

ANTLER



Jay Block
EXALTED RULER



ANTICS

VOLUME 33, NO. 7

Editor, Jerry Serota

October 2004

"Catch the Spirit of Elkdom"

Sat. Oct. 16th **SADIE HAWKINS DINNER/DANCE**
Sun. Oct. 17 **FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY 1:00 p.m.**
Sun. Oct. 24th **SCHOLARSHIP GARDEN PARTY**
Sat. Oct. 30th **HOMECOMING DDGER PARTY**
SUN. OCT. 31 **GALA CHILDREN HALLOWEEN PARTY**
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

ROBERT McKEE,

1918-2004

Exalted Ruler 1977-'78

State VP, 1985-'86

PDDGER 1988-'89

Honorary Member #3, 1992

The definition of a wellspring is the source of a spring; or just a source. In a watch it is the tension on a spring that drives the mechanism that keeps the time. Within each of us is a wellspring of life. It is wound tight when we come into this world and as we grow older it loses its tension and we slow down until it stops

A sad day for our Elks Lodge #2477 for today we lost a friend, a pal and an esteemed Brother. Brother Bob McKee, PDDGER, PSVP, passed from our midst on August 19th after giving up the valiant fight to the very end. He gave so much of himself to our Lodge. Going through the chairs in 1977-1978 then being a District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, and State Vice President, he was respected by the whole Elks community for his service to Elkdom.

We will miss his support and encouragement because he was always there with a winning smile. When ever we had a function at the Lodge he was always there. When we resurrected our train he was there. When an

article about our Lodge was in the Elks Magazine he was there with praise and a pat on the back.

Brother Bob was an avid camper and traveler. He was a Past President of the El Konejo Kamper Klub. If there is a camper club on high I can see him in the drivers seat and ready to roll. He and Eula logged many a happy mile. One of their memorable trips was

caravanning to Alaska. Being from Montana that was just a hop, skip and a jump away.

Brother Bob was devoted to Eula for they were once sweethearts in school and in later life when their spouses passed away they were reunited and celebrated 44 years of married life together. His passing is going to be hard for Eula and she is going to need and have our unyielding love and support as time goes by. I will miss Bobs smile, his encouragement, his hand shake and that pat on the back that always

gladdened our heart and made our day.

The clock of our day marks the passage of time as the wellspring of life after 86 years has played itself out. We are glad that Brother Bob no longer suffers the pain of living and is finally at rest. Vaya con Dios, dear friend you will be missed.



2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN



EXALTED RULER

Jay Block

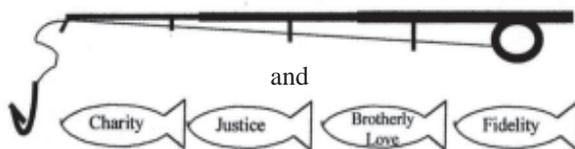
2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

ANTLER ANTICS: Jerry Serota, Editor
NEW FACILITIES: Greg Metzger, PER
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, PDDGER
ELKS TRAINING:
BEQUESTS & LIVING TRUSTS:
 Chet Kozlowski, PER

“CATCHING THE SPIRIT OF ELKDOM”



???'STILL HAVEN'T YOU BOUGHT YOUR BONDS YET???'

Fall is here, and I hope we all realize that the present Lodge is in the “Autumn of its years”, as the song goes. It has served us well, and there is a multitude of fond memories of the times spent in celebrating the joys of ELKDOM. Last month the Lodge again had a special evening with a repeat FREE DINNER for the many loyal members, who were still interested in the details of the New Lodge and the Bonds.

Again loads of questions were asked and answered. There is still the belief that our venerable structure can be upgraded. **FORGET IT.** As we said before: it would be more expensive to re-model the present Lodge, since the existing structure would have to be torn down in order to be brought up to minimum standards of safety. As any one can see by looking around outside, the surrounding neighborhood is in a state of rapid upgrade. As an example there is a high end (\$300K to \$500 K), ten unit Townhouse project to be constructed on the property to the south of us. That coupled with the new Apartment/Townhouse complex across the street really demonstrates that the only course of intelligent action is to proceed with building the new Lodge. So, get off your duff and support the Bonds.

As before, I encourage any member who has a bone to pick with the way the Lodge is run, to come to the Officers meeting, held at 7:30pm on the first Tuesday of each month

We wish to thank those who came forward this past month and invested in bonds. You have shown that you have **"Caught the Spirit of Elkdom"** in helping us reach our goal.

Yours in Fraternal Brotherhood
 Exalted Ruler Jay Block



FIRST LADY'S CORNER

First Lady Myrna Block

Hi:

I want to take this opportunity to thank one and all for the flowers, plants, cards, well wishes, and especially the prayers, from my Lodge Family. They have bolstered me both in spirit and morale. In times of trouble and stress one finds the support of the people surrounding you, friends who are there to help, and encourage.

Needless to say, we are looking for, and expecting, a favorable outcome to the treatments that I will be undergoing.

Remember, Jay and I will be going through this together, and he needs as much support as I do.

Be seeing you at the Lodge.

First Lady and and Brother Honey Myrna Block



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 McKee, PDDGER

Born: February 14, 1918
Initiated: July 25, 1973
Died: August 19, 2004

Robert P. Cooper

Born: October 28, 1942
Initiated: July 25, 1990
Died: August 28, 2004

William Cairns

Born: October 23, 1927
Initiated: May 28, 1974
Died: August 27, 2004



EDITORS CORNER

jserota497@earthlink.net

THE GODS ON HIGH OLYMPUS

Every four years the Gods assemble from the four corners of the earth and give us a sample of excellence that we mere mortals never achieve. They defy gravity leap to incredible heights, tumble and spin, twist, twirl with grace and beauty of Gods that will be unmatched for another four years. They defy the gravity that keeps us lesser mortals earthbound.

Yes the Olympic games were on display for the whole world and what a show it was. In the gym, in the water, on diving boards, in track and field our national spirit swelled with love and pride for our athletes as they gave it their all. They were magnificent. It is too bad that they all couldn't come away with medals. They are the heroes of today and we venerate heroes. In our way of thinking the number of medals won should not be translated as one nation being superior to the next but that the spirit of competition prevailed.

The many hours of training and sacrifice to achieve such excellence is rewarded with our love and national pride in their achievements. Their bodies beautiful streamlined to perfection gives us a glimpse of what the Gods on high Olympus had in mind for our mankind.

PICNIC '04

The weather was great for a picnic. The temperature was not too hot. The ball players had a great turn out and it was wonderful seeing young boys and girls plus adults participating. The Bingo players were there; Children had a go at the Pin~ata and of course the water balloons made a big splash.

A big hand to Dave Naccarato, Catherine Koeritz, Eddie Rice, Terry Baker, Steve McKee, Tony Hartin, Judy Brayman, Darryl Vadnais and everyone else who had a hand in setting up picnic and who worked the food department.

This was a good picnic. The price was right and there was no charge for the soft drinks and bottled water. The only thing lacking was so many of our older members were noted for their absence. Fixing breakfast for the group at the Lodge took its toll on the El Konejo Kamper crew. Another reason for this was our Thousand Oaks Little League, North American Champions were vieing for the World Series, and so many stayed away to watch the game. Sorry to say our boys put up a good fight but battled back to the last out. We are all very proud of them.

Children and grand children make it a real family affair. Let's hope that next year there will be no conflicts and we have better participation.

TO OUR ABSENT BROTHERS

Our Lodge has lost three members this past month, Brothers Bob McKee, Bill Cairns and Bob Cooper which is grievous. Bro. McKee, PDDGER was a vital force in his devotion to Elkdom and respected by the Elks community.

Brother Bill Cairns, was a vital force in our Lodge during the formative years. He was an ex Marine, Past Trustee, Past Elk of the Year, and was our building maintenance chairman. Before he retired to the Palm Springs area he documented all the wiring and circuits in the Lodge.

We are sure he is looking down on us with our plans for a new facility grinning and giving us "Atta Boys!" as we go ahead with each phase of our New Facility. Being an Operating Engineer by profession he knew how to get the job done. One of the things he did here was design a fence between our Lodge and the vacant lot next door. The city required us to build a fence separating our properties. The fence you see is a lathe and plaster configuration which was okayed by the city and saved the Lodge a ton of money which we didn't have at the time. It is still standing after all these years even though it may lean a little in places it served its purpose well.

In the end it was the demon tobacco that brought him down. He had emphysema very bad and had to rely on oxygen.

Bill's wife Verna Jean preceded him in death. She too was a vital force in our Lodge as a Past Elks Ladies President. They were a team around our Lodge and they left their mark. They are gone but not forgotten for what they did for our Lodge we are truly grateful and we will miss them.

Bro. Bob Cooper was a man of courage. In his later years he did not want to burden his friends and family with the illness that finally brought him down. We could see him wasting away and he always made light of it. He was married to Maribel, his devoted pal and best friend. If you ever visited their home it was always immaculate and they were charming and generous hosts.

Bro. Bob was a Computer Product Manager and when we first started out with the computer he was always helpful with questions that dumbfounded me.

Our condolences to Maribel and we will join her in missing Bro. Bob.



**Please Join us for the
Homecoming of
Elaine and Richard J. Goldner,
District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler,
West Central Coast District,
On Saturday, October 30, 2004
At Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477
No host cocktails at 6 p.m.
Followed by Dinner and Entertainment
\$15 per person
"Mischievous Night" Casual Attire**

2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

LEADING KNIGHT Sally Claunch

2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

MAJOR PROJECT/PURPLE PIG:

David Naccarato

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS: Sally Claunch**INVESTIGATION:** George Meehan**ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION:**

Robert Jones

CHRISTMAS BASKETS: Tom & Sally Claunch

INDOCTRINATION: Jack Loughran, **PER MEM. CONTROL. COM.:** Herb Jellander
CVAC: Tom Hartin
COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Jerry Serota
OFFICERS ROUND TABLE: Jack Panczak, **PER CHARITY DINNERS:** Sally Claunch

RANDOM THOUGHTS FROM CLAUNCH

What are homecomings? How are they celebrated? What do they mean? As the leaves start to turn and the weather starts to cool on campuses, across America football games, bonfires, pep rallies and dances celebrate homecomings. It is to honor the home team and to support their efforts for the upcoming season.

Each fall, we as Elks have our own homecomings. After the last visitation of the District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler to the lodges under his jurisdiction, his home lodge hosts a homecoming. This year our own, Richard Goldner, is the DDGER for our district. Thus on October 30th, we will be celebrating his homecoming. No, there will be no pep rally led by the T.O.Elks Lodge cheerleaders, nor a bonfire in the parking lot or a crowning of the queen. However the intent is the same, we will be honoring our DDGER and we will be showing our support for his hard work and dedication to Elkdom. In addition there will be wonderful dinner followed by entertainment and dancing. These festivities are open to all Elks and their families. Come down and celebrate—our own.

As DDGER, Richard is the personal field commander of the Grand Exalted Ruler, Jim McQuillan (Quilly). It is his duty to oversee the running of the twelve lodges in the West Central Coast District. Through workshops, he gives lodge officers the knowledge and tools to effectively run their own lodges. Through visitations he inspects the lodges using checklists then providing feedback and pointers on improvement. Ultimately under his capable leadership, he will make our 12 lodges peak and improve.

CHARITY BASKETS ARE A COMING

Each year our lodge lives the Elks Care Elks Share motto by providing holiday baskets for needy families in the community. Last year we provided 76 families/ seniors with a holiday meal, groceries for a week and gifts for children. This year the tradition lives on---We will be raising the needed funds through a raffle mailing to each Elk household. The grand prize is a 3 day cruise to Mexico, other prizes include golf for 4 at local courses, dinners for 2, and booze baskets. In each letter, you will find 12 tickets for \$20, please send back in the self addressed envelope, your check for \$20 and half of each ticket. At the Charity fundraiser on November 20th, the lucky winners will be pulled and announced. Please be generous when the tickets arrive.

SICKNESS & DISTRESS**805-495-0577**

OUR CONDOLENCES TO: Eula McKee on the passing of Brother Bob; Bro. Boyd Lindquist on the passing of his mother; Maribel Cooper on the passing of Brother Bob; Bro Bill Cairns has now joined Verna Jean and passed away; Bro. Cliff Jones on the passing of his wife Claudine;
KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Bro. Jim Barton had a stroke; Veronica Robichau, on upcoming surgery; Dick and Myrna Hardin's daughter had to have radical surgery; Don Ansell, PER, hospitalized.

ON THE MEND: Darryl Vadnais had a successful back surgery a second time; Bro. Dick Rogge will be coming home tomorrow;

Remember cards and phone calls are appreciated.

BRANSON MEETS THOUSAND OAKS

...Or otherwise known as the fundraiser for the charity baskets and other charitable works throughout the year On Saturday, November 20th Branson and T.O. shall meet. No travel is needed only an appetite and tappin toes are required, because it will be at our lodge. A three-course dinner followed by the classic country and classic standards for your listening and dancing pleasure is the attraction.

The evening begins in the lounge mingling with friends while sipping your favorite beverage and indulging in temping appetizers. Next here will be a sumptuous sit down dinner of beef Wellington or chicken cordon bleu prepared and served by a professional chef and staff.

After dinner sit back and be entertained by Don Newcomer (our very own) and his Classic Country quartet. They will have your toes a tapping and your feet a dancing. During their intermission dessert will be served. After a short break they will return for another set.

Another highlight of the evening will be the announcement of the winners of the raffles-a cruise; rounds of golf, dinners and booze baskets are the featured prizes. All is included for the price of \$20 per person. Reserve this date on your calendar for tickets will go fast. Tickets may be purchased at the bar or from officers. Call Sally Claunch for table reservations (495-0577). Watch the mail for raffle tickets to purchase.



EL KONEJO KAMPERS

Pat von Wittenburg

IT'S REALLY COOL IN OCEANO

In more ways than one. The El Konejo Kampers spent their July campout at the Oceano Elks Lodge - Frank and Jackie Coley being our wagonmasters, and doing a extraordinary job. It cracks me up - Frank really gets into this stuff.

For those of you who have not experienced this camping site, it truly is 'AN EXPERIENCE'. David is the Lodge "Camp Host" and quite a talented man. I'm not sure of the exact measurements to the camping area - but he can direct the parking of rigs to utilize and maximize the use of every square inch - that's right. NOT foot - INCH! He had us stacked in like cordwood and amazingly enough - NO ONE CARED - actually it was pretty remarkable! The Newcomers were deepest in the corner and Ewald next forming their own little corner of the world - but they were boxed in first by the Claunches then the vonWittenburgs. Knowing that Don usually likes to leave early on Sunday, and the vonWittenburgs were staying over Sunday night - this was going to be REAL interesting. But by dang - they pulled it off - David directed this exodus like an orchestra conductor.

Sure got ahead of myself there - got everyone leaving and haven't even covered the weekend.

W-E-L-L we did have some very nice visitors from the Simi Lodge Jimmy and Patty and I am so sorry I didn't get their last names. From our own Lodge, John Peterson rented a rig and Sherry Skoczek (hope that's spelled correctly), Amanda and Lady came along. I think I heard John say something about "checking this camping thing out". If, in fact they do, Carol Ewald will have someone to go along with her - Sherry doesn't seem to be able to SIT for very long either! That is if we ever see Carol again! Yup, Gene showed up alone again. I don't know - he seems to be liking this a little too much! Peace and quiet, rest and relaxation, huh Gene?

Dee Swanson & Jeannie Sandt drove up just for fun - is Dee related to Mario Andrede? That woman should be on a track somewhere.

Then there's that awesome Mexican Restaurant within walking distance - well walking for some of us - poor Cheryl hardly recovered from a bronchial thing couldn't make it. Please take care of yourself woman!

It seems the Ericksons and Claunches determined they would do the Mexican Restaurant Thursday night for some reason. But it seems poor Tommy didn't fare too well. I heard several different stories - one I refused to believe -they went outside to have a cigarette and Beverly left him in the bushes somewhere? Nah - couldn't happen! ! That really has to be a vicious rumor.

Friday morning the golfers were off for an 11:00 a.m. tee time! We were to have appetizers and cocktails at 4:00 p.m. I don't know and certainly was not advised what kind of 19th hole this golf course had - but needless to say we DID NOT have appetizers and cocktails at 4:00 p.m. Everyone was wandering around asking "WHAT DO WE DO?" Who the heck knows - the WAGONMASTER'S at the 19th HOLE!

All the golfers finally returned and we did have appetizers. Then 10 of us took off for the Mexican Restaurant - BIG JOKE. If we wanted to sit together we would have to wait an hour - don't think so. We split up 3 - 3 and 4. We can socialize later!

Saturday was pretty typical - brunch, meeting, poker, Mexican Train - check out the Lounge, etc. Then we did the raffle, sheriff and 50/50 about 4:00 cause we were all going to the Oceano Lodge Luau. Can someone PLEZ tell me why - I can buy raffle tickets and usually win a couple of things, I ALWAYS get fined - Duh! Bill and I keep plowing in to the stupid 50/50 - TEN BLOODY YEARS - we won 1 dinky pot at one of the smallest campouts on record - \$20 bucks! And who wins the \$100 plus pots people like GENE EWALD! There is no justice ! ! ! ! I mean I'm a decent person - I work hard for this group - waa, waa, waa - and no I don't want any cheese with my wine - THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

CAMPGROUND TABLE COVERS

Many have asked about vinyl table & bench covers that some have.
Joe Kush (818) 344-9671 or (818) 345-7820
Van Nuys Upholstery

These are the long sets and were purchased a number of years ago,

The shorter sets were purchased at Thousand Trails Trading Post in Solidad Canyon. Several Kampers are members of TT, you need to ask around.



Jackie Coley says it's great to be an El Konejo Kamper

2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

LOYAL KNIGHT David Naccarato

2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

CONEJO VALLEY DAYS: Ed Rice
LODGE ACTIVITIES: Greg Metzgus, PER
SCOUTING: Bill Miller
HOOPSHOOT: Tom Hartin
WED. NIGHT DINNERS:
DRUG AWARENESS:
STRAY ELKS:
MOTHER'S DAY: Rusty Kennedy



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

Another summer has come and gone. But not without a bang. We had our annual Elks picnic on August 29th and it was a huge success. A whole lotta thanks go out to our Lecturing Knight Catherine Koeritz and her husband Robert for all their help in set up and take down. Also Catherine and her sister Toni Hartin were right in the thick of things when it came to serving all the hungry participants. Many thanks to Ed Rice for running the BBQ all day. We had Terry Baker on corn and Jay and Myrna Block had many games of bingo. Our bar manager Judy tended bar for us the entire day. And of course to keep all the finances straight Patti Serota handled cashier duty for us. Thank you Patti. We had plenty of food and some good time playing baseball. Thanks to Herb Jellander for setting up the baseball games. We had an incident that reminded me of the old Wide World of Sports introduction. We had our winners of our Hoop Shoot Contest which would be the "thrill of victory" and we had Robert Koeritz take a ground ball to the shin which would be "and the agony of defeat." Or maybe it should read "DE feet." All in all we had a good time. If you missed it then you missed out. Plan on next year to attend.

I want to thank all our cooks and let them know we appreciate them. When you see them let them know how much you enjoyed their meal. We had Robert and Carol Neuner; Tom Ryder and crew with a special buffet meal; and of course the Roy Cooper fish fry; and the old staple Mac and cheese by Terry Baker. I had some help on my breakfast with 32 year Elk George Meehan; Cornelia Mehann (who sings with the Channelaire Chorus) and Alice Kennedy were keeping us rocking with show tunes back in the kitchen. Its not all work we have a lot of fun in the kitchen. Come down for a breakfast \$5.00, 9:00 to 12:00 noon every Sunday.

HOOPSHOOT

We held our annual Hoop Shoot contest at the Elks Picnic. The Elks Hoop Shoot will have over 3 million boys and girls participate this year. The Elks Hoop Shoot highlights the Elks commitment to Americas youth. As the youngsters who participate and advance through local, district, state and regional competition, six national champions are named. The winners each receive a trophy and their names are inscribed on a plaque at the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield Massachusetts Our lodge winner are;

10 to 11 year boys- Emile Nelson
 12 to 13 year boys-Douglas Roffel
 10 to 11 year girls- Elena Roffel
 12 to 13 year girls-Jessica Neuner

NOMINATION FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The following member, having met the requirements outlined in Grand Lodge Statutes Section 14.260 by having been a member of the Order for at least 30 consecutive years, a member of Thousand Oaks Lodge for at least 10 years, and 65 years of age or older has requested nomination for Life Membership in the Order.

Edward Cassese, member #474

This member will be nominated at a regular meeting of the lodge to be held on October 6, 2004 and will be balloted on at the meeting held on October 13, 2004.



Representing the Elks Ladies (L-R) Myrna Block and Sally Claunch, Past Elks Ladies Presidents, presented \$5,000 to Greg Metzgus, PER for our New Facility. Walter Ogden joined the growing investors in our new facility

congratulation to all participants and good luck

Remember "Do good unto others for we pass this way but once"

Word of wisdom by Harley Dave

"Ability backed by a commitment to excellence overcomes any challenge"

NEW FACILITIES

Greg Metzgus, PER



The time has come to turn up the heat on the fund raising for our new lodge. A major problem has been discovered in our existing building. A small leak over the kitchen has apparently existed for quite some time. The rust holding back the majority of the water finally gave way a few weeks ago and water from the leaking evaporative cooler came rushing into the lodge. Some of you may have been rained on when you walked between the lounge and the lodge room. To fix the leak properly will involve removal of the air conditioning units, the sheet metal roof saddle and adjacent roofing. Only then will we be able to see the extent of any structural damage that may have occurred below the area of the leak. It is suspected to be extensive as the wood that could be seen under the leak area was rotten and evidence of extensive damage can be seen in the kitchen ceiling. This repair could cost us \$10,000 or more and will involve shutting down the air conditioning for an extended period of time. A patch has been put over the leak area that is accessible. This patch by no means corrects the problem; it only acts as a temporary band-aid to slow down the infiltration of water into the building.

With the foregoing in mind, we need to ask ourselves, does it make good business sense to put \$10,000 into a building we are going to tear down? We also need to be realistic; this is not the only major repair that is going to be required in the near future. One look at our aged roofing will attest to that. Add to the cost of repairs of our present building the inflation costs we are incurring every day we delay the construction and you don't need to be much of a mathematician to realize we are wasting time and money.

There is a solution. Every member needs to join our effort to raise the other half of the funds needed to start construction. I know everyone is not able to purchase a bond and some are able to purchase more than others. All we are asking is that you loan the lodge, through your bond purchase, as much as you are able. You can also help by supporting our fund raisers.

Now for the construction update. Len Cardoni has been working on the revised floor plan and has met with the city to get their approval for the appearance of the outside of the building. A contractor has been called in to give us some hard costs of construction based upon a metal structure building. The metal refers only to the support structure of the building. It will have all appearances from the inside and outside of a frame and stucco building. The revised floor plan and revised rendering of the new lodge should be on display in the lounge by the time you are reading this.

In closing, let me remind you, we have already applied for our first building permit. This building will be built and moneys are already being spent for the first phase. The only question remaining is when will the construction actually start? The construction start date is completely dependent upon our members. I am sure that there are numerous members out there who are able to buy bonds but have not done so. If you are able to and have not, what does it take to convince

(Continued Page 14)

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, DL



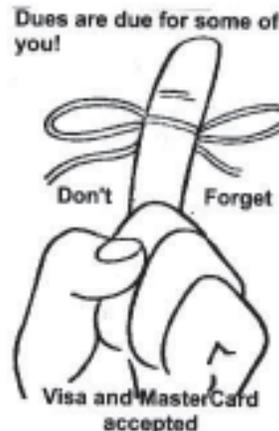
September is now history, and we only have 3 more DDGER visitations and a home coming. By now our own Richard Goldner is probably feeling the wrath of taking care of 12 lodges and all of their problems. Hang in there Richard, the end is in sight. Our bond drive is coming along pretty well. We have some members and widows who have helped us tremendously in this endeavor, and we thank you so very much for your generosity. We had better get a new facility pretty soon, our old one has about had it. Johnson & Johnson is going to make a lot of money off us with all the band-aids we are using. Some things we are just holding off until we see how much money we are able to scrape up for our new facility.

Membership is really doing great! We are having larger classes this year than we've had in a long time. As of this writing, we have 555 members, which is 23 more than we had at the beginning of the lodge year on the 1st of April. Trouble is, lapsation is ham-stringing us. We still have over 30 members who have not paid their dues yet, and the year drags on relentlessly close to the time when we must drop them and move on to better things. Thirty odd members represents a sizeable amount of money to the lodge that we will not have to do business with. When the yearly budget is drawn up yearly each year, the trustees must count on each and every member paying their dues. I see Judy and the bartenders now carding people that need to ring the bell to gain entrance to the lounge. It is embarrassing to both the members and the employees to have to go through this process, but if that is what it takes to keep lapse members out of the building, then so be it.

Congratulations to Ed Cassese who will be voted upon this month for his life membership. Thirty years of continual service is a lot of years. And we now have well over 30 of them in our midst now. Each time a lapse member is dropped from the rolls for non-payment of dues, and then wants to reinstate, they have to start their time for life membership all over again. Remember, it is continuous service. And I sincerely hope that you will all get it eventually. It will hurt our pocket book, but at least we will have a lot of dedicated members.

And that's 30 for this month. Hope everyone had a terrific if hot summer vacation.

Bill



2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

LECTURING KNIGHT

Catherine Koeritz

2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN
2004-05
COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

AMERICANISM: Raven West
FLAG DAY/FLAG RETIREMENT:
 Robert Jones
SCHOLARSHIP: Rick Herrera
GOVT. RELATIONS: Denise Goldstein
MEMORIAL SERVICE: Rusty Kennedy
NATIONAL SERVICES: Jim Kellogg



KIDS XMAS PARTY: Chet Kozlowski, PER
GOLF TOURNEY: Dave Pearson
 Tommy Claunch
LODGE PICNIC: Catherine Koeritz
MEMBERSHIP: Every Lodge Member
CHRISTMAS TREES: Bob Hardy, PER
EL KONEJO KAMPERS:
 Bill von Wittenburg

I would like to thank everyone who helped out at our annual Elks picnic. It takes a group effort to organize such a variety of activities and offer such good food! Our Est. Loyal Knight, Dave Naccarato (who should take a lot of the credit for organizing the picnic and the Hoop Shoot) has graciously thanked most everyone who helped. I would like to add a few "thanks" to Heather Maddox and Carol Neuner for organizing the children's activities, Dee Swanson for getting the piñata, Steve McKee for helping out with the BBQ and Jay and Myrna Block for cooking up those delicious chicken legs.

CATHERINE'S COMMUNICATION: FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY

Laws of the United States state: "When the flag is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning".

Once a year we perform a ceremony to retire unserviceable flags in a dignified manner. We do this by ceremoniously lowering them into our own funeral pyre. This ceremony takes place next to the Office, where the pyre is located. Boy and/or Girl Scouts who perform their own ceremony as well as a representative of Thousand Oaks City accompany the Officers of our Lodge.

There is no charge for this service and if you have an American Flag you wish to retire, please bring to the Lodge before October 17th. We have receptacles present at every BBQ on Saturdays.

Please join us on Sun, October 17th at 1:00 pm for the Flag Retirement Ceremony. We will have an Ice-cream social immediately following in the Lodge.

THE TOLLING OF 11 STROKES:

With the passing of our recently departed brothers, I felt this piece of trivia to be very appropriate. Many of our new members are not aware of the significance of this Toast and what it means in the hearts of Elks. The official 11 O'clock Toast is posted near the Jute Box in our Lounge. There are many wonderful and moving variations of the 11 O'clock toast that I will be sharing with you in later publications.

Origin of the Toast

by Mike Kelly, Grand Lodge Historian

In regard to the Elks 11 O'clock Toast and its origin, we have to go back long before the BPOE came into existence. One of the main contributions of Charles Richardson -- in stage name of Charles Algernon Sidney Vivian and founder of the American branch of the Jolly Corks -- was to deliver into the hands of newborn Elks the rituals and traditions of a fraternal organization started in England around 1010 A.D., the Royal and Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes, to which he belonged prior to coming to New York.

The RAOB, or Buffaloes as we shall henceforth refer to them, also practiced an 11 o'clock toast in remembrance of the Battle of Hastings in October of 1066. Following his victory, William of Normandy imported a set of rules, both martial and civil in nature, to keep control of a seething Norman-Saxon population always on the edge of a revolution.

Among those rules was a curfew law requiring all watch fires, bonfires (basically all lights controlled by private citizens that could serve as signals) to be extinguished at 11 each night. From strategically placed watch-towers that also served as early fire-alarm posts, the call would go out to douse or shutter all lights and bank all fires. This also served to discourage secret and treasonous meetings, as chimney sparks stood out against the black sky. A person away from his home and out on the darkened streets, when all doors were barred for the night, risked great peril from either evildoers or patrolling militia.

The hour of 11 quickly acquired a somber meaning, and in the centuries that followed, became the synonym throughout Europe for someone on his deathbed or about to go into battle: i.e. "His family gathered about his bed at the 11th hour," or "The troops in the trenches hastily wrote notes to their families as the 11th hour approached when they must charge over the top."

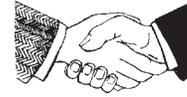
Thus, when the 15 Jolly Corks (of whom seven were not native-born Americans) voted on February 16, 1868, to start a more formal and official organization, they were already aware of an almost universally prevalent sentiment about the mystic and haunting aura connected with the nightly hour of 11, and it took no great eloquence by Vivian to establish a ritual toast similar to that of the Buffaloes at the next-to-last hour each day.

The great variety of 11 O'clock Toasts, including the Jolly Corks Toast, makes it clear that there was no fixed and official version until 1906-10. Given our theatrical origins, it was almost mandatory that the pre-1900 Elks would be expected to compose a beautiful toast extemporaneously at will. Regardless of the form, however, the custom is as old as the Elks.

They don't call me the Lecturing Knight for nothing!!!

PICNIC 2004-'05

WELCOME ABOARD
OUR NEW MEMBERS



1.



2.



3.

- 1. Waiting to come to bat.
- 2. Greg Metzgas shows good form.
- 3. Taking a cut at the Pin~ata
- 4. The scramble for the Pin~ata candy.

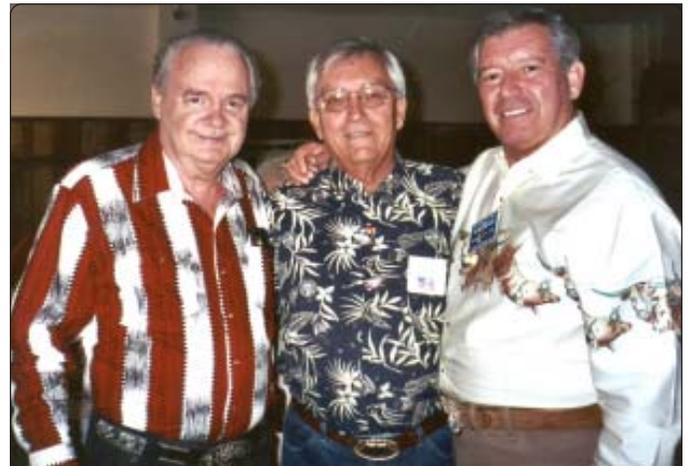
*Photos courtesy of Pete Padilla



4.



(L-R) Peter Gordon, Sponsored by Mitch Strunk and Larry Brown and sponsor Herb Jellander and Dave Graham also sponsored by Herb Jellander



(L-R) John Holt, Past President CHEA, Skip Henke, DDGER, Metropolitan District and Richard Goldner, DDGER, West Central Coast District, at the jewel presentation, Santa Clarita Elks Lodge.

**Sunday October 17th
1:00 p.m.
14TH ANNUAL
FLAG RETIREMENT
CEREMONY
Elks Partners in Scouting
Ice Cream Social to follow**



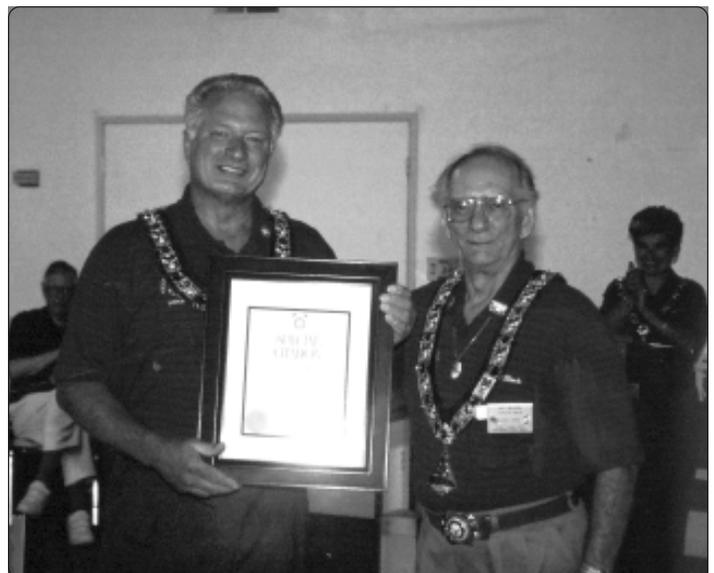
Dave Pearson, Pete Padilla, Connie Stahl, and Rick Herrera took the podium at the DDGER clinic at the Santa Barbara Elks and shared their experiences



Jerry Serota, Tom Ryder, PSVP and State Lapsation Chairman, and Bill Lloyd District Leader shared their views respectively



DDGER Clinic, Santa Barbara
Gil Riding, Auditor to DDGER
Richard Goldner, DDGER, WCCD
Greg Metzgs, Esquire to DDGER



Greg Metzgs, PER accepts the All American Lodge Certificate presented by Jay Block, ER from the CHEA for Division III



(L-R) Upper Picture-Bob Thornton, Don Skinner, Bob Hardy, Richard Goldner, Jim Wallace, Tom Ryder and Gil Riding, Lower Picture-John Kelly, John D'Ambrogio, Greg Metzgas and Don Booker all PERs conducted an Elks Memorial service and paid their last respects to one of their own Brother, Bob McKee.



Jr. Elks held a succesful car wash and have \$1,000 in their treasury.



BBQs at the Lodge don't just happen. Our hat goes off to a dedicated and committed crew who come down and trim the roasts so they are ready on Saturday. (L-R) Arnie Antle, Ken Keeler, Keith Orr and Roy Cooper



Greg Metzgas, PER along with editor Jerry Serota displays Grand Lodge Plaque for 1st Place Bulletin



2004-05 COMMITTEE
CHAIRPERSONS

THE ELKS LADIES

Karen Naccarato

2004-05 COMMITTEE
CHAIRPERSONS

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Alice Kennedy
2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Carol Neuner
3RD VICE PRESIDENT: Jeri Miller
SECRETARY: Annie Pearson
TREASURER: Donna Hardy
AUDITOR: Kathy Ryder
TELEPHONE: Patti Serota



PARLIAMENTARIAN: Myrna Block
CHAPLAIN: Marilyn Cissell
MAJOR PROJECTS:

CVD: Dee Swanson & Marilyn Cissell
HISTORIAN:
SUNSHINE: Shirley Kozlowski



Hello Everyone,

What It's October ? Already

I know for me, this Summer went by fast. My family and I kept very busy this Summer. School has begun and back in session, for a

lot of you, those days when you couldn't wait for your children to get out for Summer and then couldn't wait for them to go back to School have come and gone. It's the same for me, but it's also the marking of TIME! On August 14th: The Elk Ladies held "A Ladies Get Reacquainted Brunch" With a hundred invitations sent with response cards. I received about an eighty percent that responded back! So I'm Happy to say we had over FIFTY women that were present! It was a wonderful afternoon, I personally was finally able to put some faces to some of the Ladies I've spoken to over the phone but never had the pleasure to meet as well as put faces to names that I have heard mentioned amongst the Elk Ladies since I joined over 3 years ago. We all had a wonderful time getting Re-acquainted or Acquainted with each other.

The Jr Elks I would like to especially thank, they've always done a wonderful job when they have served dinner at the lodge, but that Sat. they were especially attentive and helpful to all that attended. So **Thank You Jr's**, for donating your afternoon. You help make this a wonderful Brunch! I was given many compliments that afternoon on what a great idea this Brunch was. I'm glad that everyone had a good time. And maybe we were able to build friendships anew. I would like to do this again next year. Maybe we can get all of the Elk Ladies to attend.

At the Sept. meeting we voted and approved the last of our changes in our By-Laws and Rules of Order. So you should be receiving a revised copy of all of our By-Laws and Rules of Order in the mail by the 5th of Oct. If you don't receive your copy please contact one of the Elk Ladies officers, so we make sure you get one. The Elks Ladies also will be holding a Bake Sale on Friday Oct. 15th all proceeds to go to our Major Projects Fund. So Ladies were looking for some home baked goods. Please contact Patti Serota @ (805) 497-1197 if you like to contribute some baked goods for this event.

Mark your Calendars on Sat. October 16th! Sadie Hawkins's Dance! A Country Affair! \$ 17.00 p.p. or \$30.00 a for two; includes Dinner, Music, Dancing and a lot of Fun.

The results of the monthly Drawing for September !
Bubble Drawing for the month of September:



WHY ARE WE CONTINUALLY SURPRISED BY YOUR MIRACLES?

Marilyn Cissell

The heat of summer lingers on,
and with it's end will come a change.
As you control our seasons, Lord,
our lives are yours to rearrange.

With tragedies and problems, God,
at times too deep to comprehend.
Like all your other miracles, so suddenly all,
is well again.

Amen



OCTOBER

12.	Marilyn Corrigan
	Deanna Savokinas
22.	Charlotte Gessler
25.	Betty Vega
29.	Sarah Ely

\$100.00 Audrey Huffman Not Present No Winner

\$100.00 Mary Ann Swallows Not Present No Winner

\$20.00 Alice Wagner Not Present No Winner

Remember in order to win you need to be at the Meetings that are held on the First Tuesday of every month!

Dates to Remember :

Oct. 3rd Santa Anita Bus Trip (See Annie Pearson)

Oct. 5th Elk Ladies Monthly meeting

Oct. 15th Elk Ladies Bake Sale for Major Projects

Oct. 16th Sadie Hawkins's Dinner And Dance

Oct. 19th Elks Ladies Board Meeting

Oct. 24th Cribbage Tournament (at Rick Herrera's) for The Scholarship Fund

Oct. 29th Jr Elks Scary Cake Auction and Mega Bucks drawing.

Oct. 30th Richard Goldner's Home Coming Party

For more information or need a ride; Please Contact: Carol Neuner (805) 492-6980, Karen Naccarato (805) 375-1089, Alice Kennedy (805) 497-2504

As Always I wish Everyone Well & Happiness,
Carol Neuner

HONOR ROLL



- Sally Claunch
- Greg Metzgas, PER
- Howard Wullschleger, PDDGER
- Kathy Burns
- Neils Glickman
- Bill Lloyd, PDDGER
- El Konejo Kampers
- Robert Jones
- Myrna Block
- Eugene Letourneau
- Judy Palmquist
- David Naccarato
- Joe Smith
- Denise Goldstein



OCTOBER

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Irv Koeritz
Gail Tam, Jr. | 12. Elizabeth Bell | Jack Loughran, PER |
| 2. Bernhard Rieger
Tom Tyler | 13. Pat Pipolo
Garry Burcham | Tom Komprens |
| 3. Jack Paulson | 14. Andrew Tortorici | 27. Dennis Gillette
Peter Nolan |
| 4. Phil Riordan
Tim Hinsche | 15. John Heaton | Albert Baca |
| 5. Doug Ross | 16. Russ Garrison
Cliff Jones | John Olson |
| 9. Claude Tait
Richard P. McCann | 17. Jeff Enger
Tom Bolton | 28. Don Corts |
| 10. Lee Gautreau
Raymond Taylor | 18. Jim Porter | 29. Tony Gambino
Bill Canavan |
| 11. Kenneth Kolde
Russell Raabe | 19. Michael O'Kelly | 30. Kenneth Kenyon
Floyd Lindquist |
| | 21. Mark Lampenfield | Lee Hess |
| | 22. Norman Panczak | 31. Jay Block
Chris Metzgas |
| | 25. Ken Carroll | |
| | 26. Dick Hardin | |

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

Date: October 13 , 2004

NAME	OCCUPATION	SPONSOR
Carrie Robertson	Histology Technician	Catherine Koeritz
Jay Peterson	Facility Planning Analyst	David Stull
George Sylvester	Retired	George Meehan
Arthur Silver	Auto Sales	Richard J. Goldner, PER
Norbert Zimmer	Retired	Certificate of Release Las Vegas Lodge 31468

CRYING TOWEL



August 4	\$400.00	#1909	Lou Mages
Lucky 13		No Winner	
August 11	\$425.00	#1340	Andy Matsunaga
Lucky 13		No Winner	
August 18	\$450.00	#1849	Michael Idol
Lucky 13		No Winner	
August 25	\$475.00	#1860	Hugh Mulloy
Lucky 13		No Winner	

(NEW FACILITIES CONTINUED)



you that we need your help desperately? There are those members who are of the mindset that they like it where we are, and that we should put all of our money into rebuilding our present facility. This way of thinking is pure folly. They say that we could rebuild for around \$250,000 and have a nice lodge. What they do not realize is that the building would have to be completely razed, a new slab poured (half of the building does not sit on a slab) and start from scratch. By the time the plumbing, electrical, and all other requirements are met, we would still spend as much or more. And that does not include drawing up new plans. We cannot break ground until we have the funds available. If you had planned on helping your lodge but just haven't gotten around to it, now is the time to act. We have only about 3 months before we need to start making decisions about other means of financing. It would be great if we could say that our members built a new facility out of the desire to have a new and pleasant building to suit our needs, and be proud to come down and take part in activities. If you are able to, we ask that you stand up and be counted. Put your money into something we can all be proud of. If you are able and have not, then you are holding up our groundbreaking. If you have, thank you. Wear your building bunny pin and ask others to join. Remember, bonds can be purchased for as little as \$500. We do accept credit cards and where else are you going to get a 4% return on such a small investment?



THE JR. ELKS

Hi everybody!!

It's time for another quick update on what's been going on with our Junior Elks Program. David & Annie Pearson had a swimming/BBQ party to thank the Jr. Elks for helping in Annie's success in becoming this years Grand Marshal, and we want to give a big THANK YOU in return to them for having all the Jr. Elks (total 9), plus us adults, all over to help in the fun. David Pearson took several pictures of all of us going down the slide like a train (3 and 4 at a time) holding on for dear life (Ha! Ha!), over and over and over again for hours. Annie presented the Jr. Elks with a beautiful plaque, which is hanging up on the wall in the Lodge, for everyone to admire on their way to or from the restrooms.

The Jr's elected new officers :

- President: Christine Fitzpatrick
- 1st V.P.: Amanda Skoczek
- 2nd V.P.: Jessica Neuner
- Treasurer: Ray Maddox
- Secretary : Jenny Maddox
- Sunshine: Breanna Neuner
- Robbie Neuner: Past President and now a Senior Advisor
- Chris Kay: Past Officer and now a Senior Advisor
- Heather Maddox and Carol Neuner: Adult Advisor's and Co-Chairs of the Jr. Elks

On the behalf of the Jr Elks we like to THANK Robbie for representing us as President for 3 years and getting the Jr. Elks program off to a great start. Robbie you did a great job.

THANK YOU! With Robbie and Chris now Seniors in High school they have graciously to take the positions of Senior Advisors. So thanks guys we appreciate your help and guidance.

The Jr. Elks would like to also congratulate one of our own Jr. Elk (Jessica Neuner) she won her age group in the Hoop Shoot contest and will go on to represent the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge at the district level. Way to Go Jessica! Good Luck at district!!!

On Oct. 29th the Jr."s are holding their annual Scary Cake Auction. Got a cake or a bake item you like to donate feel free to bring it down to the lodge. On the 29th of Oct.

The Jr. Elks are striving to in large their membership, Any youths ages 7 and up who may be interested in joining us in a fulfilled caring and sharing environment:

Please Contact: Heather Maddox (805) 358-9525 or Carol Neuner (805) 492-6980 for further info.

Thank You, Heather Maddox and Carol Neuner



May we ever love and defend it.



14th Annual
Thousand Oaks Lodge 2477
Elks Flag Retirement Ceremony

October 17, 2004
1pm at the Lodge
158 Conejo School Road



Shaded seating area

Award winning Ceremony known throughout the Conejo Valley for respect in retirement of our Flag.

A GALA KIDS HALLOWEEN PARTY



FOR KIDS
12 and Under



Date: Sunday October 31st, 2004

TIME: 4 PM to 7 PM

AT THE THOUSAND OAKS



ELKS LODGE
158 CONEAD SCHOOL ROAD



GAMES

PRIZES FOR BEST COSTUMES



FOOD



MAGICIAN



CLOWNS

THIS IS FOR ALL ELKS KIDS, GRANDKIDS AND THEIR FRIENDS
BRING THE NEIGHBORS AND THEIR KIDS

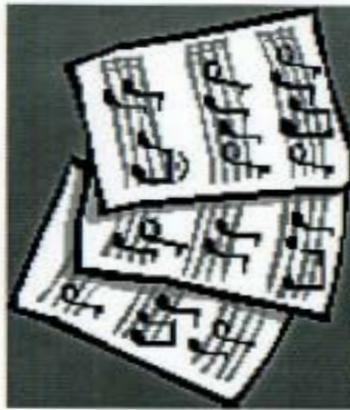
A Chance for the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge Members to show their friends something of what the Elks do for their kids and the kids of the community

YOUR HOST

THE THOUSAND OAKS ELKS LODGE for the following activities

- GAMES - Elks Ladies - Karen Macarrato - Pres
- CLOWNS - Don Ansel - Coordinator
- COSTUME JUDGING - El Konajo Kampers - Bill Von Witzenburg - Pres
- MAGIC - Dave Meccarato - Magician
- HOT DOGS - Past Exalted Rulers - Chet Kozlowski - Pres

BRANSON MEETS T.O.



SATURDAY NOV. 20TH

Charity Fundraiser event

3 course sit down dinner
Beef Wellington/Chicken Cordon Bleu

Branson style show

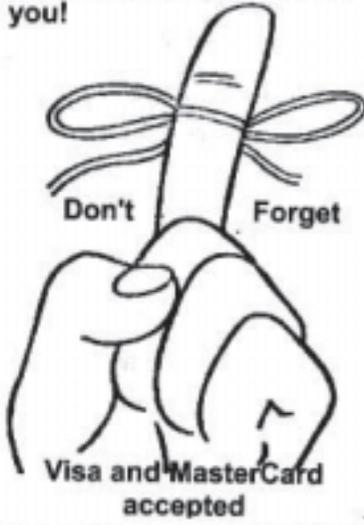
Dancing Featuring:
Don Newcomer and the
Country Classic Quartet

Cruise/raffle winners announced

\$20 per person
Dress Casual or country
6 p.m. appetizers
7 p.m. dinner

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Dues are due for some of you!



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LOVE IS
By Ken Muellereile

Love is being able to look into ones eyes, and see the reflection of one who tries.

Love is being able to reach out and hold, the hand of a loved one without being cold.

Love is being able to say what's on our mind, and not be afraid of natures mankind.

Love is being able to express affection, but not persuade our life's connection.



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Organization
of Thousand Oaks
Elks Lodge #2477

General Meeting
every month on the
1st Tuesday
at 7:30 pm



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Vince Bailie



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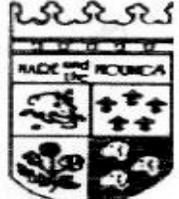
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 LOYAL KNIGHT - Dave Naccarato
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 SECRETARY - Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, DL
 TREASURER - Bob Hardy, PER
 TILER - Tom Klomparens
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 CHAPLAIN - Rusty Kennedy
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 ORGANIST - Jim Wagner
 OFFICER AT LARGE - Jack Loughran, PER

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Greg Metzgus, PER-	5 Year

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1972-73 *Marvin D. Smith	1993-94 Jim Wallace
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	2002-03 Don Booker
1982-83 *A. John Nichols	2003-04 Greg Metzgus
1983-84 John Nau	
1984-85 Vern Ogden	By Affiliation:
1985-86 Dan Snyder	1981-82
1986-87 Bill Lloyd	Robert L. Thornton
1987-88 John E. Henry	Howard Wullschleger
1988-89 Ted Lipka	
1989-90 Don Skinner	
1990-91 Don Ansell	
1991-92 Gary Sleigh	
1992-93 Tom Ryder	

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