

History of El Valle Aerie #4308 Fraternal Order of Eagles

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This is Part 3 of an ongoing article regarding the Birth of an Aerie. If you have anything you'd like to add in the coming issues, please let us know.

With the 100 x 50 foot building erected, members started erecting walls, planning kitchen, sheet rocking and many other jobs. Contracts were let for plumbing, ceiling, and sheetrock finishing. Name plates for the bar top were sold to raise money to build the bar. The lumber was



donated and came from the Hatch school gym; sliding doors came from aerie #2811 in Santa Fe. Electric was

turned on in November. Two pellet stoves were installed for heat, and we snuggled around them on cold days on nights.

The mirror behind the bar is a



double window that had a flaw in it. We bought it and the glass in the big room for the delivery price, \$100.00.

It weighs 700 pounds and is 2 inches thick. It was moved in place on Thanksgiving Day 1994 before we built the bar.



Aerie Grand Opening for the new building was Mar 11, 1995

In 1995 pull tabs were initiated and the profits with other events raised money needed to add to the aerie. The patio was added in 1995, the



RV Park in 1999 gaming room August 1999, blacktop in 2000 along with many other projects as needed; fence, BBQ cover, etc. There were many donations of items and time from all

of the local members and from all over state. Aerie and auxiliary have met all charities during all of the years and given many thousands to the local needy. El Valle #4308 is known for its generosity and friendly attitude. We are 'people helping people'.

Aerie 4308 has three members in the New Mexico hall of fame; Jay Isaacs who was state president during 1999-2000, Russ Daines and David Smith for the years of giving. El Valle is the first aerie in New Mexico and maybe the nation to elect a lady as worthy president, Betty Fritz. There are many stories that could be related about the aerie but if interested there is a history in picture form at the aerie. Pat Mackey has kept the books up to date for 17 years.



David Smith

To Be Continued.....