



BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS
B.P.O.E. LODGE #2477, THOUSAND OAKS, CALIFORNIA

ANTLER ANTICS

Elks Care - *Elks* Share

Volume 43. No. 12

Editors: Sally Claunch, Paul & Kira Wagner

December 2013

Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year



Charity Ball Winners

A Message From The Exalted Ruler Terry Baker



Just got back from Mid-Term Elks convention. I thought it was a waste of time to drive 6 hours up 6 hours back, pay for rooms and food and attend 4 hours of training. When we met up with the officers of the other lodges and networked with them and learned what they are doing in their own lodges it hit me like a ton of

bricks--**That is what Grand Lodge wanted all along.** I always come away with something I can use to do a better job for you in our own lodge. Convention is a useful tool for that, and with declining membership we all can use all the help we can get.

We had a great Homecoming for our **DDGER and 2477 member Terry Gicking.** Terry traveled throughout out district which runs from Simi Valley and T.O. to Paso Robles. To visit, head north from Oxnard and Ventura, then it's a nice drive along the beach to Santa Barbara. From there take a run up San Marcus Pass and drop into Santa Ynez lodge. The town looks right out of a movie set. From there, you can cross over 101 and go to Lompoc Lodge. Make sure you pronounce it correctly--it's LompAHc, not Lompoke. From there you head north to Santa Maria and can meet their 3300 members. Then a ride to the beach and you'll take in Oceano/Five Cities. Go on up to San Luis Obispo--they initiate at least 50 members a month--and then Atascadero and Paso Robles. As a part of **West Central Coast District (WCCD)** YOU are a member of all of these lodges.

I was thinking we have quite a few members that have 20 or more years as an Elk. Couples that have been married that long renew their vows. I thought we would remember why we took the obligation and became Elk members. **To join and not do anything with membership makes no sense to me.** Elks *can* make a difference, particularly when we work together. When we took the obligation we placed our left hand over our heart and raised our right hand uplifted above the Altar upon which rests the Holy Bible and the Antlers of Protection. We stated our name and promised and swore that we would never reveal any of the confidential matters of this order which have been committed to our charge and keeping. **Yet I hear about matters of this lodge from other lodges.** We pledge to support the constitution and the laws of this order and the by-laws of this lodge. Do this and we'll stop the grumblings in our lodge. Next, I will obey the laws of the land. I will propose no one for membership whom I do not believe to be worthy thereof. This means that *you vouch* for this candidate, his/her actions and will see them through the membership process.

Continued on page 3

A Message From The Leading Knight Dan Martyn



The Charity Ball is behind us, but before moving on, I want to thank all of those who helped to make things happen: Donna Leary, who assembled the baskets, decorated the dining room, donated a wine basket, and also worked in the kitchen; Jim Porter and kitchen crew for another fabulous meal which was enjoyed by all; Angie

Porter and friends for their serving and cleanup assistance; the Elks Ladies for providing the appetizers; Tom Corrigan for donating a basket, Karen the Chaplain for helping me with the shopping; and, most of all, to those members and guests who attended and those members who generously donated through raffle tickets or other donations.

Although we raised over \$3,000 in raffle ticket sales, we are far short of the goal we need to reach in order to provide our Christmas baskets on a level consistent with prior years, and so additional donations will be welcomed. My thanks go out to the Konejo Kampers, the Elks Ladies and Coleen Morris, each of whom have already donated \$1,000. We will be working on the actual Christmas baskets shortly after we determine final funds available, so watch for updates posted online and in the Lodge for further information.

For the last several months, I have used this column to thank certain members for their contributions to our Lodge and our Order. I am pleased to announce that at the October House Committee and Officers meeting, an Elk of the Month program was approved and will be implemented shortly. The purpose of the program will be to recognize exceptional recent service to the Lodge, and acknowledge our appreciation of that service with a reserved parking space and complimentary Friday night dinners during the month. Stay tuned for more details.

Please review the December Antler for upcoming events which include the Christmas Potluck and Gift Exchange, the ER's Christmas Dinner and our New Year's Eve party followed on New Year's Day by our second annual Hair of the Dog party. There will be plenty going on, so please come down to the Lodge and celebrate with your brother and sister Elks. Finally, Karen and I wish each of you and your families a very Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah and a happy and healthy New Year.

Dan Martyn ~ Leading Knight

A Message From The Loyal Knight Jim Moye



As we come to year end, I thank those members who have helped me with the kitchen.

As you probably know, without volunteers to plan, cook, serve and clean, meals at the Lodge would disappear.

So, apologizing in advance to any volunteers I miss, here we go: **THANKS** to

Pati and Gary Harrod, Jean and Greg Miraglia, George and Cornelia Meehan, Ed Rice, Tom Ryder, Joe Kilrain, Craig Burns, Wendi Stuart, Donna Leary, Ed Bianchi, Boyd Lindquist, Robert Koeritz, Bobby Williams, Rick Bennett, Billy Gilmore, Karen and Dan Martyn, Redgie Fleeman, John Moran, Jim Porter, Johnny D'Ambrogio, David Naccarato Steve and Pam Smith, John Puckett, Mike Flannery, Jim Miller, Tony Gomes, Wayne LaFarr, Tom Corrigan, Ben Reiger, Carl Lanterman, The Konejo Kampers and, last **but by no means least**, all those members, families and friends who assist in the kitchen.

We will continue to do our best to serve quality meals at a reasonable price, and we ask our members to support our efforts by coming down to the Lodge and enjoying a breakfast, lunch or dinner with your fellow Elks.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Jim Moye ~ Loyal Knight

ER article continued from page 2

That means accompanying them to their investigation, orientation, and their initiation. I only say this because I see many single candidates **alone at each step** they take through membership process. I have three more months left in my term as Exalted Ruler and I want to touch on The Obligation each month. As Exalted Ruler, I hope to leave everyone with a better understanding than when I started. My gift to you is to remind everyone of our Obligation.

Terry Baker ~ Exalted Ruler 2013-2014

P.S. **Remember** the ER Christmas party (*yes I said Christmas*), Friday the 13th of December.

A Message From The Lecturing Knight Robert Jones



A party of 12 Thousand Oaks Elks and friends of Elks (prospective members?) were finally able to get in a full day of fishing. The scheduled trip was blown out last month but with nature's blessing the trip left Cisco's Landing in Oxnard late on the night of 19th of October. With the break of day Sunday, the bags started filling up with fish. The fishing never did slow down and the boat limited out on Rock Cod and Lingcod. There were a few other varieties of fish caught also, including one jackpot Sheepshead caught by Kevin Metzgas. He aced his father out of the jackpot money by mere ounces. Thank you Kevin Metzgas and Jim Moye for setting up the trip. Watch your Antler Antics for future fishing dates.

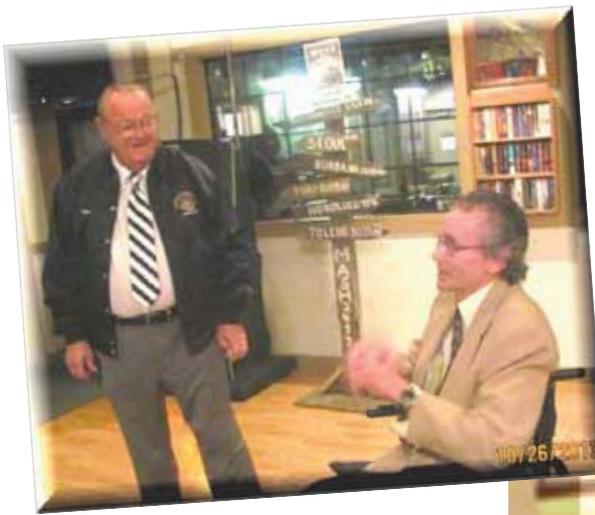


Catch "Petting a Great White Shark", pg 12.

Robert Jones ~ Lecturing Knight

Elk of the Month - coming in January





Party time at the Charity Ball

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

- Dec 1st Elks Memorial Service
 Dec 2 Christmas Tree Lot setup
 Dec 4 Christmas Trees arrive--*Please Help!*
 Dec 7 Elks Christmas Children's Party
 Dec 13 ER Christmas Party
 Dec 19 Come fill Christmas boxes
 Dec 20 No Dinner BUT Lounge open
 If you are donating a Turkey for the Christmas Cheer Basket Program,
please deliver on this day, Dec 20th.
 Dec 21 Christmas Basket Delivery
 Dec 22 Breakfast by PER's
 Dec 29 Breakfast by Campers

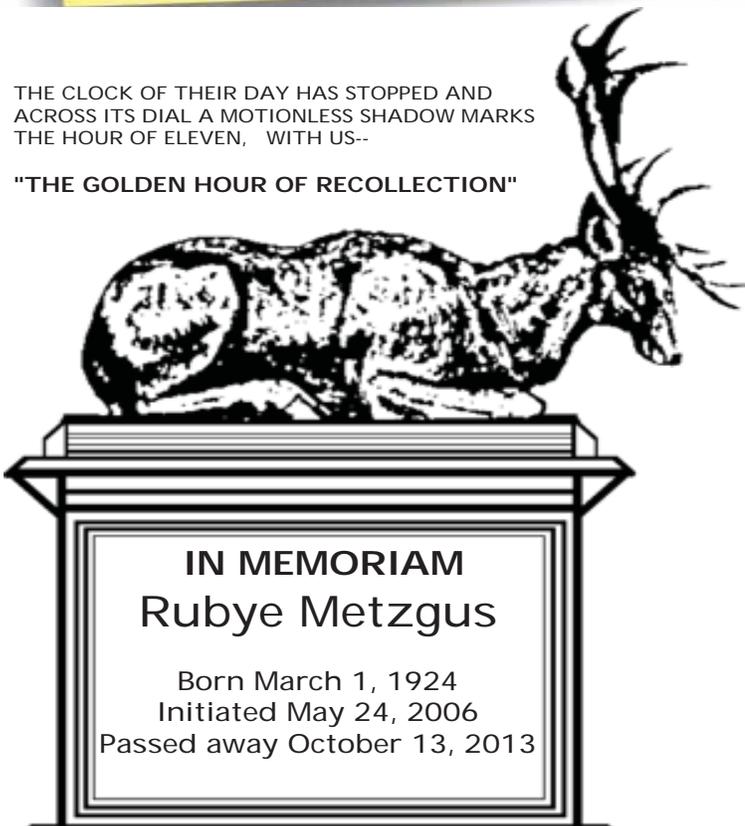
Scratch notes

At the time many of you became members of our Elks lodge, e-mail was not even a word yet. A place to even enter an e-mail address on our application form was not even printed yet. But times have changed. Please give the office your e-mail address. That we may have another way of communicating with you.

We now have a suggestion box in the wall in the lounge. Fill out the card with your e-mail information and place it in the slot in the wall and I will retrieve it. And while you're at it send along a suggestion.

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"



SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

Coleen Morris
 805-241-8928

OUR CONDOLENCES TO:

Greg Metzgas on the passing of his mother, Rubye.

Gerry Gillies on the loss of his sister.

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Robert Thortan, PER
 can be reached at:
 805-491-3755 home
 805-443-1284 cell
 Please call first before visiting.

ON THE MEND:

Joan Noell	Pat Jellander
James Lovato	Herb Jallander
Dick McCann	Harry Brockwell
John Leedham	Ruth Gillies

Remember: reports of Sickness and Distress are always welcome! Please call Coleen with any updates. Thank you!

Purple Pig Honor Roll

Steve Finnerty (Century Club x 5)
 Coleen Morris
 Rubye Metzgas posthumously (Century Club)
 Barbara Gibbs
 Karin Speights
 Sam Frankl
 Max Maxwell
 Alan Hardie
 Bill Sternberg Sr.
 Abe Gamble
 Pam Price
 Peter Nolan (Century Club)
 Gregg Miraglia
 D.D.G.E.R. Terry Gicking

Dan Martyn
 Karen Martyn



Remembering our Veterans - by Carl Lanterman

November was a busy month for veterans.

* Another Vietnam Veteran was helped through our lodge in conjunction with the Ventura County Military Collaborative (VCMiIC). Contacts were made in Ojai, closer to his home and after helping the vet, another organization was added to the VCMiIC. Also, thanks very much to Commander Ron Sheets and American Legion Post 482.

* A veteran recently home from Korea with his wife and four children were found to be in need. The VCMiIC has connected him and his family to the right services and our lodge was able to provide clothing and other support which brought smiles to all their faces.

* JB and Carl were able to enhance the Veterans Day activities at the Thousand Oaks Royale home on Erbes with a little entertainment and visitation.

* The annual Veterans Brunch was held on Nov. 17th with visitors from Sepulveda VA, CalVet Home-Ventura and the T.O. Royale with other local visitors. Also, Justin Rosa (Marine) and his wife attended and retired a flag provided by Rep. Julia Brownley.

* The VCMiIC met as scheduled and the Elks presentation was well received.

* We have many marines, previous service & retirees, as members of our lodge; Herb Jellander was there to see that we celebrated the Marines birthday on Nov. 10th.

We will once again deliver Christmas Baskets to veterans' families and we are also working in conjunction with Soldiers Angels to deliver Christmas cards and baskets.

Ed Ayril, who has for many years ensured that a crew was available for bingo each month, has retired from his position. Marshall Knowlton, who has been with Ed all that time, accompanied by Art Urbano have taken over the responsibilities. The bingo crew continues to visit the Sepulveda V.A. Hospital on the second Friday each month @ 1:00 pm, leaving the lodge at 11:30 am. The Sepulveda V.A. Hospital is located at 16111 Plummer St. with access from Woodley Ave. between Lassen St. and Plummer St.

Robert Jones and the karaoke crew will visit the CalVet Home on Dec. 19th @ 6:00 pm. In January, **they will resume the 4th Thursday schedule.** CalVet Home-Ventura is located at 10900 Telephone Rd. (Telephone & Wells) in Saticoy.

Remembering Pearl Harbor Day; a Different Perspective

December is when we all remember Pearl Harbor. Admiral Nimitz was attending a concert in Washington DC. He was paged and took a call from President Roosevelt. Admiral Chester Nimitz was told he was to take over the Pacific fleet. Admiral Nimitz flew to Hawaii Christmas Eve 1941. He was met with such a spirit of despair, dejection and defeat you would think the Japanese had already won the war. He was given a tour of the destruction wrought on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese. He was asked by a young helmsman, Admiral what do you think? He answered "we dodged a bullet". The Japanese made three huge mistakes.

1. The attack occurred on Sunday morning. Nine out of ten crewmen were ashore on leave. Our losses could have been 38,000 instead of 3,800.

2. The Japanese concentrated on our ships but never touched our dry docks. This meant we did not need to tow our damage to the states for repair—we made repairs right there on the island.

3. All of our above-ground fuel storage tanks—every drop of fuel in the Pacific Theater—was in those tanks five miles away. One Japanese attack plane could have strafed those tanks and destroyed our fuel supply.

That's when Admiral Nimitz knew the Japanese either could be beat or that God was taking care of America. He was able to see a silver lining in a situation and circumstance where everyone else saw only despair and defeatism. President Roosevelt had chosen the right man for the right job. There is a reason that our national motto is, IN GOD WE TRUST.

Elks National
Veterans
Service Commission



"Serving Our Nation's Veterans"

Carl Lanterman, Chairman
National Veterans Services
carl.lanterman@verizon.net
(805) 630-8110

Lodge Renovations

by Dan Martyn, Leading Knight

It's been a while since I reported to you on Lodge Renovations. Since the ladies bathroom, lodge room and anteroom were completed, I have had many members ask whether or when we intend to renovate the lounge which, to put it mildly, is in desperate need of a makeover. My intention through this article is to let you know where the lounge renovation project stands, to share my thoughts on the project, and to hopefully encourage an open and frank discussion among our members about what, if anything, should be done.

There are three main reasons to renovate the lounge, besides just aesthetics:

First, our current furniture, fixtures, equipment and electric are inadequate, and our lounge layout is inefficient.

Second, the lounge is typically the first glimpse of the lodge seen by prospective new members, and a modernized renovated facility can be a tool to attract both new and younger members, as well as existing members who do not frequent the lodge on a regular basis.

Third, I believe our members should have a lodge at which they can enjoy themselves and a lodge at which they will be proud to bring family, friends, business associates and other potential members.

For several months we have been working with the same contractor who built the ladies bathroom and remodeled the lodge room and anteroom, to come up with a plan and budget for the lounge renovation. At this point, we *have* a plan and are nearing completion of a cost estimate for the project. To do this properly, the existing lounge would be demolished and rebuilt with additional windows, new ceiling and flooring, and new furniture, fixtures and bar equipment. Managed properly, the project should be completed within two weeks, during which time we would utilize a temporary bar in order to continue service.

As far as the look of the new lounge, we wish to be consistent with the look of the lodge room and anteroom, with the same flooring throughout the lounge, increased lounge seating capacity and efficient layout, with minimal wasted space. We are not intending to build a bar on a par with the Taj Mahal, Mastro's or the Four Seasons; instead we intend to create a comfortable atmosphere on a par with such local establishments as Brendan's, the Mermaid Café, Fridays, or Claim Jumper. We

would like to see a place where members would want to stop before or after a Saturday night movie, or where younger members and prospective members might come before traveling to more expensive nightspots. The renovation contemplated is not intended to be a mere facelift; instead it is intended to be a remodel that will result in a lounge that will serve us well for at least the next 20 years, or until we outgrow our present facility.

Here's the bottom line: if we intend to grow we need both new and younger members. Our lodge does not have a pool, spa, campsite, billiard room or other amenities available at other lodges. We should be able to offer an attractive facility where one can enjoy the company of members, families and friends, and become involved in our lodge activities.

The other big question, beyond whether we should renovate, is how will we pay for it?

The only readily available source of funds is the New Facility Fund, with a current balance of approximately \$350,000, earning interest at an annual rate of less than one percent. These funds were raised several years ago, for the purpose of building a new facility. These funds are restricted, and can only be used with the approval of lodge membership. The use of restricted funds is, of course, a very sensitive subject.

Some members who contributed to this fund or raised funds believe that it should be preserved until we can build another facility, while others who also contributed or raised funds have told me that we should go forward and use the restricted funds to renovate our existing facility. My view, which does not constitute the opinion of any other officers or committees, is that we are building a new lodge within our existing facility, and that this is necessary if our lodge is to not only survive, but to grow and prosper. I believe the likelihood of building a new lodge within the foreseeable future to be remote, and that an investment of new facility funds in renovations is both a good investment in the future of our lodge as well as being as consistent with the original intended use of these funds as is possible at this time.

Having said all of this, I emphasize that the reason for this article is to inform you about the lodge renovation, and stimulate discussion among the members so that they can have the information necessary to make an informed decision about what should or should not be done. At the end of the day, we each

(continued on bottom page 8)

New Members

Be sure to welcome our new members when you see them at the lodge!



New Member: Elizabeth Buckner (Left)
Sponsor: Richard Buckner (Right)



New Member: Gary Guenot (Right)
Sponsor: David Naccarato, PER (Left)



New Member: Kiely Ball (Left)
Sponsor: Don Ansell, PER (Right)



New Members: Jim & Brett Fuchs (L/R)
Sponsor: Jim Moye (Center)

(continued from page 7)

have one vote, no more and no less, and the membership will decide what will or will not be done. I expect to move forward with this matter in the near future, and bring it to a vote on the floor once final plans and a budget are ready. In the meantime, should you wish to discuss this, or if you have questions, please speak with me at the lodge (I am a semifixture there) or email me at danmartyn2477@aol.com.

Thanks for your interest in this project and I look forward to your responses.

Dan Martyn
Lodge Renovation Committee Chair

December Birthdays

Richard Shaw – 01	Ib H. Jensen – 16
Jim Moye – 02	Donald L. Rue – 16
Bruce Cameron – 03	Sylvia Kopfer – 18
Edward Cassese – 03	Kira Wagner – 19
Charles T. Kudra – 03	Harry Isaman – 20
Paul Stein – 04	Robert H. Jennings – 20
Grant Thistle – 04	Brett Fuchs – 21
Richard P. Johnson – 05	Arthur Ubano – 21
Richard Wixon – 05	William Sternberg – 22
Eugene Letourneau – 06	William Aubrey – 23
Gerald H. Feldman – 07	William E. Sandham – 25
Kathy Irwin-Sage – 07	Edward F. Bianchi – 27
Raymond Clayton – 11	Joe Palmer – 28
Patricia Lynn-Harrod – 11	Stephen A. Finnerty – 29
Donna Leary – 11	Robert R. Jones – 29
Dennis Scully – 13	Susie Ross – 29
Catherine Koeritz – 14	Sally Claunch – 30

LODGE ROOM RENTALS

Attention Members: Are you planning a party, banquet, wedding, birthday or other special event? Our renovated Lodge Room is available for rental at very reasonable rates. Catering can be arranged. Contact Brooke at 805.496.4550



PLEASE MAKE
FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER
RESERVATIONS BY
CALLING THE LOUNGE
BY WEDNESDAY

496-4550 OR WITH ANY
BARTENDER

Proposed for Membership

For the good of the order David Naccarato proposes Donald Wayne Noble. Donald is married to Jessica and is retired from painting murals and is also a Veteran.

Nicole Rostem from Orange Lodge # 1475 proposed her father Louis Carlentine. Louis works for Anthem Blue cross and is also a Veteran.

Donna Leary proposes Cathie Capolino, self employed. Has already been involved in our ENF.

PER Leo Rodrigues proposes Brian Horan. Brian is an attorney here in T.O.

P.D.D.G.E.R.Greg Metzgas proposas Christy Waller. Christy is a realtor.

The Crying Towel

October 2nd 1st capsule drawing for \$500
Kenneth Keeler - Not present
2nd Capsule drawing \$50 Bryan Gicking -
Not present
Lucky 13 Steve Smith 5 of diamonds -
No winner.

October 16th first capsule drawing for \$500
Tony Learner - Not present
2nd capsule drawing \$75 Mike Markey -
Not present.
Lucky 13 Kira Wagner !!!WINNER!!! \$135

October 23rd 1st Capsule drawing \$500
Joesph Nemtusak Not present
2nd capsule drawing \$100 Max Maxwell
present !!!WINNER!!!
Lucky 13 Darryl Kopacz 4 of hearts
No winner



Your Lodge Serving Our Community

- *Hosting Blue & Gold Ceremony at Lodge
- *Providing karaoke at Saticoy Vets **monthly**
- *Doing bingo party at Sepulveda **monthly**
- *Veterans Hospital **monthly**
- *Hosting blood drive for the community
- *Participating in BSA Court of Honor
- *Sponsoring an appreciation dinner
- *Participating in CVD and Chili Cook Off
- *Awarding scholarships to high school seniors
- *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
- *Hosting Easter Egg Hunt for community kids

A Message From The Secretary David Naccarato



Well we just got back from Mid-Term Convention. Mid-Term is like the seventh inning stretch. We find out how many runs we are down and who we are going to get to pitch-hit. In order to NOT have to pay assessments on members who chose not to renew their membership, I released 35 members.

Now we need to bring in 36 by March 31st to be a Plus-1 Lodge. That's the first step in the All American Lodge contest. We only got it twice before, once with Richard Goldner as Exalted Ruler and the other with Greg Metzgas as Exalted Ruler. It's pretty cool being known as an All American Lodge because it is a total lodge effort and everyone must get involved to make it happen. Last year Rick Herrera brought in 11 all by himself. What can YOU do?

At our initiation in October, we brought in 5 new members and had 41 in attendance. That's 10% of our membership. That is a good number and I thank you for coming to the meetings. By the way, Terry Baker has changed the format up a bit and the meetings are now shorter--we had heard that attendance was down because the meetings were running too long. Well, we have now fixed that. Dan makes the meeting time fun at good-of-the-order in dolling out hair-splitting fines. Some do appeal to justice but it usually ends up costing them more, so my advice is pay the fine and keep quiet. Did you know he fined the Chaplain for kowtowing him as #1?

I had some calls on my request for help at the lodge. Vernon Noell is a log splitter from way back and is going to come out and give Dave and Gerry, Max, Allen, and all the rest a hand at our woodlot. That's Tuesday mornings around 8:30 - 9 am start-time.

Our breakfasts and dinners have fallen flat in attendance. Is it variety? Too expensive? Or just not enticing? If you could, let Jim Moye, Brooke or the office know so we can address it. Our only customers are YOU the members—all 415 of you. The lodge cannot keep losing money on our meals. We may have to stop some, like other lodges have done. While at Convention we were able to network with the other lodges and we did learn we are all facing the same problems. The lodge just does not exist by itself. Dan and Karen Martyn, Jim and Kathy Moye and now Jim Porter with Sherri Jones are down here daily making sure food is being served. Years ago it was Tom and Kathy Ryder or John and Marva D'ambrogio, Jay and Myrna Block. In fact, whoever is Loyal Knight inherits the kitchen (and spends time down at the lodge). Let's make sure the time spent is not in vain.

This month, WOW FACTOR goes out to new member Richard Lucariello who has been a weekly helper with the scholarship recycling program. Rick Herrera asked for help and Richard responded.

I hope you will receive this before December 2nd. We will be opening up our Christmas tree lot at Carlson's building materials. Dates are posted around the lodge. This is a good time for our new members to come down, load up some trees, rake up pine needles, and sit around the campfire "Join the camp fire girls" (whoops wrong commercial).



It's time to start looking for next year's officer corps. This is your lodge and you can make a difference. If you want to help out with a committee, let an officer know. You don't need to run a committee, only assist. If you really want to stare death in the face and be an officer, talk to Daniel Martyn Leading Knight. Come-on, you get to wear a tuxedo, have a lodge uniform, make important decisions that effects hundreds of people. And we need your fresh ideas.

Now I leave you with this: the next time your at the super market and they ask you "paper or plastic" come back with "doesn't matter to me, I'm bi-sacks-ual."

David Naccarato

Help the Scholarship Fund

Drop off at any time at the rear entrance to the bar parking lot. Bring your aluminum cans, plastic and glass bottles (with CRV label only) to the Lodge.

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

Examples of items NOT to dropoff:

Milk bottles ... Engine oil bottles ... Plastic alcohol containers (e.g. Tequila) ... Medicine bottles ... Plastic cups ... Salad dressing containers ... Aluminum foil

Thank You for your continued support ~Rick

A Message From The Grand Exalted Ruler Millard C. Pickering



November marks two holidays which, in my way of thinking, have always been related. Sure, they were adopted at different times for apparently different motivations but, for Elks leadership, we can draw some consistent themes.

Veterans Day commemorates the signing of the Armistice by Germany ending hostilities of World War I at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918. It's no wonder the Elks revere the "Hour of Eleven."

Thanksgiving, although fixed as the 4th Thursday in November by federal law in 1941, was celebrated by states since the time of the Founding Fathers and is a tradition officially proclaimed by the President annually since 1863. It is a harvest festival recognizing the end of the growing season with a shared feast.

It is a great month for Elkdom. We love a good party and no organization respects and celebrates Our Veterans and service people more than the Order of Elks.

Why not extend your holiday celebration to embrace those who took up arms to protect the way of life we all hold dear? Service families as well as Veterans would appreciate a gift basket, a celebratory dinner, or some project dedicated to their needs such as the Army of Hope.

Since 2003, the Elks Army of Hope has assisted families who have had a father or mother called to active duty with the military reserve or National Guard. That Army exists to support service families by making minor repairs and providing professional services to keep homes functioning until loved ones return.

What better way to express our Thanksgiving than sharing a celebration with and for the men and women who are making a very personal contribution to the harvest of freedom we all enjoy.

See you down the road.

~ Millard C. Pickering G.E.R. "It's Millard Time".

Duty Officers

Nov 29-Dec 1	- Karen Martyn
Dec 6-8	- Darryl Kopacz
Dec 13-15	- Terri Baker
Dec 20-22	- Dan Martyn
Dec 27-29	- Greg Miraglia



El Konejo Kampers by Jessica Stull



Flying Flags, A "Record" Turnout!

Wow! Eleven Kampers and one Motel Kamper made this our biggest kampout of the year (With the exception of Newport Dunes.) Hopefully, next month at Kenney Grove we will get 15 or more.

When we pulled in at the campground, we spotted Gene and Pam Ewald's rig in line to register. They are full-timers and have been touring the country for several years. We hadn't seen them in almost 2 years. All of us who know them were excited to see them again. Chuck and Judy Kudra spent the week there and were on hand to greet us. Joe and Judy Nemtusak are usually the first to arrive and this kampout was no exception. Most of the rest of the kampers coming on Thursday arrived within 15 minutes of us. Cheryl Templeton arrived early in the evening and the rest came on Friday.

Thursday afternoon we "girls" gathered at Jessica's rig for a gabfest and designer martinis. Jessica and Kathy are great mixologists. Lemon Drops were the martini of the day and the Absolute flowed freely.

Since we have had such small kampouts recently, the poker players were excited to have enough people to play. They sat for hours shooting the bull and playing their favorite poker games.

Flying Flags is in an area where there is a lot to see and do: Solvang, the Chumash Casino, wine tasting, 2 Missions close by, etc. However, this time most people chose to relax at the campground. Only 2 people went to the casino Friday and 2 on Saturday. There was a group of 9 people who went into Solvang for a few hours on Friday. I didn't see anyone coming back carrying any packages. Kathy had forgotten her earrings and told us Jim said he would buy her some new ones, but she didn't find anything she liked. The only thing they bought was lunch.

Friday evening we had a wonderful array of appetizers. Most people were anxious to get to their rigs to watch the Dodgers. Saturday was another great brunch followed by 50/50, free kampout raffle and sheriff. Donna didn't remember she was

asked to be sheriff, but that didn't mean we were safe. We were all fined a dollar because she forgot!

This was Sue Osgood's first time to be wagonmaster. Everyone agreed; she did such a good job that she should do it again next year.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Erickson

Upcoming Kamp Outs

December 8 - Annual Brunch
Grand Vista Hotel in Simi Valley

visit the website for more:
<http://elkonejokampers.oaksdata.com>



Ahhhh...choo!



...a little further down, please.

2013-2014 Committee CHAIRPERSONS

1st VICE PRESIDENT: Jill Williams
2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Marian Anderson
SECRETARY: Jean Miraglia
TREASURER: Anne Frankl
AUDITOR: Beth Kozlowski
COMMUNICATONS: Mary Flannery
Carol Fredericks

THE ELKS LADIES Lynn Rodriguez



2013-2014 Committee CHAIRPERSONS

PARLIMENTARIAN: Sally Claunch
CHAPLAIN: Barbara Gibbs
MAJOR PROJECT: Jessica Stull
SUNSHINE: June Leadam
HISTORIAN: Carol Fredericks
CVD: Jill William

Lynn Rodriguez is sending out the invitations for the Ladies Christmas Party, Tuesday, December 10th, beginning at 6 PM.

Tom Ryder and Chet Koslowski are the chefs of the evening. Prime Rib and Salmon are the main event. KC Phillips will be the entertainment for the evening. Bring an unwrapped gift to the Ladies' Party!

Volunteers are needed:

Christmas card and wrapping paper to the Christmas tree lot. Your support is greatly appreciated.

The Children's Christmas Party will be held on **December 7th** at 11 AM (Santa arrives at 1 PM). Volunteers are needed to help with activities. This should be a fun time for everyone.

Robert Jones has volunteered to be a magician.

Food Baskets/Gifts

Volunteers are needed to fill food basket, beginning December 16th. *Please bring scissors and tape.*

On Wednesday, December 18th the Ladies' Elks will be wrapping Christmas presents for the children and the families of the charity at the Lodge beginning at 10 AM.

As you can see, volunteers are always needed and appreciated. **This also a great opportunity to meet and mingle with fellow members.**

Marian Anderson

2014 Americanism Essay Contest



Information is now available for this year's Americanism Essay Contest. Contest is open to 5th and 6th, 7th

and 8th grade students. Required is a 250 word essay on "What Does Veterans Day Mean To Me?"

Deadline for this is January 10, 2014. Essay must be typed or legibly printed in ink. It also must be typed or written by the entrant. Entries must be identified on the essay by name, home address, grade, school attending and sponsoring lodge. (Lodge may enter lodge information on essay).

Judging criteria: Originality. Avoid the use of trite or worn out words or phrases - 30 points.

Development of theme: Stay focused on ideas and thoughts. Don't ramble - 40 points.

Mechanics and neatness: Use proper spelling, grammar and punctuation - 30 points.

Two divisions for judging essays
Div I 5th and 6th Div II 7th and 8th

Plaques will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. Contestants can get rules and forms in the office, or online at: chea-elks.org/DSSPAPPLICATION.pdf

OFFICERS 2013-2014

EXALTED RULER Terry Baker
LEADING KNIGHT Dan Martyn
LOYAL KNIGHT Jim Moye
LECTURING KNIGHT Robert Jones
SECRETARY Dave Naccarato, PER
TREASURER Pati Harrod
TILER Gregg Miraglia
ESQUIRE Billy Sternberg
CHAPLAIN Karen Martyn
ORGANIST Karin Speights
OFFICER AT LARGE Bill Sternberg, PER

TRUSTEES

Daryl Kopacz 1 Year
Pam Price 2 Year
Sam Frankl 3 Year
Steve Smith, PER 4 Year
George Meehan, PER 5 Year

2013-14 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS - reporting to Exalted Ruler

DICTIONARY PROGRAM: **CHAIRMAN NEEDED**
ANTLER ANTICS: Sally Claunch, PER, Editor
Contributing Editors Paul & Kira Wagner
Calendar: Terry Gicking, PER
Distribution: Jessica Stull, Juanita Feamster
PUBLIC RELATIONS: Lynn Rodriguez
GREETER: Dorothy Murray
LODGE RENOVATION: Dan Martyn
LODGE VISITATIONS: Terry & Sharon Baker

AUDITING: Chet Kozlowski, PER
PERASSOCIATION PRESIDENT: Steve Smith, PER
BEQUESTS & LIVING TRUSTS:
MEDIATOR: Greg Metzger, PDDGER
PROTOCOL: Karen Naccarato
BBQ TEAMS: Terry Baker/chairman needed
BLDG. MAINTENANCE/GROUNDS: Ben Rieger
PARLIAMENTARIAN/PRESIDING JUSTICE: Dick McCann
HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK: Jill Williams

2013-14 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS - reporting to Leading Knight

MAJOR PROJECT/PURPLE PIG: David Naccarato, PER
SICKNESS AND DISTRESS: Coleen Morris
ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION: Donna Leary
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: Dan Martyn

ORIENTATION: Terry Gicking, PER
CHARITY: Dan Martyn
CHRISTMAS BASKETS: Dan Martyn
MEMBER CONTROL. COM.: David Naccarato, PER
Investigation: Alan Hardie & Dave Anderson

2013-14 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS - reporting to Loyal Knight

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY: Jim Moye
LODGE ACTIVITIES: Jim Moye
WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS: Jim Moye
WEDNESDAY NIGHT TICKETS: Gregg Miraglia
MOTHER'S DAY: Karen Martyn
SCOUTING: Bill Miller/Bill Sternberg
YOUTH ACTIVITIES: **CHAIRMAN NEEDED**

STRAY ELKS: David Naccarato, PER
CVD: Tom Hartin
LAW ENFORCEMENT DINNER: Paul Stein
HOOP SHOOT: David Naccarato, PER
DRUG AWARENESS: **CHAIRMAN NEEDED**
INAUGURAL BALL: Jim Moye

2013-14 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS - reporting to Lecturing Knight

FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY: Bill Sternberg, PER
AMERICANISM: **CHAIRMAN NEEDED**
KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY: Sally Claunch, PER & Robert Jones
SCHOLARSHIP: Rick Herrera
NATIONAL VETERANS SERVICES: Carl Lanterman
MEMORIAL SERVICE: Karen Martyn
CHRISTMAS TREE LOT Ben Rieger:

GOLFTOURNAMENT: David Pearson
EL KONEJO KAMPERS: Joel Erickson
MEMBERSHIP: David Naccarato, PER
LODGE PICNIC: Lecturing Knight
PHOTOGRAPHER: Jill Williams
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS: **CHAIRMAN NEEDED**



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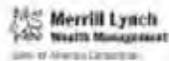


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Elks Ladies
of Thousand Oaks
Elks Lodge #2477

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

Official Publication of:
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No. 2477 - B.P.O.E.
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Fax: (805) 496-9087
Lounge (805) 496-4550
elks2477.com
elkonejokampers.oaksdata.com
toelks@gmail.com

LOUNGE HOURS

Mon, Tue, Thur, Sat: 10 - 8 PM
Wed, Fri: 10 AM - Closing
Sun: 9 AM - 8 PM

Meetings in the Conference Room



House Committee: 2nd Wed of the month @ 7:30 PM
Officers Meeting: Immediately following.
Trustees meet the 2nd Wed @ 6 PM

**Your input is valued. Your attendance is welcomed.
Come for dinner and stay for the meetings.**

PAST EXALTED RULERS

1972-73 *Marvin D. Smith	1995-96 Gil Riding, PDDGER
1973-74 Erle Pittman, PDDGER	1996-97 *Jack Loughran
1974-75 *Richard Flake	1997-98 *John Kelly
1975-76 Bill Wagner	1998-99 Chet Kozlowski
1976-77 John E. Henry	1999-00 Richard Goldner, PDDGER
1977-78 *Robert McKee, PDDGER	2000-01 Jacob Panczak
1978-79 *Frank J. Rindone, PDDGER	2001-02 John D'Ambrogio
1979-80 *Edward F. Stogsdell	2002-03 Don Booker
1980-81 *Frank "Tex" Hastie	2003-04 Greg Metzgas, PDDGER, DL
1981-82 * Robert Hardy	2004-05 Jay Block
1982-83 *A. John Nichols	2005-06 Sally Claunch
1983-84 John Nau	2006-07 David Naccarato
1984-85 Vern Ogden	2007-08 Catherine Koeritz
1985-86 Dan Snyder	2008-09 George Meehan
1986-87 Bill Lloyd, PDDGER	2009-10 Terry Gicking, DDGER
1987-88 John E. Henry	2010-11 Harry Brockwell
1988-89 *Ted Lipka	2011-12 Steve Smith
1989-90 Don Skinner	2012-13 Leo Rodriguez
1990-91 Don Ansell	
1991-92 Gary Sleight	
1992-93 Tom Ryder, PDDGER	
1993-94 * Jim Wallace	
1994-95 *George Pekow	

*Deceased

By Affiliation:
1981-82 Robert L. Thornton, PDDGER
2001-02 Bill Sternberg
1999-00 *Ralph Vester
2002-03 Russel Robison

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 Elks of the United States of America, 158 Conejo School Road, P.O. Box 2110, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360.
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.



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THOUSAND OAKS, CALIFORNIA

December 2013

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toelks2477@gmail.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
BRUNCH 10-12 1 Elks Memorial Service SERVICE AT 11AM BRUNCH 10-12 \$10 Duty Officer - KAREN MARTYN	Dinner 2 MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL CHRISTMAS TREE LOT SETUP 9AM CHERRI PETERSON JAMBALAYA \$6	3 LOUNGE OPEN PRIVATE PARTY 5PM	Meeting 4 CHRISTMAS TREES DELIVERED +/- 11AM Purple Pig & Balloting Dinner by PORTER MAC & CHEESE \$7	5 THURSDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL \$2 CHILI DAWGS Bass Club	6 Dinner LYNN & LEO'S 3RD ANNUAL HOLIDAY POT LUCK & GIFT EXCHANGE Duty Officer- DARRYL KOPACZ	7 BBQ Wagon - Lodge Jim Allen's Numero Uno ELKS CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY 11am MEET SANTA @ 1pm LOUNGE OPEN 10AM-6PM
HOT LUNCHES SERVED 11am-1pm M-F						
NO Breakfast 8 KAMPERS BRUNCH \$30 GRAND VISTA HOTEL see flyer for more info LOUNGE OPEN 9:30am - 6pm Duty Officer- DARRYL KOPACZ	Dinner 9 MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL MOYE SPECIALS GOURMET MELTS \$6	10 ELKS LADIES CHRISTMAS PARTY SOCIAL & APPITIZERS 5pm DINNER 6PM 7:30 PM VFW Meeting in Conference Room	11 Meetings Trustees 6:00 PM House 7:30 PM Officers Meeting 8:30pm 2ND TREE LOT DELIVERY +/- 11AM Dinner by PORTER PULLED PORK \$7	12 THURSDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL LOUNGE OPEN	13 Dinner VETERANS BINGO SEPULVEDA VA 1pm LEAVE LODGE 11:30am THE BAKERS HOST ER CHRISTMAS PARTY & FREE MEMBER DINNER Duty Officer - TERRY BAKER	14 BBQ Wagon - Lodge The "Cut-ups" LOUNGE OPEN LOUNGE OPEN 10AM-6PM
HOT LUNCHES SERVED 11am-1pm M-F						
Breakfast 10:00-11:30 15 NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS HOSTS BREAKFAST \$10 LOUNGE OPEN 9:30am - 6pm Duty Officer - TERRY BAKER	Dinner 16 MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL TABLE SET-UP BURGER & FRIES \$6	17 BOX SET-UP FOOD DELIVERY TO LODGE	No Meeting 18 ELKS LADIES CHILDREN CHRISTMAS PRESENT WRAP 10AM	19 ABATE MTG \$2 CHILI DAWGS FILL FAMILY BOXES Karaoke at Cal-Vets Home 6:00 PM	20 NO Dinner VEGATABLE DELIVERY MILK DELIVERY TURKEY DELIVERY TO LODGE Duty Officer - DAN MARTYN	21 BBQ Wagon - Lodge Herb Jellander's "JV" Crew CHRISTMAS BASKET DELIVERY 9AM Lunch provided for drivers by Moye & Claunch LOUNGE OPEN 10AM-6PM
HOT LUNCHES SERVED 11am-1pm M-F						
Breakfast 9:30- 11:30 22 \$5-7-8 U CHOOSE BREAKFAST BY PER'S TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOLARSHIP FUND LOUNGE OPEN 9:30am - 6pm Duty Officer - DAN MARTYN	NO Dinner 23 MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL LOUNGE OPEN LUNCHES SERVED 11am-1pm	24 CHRISTMAS EVE LOUNGE OPEN 10AM - 6PM NO LUNCH	25 NO MEETING MERRY CHRISTMAS LOUNGE CLOSED	26 LOUNGE OPEN LUNCHES SERVED 11am-1pm	27 Dinner PIZZA & SALAD \$5 LUNCHES SERVED 11am-1pm Duty Officer - GREGG MIRAGLIA	28 OUTCASTS BBQ LOUNGE OPEN LOUNGE OPEN 10AM-6PM
Breakfast 9:00-11:30 29 KAMPERS BREAKFAST OMELET SPECIALS \$8 REGULAR BIG BREAKFAST \$7 LOUNGE OPEN 9:30am - 6pm Duty Officer- GREGG MIRAGLIA	Dinner 30 BLT's & BLTT"s \$6 MOYE & BIANCHI	31 SEE FLYER FOR DETAILS NEW YEARS EVE PARTY CASINO NIGHT & DINNER \$45 pp	January 1, 2014 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR HAIR OF THE DOG PARTY! LOUNGE PARTY HOURS 11AM-8PM	CHARITY, THE CORNERSTONE OF ELKDOM CHRISTMAS TREE LOT NEEDS YOUR HELP. HOURS OF 10AM-8PM PICK A DAY, PICK A TIME COME ON DOWN, HELP SPREAD THE CHEER! CHRISTMAS BASKETS NEED YOUR HELP ALSO! BOXING, WRAPPING, MAPPING AND DELIVERING PICK A DAY & TIME AND COME DOWN TO HELP ER FREE DINNER IS CHICKEN ALFREDO & HOT BUTTERED RUM		