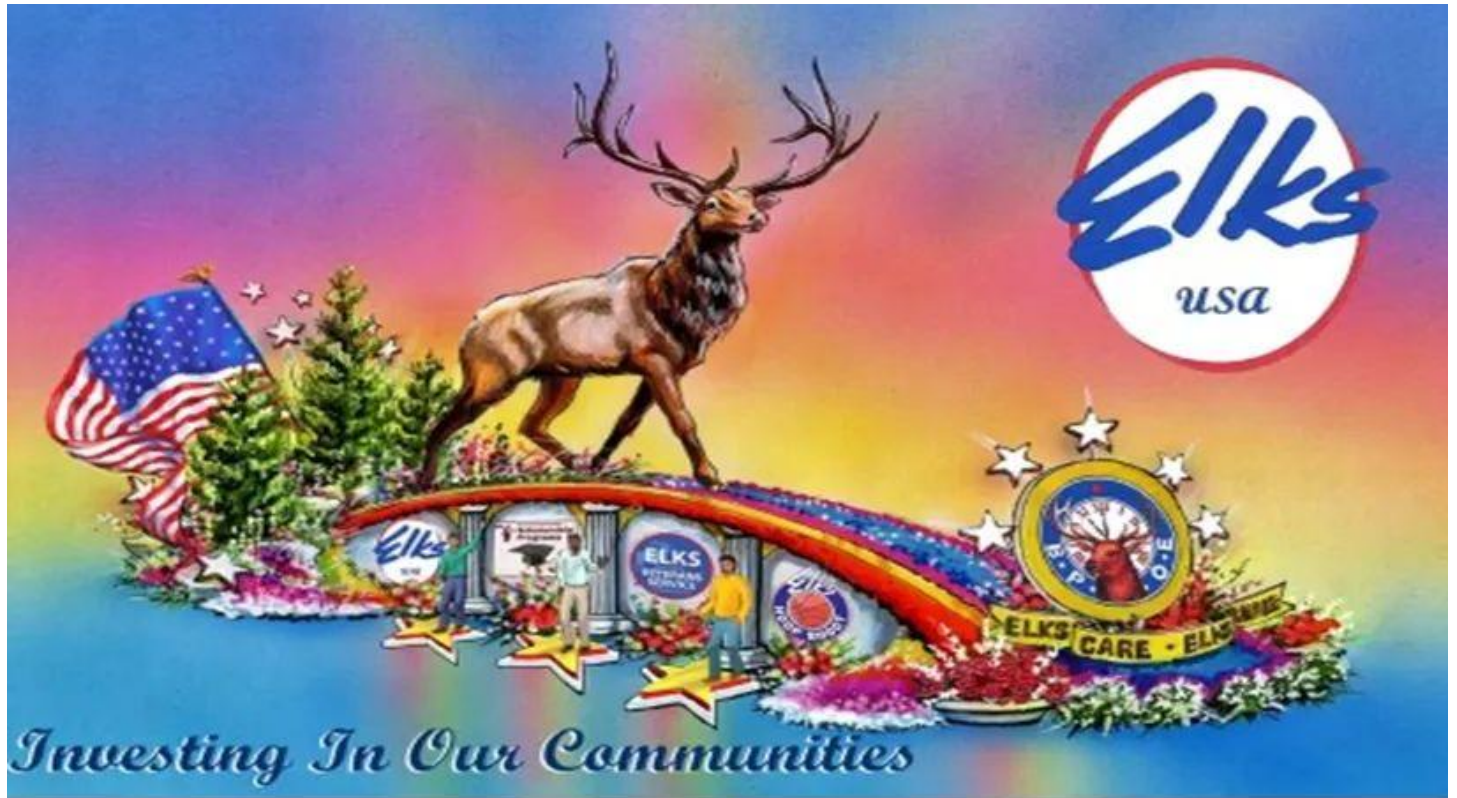




## BPOE Proudly Return to Tournament of Roses Parade in 2023



For the first time since 1995, the Elks participated in the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California. The Elks Tournament of Roses parade float allowed all Elks to show their pride and share work done by BPOE to promote the organization's mission and values.

The Elks have been busy helping its communities, with thousands of financially struggling families receiving food baskets and presents. Elk volunteers also will visit thousands of hospitalized veterans, and support both active military forces and veterans. Last year alone, the value of Elks' contributions to the nation's heroes provided more than \$39 million to more than 300 Veterans Administration medical centers, clinics and state care facilities.

The Elks receive thousands of scholarship applications from high school seniors nationwide, with nearly \$5 million distributed annually. The Elks Community Investment Program will award almost \$16 million to help local communities. Elks Lodges nationwide donated more than \$368 million last year to the communities they serve throughout the United States and its territories.

## Washington State Elks Mid-Winter Meeting Agenda

<b>WINTER CONFERENCE AGENDA WITH DETAILS ON TOPICS</b>				
<b>TIME</b>	<b>SESSIONS</b>	<b>ROOM</b>	<b>PRESENTER</b>	<b>TOPICS</b>
7:30AM-4:30PM	WSEA Registration			Pick up your conference registration, sign-up for cornhole tournament, and drop off cornhole board design contest entries
8:30-9:20am	Drug Awareness	Cascade 1&2	Alison Cline	Contests, DAP Swag, Red Ribbon Week, and Fentanyl Issue
8:30-9:20am	Membership & Membership Drives	Cascade 4&4	Ben Braden & Nancy Oakes	Membership management, Orientation, Proposers & Candidates, Lapsation Membership Drive purpose and procedures, sample packages of small to large events
8:30-9:20am	Youth Activities	Cascade 5&6	Marc Allen	
9:30-10:20am	Veterans	Cascade 1&2	Liz Johnston	
9:30-10:20am	Public Relations & Co-Pay	Cascade 3&4	Nancy Oakes, PR team	Social Media, press releases, sources for creating ads/, sample handouts, Valid Co-pay ads
9:30-10:20am	Secretary Training	Cascade 5&6	Jill Anderson	New application processing, Membership Cards, CLMS Reports, Accts. Payable/Vouchers, Lodge Meeting Pep/Minutes, Yearly Dues Invoicing, Order GL Supplies, Daily cash/money bag handling, Charity reports to CLMS, Secty Manual/Statutes
10:30-11:20am	Board vs. House Committees	Cascade 1&2	Bim Lindsey	Discussion of statutes, manuals and differences between the two committees.
10:30-11:20am	Lodge Activities	Cascade 3&4	Cheryl Collins	New forms for end of year submissions, manual, new rules for nominations. Round table discussion on successful events lodges have staged.
11:20am-1:20pm	<b>LUNCH</b>		On Own	
11:30am-12:50pm	Spouse's Social	President's Suite	Entourage	
11:20am-1:00pm	Toast & Flag Charge Presentation Contests	Cascade 1		Please check the schedule at registration for the times and room #'s for competition.
1:10-2:00pm	Therapy Program For Children	Large Room		Updates and reports on the program.
1:10-2:00pm	Incoming ER Tune-up (Leading Knight)	Cascade 1&2	Jill Anderson	Discussion regarding timeliness, responsibilities, officer recruitment, and follow-up questions from prior Officer Training.

1:10-2:00pm	Elks National Foundation and Grants	Cascade5&6	Lacey Braswell	Overview of ENF, fundraising, CIP Grants, Fidelity Club.
2:10-3:00pm	Protocol – Officers & Spouses	Cascade 1&2	Jill Anderson	Tips on communication, running an effective and fun meeting, agenda and team building.
2:10-3:00pm	State Committee Chair Persons	Cascade 3&4	Gary Hicks	Discussing and Preparing State Committee Budgets for 2023-2024
3:10-4:00pm	GL Convention Information		Joe Basil	Convention packets and information w ill be given out.
3:10-4:00pm	WSEA Needs you as a PER		Ben Braden	Discussion on how to move from PER to State volunteer. Your experience is needed.
5:30-6:00pm	No Host Cocktails	NW Ballroom		
6:00-7:30pm	Dinner (Tickets Required)	NW Ballroom		
7:30-10:00pm	Corn hole Tournament	Grand Ballroom 3		Sign-up at registration.

**MY Elks**

**DOWNLOAD OUR NEW MOBILE APP**

Scan to Download or search "My Elks" in the Google Play or Apple App Store

App Store | Google Play



## WSEA President Mid-Winter Message

Members, Spouses & Friends,

Welcome one and all to the Washington State Elks Association's Winter Convention! Thank you for making the extra effort to attend a week earlier in January than is customary. On behalf of the Washington State Elks Association Executive Board, I apologize for the late notice of the date change. We simply did not notice the date change on the contact signed some time ago. The New Year is here with all its promise, and we can also look back at the accomplishments of the past year. Lodges throughout the state continue to have a positive impact on their communities through grants from the Elks National Foundation and other good works. On the Elks calendar, we have begun the last quarter of the of the Elks year that ends March 31<sup>st</sup>. This is an extremely busy time of the year as local Lodges we wrap up one year and prepare for the next. From the WSEA prospective there have been some notable accomplishments. First and foremost is that the Elks membership in Washington is continuing to grow. My sincerest congratulations go out the many Lodges that are making this membership growth a reality. Also, congratulations to Forks Lodge No. 2524 for being selected as the 2022 All-American Lodge!

Please take advantage of the many learning opportunities available during this convention both at the formal sessions and in talking to officers & members from other Lodges. They may just provide an idea that will help your Lodge meet one of the challenges it faces or better serve your local community. If you have not installed the "My Elks" app on your smart phone. The app is a great way to keep up with the happenings of your Lodge, participating Lodges around the country, the state association, and the Grand Lodge. Please check it out! The convention is also a time to renew friendships, start new ones, and grow your enthusiasm for Elkdom. Please help me in welcoming Ben Adams, Bob Shaw and James Swearing in presidents of the Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska States Elks Associations respectively. Do not forget to have a little fun along the way and good luck in the coming year.

Fraternally,

Greg Balint

President, Washington State Elks Association



### Washington Elks Therapy Program for Children

Since 1954, the Washington Elks Therapy Program for Children, Inc. has provided home-based occupational or physical therapy to children with developmental delays or physical disabilities. Services are provided at no cost to the family served.



The Elks for Children's Hospital partnership between Seattle Children's Hospital and the Washington State Elks Association began in 1926 and continues today.

The bond of these two entities and the care of the Elks has given hope to children in our region for more than 93 years.

## WSEA President Elect Mid-Winter Message

Welcome to the Washington State Elks Association 2023 Mid-Winter Convention. I believe this is going to be a very productive session – and as always, a lot of fun!

I am very excited about the workshops being presented this year. The state committees are excited to assist the lodges with the programs we support. There will be a quick “ER Tune-Up” session to help incoming ERs get ready for the new lodge year - which is fast approaching. At times the tasks at hand seem overwhelming, but with a little organization and assistance we can accomplish anything.



Membership still needs to be at the top of the list at all our lodges. The WSEA Public Relations committee has been working with the Membership Committee to help with the push towards **Growing Elkdom through Community Involvement**. This effort is both at the State level with things like the radio ads currently playing, to working at the lodge level to help promote Open Houses and Membership Drives.

Each of our lodges has different challenges in our communities, and some have been severe during the last few years. Now that we appear to be in a definite re-building, we need to become highly visible during that rebuild.

The P/R committee has several members from various lodges who have identified many of those challenges in their communities and taken them head-on. Now they are hoping to bring some of their experiences to the table to assist other lodges in the state. Once identified, there are grants and other resources to assist in accomplishing those programs, mostly from the Elks national Foundation. There will be a workshop covering Elks National Foundation activities and grants.

There are also new resources available like the My Elks App to let our members know what our lodges have planned, including normal social events at the lodge as well as programs aimed at Community Service. Make sure you have downloaded this App.

We still have many committees who have a chair but not supporting District Chairs or Working Committees. I know from Grand lodge experience it is a real pleasure to work on full committees with others. The exchange of ideas is key to building successful programs. We will have a workshop titled **WSEA needs you as a PER**. For current ERs and PERs, please attend this workshop and consider taking a position on one of our many committees.

For the current ERs and PERs we also have the 11 O'clock Toast and Flag Charge contests. Please join in the competition for your chance to represent Washington at the Grand Lodge Convention in Minneapolis this July.

But of course, we need to have fun. Don't forget to sign up your Corn Hole team for the tournament planned for Friday evening after dinner. Mingle with the members, not only the old friends, but all the new faces coming up through the ranks.

Again, WELCOME, and thank-you for making the difficult arrangements to attend this session. I know the schedule change made it anywhere from a little difficult to literally impossible for some to attend. We truly appreciate your dedication and support for the Washington State Elks Association.

Fraternally,

Bob Walker  
President-Elect  
Washington State Elks Association

## WSEA Vice President West Message

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. As I am writing this, there is 6 inches of snow on the ground with freezing rain in the forecast. I am glad that I got a heads up on the weather and am prepared for the coming future.

Which reminds me. How many of our current and future Lodge officers are prepared for finishing this fraternal year out, and getting ready for the coming year? What events are planned? Have you got the information out to the WSEA advertisement committee for distribution? Do you have mentors assigned for your officers as they progress through? Do you need officer training for them?

Do you need help from the state association with your event or training? We are here to help; we just need you to reach out and let us know what you need.

WSEA President Elect Bob Walker is assembling his team for his presidential year 2023-2024. He is requesting members to volunteer for the following **West District** positions:

Accident Prevention Coordinator – (Contact James Bedard, State Chairperson)

Americanism Coordinator - (Contact Leslie Timmons, State Chairperson)

Drug Awareness Coordinator - (Contact Alison Cline, State Chairperson)

Elks for Children's Hospital Coordinator - (Contact PSP Jim Howes, State Chairperson)

Government Relations Coordinator - (Contact Jill Anderson, State Chairperson)

Membership Coordinator – (Contact VP North Ben Braden, State Chairperson)

Public Relations Coordinator - (Contact Nancy Oakes, State Chairperson)

Veterans Coordinator – (Contact Elisabeth Johnston, State Chairperson)

Youth Activities Coordinator - (Contact Marc Allen, State Chairperson)

Please get ahold of the chairperson of the committee to volunteer for the position. All their contact information is in the WSEA directory.

For Election at the caucus: Program Advocate for 3-year term (Forks, Naval, Sequim).

If you are an ER or PER an have pondered on what to do after your term, or a member that just wants to get involved, these are the best opportunities to support our West District Lodges and meet new people and old friends.

We are urgently looking for a State Membership Chairperson. Contact Bob Walker if you are interested in this position. [bobwelk2143@gmail.com](mailto:bobwelk2143@gmail.com)

Fraternally

Scott Rainey, WSEA VP West District



## WSEA Vice President North Message



**Benjamin Braden**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President



Welcome to the Washington State Elks Association winter convention 2023. Yep, it's early this year. Thank you all for shuffling your life around to make sure you'll be in attendance and ready for the early opportunities that our 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of January convention will bring us. Excitingly, you'll have an extra week to use what you've gleaned from convention before our Lodge year comes to an end! Right?!?!?

I've heard that the early bird may get the worm, but also that the second mouse gets the cheese.

Please take the time to learn from these amazing Washington Elks who are making a substantial effort in time and treasure to create presentations and build opportunities for your ultimate success. Their experiences, mistakes, and successes, culminate in you being led to the cheese without falling prey to the traps. Use the energy and knowledge gained here at convention to avoid missteps and setbacks that could hinder your chances of success. If you don't see what you need here – ask for it.

As leaders in your lodge, you know that it's not if you have a struggle, it's how you handle that struggle that truly sets you apart. Our hope is that the seminars at convention will give you a bit of knowledge or direction to help you overcome what comes your way and helps you create a positive experience for your lodge and membership.

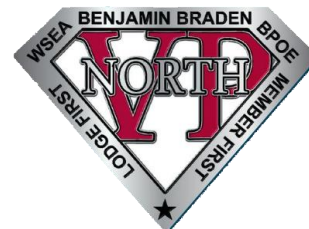
Speaking of leadership – we need it! There are so many things the Washington State Elks Association can do to help your lodge succeed if we have people to filling the committees around the state. It's not just committee chairs, we need working committee members. District level Elks to represent our state committees and all they have to offer at the local lodge, and there is no reason a committee can't have multiple people per district – It's the lodge that will benefit and the district representative will be the hero handing over the help to the lodge. Please attend the seminar Friday afternoon to learn a bit more, talk with your Program Advocate, your District WSEA Executive board member (Vice President, President Elect & President) and say yes to helping the State Association help your lodges succeed with the new energy and new focus you'll bring.


Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Benjamin Braden".

Benjamin Braden

Past District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler  
Past Exalted Ruler Ballard Lodge #827



 206-856-1580

 benjaminbraden@aol.com

 waelks.org

## Washington State Ritual Convention Contests:



Washington State Elks 11 O'clock Toast Contest and Flag Presentation Contest will take place on Friday, January 20th at the mid-Winter Convention.

The contests are open to anyone who would like to compete; however, participants must be a current ER or PER from a Washington State lodge to participate in the Grand Lodge contest.

### 11 O'clock Toast Contest:

The contestants will recite the 11 O'clock Toast from the initiatory ritual from memory. The 11 O'clock Toast Contest will be judged on the following criteria:

- Impressiveness
- Word Accuracy
- Pronunciation

This contest is two-fold, State and Grand Lodge Contest. There will be an ER and PER division in the contest. The top scoring current ER will get his/her name engraved on the Washington State 11 O'clock Toast trophy and will perform the toast at the Memorial Service at Summer Convention. The top scorer overall will represent Washington State in the Grand Lodge 11 O'clock Toast Contest.

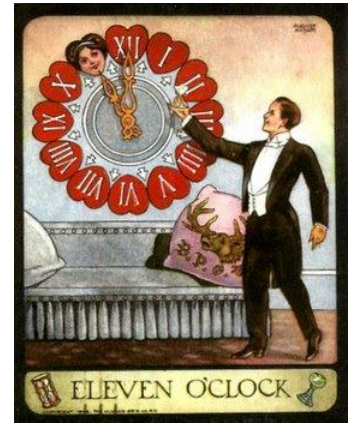
### Flag Presentation Contest:

The Flag Presentation Contest was new to Grand Lodge 2022. The contestants will perform the final charge and flag presentation from the initiatory ritual from memory. The chairperson will signal the Exalted Ruler by giving 3 raps to start his/her part. The Flag Presentation Contest will start when the Exalted Ruler Contestant says the words in the last paragraph in the Ritual of Local Lodges Manual "Please salute our Flag". The contest will end after the Exalted Ruler returns to his/her station and after the words "One who loves his/her fellow man". The contestants will be judged on the following criteria.

- Impressiveness
- Word Accuracy
- Pronunciation
- Deportment (movement)

Please check your mid-winter convention schedule for the time and room number for rituals contests. We look forward to a great turnout.

Lana Davick, Area 8 Grand Lodge Ritual Chair



### 11 O'clock Toast

You have heard the tolling of 11 strokes. This is to remind you that with Elks, the hour of 11 has a tender significance.

Wherever Elks may roam, whatever their lot in life may be, when this hour tolls upon the dial of night, the great heart of Elkdom swells and throbs.

It is the golden hour of recollection, the homecoming of those who wander, the mystic roll call of those who will come no more.

Living or dead, an Elk is never forgotten, never forsaken.

Morning and noon may pass him by, the light of day sink heedlessly in the West, but ere the shadows of midnight shall fall, the chimes of memory will be pealing forth the friendly message,  
"To our absent members."

## WSEA Public Relations Message:

I cannot believe January is here already, which means so is our SeaTac Winter Conference. This year, you will see sessions that are more interactive, more instructional, and with more handouts for you to take back to your lodge. It's important that all of you that have signed up for this conference, make every effort possible to attend as many of the sessions as you can, or at least make every effort to pick up the handouts if you miss a session due to your attendance at a conflicting time session.

In this Newsletter, you will find an agenda with extended topic information. We are providing this information with the hope that it will generate more interest and make you want to sit in and learn. Great effort is being put into this conference by many people, and I truly hope it proves to be an inspiration and education.

When you are on a break, lunch, dinner, encourage conversations about what you have learned so far, and if you still have questions, know that all the presenters are more than happy to sit with you and answer those questions, and more importantly, everyone will be available for continued access once you return to your lodges.

The Public Relations Team and the Lodge Development Special Committee have been working diligently behind the scenes to address a lot of the issues facing our lodges. When you attend the Public Relations Session, the Membership Session, and the PER Session, you will find material and encouragement to help you with navigating post covid in your lodges, re-introducing the Elks back to the community, how to stage a successful Membership Drive regardless of your budget or lodge size, and what resources you have available and how to use them. We are really excited about this new curriculum and hope you are, as well.

We are not above bribery to get you into one of our sessions, soooooooo, when you attend the PR and/or the Membership Session, you will receive a raffle ticket. At the end of each of those sessions, we will draw a ticket. The winner will receive a custom designed 4'x10' vinyl banner for their Membership Drives. We will also be teaching and providing handouts that support our instructions on how to do a membership drive, how to send mass emails to all your members, how to give the "commercial" at your membership drives, creating ads and press releases, learning tips for successful orientations, and the volume/extent/rules for social media.

This year, our State Sponsor, Roger True, came up with the great idea of a Cornhole Tournament on Friday night, after our banquet. And, we are adding a "Design the Cornhole Board Contest" to make things interesting. You will find the entry forms here in the Newsletter.

So, come to the conference with an open mind, and open heart and learn, but remember to have fun seeing old friends and meeting new ones.

Nancy M Oakes, PER

WA Elks State Assn. PR and Advertising Co-Pay Chair  
WA Elks State Assn Lodge Development Special Committee  
West District DAP Chair  
West District Program Advocate

## WSEA Needs YOU! Workshop for ER's and PER's

Friday January 13, 3:10p to 4p

### Cascade 3 & 4

Exalted Rulers and Past Exalted Rulers – listen up! You've done great things for your lodge as an officer now is your chance to do great things for the lodges around you, in your district and throughout our state while still helping your own lodge succeed.

We need your help within the Washington State Elks Association to do great things for the lodges in our state. Join us on Friday afternoon to learn about the many opportunities that are available to you by serving the Elks as a committee chair, working member or district coordinator for our amazing state committees. Also learn about the opportunities to serve the Association in Elected and Appointed positions that will help our committees succeed and do more for our lodges.



Your Elks  
Your Passions *Elks Do!*  
WE NEED YOU Your Success  
Washington State  
Elks Association  
Take a WSEA Position Today!

*Elks* Care – *Elks* Share

# Winter Convention Cornhole Tournament

**Friday, January 13  
7:00 PM • Grand Ballroom #3**



## Winter Convention Cornhole Board Design Contest

Your design will be printed on blank boards for all to enjoy.

**\$20 per entry**

Send design with a \$20.00 entry fee, along with your design to:

**WSEA**  
PO Box 110760,  
Tacoma, WA 98411.

**Deadline is  
January 3rd, 2023.**

**THEME IS: THE BEST OF WA STATE ELKS**



Designs will be displayed at the Winter Convention tournament and judged by the members. **Each member will have one vote.**

**The Winning design will appear on the boards  
at Summer Convention in Pasco and will  
go home with the Summer tournament winners.**

**Order forms for purchasing boards with the winning  
design will be available at Summer Convention.**

This fun brought to you by your Washington State Elks Association.  
*The ELKS that Play Together, Stay Together!*



**WASHINGTON STATE ELKS CONVENTION  
Sea-Tac Double Tree**

#####

**Registration for Cornhole Tournament**

**\$25.00 per team – Each Lodge can have up to 4 – Teams**

**All Players must be Elk members or Spouse of a member**

**And Registered at the Convention**

Lodge Name \_\_\_\_\_ & Number \_\_\_\_\_

**Team A:**

Player 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Player 2 \_\_\_\_\_

**Team B:**

Player 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Player 2 \_\_\_\_\_

**Team C:**

Player 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Player 2 \_\_\_\_\_

**Team D:**

Player 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Player 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Tournament is Friday January 13, 2023, and will start at 7:00 PM. Registration ends with the Calcutta auction at Friday's dinner.

Registration and entry fees should be mailed to: Wa. State Elks, PO Box 110760, Tacoma, WA 98411 or given to the registration desk at convention. Checks payable to WSEA.

# MISSING 10' SCREEN



**LAST SEEN IN BURIEN AT ER  
TRAINING 10/1 - CALL SANDY  
360-420-2847 WITH INFO**



**Gig Harbor Elks Alaska Cruise**  
**September 8 to September 15, 2023**  
**7 Nights, Round Trip, Seattle**

**Interior Cabin: \$823.06 per person**

**Ocean View Cabin: \$1072.06 per person**

**Balcony Cabin: \$1283.06 per person**

**You don't have to be an Elk to travel with us.**  
**You just have to love adventure!**

**The ship is Celebrity Cruise Lines Solstice**

**Need 30 travelers to make this work so call the lodge:  
Office: 253-851-2560, D.C. Burns 253-851-4646 or Ouida  
McEachen at 360-874-0582 to get your name on the list!**

**Spreading the word about lodge accomplishments and events is important!**

**Did you know that you can submit lodge news and items of interest (including upcoming events) to the Washington State Elks Website? Go to the WA Elks webpage, fill out the simple form and see your lodge in the spotlight!**

**WSEA Blog Posts: <https://waelks.org/blog/add-a-blog-post/>**

**Add Event to WSEA Calendar: <https://waelks.org/events/community/add>**