

# ANTLER



Jay Block  
EXALTED RULER



# ANTICS

VOLUME 33, NO. 12

Editor, Jerry Serota

March '05

*"Catch the Spirit of Elkdom"*

## 34th Annual Elks Lodge 2477 INAUGURAL BALL

Welcome our Exalted Ruler,

For The Year 2005-2006

### SALLY CLAUNCH



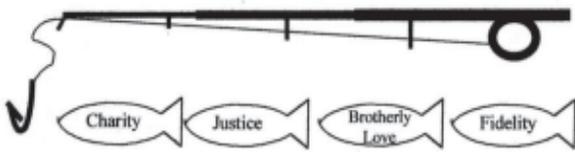
April 9th at the  
Thousand Oaks Inn  
75 W. Thousand Oaks Blvd.  
Thousand Oaks, CA

Tickets on sale from David Naccarato  
or at the Lounge  
\$40.00 per person  
Choice of Beef or Fish

Social Hour	6:00 p.m.
Dinner	7:00 p.m.
Grand Entrance	9:00 p.m.

2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN	 <b>EXALTED RULER</b> <b>Jay Block</b>	2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN
<b>ANTLER ANTICS:</b> Jerry Serota, Editor <b>NEW FACILITIES:</b> Greg Metzger, PER <b>HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK:</b> Jerry Serota <b>GREETERS:</b> Jack Loughran, PER <b>PUBLIC RELATIONS:</b> Jerry Serota <b>BUILDING MAINT. :</b> Wayne Flittner		<b>PARLIAMENTARIAN:</b> Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, DL <b>LODGE VISITATIONS:</b> Jack Loughran, PER <b>BBQ WAGON:</b> Eddie Rice <b>AUDITING:</b> Tom Ryder, PDDGER <b>ELKS TRAINING:</b> <b>BEQUESTS &amp; LIVING TRUSTS:</b> Chet Kozlowski, PER

**“CATCHING THE SPIRIT OF ELKDOM”**



and  
**!!!! Continue Buying Bonds!!!!**

Since this is my last article as Exalted Ruler, I would like to list just a small number of items which I feel made this year a success. The Lodge, as usual has experienced outstanding support of the general membership and specifically the dedicated leadership of the Officer Corp.

- 1- Your Officer team and Coaches proved that Thousand Oaks was the best by winning the West Central Coast District Ritual Contest (and coming in a respectful 5th in the State).
- 2- Our BBQ teams demonstrating a dedication to consistency and quality that has assured the continued acceptance by our loyal customers.
- 3-The super job done by the guys and gals working the Grand Marshal Contest for CVD. Their efforts broke all records of fund raising and put our candidate Annie Pearson at the top of the heap.
- 4- The outstanding efforts of the Konejo Kampers, Elks Ladies, and Jr. Elks.
- 5- A record 95 families given Christmas Baskets.
- 6- The increase of our membership from 532 to over 580.
- 7- The increase of our financial bottom line by over 32%
- 8- A continuing core of dedicated officers that will ensure the excellence of performance you all have become accustomed to.

Again, thank you all for your support, and I know you will continue to give Sally the same efforts you have given me.

Yours in Fraternal Brotherhood

Exalted Ruler Jay Block



**FIRST LADY'S CORNER**

First Lady Myrna Block

Hi:

Well here we are at the end of our term. It has been an interesting year to say the least. We have all gone through a lot, and I will be eternally grateful to everyone at the Lodge for all the support Jay and I received during my cancer treatment. As you all know by now, the results have been totally successful, and I feel re-born. As has been my practice, I would like to leave you with a thought that seems to fit the circumstances.

*"We cannot tell the precise moment when friendship is formed. As in filling a vessel drop by drop, there is at last a drop which makes it run over; so in a series of kindnesses, there is at last one which makes the heart run over."*

*James Boswell*

First Lady and Brother Honey Myrna Block



**IN MEMORIAM**

THE CLOCK OF THEIR DAY HAS STOPPED AND  
 ACROSS ITS DIAL A MOTIONLESS SHADOW  
 MARKS THE HOUR OF ELEVEN, WITH US ---

**“THE GOLDEN HOUR OF  
 RECOLLECTION”**

**Roland (Ron) Dourlain**

**Born:** September 28, 1921  
**Initiated:** October 20, 1972  
**Died:** January 15, 2005



## EDITORS CORNER

*jerryserota@earthlink.net*

### FOOTSTEPS AND MILESTONES

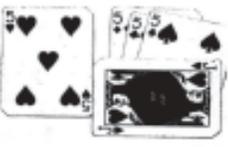
First we start out in life with tiny feet, we learn to crawl then get our balance and start the tiny steps on our journey through life. As we make this journey we pass many milestones that measure our trip.

At times our feet leave bigger imprints than others but when we reach a milestone we know it. Some time the history book will record it for generations to come because it is noteworthy.

Nineteen seventy two was a noteworthy milestone with the instituting of Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge 2477. A courageous group of Elks calling themselves the Conejo Brother guaranteed a \$75,000 loan by using the collateral on their homes to secure the loan. They bought the church which was converted into our present Lodge. We paid off that loan and they did not lose their homes.

The next milestone was purchasing the house next door which at the present time is the lot adjacent to our Lodge. They said we paid too high a price for it but it is now paid for. Another footprint forward is the purchasing of the house which is being rented next to the lot.

We are now on the brink of putting down our most important footprint and reaching a milestone that some of the Conejo Brothers would have thought was impossible and out of our reach. Our new Lodge is just on the horizon. If you close your eyes you will be able to see it. It will have the all amenities of a first rate Lodge, be the envy of all Elks who visit us. It will take the same courage of our early Conejo Brothers, and a leap of faith by putting down our most important footprint. By being a part of our Bond program you too will be putting down your personal footprint toward that milestone and be a significant part of that achievement.



**THOUSAND OAKS ELKS LODGE 2477  
CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT**

Sunday, April 17th, 2005

Sign Up Time 12:00 Noon

Play starts at 1:00 pm

\$25 Entry Fee

Includes Lunch 3:00 pm

Confirm by April 14th  
In order to establish the number of players

Call Patti @: (805) 497-1197

158 Conejo School Rd.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS

Public Relations

On Wednesday January 26, 2005 the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge 2477 had a moment of silent meditation in honor of the Sheriff who died in the recent train wreck and the 30 Marines in Iraq who lost their lives in that terrible crash. One of which was a son of one of the local Sheriffs before proceeding with their 28th Law Enforcement and Firefighter Appreciation.

Representing the City of Thousand Oaks was Mayor Bill-De La Pena and Ventura County Supervisor, Linda Parks who presented citations from their office.



(Seated Front Row L-R)

**Patrick MacAuley, Rob Szczepanek, David Wigton**

(Middle Row)

**Randall Hosking, Scott Fuquay,  
Brett Meehan, Adrian Torres**

(Top Row)

**Scott Dool, Committee Chairman,  
Claudia Bill-De La Pena, Mayor,  
City of Thousand Oaks,  
Linda Parks, Ventura, Member  
Board of Supervisors**

*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.*

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**

Do you enjoy parties??? Do you get pleasure in attending traditional ceremonies??? Do you like to bowl in the dark??? If you answered yes to any or all of these questions, then the activities planned for the month of March are for you. In one action packed week, starting on Thursday, March 17th you can dine on homemade Irish food, watch the tapping feet of cloggers and sip Irish coffee. After a good night's rest you can come back to the Lodge on the 18th for the traditional Fish King Cooper fish fry then stay for the moving and traditional Elk ceremony honoring our Elk of the Year. Also there will be additional awards honoring our members who have performed above and beyond the Elks' motto—Elks Care—Elks Share.

The next day after taking an afternoon nap grab your bowling ball or rent one at Harley's Bowl and join the fun of Cosmic Bowling. Annie Pearson is repeating last year's sell-out happening. You will experience no-tap bowling in the dark complete with raffles, snacks and added surprises.

On Easter Sunday the traditional entertainment continues with Buggy Ansells childrens egg hunt and party. Last year over 80 little munchkins searched for eggs and enjoyed the festivities.

We have labored all year to provide service to the community through youth, Veterans and scouting projects. Now it is our turn to be a little self-indulgent and take advantage of the activities that have been crafted and designed solely for our enjoyment.

**SICKNESS AND DISTRESS**

805-495-0577

**OUR CONDOLENCES TO:** Mitch Skrunk and his daughter Erin on the passing of his brother and her uncle; Eddie Rice on the passing of his sister; the family of Ron Dourlain on his passing and to PER Don Skinner and Roxie on the passing of her mother.

**KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Harold Calvin from cancer surgery; Roxanne Horning is back in the hospital.

**ON THE MEND:** Tom Klomparen's daughter is recovering from heart surgery; and Tom from a fall; PERs Bob Thornton and Harold Wullschleger from back and eye surgery; John Ennis is getting stronger every day; PER, Bill Lloyd and Evie Herrera from rotator cup surgery.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 12<sup>th</sup>****ALL-U-CAN-EAT****SPEGHETTI DINNER**

(Meatballs, Meat Sauce or even Plain along with  
Salad & Garlic Bread)

**Our Junior Elks****&**

**Our Lodge Members Have combined their many Talents for  
an evening of fun and laughter of:  
Magic, Impersonations, Skits, Dancing,  
and other misc. talents  
\$10.00 per person**

Tickets are available behind the bar or Contact: Carol Neuner (805) 405-5314 Heather Maddox (805)358-9525



## A RETURN TO PORT HUENEME

This campout seemed to be doomed from the start. John and Gladys were to be wagonmasters.

Obviously that was not to be. Anne and Walter Ogden were going to be the ones in charge - Not so! For those of you who may not have been aware, their son Stephen was in an accident in Texas. They were needed at home. However, rescue was in the form of Donna and Ed Colleran. Luckily no misfortune befell them or any family member.

The upside of all this is that John and Gladys were able to visit with us Saturday morning. John is looking extremely well for all that he has been through. **ABSOLUTELY WONDERFUL TO SEE YOU JOHN!**

The Ogdens were able to spend the entire day on Saturday with us. We were pleased to learn their son is making good strides toward regaining his health. **NOW FOR THE FUN STUFF - - - and we did have fun!**

I'm so sorry I missed Jim Mullen's performance Friday night. I understand he was very amusing, even telling stories on himself that made him blush. Now just what was that all about Jim?

Marva apparently knows every fabric store in Ventura County and then some. She took Peggy, Ruth and I to a store named the "Fabric Well". Let me tell you, it is more than fabric - and extremely well organized. Fabric grouped according to "topic" i.e. Hawaiian, Marine, etc - it was awesome. And not only fabric, all kinds of stuff - knitting, crochet, crafts - you name it. We learned that Ruth Mullen is quite a seamstress. She showed us pictures of a 3 year-old granddaughter - who is absolutely gorgeous (doesn't look a thing like Jim J) wearing a dress that Ruth had made. Her creation was beautiful.

And to again prove my theory that "no good deed goes unpunished" Jim was an awesome "first time" sheriff, who fined Marva for giving Ruth a discount coupon at the fabric store. Is that some nerve or what? In addition to being Jim's deputy - Ruth Mullen was allowed to draw the winning ticket for the 50/50 and she drew her own number. Some people have all the luck.

Poor Johnny D - kept running back and forth between the campground and the Lodge. Seems he worked the BBQ wagon then the PER Breakfast was Sunday morning. **LET ME SEE** - we have how many PER's in the Kampers - at least three I can think of without checking. Again my war cry - schedule anything on top of the Kampers - it's okay. **NOT!** Heard a few disgruntled remarks about that. Apparently few understand that our campouts are booked a YEAR in advance -

we CANNOT change at the drop of the hat. Checking our schedule isn't that hard - it's on our website - which is published on the back of Antler Antics.

President Gene Ewald managed to get away on Thursday and would you believe Carol Ewald did get an opportunity to share Saturday with us - and quite a few still recognized her. Of course - she walked away with her share of raffle prizes. Nice to see you again Carol! Speaking of Mr. Ewald - he gave Jim Mullen some caulking to use on his trailer wheel-well assuring him that it would dry clear - last time I saw it, it was still VERY WHITE. Did it ever clear up, Jim? Is this another of those "good deeds"?

A lot of us were concerned about Veronica Robichau. Keeping in touch doesn't seem to be her forte. However, I did get to check on her upon our return. She sounds absolutely wonderful, had even been out riding her horse, and is still very capable of reprimanding Nikki. She has completed all her treatments, but still has difficulty "tasting". She is told that this will pass - awfully glad to hear from her.

Attention all Kampers - remember dues are due! Also there are quite a few campouts without wagonmasters. When you become a member - one thing you agree to do is agree to participate !! This includes taking your turn as wagonmasters. This is NOT brain surgery - and it is LOTS of fun spending someone else's money shopping for raffle prizes. Remember - other than the breakfast brunch and the meeting - you get to call the shots - schedule WHATEVER your little heart desires. If you don't want to schedule anything - it's your show.

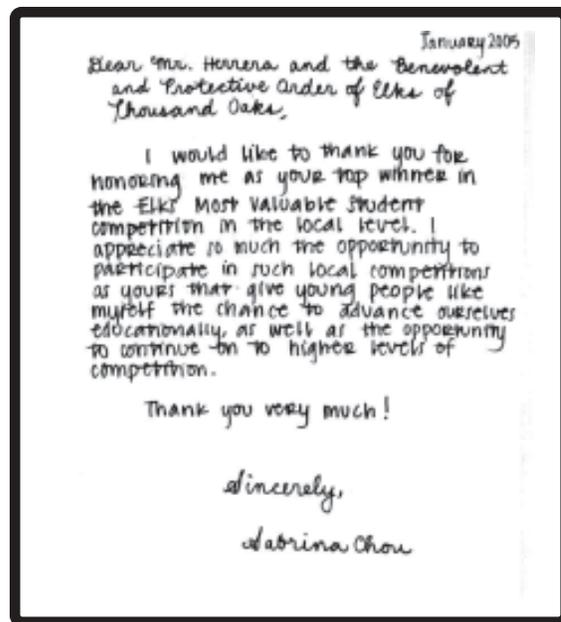
Tec Tip - Jim Mullen learned that the zerk fittings on wheel bearings are not always sufficient for proper lubrication. His trailer's bearings had to be HAND PACKED - so if your bearings are getting noisy - you want to check it out. Re-Packing is a heckof a lot less expensive than replacing.



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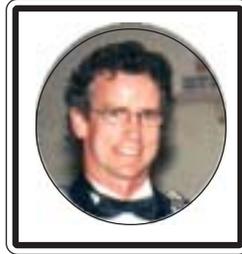


2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

## LOYAL KNIGHT David Naccarato

2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

**CONEJO VALLEY DAYS:** Ed Rice  
**LODGE ACTIVITIES:** Greg Metzger, 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

### MAJOR PROJECT

As our Elk year draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Chefs who helped me in the kitchen this past year. And I hope you give Catherine Koeritz the same valued support that I received this past year. It's a tough job to bring a meal to 50-to 60 people after working all day at a job. We are all volunteers, raising moneys for our lodge, to pay the overhead and to see that our many charities get our support.

Next month marks our 34th Inauguration of our first Lady Exalted Ruler, Sally Claunch. It will be huge. So plan to attend. Let me give you the details:

Date: April 9th

Place: Thousand Oaks Inn

Price: \$40.00 p.p

Time: 6:00 p.m. Social Hour

Dinner 7:00 p.m.

Dancing 8:00 p.m.

Grand Entrance 9:00 p.m.

Then dancing all night long to a fabulous 16 piece band  
 Tickets available from me or from behind the bar.  
 Speaking of Inaugurations, the Exalted Ruler is like the President. I have a piece of Presidential trivia for you. President Washington gave the shortest inauguration speech, which by the way was our 1st president (more on that next month) less than 200 words  
 . But William Henry Harrison, 8,441 words, made the longest speech, but there is a down side of this. On Mar. 4th 1841 Harrison had ridden to the capitol on horse during a driving rainstorm wearing neither hat nor coat. The rain continued throughout the delivery of his inaugural address. He got pleurisy, pneumonia and died 30 days later April 4th 1841. So, Sally don't make any long speeches.  
 Again thanks to everyone for a good year and I'll see you around the Lodge

We are continuing to have a banner year with our Major Projects for Handicapped Children. With the donation of the car earlier in the year, it gave us a good shot in the arm. I would like to give you some December figures. In the month of December, the Major Projects caseload was 383 Children, making 717 visits and traveling 18,759 miles. The preschool eye-screening program had 83 screenings, running 2,260 children through the process and finding 132 children with potential problems then referred them to a doctor for further examination. Looks to me, it was money well spent.

David Naccarato,  
 Major Projects Chairman



**ELKS LODGE 2477  
PRESENTS**



**BUGGS ANSELL'S ANNUAL  
EASTER EGG HUNT**

**FREE \*\*\*FREE\*\*\*FREE**

**EASTER SUNDAY MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup>**  
 Starts at exactly 1:00 PM

EASTER EGG HUNT, EASTER BUNNY, PINATA,  
 PRIZES, CANDY, ICE CREAM & SODA'S  
 & CHOO CHOO THE CLOWN

BRING YOUR CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN,  
 FRIENDS & CAMERA TO CAPTURE THE MEMORIES

BE SURE TO BRING EASTER BASKETS OR BAGS  
 FOR YOUR CHILDREN TO COLLECT EASTER EGGS

THOUSAND OAKS ELKS LODGE 2477  
 158 CONEJO SCHOOL ROAD  
 THOUSAND OAKS, CA.






## CLUB MANAGERS CORNER

Judy Braymen

Hi everyone,

Well the Pearson's did it again another super Super Bowl Day I hope everyone enjoyed themselves. If your team won then your day was better then some others. This year I think was bigger then last year that is a good thing this means our lodge is growing and more people are joining in.

The next big activity is St Patrick's Day March 17th Thursday well you better be ready for this one. I will be preparing a complete Irish Meal along with the help of, Jim Mullen and Vicki making her Irish Soda Bread all the dishes will be homemade along with wonderful Irish desserts. See my flyer for the menu and time of dinner.

I have hired young teen Clog dancers we have not had this group before they will be performing 2 sets starting at 7:00 p.m. I am trying to get a bag pipe player to play in between the dance group. After the entertainment we will have our own Karaoke machine set up for some sing along Irish tunes. Mark it on your calendar and be prepared for some good Irish food and entertainment. If you have a pair of tap shoes brings them with you, and tap away.

For the lounge I am working on getting another golf game for the patio this way the boy's will be able to play tournaments. I know the wives will be thrilled about hearing this news huh! Annie and Catherine but just think of the extra money the lodge is receiving by your husbands playing golf on Friday nights. Electric dart boards are in the works the more they are played the more the lodge makes so by playing the games or the juke box you are supporting your lodge and having fun doing it.

Mr. Pete Padilla is lining up our entertainment on Friday nights and as usual he is doing a great job. Watch your calendar for those certain Friday's that you can dance away the night with good friends. This would be a good time for members to bring in a friend or a neighbor for dinner with a night of dancing let them see our lodge and how much fun it is to be a part of our organization. Hey what about St. Patrick's Day bring someone with you and you will get 50% off on their dinner.

Our lunches are still doing okay but I still have not seen some of you please try and come in on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday for lunch. We also offer orders to go we have to go menus behind the bar come in and pick one up. Tell your co-workers you know a great new place for lunch and bring them in as a guest. On Fridays and Mondays Glenn has been known to whip up a mean burger or sandwich for those who are hungry (some days he may not be able to) but it doesn't hurt to ask.

Guess who is coming back to cook once a month on Friday Nights his name starts with a "B". Do you give up?

Okay let's welcome back Bill Dennison and his new crew I don't have all their names yet except for two "Judy" & "Rick". We will be cooking March 25th Bill will be serving his famous Fried Chicken.

A reminder for all those who cook if you need anything for me to order from our vendors let me know a week prior to your schedule date. Some things I can get cheaper then going to Smart & Final or Costco and it saves you time from shopping. We some times have items left over that can be used for another dinner please give me a call and I can let you know what we have on hand it's just another way to save the lodge money.

Congratulation to Bob Brennan for winning the Budweiser truck donated by Keith Orr the money will be used for kitchen equipment or for new shelves behind the bar.

Oh one other thing before I say goodbye remember four month ago I asked everyone to give me a picture of themselves from the past? Well out of all our members I received 10 pictures. I am extending this until March 10th so please find a picture and get it into me by then so I can display them on Sunday March 13th. It will be a lot of fun trying to guess who is who over breakfast so come on take 10 minutes and look for that one picture. All pictures will be returned.



### ST. PATRICK'S DAY MARCH 17<sup>TH</sup>, THURSDAY

JOIN US AT THE LODGE  
FUN FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT

DINNER BUFFET STARTS AT 5:30 \$7.00

CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE  
RED BOILED POTATOS  
GUINNESS PIE  
SHEPPARD PIE  
IRISH SODQA BREAD  
IRISH DESSERTS

ENTERTAINMENT STARTS AT 7:00 P.M.  
CLOG DANCERS 2 SHOWS  
7:00 & 7:40

KARAOKE WITH CATHERINE  
8:00 to 10:00  
WITH SOME GOOD OLD IRISH TUNES

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

As the closing of our Lodge year is approaching, it gives me the opportunity to thank everyone who has been supportive of this station. I have jumped into this position with both feet and only landed firmly with the help and support of my fellow Officers and Chairpersons. Thank you for taking me under your wing and guiding me through all the events of the past year. I never realized how active our Lodge is!

I would like to thank all the committee chairpersons and helpers under my station for their commitment and outstanding job supporting our Lodge. Thank you to Raven West who we didn't let retire from Americanism; Robert Jones who was busy enough as the Esquire and helped with the Flag Retirement; Rick Herrera spearheading Scholarship and hosting his annual fund raising party; Rusty Kennedy who lent his wonderful deep voice for our Memorial Services; Denise Goldstein doubling as Trustee and Gov't Relations Chair; Jim Kellogg and his crew who has devoted many hours and happiness to our Veterans at the Hospital; Chet and Shirley Koslowski, once again providing our children the Christmas Party; Bob Hardy and crew for the hours out in the cold at the Tree lot; Bill von Wittenburg as President of the Kampers; Dave and Tommy who are the devoted Captains of our Tournaments and everyone behind the scenes who help support these functions for our Lodge.

### Cath's Quips:

*An inch of time is an inch of gold but you can't buy that inch of time with an inch of gold.*

### A Message from the Elks National Veterans Service Commission

From the earliest times in our history as a country, a special group of individuals has been willing to risk life and limb, personal wealth and possessions as well as family and friends to secure the freedoms that have made America a world leader and a beacon of hope for those who have sought freedom from oppression and the right of free speech. This line of American patriots has continued unbroken from the Revolutionary War

through today's conflict in Iraq and the Middle East. Everyday these men and women put their lives on the line as they try to bring democracy to this part of the world.

In 1917, we began working with and for our servicemen during World War I. We built and equipped two field hospitals in France. We helped the Salvation Army with their canteen service in France. We also built the first VA Hospital in Boston and donated it to the federal government. We even granted 40,000 rehabilitation, vocational and educational loans to disabled veterans who were ineligible for government help.

Then in 1945, we, as Elks, made the solemn pledge that "So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them." We have been fulfilling that responsibility for almost 60 years.

Just as the patriotic service of the members of our Armed Forces has remained unbroken, it is equally important that the Elks service to America's fighting men and women remain unbroken. To help achieve this goal, we established the Army of Hope back in February 2002.

As you choose your Lodge Officers this month to lead you during the 2005-2006 fraternal year, I ask these new leaders to make the Army of Hope one of the centerpieces of your administration. We have a great responsibility to assist the families of those men and women who are deployed in Iraq and other areas of conflict.

This assistance can range from simple projects like replacing a light fixture, fixing a broken screen, replacing a broken window, cutting the grass, etc. Your Lodge might even consider hosting a monthly function (dinner?) for spouses and their children (games?).

Elks! Patriotism! Serving members of our Armed Forces! These three ideals have been inseparable. Now is not the time to break them up. That bond is now stronger than ever.

If you have questions about the Army of Hope, please call me in Chicago at (773) 755-4810. I will do my best to answer them.

**REMEMBER! FOR OUR VETERANS!**  
**ALWAYS FOR OUR VETERANS!**

Fraternally,  
 Michael F. Manning, Director  
 Elks National Veterans Service Commission



## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Greg Metzgus, PER

Our fund raising efforts for the new facilities are starting to pay off. There have been several events this past month that have enhanced our building fund. There are more events and fund raisers scheduled so please help support this effort.

There has been some discussion around the lodge of simply remodeling what we have rather than build a new building. This was covered in one of my first construction updates but I will reiterate. It was

determined by the building committee several years ago that because nothing in our present building meets present day codes, it would be most cost effective to demolish what we have and start over. The slabs in our building and footings are cracking more and more every year. The electrical system is a nightmare and our plumbing system is inadequate for even our present needs, let alone any proposed additions. There isn't a wall in the lodge that would not have to be rebuilt to accept an addition and we would end up with the same problem we have now, several small rooms.

Another discussion is why not build in phases. In our first meeting with the city we brought this up. Their response was that they would not issue a permit for any phased building. It must be kept in mind that we will have to put in new sewer, water, electrical and a fire main. All of these services have to be sized for the completed project. Even if we could build in phases, the building cost for the entire project would be increased.

Len Cardoni has been meeting with Claudi Pedroso from the building department for the City of Thousand Oaks. At the time of this writing we still do not have a final acceptable design for the exterior. Len has made alterations at their request but every time he submits new drawings they want to add something more before they will sign off on the appearance. Hopefully by the time you receive this we will have an approved elevation plan.

Bond holders should have received their interest checks by now. Some have added more money to the check and invested in additional bonds. We continue to have bonds purchased but we need to accelerate this process. As I pointed out earlier, construction costs are raising about 10% per year and that translates to in excess of \$8,000 per month. We need to start this project so we can lock our building costs in. Please, if you have not purchased a bond, consider it. If you have purchased a bond, consider purchasing more.

### ATTENTION

#### Donations of items to the lodge

While monetary donations are always welcome to the lodge, donations of items are not always so cheerfully received, especially if no one knows who dropped them off or why. Several items in the past few months have been in the second category.

Please, if you have an item you would like to donate to the lodge, check with a chair officer first so that he can bring it to attention of the Trustees who are responsible for lodge property. Dropping items off in the parking lot or placing them in the storage room without notifying an officer or trustee does nothing but



(L-R) Don Steward, Oxnard Lodge #1443, Garrett Chadley from Troop 649, Bill Sternberg, PER and Greg Metzgus, PER, Elks Lodge #2477

#### ELKS PARTNERS IN SCOUTING

Attached is a picture taken at Ventura County Council Boy Scouts 14th Annual Memorabilia Auction and Trade-O-Ree held last Friday and Saturday at the council office in Camarillo. Bill Sternberg, Don Steward (from Oxnard Lodge) and myself have put this event on for 14 years and raised in excess of \$60,000 for the Scout council to help improve Camp Three Falls and to send underprivileged scouts to camp during the summer. The scouts name is Garrett Chadley from Troop 649. Don Steward, Bill Sternberg and Myself are in the picture with Garrett showing him various scouting memorabilia.

We have various collectors from all over the country come in once a year in February to purchase items we have collected. There is also a lot of trading going on all day. At one o'clock on Saturday we hold a live auction to bid on some of the more expensive items. An example of our source for memorabilia to sell is collections people may have inherited when a family member passes away. It is usually a shoe box that has been in someone's attic or closet for many years and had done nothing but gather dust. We receive the items and sort them according to category. They are then displayed and purchased or bid on by someone that has interest in a particular type of patch. This is a nice way to put old scouting items to work after they have long since lost their sentimental value. A present day underprivileged scout can benefit and spend a week at camp.

create problems. Lately there have been useful items left at our doorstep but the problem is that they are not useful to us.

Another problem we are having in unauthorized use of our trash container. There have been times that large items have been placed in our dumpster and we have had to hold our trash from the lodge until there is room enough to dump it. Please do not use the lodge trash container for anything other than lodge trash.

WELCOME ABOARD OUR NEW MEMBERS



David Anderson and sponsor Scott Dool



Donald Thompson and standing in for sponsor Ed Mutz is Scott Dool



Richard Ibarra and standing in for sponsor Harry Brockwell is Myrna Block



Charles Lowe sponsored by Rick Filerman



Michael Fairbanks and standing in for sponsor Harold Calvin is Mitch Strunk



Grand Exalted Ruler, James McQuillian and Richard Goldner, DDGER help the Pasadena Elks Lodge usher in the New Year '05

**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2005 PARTY A BIG SUCCESS**



**Karen and David Naccarato all smiles to greet the New Year '05**



**What a fine surprise to see PER, John and Mitzi Nau bring in the New Year '05 at the Lodge**



**What is new years without a cake to celebrate. PER, Johnny D'Ambrogio and Marva provided a gourmet meal to bring in the New Year**



**Tom Klomprens and Pearl Gibbs were happy celebrants**



**Judy Brayman put out a big smile for the New Year**



**Richard Filerman and Deanne attended the party**

2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS	<h2 style="margin: 0;">THE ELKS LADIES</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">Karen Naccarato</p>	2004-05 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
<p><b>1ST VICE PRESIDENT:</b> Alice Kennedy  <b>2ND VICE PRESIDENT:</b> Carol Neuner  <b>3RD VICE PRESIDENT:</b> Jeri Miller  <b>SECRETARY:</b> Annie Pearson  <b>TREASURER:</b> Donna Hardy  <b>AUDITOR:</b> Kathy Ryder  <b>TELEPHONE:</b> Patti Serota</p>		<p><b>PARLIAMENTARIAN:</b> Myrna Block  <b>CHAPLAIN:</b> Marilyn Cissell  <b>MAJOR PROJECTS:</b></p> <p><b>CVD:</b> Dee Swanson &amp; Marilyn Cissell  <b>HISTORIAN:</b>  <b>SUNSHINE:</b> Shirley Kozlowski</p>



Hello Everyone,

**Your Vote Counts!**

Tuesday, March 1st. Be sure to attend the Elks Ladies Meeting. Your vote counts. We will be voting on the new officers for the

year 2005-2006.

- President - Alice Kennedy
- 1st Vice President - Carol Neuner
- 2nd Vice President - Jessica Stull
- 3rd Vice President - Jeri Miller
- Treasurer - Barbara Metzgs
- Secretary - Diane Isaman

Please attend and make your vote count!

The Installation Dinner for our New Officers will be held on Tuesday March 8th. The price for Dinner is \$10.00 per person. Men are welcome to this event.

There is a menu choice of either Chicken Florentine or Salmon. Please have your reservations into Kathy Ryder (805) 497-1853 or Shirley Kozlowski (805) 492-0939. Get your reservations in no later than March 3rd.

Last month we had 2 new members join the Elks Ladies: Mary Woodlief and June Leadam. Welcome June and Mary!

Believe it or not, Conejo Valley Days is around the corner! Dee Swanson and Marilyn Cissell have begun the undertaking for Conejo Valley Days! They'll be looking for volunteers soon to help work the gates.

- March 5th is Conejo Valley Days Kick off Picnic.
- April 24th - Chili Cook Off
- April 27th - Conejo Valley Days Carnival begins
- April 29th - Special Kids Day (Volunteers needed)
- April 30th - Conejo Valley Days Parade

The Annual Laughlin Trip date has been set for June 26th. For info and seat availability contact Annie Pearson (805) 492-3707 Seats are going fast!!

Well, we finally had a winner in one of the two \$100.00 prizes in our Bubble Drawings. It has been up for grabs for a long time. The big winner was our Treasurer, Donna Hardy, who then graciously donated her winnings to the Major Projects Fund. Congrats. Donna we thank you for your donation to Major Projects Fund.

There's still another \$100.00 prize as well as \$40.00 up for grabs. All you have to do is attend the Elks Ladies Meeting on March 1st and if your name is drawn and you're present, the prize money is yours. So here are the names drawn in February's Bubble Drawing:



**FORGIVE US GOD, FOR DOUBTS**

Marilyn Cissell

**If we could slow the hands of time,  
 would changes in our lives be made?  
 Those choices offered us by you,  
 Then chosen, God, would they now fade?**

**Did we decide too quickly, Lord  
 our minds may wander aimlessly,  
 Have we forgotten who's in control?  
 we're now exactly where we're meant to  
 be.**

Amen

**MARCH**



- 1 Angie Prizzi**
- 5 Phyllis Riding**
- 6 Dee Ansell**
- 22 Eve Davis**
- 25 Jessica Stull**

- |              |                          |           |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Gail Cortis  | \$100.00 Not Present     | No Winner |
| Donna Hardy  | \$100.00 Present Winner! |           |
| Judy Panczak | \$20.00 Not Present      | No Winner |

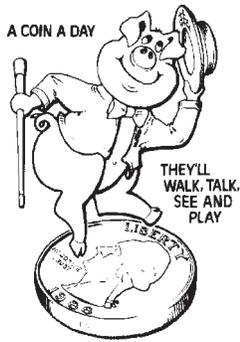
Dates to Remember:

- March 1st Elks Ladies Meeting (voting of officers)
- March 5th Conejo Valley Days Kick Off
- March 8th Installation of Elk Ladies Officers Dinner
- March 12th Jr. Elks all you can eat Spaghetti Dinner and talent Night
- March 17th Saint Patrick's Day Celebration at the Lodge

I wish everyone Well and Happiness,

Sincerely, Carol Neuner

## HONOR ROLL



Sally Claunch  
 David Naccarato  
 Ron Hall  
 Gene Letourneau  
 Gary Erland  
 Judi Palmquist



- |    |                 |     |                            |     |                                |
|----|-----------------|-----|----------------------------|-----|--------------------------------|
| 1. | John Tapking    | 7.  | Jack Henry PER             | 22. | Cliff Hodge                    |
|    | Rick Spampinato |     | Dan Kirkpatrick            |     | Gene Newton                    |
|    | Harvey Flam     |     | Eddie Shuttleworth         |     | Gary Erland                    |
| 2. | Rod Bloom       | 8.  | Tom Hartin                 | 23. | Buddy Minor                    |
| 3. | Darryl Vadnais  | 10. | George Meehan              |     | Howard Wullschlager,<br>PDDGER |
|    | Paul DeNubilo   | 11. | Pete Jackson               | 24. | Art Seldney                    |
| 4. | Rusty Kennedy,  |     | Robert Thornton,<br>PDDGER |     | Richard J. Goldner,<br>DDGER   |
| 5. | Ron Collins     | 12. | Carmine Prizzi             |     | Ron Guy,                       |
|    | Luther Hadley   |     | Ernie Pacheco              | 26. | Jack Conn                      |
|    | Chuck Gicking,  | 14. | Tony Lerner                | 28. | Floyd Lawrence                 |
| 6. | Larry Deeder    | 16. | Joe Grecco                 |     | Susan O'Connell                |
|    | Joseph Panczak  | 17. | Kevin Metzgus              |     | Pearl Gibbs                    |
|    | James Bragg     | 18. | Donald McCaffrey           | 30. | Bill Jones                     |
|    |                 |     | Mike Idol                  |     |                                |
|    |                 | 21. | Larry Pile                 |     |                                |
|    |                 |     | Jay Schmidt                |     |                                |
|    |                 |     | John Broderick             |     |                                |
|    |                 |     | Tom Sheridan               |     |                                |
|    |                 |     | Deni Byrnes                |     |                                |

## FROM THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE PROPOSED AND WILL BE BALLOTTED ON

Date: February 9, 2005

NAME	OCCUPATION	SPONSOR
Dan Brown	Brown Trucking	Herb Jellander
Lou Albert	Raogram Director L.A. Valley College	Raven West
Charles C. Welsh	Truck Driver	Michael Stark
Stephen Finnerty	Retired	Thomas Varden



## CRYING TOWEL

January 5	\$375.00	#325	Bob Cissell
	Lucky 13 No Winner		
January 12	\$400.00	#1806	Len Cardoni
	Lucky 13	Bill Lloyd	WINNER
January 19	\$425.00	#1762	David Maddox
	Lucky 13 No Winner		
January 26	No Meeting	LAW & FIREFIGHTER APPRECIATION NIGHT	



**TERESA  
RUSSELL**

**&**

**STEVEN  
GEYER**



**FRIDAY MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup>  
KNOWN WORLD WIDE**

**DON'T MISS THIS NIGHT  
OF ENTERTAINMENT**

**& PAT RUSSELL**

**SIZE 12**



**FRIDAY MARCH 18<sup>TH</sup>  
COME AND PARTY DANCE TIME**

# IT'S BACK !!!

## Blackout No-Tap Bowling Night

Saturday , March 19th

from 6pm - 9pm

Harley's Simi Bowl

480 E. Los Angeles Ave, Simi Valley

You DO NOT have to be a good bowler to have fun and win prizes at this great event! The lights will be turned off and you only have to knock down 9 pins to get a strike! Finger food will be provided and the Coffee Shop will be available for your dinner purchase. BOWLING NO-TAP IN THE DARK IS REALLY A LOT OF FUN, SO DONT MISS THIS ONE!!



**\$20.00 PER PERSON**

To reserve your spot or team

Contact:

Calamity Annie

David Pearson 805.492-3707



Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477



## Children's Party and Easter Egg Hunt

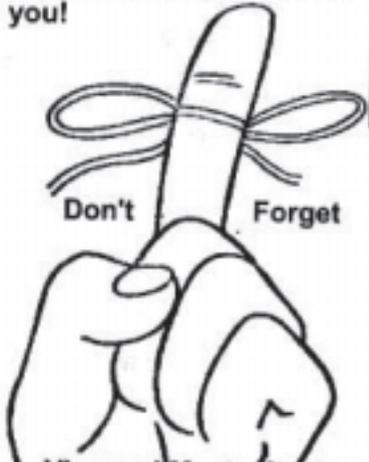
Sunday March 27, 2005

1:00 to 3:30 PM

Entertainment and fun for the whole family, with special entertainment and prizes for the children.



Dues are due for some of you!



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Ken Muellerleile

I AM  
Who, What or Where

Before I leave, I would like to be fed  
Before I leave, I would like to get clothes  
Before I leave, I would like some cash  
But, now that I have left, I go the way I came  
Hungry, bare and broke..

Now that I have left, I am still hungry  
Now that I have left, I still have no clothes  
Now that I have left, I'm walking everywhere  
And now that I have arrived, I stand in front of you still hungry, bare and broke.

Now I am at the end of my journey,  
I need no food  
Now that I am at the end of my journey,  
I need no clothes  
Now that I am at the end of my journey,  
there's no need for cash  
this is the ultimate place for all people, there is no need for, food, clothes or cash.

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Organization  
of Thousand Oaks  
Elks Lodge #2477

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



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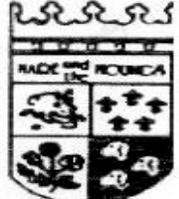


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