



Terry Gicking
Exalted Ruler



ANTLER ANTICS

Vol 39, No. 6

Editor, Sally Claunch, PER

Sept. '09

Memories From The Past To Rebuild Our Future

Thousand Oaks Elks Charity Event



Love Boat Cruise

Come on board – we're expecting you!

Saturday - October 10, 2009

Coctails - 6:00 pm

Dinner - 7:00 pm

Extraordinary Midnight Buffet Table

Fabulous Dessert Selections

Raffles

Cruise Entertainment by CatDave Productions

Dancing

Come in Cruise Attire



\$25.00 per person

Tickets will be available at the bar.
Proceeds go towards the Charity Basket Program.
For more information, please see Catherine Koeritz

2009-10 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS



EXALTED RULER
Terry Gicking

2009-10 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

ANTLER ANTICS: Sally Claunch, PER, Editor
Karin Speights-Editor in Training
Jerry Serota, Photographer
Calendar: Kira Wagner
HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK:
GREETER: Dorothy Murray
PUBLIC RELATIONS: Jerry Serota
OPERATION FACELIFT: Tom Ryder, PDDGER



BUILDING MAINT.: Max Maxwell, Tom Hartin
PARLIAMENTARIAN: Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, DL
LODGE VISITATIONS:
BBQ OFFSITE: Eddie Rice
AUDITING:
ELKS TRAINING: Terry Gicking
SHOE TOURNAMENTS: Mike Budenski
BEQUESTS & LIVING TRUSTS: Robert Jones

September! Wow, summer is over! But the fun isn't! Let's review on what we have accomplished since April! First, a great Inaugural ball, then a DD clinic, then ritual contest in Lompoc, then State Convention in Ontario, then the VP visits start! Take a breath, then we swap a Sunday breakfast with Simi lodge to raise money for the Veterans program, (record number of people showed their support), more VP visits, then a big sendoff party for the ER's going to Portland by our PER's, (great job all the ER's who were there are still talking about how much fun they had!), then off to Portland for National Convention, then swap initiation ritual with Simi lodge, then back to reality! WAIT! That was what I did!

Here's what all you at the lodge accomplished. Membership is increasing! (If all show up for Initiation in August, we will have 9 new members to initiate. We have read at least 12 new applications on the floor of the lodge for September. Along with several re-instatements) Breakfasts attendance is on the rise, (I'm not in the kitchen anymore), Friday dinners are increasing, lounge sales are increasing, BBQ sales are up, Wednesday meeting attendance is way up. (still trying to get the meeting over faster!) We have had 3 very successful Meet & Greets, along with a car show, a rummage sale and a bike show.

As you can see from all of the smiles on the members' faces, the excitement level is way up! Everybody wants to be a part of it! How about you? What can you do to help keep the excitement going? We can always use the help or suggestions. Let any officer know what it is that you can do and we will see that you get the help to make it happen!

Now all of this excitement comes with a bunch of Thank You's! Thank You to the Elks Ladies for their generous donation to help offset the cost of the kitchen repairs. Thank You to Scott & Crystal Dool for their hard work in organizing the Meet & Greets along with their committee who helped make it a success! Thank You to all who helped on the kitchen floor repairs and spring cleaning, Tom Claunch, Max, Jim Mullins, and I probably forgot a few others. Thank You to Pat Halfhill (von Wittenburg) for your tireless devotion in putting on the rummage sale. You, along with your crew made the 3 day event seem so effortless, yet so successful! Thank You to Dave Naccarato for putting on a great car show! And finally, Thank You to all who have come down to support our lodge in any way that they can! We enjoy your company and support!

Next up, Fall and all of its wonders, then into the Holiday season! Hope to see you soon!

Ratification of amendment to the constitution

Resolution 2009-17 proposed at the Grand Lodge Convention in Portland Oregon this past July does require a Lodge vote at it's first meeting in September. A majority vote of members present and voting at the regular lodge meeting shall determine whether our lodge approves or rejects the proposed amendment. The Amendment is as follows:

Proposal to amend artical III, Section 18 of the Constitution of the order:.....

A state Association may establish and maintain under such terms and conditions as may be provided by Grand Lodge statutes and State Association by-laws, and may incorporate under the laws of it,s State, one or more charitable, educational or philanthropic projects.

The proposed amendment would read as follows:

A LODGE or State Association may establish and maintain under such terms and conditions as may be provided by Grand Lodge Statutes and LODGE or State Association by-laws, one or more charitable, educational or philanthropic projects. A Lodge corporation formed under this Artical shall comply with the provisions of section 16.030 unless otherwise required by the laws of the state where incorpoated.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this reolution is to allow a lodge to incorporate it's charitable projects.

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY:

The committee on judiary finds that the adoption of this resolution would not violate the constitution or laws of the order.

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks
 Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge 2477
 805.496.2477

2009-10 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS	LEADING KNIGHT Catherine Koeritz, PER	2009-10 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
MAJOR PROJECT/PURPLE PIG: David Naccarato, PER SICKNESS AND DISTRESS: Sally Claunch, PER INVESTIGATION: Bob Arbetman ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION: Tom Ryder, PDDGER		CHRISTMAS BASKETS: Catherine Koeritz, PER INDOCTRINATION: Dave Naccarato, PER MEM. CONTROL.COM.: CVAC: Tom Hartin COMMUNITY RELATIONS: CHARITY DINNERS: Catherine Koeritz, PER

Sickness and distress falls under my chair. I have heard many of our members and their families either struggle with sickness or suffer through their losses. Robert and I can sincerely appreciate the difficulties in dealing with a loved one's illness. I pray for everyone who is going through any difficult time. I am particularly praying for my Father-in-law, Irv Koeritz (and brother Elk) who is undergoing treatment for cancer that has now re-occurred in his spine. Get better Dad!

What is our District?

Our Lodge (#2477) is one of 12 local lodges that make up the West Central Coast District (WCCD). Including the Thousand Oaks Lodge, this district consist of Atascadero, Lompoc, Oceano-Five Cities, Oxnard, Paso Robles, San Louis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Inez, Simi Valley, and Ventura. The WCCD is one of the districts that make up the California Hawaii Elks Association (CHEA). Today there are 48 state associations, with California and Hawaii forming one association, and Maryland, Delaware and the District of Columbia comprising another.

What is "DDGER"?

Just as we have Officers and Chairman on a local level, each District has its Officers and Chairman as well. And each district has it's Exalted Ruler, known as the DDGER. They are Deputies to the Grand Exalted Ruler. Also known as the District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, thus forming the ever popular term 'DDGER'.

Lately, you most likely have heard and seen "DDGER" come up in communications. It's everywhere now, and that's probably due to our Bro. Greg Metzger, who has just become our new "DDGER". (He was on the front page of our last Antler Antics). Congratulations Greg!!!

The DDGER, at a regular or special meeting, visits each Lodge in the District. Once that is complete, he will "come home" to our lodge, which is known as the DDGER Homecoming. You will hear more about that in upcoming communications when his homecoming gets closer. Greg is planning his homecoming in December.

CHARITY BALL IS COMING!!! Save the date

This year we are planning a Cruise on the "Elks Love Boat" on Saturday night, October 10th at our Lodge. You will have a chance to sit at the Captains table, win some raffle prizes and dance the night away towards our mystery destination. The Cruise will be complete with a Midnight Buffet (but we won't wait till midnight to eat!) featuring a wonderful cuisine by Marva and Johnny D'Ambrosio and Ruth and Jim Mullen. And let's not forget the fabulous dessert table too! Dave Naccarato and I (CatDave Productions) are planning the entertainment. Of course, we will put on show as one would expect to have on a cruise.

This event will help raise funds towards our charity baskets; meals we provide to members of the community in need at Christmas time. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

DINNERS

We like to come up with some new ideas for dinner and entertainment. If you know of any, please contact Steve Smith or me.

Your Lodge Serving the Community

- * Providing monthly bingo party for the veterans every 2nd Friday
- * Providing free meeting place for VFW

BE AN ELK VOLUNTEER---SHOW ELKS CARE--ELKS SHARE--CONTACT THE OFFICE WITH YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER

2009-10 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS	LOYAL KNIGHT Steve Smith	2009-10 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
LODGE ACTIVITIES: Dave Naccarato, PER SCOUTING: Bill Miller HOOPSHOOT: Dave Naccarato, PER WED. NIGHT DINNERS: Steve Smith DRUG AWARENESS: Robert Jones STRAY ELKS: Herb Jellander		MOTHER'S DAY: Grant Thistle ENTERTAINMENT: WED. NIGHT TICKETS: Kira Wagner LAW ENFORCEMENT & FIRE FIGHTER APPRECIATION: Scott Dool PRESIDING JUSTICE: Richard McCann YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Robert Jones

PRIDE OF MEMBERSHIP

A topic of recent discussion by your lodge officers was "pride of membership". In particular the discussion addressed the use and display of our membership card. I suppose there will always be those few members who take their membership for granted, and will continue to use the door bell to gain entry. However, for a large number of us, using the card reader will not only maintain the integrity of controlled access it's also a constant reminder that this is a members-only lodge.

Also, every year we have members new to the officer's corps. Eventually they find themselves serving on their first weekend as duty officer. These officers as well as newly hired bartenders will probably not be familiar with every face that walks through the door. Use of the card key certainly makes their job a lot easier. If, on that rare occasion, you are asked to show your card to a bartender or duty officer it should be eagerly displayed knowing the request is being made to protect the status of your lodge as a private club.

What are the first things you expect to do when visiting another lodge? Right, display your membership card to the bartender, and sign the guest register. When you bring an outside guest to our lodge don't forget to have them sign our register. Complying with these simple tasks can demonstrate to non-members that they are in an exclusive environment. Such subtle observances may be all it takes to entice that person to join our lodge.

Remember, "...the Order of Elks..... bestows upon you cherished rights and privileges which its whole power and authority will ensure and protect". Please do your part. Carry your membership card with you at all times, and use it.

SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER
SHARE THE EXCITEMENT

JAMES L. NICHELSON GRAND EXALTED RULER

2009-2010



Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the U.S.A. Born May 3, 1946, Lima, Ohio, James L. Nicholson, the oldest of ten children, was raised on a working farm, learning responsibility early in life. Jim's father worked second shift in town, so Jim and his younger brother,

John, milked the cows and worked the farm. If anything broke, they fixed it.

After high school, Jim worked his way through college at the Ohio State University, earning a bachelor's and master's dual degree with distinction in 1971. Jim briefly pondered going for a doctorate and becoming a university professor, but instead, to give law school a try. He earned a Juris Doctor degree from the Ohio State University School of Law, cum laude, in 1974.

Jim spent four years in the U.S. Air Force and Army ROTC while in college and law school. After graduation he spent several months on active duty at Fort Ben Harrison in Indianapolis, Indiana, where he attended Army Officer Basic Training. The rest of Jim's military career was in the inactive reserves.

Jim met his wife, the former Mary Carolyn Pearl, in 1969, while providing consulting services to a model cities program in Martins Ferry, Ohio, the couple were married August 19, 1972. Mary taught elementary school in Westerville, Ohio, for two years while Jim finished law school. She is now principal of St. Mary Central School in Martins Ferry.

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SCOUTING

On Sunday August 2, 2009 a Court of Honor was held for Eagle Scout Kevin Ryan at the Teledyne Scientific Center in Thousand Oaks. Kevin is a member of Troop BSA 754 and sponsored by the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477. Honoring him was Terry Gicking, ER, and three Marvin M. Lewis scouting award recipients, Greg Metzgus, DDGER, Bill Sternberg, GL Scouting Chairman and Bill Miller, Com. Chair. A plaque, American Flag was presented and is the 50th Eagle Scout to spread his wings from this Troop to have his name inscribed on the Honor Roll housed at the Lodge.

Kevin is the son of Mike and Sheila Ryan. He is a graduate of Crespi Carmalite High School and participated in cross country track 3 years in a row. He is now attending University San Diego and is majoring in buisness.

He started in scouting as a Cub in Pack 3730 then joined BSA Troop 754. His Eagle Scout Project was to provide a storage facility for the outdoor play equipment of St. Pascal Baylon Grade School. After 193 volunteer hours, a 3 foot by 8 foot by 11 foot shed was completed on the schools property. Special thanks to Home Depot of Camarillo who gernerously supplied all the of the building supplies for the structure. A thank you to Frank Pagano, Kevins grandfather whose engineering skills helped Kevin draft the plans for the structure. Special thanks to Brian Bayne for the use of his wood shop. Special thanks for the family and friends for their help.

PICTURE CAPTION L-R

Mike, Kevin and Sheila Ryan, Terry Gicking, ER, Greg Metzgus, DDGER, Bill Sternberg, GL Scouting Chair. and Bill Miller Scouting Chair.

House Committee meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Trustees meet the first Tuesday at 6 p.m.

Your input is valued. Your attendance is welcomed.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

805-495-0577

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYER:

Raul Arevalo lost his son; Bobby Williams Dog was killed; David Garcia PER Santa Maria has Cancer; Irving Koeritz Cancer has returned; John Ennis health is not good needs our prayers; Terry Gicking's sister in-law passed Away from cancer complications; Greg Metzgus Grand Daughter Rushed to the hospital with a high fever but is home and doing well; David Stull to under go hernia surgery; Norman Panzack is in Northridge Rehab Hospital;

From ER, Terry Gicking

First, I would like to say Thank You All for you kind words and all of your prayers! It means the world to Me and My Family. It gave all of us the strength to get through this!

As some of you know, Maria peacefully passed away last Friday evening, with her Husband (my brother Bart) and their 3 children, her Mother, all of her Brothers & Sisters, and numerous other family and friends by her side. She was strong till the end.

While it is hard at times to understand why someone so special to so many leaves us way to early in their lives, I believe the Lord took her from us so she could help him lay the foundation of the Heaven he tells us that awaits all of us. It is up to us if we want to join them there.

Her viewing is this Sunday, and her burial is on Monday, the 10th, in Riverside CA.

Thank You again for all your support!



Sally Claunch, PER, Editor

claunchsally@gmail.com

articles are due the 5th of the month send as a word document



Who would think that you could bring your paper discards down to the lodge and we could raise money? Or that "Box Tops for Education" would include a list of almost 200 items?

We have the opportunity to help our Vision Screeners/Therapists and their children by saving Box Tops For Education. All you have to do is clip the top and bring it in to the lodge – each one is worth 10 cents – and that adds up fast! Just look for this symbol –

Kira Wagner

ENTERTAINMENT



We are now serving Bar snacks, pizza, corn dogs and hot dogs. Also Football is almost here, look out for our Monday Night Specials.

Fri. Sept. 11 MOON & SOL Dance
Fri. Sept. 25 ONE LAST DANCE



Corinne Richeson
Bar Manager

JAMESL. NICHELSON

GRAND EXALTED RULER CONT.

After graduation, Jim was offered with a position in a law firm in Belmont County, Ohio. As this was the home area of his wife, they were happy to return to the upper Ohio river Valley. The couple established a home in the Martins Ferry. There they raised three children: Tom, an engineer, Lauren, an attorney, and Ellen a marketing director. Jim and Mary boast of their four grandchildren.

In 1977, Jim became chief trial assistant in the Belmont County Prosecutor's office. In 1980, he became Belmont County public defender. In 1996, he became a founding Belmont County park commissioner, serving as secretary/treasurer for ten years. He has recently retired from public service to devote time to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

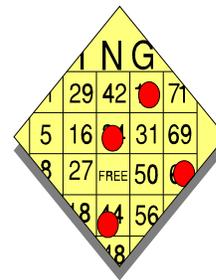
Mary Carolyn's father, Charles Pearl, was a two time Exalted ruler of Martins Ferry Elks Lodge No. 895. and soon after returning to Martins Ferry, Jim was pleased to be initiated into the Order and soon started through the Lodge chairs, becoming Exalted Ruler in 1979-1980. He has served as a Lodge Officer every year since his initiation, replacing his father-in-law as Lodge Treasurer in 1994 and holding that office ever since. The Lodge voted him into Honorary Life Membership in 2007. By then, after two mergers, the Lodge had become Ohio River Valley Lodge No. 231.

Jim Nicholson became active in the Ohio Elks Association Southeast District and in the State Association he worked his way through the District chairs, becoming District Activities Chairman in 1987-1988. He became legal advisor to the Ohio Elks Association in 1983 and has served in that capacity almost every year to the present. He has also been State

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POPTAB COLLECTION

It has been another good month for our Ronald McDonald House pull tab collections. Thanks again to everyone for the generous donation of pull tabs and toiletries. A special thanks goes to Dorothy Murray (big momma), Carol Stewart, Abe Gamble, Dorathy and Alan Hardie, Sally Claunch (Santa Susana High School- retiring) and the Koeritz?



DAVE'S POWER BINGO FOR KIDS

We had our largest crowd yet at July's Bingo for kids We are stepping it up a notch. We are using Bingo paper and Blotters. The paper is what they call 4 on with 5 different game colors. We will also have a 6th game winner take all for an additional dollar.

The buy in right now is \$10.00 for four cards and five games. A portion goes to the Major Project and the remainder goes back to the members as cash prizes. We have popcorn and a lot of fun. My only request is keep the popcorn off the floor and don't blot the tables. Our next spine tingling game is slated for September 18th. We try to start at 7:30. If anyone has blotters they no longer use we could use them and I would appreciate it. I know my wife has every color under the rainbow to use on different color games.

So bring your blotters, your lucky rabbits foot, lucky trolls, and your game markers, plus bring yourself down on September 18th to have some fun and help out our lodges Major Project and maybe go home with a few bucks. Dorathy Hardie won and donated half back to the Major Project.

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE LODGE--



**WELCOME
OUR NEW MEMBERS**



Richard and Elaine goldner with First Lady Mary Carolyn and GER, James L. Nichelson

Bro. Carl Lanterman with sponsor Bro. Harry Isaman



ELKONEJO KAMPERS
Pat von Wittenburg

PECHANGAIN JULY

Was is hot - yup - was it comfortable most of the time. There was a lovely, cool breeze. Unless you stood in the direct sun, it was comfortable the majority of the time. Sally and Tommy Claunch were wagon masters for this gig despite the fact they no longer have a motor home - - so all you RV-less people listen up - - not having a motor home is NOT an excuse.

SO typical of Creative Sally, she researched the area, knowing there were just a few wine lovers in the group. She contacted a tour company, got all the necessary information and began taking reservations. On Friday, King Mike Flannery and harem boarded the shuttle for the main entrance of the hotel, to board the Wine tour bus at about 10 a.m. Actually, the group of Mike's harem included Mary, Sally, Jessica Stull, Cheryl Templeton and Pat vW. Initially I thought 88 bucks for a wine tour and lunch just a bit stiff, in retrospect is was a fabulous investment. Six wineries and lunch too boot. Lunch - oh my goodness - couldn't have asked for anything more delicious. Corrine, we need to steal the recipes for their wraps. I sincerely doubt the ingredients are overly expensive, but the combinations were outrageously wonderful.

Over and above that, Mike the tour guide was incredible, he went out of his way to show and tell us about wineries that are "work in progress" but also other interesting points of interest around Temecula Valley. We were shown a home owned by Farrah Faucett prior to her death, we were shown some critters - bulls the name of which I cannot recall, that make the Texas Longhorns look like under nourished heifers, each horn was at least 6 feet long - one poor thing could hardly hold his head up level. I felt sorry for the poor thing. At the end of the day Mike, the bus driver, even took us to an additional winery and delivered us to the RV park which certainly was not in his job description.

Neither Bill nor I gamble so that was not on our agenda. We, however, found different things to keep us entertained, for example, a search for a grocery store became an amazing adventure. Little did we know that the main shopping area of Temecula was on the opposite side of the freeway from the side we were searching. Old Town Temecula is truly fascinating - the road all the way to Murrieta netted "no results". Seemed to us all the people in that area did was EAT OUT. Several people directed us to where Stater Bros. USED to be. In desperation, I bopped into a real estate office, asking if "anyone around cooks at home?" That brought quite a chuckle and we were directed to the "new town shopping" area, and what a shopping area it was.

What that expedition did net - - was a very large Thrift Store - knew what Mary Flannery and I would be doing when she

wasn't gambling. Speaking of gambling, there were tales of both wins and losses, but it seems that most of gamblers left for home happy, some having broke even, won a bit and a couple won greatly. I understand the Claunchs' will have a new flat screen TV in their home.



Saturday morning saw Mary, Sally (almost left her at the rec-room - didn't know she intended to go with us) and I off to the Thrift Store. Despite the fact that a nice stool I intended to purchase, came apart creating quite a clatter, we found a coupla nice purchases and left the store in tact without further incident.

Mary and Sally were quite patient while I investigated a local Quilt Shop. Then we went on to check out the novelty shops in Old Town. HA-HA Kudra - we now have our UCLA flag and stand, as well as one that says "A House Divided UCLA/USC" which will be displayed between rigs when appropriate. NO, NO not Bill and I - but those "other" people.

Cheryl Templeton's brother, Robert, found the golf course at the Pechanga Resort, played at a reduced rate because we were campers, and reported it to be an excellent course. It was so excellent, Robert was nearly left in Pechanga cause he couldn't be located when Cheryl was ready to leave. Margaret and Bob Thornton found a great place to eat in Pechanga proper, and invited several of us to join them, but after the wine tour - I couldn't even function - - NO NOT TOO MUCH WINE - - fatigue.

I had learned the Southern California Quilters' Run was on that weekend. Margaret Thornton has always asked me about my quilts evidencing a great interest plus one of her granddaughters is interested in quilting, so I asked if she would like to come along on Sunday. I drug that poor woman half way to San Diego, visiting quilt shops. She was wonderful, interesting company and seemed to thoroughly enjoy my dragging her from shop to shop. (Despite my GPS suffers operator error). At the end of this adventure, she thanked me profusely and said that she enjoyed this, in fact it was the "best part of the trip" for her. She's such a sweetheart. I'd asked her if Bob would be concerned with our long absence, but was assured he would not mind at all. Margaret is very amusing - when we returned she told me "Bob doesn't know it, but he's taking me out to dinner again tonight". WHAT A GAL!!! All in all - a very interesting campout. Can't tell about Sally's unique raffle - - I'm over my word allotment.

Upcoming Campouts

September -11-12-Palmdale Elks Lodge
 October-9-10-Tapo Canyon, Simi Valley
 November-13-14-Kenney Grove
 December 13-Brunch-Grand Visita Hotel



visit the website:

<http://elkonejokampers.oaksdata.com>

TRUSTEE'S CORNER

Dave Pearson, Chairman of the Board



July and August were pretty busy months. After my last article, a number of members have contacted me with some great ideas for functions that will not only provide a lot of fun, but also pick up a few bucks for our lodge. So, keep your eye on the Elks Calendar.

We had a very successful "Meet & Greet" Day chaired by Scott & Crystal Dool and Crew that brought in a number of new members. I want to thank everyone for their efforts and for making a difference.

Pat & Bill Wittenberg put together a Rummage Sale that brought in close to \$3,000.00 for our Lodge. A big "thank you" goes out to not only Pat & Bill, but also to Donna & Ed Colleran, Joel & Bev Erickson, Doris Newcomer, Cheryl Templeton, Sally Claunch, Amanda Peterson & Justin, Leo Rodriquez, Dorothy Murray, Chris Prince, Crystal & Scott Dool, and a few others that I might have missed.

The Elks Ladies dug deep and gave the Lodge \$500.00 to help cover the cost of our new kitchen. Our many thanks and hugs goes to Pat Peterson and all of the ladies for their continued support. You are amazing!

Thank you to Robert Koeritz for making our lodge floor look new. Great job! After seeing that floor shine, we knew we had to do something with the carpet. So the carpets were cleaned also! The lodge is starting to look pretty darn good. Come on down and check it out.

By the time you read this article, the trustees should have reviewed all procedures throughout the Lodge and made any necessary changes. Our goal with procedures is to simplify, make them easy to follow for our members, and to protect the assets of your Lodge.

With football season almost upon us, we have formed a committee to look into upgrading our TV system to enhance your viewing experience. HD service, additional TV's and/or a large projection TV, and the ability to watch multiple games are all being considered. This committee will also come up with and implement a fund raising plan.

That's it for now...thank you all for your support.

BEQUESTS AND LIVING TRUSTS COMMITTEE

**Ron Berglund, Chairman ~
Fresno Lodge No. 439**

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

BLT gives all Elks an opportunity to participate in the Major Project through a living trust fund. There are also other options available through the BLT Committee.



(DOES YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD HAVE A BLT STICKER?. MINE DOES.)

GRAND EXALTED RULER CONT.

Judiciary Chairman and the Parliamentarian. He was named an Honorary Ohio State President in 2008.

Jim also has served the Grand Lodge, becoming District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler in 1990. In 1996, he was appointed to the Grand Lodge Committee on Judiciary, where he served until 2004 and as Chairman the last two years. In 2005, he was elected to the Board of Grand Trustees, serving as Approving Member East, Home Member, Pension Member and Vice Chairman. He has also served the Grand Lodge for two years as Parliamentarian and as a member of the Pardon Commission.

Active in the community, Jim is a member of the Knights of Columbus, Eagles, Redmen, VFW (life member) and the American Legion. He is a past president of the Belmont County Bar Association, the Martins Ferry Chamber of Commerce, the Ohio Valley Classical Camerata Choir, and the Belmont County Chapter of the American Cancer Society, and he formed the Martins Ferry Educational Foundation. He is a cantor and confirmation instructor at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Marins Ferry, He and Mary Carolyn, for many years, co-directed Teens Encounter Christ retreats for high school juniors and seniors.

Jim Nichelson believes strongly in the charitable and good works of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. As Grand Exalted ruler (National President) he hopes he can spread the word that ***ELKS MAKE A DIFFERENCE***

2009-10 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

**LECTURING KNIGHT
Leo Rodriquez**

2009-10 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

AMERICANISM: Grant Thistle
FLAG DAY/FLAG RETIREMENT:
Robert Jones
SCHOLARSHIP: Rick Herrera
GOVT. RELATIONS: Scott Dool
MEMORIAL SERVICE: Grant Thistle
NATIONAL SERVICES: Jim Kellogg
KIDS XMAS PARTY: Chet Kozlowski, PER



GOLF TOURNEY: Dave Pearson
LODGE PICNIC: Joe Clancy & Ed Bianchi
MEMBERSHIP: Every Lodge Member
CHRISTMAS TREES: Herb Jellander
Bill Sternberg, PER/Terry Baker
EL KONEJO KAMPERS: Mike Flannery

AMERICANISM

Courtesy of the Ventura Elks Lodge Stag.

“WOULD YOU GIVE SOMETHING TO HER DADDY“

Last week I was in Atlanta, Georgia attending a conference. While I was in the airport, returning home, I heard several people behind me beginning to clap and cheer. I immediately turned around and witnessed one of the great acts of patriotism I have even seen.

Moving through the terminal was a group of soldiers in their camos. As they began heading to their gate, everyone (well almost everyone) was abruptly to their feet with their hands waving and cheering. When I saw the soldiers, probably 30-40 of them, being applauded and cheered for, it hit me. I'm not alone. I'm not the only red-blooded American who still loves this country and supports our troops and their families. Of course, I immediately stopped and began clapping for these young unsung heroes who are putting their lives on the line everyday for us so we can go to school, work and home without fear or reprisal....

Just when I thought I could not be more proud of my country or of our service men and women, a young girl, not more than 6 or 7 years old, ran up to one of the male soldiers. He kneeled down and said, "Hi". The little girl then asked him if he would give something to her daddy for her... The young soldier, who didn't look any older than maybe 22 himself, said he would try and what did she want to give to her Daddy? Then suddenly the little girl grabbed the neck of this soldier, gave him the biggest hug she could muster and then kissed him on the cheek.

The mother of the little girl, who said her daughter's name was Courtney, told the young soldier that her husband was a Marine and

had been in Iraq for 11 months now. As the mom was explaining how much her daughter Courtney missed her father, the young soldier began to tear up.

When this temporarily single mom was done explaining her situation, all of the soldiers huddled together for a brief second. Then one of the other servicemen pulled out a military-looking walkie-talkie. They started playing with the device and talking back and forth on it. After about 10-15 seconds of this, the young soldier walked back over to Courtney, bent down and said this to her, "I spoke to your daddy and he told me to give this to you." He then hugged this little girl that he had just met and gave her a kiss on the cheek. He finished by saying, "your daddy told me to tell you that he loves you more than anything and he is coming home very soon." The mom at this point, was crying almost uncontrollably and as the young soldier stood to his feet, he saluted Courtney and her mom.

As the soldiers began to leave, heading towards their gate, people resumed their applause. As I stood there applauding and looked around, there were very few dry eyes, including my own. That young soldier in one last act of selflessness, turned around and blew a kiss to Courtney with a tear rolling down his cheek.

We need to remember everyday all of our soldiers and their families and thank God for them and their sacrifices. At the end of the day, it's good to be an American.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

**Happy Birthday
In your birthday month-
-have a free drink on the Lodge-
coupon on page 17**



GO GREEN

Go to our wesite www.elks2477.com. Sign up to receive the antler by email. Save the Lodge\$\$ and save a tree.

2009-2010 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS	THE ELKS LADIES Patricia Peterson	2009-2010 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
VICE PRESIDENT: Myrna Block SECRETARY: Lynn Rodriquez TREASURER: Charlotte Gessler AUDITOR: Beth Kozlowski TELEPHONE: Patti Serota		PARLIAMENTARIAN: Jessica Stull CHAPLAIN: Marilyn Cissell MAJOR PROJECTS: Niki Case SUNSHINE: Shirley Kozlowski HISTORIAN: Carol Fredericks CVD: Alice Kennedy & Marilyn Cissell

After continuously writing from April 2005 until March of this year (though we had some guest writers and I did go on vacation here and there), I find myself at a loss for words. Imagine that!

Two "Meet, Greet and Eat" events have taken place and the Lodge is getting new members. Several ladies from our group have been there welcoming people, answering questions, giving tours and more. A big thanks to everyone who made it happen including from our very own group, Crystal Dool, Catherine Koeritz, Sally Claunch, Pat Peterson, Carol Fredericks, Myrna Block, Lynn Rodriquez and me. If I forgot anyone, or if you are scheduled to work the next "Meet, Greet and Eat" event, accept our thanks, the omission was not intentional. Hopefully, The Elk Ladies will get a few new members out of these events too.

The Ladies Appreciation luncheon will either just have happened or about to happen as this newsletter arrives. Something a little different this time, is that someone will be given the "People's Choice Award" and anyone of our members can be nominated, including past Ladies Appreciation Award winners and officers.

The annual Ladies Appreciation Award, a prestigious honor is given to an outstanding woman who has gone over and above that which is expected of her. She is selected by the executive board of the Elks Ladies and cannot be an officer. It is awarded at the new officer installation in March. This has occurred since 1984 when Dee Swanson was the first recipient. This award is limited to one time only.

For this luncheon award, all deals are off and anyone is eligible. Hopefully you voted and made your choice known.

As we draw closer to autumn, our thoughts turn to falling leaves and cooler weather. The spring and summer have been glorious. We waited in June for the sun, thinking the summer was never going to come and suddenly, a little ways into July – BAM, weather so hot the news people were counting the number of days we were in the triple digits. Many of our children and grandchildren are going back to school, a sure sign that autumn is coming and with it Labor Day, Halloween, Veteran's Day, and then right into the holidays. Before we know it the year will be over. But before you start talking 2010, there are still a lot of activities in which to participate. Jump in there and volunteer for the Meet, Greet and Eat, Veteran's Day Brunch, kid's Halloween party, or even just to bring snacks for the meeting. I know that some of the barbecue teams could use some relief cashiers. Though it is not a Ladies official function, sales from the barbecue is one of the biggest income generator



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9-5	Cornelia Meehan
9-6	Teri Rochford
9-12	Annie Pearson
9-17	Annie McIntyre
17	Dolores Swanson
9-21	Doris Dellinger
9-22	Becky Krabel
22	Kay Levesque



YOU CAN'T BE WRONG , GOD

**Dear Lord, if something's new to us,
and the process goes extremely slow.
Is this what we're called to do,
when doubts and fears may tell us no.**

**Because you always meet the needs,
please let this be where we belong.
Though our thoughts may be uncertain now,
We know , dearGod, you can't be wrong.**

Marilyn Cissell

for our lodge. If you are interested see Herb Jellander or me. We'll get you started.

Support your organization and come on out to our meetings the first Tuesday of the month. Come as a guest once and see if it's a good fit for you. You can even win money for attending the meeting. This month's winner of the 50/50 drawing is Marilyn Cissell who won \$20 and the bubble drawing was \$40, won by Pat Peterson. You only have to attend the meeting to be eligible for the bubble drawing. It cost you nothing, but you must be present to win.

Just a reminder, if you are one of those members that do not drive at night, but would like to attend our meeting let us know. We will try to get you a ride.

Affectionately,

Jessica Stull, Past President

HONOR ROLL



Greg Metzgus
 Rubye Metzgus
 Mary Woodlief (Century Club)
 Mary Woodlief (52 Club)
 Robert Jones
 Max Maxwell
 Karin Speights
 Kira Wagner
 Paul Wagner
 Terry Gicking
 Debbie Irish
 Cheryl Templeton
 Karen Martyn
 John and Cherri Peterson
 Bingo Players
 Dorothy Hardie



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Ayral, Edward-3	Cooper, Roy-12	Feamster, Jaunita-22
Ryder, PER, Tom-4	McCann, Dick-12	Serota, Jerry-23
Brockwell, Harry-5	Anderson, Dennis-13	Lindquist, Boyd-24
Dick, Churik-5	Gettleman, Steve-13	Martyn, Karen-25
Cardoni, Len-6	Orr, Keith-13	Knowlton, Marshall-26
Jones, Edwin, 6	LaRue, James-15	Goff, William,III-27
Murray, Dorothy-7	Lloyd, Bill, DL-17	Tracy, John-27
Noel, Vernon-7	Rice, Ed-17	Sewell, Steven-28
Wagner, Paul-7	Campbell, Christopher-18	Nau, John, PER-29
Bianchi, Ed-11	Keeler, Kirk-18	Trzcinski, Fred-29
Zarybnidky, Larry-11	Kellogg, Jim-20	
	VonWittenburg, Bill-21	

FROM THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE
 PROPOSED AND WILL BE BALLOTTED ON
 SEPTEMBER 16, 2009.

Candidate	Sponsor
Jon Anderson	Gerry Gillies
Edward Higgins	Heather Maddox
Valerie Higgins	Heather Maddox
Leonard Lyons	David Stull
Dennis Bock	Carol Fredericks

Reinstatements
 Tom Tyler
 Alvin Caddin

CRYING TOWEL

07-01	\$100	Bob Philips
	Lucky 13	No Winner
07-08	\$125	Jacob Panczak
	Lucky 13	No Winner
07-15	\$150	Patrick Lynch
	Lucky 13	No Winner
07-22	\$175	Dwight Williams
	Lucky 13	No Winner



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1 2 3 4 5

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 Bring driver's license as proof of birthday

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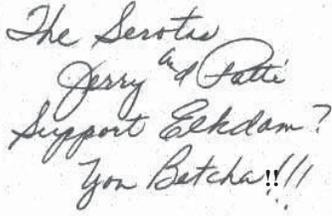


Drop off at Wed. meetings or at Sat. BBQ by rear entrance to the bar parking lot

Thanks- Rick Herrera Scholarship Chair.

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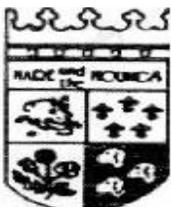
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