

# Antler Antics



## Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks

### Message from The Exalted Ruler, Richard Platt



Hello All,

Well, Gayle and I did go to Tampa Florida for the **Elks National Convention**. Some things were just as any convention should be. The General Business Meetings went off on time, mostly. We voted on 15 resolutions the second day; you can view the vote at **Elk.org**. We had a dinner for the incoming DDGER **David Martin**, and at the same time thanked and said good bye to our outgoing DD, **Ed Martin**. The night that “Elsa” hit Tampa, at our dinner we declared ourselves the **Hurricane 12**, food was good, but the restaurant closed at eight PM. Most of the Tampa people we met were decked out in blue hockey gear, remember it is in the 90s, temperature and humidity. I did get up that night, reportedly when the storm was going to thump Tampa. Just to be able to say I was in a hurricane, but all I saw was rain, lots of rain.

We had to meet each morning at 6:30AM. We went to Convention by bus, dressed in the California Blue Coat. Once inside the California Elks could be noted all over the floor. The floor of the Convention Center had over 6,000 seats, the room was sizeable. We were seated by ENF contributions, so California, the largest delegation was seated in the back rows. One time when size works against you. Smaller states with the same per capital were up front? No one could explain that.

Going to the convention, Gayle and I got bumped off our flight, twice. Coming home we went from Tampa to Seattle. Once in Seattle we were only bumped one time, due to a maintenance issue. We had booked direct flights, flying time of almost five hours each and ended up with two one stop flights, both 8 to 10 hours. We missed our grandsons getting Hoop Shoot awards at the Youth Appreciation and Scholarship Dinner. **Reem Agel** did an outstanding job, as well as all who helped cook, serve, as well as all the task needed to pull off such an event.

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### ***Message from the Leading Knight, Terry Gicking***

August. The beginning of the end for summer! But we live in So-Cal where it is summer almost all year round. Not like Florida, where they call themselves the sunshine state, but I was just there in Tampa for GL Convention, with ER Richard and First Lady Gayle, representing #2477 and it was anything but sunny. Rain, rain, hurricane and throw in an Elks National convention and it was a recipe for wanting to come back to the Golden State of California. Do not get me wrong, I learned a lot while I was there with our District, but they can have that heat and humidity! I will take the fog along with an occasional earthquake.

While we were there, we voted on some resolutions to help update our statutes, but nothing earthshattering as far as our Lodge goes. The Elks USA are putting an emphasis on stopping the overpouring in our lounges. CHEA has been leading the way on promoting this with the state sponsored L.E.A.D.S. program, which educates our bartenders on how to properly serve and observe overpouring. Please understand that they are trying to do the job they were taught to do. We all can have a good time, but we need to be proactive in making sure we are safely serving you, our members.

In case you have missed our Robo calls, texts, and emails, our lounge is open seven days a week. The hours are M-F, 4pm to closing, which is 8p at the earliest or later if warranted. Saturday and Sunday, Noon to 6. If we are open later, it is because of a private function or a Lodge special event. The Lodge calendar will inform you when that is happening. We have 3 great bartenders (Jared, Megan and Zac) who are getting to know our members and they would love to meet and serve you.

ENF donations from our members are rapidly increasing. We jumped 100 spots in California and are now 42nd in the state in per capita. Keep up the good work. I see more members are signing up your checking account. It only takes a minute to do. You can pick the amount you want to donate, from \$10 to whatever you feel you can give. I have been donating this way for 15 years, so I do not even have to think about it. It makes for a nice cumulative total, and it has grown fast compared to my giving in my first 25 years in Elkdome. Communicate with me or Grace Vega if you have any questions.

The Purple Pig, aka the CHEA Major Project, is doing well, but we can always use a boost in donations there as well.

Our 2477 Charity Ball is just around the corner in October. We will be having a raffle to raise money for our Christmas Basket program along with a nice dinner and dance. More details to follow.

See you at the Lodge.  
Fraternally, Terry



### ***Message from the Loyal Knight, John Betancourt***

As we start the month of August, I hope all is well and life is good to you. Last month, we celebrated the **4<sup>th</sup> of July** at our Lodge and we did so by having our Pancake Breakfast. It was open to the community, as well as, our members, from 8am to 12 noon and the end results were 112 breakfasts served. Thanks goes out **Jill Williams** and her crew, **Kathy and Jim Moye, Carlos Muzquiz, Rick Gessler, Tom Baldridge and his wife,** and our cashier, **David Naccarato** for the wonderful breakfast that was cooked and served. As always, our Friday night dinners will be on tap and look to the calendar to see what is being cooked. The visit of the **AVP** will be on Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> and hope to see a great turn out of our members and dinner will be served. And as always, don't forget about our Saturday BBQ.

What makes Elks great, it is the members. Without you, we would not be a great organization. Thank you for all who give their time. Have a great and safe month and see you at the Lodge.

John Betancourt  
Loyal Knight.


### **Elk of the Month**

**William (Bill) O'Shea**, is that Elk who when things are at the lowest point, steps up when needed. **Bill** cooks the chicken on a BBQ team, when asked and able helps do the Lodge room sit up for the Quitters, Friday dinners, and when our BBQ dishwasher went down with an infection, stepped up to wash the dishes, pots, and pans for the BBQ teams. **Bill** even did the dishes for the Youth and Scholarships Dinner. Our BBQ is the life blood of this Lodge, it takes lots and lots of pots and pans to prepare the foods we sale each Saturday. When stuff needs to be done, **Bill** is usually in the center doing what others do not wish to do. Talking and joking around, lifting his brothers and sisters' spirits. He plays the juke box Saturday mornings so loud; you cannot miss the music, you feel it. **Bill** is that Elk all lodges cannot do without!!! Thank you, **Bill**, again and again, you have well-earned this Elk of the Month honor.



**Message from the Lecturing Knight, Ron Watkins**

Ahoy Elksdom!

It was so exciting when **Timi Vaughn**, a new member was drawn in the second capsule drawing for \$150 in  cash! Just a positive perk to be at the meetings. \$500 is up for grabs, for a member drawn who is present!

The Friday night dinners have been awesome. We had a new Friday night dinner team prepare BBQ pork chops added to the already phenomenal other Friday night dinners. Do not miss this great opportunity to support your Lodge and fellowship with all the members, God knows we all need it after the Covid quarantine.

We are still looking for chair positions for Americanism, Youth Activities and Drug Awareness.

August 10<sup>th</sup>, our Lodge will be hosting a Gold Awards Night for Girl Scout Troop 60894. Gold Awards are the equivalent to the Boy Scout's Eagle Scout. Let us support our future world leaders!

**Youth Awards Banquet**

Again, **Reem Agel** produced a wonderful Awards Night for our Youth. Spaghetti and Meatball dinners for all.

Hoop Shoot Awards from 2020 were given out. Winners were **Trevor Rice** and **Logan Rice**. Next year Hoop Shoot will be the bailiwick of **Duke Kocpaz**. Looking forward to a good turnout in January.

Scholarship award winners were introduced to the Lodge and their achievements delineated for all to admire. The Conejo Valley is incredibly lucky to have these young people in our midst. 2020 winners: **Niki Golch, Emily Nagamoto, Kyla Kowalski, Cayden Covarrubias, Kyle Wonders, Noah DeVico**. 2021 Winners: **Niloufar Golchimi, Mya Collins, Sruthi Ranger, Soloman Anderson, Evan Geft, and Joshua Burstein**. Congrats all!

First Place Lodge Scholarship Winner 2021 with Scholarship Chair Reem Agel



**Message from The Lodge Secretary, David Naccarato**

**Around the Lodge**

Things are getting back to normal. We are catching up slowly, but surely. **Jill Williams** is cooking up a storm. She and **Carlos** fed lunch for "teachers' appreciation" across the street. Lunches for the Quilters are back, BBQ's and Youth appreciation. **Lynn Rodriguez** has **Bunco** going monthly and **John Puckett** challenges anyone to a **Dart Tournament** Tuesday night. **Rick Herrera** still handling the CRV drive to fund Scholarships for our youth, **Reem Agel**, chair. **Gerry Gillies** busy cleaning up years of junk, selling the metal and turning in the money for the general fund. He also, with the help of collection, by **Bobby Williams** and **Paul Stein** are collecting the aluminum pull tabs and turning them in to Reynolds Aluminum who in turn gives the **Ronald McDonald House** cents per tab. **Gerry** ran up all our unretying flags to the VFW in Ventura who buries them with a veteran. We on site can only retire cotton flags, already had the fire Department down for too much smoke. Our RV site has been busy, and our **Blood Drive** July 18<sup>th</sup> set up by **Jim Moyer**. We will be hosting a **Girl Scouts Gold Award** ceremony. That is the girls equivalent to **Boys Eagle Scout**. This is on August 10<sup>th</sup> 6-8 come out and support.

Association Vice President (AVP) visits the Lodge August 4<sup>th</sup>. Come have dinner with us. Be sure to **RSVP**. August 15<sup>th</sup> is an Elks Memorial for **Tommy Claunch**. An Elk is never forgotten, never forsaken.

**A little more background**

The last article was cut off, with a stray Elks list from Grand Lodge **Dick Flake** called for a meeting at the Los Robles Inn to find out if there is enough interest in starting a Lodge in Thousand Oaks, unknown to everyone, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 1972, was the night of the big meeting. That same morning was the day of the big earthquake. Freeway passes were down, and one's own safety came first. Attendance at that Los Robles meeting was not what Dick and others had hoped for, but it was enough.

With all Lodge's finances are always in question and needing seed money to get started, a bottle was up for auction, and it was auctioned until everyone had contributed \$50 bucks. That same tradition is copied today. PER **Erle Pittman** worked with **Dick Flake** to get the Lodge under way. Many restaurants frowned on fund raising inside their establishment, so the guys started meeting in a tack room of **John Farhat**, a member of Culver City Elks, who lived in Lynn Ranch. We receive dispensation from Grand Lodge for the number of charter members to start a new lodge is 300. We had 252. Phone committees were formed to come up with the 252 members and they outgrew the tack room. A building was located behind the Moose Lodge on off Skyline DR that was owned by a gentleman who also became a Charter Member. With a cigarette lighter they inspected the building and thought it would be great. Anything to attract new candidates. February 1972, the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge was chartered and then instituted on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1972. Oxnard Lodge sponsored us and performed the Institution ceremony in the gym at Thousand Oaks High School. Remember, the party of the year March 25, 2022, **50th Year Anniversary** of our Lodge. We need your input. **Next month The Charter Members**, we had high ranking members of the city council as members. Many thanks to Tom Ryder PDDGER for the research of the origin of the Lodge.

David Naccarato, Lodge Secretary

## Officers 2021-2022

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

## *Americanism*

If you fly the American flag at your home or office that is lit we want to know about it. We want to present you with a certificate from the BPOElks to show your patriotism.

Contact **David Naccarato**,  
 Lodge Secretary and take a picture with your phone and send it to [toelks2477@gmail.com](mailto:toelks2477@gmail.com).

## 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 Metzgus, 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 Sleigh *	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	By Affiliation	
1996-97	Jack Loughran *	1981-82	Robert Thornton*,
	PDDGER		
1997-98	John Kelly *	2001-02	Bill Sternberg
1998-99	Chet Kozlowski *	2009-10, 13-14, 18-19	Grace Vega
1999-20	Richard Goldner, PDDGER	1999-00	Ralph Vester *
2000-01	Jacob Panczak	1983-04, 02-03	Harold Constantine

## Lodge Hours

Monday-Friday	Noon to 8/? PM
Saturday-Sunday	Noon – 6PM
Office Hours	Tues-Thurs 10AM-3PM

Father's Day Ceremony



Father's Day Cooks, Bless them for work



# Elks Care – Elks Share

## Sickness and Distress

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

**Diana Metzger** broke her hip. This led to medical personnel finding a tumor in her back, that may not have been discovered. **Jim Moyer** injured himself repairing pool equipment himself. **Dawn Ibarra**, **Richard's** wife, had Gall Bladder surgery. **Sybil**, **John Duhig's** wife fell and was hospitalized. **Art Garcia** has a lung infection. **John Leadman** in the hospital for heart issues. **Ron Watkins** had his cast removed. His father fell and was in the hospital. **Faye Stevens**, non-member, but Great BBQ rib cutter, gall bladder surgery.

## *In Memoriam*

“To our absent members”  
An Elk is never forgotten,  
never forsaken.  
#1431 Life Member  
**Bill Small**  
Born 7/13/1930  
Initiated 1/24/1990  
Died 6/26/2021

## Applications for Membership.

Name	Occupation	Sponsor
<b>Ted Montoya</b>	HVAC	<b>Carl Alaniz</b>
<b>Diane Letulier</b>	Quick books	<b>James Coon</b>



## Polyester Flags

Flags made of polyester must be disposed of in an appropriate manner. Ventura County Fire Dept. will not let us burn them. **Gerry Gillies** took boxes of these flags to the VFW in Ventura to be buried with fallen veterans. Please buy cotton flags



*A Coin a Day so they can  
Walk, Talk, See and Play!*

## Purple Pig Honor Roll

Johnny Gin  
Gregg and Jean  
Miraglia  
Darryl Kopacz  
Bobby Williams  
Bill Joseph  
Everyone at  
6/23/21 meeting



## Recurring Donors

Reem Agel  
David Anderson  
Art Garcia  
Terry Gicking  
Gerry Gillies  
Dan Hoffman  
Peter Gordon  
Brenda Hagen  
Inger Hogan  
Sheryl Holloway  
Ed Lees  
Greg Metzger  
Richard Platt  
Alexandra Rogers  
Greg Sweet  
Lyssa Wright

Special Thanks to the Grand Lodge website, Chea website, Oceano website, and **Jill Williams** for providing photographs for this issue of the Antler

## Crying Towel

6/9/2021  
1<sup>st</sup> capsule draw \$500 **Jim Horning**-not present  
2<sup>nd</sup> capsule drawing \$150 **John Duhig**- not present  
Lucky 13 \$150 **John Betancourt**-present and paid  
6/23/2021  
1<sup>st</sup> capsule draw \$500 **Dean Curtis**-not present  
2<sup>nd</sup> capsule draw \$175 **Victoria Novak**- delinquent  
2<sup>nd</sup> capsule redraw \$175 New member **Timi Vaughn**  
-present and paid.  
Lucky 13 \$15 **Terry Gicking**- L for love.



Support our Foundation by donating online. You could give through the Lodge, but the *only* difference when you donate online is how quickly your gift helps others.

Donate to the Elks National Foundation online at [enf.elks.org/MyLodge](https://enf.elks.org/MyLodge)

**Lodge Awards Night 2018-2019, 2019-2020,**



## **Convention Resolutions**

Resolution	Description	Pass/Failed
2021-1	To return to the Laws of the Order the requirement that a Local Lodge conduct a long form Initiatory Ritual for the District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler at the time of his/her official visit	<b>Failed</b>
2021-2	To allow Local Lodge Past Exalted Rulers Associations to incorporate For the purpose of raising, receiving, and distributing funds for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes that are supported by its Lodge, State Association, and/or Grand Lodge.	<b>Failed</b>
2021-3	To require incorporated Local Lodge Past Exalted Rulers Associations to obtain Grand Lodge approval before taking certain actions	<b>Failed</b>
2021-4	To allow Local Lodge Past Exalted Rulers Associations to incorporate for the purpose of charitable fundraising.	<b>Failed</b>
2021-5	To clarify that the Grand Exalted Ruler shall have the authority to remove any officer of a corporation formed pursuant to the new Section 16.035 who neglects the duties of his office, or is guilty of Contumacy or conduct injurious to the Order.	<b>Failed</b>
2021-6	To allow a Lodge to provide for a waiver of dues and fees of an Applicant who is current or former Elks scholarship recipient with a goal of encouraging membership.	<b>Passed</b>
2021-7	To allow the Grand Exalted Ruler to grant full membership in the Grand Lodge to Past Exalted Rulers, otherwise qualified, who are prevented from attending a Grand Lodge Convention by reason of the convention having been canceled or in the event a convention fails for lack of a quorum.	<b>Passed</b>
2021-8	To codify the policy of preventing the over service of alcohol and to require Local Lodges to establish a House Rule consistent with therewith.	<b>Passed</b>
2021-9	To clarify the burden of proof and standard of review in the case of an appeal from the Executive Order.	<b>Passed</b>

2021-10	To codify fair process practices that are currently being followed in Those circumstances where the rights of the members, Lodges, State Associations, or officers of any entity formed under the Laws of Order may be impacted.	<b>Passed</b>
2021-11	To delete the requirement that the Lodge Secretary prepare the November membership report is now automatically generated and submitted through CLMS, and to eliminate the requirement that the Lodge Secretary give bond if the Grand Lodge Insurance Program provides coverage.	<b>Passed</b>
2021-12	To eliminate that the Lodge Treasurer give bond if the Grand Lodge Insurance Program provides such coverage.	<b>Passed</b>
2021-13	To clarify the duties and responsibilities of the Grand Lodge Auditing and Accounting Committee and the duties and responsibilities of the Local Lodge Auditing and Accounting Committee as a result of the use of the new Grand Lodge online Financial Reporting System (FRS).	<b>Passed</b>
2021-14	To allow District Deputies to appointed to Districts other than their Home District.	<b>Passed</b>
2021-15	To increase the amount subject to immediate distribution by the Trustees in the event of the liquidation of a Lodge in order to avoid administrative expense associated with the maintenance of nominal trust funds. ( <i>Elks Convention News</i> , July 7, 2021)	<b>Passed</b>

Should you require more information on these resolutions, please go to [Elks.org](http://Elks.org) website for further review of the issues.

### ~~Elks.org Birthdays~~

- |                          |                  |                    |                     |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <del>Greg Ryder-11</del> | August Birthdays | Greg Ryder-11      | Jesse Garcia-23     |
| Erle Pittman-01          |                  | Jason Frase-12     | Susan Williams-23   |
| Janine Van Poppelen-01   |                  | Mike Violano-13    | Myrna Block-26      |
| Alfonso Centanni-02      |                  | Jan King-14        | Bill Burmeister-26  |
| Max Maxwell-02           |                  | Brian Williams-14  | Barry Leafman-26    |
| Harold Constantine-04    |                  | Art Garcia-17      | Gary Berg-28        |
| Stephen Hearst-04        |                  | Adelaide Knapp-17  | John Getzvein-28    |
| Suzanne Malvitz-04       |                  | Don Skinner-17     | Gilbert Riding-31   |
| Joe Medrono-04           |                  | Jane Watson-21     | Daniel Kozlowski-31 |
| Shawn Kerkhoff-06        |                  | Jerry Humphries-21 |                     |
| John Lombardi-06         |                  | Luz Herrera-22     |                     |
| Louis Reis-06            |                  | Rich Lucarello-22  |                     |





# 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: Gayle Platt

Proofreading: Gayle Platt

USPS Mailing: David Naccarato

Website: Kira Wagner PER

Grants Coordinator: David Naccarato PER

BBQ: Steve Kerman

Photography: Jill Williams

Protocol: Terry Gicking & David Naccarato PERS

Presiding Judge: John Moran

Lodge Room Setup: Bill Joseph

Youth Appreciation Night: Reem Agel

Membership: David Naccarato PER

Investigation: John Betancourt, Alex Rogers,  
Diane Jones

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 Moye

PER Association: Jim Moye PER

## Responsible to the Leading Knight

Bar Liaison: Dan Hoffman PER

Community Activities: Terry Gicking PER, PDDGER

Major Project/Purple Pig: Dan Hoffman PER

Bequests & Living Trusts: Art Garcia

Elks National Foundation: Grace Vega PER

Christmas Tree Lot: Carlos Muzquiz

Christmas Baskets: Terry Gicking PER, PDDGER

Sickness & Distress: Alex Rogers

Charity Matters: Terry Gicking PER, PDDGER

El Konejo Kampers: Shirste 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's Services: Tom Ryder PER PDDGER

Calendar: John Betancourt

Mediator: Rick Rodgers

Mother's Day: Rita Dacorsi

Inaugural Ball: **Needed**

Law Enforcement/Fire fighters: Paul Stein

Public Relations: Lyssa Wright

## Responsible to the Lecturing Knight

Youth Activities: Ron Watkins

Hoop Shoot: Duke Kopacz

Drug Awareness: **Needed**

Scholarship: Reem Agel

Scouting: Greg Metzgas

Americanism: **Pending**

Dictionary Program: Steve Woodlief

Youth Appreciation: Reem Agel

**HELP Us Serve Our  
Community Better**

### ***First Lady's View of the National Convention***

Off to a bad start! A 2AM telephone call told us our original flight had been canceled, but had been rescheduled for a one stop, LA to Seattle, then on to Tampa. Does that make sense? We get to the airport early. As we are checking in our bags, guess what? The Seattle leg was canceled. A terrific agent arranged for us to fly on a different airline. They gave us a voucher for a LAX hotel and a meal. Now it was time for us to change hotel reservations and plans.

Next flight required us to be at the airport at 4AM. When we left the hotel, no humans were in sight except a homeless man smoking a joint sitting under a canopy. We took the shuttle and got on our new flight on United, LA to Houston, change planes, then on to Tampa. NO food available. Either on the planes or in the airport. First flight was on a B757. We were packed in like sardines. We were supposed to have bulkhead seats because of the ER's recent knee replacement. Did not happen. Second flight on an Airbus was nice. No bulkhead seats but 2 feet more leg room. We met a fantastic group of young ladies, late teens, competing in a soccer tournament in Sarasota. They were giggly and kept meeting us on our planes with smiles, hellos, and good wishes. It was like being a teacher again. We wished them good luck! Best part of our day!

The next day on to the **Kennedy Space Center**. It is a fantastic place to visit. So many memories for we old folks. On the way we found the **American Police Museum**. Naturally, we had to stop. Everything from Police Officer of the Year to a memorial to K-9 officers. By the way, **Richard** knew one of the Officers of the Year. Went to a Cracker Barrel for dinner. That is a late lunch or early dinner. Just dinner! Fantastic Lemonade.

Next day up to see friends in St Augustine. Toured the historic city. Saw quite a lot. Learned a lot. Saw where President Lyndon Johnson signed the **Civil Rights Act of 1964**. **Henry Flagler** built several Churches for various denominations, including a large contribution to the Roman Catholic Cathedral. The rest of the day, not so hot, the hotel lost our reservation, we decided to drive back to Tampa. Siri sent us an obtuse route

and finally asked for assistance from a trucker at a gas station. He was right on. We were then confronted with intermittent rain downpours, the kind you cannot see 2 feet in front of the car. Got a quick hotel near the entrance to **Disney World**. Had Pizza at Uno's and found out their gluten free crust is from the Venice Bakery and can be ordered from Amazon. It tastes great! Just ordered some.

Met a nice man from **Vista Lodge** on the elevator. One of my brother's favorite places to camp because they are so nice and friendly. I bought an umbrella and never used it. I guess carrying an umbrella stops the rain. Did this while **David Martin** DDGER, **Terry** and **Richard** bought supplies for the hospitality room. We had the only car.

We could see the fireworks from our hotel window. It was difficult to tell the difference between the fireworks and the lightning and thunder.

Off to the Salvador Dali Museum with the new DDGER's wife, **Jackie**. Fresh Grouper sandwich in St. Petersburg's marina. Downpour and then awaited a **Tropical Storm/Hurricane Elsa**.

A day with the **Antler** layout. Special dinner at an offsite restaurant, **Harpoon Harrys**, celebrating our new DDGER, **David Martin** from Atascadero. The airport was closed.

Attended the final Session with **Richard**. People were checking out of the hotel. They hoped to get their flights home. We went to an English Pub for dinner. It was crazy since it was near the arena that the finals of the Stanley Cup (Hockey) were being played. Tampa won. Everyone there were wearing Lightning Bolts jerseys. Signs everywhere saying **GO BOLTS**.

The next morning, we drove to Crystal River to see the manatees. They are so ugly cute. We had lunch at a great fish restaurant and went on a tour of the area. Saw a huge mama in the grasses. She even came toward the boat. Did you know they are nearly blind and are often being cut by boat propellers? The wound heals but a scar remains forever. King's Bay was murky because of **Hurricane Elsa** and the tide was high. She was feeding on grasses that are usually on land.

The next morning, we got on our 12-hour flight and delays home. Remember we were routed through Seattle. When there, the plane had maintenance issues. We were put on another plane and flew home to miss the Youth Appreciation Night. The end.

#### **National Convention in Tampa Florida and more:**

- **Hurricane Elsa**
- **Stanley Cup Championship**
- **Got to know our DDGER's wife well**

**Support the Purple Pig**

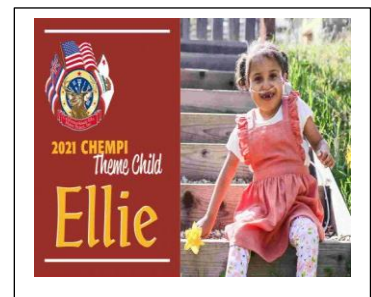
**Kris Picard**, AVP 2021-2022, West Central Coast District



**Brandy “Kris” Picard**, our AVP, will be making an official visit to our Lodge on Wednesday, August 6, 2021. We will be serving our famous BBQ. Dinner will be at approximately 6:30PM. Please make reservations with the office if plan to attend.

**Kris** has been a teacher for many years and is especially interested in the therapists the Purple Pig funds. The therapists treat those children who fall through the cracks in the medical system. They do vision screening. There are therapists that do occupational and physical therapy. They travel thousands of miles all over the States of California and Hawaii each year to assist these children with their individual issues. They make it possible for children to walk, talk, see and play.

Please come and support our Lodge on this visit from our AVP. She is a member of the Simi Lodge nearby.



## Junk

When you are downsizing, please **do not** bring things to the Lodge because you think someone can use them. **Gerry Gillies** stated: "To quote our Secretary from last month's *Antler*, 'If it's junk to you, it's junk to us.' We have just cleaned out the Lodge office and storage units of accumulated stuff from over the years. **Please no more stuff (junk).**

## Happy Fourth of July Breakfast at the Lodge

Open to the community our Lodge had a pancake breakfast for our members our neighbors. Pancakes, eggs, bacon, and sausage prepared by the likes of **Jim** and **Kathy Moye** and **Carlos Muzquiz**. Many of our Lodge participants and neighbors such as Vietnam Vet, Berle Spurlock. A good time was had by all.

Thank you, **Acorn**, for posting such wonderful pictures of this event.

Rock Painting at the Elks



Fish Fry Dining



## EL Konejo Kampers on the Move

In June, the El Konejo Kampers stayed at the Santa Barbara Elks Lodge. What a fun Lodge, all the Elks there are so friendly. Their food is great too!

Friday was a golf day for the guys, the ladies stayed at the Lodge and played dice. On Saturday, we all went to lunch at a restaurant close by called the Nugget. We sat outside on the patio and enjoyed the warm weather.

In July, we are headed north again to the Oceano Lodge. Hopefully, it will be a little cooler close to the beach!

Thank you to several of the Kampers who helped cook the Father's Day Breakfast. Even though it was not a Kampers event, everyone did an awesome job. We got so many compliments that the food was great.

We will be having a Kampers meeting on August 1<sup>st</sup> at noon at the Lodge. Please note the time/date change. The hope is we can stay cool and have our meeting in the Lodge Room. Hope to see you there!

