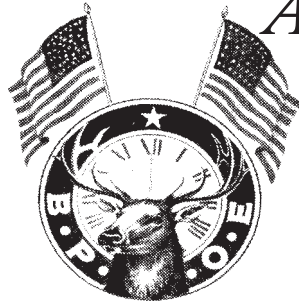




David Naccarato,
Exalted Ruler



ANTLER

ANTICS

Vol 35, No. 12

Editor, Sally Claunch, PER

March '07

'Elkdom  the Winning Hand'



INAUGURAL BALL SATURDAY, MARCH 31 IN HONOR OF OUR NEW EXALTED RULER

CATHERINE KOERITZ

THOUSAND OAKS INN

COCKTAILS 6 PM

DINNER 7 PM

MENU

SALAD CRAB LOUIE

CHOICE OF:

1. STEAK ROULADE
2. POACHED ESCOBAR ALMADINE FISH
3. CHICKEN CORDON BLUE

DESSERT: STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

NO HOST BAR

MUSIC BY : THE ORIGINAL RENEGADES



**RESERVATIONS BY MARCH 24
\$40.00 PER PERSON**



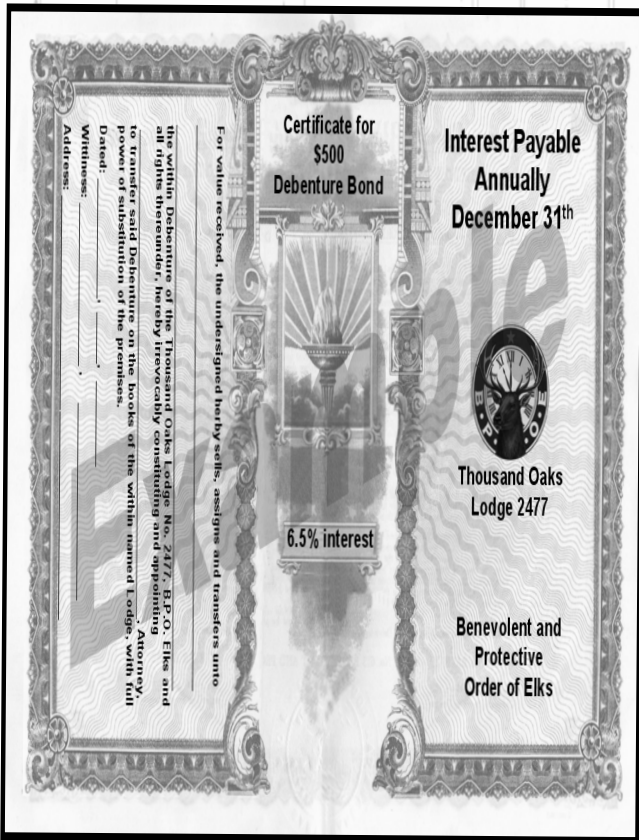
TICKETS AT BAR OR FROM OFFICERS

Building a New Lodge

Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is proud to announce the release of bonds to our membership to purchase.



ARCHITECTS
A NEW LODGE



We are finally doing it!!!

We are offering the sale of bonds to build our new Lodge. These will be available in \$500 or \$1,000 denominations and will pay 6.5 % simple interest annually.

o Information will be forthcoming directly to the membership during Lodge Wednesday night meetings and in the Antler Antics

o Applications for bonds are available at the Office and in the lounge

2006-07 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS



EXALTED RULER
David Naccarato

2006-07 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

ANTLERANTICS: Sally Claunch, PER, Editor,
Jerry Serota, Asst. Editor/Photographer
NEW FACILITIES: Greg Metzgus, PER
HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK: Jerry Serota
GREETERS:
PUBLIC RELATIONS: Jerry Serota
BUILDING MAINT. : Max Maxwell/Tom Hartin



PARLIAMENTARIAN: Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, DL
LODGE VISITATIONS:
BBQ WAGON:
AUDITING: Tom Ryder, PDDGER
ELKS TRAINING: Greg Metzgus, PER
SHOE TOURNAMENTS: Mike Budenski
BEQUESTS & LIVING TRUSTS:
Robert Jones

MY WAY

“And now the end is near and so I face the final curtain. My Friends I state me case of which I’m certain. I’ve planned each charter course and may I say not in a shy way I did it my way

Regrets I had few but then again to few to mention” OK that’s it I had a blast this year- Jerry Serota getting my picture in the paper a few times. The guys at work see it and cut em out and hang the picture up at work. But we’re getting the name of Elkdom out to the public.

IN THE BEGINNING

Ever wonder how the Elks started well I’m going to tell you. Charles A. Vivian was a twenty five year old singer from England who arrived in New York on November 15 1867. He attained some measure of success as a variety performer. He also struck up a large and boisterous number of acquaintances in the performing world, the nucleus of what would become the Elks Vivian’s friends were soon known as the Jolly Corks due to a cork trick that they used to initiate new members into their group. At a Meeting held February 2nd 1868 presided over by Charles A. Vivian a motion was made to organize “the Jolly Corks” as a lodge along benevolent and fraternal lines and providing that a committee be appointed to formulate rules and regulations for its government, prepare a suitable ritual, and select a new name.

Why was the Elk adopted as the symbol of the order? The 15 founders of the fraternity desired a readily identifiable creature of stature, indigenous to America. Eight members voted to adopt the elk, and seven favored the buffalo.

SIDE NOTE

Shortly before Christmas in 1867, only a few months after the fellows began to meet, one of their number died, leaving his wife and children destitute. This event gave rise to the notion that, in addition to good fellowship, The Jolly Corks needed a more noble purpose in order to endure, and serving not only their own need, but others as well, would be appropriate.

Two months later, with a statement of purpose, and impressive set of rituals, a symbol of strength and majesty and such other elaborate trappings that might be expected of a group of actors and musicians, the new fraternal order was launched. The growth and record of benevolence of the Elks is well chronicled, with Elks lodges now in 2200 communities and a membership up near 1 million Americans.

LOG SPLITTING

Kudos and finger snaps go out to member Keith Orr for spending countless hours splitting wood for our Bar B Que. Thanks Keith.

REMEMBER

- It is the Veteran, not the preacher, who has given us freedom of religion.
- It is the Veteran, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press.
- It is the Veteran, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech.
- It is the Veteran, not the campus organizer, who has given us freedom to assemble.
- It is the Veteran, not the lawyer, who has given us the right to a fair trial.
- It is the Veteran, not the politician, who has given us the right to vote.

HOOP SHOOT

One of our 12-13 girls that participated in our Hoop Shoot went up to the district shoot in Goleta. Kylie Cunningham went home with second place honors with 18/25. will try again next year.

ELKS HONOR POLICE AND FIRE FIGHTERS

Thousand Oaks Elks under the direction of Scott Dool held our 30th annual law enforcement and fire fighters appreciation night at the lodge. It was well attended and a exciting evening. All the recipients were very grateful and they all commented on how wonderful our bar b que tasted. The food was chaired by out out going bar b que chairman Eddie Rice and crew. You guys did it again

continued on page 13

IT'S BACK !!!

Blackout No-Tap Bowling Night

Saturday, March 24th
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 DON'T MISS THIS ONE!!!!

\$ 22.00 PER PERSON

To reserve your spot or team:

Contact:

Annie or David Pearson

805 492-3707





FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER & ENTERTAINMENT SERIES



THE
Wild Women on Wine
GO IRISH!

FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2007
6:30 PM



ALL-OVER-GREEN-CLOVER SALAD
IRISH SURF & TURF:
LEMON HERB SALMON AND LUCKY PORK LOIN
POT O' GOLD POTATOES
LEPRECHAUN CARROTS AND RICH CREAMED ONIONS
IRISH SODA BREAD
DESSERT-SOMETHING O'SINFULLY CHOCOLATE, O'OURSE!
\$12

WHITE MC'WINE BAR INCLUDED





EDITOR'S CORNER

Sally Claunch, PER
sclaunch@adelphia.net
 articles due 5th of month
 send as Word attachment

Our 35th Anniversary

On March 25, 1972 at 4 p.m. at Thousand Oaks High School a group of men took the plunge and formed Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477. Now on March 25, 2007 at 4 p.m. thirty-five years later we are commemorating our birth.

And how do Elks celebrate milestones??? By having a party and ceremony by inviting all living Charter Members back, they will be the honored guests of our Lodge. During the social hour, I am sure that they will recite the old time stories and Elk legends. Following the buffet dinner prepared by Lancaster Bob and crew, they will be recognized for their service.

As PER, Tom Ryder, and Jerry Serota have been the guardians of the albums and memorabilia from the beginning, their treasures will be on display for a trip down memory lane.

As an Elk, I am proud of our heritage and history and am looking forward to sharing an evening with the founders and old time Elks.

Dear Friends,
 TJ and I would like to thank all of you for your concern. She is currently recovering at home and will be there at least another week or so. She has regained her strength in her right leg and her speech is improving. The main area of concern now is getting movement back to her right arm and hand. We visited the doctors yesterday and the prognosis is good. There are no signs of any other clots and she is on medication for blood pressure, blood thinning and cholesterol. Her spirits are high and we are working hard to get her back to her normal, jovial self. Our home email is down and will be changed in the next week. I will notify all of you in case you don't like emailing me at work. Phone calls are welcomed on a limited basis, as she gets tired when she tries to talk to much. Again, "Thank all of you!" for being there with your support.

Ted Lipka, ER 1988-1989

486-5466 wk

486-5978 fax

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

805-495-0577

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Mryna Block to have tests done

ON THE MEND: Pete Padilla is recovering from a knee replacemnt; Joe Smith from hernia surgery; Carol Stewart; Kevin Metzqus from oral surgery; and Dave Naccarato, ER, from successful back surgery- Hurray!!

**REMEMBER CARDS AND PHONE CALLS
 ARE ALWAYS APPRECIATED!!**

Welcome back Jim Kellogg



COMING ATTRACTIONS

March 7-Pin Night
 March 13-Elk Ladies Officers Installation Dinner
 March 16-Wild Women on Wine-St. Patrick's Party
 March 18-Elk Orientation Session
 March 21-Step-Up Night
 March 23-Elk of the Year Dinner
 March 24-Cosmic Bowling
 March 25-35th Lodge Anniversary Celebration
 March 28- Installation of Officers Dinner
 March 31-Inaugural Ball

MAJORPROJECT/PURPLEPIG:

David Naccarato

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

Myrna Block

**CHRISTMAS BASKETS:** Catherine Koeritz**INDOCTRINATION:** Jack Loughran, PER**MEM. CONTROL. COM.:** Herb Jellander**CVAC:** Tom Hartin**COMMUNITY RELATIONS:** Jerry Serota**CHARITY DINNERS:** David Naccarato

This is my last article as your Leading Knight. The next time you hear from me, I will write as the Exalted Ruler, if elected. When you first start a new position, it feels a little overwhelming. It often times feels that you will have a hard time fulfilling all the responsibilities of that office. But looking back through the year, realizing the major tasks under the Leading Knights chair, we have successfully managed to accomplish events like the Charity Ball (Octoberfest), the Inaugural Ball and the Charity Baskets. These major events and all the activities big or small took a lot of people to make them run smooth, profitable, and fun! I have enjoyed working with everyone.

The whole year's activities could not have been accomplished if it wasn't for the support and contributions of everyone. I hope I had the opportunity to thank everyone personally and tell him or her how important each and everyone is to making this lodge what it is.

MARCH MADNESS

We have a lot of activities planned in March. It is also the time of year that I will be transitioning into a very important position. I have a lot of organizing to do at this time, and I have my right hand woman, Marva D'Ambrogio to help. Thank goodness. However, that doesn't get Robert off the hook!!! He knows this is going to take a joint effort and will be right with me. Robert is not a newcomer to this lodge and has supported it for many years. He might not be in the headlines, but he is constantly helping me, the Pearsons, the Claunchs and many other activities within the lodge. I owe him a big **THANK YOU!**

The installation of Officers will be on March 28th. Everyone is invited to this open meeting to see the new Officer Corps be installed for the year 2007-2008. A very important date (for me) is the Inaugural Ball. The date is March 31st (Saturday) at the Thousand Oaks Inn. I would like to personally extend an invitation to everyone! Tickets will be on sale and I hope I can count on your support.

RITUAL

We are still practicing under the expert tutelage of Gil Riding and Richard Goldner. This year the Ritual Contest is in Oxnard and we are scheduled to perform on May 4th. It also coincides with Conejo Valley Days. The good news is that the Ritual contest is close to home.

You can see us perform on step-up night, March 21st.

I can't say it enough times how much I appreciate the support I have received in the past and the support that has been extended to me. I continue to do my best and wish all the Officers good luck in our new positions and at Ritual contest!



Exalted Ruler, Dave Naccarato, presenting Cheryl Templeton with a Century Club certificate

My office consists of two full time wonderful employees, Carmela Camp and Kathy Dorfman, both of whom contribute change to the Purple Pig in my office; when it gets full, I empty it, turn in the coins for dollar bills (or poker camping money), round up the total to \$100 and write a check to the Purple Pig for \$100. So the donation is from "Templeton & Associates.

Cheryl Templeton



THOUSAND OAKS ELKS ORIENTATION

The Past Exalted Rulers (PERs) of the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge are hosting an Elks Orientation on Sunday March 18, 2007 starting at 1:30 PM. It is the PERs intention to present information regarding what it is to be an Elk and the duties and responsibilities of the Officers and the members for the welfare of their Lodge. Also to be explained are the responsibilities of Lodge Committee persons and their tasks in the conduct of Thousand Oaks Lodge operations. It is hoped that each officer and Committee Chairman will leave with an understanding of what is required in the position they have undertaken for the next Lodge year.

Past Exalted Rulers have dedicated much time and efforts fulfilling those tasks necessary for them to have gotten through their years in the Chairs. They have been to many Elk Clinics, many conferences, many conventions and have picked up knowledge they believe will be beneficial in helping the current Officers and Committee persons to help make the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge one of the Leader Lodges in the Order of Elkdom.

This Elks Orientation will outline the Duties and Requirements of the Officers and Committee chairman as well as what is expected of them for the 2007-2008 Elks year. A PER will establish the tie to the Grand Lodge Statues as further amended by the Thousand Oaks Lodge by-Laws.

While this Orientation is directed towards the incoming Officers for the 2007-2008 Elks year all members and their "Significant Others" are invited to attend and participate.

If you might be considering becoming an Officer or committee chairman this orientation will help you understand what is expected once a person assumes the responsibility of the task to be undertaken.

This ORIENTATION will be conducted in an INFORMAL format and each speaker will have a question and answer period after their short briefing.

Please attend, take notes and ask questions! If the PERs do not have an answer for your question they will get it and get back to you.

Note

The Thousand Oaks Lodge is one of the twelve lodges of the West Central Coast District (WCCD), which is one of the nineteen Districts of the California-Hawaii Elks Association (CHEA), which is one of the Associations making up the Grand Lodge (GL).

ORIENTATION AGENDA

Welcome
 Introduction
 Explanation of Grand Lodge Statues
 Explanation of T.O. Lodge By-Laws
 Tie in to the District, CHEA and Grand Lodge
 Duties and Responsibilities of the;
 Exalted Ruler
 Leading Knight
 Loyal Knight
 Lecturing Knight
 Secretary
 Treasurer
 Esquire
 Members of the Board of Trustees
 Inner Guard
 Tiller
 Committee Chairman
 Duty Officer
 Visitations – What they are and who should partake;
 CHEA President to This District
 Vice President – Own Lodge
 Vice President – Other Lodges
 DDGER - Own Lodge
 DDGER – Other Lodges
 Lodge Functions and Activities
 Dress Code
 Protocol
 Significant Other person support
 General Membership support
 Lodge Tie in to Community

**The Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge
 Past Exalted Rulers Association**

2006-07 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

**LOYAL KNIGHT
George Meehan**

2006-07 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

CONEJO VALLEY DAYS: Ed Rice
LODGE ACTIVITIES: Glenn Wellman
SCOUTING: Bill Miller
HOOPSHOOT: Tom Hartin
WED. NIGHT DINNERS: Tom Ryder, PER
DRUG AWARENESS: Karen Naccarato
STRAY ELKS: Herb Jellander



MOTHER'S DAY: Raven West
ENTERTAINMENT: Tom Ryder, PER
WED. NIGHT TICKETS: Steve Smith
LAW ENFORCEMENT & FIRE FIGHTER
APPRECIATION: Scott Dool
PRESIDING JUSTICE: Dick McCann
YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Bill Miller

Well, here we go again. A new Elk year is beginning and ritual practice is in full swing. There are new positions to learn and lines to memorize. So that our new officers can make the lodge proud when we go to Ritual Contest on May 4. It is a challenge for all of us and we are grateful to those who are willing to serve as officers and coaches. Those who have never served, think about it for the future. It really is an honor and a privilege.

The Police and Firefighters banquet was a total success. Eddie Rice and crew served up and excellent meal. The officers did a fine job in serving and Scott Dool had the evening running smoothly with no long-winded speeches. Every thing was said that had to be said. Good job, Scott.

As you know the job of running the kitchen comes under the Loyal Knight's station. Tom Ryder took over that job for me and relieved me of a lot of work. Thank you, Tom and Kathy, for your excellent work. A big thank you goes out to all who cooked and served Wednesday Dinners, Friday Night Dinners and Sunday Breakfasts. You and your crews were a tremendous help and I can't thank you enough.

To all of my committee chairmen, I would like to let you know how much I appreciated your help. Without you the work would never have gotten done, but with you it was a joy.

The Elks Ladies Mardi Gras is going to be held on February 24. It is one of their big fundraisers for the year and supports Major Projects. Make a reservation and come and enjoy a great evening with your fellow members and spouses.

Finally, I would like you to attend the Inaugural Ball on March 31. It will give you an opportunity to send your new Exalted Ruler on her way to having a great year, leading your lodge. Catherine Koeritz has some great ideas on how she is going to make her year exciting and fun for all of us. So be there to support her. Her appreciation will show that wonderful smile that radiates to us all.

ENTERTAINMENT



- March 2-Phil Birdsell**
- March 9-Bingo**
- March 16-Visions**
- March 30-K.C. Phillips**



**Fish King Cooper
Is back
Preparing his fish fry
Every 3rd Friday
Starting April 20th**



NEW FACILITIES

Greg Metzger, PER



Five bids for our new building were turned into the lodge office on the 31st of January by general contractors in our area. The bids all came in at or near what we had predicted; between \$1.6 million and \$1.8 million. Because the article is being written on the 2nd of February, it is too early to have had time to fully evaluate all of the bids. There will have to be a lot of value engineering (finding ways to lower the cost) and cost adjusting (including all of the permit fees, kitchen equipment etc) before we will know the exact cost. One thing that is clear now, we can build a new lodge building for the amount of money we had predicted.

The Steering Committee will meet again this Monday and as often as necessary there after until we have a completed building cost package to present to the Exalted Ruler, membership and the Trustees. The high budget figure of \$1.8 million is the number we are going to have to come in at. Some things will have to be trimmed to meet that budget and some of the work will have to be accomplished by members. Two of the general contractors we have talked to are willing to work with our members to help make this project affordable. Examples of things our members can do to help build the lodge are tasks like the sprinkler system installation, landscape planting, appliance installation, and maybe even a little painting. The major portions of the construction are best left to the professionals but if you are a licensed tradesman and would like to submit a proposal to the successful contractor, don't wait till he has already given the sub-contract to someone else.

Another way we can bring the initial cost of the project down is to forego some of the construction until a later date. The city is requiring the 2nd story for aesthetic reasons but the finishing of that area is costly. We can leave the 2nd floor unfinished and defer the cost of air conditioning, plumbing and, painting and carpeting upstairs to a later date. Sure, we all want it now but it is possible to have a new hall, lodge room and lounge now and complete the 2nd floor later.

Several of the major items we will eventually need can also be the focus of specific fund raisers between the time we start construction and when those items are actually needed for installation. The room divider is a major item; \$25K plus or minus. The new kitchen equipment we need is something that we would need to

install at the completion of the project. These are just two items that we can focus on financing while our new lodge is being built. Most of us with children have preached to them that if you want something, you will have to be patient and work for it. This is an opportunity for us to practice what we preach.

In closing, let me remind everyone that commercial financing of this project is a very costly portion of the work. All of the bank's finance fees are money we have to pay and we get nothing but a piece of paper in return. Many members have stated that once they see a shovel in the ground that they will jump on board and help. We need a commitment now from our members so that we can put the shovel in the ground. Every dollar we save in finance fees is money we can put into our building instead of the pockets of some banker. Our building bond's interest rate is very attractive and many of our members have reaped the benefits in the form of interest checks. Our lodge would much rather pay our members interest than to pay a bank. In short, buy bonds and buy often.



March Madness

BOND SALE
Applications available
In office



YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND
THOUSAND OAKS ELKS
LODGE 35TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY MARCH 25TH

4PM SOCIAL HOUR

5 PM BUFFET

\$10

PROGRAM TO FOLLOW HONORING
CHARTER MEMBERS AND PERS

MENU INCLUDES: LEMON CHICKEN, RAVIOLI, TRI-
TIP, SALAD BAR, ICE CREAM SUNDAES



Welcome new member Dorothy Muray with sponsor Liz Bell



Eddie Rice and his cooking crew for the Law Enforcement and Firefighter Appreciation Dinner



Patti & Myna Block handled the tickets for the Law Enforcement and Firefighters Appreciation Dinner



(L to R): Trevor Wineman, Landon Wurst and Bill Miller opened the program and Presented the Colors at Law Enforcement and Firefighters Appreciation Dinner



The latest addition to our kitchen- 3 part steamer table



Bernadette Corrigan and Al Lenahan with a last farewell to Hazel

ER continued from page 3**SUPERBOWL SUNDAY**

I was privileged to have a front row seat with PER, Johnny D' Ambrogio at the party. I guess rank has its privileges. The Super Bowl party was well attended. Big thanks to Dave and Annie Pearson and Tommy Claunch for organizing a successful event.

BREAKFAST 101

My breakfast crew was signed up for Super Bowl Sunday. If any of you have seen me around the lodge you have seen that I was not moving too fast. PER Johnny D. Ambrogio saw me at my last initiation and said he and Marva would be there to give my crew and me a hand so I would not be on my feet so much. What a big help. My normal crew is my wife Karen and Bill and Jeri Miller. They were all appreciative to have the help. John and Mava were the ones to teach Karen and I the ropes of the kitchen. As Leading Knight John and Marva also volunteered to create the 5 course Italian dinner we served at the New Year's Eve party I was in charge of. They bailed me out then and they bailed me out again.

MAJOR PROJECT

Britton Rutherford donated \$100.00, which entitles him to be an official member of the Century Club. I have a certificate of appreciation that I will forward to him. Britton is a horseshoe player. Whenever we have a tournament he is always in attendance.

OUR 35TH ANNIVERSARY

The anniversary weekend starts on March 23rd with the Elk of the Year dinner at the lodge, cosmic bowling on Saturday night, and on Sunday a buffet and celebration program. Charter members and Past Exalted Rulers will be invited to attend this event. Please plan to attend. Much history will be available from the ones that were here in the beginning.

SUGGESTION BOX

A locked box will be down at the lodge for your ideas and comments. Only Catherine and I will have the key. Comments will be gone over at House Committee meetings.

MANY THANKS

I would like to thank Norm Panczak for sponsoring me in the Elks and Jacob Panczak for installing me through the chairs. I would like to thank Sally Claunch for always looking out for me. Many times it seems we are not told how something should go down until after we screw up. Sally never let that happen to me. She always let me know what to expect, before it happened. As my year comes to a close I want to thank all of the lodge members for giving Karen and me a most memorable year as Exalted Ruler and First Lady of the best lodge in the district. Thank you.

**Bob Saynay, Secretary****To All Members**

Pin Awards, in 5-year intervals, in recognition of your service and dedication will be held at the regular Lodge meeting on Wednesday March 7, 2007 at 7:30 P.M. A complimentary meal will be served beginning at 6:00 P.M.

With 73 members eligible for awards, please make your reservations before March 2nd. Members with reservations will be first with kitchen privileges. We are hopeful that bulletin board and Antler postings will encourage your attendance.

INVOICES FOR 2007-2008 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE IN THE MAIL

As was the case this past year, the annual dues of \$241.50 (\$225.00 dues plus G.L. & CHEA assessments of \$16.50) may be split into two equal payments of \$120.75.

The first payment is due no later than April 1, 2007. The second payment is due no later than October 1, 2007. G.L. Statues require that any member who has not paid his or her dues is considered lapsed and prohibited entry or use of Lodge Facilities.

A member who only pays one-half is considered lapsed as of October 1, 2007 and is eligible to be dropped between October 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008. A member who has not paid any dues after April 1, 2007 is considered lapsed and can be dropped anytime after October 1, 2007.

Only paid up members can be granted Absolute or Transfer Demits. "Accomplishment Stickers" will only be applied to memberships cards that are paid in full.

Special door cards will again be used for one-half and fully paid members.

**GRAB YOUR BOWLING BALL
AND SHOES
HEAD TO HARLEY'S BOWL
MARCH 24TH
6 PM
FOOD-FUN**



EL KONEJO KAMPERS

Pat VonWittenburg



January 2007 at Valencia Travel Village

What's up? We were wagon masters at Travel Village last March and couldn't get enough spaces. This year – we bloody couldn't give them away. Was it the FREE food that attracted everyone?

Well how about this for a little motivation to attend campouts?

The Kampers will be purchasing Costco cards to be used for either merchandise or gas. These cards will be distributed to members attending **some future campout**, which will be determined by a roll of the dice and known only to one person. So don't bother to ask WHICH campout – because at this point in time NO ONE knows, besides even if it has been determined, which it hasn't, you will not be told. **Attend or miss out.**

We were delighted to welcome new members, Bob and Nancy Hart, truly a nice addition to the group. They said the really enjoyed the campout – even if it was colder than cold. Their new rig is really cute – can't remember the “brand” – but Nancy is finding it very convenient despite the fact that it is substantially smaller than their former Safari Trek (hope I got that correct).

Thank goodness for Gene Ewald (who had forgotten he owned this equipment) and Mike Flannery, they brought the VERY large heaters that attach to a five-gallon propane tank, I had our two smaller heaters and the poker players did pretty well on Friday with their table in the sun and our small heaters on their feet. On Saturday, they did go down to the Clubhouse, which was toasty warm.

It's very interesting, as wagonmaster I was trying to think of something “different” for our Saturday evening “eat”, I decided that everyone should make and bring their favorite soup to share. I didn't think it was a particularly clever idea – but the group sure did (thank goodness). Bill had asked that I make my Pozolle – which I did according to my recipe that makes a substantial pot. Guess it turned out pretty good cause Sunday morning I had people at my door with containers to take some of the leftovers with them. Good thing – Bill and I would have been eating Pozolle for days.

To go with the soups, Joel Erickson and Doris Newcomer made awesome cornbread and we supplied French bread. Gene Ewald was not “into” making a pot of soup – so he furnished a disgustingly, delightful dessert – chocolate – what else. Very good thinking, Mr. Ewald!

I always find the Raffle – one of the best parts. It was especially interesting, being wagonmaster and shopping! Prior to the

campout, I had shown Donna Colleran (well heck she was with me when I bought a few) but then later I picked up a 12V charger for an Ipod – actually 2 one for me and 1 for the raffle – Donna tried to talk me into giving her the 2nd one for her birthday – NOT! So, the first number drawn was one of mine - - I started to pick something I wanted – but then put it back (got a ration for that) – picked the Ipod charger and gave it to Donna, saying, “Happy Birthday” – OH yeh – her bloody BD ain't till AUGUST. At least I SHARE, Cheryl, she won the 50/50 AND a free campout!

Was it cold? Sunday morning dawned bright, sunny and very warm in the sun. HOWEVER, it had been very cold Saturday night, so cold in fact, that most of the water hoses from the faucet to the rigs were FROZEN. There were water hoses laid out in the sun all over. I found that a hair dryer worked really well – and our hose was spitting out little cylinders of ice all over the ground.

Ron and Iris Schwartz managed to be relieved of their parental duties for the weekend and were able to join us. After Ron's parking exhibition at the Santa Barbara Lodge last year, I thought he'd be delighted that we have these wonderful “pull-throughs” at Travel Village. The man truly has a weird sense of humor – when I commented to him, as he was parking their VERY large fifth-wheel, that it was a bit easier than the Santa Barbara gig, he LAUGHED and said it wasn't nearly as much fun. REALLY?

Sunday morning, they had a hawk sitting on the roof of their trailer. It provided a bit of entertainment for quite a while – a bit of speculation of whether or not it might not be feeling well – it sure took us all in with a critical eye as a group of us stood craning our necks to watch.



VISIT THE KAMPERS WEBSITE
elkonejokampers.netfirms.com

**for upcoming campouts
 & photos of events**



CELEBRATE OUR 35TH
ANNIVERSARY
MARCH 25TH
4 PM
BUFFET DINNER 5PM
\$10

**RECEIVE THE ANTLER VIA EMAIL
ONLY**

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Your Name

Lunch Bunch Card

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Good Monday-Thursday
Thousand Oaks Lodge #2477

6 7 8 9 10

**ELK OF THE YEAR DINNER
MARCH 23TH
6 PM
START OF 35TH ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND**

**JOIN US
FOR
HOSPITALITY HOUR
EVERY TUE. & THUR.
3-6 P.M.
APPETIZERS**



Jerry Serota, Public Relations Chair, Photographer Reprint of article that appeared in Your Hub

CHERISHED MEMORIES

There is an old song 'Frankie and Johnny were sweethearts'.

Well, 60 years ago there was another young couple who were sweethearts.

and it could have gone 'Ruthie and Dicky were sweethearts'. Cherished memories never die. Dick went searching for a long lost cherished memory and found it after a 60 year absence. He found her, invited her and her daughter to come from Massachusetts for a 75th Birthday Bash at the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477. What was so special was the young lady in question was 30 seconds younger because they were both born on the same day.

When I asked Dick what his lady friends name was he said Ruthie not Ruth and in her cherished memory bank it was Dicky not Dick. That congered up beautiful images of young love, exchanging kisses at the movies, or possibly the wonders high on a ferris wheel.

When you reach 75 you have a lot of cherished memories stored up. Meeting Arlene and getting married, starting a family first Rich and then Heather. Moving to Thousand Oaks in the 50's remembering what this town looked like before it became the City of Thousand Oaks. It is with esteem that his street is named Flittner Circle.

I first met Dick 30 years ago right here at the Elks Lodge. In all that time I too have stored up treasured memories. Dick at that time was very committed to the Moose Lodge and was their Governor and we are sure he has a lot of cherished memories of that time. They ran him for Grand Marshal, Conejo Valley Days and he won. Later on Rich Flittner was also a CVD Grand Marhal, keeping it in the family.

We would especially like to thank Dick for his support in all our endeavors around the Lodge. His many donations are legend especially if you look at the New Facilities plaque in the hallway. Whenever we put on a function he was always there. He always donated to our Thanksgiving dinner but rarely came because he liked to be with his family at home. But to make him feel important we sent a to go box home for his cat.

His most treasured memories are of himself as a young boy riding in the back seat of the old jalopy as his folks went out on the town because they loved to dance. They alway took him along and on the way home they would all sing and his favorite song was "Daddy dear old daddy" and of his first love, Ruthie.



Dick Flittner and Ruthie

To All My GOOD FRIENDS at the Elks!

Just a short note to say.....THANK YOU!!! THANK YOU!!! & THANK YOU!!!!!! for making my 75th Birthday the very best day ever!

Without mentioning names, since I don't want to miss anyone - the food was fantastic, the stories & memories of past and present times told were great, and the decorations (pictures) were beautiful!! I could go on and on.....as some of you already know!!

I just want to THANK YOU everyone who took the "Elk by the Horns" in helping to make my 75th Birthday an unforgettable day!!!

Submitted by:

Brother Dick Flittner



Bill Miller, Scouting Chair



Jerry Serota, Public Relations Chair, Photographer



SCOUTING NEWS

- At the Lodge meeting on February 7th a check for \$400 was given to Mr. Glen Moore of Troop 754 to help defray costs for special patches and other items related to their 35th Anniversary Celebration to be held February 24th at Maple Elementary School from 6-8 p.m. (Note that Lodge 2477 is also 35 years old this year.) Presenting the check to Mr. Moore is Catherine Koeritz, Leading Knight and Acting ER on that evening. Also shown are Bill Sternberg, PER and West Central Coast District Scout Chairman; Mr. Moore and Bill Miller, Lodge 2477 Scouting Coordinator.
- On February 18th at 2:30 an Eagle Court of Honor will be held at the Teledyne Science Center Auditorium for Richard Barnett of our Troop 754, who coincidentally, is Glen Moore's grandson. All 2477 Elks are encouraged to attend the ceremony highlighting this special young man's Eagle Trail.
- We have several other new Troop 754 Eagle Scouts and two of their Eagle Courts will be held in March. The first is Trevor Wineman on Sunday, March 4th at 2 p.m. in the Newbury Park Performing Arts Center. The second is for Stefan Owechko to be held on March 24th. Call Bill Miller for details.

On Wednesday January 24 at 8:00 p.m. with over 90 in attendance the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 honored Law Enforcement and Firefighters from Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. **The 30th Annual Law Enforcement And Firefighter Appreciation** program was presented.

The program began at 6:00 p.m. with a social period in the Elks Lodge lounge area. Dinner of BBQ Baby Back Ribs & Chicken was served around 7:00 p.m. At approximately 8:00 p.m., the awards were presented in the Elks Lodge meeting room.

The geographic area for membership of the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge includes Agoura Hills, Oak Park, Westlake, Hidden Valley, Thousand Oaks and Newbury Park. As this area is served by the California Highway Patrol, Ventura County Sheriffs Department, and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

The Lodge presented a plaque to each recipient and certificates of appreciation were presented by the Mayor Andy Fox, City of Thousand Oaks, a representative from the Ventura County Supervisors, and a representative from Congressman Elton Gallegly.



(L-R Front Row) Allen Devers, Ventura County Sheriffs Department
 Brian Dilley, Ventura County Fire Protection District, Richard Langford,
 Ventura County California Hyway Patrol, (L-R Middle Row) Christopher Chavez, Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department, Kelly Lynn, Los angeles County Fire fighter Paramedic, John Lago, West Valley California Hyway Patrol. (L-R Back Row) David Naccarato, Exalted Ruler and Scott Dool, Committee Chairman, Law Enforcement and Firefighter Appreciation

2006-07 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

LECTURING KNIGHT

Terry Baker

2006-07 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

AMERICANISM: Grant Thistle
FLAG DAY/FLAG RETIREMENT:
 Robert Jones
SCHOLARSHIP: Rick Herrera
GOVT. RELATIONS: Denise Goldstein
MEMORIAL SERVICE: Raven West
NATIONAL SERVICES: Jim Kellogg
KIDS XMAS PARTY: Chet Kozlowski, PER



GOLF TOURNEY: Dave Pearson
 Tommy Claunch
LODGE PICNIC:
 David Naccarato/Tom Hartin
MEMBERSHIP: Every Lodge Member
CHRISTMAS TREES: Herb Jellander
 Bill Sternberg, PER/Terry Baker
EL KONEJO KAMPERS: Ed Colleran

No more football for a while -I know the wife will be happy. It was great fun at the Super Bowl party-great fun and just fun with good friends. Now it's stock car racing- Daytona. I love NASCAR. In fact I always wanted to drive one of those things at 200 mph down the straight-away-what a hand full going into the turn. I could still do it if only I could just fit in the car.

Our ritual team is now practicing and need your support. It is not easy to devote extra time to practice when you have a full time job as many of the team members do. Our new Exalted Ruler, Catherine Koeritz will do a fine job with the support of us.

We sure lost many plants around the Lodge in the frost we had. I didn't know we had so much tropical stuff planted. Well, the repair will give me something to do in the spring.

Lastly, the train is going to be in the CVD parade again this year. The date is May 5th and we will have the streaker dog wagon out at the fair. We will be also asking for volunteers to help.

See ya, Terry
 Hi Dee!!



To all members.

There is a lot of history in Lodge pins. They all tell a story, it might be what the city is known for, or the what the Exalted Ruler does for a living. Tells where the Grand Lodge Convention was held. Or a lodge that you visited. I hope you all enjoy looking to see if you have been to one of the lodges.

The pin board has really taken off. We have a lot of members donating pins for the board.

I thank all of the members that have given pins for the board. Anyone having pins for the board can leave them with Glenn at the bar. I will put them on the board.

Fraternally Bill Sternberg PER



Glenn Wellman, Bar Manager

This month for your dancing and listening pleasure appearing in our Lounge will be Phil Birdsell on March 2nd. Come down for a fine Mexican dinner and stay for his popular show. Next on March 9th-back by popular demand will be bingo night. After enjoying a dinner by the Wild Women on Wine, a new group called the Visions will be playing in the Lounge. Finally on March 30th K.C. Phillips returns.

Due to rising expenses, starting March 1st at Happy Hour food will still be available, but the drink specials **will be** discontinued.

On Pin Night- March 7th my cooking crew-Sand Trap, Eagle, Iron and Birdie will be preparing our delectable homemade pizza with spaghetti/sausage, supreme salad and brownies for dessert. Come early to select the pizza of your choice prepared by pizzamaker Boyd Lindquist. See you there!!

20006-2007 COMMITTEE
CHAIRPERSONS

THE ELKS LADIES
Carol Neuner

20006-2007 COMMITTEE
CHAIRPERSONS

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2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Jessica Stull
3RD VICE PRESIDENT: Jeri Miller
SECRETARY: Pat Peterson
TREASURER: Myrna Block
AUDITOR: Kathy Ryder
TELEPHONE: Patti Serota



PARLIAMENTARIAN:
CHAPLAIN: Marilyn Cissell
MAJOR PROJECTS:
CVD: Dee Swanson & Marilyn Cissell
HISTORIAN:
SUNSHINE: Shirley Kozlowski



At this writing we have not had our Major Projects Mardi Gras, but by the time you read this it will probably be just a memory. For me, the memories of the event will pale in comparison to the planning and working together that make all tasks successful. So

many of the ladies, who were so helpful and caring, made the job a pleasure. To you I say a BIG Thank You. Those memories are the ones that touched my heart and prompted my digging through old e-mails to find this story.

A young wife sat on a sofa on a hot humid day, drinking iced tea and visiting with her Mother. As they talked about life, about marriage, about the responsibilities of life and the obligations of adulthood, the mother clinked the ice cubes in her glass thoughtfully and turned a clear, sober glance upon her daughter.

“Don’t forget your Sisters,” she advised, swirling the tea leaves to the bottom of her glass. ”They’ll be more important as you get older. No matter how much you love your husband, no matter how much you love the children you may have, you are still going to need Sisters. Remember to go places with them now and then; do things with them. Remember that ‘Sisters’ means ALL the women... your girlfriends, your daughters, and all your other women relatives too. You’ll need other women, women always do.”

What a funny piece of advice the young woman thought. Haven’t I just gotten married? Haven’t I just joined the couple-world? I’m now a married woman, for goodness sake! A grownup! Surely my husband and the family we may start will be all I need to make my life worthwhile! But she listened to her Mother. She kept contact with her Sisters and made more women friends each year. As the years tumbled by, one after another, she gradually came to understand that her Mom really knew what she was talking about. As time and nature work their changes and their mysteries upon a woman, Sisters are the mainstays of her life.

After more than 50 years of living in this world, here is what I’ve learned:

Time passes. Life happens. Distance separates.
Children grow up. Jobs come and go. Love waxes and wanes.
Men (some) don’t do what they’re supposed to do.
Hearts break. Parents die. Colleagues forget favors. Careers end.

**ELK LADIES INSTALLATION
DINNER-MARCH 13TH**



- 1 Jet Perry
- Angie Prizzi
- 5 Phyllis Riding
- 6 Dee Swanson
- 12 Kim Finnegan
- 25 Jessica Stull



**LORD, WE DON’T THANK YOU
NEAR ENOUGH**
Marilyn Cissell

We do not thank you near enough,
with busy lives we may forget,
Continually you plan for us,
all blessings have not happened yet.

Your loving hands, not always felt,
in daily things, we think we do,
Achievements would not happen, Lord,
without the silent help from you.
Amen

BUT.....

Sisters are there, no matter how much time and how many miles are between you. A girlfriend is never farther away than needing her can reach. When you have to walk that lonesome valley and you have to walk it by yourself, the women in your life will be on the valley’s rim, cheering you on, praying for you, pulling for you, intervening on your behalf, and waiting with open arms at the valley’s’ end. Sometimes, they will even break the rules and walk beside you...or come in and carry you out. Girlfriends, daughters, granddaughters, daughters-in-law, sisters, sisters-in-law, mothers, grandmothers, aunts, nieces, cousins, and extended family, all bless our life! The world wouldn’t be the same without women, and neither would I. When we began this adventure called womanhood, we had no idea of the incredible joys or sorrows that lay ahead. Nor did we know how much we would need each other. Every day, we need each other still.

HONOR ROLL

A COIN A DAY



Greg Metzgus, PER
 Rubyne Metzgus
 Gary Erland
 Judi Palmquist
 Leo Rodriquez
 Jerry Feldman
 Britt Rutherford
 Jim Collins
 Don Ansell, PER



- 1 Paul De Nubio
 Harvey Flam
 Rubye Metzgus
 John Tapking
- 2 Harold Ellis
- 4 Rusty Kennedy
- 5 Ronald Collins
- 7 Jack Henry, PER
- 8 Tom Hartin
- 10 Pete Jackson
 George Meehan
- 11 Bob Thornton, PDDGER

MARCH

- 12 Tony Lerner
 Carmine Prizzi
- 14 Joseph Grecco
 Timothy Kelly
- 16 Kevin Metzgus
- 17 Michael Idol
- 18 Larry Pile
- 19 David Puente
- 21 Denise Byrnes
 Jay Schmidt
- 22 Gary Erland
- 24 Richard Goldner, PDDGER
- 25 Kevin Porter
 Robert Revell
- 30 William R. Jones
- 31 Richard Case

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

Date: March 14, 2007

NAME	OCCUPATION	SPONSOR
Gerry Gilles	Retired	Alan Hardie
Dwight B. Williams	Retired	David Anderson
Tori Rogers	Self-Employed	Ken Daly



CRYING TOWEL

January 7	\$500	#2122	William Aubrey
	\$25	#1998	Michael Tanner
Lucky 13		No Winner	
January 10	\$500	#2090	Carrie Robertson
	\$50	#1801	Wayne La Farr
Lucky 13		No Winner	
January 17	\$500	#14	George Vivlamore
	\$75	#1249	Wallace Bogges
Lucky 13		No Winner	
January 24	No Meeting		
January 31	\$500	#2145	Porter Ellis
	\$100	#759	Leo Lambert
Lucky 13		No Winner	

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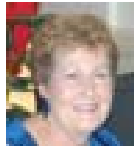
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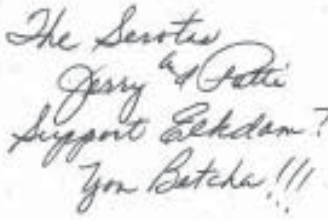







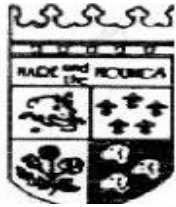
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 LOYAL KNIGHT - George Meehan
 LECTURING KNIGHT - Terry Baker
 SECRETARY - Bob Saynay
 TREASURER - Cherri Peterson
 TILER - Grant Thistle
 ESQUIRE - Robert Jones
 CHAPLAIN - Raven West
 INNER GUARD - Steve Smith
 ORGANIST -
 OFFICER AT LARGE - Jack Loughran, PER

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Denise Goldstein- 1 Year
 Jim Wallace, PER- 2 Year
 Sally Claunch, PER- 3 Year
 Jay Block, PER- 4 Year
 Gary Erland - 5 Year

PAST EXALTED RULERS

1972-73 *Marvin D. Smith	1998-99 Chet Kozlowski
1973-74 Erle Pittman, PDDGER	1999-00 Richard Goldner, PDDGER
1974-75 Richard Flake	2000-01 Jacob Panczak
1975-76 Bill Wagner	2001-02 John D'Ambrogio
1976-77 John E. Henry	2002-03 Don Booker
1977-78 *Robert McKee, PDDGER	2003-04 Greg Metzgs
1978-79 *Frank J. Rindone, PDDGER	2004-05 Jay Block
1979-80 *Edward F. Stogsdell	2005-06 Sally Claunch
1980-81 *Frank "Tex" Hastie	
1981-82 * Robert Hardy	By Affiliation:
1982-83 *A. John Nichols	1981-82 Robert L. Thornton, PDDGER
1983-84 John Nau	1999-00 Ralph Vester
1984-85 Vern Ogden	2001-02 Bill Sternberg
1985-86 Dan Snyder	
1986-87 Bill Lloyd, PDDGER,DL	
1987-88 John E. Henry	
1988-89 Ted Lipka	
1989-90 Don Skinner	
1990-91 Don Ansell	
1991-92 Gary Sleigh	
1992-93 Tom Ryder, PDDGER	
1993-94 Jim Wallace	
1994-95 *George Pekow	
1995-96 Gil Riding, PDDGER	
1996-97 Jack Loughran	
1997-98 John Kelly	

*Deceased

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The ANTLER ANTICS is published monthly in Thousand Oaks, California as the official Bulletin of the Thousand Oaks Lodge no. 2477 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks of the United States of America, 158 Conejo School Road, P.O. Box 2110, Thousand Oaks, 91358. Publication of the ANTLER ANTICS is an activity of the Lodge and contributions and interesting and pertinent reading material and photographs are welcomed. *Photographs MUST be identified and captioned or they will not be published.* Deadline for receiving ALL material for publication is the **5th** of each month.