

Valerie Peterson
Exalted Ruler

**Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks
A Fraternal Organization
Jackson Lodge No. 1713
Chartered July 17th, 1947**



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Press Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JACKSON ELKS LODGE TO HONOR VETS WITH DINNER AND MUSIC

Jackson, WY – On Friday November 10th starting at 5:00 p.m., veterans and their families are invited to Jackson Elks Lodge No. 1713 for a night of dinner and music. Dinner will be prepared by the Lodge’s very own Donnie Rodgers, who will be serving beef brisket, sides, and dessert. Live music is being graciously donated by Elks members and local musical legends the Hog Island Ramblers. Dinner is free for veterans and \$12 for non-veterans. Proceeds will go to the Jackson American Legion Post to help with the rebuilding of the war memorial on the town square.

“We decided this year to have a veterans’ event the day before Veterans’ Day,” says Jackson Elks Lodge 1713 Exalted Ruler Valerie Peterson. “Many veterans have other events to attend on the actual holiday and we didn’t want to conflict with them. We thought that offering a night of dinner and live music to thank veterans for all they have done for us is the best way Elks can honor them.”

“This is one of my favorite events to cook for,” says Donnie Rodgers, Elk member and chef. “This is the least I can do to thank them for their service.” Rodgers insists each year that proceeds from the veterans’ dinner goes to the local American Legion to contribute to the rebuilding of the war memorial on the Jackson town square.

When asked, the Hog Island Ramblers jumped at the opportunity to contribute to the veterans’ dinner by donating live music. In the past, the Elks veterans’ dinner did not include entertainment, and it is hoped that this will make for a memorable experience for veterans and their families.

“Lodge members cooking, serving food, and playing music to honor our community’s veterans: this is what the Elks are all about,” commented Peterson.

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The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was founded in 1868 to promote and practice the four cardinal virtues of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its members; to quicken the spirit of American Patriotism and cultivate good fellowship. Today the Elks are a fraternal order of nearly one million members with a network of more than 2,000 lodges in communities across the country. Annually the Order spends more than \$80,000,000 for benevolent, educational, and patriotic community-minded programs.

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