



George Meehan,
Exalted Ruler



ANTLER ANTICS

Vol 38, No. 3

Editor, Sally Claunch, PER

June '08

Reaching Out in Elkdom



FATHER'S DAY CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH

JUNE 15, 2008
10 AM - 1 PM
AT THE LODGE
COST \$9 ADULTS
\$5 CHILDREN (3 - 12)
TO RESERVE A TABLE
FOR EIGHT OR MORE
CALL
ALICE 497-2504
JUNE 497-4274



MENU
SCRAMBLED EGGS
HASH BROWNS
SAUSAGE
BACON
BISCUITS & GRAVY
FRUIT
BAGELS /DANSH
ORANGE JUICE
CHAMPAGNE
COFFEE



Have a Happy Father's Day!

OPERATION FACELIFT

Tom Ryder, PDDGER



The “**OPERATION FACELIFT**” committee has been set up to prioritize, recommend and oversee programs and work required to make our current facility more appealing to members and guests. There have been some comments as to spending money on our current facility. Until there is a definite decision as to what and where we are going, we have to assume we are staying where we are and will try to make the best of what we have!

Operation Pride – Help keep your lodge buildings and grounds presentable. There is a lot of loose garbage and litter around the lodge. Please help us pick it up and deposit it in a garbage container. Let’s get some pride in what we have, make our facility more presentable to our members, neighbors and the community!

New Facility – A project of Operation Facelift could be relocation to a new property! Somewhere in our community there is a building and grounds that can be made suitable for our use. It is up to us all to be looking for this property. Please help us find it. When looking, some considerations to be taken into account are:

- Need a building approximately 12,000 square feet in size, preferably in an industrial area.
- Would like approximately 3 acres or more of land. Need separation from neighbors!
- Need parking available for 170 cars, some parking could be shared with adjacent facilities.

Parking – Area Clean up and relocation of the wooden fence in front of the rental property in progress. This provides more parking and an area for garage sales, picnic area, swap meets and other uses.

Operation Green Up – Now that dry weather is here, the “shaggy” fence behind the new flowerbed is to be painted so as to blend in with the new apartment buildings on both sides of us. Paint has been donated.

Outside Painting Of Facilities – A member has volunteered to paint our building at a minimal cost. Awaiting an estimate of his costs and when he could paint. Tom Hartin coordinating. Funding required.

Repair/replace Lodge Building Roof - Entire roof replacement is being considered. Either a new facility away from this site or a remodel of our current facilities is being considered. Funding to be determined.

Remodel Ladies Lounge – Need a major upgrade of this lounge. Preliminary plans are to move the inside wall, install a full handicapped stall and increase the size of the other two stalls. Leo Rodriquez and Terry Gicking are coordinating this effort. Funding is required.

Update Lodge Electrical Wiring – Lodge electrical wiring is old, overworked and tired. Duke Kopacz and Boyd Lindquist had electricians’ survey existing wiring. Boyd Lindquist is coordinating. Funding is required.

Property Line Stabilization – Planning to go to the city and find out what the status of the project for the lot next to us is. Recycle area and new garbage container enclosure part of project. Tom Ryder is coordinating.

Saturday BBQ Area - Fence and Gate. - Outside patio and eating area is a success with Saturday people who come to partake in our BBQ offerings. Project is to make picnic area less visible to the road so people will feel more at ease while eating. Estimated cost is \$600. Tom Ryder is coordinating.

New Front Entry Door – Door to Lobby is narrow and not up to handicapped standards. Cost estimate is for approximately \$900 for a new door including installation. Terry Gicking is coordinating.

NEEDED

Your lodge is always in need of volunteers to help with various Lodge functions. If you have some time on your hands, consider lending a hand at an upcoming event or project. Contact the office or any officer or me to volunteer your time. Thank you to all those who have already given of their time! You are greatly appreciated

Manual laborers (Grunts) ~ Grounds keepers (gardeners)

Kitchen – Cooks, helpers, specialty cooking teams ~ Painters – General - no talent required!

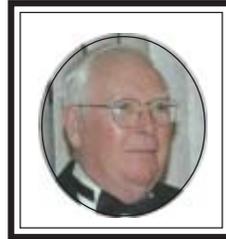
2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS



EXALTED RULER
George Meehan

2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

ANTLER ANTICS: Sally Claunch, PER, Editor,
Jerry Serota, Photographer
Calendar: Tom Ryder, PDDGER
NEW BEGINNINGS:
HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK:
GREETERS: Dorothy Murray
PUBLIC RELATIONS:
OPERATION FACELIFT: Tom Ryder, PDDGER



BUILDING MAINT.: Max Maxwell/Tom Hartin
PARLIAMENTARIAN: Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, DL
LODGE VISITATIONS:
BBQ WAGON:
AUDITING: Chet Kozlowski, PER
ELKS TRAINING: George Meehan
SHOE TOURNAMENTS: Mike Budenski
BEQUESTS & LIVING TRUSTS: Robert Jones
PLANNING COMMITTEE:

What's Happening....

Ritual Contest was held at Santa Maria Lodge on April 25 & 26. Our Thousand Oaks team made a fine effort in their presentation. Raven West took first place for Leading Knight, Terry Gicking was second in the Loyal Knight category; Greg Metzgas was first for Lecturing Knight but because he is a PER his name was never mentioned, which, in my opinion, is a shame. We had two repeaters in positions, Terry Baker as Chaplain and Robert Jones as Esquire. They both did a great job but because they were repeaters, points were taken away from their scores, which prevented them from winning. Your Exalted Ruler didn't do too well but he gave it the best he could. The team was impressive and I was proud of them all.

You know, this year we only had one ritual coach, that being David Naccarato and in my opinion, if there was an award for #1 Elk in the USA, it would be David. He is always there to help. Thank you, David.

Now, as I was saying we only had one coach for ritual this year, when in the past, we have had three and sometimes four and as we all know, one coach just can't accomplish what three or four can. Because of this need, the call is going out—if you like to teach, if you like to coach, step up and help out. There is a lot of satisfaction in it.

As I was writing this article for the June issue of "The Antics", I got a call from Terry Baker. He is working the Streaker Dog Wagon at Conejo Valley Days along with Eddy Rice, Jim Mullen, Tom Hartin and many BBQ members. These good Elks are to be commended for all of their time and hard work put into making this lodge a success. Jim Allen, Ben Rieger, David Stull and many, many more are working hard to make the BBQ a success. They could use some help. How about some more volunteers stepping in to give them a hand? It is a lot of fun, give it a try. You will be glad that you did.

State Convention is coming up on May 14 and many of your officers will be traveling to San Diego to attend. Going to the State Convention is a learning experience. There is always something new to learn that helps you become a better lodge officer. So, I look forward to State Convention in May, National Convention in July and lots of activities in my life and Cornelia's

Finally, I want to let you know that we have hired an organist. Her name is Karin Speights, she lives in Port Hueneme and she will be at our Wednesday night meetings. She is a very nice person and I hope you will all come and meet and welcome her. The organ was serviced today and is ready again to be a part of our meetings and perhaps other activities.

That's it for now. Come to the lodge; come to the meetings so you can be a part of the planning. Make Elkdom a part of your life. We, as Elks, have so much to give.



Your Lodge Serving the Community

Providing monthly Bingo Party and an outing to Reagan Library for the Vets by Jim Kellogg and Crew

Cooking lunch for the Brownie Olympics

Be an Elk volunteer, call the office with your name and phone number



Sally Claunch, PER Editor
claunchsally@gmail.com
articles are due the 5th of the month
send as a word document

TRUSTEES REPORT

At the organizational meeting in April, Sally Claunch was elected Chair and the five year Trustee Steve Smith, along with the two year Trustee John Peterson, will be safety officers. John is training Steve.

The Trustees completed the balanced budget for 2008-2009 which was read and approved on the floor at the first meeting in May. As Trustees, we are aware of the rising cost of food and products for the Lodge, and the diminished attendance at dinners, Sunday breakfasts, and events. To maintain the current prices, we intend to monitor closely all events.

As members we can assist by eating at the Lodge and attending events. Recently outstanding, delicious meals have been served to small crowds. Check out the menu for June. If each member, came to the Lodge for at least one meal a month, and stayed for the fellowship, we would have a banner year in the kitchen and bar areas. Besides you may have a great time and meet new friends.

OFFICERS HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bar Manager, Corinne Richeson gave monthly update on status of the lounge.

John D'Ambrogio will install a dead bolt to secure the Lodge at night.

George Meehan will attend the Santa Maria rodeo parade and ride in our train.

There will be a BBQ recognition dinner in Sept.

House Committee meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Trustees meet the first Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Your input is valued. Your attendance is welcomed.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS 805-495-0577

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Dean Nash,
ON THE MEND: Richard Goldner, PDDGER had knee surgery following an attack by a bear?? Myrna Block has healed from surgery and is back attending Lodge meetings. Walter Ogden had successful valve surgery

GLAD TIDINGS: Grace and Jim Wallace, PER become proud grandparents again. Kevin Metzger made his father Greg and mother Barb grandparents to Madison Sue and his grandmother Rubye was made a great-grandmother (see picture on page 15).

**REMEMBER CARDS AND CALLS
ARE ALWAYS APPRECIATED!!!**



COMING ATTRACTIONS

June 7-Comedy Nite at the Lodge
June 11-Open Meeting-Flag Day Observance
June 13-15-Kampers at Lake Casitas
June 15-Father's Day Brunch
June 18-State VP Visit to Lodge
June 28-Going Away Party for George

2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS	LEADING KNIGHT Raven West	2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
MAJOR PROJECT/PURPLE PIG: David Naccarato SICKNESS AND DISTRESS: Sally Claunch INVESTIGATION: Bob Arbetman ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION: Tom Ryder, PDDGER		CHRISTMAS BASKETS: Raven West INDOCTRINATION: Dave Naccarato, PER MEM. CONTROL. COM.: Herb Jellander CVAC: Tom Hartin COMMUNITY RELATIONS: CHARITY DINNERS: Raven West

Quotes about winning are very well known, especially in the area of sports.

Green Bay Packer's Coach Vince Lombardi is credited with the now famous quote: "Winning isn't everything; it's the only thing". Sports journalist Grantland Rice wrote that, it's "not that you won or lost but how you played the game."

The modern Olympics slogan expressed by the founder Pierre de Coubertin: "The most important thing . . . is not winning but taking part in the Games." Has pretty much been replaced by the American Version "Go For The Gold!" and no one is quite sure who coined the phrase; "Ya win some, ya lose some, some get rained out, but you dress for them anyway."

Whichever phrase or slogan you prefer to recite prior to the "game", they are nothing compared to hearing your name, and your team's name following the words "First Place Goes To..." at the awards ceremony after the competition is over.

Most of us are well past the age where we can compete in organized sports. We're in the stands cheering our children and grandchildren. We're spectators at the World Series, Superbowl, and the 2008 Olympics. There are fewer and fewer opportunities for us to bring home the winning trophy, except for one- Elks Ritual Contest.

Charlie Richardson was a 25-year-old singer when he landed in the New York City in 1867. He was a performer and entertainer. His talent attracted a large group of theatrical performers who banded together and began meeting under the name of Jolly Corks. These men were the founding Brothers of the Benevolent And Protective Order of Elks. They were actors, singers and performers who not only had immense pride in their craft, but in the great charitable work that their new organization would contribute to their community.

Their legacy of Charity, Justice, Brother Love, and Fidelity continues today with all the great work our Lodge does for our community and each other. Their love of theater also continues in the beauty and meaning of our Ritual. For new members, this is their first impression of what true Elkdom is all about. The words have been mostly unchanged since the very first Initiation, and there is a reason why this first impression is practiced and performed by all Lodges nationwide. To continue the tradition of those who founded our organization so that new members will be reminded of the very special and unique organization they are now members of.

Just like Broadway actors, our Ritual "Team" of Officers not only had the task of memorizing the script, but also must

know specific body movements, word pronunciation, right down to the way we banged the gavels and do all of this "impressively". Every month when we initiate new members, and once a year when we compete at ritual contest, we are all actors performing a play which has been the longest running show off Broadway, and is never the exact same twice.

Our ritual team practiced twice a week for over four months. We drove to rehearsal in Santa Maria. Gave up Sunday afternoons and Thursday nights to rehearse the "show" for our Lodge, which would be a memorable experience for our new members. It was a bit disheartening that only 11 of our lodge members were in the audience the night of our performance, but it was also understandable. Unlike plays or movies on DVD which we view over and over and never get tired of (I've seen Les Miserable 12 times!), it seems our Ritual "Play" turns more people away then brings them into our "theater". It may seem to go on forever, but it really only lasts less than one hour. When you're the one on stage, it lasts even less!

Although we compete with other ritual teams, the real reason we memorize those words, rehearse for weeks and wear our "costume" tuxedo, is to impress the new members with the passion and love we share for our Lodge, our Order and the tradition which was started just over 100 years ago by a singer from England.

So, if you wish to experience the richness of a fantastic performance without having to stand in line or pay exorbitant prices for a front row seat, come see our Ritual. Our show is scheduled on the forth Wednesday of the month and is proceeded by a gourmet dinner and followed by the Good of the Order, fun, friendship and drink.

Oh, and by the way.... the 2008 WCCD Ritual contest results were:

First Place Lecturing Knight, Thousand Oaks, GREG METZGUS
Second Place Loyal Knight, Thousand Oaks, TERRY GICKING

And the First Place Leading Knight Is.....

Raven West

Comedy Nite
June 7th- 8pm
\$15-2 drinks

2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

LOYAL KNIGHT Terry Gicking

2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

CONEJO VALLEY DAYS: Ed Rice
LODGE ACTIVITIES: Dave Naccarato, PER
SCOUTING: Bill Miller
HOOPSHOOT: Dave Naccarato, PER
WED. NIGHT DINNERS: Terry Gicking
DRUG AWARENESS: Robert Jones
STRAY ELKS: Herb Jellander



MOTHER'S DAY: Rick Herrera
ENTERTAINMENT: Corinne Richeson
WED. NIGHT TICKETS: Leo Rodriguez
**LAW ENFORCEMENT & FIRE FIGHTER
 APPRECIATION:** Scott Dool
PRESIDING JUSTICE:
YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Robert Jones

So there I was, enjoying a Corona or two on the good ship Lollipop off the coast of Ensenada, when it hits me that I have an article to put together for you all to read! Well, as the panic starts to subside because I switched to Margaritas, (they ran out of Coronas. I don't know why!), I realized I was with a herd of Elks on this same ship and that they were all telling me how much fun I was having when ever they saw me! It made me think of one of the great reasons I am still a member in this wonderful lodge. Our wonderful membership!

You members know how to help a stray Elk when he or she has staggered out of the herd. We have fun with it. We don't tell others about it. And we don't show the pictures. We put our arms around each other and help them back to the herd. Any way, where was I going with this? Oh yea, great members. And along with membership comes great privileges-like great dinners on Friday nights, great breakfasts on Sunday morning, great dinners before our meetings on Wednesday nights. Great food & great members in a nice atmosphere had at a great lodge! It doesn't get any better than that! Wow, I guess the word of the day is great! So if you haven't got the hint, we are asking you to pick a meal or two and come down and enjoy! And if you are really ambitious, come down and help on a meal or two. Remember, you would be working side by side with some great Elks.

And now here is something completely different. Let's talk Junior Elks. Heather Maddox is once again getting the Juniors together. These Juniors are children & grandchildren of Elks, ranging in age from 9-10 to 17-18. They are going to have some car washes at the lodge on a Saturday or Sunday throughout the summer to help raise money for charity. We hope to help teach them what the Elks are. When they become of age to be an Elk, they will join to be an active member. She has also talked to sister Simi lodge, and they are putting together a group also. We also hope to be able to get both groups together to have some friendly competition and fun! Contact Heather or myself for more info.

One last thing, thank you Raven West and Chuck Busch for putting together a great Youth Appreciation dinner & awards night!

Well that's it for now. It's back to the kitchen.

DICTIONARY PROGRAM DELIVERS

On Wednesday April 16, 2008, the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 culminated their free dictionaries to third grade students at the Meadows Elementary School with the final distribution of 50 dictionaries. Bill Miller, Com. Chair and his Jeri made the presentation.

In total over 1,000 dictionaries were distributed to the Camarillo Unified School District and the Thousand Oaks Unified School District. Today we received 30 thank you notes from the students and teachers of Meadows Elementary School and they were very heart warming in their enthusiasm, which makes this charity special.



Meadows Elemenarty School 3rd graders at dictionary assembly, Bill Miller, Dictionary Chair back right

**THANK
YOU SO
MUCH!**

to Tom and Marlene Walsh for donating their bond interest monies to Operation FaceLift.

to Dick Flitner and John Peterson for donating munchies for the lounge.

ENTERTAINMENT



June 7-Comedy Nite
June 13-Band
June 20-Karaoke
June 27-Bingo
One Last Dance Band
June 28-Going Away Party for George-

ATTENTION!



Dear Members,

Due to the rising costs of this economy, we need your understanding in regards to the hours of our lounge. If our bartenders do not have the amount of business to keep the lounge open, they will need to close early. 8:00 pm is the earliest we will close. A bartender needs to take in \$20 per hour to pay the cost of keeping the lounge open. I thank you for understanding that to keep our prices from rising, this will help us through these hard times. Please understand we want to be here for you. We will not close early, if we have the members to support our lounge.

Corinne Richeson, Lounge Manager

PER, Ted Lipka Elected at Nevada Convention

At the recently concluded 84th Annual Nevada State Elks Association Convention, Past Exalted Ruler Ted Lipka was elected to the three-year position of Nevada's State Major Projects Board of Trustees. Ted, a Past Exalted Ruler of Thousand Oaks, CA Elks Lodge # 2477, as well as a two-term Past Exalted Ruler of Red Rock, NV Elks Lodge # 2835. This appointment is added to his position of Nevada's "Safe Haven" State Major Project programs chairman and comes on the heels of the State Association's record setting, fundraising year.



The Past Exalted Rulers
Invite All Members and Guests
Saturday, June 28th
To The Official Send Off Party
To The Grand Lodge Convention
For

Thousand Oaks Elks
Exalted Ruler
George Meehan And Cornelia

Cocktails 5 pm
Dinner 6 pm

Fun And Games-7 pm

Nite At The Races-Drawings



The Exalted Ruler
George Meehan

Invites All Members And Guests
To An Open Meeting
Wednesday June 11

for Flag Day Observance

dinner 6 pm
ceremony 7 pm

HAPPENINGS AROUND OUR LODGE



Welcome to our new organist, Kirin Spreights--Come hear her play at every Wednesday meeting.



ER, George Meehan accepted a \$1500 check for the new ice-machine from Elk Ladies President, Jessica Stull and the ladies



(L-R) Paul Armer, Corey Somarriba, Alexa Lavesque, Bill Miller, Scouting Com.Chair and Ryan Leong. Back Row George Meehan,



Special Elk Ladies, (L-R) Sharon Baker, June Leadam, Barb Metzgun, and Shirley Kozlowski at Special Kids Day-CVD



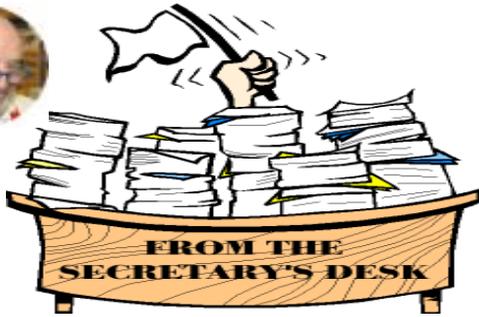
Our scholarship winners being honored at Youth Appreciation Dinner with Raven West, Leading Knight, Rick Herrera, Scholarship Chair, and ER George Meehan



Officers (L-R) giving Mother's Day service Greg Metzgun, PSVP, Terry Gicking, Rick Herrera, Raven West, and ER George Meehan.

HAPPENINGS AROUND OUR LODGE





Jerry Serota, Secretary

We are reminded by one of our loyal members that as your Secretary we have survived the first month of office and let me tell you with all confidence without the expert assistance of our ace number one Office Assistant, Karen Naccarato the ship of state would have foundered and gone down in flames.

Each day is a new challenge in covering the daily business of the Lodge. With luck we are able to find the right person with the right answers to our problems. It has become abundantly clear that when a problem arises to ask for help and it is always there.

One of the things that must not be overlooked is reporting on all our charitable projects. That means how many hours we donate to charitable causes, how much money we donate to those causes, how many helpers assist us in those causes. This is a monthly little summary that helps us in our taxes at the end of the year. From time to time we will be assisting you personally.

We are looking forward to the CHEA State convention in San Diego and with your help, surviving another month as your Secretary.



JERRY RUCKER

President 2008-2009
California-Hawaii Elks

Jerry Rucker was born in Globe Arizona and moved to San Bernardino, CA six months later. After attending San Bernardino College, he joined the United States Army and became a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division stationed at fort Bragg, North Carolina. He rose to the rank of Sergeant in the Military Intelligence Branch of the 2nd Brigade. He was awarded the Army Commendation Medal and the Good Conduct Medal. After three and one half years he returned to San Bernardino, California. He then received a Masters Degree from Arizona Pacific University and became a teacher in the Rialto Unified School District. He was site administrator for 26 years of his 32 years retiring as a school principle. He served 20 years as a member of the Rialto Child Assistance Board of Directors providing food, clothing and toys for needy families. He was President of this organization for 19 years. He also served 2 years as a member of the Administrative Advisory Committee for the Department of Education at Cal. State San Bernardino.

He joined San Bernardino Elks Lodge 3836 at age 21. His father, PDDGER Ray Rucker Sr., was his sponsor. He served on many committees at his lodge and after going through the chairs he served as Exalted Ruler in 1984-85. After being district chairman of many committees he was selected as Vice President of the Southeast District in 1989-90 and as District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler in 1990-91. He served the State Association as Vice chairman of the Piggy Bank committee and Vice chairman of the Elks Restoration Trust committee. He served six years as a member of the California Hawaii Elks Major Project Board of Directors with one year as Chairman. He has been the District Leader of the Southeast District for the past 2 years. He also has served as the Grand Lodge Convention Coordinator for the past 25 years.

He has been married to his lovely wife Bonnie for the past 25 years.

Lodge's National Service Committee Honored



Jim Kellgg reported that 24 veterans attended last month's bingo games. He thanked George Estoy for calling bingo at the party. Also Thousand Oaks Elks were recognized by the Veterans Administration for our work with vets at a hotel reception. This month's outing will be at the Reagan Library. Anyone wishing to assist in these projects, please call the office and give your name and phone number.

ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION (ENF)

ENF – The Great Heart of Elksdom! The giver of the most! Each year the Elks National Foundation strives to give back to the State Associations for their activities within the Association, more than ENF receives in donations from the Associations. For 2007-2008 ENF returned \$1.122 for every dollar your lodge donated. How's that for interest on an investment? ENF supports;

- Scholarship Programs
- Elks Hoop Shoot programs
- Elks Drug Awareness Programs
- Youth Activities
- Veterans Services
- Elks Memorial Building in Chicago
- Lodge Community Investments (activities)

These are the latest returns for the past Elks year;

Major Projects (Purple Pig)	\$420,950
Special Projects (Grants)	\$386,430
Special Bonus Grants	\$115,750
Most Valuable Student	\$288,000
Legacy Awards	\$84,000
Veterans Services	\$33,180

Please donate to the Elks National Foundation. It returns so much to our community!

Contact the Office, Karen Naccarato 805-496-2477, or the Lodge ENF Chairman, Tom Ryder 805-497-1853, for more information about ENF services as well as why you should donate and how to donate!

Thank you – Tom Ryder – Lodge ENF Chairman



CABARET NIGHT...



COMEDY TONIGHT..

JUNE 7TH

\$15

2 DRINKS & MUNCHIES

7:30 P.M. -DOORS OPEN

8:00 P.M. -SHOW

FEATURING....

**4 COMEDY CLUB
COMEDIANS**

Share the Excitement

Sponsor a new member.

Applications are available in the lounge or office

Have you filled your Purple Pig this month????



**Pat VonWittenberg
Konejo Kampers**



APRIL - ACTON

The Californian RV Park, just off the 14 freeway - with a few miles to Lancaster and Bolts in the Bathtub Quilt Shop. OH YAH! By way of explanation - - if I remember to do it - - I'll be giving a brief description of where, geographically, our campouts are located. Pat Smail told me she loves reading my article, but she would also like to know what the park might be near, citing Camp Comfort - - guess if you're not a camper you wouldn't know it's off the 33 on the way to Ojai.

Again the Camping God was very good to us - quite lovely weather - - but with a bit of wind - - OH SO typical of Antelope Valley.

The park is relatively new - the trees are still young. The sites are nice, with concrete pads, full hook-ups and cable tv. The only negative and it ain't that bad - - the grass strip out the rig door is on the small side - if you get your chair too, too close to the edge, you just might find yourself in your neighbors site. No biggie - - beautifully landscaped and the roll over the flowers to the next site - - doesn't appear it would cause much physical harm (giggle). The "rec room and kitchen" although located with the registration desk in one corner wasn't all that distracting and the patio outside was terrific.

The Ericksons and vW's were the only two early arrivals this campout also. But, Thursday saw most of the remainder of the attendees rolling in. That's not quite accurate cause Deb Drake and Judy Kudra came after work.

Speaking of these two, what a riot. Poor Judy called Chuck for directions. As I sat there listening to him, I'm thinking to myself, I'm already here and I'm lost. Sure enough, I went to fetch Judy that evening. She kept telling me that I SAID to turn left, Just when I picked you up - we turned left! I gave Chuck all kinds of flack, first for scrambled directions and then - their GPS was sitting in the motor home unused! He says Judy doesn't like to use it - - think there needs to be some changes made there, right?

Jeff Drake DID think to give Deb the GPS. However, this did not mitigate a phone call from Deb needing to know exactly where to stay to the right. MERCY, MERCY!

The Stulls and Cheryl were co-wagon masters working out a very do-able arrangement. Cheryl shops, how novel, and Jessica organizes and David watches. Cheryl was a bit concerned when she had a book entitled "Brain Food" in the raffle. It was the first thing I picked

up, thinking all our brains could use a little help (giggle). Actually there's some good information as well as recipes.

Don't know what to say about Cheryl. Lately the Kampers have been her "testing ground" for new recipes. So far they haven't been too, too bad, but she keeps complaining about how labor intensive they are and how long they take to cool. Darlin' have you ever heard of the K.I.S.S. theory? Actually they are quite good, so we'll ignore the complaints.

Jessica had called long before the campout asking if Bill vW would be Sheriff. Told her no, he did a lousy job last time, but I WOULD. I haven't had the pleasure for quite some time, would be among the first to arrive and, therefore, keep a watchful eye on everyone. Those acting as Sheriff in the past have had a difficult time "getting something" on the Ericksons, especially. They just don't watch and listen closely enough.

Thursday morning I headed off for the quilt store, upon my return, first crack outta the box, Mary Flannery insulted the Sheriff. Beverly was still in her "night clothes" at 1:15 p.m. and earlier Joel had complained he hadn't retrieved the heat cube Wednesday night and it was "cold" in their rig. Joel, it was COLD Wednesday evening, did you think it was gonna get warmer during the night? ? ? OH YA! Fines galore! Had a blast!

Ed Colleran was absolutely gleeful when he thought I'd overlooked fining he and Donna - little did he know. HOWEVER in his joyful jig, he was asked to pick the winning 50/50. Remember Ed, he (she) who laughs last, laughs the loudest. He picked MY NUMBER. Yup second time in FOURTEEN YEARS! So folks - - NEVER GIVE UP! !

Upcoming Campouts

June 13-14 Lake Casitas

July 11-12 Flying Flags

August 8-9 Malibu

September 12-13-

Santa Barbara Lodge

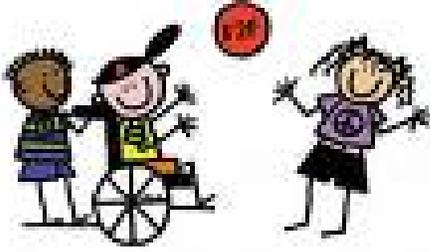
October 10-11 Simi Valley

visit the website:

<http://elkonejokampers.oaksdata.com>

to join call Bev Erickson 495-9715





Special Kids Day at the 2008 CVD

Conejo Valley Days are over for this year and it is time to recognize what our Family of Elks have done for the "Special Kids Day" for at least the 10 years that Shirley and I have been involved. Zonta Club tells us how many kids they expect and we do our thing and no questions asked.

In attendance were 375 children with Special Needs and Disabilities with an equal amount of volunteers to help them. The Thousand Oaks Elks and Zonta Club provided most of the food for their lunch. Zonta provided the refreshments, McDonald supplied 200 hamburgers and Elks provided 600 hamburgers and 800 bags of Potato Chips, and they ate it all.

Now it's time to thank all those Elks who pitched in and made this lunch very special. I would guess all of our volunteers would thank me for asking them to help on this special morning. When you've been here and seen these special kids you could only say that but for the Grace of God go I.

Preparing the hamburgers and packing them in containers here at the Lodge was Chuck Busch our resident Chef, with help from Bob Arbetman, Dave and Jessica Stull. Heather Maddox brought them to the Carnival and from there the ladies took over. Packaging and distributing the hamburgers and chips were Jeanne Sandt, Sharon Baker, June and John Leadam, Barbara Metzgas. Distributing the strawberries was Phyllis Riding, and Robert Jones handled the cookies. Shirley Kozlowski and Heather made sure the food lines were stocked. Jeri Miller stopped by to add her support and we put her to work. Edie Rice and Jim Mullin coordinated the purchasing and solicited some donations of food from our vendors to help put this lunch together. Tom Hartin worked wherever he was needed. I just watched. This lunch was one of the most memorable for reasons I won't mention. Thanks to all of you and we'll see you next year.

Love you all, Shirley and Chet Kozlowski



Jerry Serota, Secretary

Thousand Oaks Elks Show Appreciation

On Friday May 2nd the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 conducted its 'Youth Appreciation Night' honoring our scholarship winners and Girl Scout Gold recipient and those Eagle Scouts who had their Court of Honor this past year. There was a spaghetti and meatball dinner served before the presentation and there were over 80 Elks and family members present.

The Lodge is proud to sponsor 15 assorted scouting units and making the presentations for Scouting was Bill Miller, Com. Chair. The following received recognition and Certificates of Appreciation. They each explained how their Eagle and Gold were achieved. Alexa Levesque, Gold; Paul Armer, Eagle; Ryan Leong, Eagle; Corey Somarriba, Eagle.

Rick Herrera a retired schoolteacher and Scholarship, Com. Chair and current CVD Grand Marshal presented the Scholarship Awards. Over \$8,500 in awards was won at the local, district level, state level combined, the members with donations, raffles and recycling raised \$3,700. The winners were Boys: Sidney Pimas, \$750; Justin Manduke, \$600; Edward Kaiping, \$500. For the girls: Angela Tong, \$750; Sabrina Samedi, \$600; Danni Xie, \$500. Also a first for every student who made an application and did not win a scholarship will get \$100 for his or her efforts.

Elks BLT- Not Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato



The creation of the Bequests and Living Trusts (BLT) Committee in 1984 set the stage for ensuring the financial future of the Major Project. Amounts under \$500 go directly to help underwrite Major Project expenses for the year in which they are given. The establishment of the Bequests and Living Trusts Legacy Fund in 1991 designated gifts of \$500 or more to be placed in a special account.

BLT gives all Elks an opportunity to participate in the Major Project through a living trust fund. There are also other options available through the BLT Committee. If you are interested or want more information, please contact Robert Jones, our Lodge's BLT Chair.

2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

LECTURING KNIGHT Greg Metzgus, PSVP

2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

AMERICANISM: Grant Thistle
FLAGDAY/FLAGRETIREMENT:
 Robert Jones
SCHOLARSHIP: Rick Herrera
GOVT.RELATIONS: Scott Dool
MEMORIALSERVICE: Rick Herrera
NATIONAL SERVICES: Jim Kellogg
KIDS XMAS PARTY: Chet Kozlowski, PER



GOLFTOURNEY: Dave Pearson
LODGE PICNIC: Joe Clancy & Ed Bianchi
 David Naccarato/Tom Hartin
MEMBERSHIP: Every Lodge Member
CHRISTMAS TREES: Herb Jellander
 Bill Sternberg, PER/Terry Baker
EL KONEJOKAMPERS: Mike Flannery

Visitation Time Is Near.....

This year's Ritual Contest is history. Our team worked hard and we took home two plaques, a first place Leading Knight and 2nd place Loyal Knight. Congratulations Raven and Terry. I think everyone that attended the contest weekend from our lodge had a good time, with the exception of about 47 minutes of tension during the actual contest. Events, such as this contest, clinics and conventions give everyone attending an opportunity to meet and mingle with Elks from other lodges in our district. This networking makes Elkdom even that much more enjoyable.

Our Youth Appreciation night was successful thanks to Raven West (again), Rick Herrera, Bill Miller and George Meehan. Chuck Busch also cooked up generous portions of spaghetti for all to enjoy. Lots of scholarship money was handed out along with recognition of Eagle Scouts and Girl Scout Gold Award winners. It was amazing to hear of the work accomplished by these young citizens and the places they are planning to go in life. One of our scholarship award winners is headed to Harvard University and the scholarship money we awarded will help him and his family.

Conejo Valley Days was a huge success this year, both for the Thousand Oaks Elks and for the community. The parade was very well attended and the train, except for the flat tire, ran great. The Streaker Dog Wagon sold out of food every night and there were a lot of hard working Elks there to help share the work. Terry Baker, Eddie Rice, Tom Hartin and everyone else worked very hard to earn as much for our lodge as possible in a very short time. Well, a very short time as seen by everyone except Terry, Eddie and Tom.

We are approaching the visitation time of year for the CHEA West Central Coast Elks. The new State Vice President and District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler will be visiting the lodges in our district. Everyone is invited to attend. Along with supporting these two district officers there is an opportunity to meet new Elks from other lodges. Plan on attending at least one visitation besides the ones to our lodge but be sure to call the lodge you are visiting first to make a reservation.

New Membership A Must....

Finally, we all know that new members must be invited to join our lodge. The membership has chosen to lower the dues and initiation fee to help encourage new members but they still need to be invited. And remember, our lodge needs quality members, not just numbers. Invite someone that wants to join to help with the work we do as well as to have fun.



Proud dad, Kevin Metzgus, with daughter, Madison Sue who was born May 5 at Simi Valley Hospital.



Pull Tabs Add Up

Thank you to everyone who has been contributing pull tabs for the children at the Ronald McDonald House. A special thanks to the large contributors: Dorothy Murray (Jafra, Ken Keeler, Lee & Jim Wiens, Patti Serota, Richard Herrera (Hale Middle School), and Harold Cooper (Cooper Automotive). Remember every tab helps the Ronald McDonald kids.

2008-2009 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS	THE ELKS LADIES Jessica Stull	2008-2009 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Pat Peterson 2ND VICE PRESIDENT: 3RD VICE PRESIDENT: SECRETARY: June Leadam TREASURER: Diane Isaman AUDITOR: TELEPHONE: Patti Serota		PARLIAMENTARIAN: June Leadam CHAPLAIN: Marilyn Cissell MAJOR PROJECTS: Niki Case CVD: Alice Kennedy & Marilyn Cissell HISTORIAN: SUNSHINE: Shirley Kozlowski

At our Elks Ladies General meeting April 1, 2008, we had 36 members attend! This was a great turn out. We voted with a margin of about two to one to get our own tax ID number. President Jessica has obtained our tax ID and we will continue to support Elks Lodge 2477 in the same manner as we have for the past 36 years.

On April 2, President Jessica presented ER George Meehan a \$2000 check for Major Projects at the Elks regular weekly meeting. On May 6, President Jessica presented ER George Meehan a \$1500 check to offset the cost of a new icemaker for the bar. The ladies have also voted to donate \$1000 towards paving of the upper parking lot.

We're very happy to welcome our newest members Crystal Dool and Rena Dryer. The Ladies are always looking for new talent and ideas. If you are not a member but would like to attend a meeting as a guest, we'd love to have the opportunity to meet you and introduce you to our group. We meet the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Lodge.

On April 6, we had a wonderful turnout for the Ladies Breakfast and Book Sale! President Jessica Stull and her crew of cooks, Diane and Harry Isaman, David Stull, Jeri and Bill Miller, Johnny D'Ambrogio did an excellent job preparing huge breakfast burritos complete with fresh avocado and yummy waffles with fresh strawberries!! We also want to thank Chuck Bush who got us started on the right track. The Book Sale, operated by Angie Prizzi, Beth Kozlowski and Niki Case was an over whelming success of its own. There were books left so we will be selling them again at the May 16th fish fry along with fabulous desserts. If you didn't get a chance to buy your books at the breakfast, you'll have another chance. We have some new ones too! This will be a big evening, so come on down and support both the Lodge and the Elks Ladies! And finally, a big "Thank You" to all those generous folks that donated the books for our events.

The next big function coming up sponsored by the Ladies is The Father's Day Champagne Brunch on June 15th, from 10 AM to 1 PM. For more details check the flyer in this issue of the Antler Antics or those posted in the Lodge. Fathers, sons, and their families, in fact, everyone is welcome. The men in our lives are special to

	<b style="color: red;">JUNE																
	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr><td>June Smith</td><td style="text-align: right;">1</td></tr> <tr><td>Pat Peterson</td><td style="text-align: right;">2</td></tr> <tr><td>Mary Woodlief</td><td style="text-align: right;">4</td></tr> <tr><td>Ginny Gabel</td><td style="text-align: right;">9</td></tr> <tr><td>Cherri Peterson</td><td style="text-align: right;">11</td></tr> <tr><td>Marge Britton</td><td style="text-align: right;">16</td></tr> <tr><td>Pat Jellander</td><td style="text-align: right;">16</td></tr> <tr><td>Anne Ogden</td><td style="text-align: right;">17</td></tr> </table>	June Smith	1	Pat Peterson	2	Mary Woodlief	4	Ginny Gabel	9	Cherri Peterson	11	Marge Britton	16	Pat Jellander	16	Anne Ogden	17
June Smith	1																
Pat Peterson	2																
Mary Woodlief	4																
Ginny Gabel	9																
Cherri Peterson	11																
Marge Britton	16																
Pat Jellander	16																
Anne Ogden	17																

	YOUR WILL, NOT OURS, LORD
	<p>A brand new situation, Lord, not made for us to understand. Without some help from somewhere, you send others to lend a hand.</p> <p>Again we're shown in different ways, how, as our Father, if we're ill, Your love makes all things happen when we remember it is you will. Amen</p>
Marilyn Cissell	

us and this wonderful brunch is but a small token of our love and esteem! Please join us.

A tribute to all our fathers:
 God took the strength of a mountain,
 The majesty of a tree,
 The warmth of a summer sun,
 The patience of eternity,
 The depth of a family needs the
 comforting arm at night,
 The wisdom of the ages,
 Then God combined these qualities
 and when there was nothing more to add,
 He knew His masterpiece was
 complete, and so, He called it....Dad

Article submitted by June Leadam, Secretary and Pat Peterson, Vice President.

HONOR ROLL

A COIN A DAY



Jim Wallace, PER
 Rubye Metzgas
 Kirk Keeler
 Louis Wolff
 Ken Krabel



JUNE

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Bill Ratcliffe | 10 Lamont McNamara | 22 Jim Allen |
| 2 Steve McKee | 11 Cherri Peterson | 24 Scott Dool |
| Dwight Williams | 13 Tom Knibbs | 25 Howard Johnson |
| 3 Bob Adams | Steve Smith | Bill Rodarme |
| Ronald Barron | 14 Jim Andrews | 27 Dean Nash |
| Henry Germain | 15 Clarence Brown | 30 Jim Horning |
| 4 Abe Gamble | Alan Hardie | |
| Susan Montgomery | Ken Krabel | |
| 5 John Watts | 16 Ron Hull | |
| 6 Woody Hammer | Ron Pizitz | |
| John Peterson | 18 Jerry Gilmore | |
| 9 Elise Murray | 20 Charles Maslin | |
| Jim St. Ores | Walter Ogden | |
| | 21 Steve Harrison | |
| | Sharon Kagy | |

**FROM THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE
 PROPOSED AND WILL BE BALLOTTED ON
 June 11, 2008**

Betty McFarlin Realtor Sponsor-Tom Ryder, PDDGER

CRYING TOWEL



April 2	#231	Ray Clayton	\$50
Lucky 13		No Winner	
April 9	#2091	Nick Schiele	\$75
Lucky 13		No Winner	
April 16	#1757	Henry Vega	\$100
Lucky 13		No Winner	
April 23	#2029	Beau Anderson	\$125
Lucky 13		No Winner	



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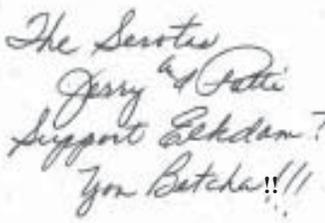


**Drop off at Wed. meetings
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**Thanks-
Rich Herrera
Scholarship Chair.**

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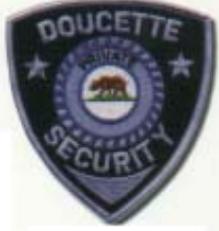
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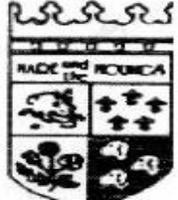
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1976-77 John E. Henry	2002-03 Don Booker
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1980-81 *Frank "Tex" Hastie	2006-07 David Naccarato
1981-82 * Robert Hardy	2007-08 Catherine Koeritz
1982-83 *A. John Nichols	
1983-84 John Nau	By Affiliation:
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1996-97 Jack Loughran	
1997-98 John Kelly	

*Deceased

The ANTLER ANTICS is published monthly in Thousand Oaks, California as the official Bulletin of the Thousand Oaks Lodge no. 2477 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks of the United States of America, 158 Conejo School Road, P.O. Box 2110, Thousand Oaks, 91358. Publication of the ANTLER ANTICS is an activity of the Lodge and contributions and interesting and pertinent reading material and photographs are welcomed. *Photographs MUST be identified and captioned or they will not be published.* Deadline for receiving ALL material for publication is the **5th** of each month.