



Christian County Elks #2777

# ELKS BUGLE

## April 2026

Susan Fox  
*Exalted Ruler*

Zane Evans  
*Leading Knight*

Christine Harris  
*Loyal Knight*

Janie Jackson  
*Lecturing Knight*

Sue Jones  
*Secretary*

Jerry Fritchman PER  
*Treasurer*

Rick Hayes  
*Tiler*

Cherie Edwards  
*Inner Guard*

Rex Krasche  
*Chaplain*

Kevin Wolfe PDDGER  
*Esquire*

Joe Edwards  
*1-Year Trustee*

Jason Factor  
*2-Year Trustee*

Mike Klinger  
*3-Year Trustee*

Hello Elks,  
Welcome to a new Elks year, and welcome to your new Exalted Ruler. I hope you are as excited as I am to see what we can accomplish together this year.

I want to start by thanking last year's officers, led by PER Kevin Wolfe. We all owe Kevin a huge thank you for a job well done. He spent countless hours at the Lodge making sure everything ran smoothly and was always ready to lend a hand wherever needed. I cannot wait to see what he has in store for us this year as our House Committee Chair and Esquire.



I had the pleasure of representing our Lodge at the Missouri Elks Association State Convention in March, and what an experience it was. I met Elks from all across Missouri, spent time with Elks from our district, and learned so much at the ER luncheon and other classes. One thing that stood out to me was the excitement everywhere I went. Lodges across the state are energized and ready to begin the year with new goals and renewed purpose.

As we begin this year, I want to place a special focus on membership, specifically caring for our current members and welcoming new ones. How are we going to do that? We are going to reach out and ask you three questions:

- Why did you become an Elk?
- What has impressed you most about our Lodge?
- What can we do to help you become more involved?

Please start thinking about your answers. We will be reaching out soon, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Exalted Ruler Message continued on page 6

**Elks CARE Elks SHARE**

# Come Fly a Kite at the Elks Open House



Christian County Elks is Celebrating  
Elks National Youth Week Inviting YOU to Our  
**Youth and Community Appreciation Day**  
**Saturday May 2, 2026**  
**10am - 2pm**



**Bring a Kite or Fly One of Ours!**  
**Enjoy FREE Hot Dogs & Hamburgers**

Meet our Ozark D.A.R.E. Officers, climb in an Ambulance or  
Fire Truck, Bounce House, Talk with Scouts,  
4H Shooters Face Painting  
Grant Donations Given Out to Support OUR Community



The members of Christian County Elks Lodge #2777 of Ozark, Missouri proudly pay tribute to the two fallen law enforcement officers of Christian County, Deputy Gabriel Ramirez and Michael Hislope. Their service, dedication, and sacrifice for our community will never be forgotten.

We extend our sincere thanks to the Elks members who helped display the beautiful blue ribbon in their honor: Michael Sweet, Joe Edwards, Rex Krasche, Felicia Sweet, Bill Buening, Sue Jones, Cherie Edwards, Kevin Wolfe, and Susan Fox. Your efforts help ensure that the memory and service of these officers are recognized and honored by our community.



# W E L K O M E

Please join us in welcoming our three new members for March: John Zerr, Shelly Stoneman-Pettit, and Deon Green.

John Zerr, sponsored by Tim Rogers, is a local Post Office employee. After speaking with Tim about the purpose and mission of the Elks, John decided he wanted to become part of the organization and help support its work in the community.

Shelly Stoneman-Pettit, sponsored by Sue Jones, recently moved to Springfield after living in Christian County her entire life. She is married to a veteran and is the proud grandmother of two baby girls. In her spare time, Shelly enjoys building projects, sewing, and crafts. She is always willing to lend a hand in her community and recently helped decorate for a baby shower. Shelly especially appreciates the Elks' dedication to supporting youth and veterans.

Deon Green, also sponsored by Sue Jones, is from Hatti. He has two daughters and is Shelly's son-in-law. Deon has aspirations of becoming a public speaker someday. He is currently enrolled at OTC and is about to begin his second year of college. Deon enjoys helping in his community, and the Elks provide the perfect place for him to continue giving back.

We are excited to have John, Shelly, and Deon join the Christian County Elks #2777 family.



At our second meeting in March, we were pleased to welcome another new member, Ray Eaton, to our Lodge. Ray is a U.S. Navy veteran and currently serves in management at City Utilities. As he looks ahead to retirement, Ray has shared that he plans to devote much of his extra time to the Elks, with a special interest in supporting our veterans programs and giving back to the children in our community.

We also extend our thanks to Ray's sponsor, Landon Davis, for introducing him to our Lodge and bringing him aboard. The evening was made even more memorable by a flawless initiation ceremony conducted by Exalted Ruler Kevin Wolfe and his officers.

At the Christian County Elks Spring Gun and Knife Show, guess who was lucky enough to win the 50-50? None other than Pete Fox!

Frances Johnson ran the 50-50 for two straight days and generated \$500. So, \$250 was donated to the lodge and Pete pocketed \$250. We had heard that he rang the bell, but it was at 1am and no one was at the lodge except Pete and the cleaning crew.





## Mother's Day Tribute

Save the Date - Friday May 8

Join us for a special Mother's Day as we celebrate and honor the amazing mothers and special women who mean so much to us. This heartfelt evening will be filled with remembrance, appreciation, and fellowship, making it a wonderful opportunity for members, families, and friends to come together.

# April 18



**Saturday April 18 9am - 12pm**  
**Coffee & Donuts**

**Come help fellow Elks "spruce-up" OUR Lodge**  
**It doesn't take long and it's not hard work**



**Game Night Poker & Bunco April 16**  
**Kitchen & Bar Open 6pm - 7:30pm**  
**Bunco \$10 Buy-in, Prizes to Winners**



**All Are Welcome**  
**Bring Your Friends**  
**Chicken Tenders and**  
**Fries \$10**  
**Christian County Elks,**  
**Ozark**



**SERTOMA CLUB**  
Christian County Children's Charities





# 2026

5th Annual Christian County  
**Elks Car Show**  
Car ♦ Truck ♦ Bike ♦ Jeep



**Finley River Park**  
**Ozark**



**Entry Fee**  
**\$25**

**Saturday**  
**June 20**  
**11am-2pm**

**Registration & Display**  
11am - 2pm Awards 2:30pm  
Pay Entry Fee Day of Event

**Event Dash Plaque to All Entries**  
Multiple Peoples Choice Awards  
in all Categories including  
**Best in Show**

**Event Proceeds**  
**Benefit Elks Charity**  
**Back to School Shopping**  
**with Kids**

Exalted Ruler Message (continued from page 1)

When it comes to adding new members, we all know someone who would be a great Elk. Invite them to come check us out. Bring them to dinner or to one of our events. Many of you heard my husband, Pete, suggest that each of us has it in us to bring in new members. His challenge to all of us is to set a goal of bringing in two new members this year. I love that idea, and I hope each of us will seriously consider taking on that challenge. My theme for this year will be TEAM: Together Elks Add Members.

We have an exciting year ahead, and I look forward to seeing all of you at the Lodge. Let's lock arms and take our Lodge to the next level so we can continue supporting our veterans, our children, and our community.

ELKfully Yours, Susan Fox

### Lodge Contact Information

Exalted Ruler Susan Fox  
417-522-8708

Trustee / Board Chairman Mike Klinger PER  
417-771-9202

House Committee Chairman  
Kevin Wolfe PDDGER  
417-425-2675

Lodge Secretary Sue Jones  
417-224-1923

Lodge Rental / Shelton Hall Sue Jones  
417-224-1923

Veterans Chairman  
Rex Krasche 417- 880-8523

Elks National Foundation Jerry Fritchman PER  
417-693-2090

RV Space Reservations - Lodge Office  
417-581-4190

Newsletter Editor Mike Klinger PER  
417-771-9202

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417-581-4190 email ccelks2777@gmail.com



March Madness with the theme of the CC Elks booth at the 2026 Southwest District Chili Cook-off at Springfield Elks #409. Susan Fox, Cherie Edwards and Sue Jones represented our lodge with March Madness. Although our booth set-up was decorated in award-winning fashion, the gold did not come our way this year...maybe next year. Secretary Janie Jackson and Treasurer Jerry Fritchman also represented our lodge with a booth at the Chili Cook-off.



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## April 2026 Birthdays

- 4th Frances Johnson 4th JD Melton 6th Mary Loofbourrow
- 21st Rex Krasche 22nd Ruben Smith 23rd Nick Roussell
- 27th Mary Cole 27th Janet Morris 28th Mark Trigg
- 29th Deborah Dyer 29th Jeff Shaw 30th David Frana
- 30th Ron Kisse



Need Tech Help? Computer and Multiple Devices Setup - Install - Repair - Recovery - Wifi - Networks  
Kory Klinger 417-470-7853 www.ozarktek.com

# April 2026



March '26						
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	31				

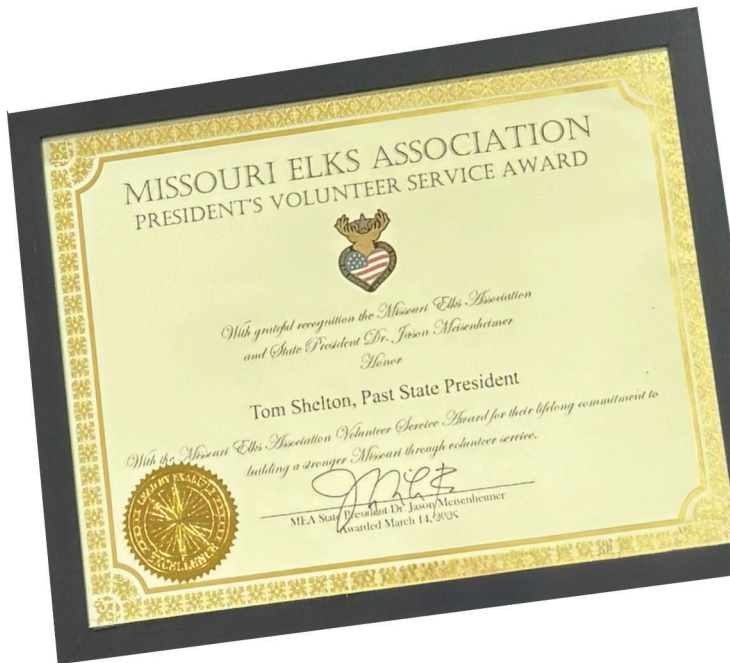
May '26						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1  April Fool's day	2 Game Night 6pm Dinner 7pm \$8	3 No activities planned	4
5	6 Springfield Chorus Practice 6:30pm	7 Lodge meeting 7pm Ruben Sandwiches & Soup \$8  BOD Meeting 8pm	8	9 Game Night 6pm Dinner 7pm \$8	10 Family Friday Dinner Social Hour 6pm Dinner 7pm \$15 Blackened Salmon or Chicken	11
12	13 Springfield Chorus Practice 6:30pm	14 HC Meeting 7pm No dinner scheduled	15	16 Game Night 6pm <b>BUNCO!</b> Chicken Tenders & Fries \$10	17 No activities planned	18 Lodge Work Day 9am-12pm Coffee & Donuts
19	20 Springfield Chorus Practice 6:30pm	21 Lodge meeting 7pm Dinner TBD 6pm \$8  Vets Meeting 8pm	22	23 Game Night 6pm Dinner 7pm \$8	24 Family Friday Dinner Social Hour 6pm Dinner 7pm \$8 Spaghetti Dinner & more	25
26	27 Springfield Chorus Practice 6:30pm	28 No activities planned	29	30 Game Night 6pm Dinner 7pm \$8	1	2
3	4	For more information visit our website at <a href="http://www.ccelks2777.com">www.ccelks2777.com</a> or our Facebook page Christian County Elks #2777 SAVE your newsletter for reference or pass it along to a friend				

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www.ccelks2777.com



To a Very Important Elk



Congratulations to Past State President Tom Shelton on receiving the Missouri Elks Association President's Volunteer Service Award at the Spring Convention. Exalted Ruler Kevin Wolfe had the honor of presenting the award to Tom at our last meeting.

This award is given to an Elk who has dedicated more than 4,000 lifetime volunteer hours in service to others. Thank you, Tom, for your outstanding service to the Elks, our Lodge, our community, our veterans, and our youth.