

LODGE/VETERANS NEWS

Telluride Lodge highlights

From Cindy Wyszynski, District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Colorado West District 1520. Treasurer/Past Exalted Ruler Telluride Elks Lodge 692

On November 11th **Telluride Elks Lodge 692** hosted a dinner for local



Veteran Ron Kanter and ER Vadra Doser



Left to right: Mentees Neida, Brenda, and Roxana at the Holiday Party

veterans. We had the Tri-County Health Network and the Center for Mental Health on hand to talk to veterans about health benefits, and we set up a table to highlight the Elks' Veterans Programs. We fed approximately 60 veterans and their guests, and used part of a Gratitude Grant to purchase and fill toiletry bags for every veteran. When their toiletries run out, they can come back to the Lodge and we'll refill their bag. We also took 30 of the bags to the long-term care facility



Left to right: Mentee Pippa and Mentor Adrienne Ross



Left to right: Mentors Amy Levek and Sarah Gluckstern, mentees Karla and Sophie, Adrienne Ross, Skylar, Monica Carey, Shannon, and Adrienne Christy

at the Veterans Hospital in Grand Junction, Colorado during the holidays.

Then we had our annual Turkey Bingo event. \$2,000 of the proceeds from that event were donated to Angel Baskets, a local non-profit that not only provides food for low-income residents all year long, but also has a major campaign at Christmas to provide presents for low-income families across the region.

Finally, we had our annual holiday party for local at-risk youth and their mentors, using part of a Promise Grant. We purchased presents for all the kids and provided food and a photo booth for a great time! We served 20 kids and their mentors.



Angel Baskets donation left to right: Donna Brown, Kathy Mahoney, Camille Price, ER Vadra Doser, DDGER Cindy Wyszynski

Thanks to all the Elks who came out for the Homeless Veterans Stand Down

We had plenty of help and I hope it's a good sign that attendance seemed to be way down this year. We gave out snacks plus a full chicken dinner starting at 11:30 am. Lodges from Westminster, Golden, Northglenn, Evergreen, and Lakewood were there.

All kinds of services were available from the VA and other agencies where the veterans could receive ID's, housing, medical checks, dental checks, haircuts and showers. New boots, clothes and bags were given out.

Golden Elks used their \$2,000 ENF Beacon grant to contribute to the success of the stand down. Approximately 350 homeless veterans were at the stand down this year.

From Wayne Rogers, Secretary Golden Elks Lodge

