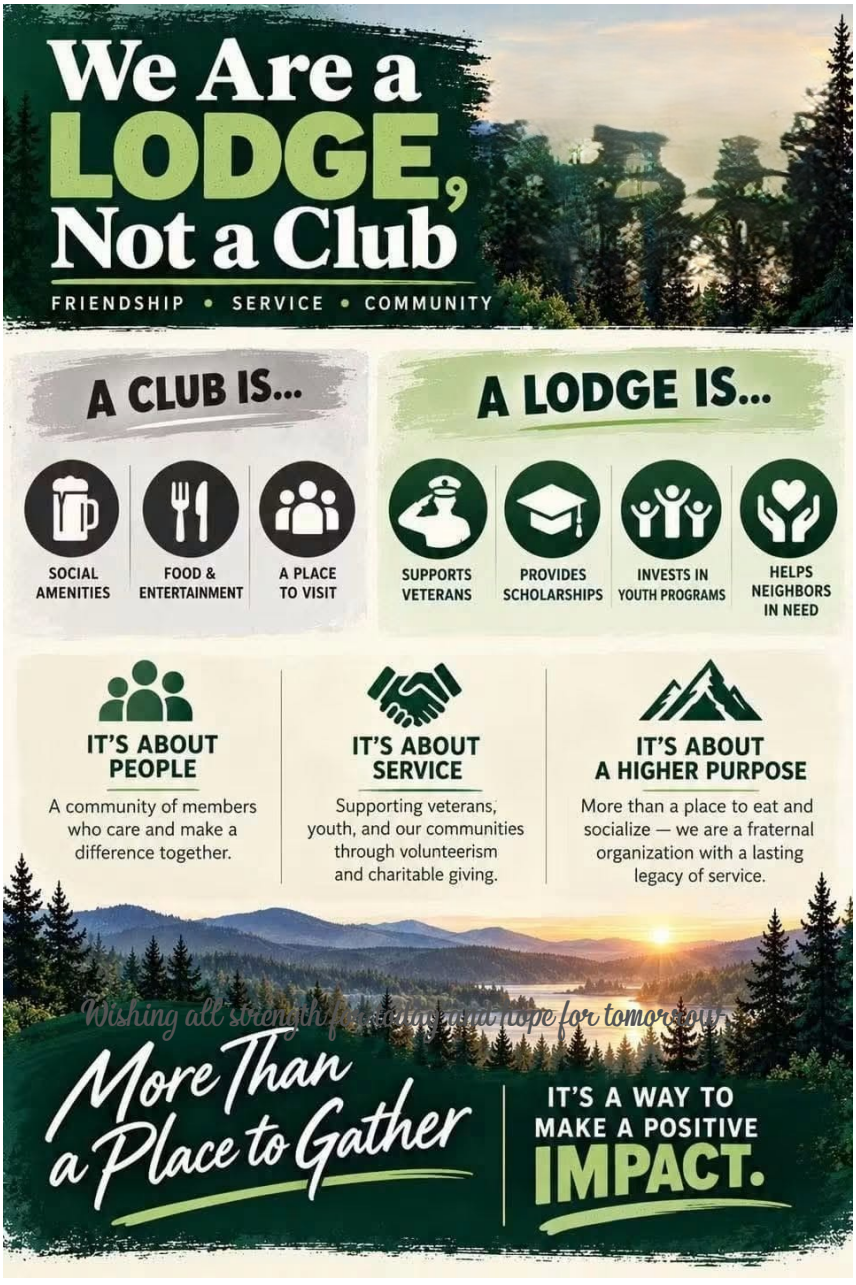
2026 - 2027 Lodge Committee Chairpersons

Accident Prevention – David Hardy
Americanism – Valli Crockett
Auditing & Accounting – Chris Carruthers
Clem & Evelyn Audin – Connie Greenberg
Community Activities – Vacant
Elks Memorial Day – Vacant
E.N.F – Jack Jordan
Flag Day – Scott Coffer
Hoop Shoot – Dan Venters
Lapsation – Ellen LaRiviere
Laradon Hall –Paula Belleggie
Lodge Activities –Trisha Mihalik
Membership – Ryan Cotton
Public Relations – Jim Wales
Scholarships – Vacant
Veteran Services – Clayton Huffman
Webmaster - Jany Schindler
Youth Activities – Vacant

District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler
Central North-West District 1320
Troy Erickson, DDGER
Phone: (720) 272-9584
Email: troy_erickson@ymail.com

A LITTLE HUMOR





Sick & Distressed

George Keeler is undergoing treatment for throat cancer. Prayers appreciated

Wishing all strength for today and hope for tomorrow.

FROM THE CLUB MANAGER

Last month, we hosted the EHS Homecoming dance on October 3rd, with an estimated 400+ students in attendance. The event was a success, and everyone had a fantastic time. A big thank you to all the volunteers who made it possible!

Our Oktoberfest celebration was also fun-filled, with great participation—thank you, Justin! Congratulations to our latest Jack of Hearts winner, Todd O'Brien. We will begin a new game once we receive approval from the State of Colorado.

Unfortunately, we had to postpone last month's Chili Cookoff, but we are planning to reschedule it for January.

How about those Broncos? With a 5-2 record, YAY! Join us here to watch the games on our big-screen TVs. We will have game-day food available for every Broncos game.

On November 1st, the game starts at 2:25 p.m., and we'll serve wings, meatballs, bacon-wrapped sausages, potato salad, and more. The November 8th game kicks off at 11:00 a.m., and we'll serve a hearty brunch casserole. If the Broncos' game is early, we will open the Club early. Please watch for email blasts regarding future menus. We are also looking for volunteers to prepare food for upcoming Broncos games.

Additionally, a group of volunteers will prepare a Thanksgiving dinner for the residents at Green Ridge Senior Apartments on Sunday, November 22nd. If you would like to help, please check in with Libby or Becky. In November, we will add a small convenience fee to all credit card sales. A friendly reminder: the Club will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, November 26th. Next month, mark your calendars for the ER Christmas Party on Saturday, December 12th.

Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!
See you in the Club, Patty



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Date	Name	Yrs.
01	Lovecchio, Cheryl	6
02	Herman, Dean	27
02	Reardon, Donna	26
03	Baukus, Mark	2
04	Grady, Jamie	6
04	Kirmer, Irwin	9
04	Orlando, John	36
05	Higgins, Sheila	3
05	Lancaster, Todd	3
06	Chapman, Jessica	4
06	Dayhoff, Kerry	2
09	Foote, Eric	9
09	Smith, Tammy	1
11	Hladik, Christine	10
12	Heath, Tracey	2
12	Scheuermann, Susan	26
13	McCarthy, Kevin	7
14	Swenson, Rand	3
15	House, Hobart	19
15	Quinn, Rachel	21
16	Lohr, Stacy	1
18	Hock, Daniel	2
19	Barrington, Jacquelyn	6
19	Huffman, Shannon	10
20	DiCarlo, John	1
20	Fabian, Lawrence	2
20	Ludden, Lori	24
20	Rackliff, Scott	9
20	Weaver, Rex	19
22	Beasley, Jill	17
22	Swinney, Richard	12
24	Hardy, Mary Jo	10
24	Murphy, Megan	4
25	Johnson, Kim	17
25	Nelson, Larry Allen	60
26	Wann, Andy	17
27	Bencivengo, Brian	1
29	Paradise, Steve	11



Come on down to the Lodge for your FREE Birthday Drinks

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Ready for Orientation/Initiation, Nov. 18

Applicant	Proposer
Kimberly Laurie	proposed by Cheryl Lovecchio
Justin Hiteshew	proposed by Dana Snyder
Trenton Collins	proposed by Jack Pyron
Marcie Chambers	proposed by Eddie Pendleton
Bill Spears	proposed by Tom Frieling

MEMBER DRAWINGS AT MEETINGS

Oct. 7 Meeting:

$20 – #2613 – Cindy Hillegass – Not Present

#1899 – Eddie Pendleton – Not Present

Oct. 21 Meeting:

$25 – # 2699 – Sarah Binsted – Not Present

#1690 – Ron Adams - Not Present

VETERANS DAY AND BEYOND

Serving Those Who Served

While the Elks strive to honor veterans year-round, November is a time for special recognition. The Order has proclaimed it Veterans Remembrance Month, and November is also recognized as National Veterans and Military Families Month—not to mention Veterans Day itself, which falls on November 11. Together, these make this month the perfect time to recognize veterans' sacrifices and acknowledge the difficulties they may face upon returning home.

Elks pledge, "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them." The Elks National Veterans Service Commission takes that pledge one step further, promising service to our nation's veterans and military members, with a special focus on those in need.

Cont. on pg. 4



LODGE COMMITTEE UPDATES

Membership Committee met on October 14 and participated in a CEA Membership Makeover to work on new member recruitment and member engagement

Dictionary Project is underway! Lodge provides dictionaries to local Third Graders (Bingo-funded)

Board of Directors – working on getting bids for new carpet throughout the building and for an elevator between the upstairs dining room and club room.

The Lodge has been awarded a Gratitude Grant for $3000. This will cover the Green Ridge Meadows Thanksgiving Dinner, Donations to the EChO overnight cold weather shelter, and two local food banks (Loaves and Fishes in Idaho Springs and Mountain Resource Center in Conifer)



- Veterans Dinner 11/07/2026 – we will need cooks, servers, and misc. volunteers
- Volunteer Coordinator – Are you good at organizing and staffing for events? We need someone to build our volunteer list and fill slots for Lodge and Community Events.
- Shoppers – Do you enjoy bargain hunting? We need shoppers to fulfill grant requirements and stretch the money as far as possible!
- Fundraising and activities ideas – Get involved. If you have ideas for activities, fundraisers, or community activities, please send them to Trisha Mihalik, tmihalik@jeffcoscholls.us

Friday afternoon Slammers Bingo!



If you can help out, contact Game Manager Connie @720-281-1316 or conniegreenberg@outlook.com

LOCATED ON THE N.E. CORNER OF WADSWORTH & JEWELL

Remember, Bingo is Evergreen Elks Lodge's largest fundraiser

Cont. from pg. 3

Thousands of Elks volunteers give generously of their time, energy, and resources each day to serve veterans and military members, ensuring that pledge is not idle.

Today, our volunteers provide direct service to veterans in more than 330 facilities each month. Through our grants to Elks Lodges, we connect with veterans and military members in their communities, providing them with services where they live. We help veterans rehabilitate and thrive through adaptive sports programs and therapy kits. And our Welcome Home initiative is reaching out to some of our most vulnerable veterans: those who are experiencing homelessness.

ELKS NATIONAL VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION
SERVING OUR NATION'S VETERANS

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DAP DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM
WARNS AGAINST SYNTHETIC DRUGS

By FRANK J. BURR, Drug Awareness Commission

While most Elks are celebrating the birth of our nation this month, we at the DAC want to advise you all that we continue to face an unprecedented and evolving drug threat driven by fentanyl, which is increasingly being mixed with a dangerous array of synthetic substances emerging in the illicit market.

These combinations make an already-deadly drug supply even more unpredictable and lethal.

Law enforcement and public health officials are seeing fentanyl combined with highly potent substances such as xylazine, nitazenes, cychlorphine, and medetomidine.

Many of these are not approved for human use and are often undetectable to the user. Xylazine and medetomidine are used by veterinarians to sedate animals. Nitazenes and cychlorphine are potent, unregulated, synthetic opioids.

New nitazenes tend to be introduced when regulatory actions, enforcement, and drug scheduling put pressure on existing analogs.

The DEA has reported 22 unique nitazene compounds since 2020, 21 of which are listed as Schedule I controlled substances.

Why This Matters

Extreme Potency: These emerging synthetic drugs can be significantly more powerful than fentanyl and greatly increase the risk of suffering a fatal overdose.

Hidden Mixtures: Substances are frequently mixed into counterfeit pills or fentanyl powder without the user's knowledge.

Reduced Reversal Effectiveness: Drugs like xylazine and medetomidine are not opioids, meaning naloxone may not fully reverse their effects, complicating overdose response. Other synthetics, such as nitazenes and cychlorphine, might require several doses of naloxone to be effective.

Health Impacts: Xylazine has been linked to soft tissue damage, infections, and prolonged sedation, while other synthetics can cause rapid respiratory depression and death.

Public Safety Guidance

- Never take a pill that wasn't prescribed to you and wasn't dispensed by a licensed pharmacy.
- Assume all illicit drugs may contain fentanyl or other deadly additives.
- Carry naloxone and be trained in how to use it, but understand it may not fully reverse all substances present.
- Call 911 immediately in any suspected drug poisoning or overdose. Time is critical.
- Stay informed and spread awareness. This threat is evolving rapidly.

JORDAN ROOFING

JACK JORDAN

ALL TYPES - FREE ESTIMATES

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November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Broncos - Chiefs 2:25 pm	2	3 Board Meeting 6:30 pm	4 Lodge Meeting 6:30 pm	5	6 Slammers Bingo 3:30-5:30 pm	7 Veterans Steak-Out Dinner 6 pm
8 Broncos - Panthers 11 am	9	10	11 	12 Shuffleboard Tournament 6:30 pm	13 Slammers Bingo 3:30-5:30 pm	14
15	16	17 Board Meeting 6:30 pm	18 Lodge Meeting 6:30 pm	19	20 Slammers Bingo 3:30-5:30 pm	21
22 Broncos - Raiders 11 am	23	24	25	26 	27 Broncos -Steelers 1 pm	28
29	30			Elks Lodge will be closed on Thankgiving		

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Board Meeting 6:30 pm	2 Lodge Meeting 6:30 pm	3	4 Slammers Bingo 3:30-5:30 pm	5
6 Denver- Dolphins 2:05 pm	7	8	9	10 Shuffleboard Tournament 6:30 pm	11 Slammers Bingo 3:30-5:30 pm	12 
13 Denver - Jets 11:00 am	14	15 Board Meeting 6:30 pm	16 Lodge Meeting 6:30 pm	17	18 Slammers Bingo 3:30-5:30 pm	19
20	21	22	23	24 Shuffleboard Tournament 6:30 pm	25 	26
25	26	27	28	29	30 Slammers Bingo 3:30-5:30 pm	31

IMPORTANT DATES, MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Every Friday • Slammers Bingo • 3:30 - 5:30 pm

Nov. 3 • PER Association Meeting • 5:30 pm

Nov. 3, 17 • Board Meeting • 6:30 pm

Nov. 4, 18 • Lodge Meeting • 6:30pm

Nov. 7 • Veterans Steak-Out Dinner • 6 pm

Nov. 11 • Veterans Day • Thank you to those who served!

Nov. 13-15 • CEA Quarterly Meeting in Vail

Nov. 17 • Veterans Committee Meeting • 5:30pm

Nov. 22 • Green Ridge Meadows Apartments Thanksgiving (Grant Funded)

Nov. 26 • Closed Thanksgiving Day



Dec. 1 • PER Association Meeting • 5:30pm

Dec. 12 • ER Christmas Party

Dec. 15 • Veterans Committee Meeting • 5:30pm



Sign up for the Lodge emails, newsletter and e-blast.
Email, our secretary bpoe2363@evergreenelkslodge.com

To visit the Elks website, click on one of the logos below.


Saturday, November 7, 6 - 7PM
VETERAN'S DAY
STEAK OUT DINNER
Honoring all veterans for their courage, sacrifice, and service.
Come join us at the Elks Lodge for a complete steak dinner.
Please RSVP Clayton via Text or Call 303-810-4440
$20 FOR STEAK DINNER. ALL VETS EAT FREE!