

# Antler Antics



## Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks

### *A Message from the Exalted Ruler, Richard Platt*



Reopening our lodge and bar after fourteen months of zilch is a far more significant job than one would think. We started with old decayed salted snack food items as you could hardly pick up these items without losing your lunch. Then the molded beer kegs as well as flat beer in the coolers had to go. Cleaning the beer lines, eyeballing each bottle behind the bar for contaminating things! Stocked beer and wine that had been stored also had to go. Then stocked beer and wine that had been stored also had to go.

Both the kitchen and bar areas needed to be deep cleaned and what a difference that made. No more stench coming from the game room area. When we asked for members to come into the Lodge and help with cleaning, the request was answered. For the better part of two days many worked exceptionally long hours. Well done you intrepid souls. Well done!

We held a House Committee Meeting on April 29<sup>th</sup>. The agenda was dominated by our budget and more than a dozen items needing to be completed to reopen our Lodge. The budget is a combination of the last full year and last year's actual budget, put together and adjusted, due to not having been opened. It is a living document that will be needing many adjustments during the year. If interested in reviewing the budget, please call David in the Lodge Office and make an appointment. Tuesday, May 4, 2021, VCHD inspected the Lodge, and we were given the green light to reopen, thanks to the hard work by our members.

Our plan now is to hold a House Committee on the May 19, 2021. Responding to the Mother's Day Breakfast interests, we will open the Lodge Thursday and Friday from 4pm until 8pm and Saturday 2pm until 6pm, starting May 13, 2021. Just a word of caution, some items and services may not be restored to full-service Sickness & Distress, A by the 13<sup>th</sup>. We will hold Orientation for new members on Tuesday May 25, 2021 at 7pm, if you are sponsoring a new member, please plan on attending. Our first in person General Lodge Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. We will hold an Initiation for new members on Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. When and if changes are made, we will let you know via the Call Multiplier system. Thank you one and all for your support!

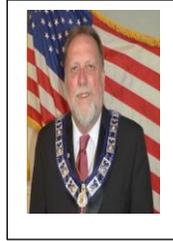
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Respectfully submitted, **Richard Platt**

**Message from the Leading Knight**

**Charity** - The cornerstone of everything we do as Elks! If it is not by monetary means, it would be by **donating your time**. If it were not for a big group of volunteers, this Lodge might not have survived this pandemic. First act of charity was from the officers from last year, led by Exalter Ruler **Dan Martyn**, PER. His leadership, along with his officer corps, got our BBQ up and running. Because of the BBQ's, we were able to pay our bills without having to borrow from our savings. In April 2021, they turned that leadership over to a new set of Officers and Trustees, and this group has this lodge year off to a great start. Our **Trustees (Ed, Steve, Reem, Dan and Kathy)**, have worked hard getting this Lodge cleared out and cleaned, I mean SUPER clean! We passed our Health Department inspection, and we were able to open for Mother's Day! The **Officers** performed the Elks Mother's Day ceremony. The **Konejo Kampers** put on quite a breakfast for the 75-85 members and their mothers. Special thank you goes out to the **Konejo Kampers** for donating their time to make this breakfast incredibly special.



Now, this brings me to you, our member. Our Lodge needs your help. Yes, we love when you come through by donating to our charities, but we also need **members** to get more involved. We need help with our committees, our BBQ, Friday night cooks, and the maintenance of our buildings. Please contact our Secretary, **David Naccarato**, PER, Lodge Office phone # (805)496-2477 or contact any officer to let them know what committee you would like to get involved with. Involvement could be once a month, once a quarter or once a year. Whatever you can give, **PLEASE give**. We always say, you get out of Elksdom what you put into it. Please invest in your Lodge's charity by DONATING your time or money! I look forward to starting Cook-Your-Own-Steak nights. Looking forward to seeing you this Summer.

Fraternally yours,  
**Terry Gicking PDDGER, PER**

**Message from the Lecturing Knight**

\_Greetings fellow Elks!



No need for June gloom, the Lodge is beginning to open up again! It was so wonderful to open with the Mother's Day celebration. So happy to see so many smiling faces in the Lodge. So many thanks to give for all the hard work that went in from so many members. At the last minute the new lead bartender quit do you do family reasons and Grace Vega assisted the understudy the bartender.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Lodge as you become comfortable with it We need to follow all the proper safety precautions to protect each other. There are still positions on programs and committees that need to be filled. Please look through those and help us if you can as the Lodge is quickly picking up steam.

We plan on putting meetings on zoom for the members who are not ready yet to participate in person. This is coming soon. We will also arrange for help for those that may be technology challenged.

Warm regards,

**Ron Watkins**, Lecturing Knight



**Need some help for our Loyal and Lecturing Knights**

Our Lecturing and Loyal Knights will be needing some extra help. **Ron Watkins** was bucked off a horse and had surgery to his left wrist and arm. **John Betancourt** needs a knee replacement, which will happen in July. All help will be deeply appreciated by your Lodge.

## Message from the Loyal Knight

As always I like to start out by hoping that all of our members and their families are staying safe and that you all are enjoying Life.



May was a very good month for our lodge in that we were able to get a passing grade with the Venture County Health Department in allowing us to open the lodge under the guidelines require by the State and County. Thru the leadership and guidance of our ER, Richard Platt, and Trustee Dan Hoffman the lodge room, kitchen, bar area, game room, and the rest rooms, received a deep cleaning by a cleaning company before the inspection of the Health Department, we pass with Flying Colors. Because of this we where able to open the Lodge along with the Bar on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> to what I like to call a soft opening with the hours of 4pm to 8 pm on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> and 2-6pm on Saturday the 15<sup>th</sup>. The days and hours will stay that way until we feel we can add more days and hours. It is a start and hopefully it is the start of great things to come for our lodge. In saying this we were able to do our Mother's Day Breakfast on May 9<sup>th</sup> with a great turn out, 72 guests. I like to thank the Kampers for cooking the breakfast, and all of the Kamper ladies who help service our guests. I like to welcome our new bartender Jared who jump right in on Mother's Day to get our bar going, try the Bloody Mary. A Big Thanks to Jill Williams and Grace Vega for all of their help with this event. As of the 14<sup>th</sup> of May, you were able to come into the lodge and be able to sit in the lodge room as well as some tables in the bar area and enjoy the Friday night dinner instead of taking it home, you still can order the dinner to go. Keep in mind until the situation gets better please follow the rules of the Health Department in the wearing of masks while not eating or drinking and the rules for social distancing.

June is also when we have the Retirement of the Flag, if you have a flag that you would like to retire please bring it to the lodge office. Flag Day is on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June, more to follow on the retirement ceremony.

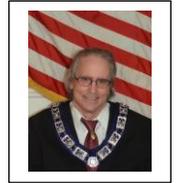
In closing remember I am always looking to hear from our great cooks to do a Friday Night Dinner and to all of the dads and granddads, Happy Father's Day.

John Betancourt Loyal Knight  
[jbetancourt105@verizon.net](mailto:jbetancourt105@verizon.net)  
805-551-4450



## Message from the Lodge Secretatry

### Elks History



New York lodge #1 was chartered in February 1868. Then Philadelphia lodge #2 in February 1871 and the third is San Francisco #3 which was chartered on February 26<sup>th</sup>, 1876. Now here is where it gets interesting.

The Exalted Ruler of San Francisco #3 was a man by the name of **Tom Edelstein**, who was an incredibly famous actor and who went by the name of "**Tom Keane**". He acted with his good friend Edward Thomas Booth who happened to be the brother of **John Wilkes Booth** of **Abraham Lincoln** Fame. Now Abraham Lincoln had many sons, all of which but one died noticeably young. The one that lived to the rip age of 82 was Robert Lincoln, who was saved from an untimely death by **Edward Thomas Booth**. One **Booth** saved a **Lincoln**, and one Booth killed a Lincoln.

Lodge meetings are starting up again which will allow us to get new members initiated in correct order. The past year we had to do what we had to do, nothing was normal, and everyone understood. I would like to announce that during the general meeting of June 9<sup>th</sup> we will hold a vacant chair ceremony for those we had lost during the shutdown. If you would like to eulogize one or all the members, be present for the meeting: Jerry Serota 3/13/20, Norman Panzacak 3/7/20, Peter Nolan 4/7/20, Leslie Donovan 4/28/20, Semik Senik 6/13/20, Chet Kozlowski 9/26/20, Leroy Sapp, Jr. 11/5/20, Marshall Matz 12/3/20, Ed Rice 12/15/20, Debbie Clingan 12/24/20, and Tommy Claunch 1/4/21.

### Around the Lodge

Like from a scene of "Godfather III" "Every time I think I'm out they pull me back in" **Ben Rieger** feels the same way. I think it is 4 times now **Ben** has retired from policing the grounds of the Lodge, but he is back again.

This time with help. As I arrived at the Lodge this morning, **Ben Rieger, Greg Sweet, Gerry Gillies** and **Dave Anderson** were out in force cleaning up leaves and branches to spruce up the grounds for reopening. Trustees **Ed lees** and **Steve Kerman** and with the help of **Gerry Gillies** were cleaning out the com boxes. Lodge assets are under the supervision of the Trustees and any cleaning has to go through them. Thank you, guys, for your hard work above and beyond.

**David Naccarato** PER, Lodge Secretary

## Officers 2021-2022

Exalted Ruler: Richard Platt  
Leading Knight: Terry Gicking  
PDDGER  
Loyal Knight: John Betancourt  
Lecturing Knight: Ron Watkins  
Esquire: Adam Smith  
Chaplain: Rita Dacorsi  
Treasurer: Bill Joseph  
Inner Guard: Gregg Miraglia  
Tiler: Lyssa Watkins

## Trustees

One Year Trustee: Kathy Moye  
Two Year Trustee: Dan Hoffman\*  
Three Year Trustee: Reem Agel  
Four Year Trustee: Steve Kerman  
Five Year Trustee: Ed Lees

\*Chairman of the Board of Trustees

## June Birthdays

- 01 Michael Mathews  
William Radcliff
- 03 Bob Adams  
Ronald Barron  
Henry Gelman  
Tamara Runnells
- 04 May Woodlief  
Abe Gamble Jr.
- 05 Brian McBreen
- 08 Weyman Dukehart
- 09 Elise Murray
- 10 William Figge
- 11 Cherri Peterson
- 12 Dennis Albi
- 13 Steve Smith
- 14 Rod Reynolds  
Corrine Richeson
- 15 Clarence Brown  
Ken Krabel
- 16 Pat Jellander  
Ronald Pizitz
- 18 Misty Boykin  
Chuck Costigan  
Jerry Gilmore  
Johnny Gin  
Randal Hayes  
Frederick Kolbeck
- 20 Richard Jones  
Charles Maslin  
Walter Ogden

## Past Exalted Rulers

1972-73	Marvin D. Smith *	2001-02	John D'Ambrogio
1973-74	Erie Pittman, PDDGER	2002-03	Don Booker
1974-75	Richard Flake *	2003-04	Greg Metzgas, PDDGER, DL
1975-76	Bill Wagner *	2004-05	Jay Block *
1976-77	John E Henry *	2005-06	Sally Claunch *
1977-78	Robert McKee, PDDGER*	2006-07	David Naccarata
1978-79	Frank J Rindone PDDGER*	2007-08	Catherine Koeritz
1979-80	Edward F Stogsdell *	2008-09	George Meehan *
1980-81	Frank "Tex" Hastie *	2009-10	Terry Gicking, PDDGER
1981-82	Robert Hardy *	2010-11	Harry Brockwell *
1982-83	A John Nichols *	2011-12	Steve Smith
1983-84	John Nau	2012-13	Leo Rodriguez
1984-85	Vern Ogden *	2013-14	Terry Baker
1985-86	Dan Snyder	2014-15	Dan Martyn
1986-87	Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, PDL, PSP	2015-16	Jim Moye
1987-88	John E Henry *	2016-17	Mike Flannery
1988-89	Ted Lipka ^	2017-18	Jean Miraglia
1990-91	Don Ansell *	2018-19	Karen Martyn
1991-92	Gary Sleight *	2019-20	Dan Hoffman
1992-93	Tom Ryder, PDDGER	2020-21	Dan Martyn
1993-94	Jim Wallace *		*Deceased
1994-95	George Pekow *		
1995-096	Gil Riding, PDDGER		
1996-97	Jack Loughran *		
1997-98	John Kelly *		
1998-99	Chet Kozlowski		
1999-20	Richard Goldner, PDDGER		
2000-01	Jacob Panczak		

By Affiliation  
1981-82 Robert Thornton\*, PDDGER  
2001-02 Bill Sternberg  
2009-10, 13-14, 18-19 Grace Vega  
1999-00 Ralph Vester \*  
1983-04, 02-03 Harold  
Constantine

## Lodge Temporary Hours Thurs-Fri 4Pm-8PM, Sat 2PM-6PM

### June Birthdays Cont.

- 21 Steve Harrison
- 22 James Allen  
Gregory Johnson  
Steve McKee
- 23 Darren Wood
- 24 Scott Dool  
Shirste Gessler  
Anita Gorino  
Virginia Grindley
- 25 Howard Johnson
- 28 Martin Uskali
- 29 George Hees
- 30 James Horning



### Membership Report

As of 4/1/2021 our membership is 416. We have 64 delinquent members. Average age 67.26. In case you had not heard we did have a soft opening for Mother's Day Brunch, and it was received very well. The House Committee worked extremely hard to get us up to speed and I appreciate that the mask wearing was not an issue. With the reopening and the starting of Lodge meetings again, the 64 that owe the dues will come through for us.



Image by Bing

# Elks Care – Elks Share

## Sickness and Distress

**Alex Rogers**, Committee Chair, Home number: 805-492-3280, Cell: 805-427-3013

**Ron Watkins** had surgery for a broken arm following a fall off his horse after Mother’s Day Celebration. **John Leadam** home from the hospital. June could need help with meals. Call first or arrange with **Lynn**

**Rodriguez. Michael Callahan** home after hospitalization from a bone infection. **Trina & Billy Williams** lost Trina’s father, **Harold “Bob” Wolf** on 4/29/2021. Keep them in your prayers

## Applications FOR Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
Geary Carr	Marketing	David Naccarato
Robert Bemis	Math Teacher	Gary Berg
Dennis Shepard	Floral Supply	Mike Frizzel
Gina Stone	Realtor	Timi Vaughn
Alfonso Centanni	Project Manager	Brian Williams
John Martin	Automotive manager	Brian Williams

## Lodge Activities

The Thousand Oaks Elks has had a great ongoing “open to the public”, every Saturday BBQ following the reopening after COVID closures of June 2020. The BBQ is well attended and continues to be highly successful and helps to sustain the financial status of the Lodge. We also provide BBQ lunches to nurses and hospital staff at Los Robles Hospital monthly. Other activities that the members of #2477 have participated in are Operation Snowflake, Senior at Christmas. We have had Friday night “Grab & Go” meals for members. Those profits are funding our donations to Major Project and ENF. The PER’s sponsored a St. Patrick’s Day corned beef and cabbage meal. There were raffle tickets and baskets to be won! The Lodge opened up this past weekend with the Konejo Kampers sponsoring our Mother’s Day breakfast! Moving forward and easing into official reopening with COVID compliance, the Lodge Club room will be open on Thursday, May 13, for the weekend for member servicing. We will continue to plan and fill our calendar of events as much as members want to participate. We will continue events for our community charities, Major Project, and ENF.

Fraternally, **Sheryl Holloway** Lodge Activities Chair



Dan Hoffman’s Purple Pig Chili Dinner sent contributions to the major project. Thank you, **Dan and Sandy**

## Just Notes

I want to take the opportunity to give you a heads up about the next few months. June 15<sup>th</sup> appears to be the date that California government will relax most of the Covid restrictions placed upon our Lodge.

Standing in the way of opening the bar for more hours and days is the lack of staff. We will hold a House Committee meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup> 7pm, come and hear the dialogue about this and other important agenda items.

We have not held an open Lodge Meeting for over a year, we will on May 26<sup>th</sup> 7pm, focused on our missing members. May 25<sup>th</sup> 7pm, New Members Orientation and May 27<sup>th</sup> 7pm, a good old fashion Initiation.

June we will be back to the second and fourth Wednesday’s meetings. Flag and Father’s Day events. Gayle and I have the honor of representing Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge # 2477 at Grand Lodge Convention, this year in Tampa Bay. Terry Gicking as a two-time PDDGER is also going to Tampa. Gragg Metzgas PDDGER will be in charge during my absents. Let us know how we are doing!!!

# Committees for the 2021-2022 Year

Please volunteer for a committee or Lead one. Please note openings.

## Responsible to the Exalted Ruler

### *Antler Antics*

Editor & Email Distribution: Gayle Platt  
Proofreader: Gayle Platt  
USPS Mailings: Juanita Fenster  
Website: Kira Wagner PER  
Grants Coordinator: David Naccarato PER  
Barbeque: Steve Kerman  
Photography: Jill Williams  
Protocol: Terry Gicking and David Naccarato  
Presiding Justice: John Moran  
Lodge Room Setup: Bill Joseph

Membership: David Naccarato PER  
Investigation: John Betancourt, Alex Rogers  
Orientation: Terry Gicking PER, PDDGER  
Auditing & Accounting: Art Garcia  
Lapsed and Strayed Elks: PERS  
**Maintenance: Needed**  
Grounds: Brian Williams & Richard Ibarra  
Facilities: Dean Reichle & Jeff Conyers  
Greeters: Dorothy Murray & Kathy Moyer  
PER Association President: Jean Miraglia PER  
**Youth Appreciation Night: Needed**

## Responsible to Leading Knight

Bar Liaison: Dan Hoffman, PER  
Community Activities: Terry Gicking  
Major Projects/Purple Pig: Dan Hoffman PER  
Bequests & Living Trusts: Art Garcia  
Elks National Foundation: ENF Grace Vega PER

Christmas Tree Lot: Carlos Muzquiz  
Christmas Basket Program: Terry Gicking  
Sickness and Distress: Alex Rogers  
Charity Matters: Terry Gicking PDDGER, PER  
El Konejo Kampers: Shirte Gessler

## Responsible to the Loyal Knight

Kitchen Operations: John Betancourt  
Lodge Activities: Sheryl Holloway  
Flag Day/ Flag Retirement: John Betancourt  
Government Relations: John Betancourt  
Elks Memorial Service: Rita Dacorsi  
Veteran Services: Tom Ryder PDDGER, PER

Calendar: John Betancourt  
Mediator: Rick Rodgers  
Mother's Day: Rita Dacorsi  
Inaugural Ball: **Needed**  
Law Enforcement/Firefighters: Paul Stein  
Public Relations: Lyssa Wright

## Responsible to the Lecturing Knight

Youth Activities: Ron Watkins  
Hoop Shoot: **Needed**  
Drug Awareness: **Needed**  
Scholarship: Reem Agel

Scouting: Greg Metzger  
Americanism: **Needed**  
Dictionary Program: Steve Woodlief  
Youth Appreciation: **Needed**

# HELP Us Serve Our Community Better



# Mother's Day Brunch

(Lodge Soft Opening)

Mother's Day Brunch was a complete success. The Officers and Trustees want to thank the Kampers, Rita Dacorsi, Jill Williams, Kathy Moyer, and Grace Vega for their efforts to make this day memorable. Terry Gicking, Leading Knight, led the service. We even were able to open the bar with a limited menu. Our new bartender, Jared, is working out well. He enjoyed the festivities.

Do you recognize these folks enjoying Mother's Day Brunch at the Lodge?



Thank You, Jill for the photos

## Help Still Needed

We still need a bartender; we have one but need additional bar staffing to be able to move forward with more hours and days of service. If you know of anyone looking for work as a bartender, please pass that information on to Terry Gicking or Dan Hoffman so we can make the **Lodge Better** for all.



Photo provided by Bing



### **First Lady's Message**

### **Elk of the Month**

When the going gets tough, the tough get going. That statement defines our Elk of the Month, **Tom Baldrige**. A Veteran member of our Lodge. Tom cooks Friday night dinners with his better half, works on the BBQ team, sponsors new members, and when faced with the substantial job of deep cleaning our kitchen, walked into the Lodge, and said what do you want me to do?

Thanks, in no small measure, that cleaning, permitted us to open. Tom was not the only member cleaning, many others labored long and hard, but Tom's infectious smile and can-do attitude, stood out! As has been said many times in history, Well Done Marine, Semper Fidelis! Thank you for your service.



This coming month we celebrate two holidays. June 14<sup>th</sup> is Flag Day. It is a time when our flag is honored. Display yours in front of your house. The Star-Spangled Banner was written as a poem by Francis Scott Key, a lawyer, during the War of 1812 against the British. He was overlooking a battle scene in Baltimore Harbor with mortars going off and the battle raging, yet our flag flew over Ft. McHenry. It was made our National Anthem during FDR's Administration. It can be viewed today at the National Archives Museum on the Mall in Washington, DC. Our Lodge will be retiring worn flags on Sunday June 13<sup>th</sup>. Listen for the Call Multiplier for the exact time. Please give any flags needing to be retired to David Naccarato in the Office,

The next holiday this month is Father's Day, June 20<sup>th</sup>. I am certain we can all think of great things you did with your dads. Dads come in all packages, and he does not even have to be your biological father. **Richard** had a special man in his family known simply as Uncle Father. He was his uncle that took the place of his Marine father who was fighting during WWII and the Korean War. It is your Dad's Day, take him to dinner, have a BBQ, call him on the phone if he is far away. Do not buy him a tie, he probably doesn't need another one. He is the only dad you will ever have.

Photos provided by **Bing**

