

ANTLER



Greg Metzgas
EXALTED RULER



ANTICS

VOLUME 32, NO. 12

Editor, Jerry Serota

March 2004

'Elks For Scouting and Scouting For Elks'



'Calamity Annie' Pearson
Elks Grand Marshal
Candidate 2004

CVD Kickoff Picnic
March 6
&
Car Show

Elks BBQ Wagon serving Great
Food
Conejo Creek Park 11 am - 4pm

33rd Annual
BPO ELKS #2477

Inaugural Ball 2004-'05

April 3RD 2004

Clarion Palm
Garden Hotel

Reception and
Cocktails 6 p.m.

Dinner 7:30 p.m.
Grand March 9 p.m.
Music by Chris Boucher
\$40 per person

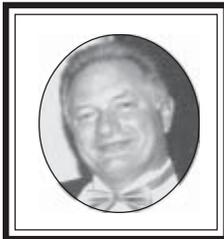


2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN


EXALTED RULER**Greg Metzgus**

2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

ANTLER ANTICS: Jerry Serota, Editor
NEW FACILITIES: Tom Ryder, DDGER
HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK: Jerry Serota
GREETERS: Jack Loughran, PER
PUBLIC RELATIONS: Jerry Serota
BUILDING MAINT. : Wayne Flittner



PARLIAMENTARIAN: Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, DL
LODGE VISITATIONS: Jack Loughran, PER
BBQ WAGON: Eddie Rice
AUDITING: Tom Ryder, DDGER
ELKS TRAINING: John D'Ambrogio, PER
BEQUESTS & LIVING TRUSTS:
 Chet Kozlowski, PER

It seems odd that this will be my last article for the Antler Antics as your Exalted Ruler. I was just starting to get the hang of the job. My year is about up and it is Jay's turn to continue on with the good work we do. I know he will do a good job and that you will support him as you have supported me throughout the year.

I hope you are all aware that we are selling bonds for our new lodge building. If you did not receive the information by now in a separate mailing, please contact the office. Many of our members have purchased their bonds already. The sooner we sell these bonds, the sooner we can begin the actual construction. Len Cardoni is ready to start the actual design of the building for submittal to the city but we are holding him back until we are sure we will get the necessary monetary support from our members.

I want to thank our Barbeque teams once again for all of the hard work they do. We were able to put together a team for the first Saturday in February and March; hopefully enough members will join in so that we can continue cooking every Saturday of each month. I also want to thank David Pearson and his crew for putting on a very successful and profitable Super Bowl party. We can show him our thanks by giving "Calamity Annie" as much support as possible in her CVD Grand Marshal Race.

I will close by telling you that it has been both an honor and a privilege to serve as your Exalted Ruler this past year. First Lady Barbara and myself have enjoyed representing our lodge at the State and National Conventions.

We thank all of you for your support, next month my article will be a little further back in the Antler Antics and will be dealing exclusively with the construction progress of our new lodge building.

many people for all of the help and all of the "don't forget Barbara's" throughout the entire year would be impossible to put in writing and the list of names of people to thank would be very long. I want to thank all of you for your help and support from the bottom of my heart.

Our incoming ER and First Lady, Jay and Myrna Block are looking forward to the upcoming year; I know you will support them as you have supported ER Greg and myself. We are looking forward to their Inaugural Ball although it will seem very different not being the center of attention. It seems like only yesterday Greg and I were walking into the room to be introduced as the Exalted Ruler and First Lady.

Thanks again to everyone for making this past year so enjoyable. Greg and I look forward to taking on new responsibilities and working hard to support the new lodge building.

**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"****Robert L. Hummel**

Born: December 10, 1921
Initiated: October 17, 1950
Died: December 30, 2003

Robert Riebe

Born: Born October 11, 1925
Initiated: February 25, 1981
Died: January 14, 2004

Tony Hug

Born: February 20, 1939
Initiated: March 3, 1999
Died: December 4, 2003

FIRST LADYS CORNER

Barbara Metzgus, FL



I thought it would take no time at all to write my last article as First Lady of our lodge; how wrong I was. To express my many thanks to so



BRO. BOB RIEBE
1925-'04

It is not hard to feel the loss of a pal and Brother when you know that the pain of living is over. What remains is a sweet memory of all the joy and good things we have shared.



Sometime in our daily lives we forget what is important. We forget to find out the vitals, how long had he been married; how many children did he

have; where did he serve in the military.

Brother Bob Riebe was a loving devoted husband and father. We saw that in the tender way he took care of Kay. He and Kay were married for 48 years had 6 children, 14 grandchildren and there are 9 Great-grandchildren his descendants.

Bob was a navy man serving in WWII on a mine sweeper in Normandy and later on a landing craft in the invasion of the Philippines as a deisel mechanic. It was interesting to note that he and his brother were separated at an early age and fate and circumstance brought them together on the beaches of Normandy for a reunion.



Bob and Kay were members of the El Konejo Kamper Klub and we were reminded that he was a Past President before his camping days were over.

Though he is gone the memory of the good times we shared remain. We are happy for him the pain of living is over. We will miss his gentle smile, friendly greeting when ever we would meet at the Lodge. We know that Kay and all his descendants will also miss him dearly.



On behalf of Bob Riebe and in appreciation for the Elk Memorial Service, Kay and her family donated \$1,000 to the Elks National Foundation.



FROM THE OFFICE
OF THE SECRETARY

Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, DL.

First, let me congratulate all of the newly elected officers for lodge year 2004-2005. If they perform next year as they did last year, we will truly have a great one. We ended up with a plus in membership, which we haven't done for a few years. This indicates that we're on the right path to keeping our members in. It is too bad that 24 members decided not to stay with us. We are planning on some great things in the upcoming years, including our new facility. We at Thousand Oaks have always been a lodge for others to follow both in organization and functions.

Congratulations are in order for our new bar manager Judy Brayman. She has successfully increased our patronage and sales in the bar with both her personality and ability to bring forth new ideas to keep our customers pleased. Give her a kudo when you see her. She really deserves it. The credit card program is now fully in effect. It is designed to be an enhancement for our members who wish to use a credit card to pay for drinks, dinner, or dues. Judy is writing an article explaining how she expects it to work, so I won't expand on it.

We have received authorization from Grand Lodge to commence selling bonds for our new facility. It is well underway, and if sales continue as briskly as they have been since we started selling them, we should have a new facility in no time. Applications are available at the bar and in the office. It takes a day or two to process the bonds, but I'll get them to you as soon as possible. The bonds are available in \$500.00 and \$1,000.00 denominations, and can be made out to yourself, a trust, or whoever you wish.

Finally, it is that time of year once again when the officers are required to practice their initiation ritual for the contest held in April. Please give them a break for the short time they practice, and try to keep the noise level to a minimum. They will certainly appreciate it. The officers will be selling tickets shortly for the annual inaugural ball. Sally Claunch is putting it on this year, so it should be a hum dinger. Buy your tickets early, and enjoy the fun.

And that's 30 for this month

Bill

2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN	LEADING KNIGHT Jay Block	2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN
MAJOR PROJECT/PURPLE PIG: Joe Smith SICKNESS AND DISTRESS: Sally Claunch INVESTIGATION: George Meehan ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION: Jack Malone CHRISTMAS BASKETS: Jay & Myrna Block		INDOCTRINATION: Jack Loughran, PER MEM. CONTROL. COM.: Herb Jellander CVAC: Tom Hartin COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Jerry Serota OFFICERS ROUND TABLE: Jack Panczak CHARITY DINNERS: Jay & Myrna Block

As this is my last article as Leading Knight, I will quickly try to put the past year into perspective. Just to remind you all, the primary responsibility for the Leading Knight is to be the facilitator of all things Charitable in the Lodge, and I'm pleased to say that with just a little encouragement from me, the Lodge performed very well indeed. Our per capita goals were exceeded in both ENF and Purple Pig, thanks to Jack Malone our ENF Chairman, and David Naccarato our Purple Pig Chairman. And with a great effort of many people, we delivered 76 baskets to our needy families this Christmas.

The year has passed so fast that I can't remember all of the details, but in spite of suffering a mild form of "old timers disease", some have remained in the frontal lobes. They are the raffle for the Maui Trip, the Fun Fair, the Charity Ball and of course the Elks Ladies Major Project Ball. I want to thank all of the members and their significant others who spent so much time and physical effort in making this years Charity Fund raisers successful. I also want to especially thank the Konejo Kampers for their generous contributions and continuing support.

The Lodge is fortunate that this station will be turned over to Sally Claunch, our Leading Knight in waiting. With a good funding start for her year and my knowledge that all of you will support her as you did me, thereby assuring an even bigger success during her year.

Remember, we are STILL looking for a few GOOD people to help form another BBQ team so that we can provide our BBQ every Saturday and use the effort as an opportunity to really help ourselves and acquaint people with what Elkdom is all about.

AND REMEMBER ELKS CARE and ELKS SHARE

Your Leading Knight Jay Block



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- o Elk members (men and women) are eligible to apply

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Write:

**Elks National Home,
931 Ashland Ave.,
Bedford, VA 24523**

Inaugural Ball
April 3th 2004
Clarion Palm Garden Hotel
Reception and Cocktails 6 p.m.
Dinner 7:30 p.m.
Grand March 9 p.m.
Music by Chris Boucher
\$40 per person





EL KONEJO KAMPERS

Pat Von Wittenburg

JANUARY AT PORT HUENEME



This is certainly a new experience. I'm writing this article in a small town called Hereford, Arizona not too, too far from the Mexican border, south of Tucson. All though the words will be mine, they come to me second hand because of a conflict in scheduling. Therefore, I really can't be held responsible for the accuracy unless I have personal knowledge of the statements.

Last September I signed up for the Road to California Quilters Conference THIRD weekend in January thinking - NO problem. Kampers go camping second weekend. WRONG! The class I signed up for was being taught by and incredible author, designer and teacher from Australia and I'd spent a LOT of money - so the choice was clear. So here goes - I'll do the best I can with what I have to work with. Of course the time sequence will probably be totally out of kilter also - but just work with me, babe?



First - I hear wagon master Ed Colleran had a little problem understanding that security at Port Hueneme doesn't work quite the same as it does at Point Mugu - there were a few hitches there and I do have personal knowledge of the fact that it cost our rig a running light and scratches to Bill's new bumper which was and I say "was" something really special in his book. Oh well - as the saying goes "Live and Learn" - - -

I'm not really clear when this shopping expedition took place, but Suzie Ross, Debi Fitzpatrick and Jackie Coley volunteered to take poor unsuspecting Doris Newcomer "shopping" and I believe it was for groceries. Doris tells me this included some of the most wonderful Bloody Marys that were made with horseradish she'd ever tasted. BUT - she doesn't drink wine and I believe Jackie was the culprit that enticed her to consume wine and the poor thing ended up in bed by 7:30 p.m.

Now this I cannot confirm and it may have been because Doris was in bed too early and the others that caravanned along to Quartzsite were imbibing in this adult beverage that cannot be named in print - but it is rumored that Bruce Fitzpatrick was attempting to "Moon" some of the group? Is that really true or is that just a vicious rumor? Quiet, mild-mannered Clark Kent Fitzpatrick - I have a very difficult time with that !!!

1/15/04

Evelyn Casaceli
210 Bazil St. #305

Called to thank us for the Christmas Basket. She had been sick and could not get out and really appreciated what we did.

God bless you all.

I was also advised that Pres. Bill is going to have to "kick it up a notch" as the meeting seemed to run a little long. Is that true, dear? Guess we'll have to talk about that!

And speaking of long. The "Never Ending Poker Tournament" started at 12:30 or so and didn't end until 5:00 p.m. when Debi Fitzpatrick sent Master Sgt John Ennis to the showers with a Queen and a 3. I sure hope you who understand poker talk get this cause it doesn't mean diddle to me.

The hamburger feast was wonderful. Carol & Gene Ewald didn't bring their rig but did make the trek back and forth for breakfast and dinner. Carol did her infamous beans, which my dear spouse was kind enough to salvage some in a Tupperware container for me, probably because I might have been terribly unhappy had he forgotten. Understand Deb Drake had perfectly sliced onion, tomatoes and stuff. I'm sure others provided other things equally wonderful and Bill did mention some terrific Brownie things - but he's off dumping tanks right now and I can't remember - sorry!

Now back to this drink with the unmentionable name. I believe it's name with Baileys, Kaluha and Chocolate Whipped Cream which is downed in a single swallow. As I recall the story, Beverly Erickson choked and Donna Colleran spewed her drink all over the front of Beverly - can you imagine all that chocolate colored stuff - down the front of Beverly's predominately white sweatshirt? OH Yeh! !

Ya know I've heard the simplest things can entertain relatively intelligent people for a very long time - - apparently there was a talking bear amongst the group that held about eight adults totally mesmerized for quite a long time. Absolutely amazing.

As I said - I'm a long way from HOME and my reference sources - NO TECK TIPS THIS MONTH.

2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

LOYAL KNIGHT
Sally Claunch

2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

CONEJO VALLEY DAYS: Ed Rice
LODGE ACTIVITIES: Tom Hartin
SCOUTING: Jacob Panczak, PER
HOOPSHOOT: Tom Hartin
WED. NIGHT DINNERS:
DRUG AWARENESS:
STRAY ELKS:
MOTHERS DAY: George Meehan



ENTERTAINMENT: Pete Padilla
WED. NIGHT TICKETS: Raven West
LAW ENFORCEMENT & FIRE FIGHTER
APPRECIATION: Scott Dool
DISTRICT PICNIC: Tom Ryder, DDGER
PRESIDING JUSTICE: Dick McCann
YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Heather Maddox

Random Thoughts from Claunch

As Loyal Knight this year, my job was made easy by having great committee chairpersons and cooking crews. I have been successful because of you. **THANK YOU!!!** Starting in April I will be retiring from kitchen duty and I will be assuming the responsibility of charitable works. The last kudos from me go to the husband and wife team of Crystal and Scott Dool for preparing dinner and chairing the firefighters and peace officers appreciation dinner. As always, they were jobs done with grace and perfection.

Dining and Entertainment

Calamity Annie's candidacy for Conejo Valley Days Grand Marshal leads and inspires our dining and entertainment calendar. On March 5th, it is Get Acquainted with Annie while the 3 Ns-Carol and Robert Neuner and Karen Naccarato prepare a Salisbury steak feast. Next on the 12th Marva D'Ambrogio cooks up an Italian dinner followed by entertainment. Yes, the cost of the dinner is \$10 not the usual \$8. The profits go to the Grand Marshal race. Remember 60% of all monies raised by a candidate come back to the organization. Thus it is a win win situation for the Lodge. Richard Goldner and the Big Dog crew challenge all members to eat his **BIG BIG BIG** omelets on March 21st all for Annie. Lastly on March 26th the Kozlowskis (past Grand Marshal Shirley) will entice the members with their famous beef and salmon dinner. The added attractions of the evening include a wine tasting, and auction of Elks. Come down for the fun. Come down for the food. Come down for the entertainment-just come down!!!

'CALAMITY ANNIE' PEARSON

Is riding the BPO ELKS 2477 Express train and guarding money vault from hijackers and low down no goods who think the train is easy money. The charities are dependin' on her and she has her posse of Elks

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

805-495-0577

OUR CONDOLENCES TO: Kay Riebe and family on the passing of Brother Bob; Walt Egan on the passing of his father; the family of Robert Hummel on his passing and the family of Tony Hug on his passing.

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Mac McDonald is in an assisted living home in Thousand Oaks.

ON THE MEND: PER Bob Thornton, from shoulder surgery.

hankerin' to fire up the BBQ's and puttin' on some fun git-togethers to Pin the gold star of Conejo Valley Grand Marshal for 2004 on her vest...

She's got her six shooters cleaned and oiled and she's ready with her trusty pard Dave ridin' shotgun by her side. Dave is her campaign manager and Pat Von Wittenburg is his sidekick. Calamity's posse has a plenty of gitty up an' ideas to make her a big winner. Her loot will be guarded by none other than "Gatlin' Gun" Bob Hardy.

Her posse is lookin' for more riders with good smarts, brave hearts, and quick hands. Soon they will be scourin' the countryside gettin' people to join in the fun, eatin' mighty fine vittles, kickin' up their heels at our hodowns, and raisin' loot for Calamity and her charities. Be sure to nail up her calendar of events by your door, so ya'all won't be missin' nuthin'.

Chris, Annie's youngun, just sent a telegram. Calamity Annie is now a GRANNY! Little girl...Destiny Ann...cute as a button! It's her first and she's hankerin' to share her picture made from one of those new fandangled machines.

Calamity Annie's race for CVD Grand Marshal will be excitin'. The race will start on March 6th at the CVD Kickoff Picnic & Car Show at Conejo Creek North Park from 11am to 4pm. Come on down and enjoy our Elks BBQ Wagon vittles and shop at Calamity Annie's General Store.



AMERICANISM

Raven West

This will be my last column as Americanism Chair. I am taking a temporary leave of absence from both my position as Americanism Chair and as an officer of Thousand Oaks Lodge #2477. It has been a wonderful and informative two years. Encouraged by our Trustee Denise Goldstein, last August I made the decision to attend the Southern California Institute of Law. It is a four year program which requires a great deal of time and study. In the words of our newly elected Governor "I will be back". In 2007. If anyone is interested in assuming the position of Americanism Chair, please call me at (805) 493-0269 or email: ravenwest9@yahoo.com.

As promised in February's issue, here is the First Place entry in Division I 2004 essay contest "Why I Am Proud To Say the Pledge of Allegiance". The author is Kayla Horwich Brown, a sixth grader from Susan Salvoski's class at Los Cerritos Middle School

"I feel very emotional when I hear the pledge. The pledge shows respect to our country. We also have the right to freedom. Finally, the pledge reminds me of the people who died for our country.

The pledge shows respect for our country especially when you put your hand over your heart. It is a way of saluting our country, and shows loyalty for our country.

The pledge shows freedom. We can be any religion that we want, such as Christian, Jewish or Muslim. We also have freedom of speech and can marry or divorce anyone we choose.

The Pledge of Allegiance also reminds me of the people that died in order to gain and protect our freedom. People fought the Revolution, because they had a dream of a free country. People fought the Civil War so that all Americans could be free. Even today people fight for freedom against terrorism. I think about the people who died on September 11 because they were killed just because they were American and wanted to be free.

I am proud to be a citizen of the United States and have freedoms that other people can only dream about. "

The other winners were: In Division I: Second Place: Jonathan Griffin, 5th grade, Mrs. Henningsen, Acacia Elementary School. Third Place: Lilli Turner-Graham, 6th grade, Susan Salvoski, Los Cerritos Middle School.

In Division II: Second Place: Ele Griffin, 7th grade, La Reina High School, Third Place: Shannon Pearson, 7th



DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP

Jim Wallace, PER, District Scholarship Chairman

This year was very good for all the Lodges in our district. There was a very good turnout in the number of entries that were sent in for judging and it is very rewarding to read and judge all of the folders that were sent in. It is a shame that all the ones we judged did not go on to be judged on the State level. We sent in thirteen entries for girls and ten entries for boys for the State to judge. It is a shame that we could not send in more, and it was very sad for me to send back the ones who did not make it to the next level.

This next year I hope to see more students apply for Scholarships. It seems that more girls apply than boys. I would like to see more of each next year.

I will be in Fresno February 20th and 21st to help grade the papers for the State Judging.



ENTERTAINMENT

Pete Padilla, Com. Chair

Let me start by thanking all of you members that have supported the entertainment for the past year. I hope that the different types of entertainment I have been able to bring to the lodge has pleased you. The old saying is "you can't please all the people all the time but some of the people some of the time."

This month is going to be a busy one with the promotion of our candidate "Calamity Annie" for Grand Marshall during Thousand Oaks Conejo Valley Days. The only entertainment will be the Rider Band on Friday March 12th and it is to help support our candidate. Let's all make our best effort to be at this event and lend our support to Anne Pearson. For all of you that have attended a Rider Band performance before you all know dancing shoes are in order.

grade, Redwood Middle School.

Winners will each receive a plaque and United States Savings Bond from Thousand Oaks Lodge #2477; First place; \$500.00, Second place: \$300, and Third place; \$100.00. The awards presentation will be held in May, check your Antler Antics for the date and time.

It has been an enormous pleasure to serve as Americanism Chair for our lodge. Our youth scholarship programs and other charities we support makes this organization stand far and above all others. I look forward to my eventual return and wish all the best of luck to my successor.

Raven West

2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN	LECTURING KNIGHT David Naccarato	2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN
AMERICANISM: Raven West FLAG DAY/FLAG RETIREMENT: David Naccarato SCHOLARSHIP: Rick Herrera GOVT. RELATIONS: Denise Goldstein MEMORIAL SERVICE: George Meehan NATIONAL SERVICES: Jim Kellogg		KIDS XMAS PARTY: Chet Kozlowski, PER GOLF TOURNEY: Dave Pearson TommyClaunch LODGE PICNIC: MEMBERSHIP: Every Lodge Member CHRISTMAS TREES: Bob Hardy, PER EL KONEJO KAMPERS: Walter Ogden

Ritual practice has started again. If you see your officers around the lodge talking to themselves its because they are going over their parts. The initiation is the first contact a new member has with the workings of this lodge and the impressions produced on the mind of the candidate are likely to be lasting we want to do the best job we can and we have the best coaches in the district. Last year we took second over all and we have our sights on first place this year. I'll let you know how it goes.

After Initiation it takes all of us to keep our commitment strong. To show the new members that Elks are committed to America's promise, an alliance of organizations building a better future for our youth. Elks is always family first. Elks support youth activities. Elks support veteran projects. The value of the Elk's charitable works last year was more than \$200 million. Since 1868 the Elks have been serving our communities, our states and our country. Check out our web site at www.elks.org

Calling all cooks. David Naccarato here Loyal Knight 2004-2005 One of my duties is the kitchen. I am putting together my calendar so if you would like to try out a recipe see me and the kitchens yours. We need chefs for Friday night dinners 40-60 servings Wednesday night dinners 20-25 servings and Sunday morning breakfast 50-60 servings. The kitchen is a major part of this lodge. We need the dinners to bring people into the lodge and with Pete's entertainment it rounds out a perfect night out on the town with no crowds to contend with. So help us out even if you would like to volunteer to work on a crew let me have your name and number and I will contact you. Thank you David Naccarato Lecturing Knight

French Toast Santa Fe
Power Dave Naccarato

Saturday Night, the 9:05 out of Syracuse New York heads west bound on track 9 the Santa Fe railroad "Highlander" is west bound for Reno, Nevada. Guest are getting familier with their berths and finding their way to the dining car for they know what's on the menu. The most requested staple from the chefs of the Santa Fe is their world famous French Toast Santa Fe. I've served it many times at our lodge but now I will devote an entire Sunday morning breakfast to Santa Fe French Toast. What makes it so good? Well we'll start at the beginning. Refrigeration not being the best in the early 1900s the train would stop at farmer Johns and pick up fresh eggs and then stop for fresh cream from

Dairy Dan then add a little nutmeg and confection sugar, heat up a deep fryer to 360* degrees. Use day old bread , to soak up the batter and cook to a golden brown. That with some Aunt Jamima syrup and it makes for a very tasty breakfast. Round it out with eggs made to order ,bacon and Sausage, IHOP or Dennys could not compete. So what day is this going to happen. May 2nd mark it on your calendar French Toast Santa Fe! Yours Truly, Power Dave

Words of wisdom from Harley Dave,

'No mountain is too high to climb when you trust in yourself and believe. Achievement is not measured by heights attained but by obstacles overcome.'
Dave.

Elks Lounge Appetizers
\$1.75

Chicken & Beef Burrito w/Salsa
Spicy Kielbasa & Jumbo Hot dog

Individual Deep Dish Supreme Pizza \$1.50
Regular Hot Dog \$1.00



Extra's
\$.50

Sauerkraut
Guacamole
Sour Cream



Assorted Chips \$.75

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND FIREFIGHTER APPRECIATION NIGHT

Scott Dool, Com. Chair.

On Wednesday, January 28, 2004, the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge held a meeting open to the public and conducted its 27th Annual Law Enforcement And Firefighter Appreciation program.

The geographic area for membership of the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge includes Agoura, Oak Park, Westlake, Hidden Valley, Thousand Oaks and Newbury Park. As this area is served by the California Highway Patrol, Ventura County Sheriffs Department, and the Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department, we presented a plaque to an outstanding law enforcement officer from each of these agencies.

The program began at 6:00 p.m. with a social period in the Elks Lodge lounge area. One hundred and twenty five members and guests enjoyed a delicious dinner of BBQ Baby Back Ribs & Chicken cooked over oak wood @\$12 served at 7:00 p.m. At 8:00 p.m., the awards presentation began in the Elks Lodge meeting room.

Elks member and Committee Chairman, Scott Dool was the Master of Ceremony.

Engraved plaques were awarded by Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 to each of the recipients and presented by Exalted Ruler, Greg Metzgus; for the City of Thousand Oaks, Mayor, Bob Wilson presented Certificates of Appreciation; as did Ventura County Supervisor, Linda Parks; ER, Greg Metzgus also represented the State Legislature with a Certificate of Appreciation from that august body the State Assembly.



CAPTION

L-R SEATED FRONT ROW

Senior Deputy Mark Gillete, Firefighter Engineer Dean Burkhart, Officer Denis S. Ford,

STANDING

Deputy Mark J. Marino, Firefighter Tom Davis, Officer John Mueller

BACK ROW

Mayor Bob Wilson, City of Thousand Oaks, Greg Metzgus, Exalted Ruler, BPO Elks Lodge 2477, Linda Parks, Member of the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, Scott Dool, Chairman, Law Enforcement and Firefighters Appreciation Night

BPO ELKS 136TH ANNIVERSARY

PERHAPS Charles Algernon Sidney Vivian didn't expect in 1867 that he would leave an indelible mark on the world as he began with a small group of friends an organization called the Jolly Corks. Vivian was an active entertainer in New York City, a comic singer who performed at the time in a local steak house. Eventually, the Englishman's talent would earn him great reviews as "a brilliant humorist, a scholar, and a wit," but it was the new organization that was his greatest legacy.

The group formed as a loose confederation of entertainers in New York City with 15 members. Vivian rose to leadership of the Jolly Corks- a name derived from a popular practical joke Vivian introduced to his friends-through his magnetic personality. It was the death of concert hall entertainer Ted Quinn, leaving his family destitute, that quickened the decision of Jolly Corks members to form a group of a more lasting nature, a charitable brotherhood. A committee was formed to draw up regulations, goals, and a new name for the organization.

At the time, many fraternal organizations were already in existence which used the name of a heroic animal, such of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes, of which Vivian was a member. The majestic elk was ultimately chosen as the group's symbol due to its beauty and strength, peaceful nature but readiness to protect itself when faced with a threat. On February 16, 1868, the Jolly Corks voted to adopt its new identity and elected Vivian its first leader, Right Honorable Primo.

Over its 136-year history, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has donated more than \$3 billion in cash, goods, and services to the nation's youth, veterans, disabled, and others in need. But these good works often go unnoticed by the general public, because the BPO Elks seeks no recognition and asks for no government handouts. Instead, the Elks donate to government-run veterans centers and programs and also to public schools. From its casual beginnings, the BPO Elks quickly grew into a force of good in the nation and today has more than 1.1 million members in almost 2,200 Lodges across the country. While its headquarters is in Chicago, each Elks Lodge has a strong local presence serving the interests of their neighbors in their local communities.

The BPO Elks lives up to the principles that its founders envisioned for the organization every day, through charity and goodwill. Elks Car-Elks Share.

WELCOME ABOARD



OUR NEW MEMBERS



(L-R Top) Eddie Shuttleworth and sponsor Jay Block, Esteemed Leading Knight

(L-R Bottom Row) Gary Erland and sponsor Jim Kellogg



(L-R Top) Larry C. Lawhon and sponsor Vince Coffin

(L-R Bottom Row) Irving R. Koeritz and sponsor Robert Koeritz



(L-R Top) Mike Miller and sponsor Woody Hammer

(L-R Bottom Row) Lee Hess and sponsor Harvey Flam



(L-R Top) Charles Pedersen and standing in for sponsor Harold Calvin is Jack Loughran, PER

(L-R Bottom Row) Denise Byrnes and sponsor Sally Claunch, Esteemed Loyal Knight



Who said Scott Dool doesn't know how to wear an apron



Crystal Dool and her Stroganoff dinner a success with the help of Scott and Anne Ogden

JOLLY CORKS GET INITIATED



Walter Ogden and Jim Wallace, PER said
" What? Who Me?"



Yes, You!!!! Jolly Corks to the end.



Walter 'The Stripper' Ogden gets the crowd excited with
those sexy legs



'Splish Splash' Jim Wallace, PER, displaying the good stuff

2003-04 COMMITTEE
CHAIRPERSONS

THE ELKS LADIES Myrna Block, President

2003-04 COMMITTEE
CHAIRPERSONS

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Karen Naccarato,
2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Alice Kennedy
3RD VICE PRESIDENT: Ginnie Gabel
SECRETARY: Carol Neuner
TREASURER: Donna Hardy
AUDITOR: Kathy Ryder
TELEPHONE: Patti Serota



PARLIAMENTARIAN: Myrna Block
CHAPLAIN: Marilyn Cissell
MAJOR PROJECTS:
Carol Neuner/Deanna Savokinas
CVD: Dee Swanson & Marilyn Cissell
HISTORIAN:
SUNSHINE: Pat Smail



Hello once again.

What a busy and exciting time it is at the Lodge. We are beginning Conejo Valley Days and are very proud to have CALAMITY ANNIE PEARSON running for Grand Marshal! Go get them Annie!! By the way, if you have any time on your hands, volunteers are needed for all sorts of jobs to help Annie. Please call and lend one of yours.

The plans for the Inaugural Ball are going strong, and the elections for the men and ladies are all in place. The candidates for the Elks Ladies officers are:

President: Karen Naccarato
1st Vice President: Alice Kennedy
2nd Vice President: Carol Neuner
3rd Vice President: Jeri Miller
Treasurer: Donna Hardy

You will notice that the office of Secretary is still open. If you are interested in this office please contact one of the ladies on the nominating committee. They are Myrna Block (492-4016), Patty Serota (497-1197), or Catherine Koeritz (492-8339).

The elections are on March 2nd, so please attend our meeting.

Don't forget to buy your tickets for the installation dinner for the Ladies officers on March 9th. See you there!

As always, I wish you well and May God Bless.
Alice Kennedy



FINDING BEAUTY IN ALL SEASONS

Marilyn Cissell

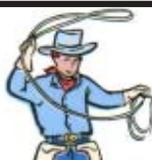
**You've given us four seasons, God,
with beauty each to share.
Such varied tastes among us all,
Bring choices to compare.**

**New changes in our weather, now,
those fewer days with winters chill.
The promises of springtime soon,
First violet and yellow daffodil.**

Amen



- 1 Jet Perry
- Angie Prizzi
- 5 Phyllis Riding
- 6 Dee Ansell
- 22 Eve Davis
- Melinda Pekow
- 27 Myrna Hardin



March 28th

**Jr. Elks Car Wash for "Calamity Annie"
Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge 9am - Noon
Come bring your car down, have breakfast,
and help our Jr. Elks and "Calamity Annie"**



HONOR ROLL



Elks Ladies
 Rick Herrera
 Greg Metzgas,
 Exalted Ruler
 Jay Block
 Robert Jones
 El Konejo Kampers
 Susan O'Connell



MARCH

- | | | | | | |
|----|--|-----|---|-----|---|
| 1. | John Tapking
Rick Spampinato
Harvey Flam | 7. | Jack Henry, PER
Charles Parsons
Dan Kirkpatrick
Eddie Shuttleworth | 18. | Larry Pile
Jay Schmidt
John Broderick
Tom Sheridan |
| 2. | Rod Bloom | 8. | Tom Hartin | 21. | Deni Byrnes |
| 3. | Darryl Vadnais
Paul DeNubilo | 10. | George Meehan
Pete Jackson | 22. | Cliff Hodge
Gene Newton |
| 4. | Rusty Kennedy | 11. | Robert Thornton,
PDDGER | 23. | Gary Erland
Buddy Minor |
| 5. | Ron Collins
Luther Hadley
Chuck Gicking | 12. | Carmine Prizzi
Ernie Pacheco
Tony Lerner | 24. | Art Seldney
Richard J. Goldner, PER
Ron Guy,
Jack Conn |
| 6. | Larry Deeder
Joseph Panczak
James Bragg | 14. | Joe Grecco | 26. | Floyd Lawrence |
| | | 16. | Ray Hinton
Kevin Metzgas
Donald McCaffrey | 28. | Susan O'Donnell |
| | | 17. | Mike Idol | 30. | Bill Jones |

**FROM THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE
 PROPOSED AND WILL BE BALLOTTED ON**

Date: March 10, 2004

CANDIDATE	OCCUPATION	SPONSOR
Catherine Koeritz	Manager Contracts	Denise Goldstein
Sander Shulman	Maintenance Mechanic	Jim Rochford
Sean Hudson	Foreman	Raven West
Rick Filermen	Chief Engineer	Harold Calvin
Jon Eslick	Plumbing Contractor	George Meehan

**CRYING
 TOWEL**



January	7	\$275.00	#2	Erle Pittman, PDDGER
Lucky 12		No Winner		
January	14	\$300.00	#177	Michael Smith
Lucky 12		No Winner		
January	21	\$325.00	#1889	Floyd Minor, III
Lucky 12		No Winner		
January	28	No Meeting		

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Wed. March 17, 2004

Joe Smith, Chairman
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FROM THE LOUNGE

Judy Brayman, Bar Manager

I would like to thank everyone for supporting me, as you're new bar manager. If you have not been in the Lodge since January we have a few new additions. The music that comes to us is from our new jukebox if anyone has any special request please pass it on to one of the bartenders. I will try to get your selections and place them in the jukebox. Our second addition is a golf game out on the patio. You don't have to walk around on a golf course to play 18 holes you can play for just \$3.00 and at the same time enjoy the comfort of your lodge. Playing a round of 18 holes can make a person hungry and thirsty just ask your bartender to prepare you something off of our new menu yes that's right we have a small mini menu for your pleasure along with your favorite beverage. Speaking of beverages please watch for my new beverage menu coming soon. It will feature special golf shots like the "Whole in One" then we have member martinis such as "The Exalted Ruler, Leading Lady etc. don't think I forgot our ever day members we have 4 Elks in a barrel can you guess who the Elks are.

I am hoping to start serving lunches Tuesday through Thursday by the end of March I am looking for a cook to help assist me. If anyone has a few hours on any of these days and likes to cook please contact me.

This year we are celebrating St Patrick's Day with Tom Ryder cooking corn beef and cabbage along with Bruce Fritzpatrick (now is that a Irish name or what) his Irish lamb stew. If anyone has a favorite Irish dish please share it with us on Wednesday March 17th. We will be kicking up our heels on that day with entertainment provided by Pete Padilla along with Irish dancers. Don't forget we will have our Irish coffee bar set up with the one and only Crazy Jack Loughran & Silly Sally Claunch serving up your order with what else but Bushmills or Jameson Irish whiskey & topped off with whoooo whip cream. Remember you don't have to be Irish to celebrate with us but you do have to join us to have fun so get ready to KICK UP your heels and TAP your toes to some famous Irish tunes. I hope to see you there & don't forget to wear GREEN or you will get pinched all night.

Also on March 26~ we will be adding a wine tasting event along with our Friday night dinner by Chet. As members you will be able to taste a variety of wines and choose which wine you would like to have on our new wine list in the lounge. The wine tasting will cost \$10.00 for those who would like to participate all proceeds will be donated for our one & only Calamity Annie running for Grand Marshal.

SEE YOU SOON!!

New Menu Items

- \$1.75 Shredded Beef Burrito with Monterey Jack Cheese**
- \$1.75 Chimichangas w/ Chicken & Monterey Jack Cheese**
- \$1.75 Individual Deep Dish Supreme Pizza**
- \$1.75 Hot & spicy Hot Dogs or Regular**
- 0.50 Assorted Chips & cheese Crackers**

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND

January 8, 2002 Public Law 107-110 was signed into law by President Bush. The stroke of a pen changed the direction of our schools basic way of making sure that no child will be left behind. With school administration now looking for new ways of teaching and working with our youth, we as Elks have a moral and civic duty to tell our community about our youth programs.

The "NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND" Act recognizes that improved student achievement occurs when communities implement programs and strategies scientifically proven to be effective. Many communities across the nation are working together with new energy and inspiration to create a more positive future for their children and youth. Their focus is on constructive learning activities during school and non-school hours. Types of activities found in a quality school and after-school program include:

- Tutoring and supplementing instruction in basic skills, such as reading, math, and science.
- Drug- and violence-prevention curricula and counseling.
- Youth leadership and character-building activities.
- Volunteer and community-service opportunities.
- College awareness and preparation.
- Employment preparation or training.
- Supervised recreation and athletic programs and events.

Common elements of quality after-school programs need the following principles: The program is a combination of academic, enrichment, cultural, and recreational activities that guide learning and engage children and youth in wholesome activities. Goal-setting and strong management. Quality after-school staffing. Effective partnerships. Strong involvement of families. These are but a few of the guidelines set by the National School Board Association.

Elks Care - Elks Share



POETS CORNER
Ken Muellerlelei

INSPIRATION

As a child I did dream
the visions seemed real,
upon awakening I felt peace
but I thought it was surreal.

Years passed, I'm adolescent
but the visions in my dreams,
were the same, but unimpressive
and a little more to the extreme.

Now the coming stages of adult
I will have to admit for sure,
dreams are vital at any age
but as elders, more demure.

DANCE DANCE DANCE
DANCE DANCE DANCE



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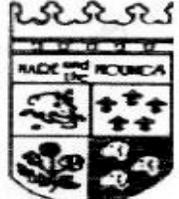
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