

# ANTLER



Don Booker  
EXALTED RULER



# ANTICS

VOLUME 31, NO. 9

Editor, Jerry Serota

December 2002



Merry Christmas



and a Happy 2003 New  
Year!

2002-03 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

## EXALTED RULER

### Don Booker

2002-03 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

**ANTLER ANTICS:** Jerry Serota, Editor  
**NEW FACILITIES:** Tom Ryder, PSVP  
**HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK:** Jerry Serota  
**GREETERS:** Jack Loughran, PER  
**PUBLIC RELATIONS:** Jerry Serota  
**BUILDING MAINT.:** "Mac" McDonald



**PARLIAMENTARIAN:** Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, DL  
**LODGE VISITATIONS:** Jack Loughran, PER  
**BBQ WAGON:** Lee Grindle  
**AUDITING:** Tom Ryder, DDGER  
**ELKS TRAINING:** Joe Smith  
**BEQUESTS & LIVING TRUSTS:**  
 Chet Kozlowski, PER

Members and Friends,

Barbara and I had a wonderful time touring the New England States with our son John. The fall colors were in full bloom. The weather was very nice throughout the entire trip. We returned home on Oct. 28th and had two days to unpack and repack for our Mid-Term convention in Sacramento, which is always very informative.

We were very proud that our District came in first in contributions of over \$41,000 for the Elks National Foundation. Be sure to check your calendar for December as there are many events to participate in and to enjoy. We will be having the Exalted Ruler's, Tom & Jerry Party on Friday, the 13th starting at 6:30 pm. Barb and I are looking forward to seeing you there.

We need your help again this year with the Christmas Basket Program, also bring in a toy and get a ticket for the prize behind the bar.

This is the time of year to have fun as we help families in our community who are less fortunate than ourselves. This is a very rewarding and heartfelt experience. *Joy comes not to those who seek it for themselves but to those who seek it for others*

Barbara and I want to take this opportunity to wish you all, Happy Holidays and a Merry Christmas,

*and remember it's a good life!*

## FIRST LADIES CORNER

Barbara Booker



Hi,

I want to take this opportunity to thank Marilyn Harding and all the ladies and

gentlemen who helped with the Homecoming dinner etc. You were all wonderful and so appreciated!

Out trip was fabulous and talk about packing. I'm really learning fast. Home and off to Sacramento in two days. This is one of my favorite seasons, Christmas. Ladies come down and bring your tape and scissors and have fun wrapping all the toys for the children. Also don't forget our ER's Tom and Jerry Party, Dec. 13th at 6:30 pm. The Ladies Christmas party Dec. 10th. Have a wonderful Holiday and Christmas Season.

Here is a little food for thought. *The highest wisdom is kindness. Forget insults, but never forget kindness.*

Barbara



## IN MEMORIAM

THE CLOCK OF THEIR DAY HAS STOPPED AND ACROSS ITS DIAL A MOTIONLESS SHADOW MARKS THE HOUR OF ELEVEN, WITH US ---

### "THE GOLDEN HOUR OF RECOLLECTION"

**Clifford Enger**  
 Born: February 4, 1910  
 Initiated: December 4, 1940  
 Died: November 3, 2002

**Dennis H. Landes**  
 Born: December 19, 1938  
 Initiated: November 19, 1975  
 Died: October 28, 2002



**EDITOR'S CORNER**

[jserota497@earthlink.net](mailto:jserota497@earthlink.net)

**DECEASED MEMBERS SINCE LAST MEMORIAL SERVICE**



- Jim Wildman**
- Paul Dew**
- John Cohan**
- Ronald Levesque**
- Carl T. Wellman**
- Wayne Jones**
- Cliff Enger**

The first Sunday in December is the Elks Memorial Service. This year it falls on Dec. the 1<sup>st</sup>. On that day we pay homage to our Brothers who have passed from our midst and though they are gone, their presence still holds a tender place in our hearts. In past years it has been an embarrassment that too few Elks attend this service because of the upcoming holidays.

December is a time of joy with parties and the advent of Christmas, but for the widows it is a tough time of the year to face without a mate. The Elks Memorial is a time for us to come together and give solace to our grieving ladies. Let us all attend this solemn ceremony and demonstrate how dear the memories of those departed Brothers mean to us as Elks. By attending this service we also demonstrate to the widows how important they are to us.

December is the end of the year. Before we ring in the new year let us look back on the accomplishments that our Lodge has made.

Operation Facelift has made a significant impact on our Lodge. The auctioning of the Officers was a big financial success in getting the future renovations in place. The new air conditioning of our patio for the comfort of our smoking members was the start. The major kitchen facelift and installing stainless steel hoods in the kitchen a major improvement. This took a lot of volunteer man hours to complete and to the credit of all the Brothers who took part in it, a job well done.

The picnic at the Lodge accomplished a residual goal. It motivated us to do a major clean up of our (junk) grounds as well as providing a comfort zone from the heat and the Yellow Jackets that has plagued our picnic in the past.

The year 2003 looks good as we make significant inroads on the goals we wish to accomplish. On December the 1st, there will be a breakfast brunch for the Elks Memorial Service please make it a goal to attend.

**FROM THE WEST CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT  
DEPUTY GRAND EXALTED RULER**

Tom Ryder

Just to let you know that I and my Esquire and Auditor have completed our visitations and inspections of the lodges of the West Central Coast District. We want to thank all of those Elks, their spouses and friends that made our visitations a pleasant experience. All reports were sent to Grand Exalted Ruler Roger True. Your lodge will be getting a letter from him. Again, **THANK YOU ALL!**

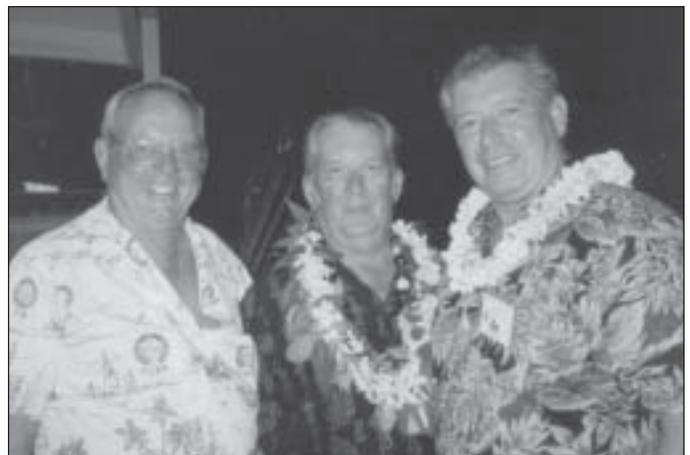
Some words from The Grand Lodge!

(Continued Page 9)

**ON THE ROAD WITH  
STATE PRESIDENT, GENE CHAMBERS**



Tom Ryder, DDGER, Gene Chambers, SP and Richard Goldner, PR Chairman at the Presidents visitation to the Inland District, Bishop Lodge



Official visitation, Kona, Hawaii, Dick Skarnes, District PR Chairman, Gene Chambers, SP and Richard Goldner, CHEA PR Chairman

2002-03 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

## LEADING KNIGHT

### Greg Metzgus

2002-03 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

**MAJOR PROJECT/PURPLE PIG:**

Dave Naccarato

**SICKNESS AND DISTRESS:** Sally Claunch**INVESTIGATION:** George Meehan**ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION:** Jay Block**CHRISTMAS BASKETS:**

Don &amp; Barbara Booker

**INDOCTRINATION:** Jack Loughran, **PER****MEM. CONTROL. COM.:****CVAC:** Tom Hartin**COMMUNITY RELATIONS:** Jerry Serota**OFFICERS ROUND TABLE:** Jack Panczak**CHARITY DINNERS:** Don & Barbara Booker

The holiday season is upon us and as you read this article, the fund raising portion of the Charity Basket program is shifting into the buying and distributing portion of the program. The Charity Ball/ Fiesta is over, the winners of the cruise to Mexico, vacations in Laughlin and dinners around town have been announced and now we are working hard to help an underprivileged family in our area to enjoy the holiday season with enough groceries to last their family one week.

Your help is needed now more than ever. This is the roll your sleeves up phase. People are needed to shop, pick and pack the baskets and then to drive them to the assigned families. Should you like to help us in these areas, please contact the office with your name and telephone number, either Tommy Claunch or myself will be in touch.

We need donations of canned goods and unwrapped toys for the Charity Baskets. Bring them to the lodge and deposit them in the collection barrel in the Anteroom. Then you will receive one ticket for each item on a raffle for the 36" Santa Claus displayed in the lounge area. We should look for specials in the market and help bring Christmas cheer to the less fortunate in our community. I figure for every canned good brought in that is one less we have to purchase. See the enclosed flyer for details.

Check your calendars for the dates of the Children's party and Tree decorating party at the lodge. Bring your children and/ or grandchildren and help them get into the holiday spirit. And of course, we would love to see you at our New Years Eve party.

No Leading Knight article would be complete without a pitch for attending the lodge meeting on Wednesday nights. How about next year trying to make at least one meeting a month. It will also keep you informed of news in the lodge between Antler Antics and give us a chance to know you. Come on down and attend a meeting, we would love to see you.

*Elks Care - Elks Share*

## SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

Sally Claunch, Com Chair.

495-0577



**OUR CONDOLANCES:** To the Enger family on the passing of Bro. Cliff.; the Landes family on the passing of Bro. Dennis; the Wallace

family on the passing of Grace's mother.

**KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Esquire Dave Naccarato who had a blood clot removed from his brain; Ernie Pacheco's wife who had her leg amputated; Mary Ann Swallows going in for surgery; Lee Grindle who is going to have surgery; John D'Ambrogio's sisters husband had a heart attack.

**ON THE MEND:** Elk Ladies VP, Melinda Pekow, is recovering from her lumpectomy and Elk Ladies VP, Alice Wagner.

## AMERICANISM

By Raven West, Com. Chair



In the early weeks of December 1776, the American Revolution was at its lowest ebb. Thousands of the colonists were surrendering. The American militia had retreated. All that remained of the

American Revolution was the little Continental army and the man who led it, General George Washington. The American Revolution was going to pieces. Unless some decisive victory could be won immediately, it would have come to an end. Yet even in this dark hour Washington did not despair. He sent in every direction for troops and supplies. Nothing was forgotten. Nothing that he could do was left undone.

As Christmas approached his plans were ready. On Christmas Eve, while the British were enjoying themselves in their comfortable quarters, Washington set out. With twenty four hundred men he crossed the Delaware through the floating ice. The crossing was successful, and the seemingly impossible victory at Trenton turned the tide for the American Revolution. One man's determination inspired an entire regiment, which rose in those dreary December days to its greatest height, under conditions so adverse that they had crushed the hope of every one else.

For many families in our community, the holidays are filled with hopelessness and despair. We, as Elks have many charities, which we contribute throughout the year. During December, we focus on our own community where we

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## EL KONEJO KAMPERS

By Pat von Wittenburg

We're back! And it feels pretty good, I guess - oops - getting ahead of myself.



Many thanks to Gene Ewald for covering the Faria campout and doing a great job. Gene is a many talented, fun person. We had heard about the weather at the beach and the weather in Simi - Doris

called us in Des Moines; guess it was cool (very) at the beach but hotter than the proverbial hinges when the Newcomers returned to Simi.

Back to Pt. Mugu - We arrived Thursday noonish and the timing was pretty darn good. Just as we stopped our rig and looked around in confusion as to our next move - Ed Colleran and the Erickson's pulled up! Processing through the military required paperwork was not too, too bad and we eventually arrived at the campsites - which were close to the wonderful restrooms and showers. (Sorry you couldn't make it Marilyn.)

It was typical cloudy beach weather but certainly not unpleasant. Soon the toys started coming out! The Collerans (our esteemed wagonmasters) had picked up a couple of electric scooters. Probably going to be seeing a few of these in the future. Almost all of us took turns (I wouldn't touch 'em - cause I knew I'd want one). Poor Jeff Drake - he get on to take a spin around the area - got stopped by base police and told he had to be wearing a helmet. Now this is in direct contradiction of what was told to Ed when purchasing these little cuties - but guess the rules are different on base!

Then out came the metal detectors. Ed and Wayne LaFarr were on the hunt! Personally, I didn't see many found treasures - but it kept them entertained for quite a while.

We had a new couple join us. Elmer and Trudy Johnson came out for the first time in spite of having joined the Kampers earlier in the year. What a delightful pair. All the women went off base - treasure hunting - JoAnn's, Wal-Mart and such - taking Trudy along. We forgot to warn Elmer that this would very likely be a daylong excursion. Trudy seemed to enjoy our company and I'm told Elmer and the rest of the guys fared quite well with all us womenfolk - gone!

It is really a shame that the turnout was so small - cause it is a really neat place to be - but those who were scheduled to arrive and changed their minds - will be sorry! Seems we started out with 11 or 12 reservations and ended up with 7 rigs. Pres. Hardy has a message for them. You go gettem Bob.

I understand Cheryl Templeton's CaChing was in sickbay so her absence was legitimate.

Jeff and Deb Drake were the Sheriff(s) and did a great job with a small group - both those two are VERY creative and their fines were really funny. Ya know - sometimes the quiet guys are really too much - of course, quiet does NOT apply to Deb - but it was good to have those two with us again.



Donna and Ed did a great job (as usual) and the raffle prizes were terrific. Beverly Erickson jibbed me for drawing my own number (twice) then proceeded to visit the table at least four times - go figure! But I believe almost everyone got a chance to pick something

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET THE KAMPERS' CHRISTMAS BRUNCH - DECEMBER 8 - Grand Villa Hotel - Simi - \$22 per person.** Hope to see you there! But remember - seating is limited! **TECK TIPS** learned on the road.

Saw some great mud flaps on a big rig "**CAUTION - If you can't see my mirrors - I CAN'T SEE YOU!!**"

Negative comments regarding truckers are often heard - but remember people - **THAT IS** their job! We're in **THEIR** place of business. When Bill insisted on having "courtesy light switches" installed - I thought he was just into his "gadget" mode - but found the truckers' response to our "courtesy" really neat. Bill always flashes (lights) the passing trucker when it's safe for them to return to our lane of travel - and the drivers "winky-dink" their lights for "thank you".

Also learned about Wal-Mart camping - it is a Hoot! Ya know - why pay a campground fee just for an overnight stop - believe me there are a lot of "high dollar" rigs stopping at Wal-Mart - when we pulled into Gallup - Bill said, "We can't park here - they're having an RV show". Not so - there were tow vehicle attached to most of the approximately 30 rigs already parked there.

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### AMERICANISM Cont. From Page 4

distribute charity baskets to those in need. As determined, as Washington was to win the war for freedom, we are just as determined to win the war of hunger in our community. May all the lights on our trees and all the candles in our menorahs dim in comparison to the brilliance of the smiles on the faces of those who will never again know another day of hunger because of what we do. And may we all enjoy the holiday season with our friends and families knowing the spirit of determination which helped founded this great country is alive in every heart of every member of The Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of Thousand Oaks Lodge #2477.

*"Let my words give you sustenance, nourish your spirit, take you places you've never imagined. Not just for today when you've read them, but for whatever forever we have in this life. Or the next."*

RAVENWEST

2002-03 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN	<b>LOYAL KNIGHT</b> <b>Jay Block</b>	2002-03 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN
<b>CONEJO VALLEY DAYS:</b> Lee Grindle <b>LODGE ACTIVITIES:</b> Dave Naccarato <b>SCOUTING:</b> Greg Metzger/Gary Holton <b>HOOPSHOOT:</b> Heather Maddox <b>WED. NIGHT DINNERS:</b> <b>DRUG AWARENESS:</b> Tom Ryder, DDGER <b>STRAY ELKS:</b> David Pearson <b>MOTHERS DAY:</b> Jim Rochford		<b>ENTERTAINMENT:</b> Joe Smith <b>WED. NIGHT TICKETS:</b> George Meehan/Len Cardoni <b>LAW ENFORCEMENT &amp; FIREFIGHTER</b> <b>APPRECIATION:</b> Scott Dool <b>DISTRICT PICNIC:</b> Tom Ryder, DDGER <b>PRESIDING JUSTICE:</b> Dick McCann <b>YOUTH ACTIVITIES:</b> Heather Maddox

If Charity is the cornerstone of every Elk structure then December is the cornerstone of the Lodge year. Starting off with the Memorial Service on the 1st, we officers then get into the spirit by helping the Elk Ladies with their Tree Trimming Party, then acting as servers at their Christmas Party and providing a place for Santa to sit at the Children's Party. Then we have the ER's Christmas Party.

Along with all of this partying the real work begins with the opening of the Tree Lot at Carlsons Building Materials Co. Our Treasurer, Bob Hardy, is chairing the tree lot this year, and is looking for a few good people to help, so sign-up and demonstrate your support. Having done it for the past three years, I can personally tell you that it is most gratifying, and a fun way to bring Elkdom to the attention of the Thousand Oaks Community. As before, from Wednesday the 18th through Saturday the 21st, the Lodge Room will be turned into a large cooler for the construction of the Charity Baskets which will be delivered on Saturday the 21st, by Santas Elk Elves.

During all this, remember that we are still having Monday Night Football bashes. We end the month and the year with a spectacular New Years Eve Gala, put on by yours truly and wife Myrna. The Theme is an Exotic Night at Rick's Cafe Americain. Dinner will be by Chefs Denise and David, with the bill of fare being prime rib (chicken by request) then dancing to the music of the Starlighters. The tab for this fantastic evening is only \$25 per person. Tickets went on sale last month and can be purchased from behind the bar, or from Myrna and I. Our phone number is 805-492-4016.

Jay Block YOUR LOYAL KNIGHT

## Elks National Foundation Offers \$2.216 Million

Applications are now available for students who wish to compete in the Elks National Foundation's annual Most Valuable Student scholarship contest. The Foundation will award a total of \$2.216 million in four-year scholarships to 500 national finalists. The first-place winners each receive \$60,000. Second and third place receive \$40,000 and \$20,000, respectively. Runners-up receive \$4,000 scholarships.

Any high school senior who is a citizen of the United States is eligible to apply. Applicants do not need to be related to a Member of the Elks. Males and females compete separately.

Applicants are judged on scholarship, leadership and financial need.

Applications for the 2003 contest are available at Elks Lodges, for download at [www.elks.org/enf/scholars/mvs](http://www.elks.org/enf/scholars/mvs), or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Foundation, 2750 N. Lakeview Ave., Chicago, IL 60614. Applications must be filed no later than January 10, 2003, with the applicant's nearest Elks Lodge.

Please help us promote this contest and make every effort to bring it to the attention of qualified students. Applications and promotional posters were sent to each Lodge scholarship chairperson in August. The application can be photocopied.

Applications must advance through local, district and state competition to reach the national competition. Winners will be announced around May 15, 2003.

*Elks Care - Elks Share*



HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY JACK



L-R

Jessa Boze, Greg Metzgas, Leading Knight, doing the honors of retireing a torn flag and Rickey Barnett

**FLAG RETIREMENT SERVICE**

On Sunday October 20, 2002 the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge 2477 carried out a very patriotic and inspiring Flag Retirement Ceremony with the help of the Scouting Troops that they sponsor. There were 50 members and guests who came to pay their respects.

Leading the procession presenting the Colors was Elk Member Tom Bolton, dressed in Kilts and playing the Bag Pipes followed by the Boy and Girl Scouts who were there to honor our Flag.

Opening the Retirement Service was Greg Metzgas, Leading Knight and Eagle Scout. He introduced our Master of Ceremony Dick McCann who shared some of the honors of those who gave so much to preserve our Flag.

The Esquire, Dave Naccarato was the first to retire a flag for the Elks. The Boy Scout Troop 754 conducted the Scouting ceremony of reciting patriotic verses as they cut away the stripes one at a time and then placing them in the funeral pyre. The Blue field was the last to go in the flames completing the ritual.

Before the final benediction by our Chaplain, Jim Rochford, Greg Metzgas presented envelopes with checks as their support of sponsorship to:

**Boy Scout 754, Girl Scout Junior 575, Girl Scout 161, Girl Scout Junior 82, Brownie 868, Brownie 66, Girl Scout Junior 12.**

The Scouts each took their turn one at a time in retiring the flags that the Lodge had collected.

There was an Ice Cream social after the ceremony.



Shirley, Yolie, baby, Jack Loughran, PER, the Octogenarian reveling with his beautiful ladies, Muriel, and Nancy.



The garage sale was a huge success thanks to all the hard workers who pitched in, ramroded by Pat von Wittenburg and friends



**FROM THE CRIBBAGE BOARD**

Patti Serota

There was a fine group of enthusiastic players that met for fun at the Canoga Park Lodge on the 27th of Oct.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Larry Lenne
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Brian Kearney (Ventura)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Bob Brennan

Yours truly got honorable mention. Hopefully we'll get together again next time at our Lodge around May of 2003.

Have a happy holiday.  
Patti

2002-03 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN	<b>LECTURING KNIGHT</b> <b>Sally Claunch</b>	2002-03 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN
<b>AMERICANISM: Raven West</b> <b>FLAGDAY/FLAG RETIREMENT:</b> <b>Sally Claunch</b> <b>SCHOLARSHIP: Bobby Holm</b> <b>GOVT. RELATIONS: Marilyn Harding</b> <b>MEMORIAL SERVICE: Jim Rochford</b> <b>KONEJO SPORTING KLAYS:</b> <b>Don Corts</b>		<b>NATIONAL SERVICES: Jim Kellogg</b> <b>KIDS XMAS PARTY: Chet Kozlowski, PER</b> <b>GOLF TOURNEY: Dave Pearson</b> <b>Tommy Claunch</b> <b>LODGE PICNIC: Bobby Holm</b> <b>MEMBERSHIP:</b> <b>CHRISTMAS TREES: Ernie Pacheco</b> <b>EL KONEJO KAMPERS: Bob Hardy, PER</b>

As a server, I participated in the veteran's brunch at our lodge last month. Under the direction of Jim Kellogg vets were transported to our lodge for the enjoyment of a wonderful meal prepared by Bobby Holm, Jim and Teri Rochford and Bobby Clark. Until then I did not realize or appreciate the passion, dedication and love that Jim Kellogg feels towards our vets. He is truly the embodiment of what a great Elk should be. When you see him, let him know that we value his efforts for the vets.

Another person whose efforts we value, is Bobby Holm for his chairing the scholarship committee and the lodge picnic. Now he is relocating to Bullhead City. Not only did he perform his chairman duties with professionalism and ease, but he also has secured his replacement, Vern Jossy. He will be missed!!!

In this giving season, let me be one of the first to wish you and your family a happy and healthy holiday season. In this season of giving, you can give a helping hand to our community by participating in our holiday food basket program chaired by the Metzguses and Annie Pearson. Help is needed in a variety of ways. In the Lounge there is a barrel that needs filling with wrapping paper, tape, cards, and toys for the children of needy families. If you donate a toy, please tell the bartender and receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win the giant Santa decoration displayed behind the bar. December 17-21<sup>st</sup> volunteers are needed to fill the baskets, wrap toys, address cards and deliver the baskets on Dec. 21. Sign up sheets are posted in the lounge.

Also during this giving season your lodge community is giving parties for lodge members and their families - the tree trimming party on Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> the children's Christmas party on Dec. 14, and the ER party on Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>.

## YA'LL ARE TERRIFIC !! OPERATION FACE-LIFT MOVES ON

Pat von Wittenburg

My goal for this Rummage Sale was \$2,000 and we came up just a wee bit short - netting \$1,751.27 but boy - am I **PROUD of ALL of YOU!** I have no way of knowing who all dropped off donations - but without you this event could not have happened. So a grateful **THANKS TO ALL OF YOU!**

Then there's Max Maxwell (poor guy) called about making a special donation of a German made slot machine and got sucked in to all kinds of work. I whined and sniveled about what we needed to hang clothing. He went to work - with a donation of rebar by Nick Schiele - Max designed and constructed racks to hang clothes. Harold Calvin came up with enough hangers to hang them. Thanks guys! ! By-the-by - Max's slot machine was one of the high ticket items that sold - and we did take a nickel (no pun intended) less than the asking price of \$75.

Again, Yolie Loughran, our resident bilingual salesperson was on site - wheeling and dealing. Yolie, are you sure you have never been a used car sales person?

Kathy Pavek, membership application pending, worked tirelessly, color coding and developing our pricing system. I hope I don't leave out anyone - here goes. Bob Hardy picked up the extra tarps we needed, Beverly & Joel Erickson, Vera Bailie, Kathy Jenkins, Buggy (well, maybe) & Dee Ansell, Sally Claunch, Ed & Donna Colleran, Marilyn Harding and my tireless co-chair Doris Newcomer. I swear - the woman must go home and collapse - she's like that silly bunny she just doesn't stop. To my daughter Kelly from Lancaster, who not only brought down a pickup truck full (another high ticket item that sold) but drove all over the Conejo to pick up items that couldn't be delivered. I cannot leave out my all-enduring spouse. Bill is not only a tough seller - he quotes a price and if they argue he ups it to the next increment - he tolerates my short temper and mood swings - many thanks dear!!!

*Elks Care - Elks Share*

**DDGER, TOMRYDER, Cont. from Page 3****From the Grand Secretary;  
DON'T BE THE TURKEY!**

Hate to bring this up at such a festive time of the year, but we have to. If your lodge has let a big chunk of DUES DELINQUENT MEMBERS sit on the back burner for months, take advantage of this reminder to do something about them BEFORE they have to be dropped. The holidays are a perfect time to call them up and invite them in for one of the lodge parties that play such a large role in their reasons for membership, with catch up on dues being a part of the bargain. You might be pleasantly surprised that most of them just need a friendly nudge to get them back in good standing. G'wan, ask 'em to come back to the Elks "good life" for only back dues. Any member can ask a delinquent member to come back!

**ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION  
Promise Grants 2003**

November marked the kick-off for the 2003 Promise Grants program. The Promise Grants program encourages lodges to provide the youth of our communities with a healthy, safe environment in which to have fun. A party, a dance, a picnic, or ?

A lodge can get up to \$200 for reimbursement of reasonable program related expenses for holding a drug, alcohol and violence free youth activity in their community.

For more information about this grant contact your lodge Drug Awareness Chairman, the District Chairman or your DDGER for more information.

**ELKS NATIONAL VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION  
Veteran Volunteer of the Year Award**

As Elks we are proud of the work that our members and their spouses perform with the veterans of our armed forces. It is proper for us to recognize the commitment and dedication of the volunteers in our Army of Hope.

The Veterans Volunteer of the Year Award honors those who have dedicated themselves to serving our nation's veterans. There are two awards per year for each State Association, one male and one female.

If there is someone in your lodge that you believe is worthy of this award please get in contact your lodge Veterans Service Chairman, the District Chairman or the DDGER for more information.

**LODGE ACTIVITIES  
COMMITTEE CONTESTS AND AWARDS**

The California-Hawaii Elks Association and the Grand Lodge have many awards available for lodges that want to share what their lodges are doing for Elkdom. These are prestigious awards and get local, State and National recognition. By simply documenting your lodge's activities and submitting them through the responsible committee members, you become eligible for awards. There are six levels of awards in each contest based on the number of members in each lodge. Something for everybody!

Contests are broken down to All American Lodge, Community Service and Image, Elks Memorial Service, Lodge Bulletin Contest, and Elks National Foundation Contests (5 ENF contests).

For more information contact your lodge Public Relations Chairman, the District PR Chairman or the DDGER.

**MEMBERSHIP****Francis "Frank" Keller CHEA PSP  
Grand Lodge Membership Committee**

I have two questions for you;

1. Why aren't lodges initiating more qualified individuals into our order?
2. Why are we letting the members we have, refuse to pay their dues and let their membership drop?

My thoughts as to why we don't initiate more individuals is that the majority of the members in the lodges just don't have the motivation to solicit new members. Many lodges don't have a Membership Chairman and membership never gets mentioned at meetings or anywhere else. The Exalted Ruler and his chairman **MUST** establish membership goals and have a plan as how to meet these goals.

Lodges **MUST** have an active Membership Management Control Team, **IT IS MANDATORY** by Grand Lodge Statues. This Team can help!

Fraternally, **Tom Ryder** - DDGER - WCCD

December 31, 2002  
Come Join Us for an Exotic New  
Years  
Eve at  
Ricks Cafe' Americain

(Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477  
6:30 p.m. Hors' doeuvres  
No Host Cocktails

7:30 p.m. Fine Dining on Prime  
Rib  
(Chicken on Request

8:30 p.m. Dance to the Mellow  
Tones of  
The Starlighters

11:00-Mid-night Eleven o'clock  
Toast  
champagne & Cake

Door Prize Drawing & ENF Raffle

\$25.00 p/p  
Reservations only for parties of 6 or  
more or for lounge seating

Reservations & Cancellation Deadline  
December 26th



(L-R) DDGER, Tom Ryder makes his official visit with the committee chariman and ER, Don Booker



The Grand Lodge Officers are introduced to the Lodge members, Bob Hardy, Auditor, Tom Ryder DDGER, and Chet Kozlowski, Tiler



Grand Lodge Officers completed their official visitation



Richard Goldner, PER, receives a Millenium Certificate for his \$500 donation to the Major Project



Pre Halloween fund raiser by the Jr. Elks raised \$150 for Lodge Beautification \$150 for Jr. Elks



Scary Cake sale very successful and a lot of fun

**WELCOME ABOARD**



**OUR NEW MEMBERS**



(L-R) Waybe Foss with sponsor Nick Schiele



Michael Strunk with sponsor Dick McNeal



Vet being greeted by Jim Kellogg, National Service Committee Chairman and assisted off the bus by Patrick Gregorio, Recreational Therapist. The veterans expressed their appreciation of this annual recognition of Veterans.



Dave Naccarato, receives from Barbara Metzgas \$72 by way of Greg Metzgas, for Handicapped Children



Greg Metzgas, Leading Knight, recipient of the Marvin Lewis Award for Scouting and Richard Goldner, PER a past recipient of this auspicious award.



Jim Rochford, Chaplain, presented the proceeds from the Ominus Breakfast to Greg Metzgas

2002-03 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS	<b>THE ELKS LADIES</b> <b>Myrna Block</b>	2002-03 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Melinda Pekow 2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Karen Naccarato 3RD VICE PRESIDENT: Alice Wagner SECRETARY: Alice Kennedy/Dee Swanson TREASURER: Donna Hardy AUDITOR: Kathy Ryder TELEPHONE: Patti Serota		PARLIAMENTARIAN: Shirley Kozlowski CHAPLAIN: Marilyn Cissell MAJOR PROJECTS: Gladys Ennis/Anne Ogden CVD: Dee Swanson & Marilyn Cissell HISTORIAN: SUNSHINE: Pat Smail

**FROM THE ELK LADIES 2ND VICE PRESIDENT**

Karen Naccarato

Hello Ladies! I'm sorry I missed the last meeting in November, but as a lot of you knew, David was in the Hospital. He's home and doing a lot better. I want to thank all of you for the phone calls and especially your prayers. It was comforting to know I had a lot of people who cared and was there for me. Thank You So Much!!

There will be no meeting this month, so there is no excuse for you to not come to all the other events going on. Don't forget our Elks Ladies Christmas Party on December 10th and please bring an unwrapped toy for the Christmas Charity Baskets. All of you have a Healthy and Happy Holiday!!!



Elks Ladies Fashion Show featuring models Louise Lampron, Marilyn Cissell, Roxanne Horning and Sally Claunch



**ALL YOUR CREATIONS ,  
LORD**

Marilyn Cissell

Before we had computers, Lord,  
cell phones-also TV,  
This big world you created, God,  
for all eternity.

No cost to see your wonders,  
great oceans, vast rivers, the sky,  
Gentle lemurs in Madagascar,  
goats and eagles on mountains high.

Perhaps we'll never travel far,  
wild birds and trees we see each day,  
All here for our enjoyment, Lord,  
your natural beauty on display.



**DECEMBER**

- 5. Carol Neuner
- 6. Colleen MacFarlane
- 10. Kay Riebe
- 11. Marilyn Harding
- 12. Shirley Kozlowski
- 14. Catherine Koeritz
- 15. Roxy Skinner
- 19. Joan Hanson
- 23. Mary Ann Swallows
- 27. Marilyn Cissell
- 30. Sally Claunch

**ELKONEJO KAMPERS CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The Grand Vista Hotel  
999 Enchanted Way, Simi Valley  
10:30 am - 2:00 pm  
\$22 Per Person

**ELKS LADIES CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**Tues. December 10th, 2002**

## HONOR ROLL



Wed. 10/2 Meeting  
 Greg Metzgun  
 Barbara Metzgun  
 Conejo Valley Activity Corp.



## DECEMBER

Belated wishes to Wayne Flittner for his birthday, Nov. 21st.

- |                     |                       |                     |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 3. Edward Cassese   | 13. Robert Neuner     | 24. Lee Silver      |
| Bruce Cameron       | 14. Jerry Carraway    | Robert Holm         |
| 5. Mike Bonner      | 15. Jack Malone       | Bill Sandham        |
| Dick Johnson        | 16. IB Jensen         | 26. Mike Pasternak  |
| Gene Ewald          | Anthony Battaglia     | John Schreyer       |
| Leo Massicotte      | 17. Bud McDonald      | 28. Dick Nebeker    |
| 6. Wallace Scolpini | Edward Bianchi        | 29. Wayne Trunnell  |
| 7. George Coberly   | Scott D. Dool         | Susie Ross          |
| 9. Charles Ray      | 19. Vern Ogden P.E.R. | Robert R. Jones     |
| George Hinkfus      | 20. Robert Jennings   | Nabil Sakla         |
| 10. Robert Hummel   | Barrett Grindle       | 30. Sally Claunch   |
| Gene Stevens        | John Harris           | 31. Eddie Bergfield |
| 11. Ray Clayton     | 21. Walt Green        |                     |
| Marilynn Harding    | Alex Work             |                     |
| Dale Smith          | Richard L. Goldner    |                     |
| 12. Erich Briggs    | 23. Herb Lampron      |                     |

FROM THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE  
 PROPOSED AND WILL BE BALLOTTED ON  
 DATE: December 11, 2002

NAME	OCCUPATION	SPONSOR
Michael A. Tanner	Sales Manager Branson Ultrasonics	Harold Calvin

## CRYING TOWEL



- |            |            |  |
|------------|------------|--|
| October 2  | \$500.00   | #1064 Jerry Serota "WINNER"              |
| Lucky 13   | 50.00      | #1882 Dave Ely                           |
| October 9  | \$75.00    | #1711 Merle White                        |
| Lucky 13   | No Winner  |  |
| October 16 | \$100.00   | #1729 Alvin Caddem                       |
| Lucky 13   | No Winner  |  |
| October 23 | \$125.00   | #1592 \$ 125 Richard J. Goldner "WINNER" |
| Lucky 13   | No Winner  |  |
| October 30 | No Meeting |  |



### ***ELKS CHRISTMAS TREES***

**The Christmas Trees Should Arrive on  
Dec 4.**

The Lodge will have the Christmas Tree lot thanks to Carlson's Building Center on Thousand Oaks Blvd. Plan to buy your tree from our Lodge and help support our charites. The lot will be open until we sell all our trees aproximately two weeks.

Help will be needed to run the lot both during the day and night. A notice and sign up sheet will be posted at the Lodge in November, or contact Bob Hardy at 482-7632.

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED  
AND WILL BE  
APPRECIATED**

Bob Hardy Chairman

### ***CONEJO VALLEY ACTIVITIES CORP.***

Bob Hardy, PER

On Wednesday October 23 PER Bob Hardy presented a check for 1,000 dollars to Leading Knight Greg Metzgas. The check was from the Conejo Valley Committee of which the lodge is a member. This Committee is charged with running the Conejo Valley Activity, which is an annual Community affair that includes a Grand Marshal Race, Parade, Carnival and Rodeo.

This Money will be used by the lodge with \$500 designated for Major Project, Handicapped children; \$250 for our Christmas Basket Program; and \$250 for our Boy Scout Program.



Bob Hardy, PER and campagne manager for the 'Dakota Kid' presents a check for \$1,000 from the CVAC for our charities, Christmas Baskets, Major Project, & Scouting

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**FRIDAY JANUARY 24, 2003**

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Quisine**

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## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Heather Maddox, Com. Chair.

I am still looking for Volunteers to help in our Hoop Shoot, which we have decided we are going to arrange different dates and places; (i.e. Joe Smith is checking on the availability of the Teen Center; I am checking with Young Set Club for after school daycare). Please if you know of someone, someplace please don't hesitate in calling them, asking them if they would be interested. I have information we can send or bring to them, just let me know.

The Elks Halloween Party was a lot of fun. I want especially thank our (3) Jr. Elks that were able to help serve dinner that night, "Robbie; Chris & Gastavo," THANKS!!!! for all your help, you three did a great job. Hey, Chris we especially liked the dancing around and about the chair or is that called dodging??

Upcoming: Our Juniors will be helping with the Christmas Charity Baskets on the 19th. They changed their December meeting from the 12th to the following Thursday the 19th, so they would be available with anything they can help with. The Jr.'s will also be making Christmas necklaces that will be available soon.

I would like to announce that: The "Three Clowns": Gymie Jo, Buggy & Ken have offered to sponsor a fundraiser for our T.O., Jr. Elks Program, which will include:  
**ALL YOU-CAN-EAT "SPAGHETTIFEAST" along with Entertainment.**

Date: Saturday, March 1st (I still have to check w/the clowns); Tickets: \$6.00 (Prepaid); \$8.00 (At the Door), more info to follow "LOOK FOR THE FLYERS."

Well, Jerry wants to get the calendar to the press and he called me hours ago, so I better send it off. I am sure I missed a few things, but they'll have to wait until next month. Happy Holidays to everyone!!!!

Heather Maddox  
Youth Activities Chairman



Wheel chaired vet enjoyed the day and Bob Holm pressed into service did a masterful job in the kitchen for the Veteran Brunch

## NO ARTIFICIAL FLAVORS ADDED!



What if you lived in a place so beautiful it's been the setting for movies and draws thousands of visitors every year? What if you'd eat better food served on time and piping hot instead of your current diet?

What if your accommodations provided more security and comfort but also put you seconds away from a friendly, helping hand when you need it? What if your recreation had enough choices to fill 48 hours in every 24 including just leaning back under a blue sky listening to the peaceful sounds of nature?

Elks, if you're sitting at the kitchen table with a TV dinner you're too tired to eat after housekeeping, if there's nothing outside your front door except whatever's making all that racket, if the weather is rotten again, if the stuff on TV doesn't keep you entertained, **MAYBE...JUST MAYBE** you're ready to find out what's going on at the **ELKS NATIONAL HOME** in Bedford, Virginia. No obligation, no salesman will call, no strings attached. Just reach over, pick up the phone and call 1-800-552-4140 toll-free. The **ELKS NATIONAL HOME** will send you all the information pronto!

If you're bashful, drop them a line at 931 Ashland Avenue, Bedford, VA 24523-1399, or email: [enhome@aol.com](mailto:enhome@aol.com). Executive Director Bill Pickett and his wife Eileen will be glad to hear from you.

---

### Personal Note to You Hello, Mrs. Serota!

Welcome to Pulse, the Elks National Foundation email update. We hope that this email update keeps you informed and up-to-date on our charitable works, and most importantly, notifies you when your support is needed.

As of October 9, the most recent gift we had received from you was \$25.00 on July, 31 2002. Thank you for your support! When you are ready to donate again, you may do so from the convenience of your own home at [www.elks.org](http://www.elks.org)

According to our records, as of October 9, you had donated a total of \$100.00 to the Elks National Foundation, making you a Participating Member. To learn more about our individual recognition program and how much you need to donate to attain the next level of giving, go to [www.elks.org/enf/IndividualRecognition.cfm](http://www.elks.org/enf/IndividualRecognition.cfm).

Best wishes, and enjoy this issue of Pulse!

Jim O'Kelley, Director  
Elks National Foundation

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Jerry Serota, Com. Chairman

On November 3, 2002, Jim Kellogg, National Services Committee Chairman and Jack Loughran, PER, greeted Thirty five patients who were bused to the Elks Lodge from the Sepulveda Veterans Hospital Nursing Home. The Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge honored our Veterans with a Sunday morning brunch. Fulfilling the pledge "That as long as a veteran is in our hospitals the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will not forget him".

It was a beautiful sunny day in the 70's and very comfortable for the Vets. There were 12 patients confined to wheel chairs. They were served eggs, bacon, sausage, kilbasa, corned beef hash, scaloped potatoes, biscuits and gravy, juice and pudding.

Upon leaving they expressed how much they looked forward to this yearly visit



Jack Loughran, PER, greeted Ruth Eldridge an Army nurse during WWII who served at Letterman Hospital in San Francisco. The Veterans were ramped from the bus for a brunch at the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge. It was most fitting that Jack should be our Greeter this day because he served in three wars, WWII, Korea, and Vietnam.



Teresa Cracchiolo, widowed at Pearl Harbor is greeted by George Meehan, Inner Guard and Duty Officer. Teresa was a Navy nurse and served at the Norfolk, VA, Bethesda Naval Hospital. She never remarried.

**Elks National Foundation**

Chet Kozlowski, PER, WCCD, ENF CHAIR.

E-Mail, chetkozlow@adelphia.net

With the holidays fast approaching it means that the year 2002 is just about history. Most of us are fully occupied with family and if you're like me, you're wondering how you're going to pay for it. Before the holidays are over the Credit Cards will be maxed out. With 13 grand kids, 2 great grand kids, 4 kids of Shirley's, a niece and nephew and whomever she slipped in while I wasn't looking, I'll be paying until March 2003.

Our nations 911 tragedy brought out the best in all of us Elks. We met the challenge and of course when you add the rest of the charities we're committed to as Elks, the drain was substantial.

Having said all of that and before the year is history please give some consideration to the charities that we gave birth to such as Elks National Foundation (ENF), California Hawaii Elks Major Project (CHEA(handicapped children)). Bequest and Living Trust (BLT) and of course the Christmas baskets. This year we and the other lodges in our District are running behind in what we normally donate. Our charities need your help.

Just to refresh your memory, ENF supports not only the special kids, but also the Veterans, Boy Scouts, Scholarships, Hoop Shoot, Soccer and the list goes on. The CHEA major project provides help to the handicapped kids and supports the therapists that work with them. In addition CHEA pays for the eye exams for the pre school toddlers. The BLT program provides additional funds for the CHEA Major Project. BLT's intent is to keep providing funds to the handicapped kids long after you and I are gone. The charity baskets speak for themselves, and if you were ever involved in the distribution and see the faces on some of those kids and families, well!!! You feel like superman.

If you can squeeze out something financially the recipients will be greatly appreciative. Guess what, you will also feel better about yourself. Remember, we do have an obligation to support those charities. God help us if we have to eliminate any of them.

**ALERT THE MEDIA**

Dale Grimes has a new grandson, Deacon Taylor Grimes. born Sun. 4-7-02, weighing in at 5lb. 13 oz. and 18 inches long.

Sponsors

**POETS CORNER**

By: Ken Muellerleile



**ASCENDING**

Droplets running down my cheek are there for a special reason, sad news confronted me today sad, because it's the Xmas season.

We have before us, not a birth but one of a different reflection, instead of a Spirit coming to us it's heading in the opposite direction.

And in It's journey I hope it finds peace of mind with eternal favors, because of It's earth bound entity pure of heart will be It's Savior.

Now the tears seem to fade away and the cheeks are getting dryer, because I no longer feel the sadness My spirit floats higher and higher.

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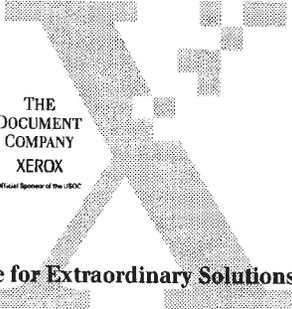
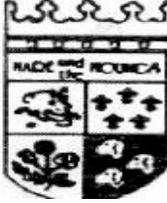
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Walter Ogden	4 Year
Denise Goldner	5 Year

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1973-74 Erle Pittman	1994-95 *George Pekow
1974-75 Richard Flake	1995-96 Gil Riding
1975-76 Bill Wagner	1996-97 Jack Loughran
1976-77 John E. Henry	1997-98 John Kelly
1977-78 Robert McKee	1998-99 Chet Kozlowski
1978-79 *Frank J. Rindone	1999-00 Richard Goldner
1979-80 Edward F. Stogsdell	2000-01 Jacob Panczak
1980-81 Frank "Tex" Hastie	2001-02 John D'Ambrogio
1981-82 Robert Hardy	
1982-83 *A. John Nichols	By Affiliation:
1983-84 John Nau	1981-82
1984-85 Vern Ogden	Robert L. Thornton
1985-86 Dan Snyder	
1986-87 Bill Lloyd	
1987-88 John E. Henry	
1988-89 Ted Lipka	
1989-90 Don Skinner	
1990-91 Don Ansell	
1991-92 Gary Sleigh	
1992-93 Tom Ryder	

\*Deceased

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