

ANTLER



Jay Block
EXALTED RULER



ANTICS

VOLUME 33, NO.10

Editor, Jerry Serota

January '05

"Catch the Spirit of Elkdom"

Fri. Jan. 7	Pot Roast	\$9.00	Pot Roast Queen, Coleen Morris
Fri. Jan. 14	Salisbury Steak	\$8.00	Carol Neuner/Karen Naccarato
Sat. Jan. 15	Jr. Elks Talent Show		
	Spaghetti Dinner Jr. Elks	\$12.00	
Sun. Jan. 16	Pork Chop Breakfast	\$6.00	Bobby Williams & Crew
Fri. Jan. 21	Beef Stroganoff	\$10.00	Crystal Dool
Sun. Jan. 23	PER Breakfast	\$5.00	
Fri. Jan. 28	Beef or Salmon	\$10.00	The Kozlowskis

28th LAW ENFORCEMENT

and

FIREFIGHTER

APPRECIATION NIGHT



Wednesday, January 26th, 2005

Social Hour	6:00 p.m.
Dinner	7:00 p.m.
Awards Presentation	8:00 p.m.

2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN



EXALTED RULER
Jay Block

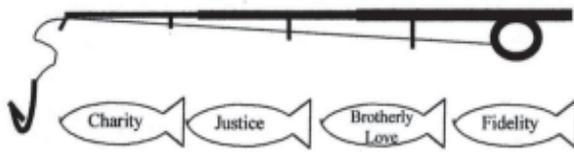
2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

ANTLER ANTICS: Jerry Serota, Editor
NEW FACILITIES: Greg Metzger, PER
HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK: Jerry Serota
GREETERS: Jack Loughran, PER
PUBLIC RELATIONS: Jerry Serota
BUILDING MAINT. : Wayne Flittner



PARLIAMENTARIAN: Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, DL
LODGE VISITATIONS: Jack Loughran, PER
BBQ WAGON: Eddie Rice
AUDITING: Tom Ryder, PDDGER
ELKS TRAINING:
BEQUESTS & LIVING TRUSTS:
 Chet Kozlowski, PER

“CATCHING THE SPIRIT OF ELKDOM”



and

!!!! Buy a Bond!!!

I'm pleased to report that the Lodge is in excellent shape. Since the Lodge year ends on March 31st, I forecast that we will be in even better shape, when the reins of leadership are passed to Sally. At the time of this writing, our membership has grown to 572, which reflects a net gain of 40. We have been initiating on average 3+ new members per month, and IF we all stay healthy, this means our membership rolls will grow to about 590! But on the down side, we have about 25 members who are on the lapsation list. I strongly urge all members who have sponsored any candidates in the last 3 years to check the lapsation report. If any or your candidates are on it, talk to them and find out why they have lost interest. If there is a problem, how can we address it to make it better? We all must stop the revolving door of membership. In my opinion, and I admit I'm biased, we have the BEST Lodge in California. The opportunities for direct involvement BY ALL MEMBERS NEW AND OLD, in our Lodge activities, committees, BBQ Teams, Youth activities, Veterans activities, Camping, is there for the one and all to participate in.

At every indoctrination I've attended over the past 5 years, all of the new candidates express the desire to become involved in the good works we do. So I ask you why should someone pay the initiation fee, and two or three years of annual dues, then decide to dropout?

**LET US FIND OUT WHAT THE PROBLEMS ARE,
AND FIX THEM!!!!**

Lets all get on the membership RETENTION wagon.
 Yours in Fraternal Brotherhood
 Exalted Ruler Jay Block



FIRST LADY'S CORNER

First Lady Myrna Block

Happy 2005:**It's a New Year!****We are stating fresh.****Make everyday count.**

Here is a little Trivia about New Years...

In the Middle Ages, the first day of the year was celebrated in spring, near the Vernal Equinox, when the natural world was renewing itself with flowers and green shoots. Europeans called in Annunciation Day and held a religious feast honoring the angels' first visit to the Virgin Mary. Since that time popes, kings, and legislators have made changes in our calendar, so now we celebrate New Years Day in the middle of winter. For us, this Holiday means good food, toasting, and personal resolutions. It's a time for fresh starts and futuristic thinking.

First Lady and Brother Honey Myrna Block

Pot Roast**\$9****By The**

**Pot Roast Queen
AKA Coleen Morris
& Crew
Morris/Mullen**

Friday, January 7, 2005

EDITORS CORNER

jerryserota@earthlink.net

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

New years is a time for making resolutions. A time for a little introspection. A time to resolve to be a better person. A

time be gentler to our loved ones and to one another.

"If you build it, he will come"

This was the underlying theme of the movie "Field of Dreams". There are those who let fear cloud their judgement and make negative reasons and excuses why we should not go forward with our plans to build a new Lodge. Let us move forward with a positive attitude and say **"If we build it they will come."** They will come for a number of reasons i.e. because it will be a wonderful house to come to; a great place to celebrate your daughter or sons wedding or your anniversary; a place that is attractive and can hold more than 200 of your family, friends, and fellow members.

We have seen our Lodge grow, come together as a unit with the hard working BBQ teams. As we approach the holidays we are committed to the needy at Christmas time. This year is no exception. As of this writing there has been an increased number of the needy over last year. Our hat goes off to our Esteemed Leading Knight, Sally Claunch who has risen to the challenge and galvanized her minions in a succesful campaign to meet the needs of our community. On Saturday November 20th the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 opened their hearts and held their Major Charity Event in order to help the less fortunate at Christmas time. Our Leading Knight who Chairs the Christmas Basket program organized a very succesful Country Western Dinner and Dance. There were 126 members and guest who participated in this major fund raising event.

The El Konejo Kamper Klub donated \$1,000 and the Elks Ladies donated \$1,000 for this cause. A total of over \$6,000 was raised to help meet the needs of our community. It is expected from early reports that there will be an increase of those in need of our benevolence over last year.

The year of 2005 is the time to place our fears and trepedations behind us. A time to make our goal for the future a reality. It is the strong who turn their face to the future and reach their goals, so let us all be strong and reach our goal for a new Lodge by saying **"We shall build it and they will come"**.

In order to get free flyers printed and as a courtesy to our benefactor, a lead time of three weeks pryor to press time is required. We go to press the 10th of the month. Thank you for helping make the Antler Antics special.

NATIONAL SERVICES

Jim Kellogg, Com. Chair.



On Sunday November 21st the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 hosted two bus loads of veterans from the Sepulveda nursing home for a Sunday Buffet in honor of

Veterans Day. Jim Rochford and his crew of helpers did a great job and the Veterans loved it.

The men and women were treated to a special rendition of our National Anthen by Jim Bryant an operatic baritone. Recently the Elks Lodge and VFW Huberoth Post 11395 donated \$100 to cover gas mileage so that he could attend the National Arts Festival in Salt Lake City.

As a member of the Air Force his job was Aircraft Control Warning. An automobile accident left him with a severe spinal injury.



(L-R) Vern Jossy, Jim Kellogg, Gene Ogden, Henry Papiiao and seated Jim Bryant, receiving \$100 donation from the Lodge and VFW for expenses to perform in Utah.



A special treat for Annie Pearson was one of the patients from the nursing home was her brother Bob Fuhrmann

2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

LEADING KNIGHT

Sally Claunch

2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

MAJOR PROJECT/PURPLE PIG:

David Naccarato

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS: Sally Claunch**INVESTIGATION:** George Meehan**ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION:**

Robert Jones

CHRISTMAS BASKETS: Tom & Sally Claunch

INDOCTRINATION: Jack Loughran, **PER MEM. CONTROL. COM.:** Herb Jellander
CVAC: Tom Hartin
COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Jerry Serota
OFFICERS ROUND TABLE: Jack Panczak, **PER CHARITY DINNERS:** Sally Claunch

RANDOM THOUGHTS FROM CLAUNCH

By the time you will read this article, the stockings will have been hung by the chimney with care, Saint Nick will have eaten his cookies and milk and returned to the North Pole, the Christmas Charity Baskets will have been delivered, and the New Years Eve party will be commencing. Another year of lodge functions and activities will have come to an end. Yet this ending is the beginning of my giving thanks to all the unsung little and sometimes big elves who gave their time, talents, and monies for making the charity basket program a success, for decorating the lodge room, and for organizing the holiday parties. When you see one of them, besides wishing them "Happy New Year" add a thanks for living the Elks motto—Elks Care & Elks Share.

- Tommy Claunch-co-chair-map maker for basket delivery, organizer of room set-up, my right hand man and life partner
- Annie & Dave Pearson-co-chairs, computer whiz, organizers, friends
- Ken & MaryAnn Keeler- room set-up, helpers, donation of use of truck
- Marilyn Corrigan-donation of dinners for Charity Raffle
- Frank Coley-providing lunch for drivers of basket delivery
- Tom Hartin & Jack Loughran- ordering and picking up food at naval commissary
- Max-donation of knife for Charity Raffle
- George Meehan- securing golf package for Charity Raffle
- Dick McNeal-ordering fruits and veggies for Christmas Baskets
- Karen Naccarato & Alice Kennedy-decorating the lodge room for the holidays
- Sharon Baker-wrapping the booze baskets for the Charity Raffle
- Liz & Mallory-donating the chair decorations on the patio
- Tom Hartin & Tommy Claunch-putting up the Christmas tree
- Yolie & Shirley- hosting and organizing the Tree Trimming Party
- Shirley & Chet-organizing the Kids Christmas Party
- Donna Hardy-pushing the purchase of Charity Ball tickets

SICKNESS & DISTRESS**805-495-0577**

OUR CONDOLENCES TO: The MacFarlane family on the passing of David's brother, Brian due to liver failure; Walt and Vickie Egan on the passing of his mother.

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Jim and Grace Wallace's 16 year old grandson underwent brain surgery; Russ Oviatt is hospitalized at Los Robles East Campus; Veronica Robichau is undergoing treatment for throat cancer; Rick Spampinato had colon surgery; Dick Hardin's daughter Lynn is undergoing chemo for breast cancer; Roxanne Horning; Harold Calvin; and Kathy Jenkins.

ON THE MEND: John Ennis is home from the hospital and starting the road to recovery; Wayne LaFarr's mother-in-law is in a convalescent home following heart attacks; Patti Serota from cataract surgery; Evie Herrera from salmonella poisoning; Leo Lambert from colon surgery; Bob Thorton from back problems; Myrna Block has completed her cancer treatments.

REMEMBER CARDS AND PRAYERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

- Jay and Myrna Block for hosting a Xmas party for us members
 - Marva D'Ambrogio and Judy Brayman for making desserts for the Charity Event party
 - Don Newcomer-providing wonderful entertainment at the Charity Ball
 - Wrappers & Packers- filling the Christmas Baskets, wrapping toys
 - Drivers-delivering the Baskets
 - Raffle ticket purchasers-providing the funds to make the project happen
- May the new year bless you with health and the company of good friends!!**

Thanksgiving Feast at Kenney Grove

Pat Von Wittenburg



Apparently in the past, I've neglected mentioning some of the prep workers and I humbly apologize. Actually I was not aware of the entire procedure. You see - those turkeys require work even before they go into the pots! They must be unwrapped, injected (those injectors are HUGE) re-wrapped DOUBLE and placed in a contained and iced until cooking. Joel's crew for this consisted of Ed Colleran, Gene Ewald, Jeff Drake, Bill von Wittenburg and newbie, Bruce Fitzpatrick.

There are some things not to be believed - this could possibly qualify for Ripley's. Carol Ewald was off again "Making Somebody's Day" and leaving Genes alone BUT - she called him to see if he was making the bed in the motorhome. R-E-E-E-A-L-L-Y?

After last years fiasco of trying to accommodate 10 pounds of rice in a 5 pound bag (everyone in the small rec room,) we ain't doin' it again, all of us who own pop-up sunshades brought them. Bill and I even resurrected an OLD shade from chili cooking days, all of which would provide cover in case of rain. They ultimately provided a very nice ambiance; so much so, most would like them back next year 'cause. I awoke at 5:30 a.m. Saturday with rain on the roof, thinking "OH NO - NOT 3 years in a row. Lord, could you PLEASE?" Well - we will make do some how. We all hustled with sunshade setup - When the meeting was over and ring toss was beginning - we had SUN! THANK YOU LORD! !

The officers for the coming year will be:

President:	Gene Ewald
Vice President:	Cheryl Templeton
Secretary:	Pat vonWittenburg
Treasurer:	Donna Hardy

Very interesting comments made as the ring toss was organized - Mike Ferragamo's name was being taken in vain - I think! It seems some thought there should be one tournament with him in and one WITHOUT - did I get that correct? Geez Mike - thought everyone was happy to see you and Martha Stewart -oops - I mean Mary show up. Okay the inside joke - we refer to Mary as Martha Stewart - cause she cooks up a storm and ALWAYS shares a ton of GREAT stuff , Mike is no slouch as a cook either - but DEAD EYE in ring toss. Therefore the following results:

RING TOSS:	1st	Veronica Robichau
		Mike Ferragamo
	2nd	Doris Newcomer
		John Robichau
	3rd	Johnny D
		Beverly Erickson



Here's another "Believe It or Not" - Carol Ewald acted as Sheriff in absentia - YUP Being wagonmaster Beverly Erickson (numerous times) knows it is next to impossible to capture a Sheriff or multiple Sheriffs for the 3 levels of the entire campground - so she enlisted Carol's aid - who AGAIN came up with this rhyming diddy - (AGAIN I didn't get a copy-remember me, I WRITE THIS STUFF) - to elicit fines from everyone on site. Worked VERY well.

Jeff and Debi Drake won the 50/50 - Congrats you two!

Okay having now been the scrivener for some time and a member of the Kampers for 10 yeh, count 'em TEN years and having just again acquired another chronological year of my life - yer gonna have to put up with some of my Missouri philosophizin' cause I thought by this age and stage - I'D UNDERSTAND A HECK OF A LOT MORE THAN I DO!

Whyzit' people join a group, participate seldom - speak of their elaborate trips, whatever; and contribute little?

Others camp with minimal conveniences - probably haven't left the Conejo for some time and share a great deal.

I observed a person I admire and respect tremendously, although we had the group prayer, when this person sat to eat - a personal prayer was said. Perhaps this accounts for success!

Years ago a minister told me - you have the right to call people's behavior in to account. Oh yeh, just try that and see what happens -

Barbara Kurmas' friend Gloria - snagged me as I was hustling around looking for something or other and commented "Pat, you do too much!" I don't THINK SO! My grandmother pounded into my head - "if you're gonna' do it- do it well - or don't bother". Perhaps as we come round to a 'NEW YEAR BEGINNING' thought might be given - am I the BEST El Konejo Kamper I can be? Or are you one that "Just goes along occasionally" and will take the best when you can? I think it was John Wooten who was quoted as saying, "The softest pillow is a clear conscience."



2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

LOYAL KNIGHT
David Naccarato

2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

CONEJO VALLEY DAYS: Ed Rice
LODGE ACTIVITIES: Greg Metzgus, PER
SCOUTING: Bill Miller
HOOPSHOOT: Tom Hartin
WED. NIGHT DINNERS:
DRUG AWARENESS:
STRAY ELKS:
MOTHER'S DAY: Rusty Kennedy



ENTERTAINMENT: Pete Padilla
WED. NIGHT TICKETS:
LAW ENFORCEMENT & FIRE FIGHTER
APPRECIATION: Scott Dool
DISTRICT PICNIC: Tom Ryder, PDDGER
PRESIDING JUSTICE: Dick McCann
YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Heather Maddox

We trust you all had a wonderful time at bringing in the new year. This is the start of a new calendar year not to be confused with the start of a new Elk year which is not until April. Just to remind you. What is an Elk member? An Elk is an American citizen over the age of twenty-one and a good Elk is one who pays their dues. Beyond paying lodge dues there is nothing more required of any Elk member

Now, while it is true that all of the dues paying members provide Thousand Oaks with a facility for dining, recreation and social activities, that is not why Elkdom was established. Elkdom had at its foundation, the idea to give back to the community.

To give direction to the individual lodges the Elks statutes mandate eighteen committees to advance the civic and charitable efforts of the order. They range from Americanism to Youth Activities and require a chairman and three committeemen each.

A good working lodge will meet these minimum committee requirements and a great lodge will exceed those requirements and will be active and visible in their communities. While a good member is one who pays their dues, a great member is one that gives a little of their time and talents to promote our civic and charitable programs.

The Thousand Oaks lodge wants great members to step forward with their talents and share some of their time. Attending a lodge meeting is the best way to step into service for the lodge. In lodge meetings, members learn what happened yesterday, what happened today, and what we hope to accomplish tomorrow. Give the lodge an opportunity to use your talents and abilities. Attend the next three lodge meetings to assess where you want to serve.

O.K. I'll get down off my soap box, but let me end with this *"Do good unto others for we pass this way but once"*

I would like to take this time to thank the Chefs of November: Carol Neuner and Karen Naccarato; Tom Ryder with his Surf and Turf dinner; Gil Riding for his pork chop dinner; Greg Metzgus and Sally Claunch for wonderful Wednesday night dinners.

Tom Ryder again for the Initiation steak dinner. Jim Rochford and his crew for preparing the Veterans

CALIFORNIA-HAWAII ELKS
MAJOR PROJECT, INC
Mission Statement

The California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc., a committee of the California-Hawaii Elks Association, pledges its commitment to addressing the unmet needs of children with disabilities throughout the states of California and Hawaii by developing a program of supporting services to aid these children at no cost to their families and without discrimination.

Sunday Jan. 16, 2005

Pork Chop Breakfast

\$6.00

By Bobby Williams
& Crew

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m

Brunch; Dee and Mallory for breakfast; and of course special thanks to the El Conejo Kamper crew for providing breakfast for the AA meeting every month; Back to the Veterans brunch a heart felt thank you to Bill and Jeri Miller who volunteered to do the dishes to keep that money in the lodge. Thank you

P. S. Have you bought your bond for the new facility yet, I have mine.

Wisdom by Harley Dave; *"We can dream of accomplishments and visualize success, but perseverance makes our goals come alive."*



**CHEA MEMBERSATION
RETENTION / LAPSATION CHAIRMAN**

Tom Ryder - PDDGER

Taken from an article by Dr Steve Goosen published in the Journal of General Hospital Rochester.

As Membership Retention/Lapsation Chairman I want all lodges to retain all of their members! Following the procedure in this article could possibly help retain some members. Please read it carefully.

HEART ATTACK

Some advice on what to do when you have a heart attack and what to do until you get help.

Let's say it's 6:15 pm and you're driving home (alone of course) after an usually hard day on the job. You're really tired and frustrated.

- You are really stressed out and upset -

Suddenly you start experiencing severe pain in your chest that starts to radiate out into your arm and up into your jaw.

You are only five miles from the hospital near your home.

Unfortunately you don't know if you will be able to make it that far.

WHAT TO DO ???

You have been trained in CPR, but the guy who taught you the course did not tell you how to perform CPR on yourself! !

**HOW TO SURVIVE A HEART ATTACK WHEN
ALONE?**

Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack, and without help, the person whose heart is not beating properly and who begins to faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness.

WHAT TO DO??? ANSWER:

Do not panic, but start coughing repeatedly and very vigorously.

A deep breath should be taken before each cough. The cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from inside the chest.

A breath and cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again.

WHY ???

Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs.

Coughing squeezes the heart and keeps the blood circulating.

The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it regain normal rhythm. In this way heart attack victims can get to a hospital.

Tell as many people as possible about this, it could save their lives!

Don't ever think that you are not prone to heart attack.

Nowadays heart attack is found among people of all age groups.

Be a good friend and a good Elk. Give this article to as many friends as possible!



PER BREAKFAST BUFFET

Sunday January 23, 2005

Omelets By Richard Goldner

Crapes By John D'Ambrogio

Eggs any Style - Deli Omelet

Biscuits and Gravy

Fruit & a Little Bit More

Egg Beaters Available

Regular: \$5

Goldner Omelet: \$7

For a \$1 more; a Bloody Mary or Screwdriver

*Jr. Elks
Talent Show & Dinner*



2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN	LECTURING KNIGHT Catherine Koeritz	2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN
AMERICANISM: Raven West FLAG DAY/FLAG RETIREMENT: Robert Jones SCHOLARSHIP: Rick Herrera GOVT. RELATIONS: Denise Goldstein MEMORIAL SERVICE: Rusty Kennedy NATIONAL SERVICES: Jim Kellogg		KIDS XMAS PARTY: Chet Kozlowski, PER GOLF TOURNEY: Dave Pearson TommyClaunch LODGE PICNIC: Catherine Koeritz MEMBERSHIP: Every Lodge Member CHRISTMAS TREES: Bob Hardy, PER EL KONEJO KAMPERS: Bill von Wittenburg

We're ringing in the New Year! Thank you everyone for making 2004 a great year at our lodge.

CATHERINE'S COMMUNICATION:

Just a reminder, Super Bowl Party is coming!!! February 6th is Super Bowl XXXIX and once again our Lodge turns into a Super Party! Mark your calendars.

This month gives us a little bit of a break from all the recent activities so we can start practicing for the Ritual. This will be a groundbreaking year as Sally will become our first female Exalted Ruler. I know she will do a fantastic job with the Ritual and as ER for our Lodge.

BROTHERLY LOVE:

We really stand by the familiar saying of "Elks Care – Elks Share". The Memorial Service was a perfect example of how we, as Elks, honor and remember our deceased members and care about the surviving family members and friends. It was really great to see so many people attend the Service.

See you at the Lodge!



Caterine Koeritz and PER, Bill Sternberg with his wood artistry for sale toward the new facilities fund

SCHOLARSHIP

Rick Herrera



My fellow Elks,

This October was a very busy one for my household and particularly our Elks Scholarship fund raiser.

Our second annual turkey fest/cribbage tournament/horseshoe tournament was a big success having raised over \$1,800 for the one day event.

Along with the tournament and delicious food was a silent auction comprising of plane rides; gift baskets; men and women hair cuts and a number of other items. The auction brought in close to \$500. Turkeys were donated by Ralphs market for the second straight year to the tune of \$100.

The garden home extravaganza took place Sunday October 24th with threats of rain but the weather cooperated and a fun day was had by all.

Thanks to all the officers who sold tickets and all the others who helped in the promotion of this event. Patti Serota with Jerry her right hand man really took the ball by the hand and ran the cribbage tournament.

Double winner, Rich Naranjo, did in the horseshoe contestants as well as showing why he is a to cribbage player winning in cribbage.

Your scholarship chairman/event host,
 Richard Herrera



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Holidays are now behind us, and hopefully things can get back to normal. It was a very busy time for the Lodge with so many jobs and functions going on that we were barely able to handle them all. Many kudos to Bob Hardy, without whose ever enduring dedication we would not have been able to have a successful Christmas Tree lot. Thanks also to those dedicated members who helped Bob make it a success. I'm sure they will all be thanked in a different article.

I would like to thank Brother Frank Pavonne for his donation of a bottle of very expensive champagne to the Lodge as a donation to raffle off. Because of his generosity, we were able to raise \$150.00 for the Major Project (Purple Pig). It is through our members' generosity that we as Elks are able to help not only disabled children throughout California and Hawaii, but also help Boy Scouts, scholarships, veterans, and all young people who are in need.

Nomination and election of Lodge Officers is knocking at our door again. Per Grand Lodge Statutes, nominations will be held at regular sessions of the lodge on the 1st and 2nd Wednesdays of February, and election to office will be held on the 3rd Wednesday. If you would like to be an elected lodge officer, you must attend one of the meetings for nominations, and have a member nominate you. If you would like to hold a non-elective position (Inner Guard, Chaplain, or Esquire) please see Sally Claunch and make your wishes known. Also, if you would like to chair one of the many lodge committees or even be on one, of which we now have approximately 48, please see Sally. We have several committees that are mandated by Grand Lodge and the State Association. These committees are vital to the success of our Order and must be filled. Major Project, Membership, Lapsation, Americanism, Drug Awareness, Elks Training, Lodge Activities, Elks National Foundation, National Veterans Service, Public Relations, Scholarship, and Youth Activities are some of the very important committees. If you would like to help or chair a committee, please see Sally. I'm sure she will be glad to see you.

That's about all for this month. Hope everyone had a pleasant Holiday, and that you all have a healthy and prosperous new year. Come down and support your lodge in all of the many ways that we need you.

And that's 30 for this month.

Bill

Elks Care - Elks Share



NEW FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Greg Metzgus, PER



The lodge approved on the floor a motion to seek an additional loan of up to \$750,000 to start our construction of the new lodge building. This doesn't mean we are getting a loan; we will need further approval from the lodge members before we sign the bottom line for a new loan. What the new facilities committee is doing now is analyzing all of our different methods of procuring a loan. Along with that

we are going over exactly what will be required of our operations to service the new loan along with our current bond issue.

Len Cardoni is continuing to work with the city planners on the outside appearance of the new building. He had made several trips to the planning department and every trip requires a few more cosmetic changes. Hopefully by the time you are reading this, the new artist concept drawings will be approved and on display at the lodge.

The surveyors are developing the drawings required before we start grading. Property lines have to be established and cut and fill calculations have to be made. This may seem like a minor undertaking but keep in mind, there is a difference of almost 20 feet in elevation from one corner of our property to another. For a building with a cement slab that is as long as our proposed new building it will take quite a bit of engineering to get the ground levels correct. When you factor in the changing curb lines and the proposed separation walls from our neighbors, there is a lot of work involved.

No construction update would not be complete without an appeal for more building funds. Our bond sales have slacked off but through the efforts of Tommy Claunch, David Pearson, Bill Sternberg and many others we are continuing to build up the new facilities fund. These efforts are greatly appreciated. As I have pointed out before, our building costs are going up about \$10,000 a month due to inflation. We still need more help so please, if you haven't purchased a bond yet, please do so. If you have purchased a bond, think about purchasing another. The more money we raise through fund raising and our bonds, the less we have to borrow from an outside source.

Greg Metzgus, PER

WELCOME ABOARD OUR NEW MEMBERS



Anthony Gomers and standing in for sponsor Walt Eagan is Heather Maddox and Catherine Koeritz



George Sylvester and sponsor George Meehan



Steve Woodlief and sponsor John Leadam



Mark S. Lowe and sponsor Richard Filerman



Fred Sitterley and Sharon Kagan with sponsor Gil Riding, PER



(L-R) Jim Grillo, Grand Trustee, Elaine and Richard Goldner, DDGER, at the Mid-Term Convention in Bakersfield



Donna Hardy, representing the El Konejo Kampers donated \$1,000 to the Christmas Baskets Chairperson, Sally Claunch, Leading Knight



Karen Naccarato, Elks Ladies President donated \$1,000 to the Christmas Baskets Chairperson, Sally Claunch, Leading Knight



(L-R) Sally Claunch, and lucky winner of the 50-50 drawing Catherine Koeritz, and expert vender Sue Porter



ER, Jay Block, welcomed Mary Cracchiolo to the Veterans Brunch



Wheel chair veteran being welcome to the Veterans brunch by (L-R) ER, Jay Block, PER, Jack Loughran and Jim Kellogg, National Services, Com. Chair.



(L-R) Henry Wheeler and PER, Jack Loughran share the past together. Henry was in the Army one year before Pear Harbor and was requested to be one of the permanent Military Police assigned to General Eisenhower through out the war.

Jack Loughran joined the navy in 1941 and also served in the Korean War and in Vietnam.

2004-05 COMMITTEE
CHAIRPERSONS

THE ELKS LADIES
Karen Naccarato

2004-05 COMMITTEE
CHAIRPERSONS

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Alice Kennedy
2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Carol Neuner
3RD VICE PRESIDENT: Jeri Miller
SECRETARY: Annie Pearson
TREASURER: Donna Hardy
AUDITOR: Kathy Ryder
TELEPHONE: Patti Serota



PARLIAMENTARIAN: Myrna Block
CHAPLAIN: Marilyn Cissell
MAJOR PROJECTS:

CVD: Dee Swanson & Marilyn Cissell
HISTORIAN:
SUNSHINE: Shirley Kozlowski



Hello Everyone.

Hey has any one seen Elvis lately?

Well if you were at the Elks Ladies Christmas Party. not only did we see him' he sang a Christmas song for the ladies! (A little birdie told me he's going to perform again here at the lodge on Jan. 15th for the Jr Elks all you can eat Spaghetti and talent night)

The entertainment at the party was wonderful! We had musical performances by Karen and Dave Naccarato, Catherine Koeritz, Cornelia Meehan and some of the Jr Elks. The Jr Elks also did one interpretation of a Christmas Story in Bethlehem. Tom Ryder and Chet Kozlowski and crew cooked dinner for us as the Officers of the lodge served dinner. We Thank everyone for their help support and entertainment that made this a Holiday gathering so much fun! We also like to thank; Shirley and Chet Kozlowski the Jr Elks and everyone that brought food for the Elks Ladies Christmas Tree Trimming Party. So on behalf of the Elk Ladies we thank you all!

Boy! It's hard to believe it's the year 2005! Where did last year go'????

Ladies, Please don't forget to attend the Jan 4th. Elks Ladies meeting. We're nominating officers for the year 2005.

And don't forget no one has won the (2) \$100.00 Bubble Drawing prizes So attend the meeting in January and you could be the Lucky Winner.

Dates to Remember

Dec. 31st New Years Eve Party at the Lodge

Jan. 4th Elks Ladies Meeting - Nominating of New

Officers for 2005-2006

Jan. 15th Jr Elks all you can eat Spaghetti and Talent

night

Feb. 1st Elks Ladies Meeting - Voting of New

Officers

Feb. 6 Super Bowl Party (by Pearson and Claunch)

I hope Everyone had a wonderful Holiday and a Glorious New Year!

For more information or need a ride; Please Contact: Carol Neuner (805) 492-6980, Karen Naccarato (805) 375-1089. Alice Kennedy (805) 497-2504

As Always I wish Everyone Well and Happiness.



ELKS LADIES CHRISTMAS PARTY
Marilyn Cissell

We're grateful lord for precious gifts,
so priceless, money can not buy.
You give us these throughout our lives,
your choices, we don't question why.

These gifts are our relationships,
the families and each and every friend.
You choose each one of them for us
all precious gifts without an end.

JANUARY

15. Darlene Stogsdell
22. Alice Wagner
27. Sheila Aitken
Elaine Goldner



THE TELEPHONE COMMITTEE
Patti Serota

To my ladies I'd like to say a big "THANK YOU" for your participation during this Holiday season. You never let me down, and thanks to all the other folks that brought food stuffs for the tree trimming party. We had a terrific turn out and everyone enjoyed the evening.

HONOR ROLL

A COIN A DAY



- Jerry Serota
- PER, Greg & Barbara Metzgas
- Robert Jones
- Scott Dool
- David Naccarato
- David Stull
- David Ely
- Gene Letourneau
- Joan Hanson
- Pearl Gibbs
- Peter Gordon
- ER, Jay & Myrna Block
- Catherine Koeritz
- Denise Goldstein
- Gary Erland
- Judi Palmquist
- Dick McCann



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| 3. Maleah Earle | 13. Ron Mason | 21. Bill Sternberg, PER |
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| 7. Chuck Morsa | 17. Stephen Pence | 25. John Swanson |
| 8. Larry Brown | 18. Arlene Tellez | 26. Peter Gordon |
| 9. Dick McNeal | 19. Tommy Claunch | 27. Izzy Prugh |
| 10. Ralph Campbell | 20. Michael Markey | 28. Carrie Robertson |
| 11. David MacFarlane | 21. Lou Mages | 29. Cheryl Templeton |
| 12. David Pearson | 22. Jerry Risvold | 30. Ted Radabaugh |
| 13. Drew Oliver | 23. Leo Lambert | 31. Marilou Van Leuven |
| | 24. Stan Fitzgerald | 32. Robert Garcia |
| | 25. Frank Corrigan | 33. William White |
| | 26. Lawrence Savokinas Sr. | |
| | 27. Robert Saynay | |
| | 28. Sander Shulman | |

FROM THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE PROPOSED AND WILL BE BALLOTTED ON

Date: January 12, 2005

NAME	OCCUPATION	SPONSOR
Donald Thompson	Retired	Edward Mutz
Richard Ibarra	Consulting Arborist	Harry Brockwell
Charles Lowe	Retired	Rick Filerman



CRYING TOWEL

November	3	\$200.00	#79	Richard Flittner
	Lucky 13 No Winner			
November	10	\$225.00	#535	John Broderick
	Lucky 13 No Winner			
November	17	\$250.00	#1592	Richard J. Goldner, DDGER
	Lucky 13 No Winner			
November	24	No Meeting - Thanksgiving		



THANKSGIVING 2004

Carol Neuner

Thanksgiving Dinner and or Family?

Let me tell you about this past Thanksgiving We cooked and carved four 20 - 25 lb. Turkeys; chopped onions and celery; cubed the unused bread Judy and I have been keeping in the freezer; peeled, diced and mashed 20 lbs. of potatoes; steamed vegetables; rolls were baked, turkey drippings turned into gravy and 15 pies later!

Thanksgiving Eve my girls have always wanted to help me in the kitchen especially when it came to baking pies. (I think they just wanted to play with the dough!) But as they grew older, my kitchen got smaller so did my patience to have them both in the kitchen at one time. On Thanksgiving Eve Jessica and Breanna accompanied me to the lodge. I needed to bake pies for Thanksgiving Dinner. To my great surprise they both stepped up and helped teach each other how to bake pies. Not just I or 2 pies but 15. The 3 of us had such a great time together and the time went by too quickly. I wish I had a video of them with flour on their noses and cheeks plus the laughter we shared.

Thanksgiving morning Terry Baker met us at the lodge at 8:00 a.m. to fire up the outside ovens, he then helped me prepare those birds and place them into the oven. A little while later my daughters Jessica and Breanna arrived (Oh no! They wanted to help ...? } Jim Horning graciously offered his help and arrived around 11:30 a.m. in tow were his brother-in-law and son-in-law. The three of them got right to work helping with the potatoes and carving those big birds.

Meanwhile the girls were being helpful too, adding finishing touches to what ever needed to be done. As Thanksgiving Dinner was ready to be served my girls jumped in again and served this meal to the 40 people that showed up for Thanksgiving Dinner.

Now the time had come for clean up! Here again was Terry and Sharon Baker. Crystal Dool and others pitching in putting leftovers away and washing up dishes so I could get home to cook Thanksgiving Dinner for my family. I realized when I left the Lodge that I did not take away from my family but spent Thanksgiving with part of my family and all of you.

Thanksgiving Evening I gave thanks to all the wonderful people who helped me this day and for all the wonderful friends we have gained through the Lodge. Most of all I'll cherish the moments of pride that were shared in the accomplishments of the day.

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Carole Neuner



SCOUTING

Bill Miller, Com. Chair

The following is a letter addressed to Bill Sternberg, PER and Scouting Chairman for the CHEA, WCCD. Bill has actively championed Mike Rays cause and with the help of the following Elks Lodges: Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge, Simi Valley Elks Lodge, the Oxnard Elks Lodge and Ventura Elks Lodge he will be able to reach his goal of attending the Scouting Jamboree.

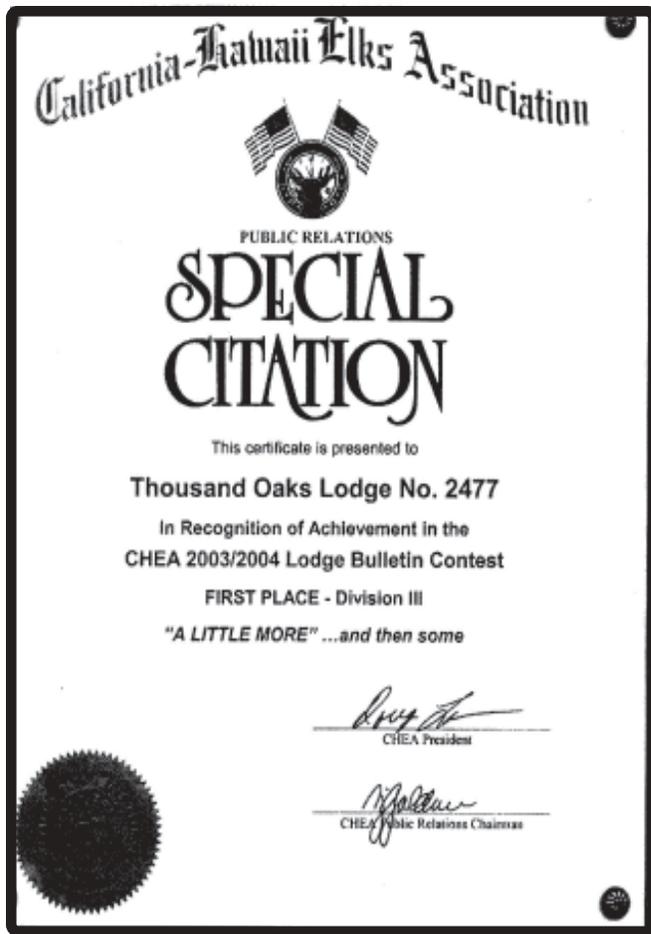
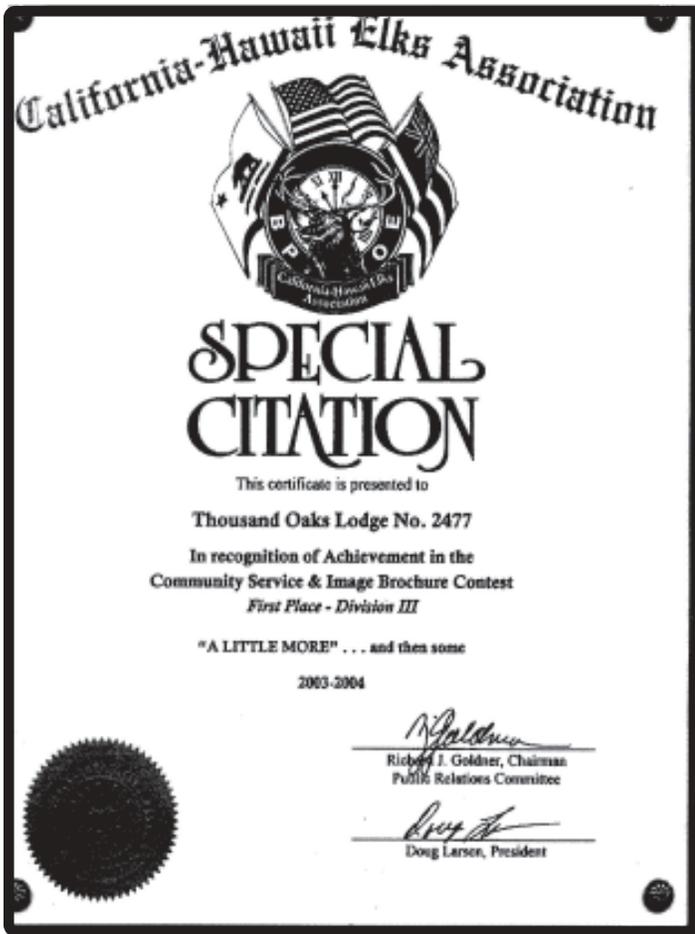
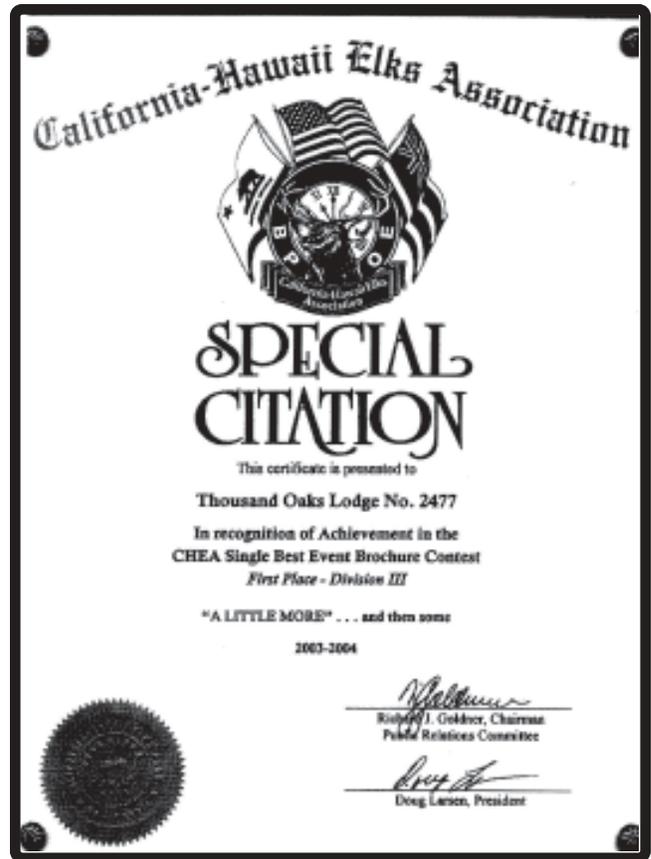
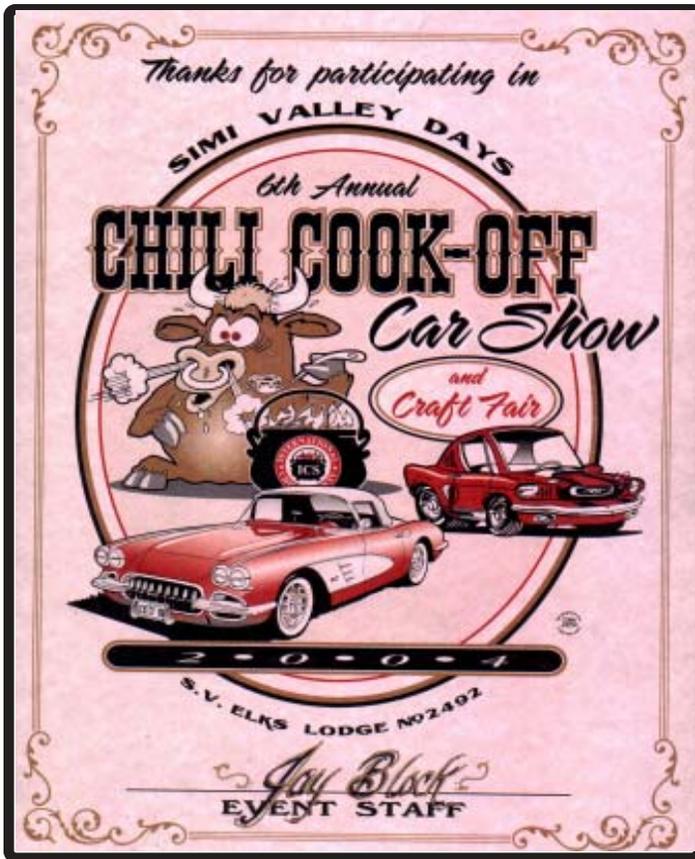
Hi, my name is Mike Ray.

I have been in the Boy Scouts for about 3 years now. I am a star scout, and will get life within the next couple months. I live with some friends of mine right now because my mom is unable to financially support both herself and me. She is currently living in Oxnard, and we only see each other twice a week. I get good grades, maintaining a 3.0 grade or higher since I started high school. I work hard at what I want to accomplish, and finish what I start. Being in the Boy Scouts has helped me adapt to living away from any immediate family by helping me to become independent; for example it has taught me to cook for myself, and take care of myself. And being away from home on all the camping trips has prepared me as well. Also, some of my best friends are people who I advanced through the ranks with as a scout. Scouting has really helped me develop as a person.

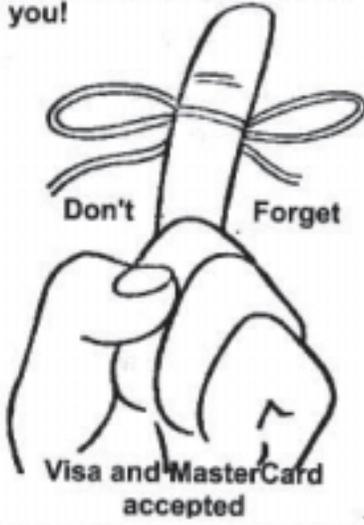
I think that there are three things that you need to do as a scout. The first is obviously achieve the rank of Eagle. The second is go on a Philmont trek. And the last is go to the National Jamboree. I have already been to Philmont, thanks to my old Scoutmaster, who talked to the Ventura County Council about a scholarship on my behalf. We went on a 62 mile, two week trek, and it was one of the best experiences of my life. I fully intend to get eagle in the next year or so. That leaves only Jamboree. Without the help of my scoutmaster, I would not have been able to go to Philmont, and without your help, I will not be able to go to Jamboree.



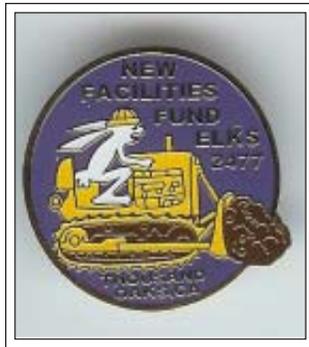
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we know that it will happen
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on a spiritual cloud,
once completed
then Paradise, is allowed.

Written By:
Ken Muellerleile



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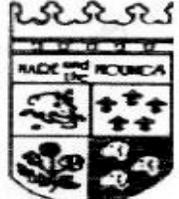


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