

BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS B.P.O.E. - LODGE NO. 2477 - THOUSAND OAKS, CALIFORNIA



**Exalted Ruler  
Leo Rodriguez**

# ANTLER ANTICS

Vol 42, No. 1

Editor, Sally Claunch, PER

April '12

MEET YOUR



EXALTED RULER

Leo Rodriguez was born in Weslaco, Texas on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and he was raised in the Fresno area from the tender age of five in California. He graduated from Fresno Academy in 1965. Drafted into the U.S. Army in October of 1965 he was trained and graduated in 1966 from the Medical Training program at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. After training he was sent to Vietnam for a tour of duty and was there for one year.

Not knowing what the real world was all about, he decided stayed in the military to travel the world and ended up in Europe working for the military, training for Personnel Management working at the Battalion level. He worked in this capacity for 11 years at which time he left the army.

In 1978, after years of world travel, Leo returned to the United States where he worked as a Sales Manager in Alexandria, Virginia for a warehouse company. During this time Leo also received training in the field of plumbing. Once he got tired of the cold and wet weather, he returned to California in 1982 and lived in the San Luis Obispo area going to school taking business and accounting classes. Leo then opened and owned Leo's Bar and Restaurant in San Miguel, California. After 2 years he sold the business and moved to Camarillo in 1986 where he resided for two years. He then moved to Thousand Oaks at which time he became employed by California Lutheran University as the resident plumber where he is still employed.

Leo became a member of the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 eleven years ago. He joined the Officer Corp when George Meehan was Exalted Ruler and George asked Leo to be his Inner Guard. From there he became the Lecturing Knight and moved up the chairs and now going into his 5<sup>th</sup> year he has become your Exalted Ruler.

Leo has a daughter from a previous marriage, 5 grandchildren, and 1 great grandson whom all reside in Fresno, California. Leo met Lynn at the Elks Lodge in 2006 and they were married in 2008. They continue to reside in Thousand Oaks.



**EXALTED RULER**

**Leo Rodriguez**



As Exalted Ruler, my motto will be: **“Bring the Spirit . . . the time is Now!”**

As we enter into the new year of Elkdom, I would like to thank everyone for giving me the honor and privilege of being your Exalted Ruler. I am looking to the future and hoping to bring our lodge to a higher level with our member’s commitment in helping our community and all our endeavors that encompass our brotherhood. To do this we must remember the spirit of our oath being, that the name of Elks as borne by you is worthy of an American citizen, one who loves his fellow man.

We need to make our lodge a pleasant place to come and meet our fellow members and have a good time. Let’s let the good times roll by being respectful to each other and remember that the faults of our members are written in the sand.

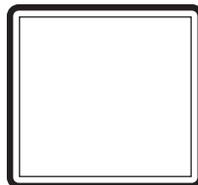
With the hope of growing in the future, the only way is by increasing our membership. If everyone could sponsor at least one member during the coming year, our future would certainly look brighter. This would also mean more members supporting the activities within our Lodge.

We will continue renovating our Lodge with ideas and the support from all of you.

I want the members to know that I am always available and open to any ideas and/or concerns. Our brotherhood will always lead us into camaraderie and team spirit for the betterment of Thousand Oaks Lodge #2477.

**Did you Know?**

- Last year the Elks provided contributions for charitable works of cash, non-cash, hours worked and miles traveled in the amount of **\$57,331,735** in California-Hawaii and over **\$349,529,210**, breaking an all time record nationally!.
- Over \$3.4 million in college scholarships is awarded annually by the Elks.
- The California-Hawaii Elks have raised over \$100,643,152.00 since 1950 to address the unmet needs of children with disabilities by developing a program of supporting services to aid these children at no cost to their families



**LECTURING KNIGHT**

**Grant Thistle**



I welcome you to this article which is dedicated to BROTHERLY LOVE upon it’s page will be a reminder of your obligation of brotherhood. We spend allot of time together at this lodge and sometimes bump heads or get into a beef with one another. As a result some of us have long standing issues with someone. In this new year I would ask you to Lperhaps try and resolve these issues. Please try to approach that person and say “you really upset me when you did whatever, but in the spirit of Brotherly Love can we bury the hatchet some way? I feel our members would be hard pressed not to try and at least meet you half way. If your response is a negative or angry one, you will have the peace of mind of knowing you tried. It’s hard to get along with everyone but as Elks it’s the foundation of our order. We must make an extra effort to get along with each other. Also during this year I will be pointing out some unsung helpers and there’s quite allot.

Wilson (Bill) Dyer  
Lou and Beverly Reis  
Ben Reiger  
Jon Preston  
Rick Bennett and sister Jill  
Thank you for reading  
Fraternally Grant Thistle Lecturing Knight



Starting April 1st 2012  
Notary service  
available to members of  
Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge  
in the office during business  
hours of 10:am- 3:pm  
Non Members \$10.00  
per signature

LOCK YOUR CAR WHILE  
ATENDING LODGE FUNC-  
TIONS-RECENTLY CARS  
HAVE BEEN BROKEN INTO  
AND ITEMS STOLEN..



## HOSPITALITY CORNER

Greetings from your Hospitality Committee. We will use this column each month to provide kitchen and bar updates and highlight upcoming events and activities.

April 2 marks the start of Season 2 of Monday night bowling. Monday nights have become quite an event at the Lodge, not only for the bowlers and spectators, but also for diners enjoying culinary delights prepared by Eddie Bianchi and Jim Moye with the assistance of Kathy "Bubblelicious" Moye. A sign-up sheet is posted in the patio.

Every Tuesday in April will be **TWO BUCK TUESDAY**. Between 5 and 7 pm, choose from a domestic bottled beer, house wine or well drink for only \$2. Enjoy a burger or hot dog with your beverage for \$2. That's it: **TWO BUCK TUESDAYS** at the Lodge.

Our monthly Thursday night pasta night on April 5 will be presented by Donna Leary - \$6 for pasta dinner and salad. Great food at a great price!

Fridays in April begin on April 6, when Tom Ryder will be offering Shrimp Scampi and Roast Beef for \$12. Friday, April 13, will be a lucky night at the Lodge, as Donna returns with her famous chicken enchiladas, cilantro rice and beans for only \$9, followed by music by the Renegades. Get there early, as Donna sold out quickly last time around!

Chuck Busch's fish fry on Friday, April 20, will be followed by Bingo with Power Dave, Pin Night and Old Timers Night. It's also April birthday night – if you have an April birthday, dinner will be half price! On Friday, April 27, Terry will host Cook Your Own Steak Night, followed by music by Pier 101.

Check out the Sunday breakfast schedule on the April calendar and note that, while there will be no breakfast on Easter Sunday, April 8, Bugsy's annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place at 1:30 pm on Easter Sunday.

Finally, your Hospitality Committee is happy to announce that the response to our March inquiry regarding member interest in Bunco was great, and we will hold our first Bunco event at the Lodge on Sunday, April 29, at 1:30 pm. There is still time to sign up; the sign-up sheet is in the patio. Hopefully Bunco at the Lodge will be as successful as Jim Moye's Monday night bowling.

Don't forget the Day at the Races scheduled for Sunday, April 22. Tickets are still available at the bar.

Finally, if you have an interest in helping out in the kitchen, or preparing a meal, please see Donna at the Lodge or send her an email at [donnaleary@gmail.com](mailto:donnaleary@gmail.com). We need volunteers and ideas, so please contact any committee member anytime.

Dan Martyn  
Co-Chair  
Hospitality Committee  
Members:  
Donna Leary, Co-Chair  
Tom Ryder  
David Nacarrato  
Jim Moye



## Elks - Partners In Scouting

On Sunday afternoon, February 26<sup>th</sup>, our sponsored Cub Pack 3776 of Westlake Hills Elementary held it's annual Blue and Gold dinner in our Lodge Room. Highlights of this well attended event are the presenting of advancement and other awards recently earned, a bridging ceremony for the Webelo 2 cubs to merge into Boy Scouting and the popular dads/cubs cake decorating contest. Although only one cub was eligible to join Boy Scouting (Troop 745) this next year, we have about 14 Webelos scheduled for next year. Fred Hall has served Pack 3776 for a number of years but will be moving on into Boy Scouts as his sons bridge next year. Fortunately he has an assistant cub leader, Dave Cooper, who has just moved into the Conejo from the SF Valley AND Dave is an Elk who told us he plans to demit to Lodge 2477. So when you meet Dave give him a special welcome into our group.

The previous day, our giant Dos Vientos Pack 3763 held its Blue and Gold dinner at St. Julie's Catholic Church in Newbury Park (see photo). They filled St. Julie's hall to near capacity, presented many awards and bridged 16 Webelos into Scouting, including 13 to our Lodge sponsored Troop 754 in Newbury Park which celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary on February 12<sup>th</sup>. Several of the past Scoutmasters of Troop 754 are current Lodge 2477 members including Western Region Scouting Chairman, Bill Sternberg, the first 754 Scoutmaster. A recent issue of the Acorn printed a nice article about the event and included some great photos, especially of the older, Bill Sternberg who looks like he is running for office in the pic. A photo of Bill and his son Bill, who is Troop 754's fourth Eagle and a new member of Lodge 2477 is attached. **Bill Miller**



# Pull Tab Collection



## Elks Care – Elks Share

I hope everyone read the article on page 4 in February's Antler Antics by Janine Van Poppelen, Herb Jellander's daughter. Janine and Eric Van Poppelen spent 16 weeks at the Los Angeles Ronald McDonald House while their daughter Cameron was at Chlidrens Hospital Los Angeles. That's our pull tab collection at work in helping to provide a home away from home for Janine, Eric and other families while they were trying to cope with the physical and emotional burdens. Also, please read the update from Cameron on page 4 of March's Antler Antics. Thank you one and all for your support of the pull tab collection program.

**Gerry Gillies**

ELKSCARE-ELKSHARE



ATTENTIONVOLUNTEERS

We are exploring a possible opportunity to host a weekly breakfast meeting for another fraternal organization. Before we pursue this opportunity, we would like to determine whether we will be able to staff such a regular event with volunteers. If you have an interest, please see **Dan Martyn, or send him an email at danjrnc@aol.com.**

## FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER

**April 6th, 2012**

**Good Friday**

***Dinner to be Served  
to your table***

**Your Choice**

***Shrimp Scampi or Roast Beef  
\$12 per person***

**By Ryder and Crew**

## THOUSAND OAKS ELKS LODGE PAST EXALTED RULERS ASSOCIATION

A few words from the PERs.

The Past Exalted Rulers (PERs) are aware of the shortage of Lodge Officers for the 2012-2013 Elks year.

PERs met for a discussion as how to get qualified persons interested in the Officer corps. This is not a problem that can be solved immediately. An Elks orientation session appears to be necessary.

Remember your Lodge Officers are the persons that are to be the management group of the Lodge and are to run the lodge with the approval of the membership

At this meeting It was determined that several PERs would have to assume the open Officers positions until qualified persons could be found to replace the PERs. PERs have supported your lodge for as long as there have been PERs.

PERs raise funds through performing fundraisers within the lodge. Moneys earned are deposited into the Lodge accounting system. These funds are then used to support Lodge scholarships, Lodge remodel and rebuilding projects and Lodge activities when requested by the Officers and Committees of the Lodge. The PER Association donates funds to the State Association (CHEA), Major Project, and the Grand Lodge Elks National Foundation all in the name of the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge and its members. PERs act as mentors and advisors to members of the Officer corps and are available to assist in the membership meetings when necessary.

PERs pay PER Association dues yearly. These funds go into a PER checking account and are utilized as specified in the Grand Lodge Statues at the discretion of the PERs. Some of these funds are utilized at Christmas to bring PER widows to the annual PER Christmas dinner and again in support of lodge requests for monetary support of in-house projects. PERs pay out of pocket for their annual Christmas dinner.

The PER Association is taking on a project to provide an information and orientation program for all Officers and Lodge members interested to learn more about Elkdom and what it means to be an Elk. This orientation program is being set up to help Officers and members become aware of what is expected of officers and members and how they can get help in performing their responsibilities. This orientation also will include all Lodge Committees and explain what is expected of their Committee.

All members will be invited to these sessions. Over the next Lodge year the PERs are planning to hold at least three sessions and each should reflect answers to previous questions asked.

All in all the PERs are attempting to put a program in place where Officers and members can learn more about the Order of Elks, what it is to be an Officer of the Lodge and what the duties of the Officers include.

For more information about this program and what the PERs are trying to do contact the Lodge Secretary. If he does not have the answer to your question(s) he will put you in contact with someone that does.

continued on page 11

**SICKNESS AND DISTRESS**

**Coleen Morris-Chair**  
**805-241-8928**

**KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Our Armed Forces who keep us safe; Bob Adams had a heart attack; Patti Serota was hospitalized from a fall

**ON THE MEND:** Jim Wallace is home from the hospital; Robert Koeritz had surgery for removal of a growth on his vocal chord; Dorathy Hardie had knee replacement surgery; Joe Smith had successful eye surgery; Bill Dyer had colon cancer surgery

**ENTERTAINMENT**



April 13-the Renegades  
April 20-Bingo by Dave  
April 27-Pier 101

**COMING ATTRACTIONS**



May 3-6 Conejo Valley Days  
May 5-Kentucky Derby Day/Cinco de Mayo at Lodge  
May 6-12-Elks Youth Appreciation Week  
May 11- Youth Appreciation Dinner  
May 13-Mother's Day Champagne Brunch  
May 16-19-CHEA Convention  
  
June 6-State VP Visitation to our lodge  
June 10-Flag Retirement/Flag Day Observation  
June 17- Father's Day Brunch by Elk Ladies  
June 29- ERS Going Away party by PERS



**WE DO**

**April 29**

**1:30 PM**  
**SIGN UPS**  
**IN LOUNGE**



**EASTER EGG HUNT**

**April 8th 1:30 PM**  
**BRING YOUR**  
**OWN BASKET**

**TOYS AND FOOD**  
**FOR THE KIDS**

**MONDAY & THURSDAY**  
**NIGHT DINNERS**

**CHECK CALENDAR FOR**  
**MENU**



**HOT LUNCHES**  
**SERVED DAILY**

**SANDWICHES, BURGERS,**  
**SALADS, WITH DRINK**  
**AND FRIES**

**BOWLING LEAGUE FOLLOWS**  
**MONDAY NIGHT DINNERS**

**BAR DRINK SPECIALS WITH**  
**PURCHASE OF LUNCH**

**MANNA**



Last month was slim pickens and only had up to a few bags of groceries and a half of barrel full of empty egg cartons one of which had half a dozen broken egg shells in it which was insulting and we discarded it.

I know as BPOE 'Best people on earth' we can do better for the less fortunate among us. Please look inwardly and count your blessings and when you see how well things are you will include Manna in your thoughts. **Jerry Serota**



[www.elks2477.com](http://www.elks2477.com)

**THANK YOU SO MUCH!**



The PER Association presented a check to Lodge Secretary, Dave Naccarato for \$4000 for the ladies room renovation (l-r) Terry Gicking, Bill Sternberg, Jay Block, Chet Kozlowski, George Meehan, Sally Claunch, Jack Panczak, Tom Ryder, Greg Metzgas

**OPERATION FACELIFT**

Tom Ryder ~ PDDGER



“OPERATION FACELIFT” continues with new projects being considered and old ones being worked. If you have ideas or suggestions pass them to us. We appreciate the help. It’s your Lodge!

**MEDICALEQUIPMENTSLED**

The lodge has wheel chairs, shower chairs, crutches, portable potties and other items available for use by convalescing members. The problem is there is no central area for storage or disbursement of these items as the need comes up. If some one has an 8x10 shed they would donate it will be appreciated. Are currently looking at a building for suitability and move ability.

**OUTSIDELODGEGROUNDSLIGHTING**

Most lights have been installed and turned on but there still a few dark areas where lights are scheduled to be installed. Funded

**NEWPROJECT**

**Recycle center** – Have outgrown the current collection area. With the approval of the trustees and with planning by Rick Herrera and Greg Metzgas a new recycle area has been constructed. The area is adjacent to the permanent BBQ and preparation area. Project has been funded by the lodge and a donation by the PER Association. Workers included Rick Herrera, Greg Metzgas, Mike Ramirez, and Able Gamble.

**PROJECTS STILL SCHEDULED/WORKING**

**Lobby Entrance Roof** - Funded

**BBQ Picnic Area Gate and Fence** - Funded

**NEED MORE WORKERS - PLEASE GET INVOLVED**

All Projects are reviewed and approved prior to start by the Officers and House Committee and the Trustees.

**Volunteers**

Your lodge is in need of volunteers. If you have some free time, consider lending a hand at an upcoming event or project. Contact the office, any officer or me to volunteer.



Rick Herrera putting the finishing touches on the recycling center.



**David Naccarato, PER**

The first half of December every year our lodge has a Christmas Tree lot at Carlson's Building Materials site. We have this lot for a few reasons. 1st we double our investment to help raise the funds required to purchase the food that we distribute during our Christmas Cheer program. 2ND It gives our members a chance to get together in our man made forest.

The smell of pine in the air. The ladies of the lodge bring us goodies and snacks and we sort around a fire in what has come to be called "The Hobo Camp". Then someone tosses in some sort of copper pipe and the fire begins to dance and change colors. Its an experience you have to experience for yourself. Anyway why I'm writing is to let the members know that our Tree lot workers did such a great job that they received tips that they had collected in a tip jar until they decided what to do with the tip money. The decision has come down from the top and I want to let the members know how important these workers are to the lodge and our programs. Besides raising the money to purchase the food we distribute, enough tips were made to donate \$500.00 to Scouting, \$500.00 to Scholarship, \$500.00 to the Veterans program and \$250.00 each to our Major Project and Elks National Foundation. To all that were involved and brought down the snacks we thank you and hope to see you again next year. This years chairman of the tree lot were Ben Reiger, Herb Jellander and Eddie Rice

The office has been receiving 2012-2013 dues from our members. For that I thank you. Let me now say, if for some reason you did not receive your dues notice please contact the office. We will get one out to you. Also on the notice has been some extra information that Grand Lodge ask that we include. Have you heard "too much information"? This added info was confusing. In our dues is a \$20.00 assessment that the lodge pays to the Grand Lodge. Even if you elect not to continue your membership the lodge still has to forward that \$20.00 per member.

Elks are a giving organization and the opportunity to give a little extra was also included on the dues notice. As of this writing, I would like to mention those that have contributed way above and beyond. Every Sunday for breakfast you'll see Bill Smail down at the lodge. Bill donated an extra \$100.00 to the Veterans, \$100.00 to the Elks National Foundation and \$300.00 to the Elks Major Project. Others who have donated were: Gerry Gilmore, Coleen Morris, Rubye Metzgas, Jon Preston, Salvator Argo, Steve Finnerty, Anthony Federico, John Moran, George Vivlamore, Nick Sheile, Bruce Cameron, Micheal White, and Tommy Tyler. Also check out your years of membership that is printed on your new membership card and come down this month to pin night on April 20th. Pin eligibility is every 5 year interval.



At the outbreak of World War II, Jimmy Doolittle was already one of America's most acclaimed aviation pioneers. Yet, it was on April 18, 1942, as a lieutenant colonel with the U.S. Army Air Forces, that he would embark on a mission that would make him a legend.

That morning, Doolittle led sixteen B-25 Army Bombers, launched from the USS Hornet on a bombing raid on mainland Japan- the first such attack of the war. The raid provided a tremendous morale boost to the Allied war effort. For his heroism, Doolittle was awarded the Medal of Honor

As you know we have a corp. of officers. One fact I recently learned was that our own Jim Allen, the same BBQ Jim Allen of the "Numero Uno" Team was Chaplain back in 1989-1990 for Don Skinner. When I was new to Elkdom and found we had a chaplain, I thought he (my year it was Norm Panzack my sponsor) was a real Chaplain. Come to find out it is not true. You do not need to be an actual Chaplain to hold that position. ( not that it would'nt hurt). BUT not the case with Jim Allen. Brother Jim Allen or Reverend Jim Allen was an actual minister the year he was Chaplain of our lodge. He was ordained and the whole ball of wax. Jim went on to be Elk of the Year. I thought it was pretty cool and wanted to share. David Naccarato PER Secretary

**PIN NIGHT**

- FRIDAY, APRIL THE 20TH
- CHECK YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD
- IF YOUR YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP ARE
- 5,10,15,20,25,30,35,40,45,50,55 OR MORE
- DO YOU SEE A PATTERN FORMING HERE????
- BE DOWN FOR DINNER ON PIN NIGHT AND RECEIVE YOUR
- OLD TIMERS MEMBERSHIP PIN AND BE RECONIZED..
- OF COURSE TO HAVE A MEMBERSHIP CARD TO CHECK,
- YOU HAVE TO BE A PAID UP MEMBER.
- WHEN YOU RECEIVE YOUR RENEWAL NOTICE, MAIL IT IN.
- THANK YOU THE OFFICE STAFF



### WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS



John Kolb Sponsor of John M. Kolb



Tom Ryder, PER Sponsor of Kathy Ryder



Jerry Serota Sponsor of Carol Flake

### YOUR LODGE SERVING OUR COMMUNITY



Retiring Chief Bob Roper, Gifford Sears, Firefighter of the Year Station 37, Retired Captain and member Paul Stein, and Captain Frank O'Hanlon who made the introductions.



Top Sheriff Geoff Dean, ER Steve Smith, ER Corey Nickolas, Officer of the Year, member Ed Jones, and former City Councilman and Sheriff Frank O'Hanson making the introductions.

Also being honored was Corey Nickolas, Sheriff of the Year, who in the line of duty responded to a 911 call. A housewife was being beaten by her former husband and who was armed at the time. Corey was forced to shoot him in the chest. The assailant was rushed to the hospital and survived to be prosecuted and is doing time in jail. See story on page 11.



### POPCORN MACHINE IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

We Thank Sherry Jones for sponsoring the month of March-  
Jim Moye for being April's sponsor  
Who will be May's sponsor???????

Call the office to volunteer--your name will appear on a plaque on the machine

## GOOD THINGS IN SMALL PACKAGES

By Jessica Stull

February's campout finds us at the Californian RV Resort in Acton. It is a lovely setting amid the low lying hills of the high dessert. The campout is to be intimate with only six rigs in all. When you have an event this small, you really get to notice all the humorous goings on and how we all interact with one another. The majority of the rigs came in on Thursday except the Ericksons who came in on Wednesday. As we settled in and gathered outdoors on a lovely warm afternoon, Joel noticed that one of his slide outs looked peculiar and frankly, uneven. He went back to the rig and pulled it in, then put it back out, then in, then out and it still looked catawampus. The rest of us gazed with amazement as at the end of each round the darn thing just seemed to be rewinding the top half of the slide. Campers are a curious bunch by nature and we began giving our opinions, sharing stories of knowing someone who ..., and making our own analysis of the situation. Some, like Joe Nemtusak, actually went inside the coach to check it out and each time the slide acted like an item possessed! Joe would not give up – in and out he went almost knocking himself unconscious hitting his head not once but twice on Joel's awning poles. So deep in consternation was he, that the poles became invisible. But, being the guy he is, Joe did not give up, he searched until he found a gavel and two pairs of scissors lodged in the slide area. Bev and Joel took a lot of ribbing on what was going on in that bedroom that involves a gavel and two pairs of scissors.

As the evening began the weather became chilly and we all went into our rigs. As the substitute waggonmasters, David and I decided to call an impromptu cocktail tasting party at our place. You see, I was lucky enough to win the grand prize basket at the Elks Ladies Beach Party and it contained all the fixings for a cocktail called Ocean Breeze along with the recipe. It is a rum drink and I don't know much about rum. Had planned to make the drink for everyone on Saturday night prior to our potluck supper, but decided that would be a bust if it was awful. Gathering my little guinea pigs together we enjoyed not one, but two delightfully blue cocktails that even have the ocean fizz (club soda) on top. Lovely and yummy. With the gals at one end and the guys at the other we had our usual gab sessions including fitness and health issues - the scourge of people over 50. Not sure what the guys were talking about, I think it had to do with ideas for their wives and Valentine's Day or maybe it was just complaining about Valentine's Day, and after the first Ocean Breeze ... who cares?

Friday afternoon most of us went to Don Cuco's, the local cantina, for happy hour appetizers. Coming back from Don Cuco's, my husband decided to be cute and piggy back through the security gate with one of the other guests at the park. Well, she took exception to this and promptly jumped out of her car and read him the riot act. The rest of us were so shocked that this woman would get out of her vehicle and confront five of us this way, we were speechless. Now how



often does that happen? Joe and Judy Nemtusak invited us all to their rig for yet another party (that's two now, are we seeing a theme here with TWO?).

Being an avid reader, I brought along a cute little book entitled "Emily and Einstein" about a dog (Einstein) who was inhabited by the spirit of Emily's husband who had passed (a cute little read for something different), and I noticed that for the first time I bet in EKK history, the cats actually outnumbered the dogs. In fact, Cookie, the Nemtusak pooch was the only dog at the campout while KC, Bob and Sam, all wonder cats mind you, represented the majority in camper pet attendance. Good for you, boys. No, there is no TWO here.

Saturday's poker game was the game that almost wasn't. With so few rigs and even fewer poker players, the game almost had to be called. Thankfully a few players willing to be fleeced, volunteered. When it was all over, no one would admit to being the winner – suspicious! Following our potluck, we had a rousing game of Left, Right, Center, a mindless little game that can evoke so many emotions. Of course, the Ocean Breezes flowed making the game just that much livelier.

On Sunday it was hard for us to leave. We had enjoyed ourselves so much no one wanted to break up our little family. Alas, the Moyes, Collerans and Stulls had to leave and; what happened among the Flannery, Ericksons and Nemtusaks on Sunday and Monday, is their little secret.

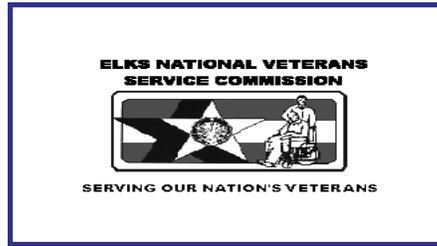
## UPCOMING KAMPOUTS

April 13/14-Bakersfield RV  
 May 18/19-Kenney Grove  
 June 8/9- Ventura Ranch  
 July 13/14- Lake Lopez  
 August 10/11-Santa Maria  
 September 7/8-Camp Comfort  
 October 12/13-Santa Barbara Elks  
 November 9/10- Kenney Grove  
 December 9-Brunch

visit the website:

<http://elkonejokampers.oaksdata.com>





At the time of this printing, the first Veterans Muster had not yet taken place. It was scheduled for March 18th, and results will be announced at the following Wednesday lodge meeting.

The Sepulveda V.A. Bingo trip, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday at 1:00 p.m. and CalVet-Ventura karaoke, 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 6:00 p.m. are monthly activities. Occasionally, we need additional people to help, especially with bingo. The group leaves the lodge at 11:45 sharp. Visitors are always welcome at the karaoke event; just sit and talk with the residents. They are some interesting people.

The 20<sup>th</sup> annual Ventura County Standdown is rapidly approaching, at the end of July. If anyone would like to become involved, there is always room for one more volunteer. We coordinate transportation for the homeless

veterans and join with the other three Ventura County lodges to provide lunches as they leave on Sunday, and other work is needed for setup and teardown. Also, we are looking at the potential for a local one-day fair (similar to a standdown) in the East Ventura County area. We will need lots of goods for the homeless in this area.

Veteran for the month: Tom Ryder – USAF - Weather

Please see or call Carl Lanterman (805) 630-8110 if you want to help extend our military involvement. We also want to help active military members when we can.



## Your Lodge Serving Our Community

- \*Hosting Blue & Gold Ceremony at Lodge
- \*Providing karaoke at Saticoy Vets monthly
- \*Doing bingo party at Sepulveda Veterans Hospital monthly
- \*Hosting blood drive for the community
- \*Participating in BSA Court of Honor
- \*Sponsoring an appreciation dinner for youth in our community
- \*Participating in CVD and Chili Cook Off
- \* Holding Toys 4 Tots drive
- \*Being a partner in Special Kids Day at CVD
- \*Hosting flag retirement ceremony with Boy Scouts-open to the public
- \* Cooking for Brownlympics & Scouting Events
- \* Providing use of lodge room for Girl Scouts Bridging Ceremony
- \* Giving VFW free monthly meeting room
- \* Sponsoring hoop shoot for local youth
- \* Providing meeting place for community clubs
- \* Preparing and delivering food baskets



A plaque was presented to the Lodge from BSA Troop 754 by Bill Sternberg, PER, first Scoutmaster for sponsoring them for forty years.



Dylan Hall is shown pinning a Webelo pin onto his dad, Cubmaster , Fred Hall



Police &amp; Firefighters Appreciation Night



On February 24th our lodge enjoyed our annual Police and Firefighters Appreciation Night. Ed Rice arranged a crew that was unmatched. Chicken and ribs were the course of the evening. Ed had help from Jim and Kathy Moye, ex fireman Jim Mullen's Christine Harrison, Dean and Kathy Reich, Jill Williams, Tom Hartin, Jane Watson, JB Bre, Bob Philips, Paul Stein and Terry Gicking. This year Gifford Sears was the fire fighter of the year. He is from Station 37 located in North Ranch. The whole station was invited. It's a small station with only 3 firefighters per shift. Two that were off were able to attend. We also invited Station 31 which is in our jurisdiction and has serviced our lodge many times.

During past dinners the men would receive a call and be gone in a flash. This year we made it. No problems while they ate this time. We had 12 attend from station 31. Also Station 30 was invited and they were our featured station. Station 30 was presented with an award from the membership of our lodge. We owe allot to these men. Running into a burning building not my idea of fun. I invited station 30 because their truck is bigger. LOL. The fire department awards were presented by Paul Stein and Ed Jones. Paul Stein is a member of our lodge and also a retired fire chief. Mr. Stein now has a consulting firm where he trains new firefighters.. Putting this together I was not getting anywhere. Started dropping Paul Stein's name around and doors began to fly open. Paul Stein will be chairman of the appreciation night next year.

From the sheriff's department we had the top sheriff, Geoff Dean. I was educated that there is only one sheriff and the rest are deputies. The city of Thousand Oaks contracts with the sheriff's department for officers. Corey Nickolas was the officer of the year. In his bio it was mentioned just weeks before our event Corey had to make the decision every officer hopes to never have to make. He was on a call and was forced to pull his service revolver and fire. You can finish the rest. Corey had his wife and mother in attendance and other friends and relatives who I'm sure were glad that Corey was there to attend. Retiring fire chief Bob Roper was given a plaque for years of service to our community and the 15 previous appreciation nights that he attended here at the lodge. City manager Scott Miknik was in attendance. Mayor Pro Tem Claudia Bill La Pena paid a visit and also had appreciation certificates and Linda Parks took time out of her busy time to present appreciation certificates. It was a good night. The lodge lived up to its motto "Elks Care Elks Share".

David Naccarato, PER



Congratulations to all of the Thousand Oaks ENF donors for 2011-2012. As of February 29th the Thousand Oaks Lodge has a per-capita of \$6.22 exceeding the Grand Exalted Rulers per-capita of \$4.50. As of now we are 5<sup>th</sup> in the district per-capita.

Thousand Oaks Lodge members have submitted \$2,526.33 and have already received a check from Grand Lodge for \$2,000 for several of our youth programs.

With the ENF Shrimp Peel Fundraiser and several members contributing additional funds for this year we will probably send another \$800 - \$900 to ENF for the 2011-2012 Elks year. This should raise our per-capita to around \$8.20. Your donations sent in with your dues payment will be credited to next year (2012-2013).

ENF supports our community. In addition to Grand Lodge programs, the ENF funds obtained are utilized to support local programs via Lodge grants through the Community Investments Program. Thousand Oaks has obtained some \$2,000 and is requesting more.

Again let's look at some of the ENF benefits remaining to be obtained for members this lodge year.

**Emergency Education Grants:** ENF scholarships for Elks families are also available. Emergency Education Grants, for college-aged children of deceased or totally disabled Elks, are due by December 31.

*Go online at [www.elks.org](http://www.elks.org) and check under ENF for available Scholarships and requirements for your children or grandchildren! If you can not go on line, call the lodge, leave your name and someone in the know will get back to you.*

**Tom Ryder – PDDGER – ENF Chairman**

**continued from page 4- PER Association**

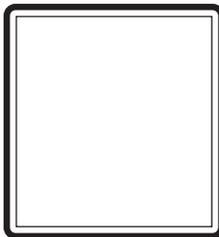
The PER Association and its members are advisors only and do not make decisions regarding the running of the Lodge. The running of the lodge is the responsibility of your elected Officers! All the PERs are attempting to do is to alert the Officers and members as the functioning of an Elks Lodge.

2012-2013 COMMITTEE  
CHAIRPERSONS

**THE ELKS LADIES**  
**Cornelia Meehan**

2012-2013 COMMITTEE  
CHAIRPERSONS

**1ST VICEPRESIDENT:** Lynn Rodriquez  
**2ND VICE PRESIDENT:** Melinda Pekow  
**SECRETARY:** Jean Miraglia  
**TREASURER:** Charlotte Gessler  
**AUDITOR:** Beth Kozlowski  
**TELEPHONE:** Patti Serota



**PARLIAMENTARIAN:** Alice Kennedy  
**CHAPLAIN:** Marilyn Cissell  
**MAJORPROJECT:**  
**SUNSHINE:**  
**HISTORIAN:** Carol Fredericks  
**CVD:** Alice Kennedy & Pat Peterson

The Elks Ladies breakfast on March 4<sup>th</sup> was, once again, a great success. There was a great turnout and the eggs benedict was delicious. As always, this is a time to meet and greet new people.

The Elks Ladies' Installation dinner on March 13<sup>th</sup> was a success. The cocktail hour was from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. with dinner served at 6:30 p.m. It is always nice to see the families and friends of everyone. The ladies would like to give a special thanks to the kitchen crew, Ed Bianci, for the outstanding dinner from salad to chocolate mousse for dessert.

We wish the new officers for 2012-2013 a good and successful year. However, we cannot do this alone. We rely on new members to bring new suggestions to the Elks Ladies to make the organization a success.

The 50/50 drawing was won by Dee Swanson for \$23.50. The Bubble Drawing was won by Jean Miraglia for \$60.00.

Let's make this a good and successful year. Take care and God bless,  
Melinda S. Pekow



The Elk Ladies officers (l-r) Charlotte Gessler, Jean Miraglia, Cornelia Meehan, Lynn Rodriquez, Melinda Pekow

Eula McKee-new address  
The Wood Nursing Home  
1194 N. Chester Street  
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**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

Madeleine Brockwell-8  
Mertice Nichols-14  
Theresa Kingsland-21



**WE AIM TO MAKE YOU PROUD OF US**

**FORGIVE US GOD FOR OUR COMPLAINTS,  
WHEN WE'VE BEEN GREATLY BLESSED,  
OUR PATHS YOU MAP OUT LOVINGLY,  
AND CHOICES LET US DO THE REST.**

**WE ASK FOR YOUR FORGIVENESS LORD,  
BECAUSE WE'LL MAKE MISTAKES.  
OUR AIM - TO MAKE YOU PROUD OF US,  
REGARDLESS OF HOW LONG IT TAKES.  
AMEN**



The new president, Cornelia Meehan



Pat Peterson recipient of Elk Ladies Appreciation Award

**OFFICERS 2012-2013**

**TRUSTEES**

EXALTED RULER - Leo Rodriquez  
 LEADING KNIGHT -  
 LOYAL KNIGHT -  
 LECTURING KNIGHT- Grant Thistle  
 SECRETARY - Dave Naccarato, PER  
 TREASURER - Myrna Block  
 TILER - Greg Miraglia  
 ESQUIRE - Robert Jones  
 CHAPLAIN - Barbara Gibbs  
 INNER GUARD- Bryant Burns  
 ORGANIST- Karin Spreights  
 OFFICER AT LARGE- Bill Sternberg, PER

Tom Ryder, PDDGER 1 Year  
 Jim Porter 2 Year  
 Carl Lanterman 3 Year  
 Sam Frankl 4 Year  
 5 Year

**2012-13 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS-reporting to Exalted Ruler**

ANTLER ANTICS: Sally Claunch, PER, Editor  
 Jerry Serota: Photographer  
 Calendar: Sally Claunch, PER  
 Distribution: Jessica Stull  
 HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK: Jerry Serota  
 GREETER: Dorothy Murray  
 NEW FACILITIES: Tom Ryder, PDDGER  
 OPERATION FACELIFT: Tom Ryder, PDDGER  
 LODGE RENOVATION: Dan Martyn

PARLIAMENTARIAN/PRESIDING JUSTICE: Dick McCann  
 LODGE VISITATIONS: Steve Smith  
 AUDITING: Chet Kozlowski, PER  
 ELKS TRAINING: Terry Gicking, PER  
 BEQUESTS & LIVING TRUSTS: Leo Rodriquez  
 MEDIATOR: Boyd Lindquist  
 PROTOCOL: Myrna Block  
 BBQ TEAMS: Eddie Rice:

**2012-13 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS-reporting to Leading Knight**

MAJOR PROJECT/PURPLE PIG:  
 David Naccarato, PER  
 SICKNESS AND DISTRESS: Coleen Morris  
 ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION:  
 Tom Ryder, PDDGER  
 MEMBER CONTROL. COM.: David Naccarato, PER  
 Investigation: Alan Hardie

David Naccarato, PER: Stray Elks  
 Terry Gicking, PER: Orientation  
 CHARITY BALL: Hospitality Committee  
 CHRISTMAS BASKETS: Leonzo Rodriguez  
 CHARITY DINNERS: Hospitality Committee

**2012-13 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS-reporting to Loyal Knight**

LODGE ACTIVITIES: Jim Moyer  
 Lynn Rodriquez: Public Relations  
 : Americanism  
 Bill Sternberg, PER: Flag Retirement Ceremonies  
 Barbara Gibbs: Memorial Service  
 Gov't Relations: David Naccarato, PER:  
 Lodge Picnic: Hospitality Committee-Jim Moyer

**2012-13 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS-reporting to Lecturing Knight**

YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Rick Herrera  
 David Naccarato, PER: Hoop Shoot  
 Grant Thistle: Soccer Shoot  
 Robert Jones: Drug Awareness  
 Sally Claunch, PER,: Kids Christmas Party  
 Bill Miller: Scouting  
 Rick Herrera: Scholarship

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:  
 Tom Hartin: CVD  
 Paul Stein :Law Enforcement & Fire Fighter  
 Apprec. Dinner  
 CHRISTMAS TREE LOT: Ben Reiger-chair  
 Herb Jellander & Eddie Rice -co.chairs

**HONOREES**

**ELK OF THE YEAR-  
 OFFICER OF THE YEAR-  
 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR-**

**EDITOR'S CORNER**



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



## HONOR ROLL

Donald Rue  
 Bill Aubrey  
 Jerry Serota  
 Bill Smail (Century Club x 3)  
 Sally Claunch, PER  
 Ruby Metzgas (Century Club)  
 Steven Finnerty  
 Salvator Argo  
 Anthony Federico  
 John Moran  
 George Vivlamore  
 Bruce Cameron  
 Micheal White  
 Tommy Tyler  
 Coleen Morris  
 Jay Schmidt  
 William Stukes

George Thompson  
 Louis Thomas  
 Jon Anderson  
 Robert Thorton,  
 PDDGER  
 Ken Krable  
 Joel Erickson  
 Norm Panzack  
 Ronald Collins  
 Eugene Letourneau  
 Dennis Scully  
 Sam Frankl  
 Greg Metzgas,  
 PDDGER  
 Coleen Morris  
 (Century Club)  
 Dorothy Murary  
 Karen Martyn  
 Harry Brockwell, PER  
 Steve Smith, PER

Dan Martyn  
 Karin Speights  
 Greg Miraglia  
 Robert Jones  
 JB Bre  
 John Nau PER  
 Gerry Gillies  
 Wilson Dyer

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Greg Metzgas PDDGER-2	James Hamilton-13
Leo Rodriguez-3	Carol Stewart-16
James Bragg-6	Teena Jones-17
Henry Vega-6	David Hobert-18
Allan Gottlieb-8	Chuck Busch-16
Kenneth Krabel-9	Mitchell Strunk-19
Neils Glickman-9	Jef Harriott-22
Ted Barnes-10	Salvatore Argo-23
Robert Foley-10	Coleen Morris-23
Erin Pierle-11	Steve Chiszar-24
Thomas Walsh-11	
Joe Clancy-12	
Allan Erickson-12	
James Hamilton-13	



COME BY AND RECEIVE  
 YOUR FREE BIRTHDAY DRINK

## Help Fund



### Our Scholarship Program

Bring your aluminum cans,  
 plastic and glass bottles to  
 the Lodge

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

Please do not drop off non deposit plastic items  
 for recycling.

for example:

Milk bottles

Engine oil bottles

Plastic alcohol containers (IE Tequila)

Medicine bottles

Plastic cups

Salad dressing containers

Aluminum foil

Thank You for your continued support, Rick



## FROM THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE PROPOSED AND WILL BE BALLOTTED ON:

April 4, 2012

William Aubrey sponsored by Bryant Burns

James Abbott sponsored by Bill Burmeister

Sylvia Koper sponsored by Carol Fredericks.

## YOUR LODGE ON YOUTUBE---HOORAY

On the right hand side you will see videos.  
 Just below them there is a link called see all.  
 Click that to see all of them

<http://www.youtube.com/user/elks2477>

## CRYING TOWEL



February 1 Capsule Drawing Tim Hinsche #554 Not present

Lucky 13 Jim Moye no winner

February 15 Capsule Drawing David Naccarato #1906 "WINNER"

Lucky 13 David Naccarato no winner

February 22 Capsule Drawing Ronald Barron # 1831 Not Present

Lucky 13 Norman Panzack #1846 "WINNER"

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**General Meeting  
every month on the  
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## LOUNGE HOURS

Monday-Tuesday-Thursday-Saturday  
 10 am-8 pm  
 Wednesday & Friday  
 10 am- to closing  
 Sunday  
 9 am-8 pm

## PAST EXALTED RULERS

1972-73 *Marvin D. Smith 1973-74 Erle Pittman, PDDGER 1974-75 *Richard Flake 1975-76 Bill Wagner 1976-77 John E. Henry 1977-78 *Robert McKee, PDDGER 1978-79 *Frank J. Rindone, PDDGER 1979-80 *Edward F. Stogsdell 1980-81 *Frank "Tex" Hastie 1981-82 * Robert Hardy 1982-83 *A. John Nichols 1983-84 John Nau 1984-85 Vern Ogden 1985-86 Dan Snyder 1986-87 Bill Lloyd, PDDGER,DL 1987-88 John E. Henry 1988-89 *Ted Lipka 1989-90 Don Skinner 1990-91 Don Ansell 1991-92 Gary Sleight 1992-93 Tom Ryder, PDDGER 1993-94 Jim Wallace 1994-95 *George Pekow 1995-96 Gil Riding, PDDGER 1996-97 *Jack Loughran 1997-98 John Kelly	1998-99 Chet Kozlowski 1999-00 Richard Goldner, PDDGER 2000-01 Jacob Panczak 2001-02 John D'Ambrogio 2002-03 Don Booker 2003-04 Greg Metzgas, PDDGER 2004-05 Jay Block 2005-06 Sally Claunch 2006-07 David Naccarato 2007-08 Catherine Koeritz 2008-09 George Meehan 2009-10 Terry Gicking 2010-11 Harry Brockwell 2011-2012 Steve Smith  By Affiliation: 1981-82 Robert L. Thornton, PDDGER 2001-02 Bill Sternberg 1999-00 * Ralph Vester 2002-03 Russel Robison  <p style="text-align: right;">*Deceased</p>
---	---



**\*House Committee meets the second Wed. of the month at 7 p.m. followed by Officers' Meeting in Conference Room**  
**\*Trustees meet the second Wed. at 6 p.m.**  
**\*Your input is valued.. Your attendance is welcomed.**  
**Come for dinner and stay for the meetings.**

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