







ANTICS

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Editor, Jerry Serota

May 2003

GREGMETZGUS

"Scouting for Elks and Elks for Scouting"



EXALTED RULER, 2003-2004 Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477

2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN



2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

ANTLERANTICS: Jerry Serota, Editor NEWFACILITIES: TomRyder, DDGER HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK: Jerry Serota GREETERS: Jack Loughran, PER PUBLIC RELATIONS: Jerry Serota BUILDING MAINT.:



PARLIAMENTARIAN: BillLloyd, PDDGER, DL LODGE VISITATIONS: Jack Loughran, PER BBQ WAGON: Lee Grindle AUDITING: TomRyder, DDGER ELKS TRAINING: John D'Ambrogio, PER BEQUESTS & LIVING TRUSTS:

I would like to thank everyone that made the installation of our 2003-2004 Lodge Officers such a fine evening. The BBQ crew prepared a great meal and what better way for Bob MacFarlane and I to spend our birthdays.

Thank you also to Jay, Myrna and everyone else that made our Inaugural Ball a success. Barbara and I were very honored to be the center of attention along with all of our incoming officers.

By the time you have read this, ritual contest for this year will be history. Our (hour) entire team has been working hard. I would especially like to thank our (hour) coaches, Gil Riding, Richard Goldner, Jack Loughran and Jacob Panczak for all of their time.

The month of May will be a very busy month. Elks youth week will be May 5th thru May 11th. The youth recognition night will be on the 7th of May. At that time we will be recognizing the fine work of the youth of our community. Recognition includes scholarship awards, scouting awards and special recognition of our own Junior Elks. We will also be supporting CVD with our Streaker Dog Wagon, working the front and rear gates, participation in the parade and of course, Special Kids Day. Don't be surprised if you do not see your officers at CVD. We will be at the lodge meeting opening day, practicing ritual the following day and off to Ritual Contest in Lompoc for the balance of that weekend. West Central Coast District of the Elks did not take CVD into account when they made the calendar this year.

One of the goals of our officers this year is to make a decision on what our long term plans are for a new lodge building. I am committed to coming to a decision by the end of the year on what we plan to do. Our membership deserves a physical facility that reflects the enthusiasm and devotion we have toward Elkdom. Several plans are on the table as I write this article. We are first going to decide how we are to finance the project and then move ahead so that we can see a new building in the near future. Stay tuned.

I am looking forward to the year, there is a lot planned by our officers and just 12 months to make it all happen. With your support we will have a very successful and fun year.



FIRST LADY'S CORNER

Barbara Metzgus, FL

The installation for new ladies officers was a great evening of fun, fellowship and good food, thanks to Tom Ryder and crew. Also,

thank you to our Elk officers who served the meal. Thank you to Elaine Goldner and speakers for a well-informed meeting for the Incoming Officers wives.

Chet Kozlowski, PER

The Inaugural Ball was an evening of enchantment, a big thanks to Jay and Myrna and their helpers for the Incoming Officers night at the Inaugural Ball.

My family would like to say thank you for all the card and flowers we received in the passing of my mother.

Thanks to all, First Lady Barbara



(L-R) Installation of Officers 2003-04, Tom Ryder, DDGER, Greg Metzgus, Exalted Ruler, MCEE, Bob MacFarlane, Don Booker, Jr. PER, Richard Goldner, PER and installing officer



EDITORS CORNER

Jerry Serota, Editor jserota497@earthlink.net THE BEST LAID PLANS

We don't know who made the quote "The best laid plans of mice and men", well our

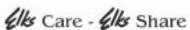
best laid plans were foiled because of rain. In the planning we had Darren Ziegler and Larry Michell of Paradise Automotive fine tune our train and make it child proof with a new ignition switch; temperature guage and welded our trailer to accomodate our Elkomotive #2477 for the Ventura Elks Lodge, St. Patricks Day parade.

God did not oblige us and sent over two inches of rain to cancel their parade. Our plea to all the Irish at the meeting was pray for sunshine but we guess God did not hear us. In any event we are now ready for the CVD Parade May 3; the Santa Maria Parade June 7; Ventura is going to have another parade August 2nd in honor of the Ventrura County Fair and the Simi Parade September 21st.

As you know it takes money to sell Elkdom and Disabled Children to the community. So please when you pay your dues remember your \$25 renewal of membership in our Elkomotive #2477 Maintenance Fund. When you see our train come down the parade route you can take a measure of pride that you had a hands on part of making it happen.

Our Exalted Rulers motto for the year 2003-'04 is "Scouting for Elks and Elks for Scouting". 'Be Prepared' is the scout motto so we will take a page out of their book and be prepared for the upcoming parades and back them up with a few prayers to the Almighty for fair skys on parade day.





GIL RIDING, PER, ELK of the YEAR 2002-03



With over 100 members and guests present Gil Riding, Past Exalted Ruler of the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 was named Elk of the Year 2002-03 for his outstanding service to the Lodge. He joined Elkdom in 1990 and after going through the chairs of office was made Exalted Ruler in 1994-95. Gil is married to Phyllis, and is the owner of Conejo Lock and Key Co. He also will be the Master of Ceremony at the Inaugural Ball.

He has served as the BBQ chairman for 7 years and still schedules outside BBQs, and is head Ritual Coach for 5 years, also maintaining the lock and security system at the Lodge.

At the district level he has been the Buisness Practices chairman for the West Central Coast District and currently the district chairman for Purple Pig the major project for disabled children.

73-74	Dick Lewis *	88-89	Vern Ogden
74-75	Ernest Harter *	89-90	Vince Bailie *
75-76	Milt Mortenson *	90-91	Don Steinhelper *
76-77	Floyd 'Frosty' Miller *	91-92	Sherwood McDonald
77-78	John Farhat *	92-93	Jeff Enger
78-79	Jack Henry	93-94	John R. Evans *
79-80	Bob Clark *	94-95	Tom Ryder
80-81	Jerry Tait	95-96	Kirk Keeler
81-82	Bob McKee	96-97	Chuck Busch
82-83	Bill Cairns	97-98	Jerry Serota
83-84	Dick Churik	98-99	Tommy Claunch
84-85	Bill Witney *	99-00	Frank Colev
85-86	Bob Cissell	00-01	Dave Pearson
86-87	Tommy Thompson *	01-02	Ken Keeler
87-88	Roy Cooper		
0. 00	220J COOP 22	02-03	Gil Riding

^{*} Gone but not forgotten

2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

LEADING KNIGHT Jay Block

2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

MAJORPROJECT/PURPLEPIG:

Joe Smith
SICKNESS AND DISTRESS: Sally Claunch
INVESTIGATION: George Meehan
ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION: Jack Malone
CHRISTMAS BASKETS: Jay & Myrna Block



INDOCTRINATION: Jack Loughran, PER MEM. CONTROL. COM.: Herb Jellander CVAC: Tom Hartin COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Jerry Serota OFFICERS ROUND TABLE: Jack Panczak CHARITY DINNERS: Jay & Myrna Block

Ahh Spring has sprung, and it is a time for growth, when all things are possible if we have a positive attitude. With the Corp of Officers the Lodge has chosen, especially our new ER, very visible changes will be noted by all. This year we have three new members in the Officer ranks, Raven West who will be our new Inner Guard, Tom Klomparens who will serve as Tiler and Jack Malone the 5th Year Trustee. We all should wish them the best, for their decision to become Officers, places them in a very small group of members. Those who willingly give of their time and efforts to serve the Lodge and participate in the setting of policy.

Personally, I want to thank all of my Chairpersons (see above) but especially the Purple Pig and ENF chairs, Joe Smith and Jack Malone, respectfully, for they have the privilege, of advancing the highest of our Elk Virtues, Charity. With these two I really expect to see some great doings for the benefit of our two causes.

I will be contacting all of the chairs to get your budgets inputs for the coming year.

At the time of this writing (i.e., early April) the officers are still looking forward to the WCCD Ritual Contest at Lompoc Lodge, during the first weekend in May. In fact we are all still practicing three days a week. But for me the best thing that happened was that I've turned the keys to the kitchen over to our new Loyal Knight Sally Claunch, wished her well and then jumped for joy.

May is a very busy month for the officers, what with the Ritual Contest, State Convention, Mothers Day, plus the general events and various VP visitations around the District. But in spite of these doings we will get the New Lodge Year off to a clean start.

That's all for now...

YOUR LEADING KNIGHT

Jay Block

NOMINATIONS FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The following members, having met the requirements outlined in Grand Lodge Statutes Section 14.260 by having been a member of the Order for at least 30 consecutive years, a member of Thousand Oaks Lodge for at least 10 years, and 65 years of age or older have requested nomination for Life Membership in the Order.

Joseph (Dick) Churik #153 Arnold (Arnie) C. Antle #293

These members will be nominated at a regular meeting of the lodge to be held on June 4, 2003 and will be balloted on at the meeting held on June 11, 2003.

MICHAEL TAM IN KUWAIT

Brother Michael is a reservist in the Seabees who was called up to active duty in the current Iraqi war. In civilian life he is in the swimming pool maintenance business.

While over there he came upon a swimming pool as shown in the picture that was dirty and filled with slime. Being the good business man he tacked one of his business cards on the wooden fence and penned in "Will travel!"



Bro. Michael would welcome our good wishes.

SW2 Tam Michael NCFS U-2 APO AE, 09855



EL KONEJO KAMPERS

Pat von Wittenburg



When some of us arrived on Thursday, we were advised the President Walter Ogden had received word that Anne's father had passed away and Walter had boarded a flight that morning for Scotland. Ooops - we were without a President or Vice President - but this is a very ingenious

group and we had no pressing business. Very few things put us out of commission. Past president Bob Hardy stepped up to the plate and everything proceeded as usual.

Ha! Ha! The Weather God thought he would do it to us again but our wagonmistress, Carol Ewald was just too smart. She had planned a tri-tip barbeque with her famous outrageous beans for Saturday night. Rain was said to be coming on Saturday and sure enough it did - by the buckets. Thursday, Friday and Sunday were absolutely gorgeous.

So we had our tri-tip barbeque Friday night. Wagonmaster Gene Ewald and Bill von Wittenburg cooked and sliced lots of tri-tip with the aid of Bill's Hobart slicer; and the side dishes were outstanding. We experienced minimal sprinkles and enjoyed terrific food - - so pfittt to you Weather God!

Thank goodness the Drakes and von Wittenburgs had cars and the Henrys had their truck, cause Saturday it did RAIN! But the TRUE campers would not be deterred. Saturday morning we ran shuttle service to the very comfortable, dry recreation room and all activities continued as usual.

Those of you who have been out with the Kampers in the past few months have seen the SMALL electric scooters that six of us have to run around the campgrounds. Well wouldn't you know - Leonard Kurmas showed up with a LARGER gas powered Honda scooter to run around on. It is really cute and very quiet and blue (what's the significance of blue, my favorite color) - but what next - a full dress Harley? I surely hope not (giggle). Thank goodness the weather did clear so he got to log some time or he probably would have been even more difficult than usual (more giggles).



I had been telling Donna Hardy that I was thinking how grateful I was that I considered myself truly fortunate for having some pretty good friends in the group. I went to visit Jackie Coley, Debbie

Fitzpatrick and Suzie Ross and was accused of only doing that cause I was probably the Sheriff, when actually, Debi and Jeff Drake were the Sheriff (yes again). Those two have a sense of humor that is just incredible. They did an outstanding job - then turned around and won the 50/50.

Talk about nutty campers - after the raffle, Sheriff and 50/50 and such in the nice dry recreation room everyone returned to the group area. A bunch of us crammed under Steve and Molly Chizar's leaky awning, fireman Frank and a couple of other nuts built a blazing fire just beyond the awning and there we all sat, laughing and carrying on as if we had good sense.

Frank Coley told me I really have to be careful what I report, perhaps he's referring to Jackie's desert name for him so I'll leave that out but you can ask, he calls her his "little desert flower".

Bruce Fitzpatrick had a Sea Doo attached to the rear of his motorhome and for a time it appeared it might be usable right down the middle of the road in the campground. Actually he was going on to Pyramid - now there's an idea. Doesn't he know the water there was snow only a week ago. I don't think Debbie and Suzie were real excited about this venture and in fact I heard murmuring of their hanging out in the motorhome. This leaves Bruce and Christine in cold water - Bruce is that child abuse?

Then there's Cheryl Templeton. People I've known this woman for years. She is absolutely brilliant at what she does she has won awards. The item on our agenda "Sickness and Distress" depresses her! PLEASE if you have any cheery news would you let her know.

This was one of the largest turnouts we've had in a while and despite the weather we had a great time. Of course, Sunday dawned bright and sunny wouldn't you know. I've forgotten exactly what Gene called breakfast, something like "junk breakfast" leftover tri-tip in scrambled eggs with onion, bell pepper, cheese and whatever else Ed Colleran left unsupervised threw in, but it was delicious. Course, Debi Drakes crapes weren't too shabby either, certainly no one hit the road hungry. I don't know for sure but with all the laughing heard all weekend everyone must have had a great time.

P.S. to Kamper article for March kampout from Carol Ewald: A big THANK YOU to Bill and Pat Von Wittenburg for all their help with the Tri-tip BBQ. They not only provided the Xtra hands needed but the fantastic seasoning used on the meat. Thanks guys!!!!

UPCOMING CAMPOUTS:

May 16 - 17 Kenney Grove

Anne & Walter Ogden, Wagonmasters

June 13 - 14 Lake Casitas

July 18 - 19 Flying Flags- Buellton

TECH TIPS

Ever get tired of pulling your bungie cords out like a tangles bunch of worms? Try cutting a piece of PVC pipe a fraction of an inch longer than the cords, then hooking them over the pipe - keeps them neat and they don't get hooked on other items. Pretty cool, what? If you really want to get sophisticated, you can drill hole/slits at different lengths for different length bungies.

2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

LOYAL KNIGHT Sally Claunch

2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

CONEJO VALLEY DAYS: Lee Grindle LODGE ACTIVITIES: Tom Hartin SCOUTING: Jacob Panczak. PER **HOOPSHOOT: Tom Hartin** WED. NIGHT DINNERS: **DRUG AWARENESS:**

STRAY ELKS:

MOTHERS DAY: George Meehan



ENTERTAINMENT: Pete Padilla WED. NIGHT TICKETS: Raven West LAW ENFORCEMENT & FIREFIGHTER APPRECIATION: Scott Dool DISTRICT PICNIC: Tom Ryder, DDGER PRESIDING JUSTICE: Dick McCann YOUTHACTIVITIES: Heather Maddox

Random Thoughts from Claunch Operation Facelift

• • By now you have probably heard that the big blue fumigation tent blew over in the wind allowing gas to escape and the termites to live. Ha, those critters think that they have won, but only for another month The new dates for fumigation are Monday May 12th to Wednesday 14th in the afternoon. By tenting during the week the Lodge can be open on the weekend for member use.

Cooks for the Kitchen

- • As KP queen this year, I am fortunate to have new faces and old favorites coming forth to prepare their favorite meals this month. On a Wednesday night Joe Smith is venturing into the kitchen. Tom Ryder is returning with his famous chicken & beef buffet on May 9th, and the D' Ambrogios will be preparing Pork tenderloin. Naturally the fish king Cooper and Dennison and Neuners are also back. Watch for the menus posted in the Lodge. I invite you to come down and taste their wonderful meals then stay and socialize with your friends.
- • Tired of cooking? Make Thursday, May 15 a family night out. Jim Rockford will be serving \$1 burgers, hot dogs, and chili. In and Out Burger can't even compete with the quality and price. Thanks to the generous matching funds by Trustee Jack Malone, keeps the price just right. Support the buck burger night. Treat your family and friends. At these prices, you could invite the neighborhood.

Ritual Contest

• • The contest is over and the results are history. Win or lose, you should be proud of the team. Thanks to the expert coaching from Gil Riding, Richard Goldner, Jack Panczak and Jack Loughran your team has learned how to deliver a dignified and emotional rendition of the initiation for our new members. This is the primary goal of the contest. One last comment-it is true that you became a close- knit group of officers because of the shared experience, and the practices and practices and practices. These officers are talented, hard working

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

495-0577

OUR CONDOLENCES TO: First Lady and ER Greg Metzgus on the passing of her mother; Ann & Walt Ogden on the passing of her father, Bob Clark on the passing of his son James.

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Marilynn Harding has a muscular disorder; Bob Riebe is still in rehab; and his wife Kay fell and is in rehab; Tom and Pat Hardin's mom is in a coma; and PER Bugsy Ansell is still suffering from a lung ailment.

ON THE MEND: Past First Lady, Mertice Nichols after a brief stay in the hospital; Arlene Telliz had gallbladder surgery; Vickey Egan had surgery; Raven West's father is recovering from a minor stroke; Trustee Herb Jellander is back after a minor baseball injury; PER Jim Wallace from a minor stroke; and Robert Koeritz had angioplasty surgery.



Irish Eyes were smiling and dancing St. Paddys Day

people who are committed to performing their duties with grace and efficiency.

Entertainment

• • Our new Lodge Entertainment Chairperson, Pete Padilla, has been telling me about his brainstorms for the upcoming year. Watch the Antlers for details and datesespecially the fun fair in October. Don't be surprised to see entertainment on Friday nights.

LODGE FINANCING

Jack Malone, Trustee



Our Lodge is a non-profit California Corporation which has NO stockholders. pays NO dividends, makes NO distributions. NO member is personally liable for Lodge debts. and the Lodge has NO termination date.

Under this legal status we ask how our Lodge should be financially structured? Of course we should own our property in order to have full control over it. But, how about equity and how much should we have? Since our Lodge continues into perpetuity, and no one is ever going to get any money out of it, equity has only one purpose which is to provide security for a bond program, or other indebtedness to pay for capital improvements.

During the past 30 years our lodge has built up a very sizable equity in our property. I estimate that our equity exceeds \$1,000,000. About half of this amount represents the cost of our property; and the other half of this amount represents appreciation in market value. The total sum is frozen in the property as equity which no one will ever get.

However, this equity can be used as collateral to refinance our property by drawing out a portion of our equity and putting it back into the property as a new building. Just like refinancing your home to make improvements; the lodge refinances itself to make improvements

There are two sources for refinancing: one is a commercial loan which may be costly in loan fees and commissions, as well as a higher interest rate and will require a repayment program. The second source is a bond and note program under which members will want to transfer their savings and cd's into bonds and notes which pay a higher rate of interest.

There are two major differences between member and commercial financing. Member financing will cost much less in terms of loan costs and interest rates. A more important difference is that the debt to members does not have to be ever paid off. Although each investing member will be repaid his investment, plus interest, the total debt should remain the same. As a bond matures, it may be rolled over for another term, or re—sold to another member, or re—sold to a new member. Within the next 15 years more than half of our members will be new members. They will want to participate by investing in our lodge.

-Elks Care, Elks Share -

For the dedication of the Conejo Valley Botanical Garden, the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge 2477 was called upon to assemble a ready cut building in the newly opened *Kids' Adventure Garden*. It was a beautiful 80 degree sunny day with parents pushing strollers and children coming all day long to experience the wonders of nature. The Elks responded! The building in the background was the result of **Elks Care, Elks Share**.



Pictured left to right are Greg Metzgus, Leading Knight, Tom Hartin, Don Booker, ER, Jay Block, Loyal Knight and DDGER, Tom Ryder congratulating them all for a job well done. Children shown are already enjoying the park and its activities.

BRIEN LYNCH EAGLE SCOUT



(L-R) ER, Greg Metzgus, at a Court of Honor for Brien Lynch with Elks Certificate for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout and Glenn Moore Scoutmaster adding his congratulations.

Boy Scout's of America, Troop 754 of Newbury Park gains another Eagle Scout. Brien Lynch of Newbury Park, attained the rank of Eagle Scout in a ceremony on March 15, 2003, at Cypress Elementary School in Newbury Park, as

2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

LECTURING KNIGHT David Naccarato

2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

AMERICANISM: Raven West
FLAGDAY/FLAGRETIREMENT:
David Naccarato
SCHOLARSHIP: Rick Herrera
GOVT.RELATIONS: Denise Goldner
MEMORIAL SERVICE: George Meehan

NATIONAL SERVICES: Jim Kellogg



KIDS XMAS PARTY: Chet Kozlowski, PER GOLFTOURNEY: Dave Pearson Tommy Claunch LODGEPICNIC:

LODGEPICNIC: MEMBERSHIP:

CHRISTMAS TREES: Bob Hardy, PER ELKONEJO KAMPERS: Walter Ogden

I welcome you to this station which is dedicated to brotherly love. Upon our altar it is symbolized by the Antlers of protection. By the time you read this our ritual team will have already competed in the ritual contest in Lompoc, Ask about the results. Also ask me for a tootsie roll. In the Webster dictionary Benevolence which is part of why we are here, 1. disposition to do good. 2. an act of kindness 3. a generous gift 4. organized for the purpose of doing good. That last one about sums it up.

Under my station is Americanism which is chaired by Raven West. Raven goes to the jr. and high school levels to promote our essay contest. She was very successful this last year and will handle it again this year for me. Scholarship will be taken from Bobby Holms who has done and excellent job and taken over by Rick Herrera who has done the job before so he knows what's going on. Jim Kellogg is still in charge of the veterans activities. We go to the Veterans Hospital every month, this month it will be on the 15th we meet at the lodge between 5:30 and 6:00 don't be late cause we'll leave without you. The veterans appreciate it and a lot of them can use some help to play bingo and it's very rewarding. The lodge picnic will again be at the lodge, I feel that worked out well last year. On the 18th is a Cribbage tournament see Patti Serota for details.

Now a Man and his dog. The number of men who own a dog: 1 in 3 favorite breed: Labrador. Usually named Max if its a boy or Maggie if its a girl. what percentage let them lick their faces: 64. Number of times the dog gets a bath: 1 number of dogs owned in a life time: 2 if it came down to it 1 in 3 would choose a dog over the woman they loved percentage of men who tried to teach their dog to fetch the newspaper: 21 Number who were successful 1 in 2. 90 percent of men consider their dog as part of the family. The average guys favorite TV dog Eddie (from Frasier) Percentage of men who would like to be a dog for a day: 70 Parts of a dog's life the average guy wishes he could adopt 1. sleeping all day 2. Having women rub his belly.

BRIEN LYNCH EAGLE SCOUT Cont.

witnessed by Scoutmaster Mr. Glen Moore; Committee Chair Mr. Steve Rusch; Members of Troop 754; Boy Scouts of America - Executive Director Mr. Tom Henderson; Mr. Greg Metzgus of the Thousand Oaks Elk's Lodge #2477 that sponsor Troop 754; Pastor Steve Davis of Newbury Park; Mr. Bart Vanderlip - Charter Member of Troop 754; family and friends.

Color Guard/Honor Guard were: Chris Nelson - Eagle Scout Rick Barnett - Star Scout, Andy Rusch - Eagle Scout Brian Slivick - Life Scout

Cassidy Tepper served as Official Greeter and Program Presenter. Brien a member of Troop 754, joined Cub Scouts as a Tiger Cub in first grade while attending Maple Elementary School. He advanced through the Cub Scout program, Webelos program, and was a recipient of the Arrow of Light award.

He spent seven years in Scouting, serving in leadership positions of Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, and Chaplain's Aide. He has earned 22 merit badges. His experiences included bike rides, camporees, weekend backpacking, rifle shooting, Scout Summer Camps at Camp Three Falls, Catalina Island - Emerald Bay, Camp Whitsett, and Lake Arrowhead. Brien also helped in many community service projects; as well as assisting in six other future eagle scouts on their service projects.

For his Eagle Project, Brien coordinated and participated in the restoration of benches and the painting of 109 bench posts at the Newbury Park High School boy's gym in the athletic room.

Brien Lynch is the son of Sean and Sue Lynch, of Newbury Park. He graduated from Newbury Park High School, in June 2002, where he was a member of the Mock Trial program, Spanish Club, and the Career Major's program where Brien completed an internship at the Ventura Naval Air Station with the Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corp.

Brien is currently in his second semester of college, and plans on joining the Naval Recruiting Officer's Training Corp (NROTC) to graduate as an Ensign in the United States Navy. He later plans to attend law school, and become a lawyer for the Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps.

WELCOME ABOARD



OUR NEW MEMBERS



William Miller and co-sponsors Herb Jellander and Rusty Kennedy



 $Woody\ Hammer\ and\ sponsor\ Ron\ Maddox$



Steve Smith and standing in for sponsor Tom Corrigan is Jack Loughran, PER



William O'Shea and sponsor Jim Horning

MOTHERS DAY CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH

HOSTED BY

George Meehan

May 11, 2003

THE NEWLY WEDS

We wish them joy and happiness in the years to come!



Bobby and Paula Williams



Jerry & Tommy Tyler

Pin night



5 Year Members



10 Year Members



15 Year Members



20 Year Members



25 Year Members



35 Year Members



45 Year Member



ER, Don Booker congradulates Vern Jossy, MacMcDonald, Sally Claunch, Jim Kellogg, and Bob Holm for outstanding service to our Lodge



Bob Hardy, PER, Officer of the Year and ER, Don Booker



Tom Hartin, Citizen of the Year and ER, Don Booker



Elks Ladies new officers, Alice Kennedy, Ginnie Gabel, Out going Pres. Myrna Block, New Pres. Melinda Pekow, Karen Naccarado, Carol Neuner and Donna Hardy



Donna Hardy, Alice Kennedy, Dee Swanson, Karen Naccarato, Melinda Pekow



Jim and Grace Wallace celebrated 59 years of bliss at the St. Paddy's Day party



ER, Don Booker with plaque for Dave Pearson for outstanding service to our Lodge

2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

THE ELKS LADIES Melinda Pekow

2003-04 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Karen Naccarato 2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Alice Kennedy 3RD VICE PRESIDENT: Ginnie Gabel

SECRETARY: Carol Neuner TREASURER: Donna Hardy AUDITOR: Kathy Ryder TELEPHONE: Patti Serota



PARLIAMENTARIAN: Shirley Kozlowski

CHAPLAIN: Marilyn Cissell

MAJORPROJECTS:

Carol Neuner/Deanna Savokinas CVD: Dee Swanson & Marilyn Cissell

HISTORIAN:

SUNSHINE: PatSmail



IMPORTANT NOTICE The Ladies meetings will be held at 7:30 pm on the first Tuesday of every month starting in May. So mark your calendars so you won't be late. See you there.



The new year has begun.
Melinda has started to focus in on some new goals for this year. One of those goals will be to get more members to come to the Tuesday night meetings. We are hoping to begin car-pooling for members that live in the same areas, so

if you don't like to drive in the evenings and would like to join us at our meetings call one of your officers or Patti Serota (805) 497-1197 to see if we can't find you that ride. The more the merrier whether at the meetings or just getting there. We also have a number of wonderful new activities coming up this year that I think you will all enjoy. I can't wait to be a part of some of these new activities but I am not going to tell you about them yet. The surprises will come in good time.

Conejo Valley Days are upon us once more! Ladies you are needed to man the gates. So watch for the sign-up sheet, it should he coming soon in the lounge area or you can call Dee Swanson (805) 496-2477 or Marilyn Cisscll (805) 495-9645.

A final thought that I wish to leave with you. I would like you to join me by saying a prayer for all the fine young men and women that are in the United States Military Service and their families, I know that we all would like to see them home soon.

God Bless the USA.

Alice Kennedy, 2nd VP

BEYOUND OUR CONTROL





To be upset so needlessly by things we can't forsee. Stock market or gas prices, Lord, or a blackout of TV.

Remembering what's important, God, Your love, our friends and family. When driving down a tree lined road seeing yellow ribbons tied around a tree.

Amen

MAY

- 5. Barbara Metzgus
- 13. Denise Goldner
- 17. Patti Serota
- 18. Anne Hedl
- 20. Jean Edison
- 22. Muriel Ingolia
 - Louise Lampron
- 24. Faye Ogden
- 28. Gay Tortorici
- 29. Alice Kennedy

ATTENTION: WANTED PULL TOP CAN TABS!

Everyone save those tabs.
They are being collected for Breast Cancer Research.
The tabs can be turned in at the bar or to Carol Neuner.

HONOR ROLL



(SEE PAGE 15)



Jim Stephenson Dick Hejlik Don''Woody'' Woodford Vernon Jossy Frank Masetti 5. Pete Padilla **Paul Rambacher** 6. George Vivlamore Jeffrey Claunch, 7. **Charles Archer** Larry Stermolle

Robbie Jones Bob Cissell 8. Jim Wagner 9. Herb Jellander LeRoy Russell 11. **Gerald Reingans** **MAY**

12. **Anthony Federico** Leo Davis

13. Russell Peck Denise Goldner

14. Bill Miller

Joseph Jones, Jr. 16. **Alvin Caddin**

17. **Barry Kelman**

18. **Bob Hehmann** 19.

Britt Rutherfod Robert Koeritz

22. Ken Keeler **David Maddox**

23. **Donald Buck David Stull**

25. **Tom Varden**

27. Michael Murray 28. Jack Dickinson

29. **Dale Haas**

30. Jerry Schneider

Roy Cooper

FROM THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE PROPOSED AND WILL BE NOMINATED ON

Date: June 11, 2003

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Mike Regan Teacher Jack Loughran, PER **Roy Ratcliff Engineer** Mitch Strunk

Drew Oliver Broker-Real Estate Paul Johnston Retired By Reinstatement

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March 5 **OPENMEETING-PINNIGHT**

March 12 \$325.00 #1397 Richard McDonald Lucky 13 **NO WINNER**

March 19 \$350.00 #1615 Ralph Campbell

NO WINNER #1638 Van Hafer

March 26 \$375.00 Lucky 13 **NO WINNER**

Lucky 13

EYECARE FOR SENIORS: NATIONWIDE HELP PROGRAM

Many seniors on low or fixed incomes are forced to neglect or ignore serious vision problems. While Medicare, Medicaid and other health insurance will pay for some medical and surgical treatments, the cost of eye exams and eyewear is often not covered. The Seniors Eyecare Program (SEP) provides one solution to this problem. If you are a U.S. citizen or legal resident age 65 or older who has not seen an opthalmologist in the last three years, you can call a toll-free number for the name of a volunteer opthalmologist in your area. The opthalmologist assigned will provide a comprehensive medical eye examination. If ongoing care is required for a diagnosed condition, SEP provides it for one year. SEP volunteer opthalmologists accept Medicare or other insurance as payment in full, requiring no additional payment from you. For any program participants with limited finances, many forms of assistance are available.

This program is intended to encourage seniors to take care of vision problems before they worsen. Conditions such as cataracts, glaucoma and ocular hypertension require regular treatment. If ignored, these conditions can lead to blindness. This program is provided by EyeCare America, a public service foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and co-sponsored by the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

To receive information about the program or written materials on conditions affecting the eye call the SEP Help Line at 1-800-222 EYES (1-800-222-3937) or visit:

ENOUGH SAID!



The mission of the Girl Scouts: to help girls develop to the fullest potential and become competent, resourceful

women — is as vital today as it was in 1912, when the organization began. Their message:

"Become your best — set your sights high — you can make it happen."

Girl Scouting has been sending that message to girls for more than 80 years, and it is as essential today as it was in the beginning. The problems of drug abuse, child abuse, homelessness, and teen pregnancy threaten healthy development. Girls need an organization that will help them cope with and resist these threats — an organization for every girl, of every race, religion, and neighborhood, that puts the girl first, an organization called the Girl Scouts.

The Boy Scouts were incorporated in 1910 and were chartered by Congress in 1916. Their purpose is to provide an educational program for boys and young adults to build character, to train them in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and to develop personal fitness.



STORY TIME...

Once upon a time in a land not so very far away, a gentleman of advanced years stopped in the midst of his chores and

surveyed his domain. With a roof over his head and food in the cupboard, with papers to read and good health, he should have been content. True, the small tasks which came with keeping his property decently maintained did seem to grow each day, and it made him wonder if his

dwelling had somehow managed to "own" him rather than the other way around. In the face of both needing a place to live and not enjoying life because he had to work so hard on holding that place together, he searched his imagination for some alternative which would give him leisure and recreation enough to fill his days without being a slave to his surroundings, some arrangement that would be comfortable without draining away the funds he had so carefully saved throughout a productive life. "If there is such a place," he thought, "it would be overrun by those clamoring to enter it, or else it is such a precious secret that people like me could never find it." With a bitter shrug, he returned to scrubbing the floors, dusting the furniture, washing the windows, repainting the woodwork, mowing the grass, trimming the hedges, cleaning the gutters, and on and on, haunted for the rest of his days by the vision of a Shangri-la that he knew existed but couldn't find.

A sad story, you say? No happy ending, you say? Do you feel for the poor guy? Would you help him if you could? Well, you can. That fella can be found somewhere on the rolls of just about every Elks Lodge and only needs a few words of encouragement from you to point him at the Elks National Home in beautiful Virginia. It's the answer to his search but he just doesn't know it yet. Bring it within his reach, Lodge Officer. You'll both be happier because of it.

ELKS NATIONAL HOME 931 ASHLAND AVENUE BEDFORD, VIRGINIA 24523-1399 TELEPHONE: 1-800-552-4140

Their mission is to prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Scouting, by emphasizing ethics and moral values, addresses many of the social concerns of parents and youth in our Country. Scouting prepares youth to be leaders, to accept responsibility, and to care about principles and causes beyond their own self-interest. Enough Said! Can you help America's Youth?

Steven R. Smith, Member G/L Public Relations Committee





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Dick Rogge
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CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT Patti Serota, Com. Chair.

Sunday May 18th Sign up 12:00 Noon Play begins 1:00 p.m.

\$25.00 Entry 805 497-1197

Frank Rindone Memorial Table

We have joined in beloved remembrance of Frank Rindone, PER. PSVP, PDDGER, PDL, by purchasing a name plate to honor his memory, won't you?

EXAMPLES:

Jerry & Patti Serota Elk of Year 1997-98 Editor, Antler Antics

\$25=1" x 2"

Name /Organization for year of 2000-2001 Thousand Oaks In Memory of Frank

\$50= 2" x 3"

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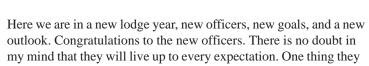
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 $Thousand\ Oaks\ Lodge\ \#2477\ -\ Frank\ Rindone\ Memorial$

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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, DL



must do is get started on their committee work, especially on membership and lapsation. The readers have been changed in the entrances, as some of you unfortunate members that have not paid your dues have found out. If your card key does not work, chances are that it is not because the card is faulty. Suggestion - go to the office and pay your dues. You can also pay them behind the bar if the office is not open. The bartender cannot give you a card key, but it will at least make you a legitimate patron. If it is necessary for you to ring the bell to gain entrance, chances are you haven't paid up. Expect to be carded by the bartender if you need to ring the bell. Why is it that people who do not pay their dues expect to have the same privileges as those who do pay? There are also those who go well beyond the visitor rule to use our facility. In case you don't know what that rule is, the first time you are a visitor. The second time you get an application. The third time you join. This is a rule throughout Elkdom, and should be adhered to by all. The members who keep bringing in the same visitors time after time and do not make them join are allowing them to take advantage of what you are paying for. This includes the bar and other functions and dinners. If they become recognized as violators, they will be asked to leave or join.

Parking is a subject that really needs to be broached. If you wish to leave your vehicle on the premises for a few days, we have no objections. But please coordinate it with the office. Any vehicles that we cannot account for will be towed at the owner's expense. We do not know whose car is whose unless we are told. We have had nonmembers park on the premises before who were very indignant when it was gone upon their return. Please do not be one of them. Causing hard feelings is not what we want to do. Speaking of parking, please do not park in the spaces reserved for office staff on Wednesday or other meeting nights. There is ample parking provided for those times in the lodge parking lot. It is very inconvenient for the staff to make four trips to the lodge instead of the two that should be necessary.

Many thanks to Brother Frank Pavonne for his efforts to raise money for the Major Project (Purple Pig, Piggy Bank). He has donated some pretty expensive bottles of alcohol for raffles at lodge meetings. So far his generosity has generated over \$200.00 given by members at meetings for these bottles. Thanks Frank, your donations are much appreciated, and go a long way toward helping some disabled children.

For those who don't know, Jerry Serota has done it again. I don't know how many first place awards the lodge has received in the past for the Grand Lodge bulletin contest, but he enters every year, and it seems as though he wins for us every year. Well, he has done it again. He works very hard on our bulletin, and his work really pays off. Not only does he do all the work on the bulletin, he also has gained us fame in the California/Hawaii Elks Newsletter and the national Elks Magazine. For those of you who don't read them, our lodge is in nearly every issue. But without our member's efforts, he would have nothing to write about. So I guess one hand feeds the other. Great job Jerry, keep up the good work.

Guess I've about run out of time for this month. In closing I would ask each and every one of you to support our troops in the Middle East and wish them a quick and safe victory. Please pray for them and their loved ones each and every day. They are sacrificing a lot for us, and about all we can repay them with is our support and prayers.

Have a safe and pleasurable Memorial Day holiday, and please support your lodge with your presence. Seems like the same old faces are always seen at our functions. Time to get more old members involved, and new members to join. And that's 30 for this month.



FREEDOM WITH PAIN

Ken Muellerleile

Let's hope and pray that 2003 will bring us a great victory, with the ability to abolish all those, who are contradictory.

The terrorists have undermined all the principles of our free nation, and without the reservation of thought they've killed and maimed with elation.

We've shown we are defenders of our freedom and our flag, fought for rights and independence in the process, we did not brag.

We've always been a Mother Nation and have offered this to one and all, to give those who wanted proudly to be a free spirit, without the thrall

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