



Catherine Koeritz,
Exalted Ruler



ANTLER

ANTICS

Vol 36, No. 2

Editor, Sally Claunch, PER

May '07

"Looking Towards The Future"



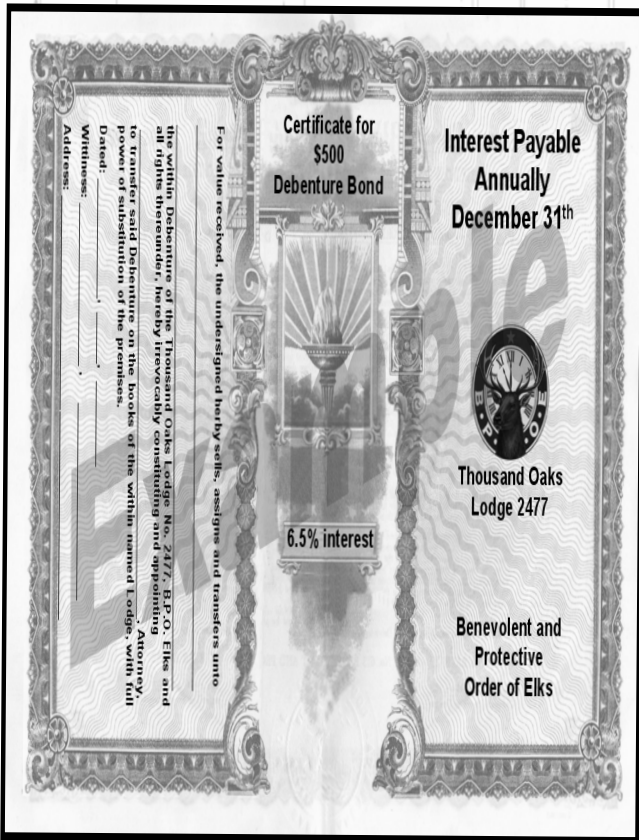
OUR INSTALLED OFFICERS 2007-2008

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

DID YOU KNOW?

2007-08 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS



EXALTED RULER
Catherine Koeritz

2007-08 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

ANTLER ANTICS: Sally Claunch, PER, Editor,
Jerry Serota, Asst. Editor/Photographer
NEW FACILITIES: Greg Metzgas, PER
HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK: Jerry Serota
GREETERS: Dorothy Murray
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 Metzgas, PER
SHOE TOURNAMENTS: Mike Budenski
BEQUESTS & LIVING TRUSTS:
Robert Jones

What a great turn-out for the Installation of Officers Dinner. All the PER's looked so good in their white jackets. First Lady Marva D' Ambrosio was so helpful in preparing for the Installation Dinner and MC Johnny D. (besides doing an outstanding job as MC for the installation) making those wonderful napkin holders for the tables. As you may know, John is the "bread man" on one of the BBQ teams. It was very appropriate that the shape of the holders is shaped like a piece of bread. Great job!

I am so thankful for the help I have been receiving. Thank you everyone for the wonderful Inaugural Ball. What a great night! It is such a pleasure to have one night where you just show up and have fun. I'm really looking forward to seeing the pictures. Special thanks to my Leading Knight and his wife, George & Cornelia Meehan for coordinating everything; Marva D. for the seating arrangements, Jay & Myrna Block for helping the Meehans, Gil and Phyllis Riding for being the MC and coordinator of the Grand Entrance; for my family and friends who attended (even Mo who made us tear up with her speech).

I especially owe a great deal of gratitude to Carol Saynay for making and printing both of the Invitations for the Installation and Inaugural Ball. She did a fantastic job.
Bill Miller receives the Marvin M. Lewis award!
The Marvin M. Lewis Award recognizes Elks in good standing who have significantly contributed to the youth of their communities by volunteering in the programs of the Boy Scouts of America. The Boy Scouts of America established the Marvin M. Lewis Award in 1998 in recognition of the Elks' significant contributions to Scouting and the development of America's youth. The awards will be presented at the Grand Lodge Convention. I'll be there to take pictures!!!

Activities in May:

- Youth Appreciation Week with Dinner on May 11th
- Mother's Day Brunch
- State Convention May 16 - 19

DID YOU KNOW???

We participate in vision pre-school screening and speech therapy through Elks National Foundation. (We still need a Committee Chairperson for ENF – anyone interested?)

Help Wanted!

We need to fill two positions: Lodge Secretary and BBQ Chairman. These are critical positions and the Lodge needs help. Please, if you are interested, talk with me or any Officer about these positions.

Again, thank you everyone for your support.

P.E.R. ASSOCIATION

Several meetings ago, the question came up in regards to the funds generated by the Past Exalted Ruler Association's BBQ, which they run approximately 5 times a year, (when ever there are 5 Saturdays in a month). Although it was not intended as a rebuke or accusation, some members present at the time took it to mean that the PER's were using these funds for purposes, which may not be in the best interest to the Lodge. To any member who has questions on this subject, I first would suggest to him or her to re-acquaint themselves with Section 13.190 of the Grand Lodge Statutes.

The PER Association members are the advisers and counselors to all officers of the Lodge as well as the various committees, BUT with emphasis on aiding the Exalted Ruler. As to the funds generated by various activities of the P.E.R.'s, they are used only for the direct benefit of the Lodge, and are accounted for every year by the general audit. For the past four years, several thousand dollars in bonds have been purchased to show support of the efforts to build the new Lodge and to set an example to the general membership. The yearly interest on the bonds is donated back to the Major Projects and E.N.F.

Jay Block, P.E.R. Assoc. President 2006-2007

OREN RICHARDSON, CHEA PRESIDENT 2007-2008



Oren was born in Sanger, raised in Fresno and graduated from Fresno High School in 1953. Oren served four years in the United States Air Force as an Early Warning Radar Operator during the Korean Conflict.

At seventeen, he had never been any farther from home than Santa Ana. The United States Air Force took him to San Antonio, Texas, Biloxi, Mississippi, Abashiri Japan and Red Bluff California.

Oren was initiated into Coalinga Elks Lodge Number 1613 in 1971. He showed such great interest he was asked if he would be interested in going through the chairs. Brother Oren served in nearly every office including Secretary and Trustee and was Exalted Ruler in 1978-1979.

In the East Central District He served as District Chairman of Ritual Contest five times, Ritual Judge,

Nominating Committee and Youth Activities. He was elected to serve as State Vice President in the year 1983-1984. In 1986-1987 he served as District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler.

Brother Oren served the California-Hawaii Elks Association as Chairman of Youth Activities Committee, Hoop Shoot Committee, Elks National Foundation Committee, and Piggy Bank Committee, Vice Chairman North. He also served as CHEA Tiler and CHEA Sergeant –at-Arms. He served two terms on the CHEMPI Board of Trustees, 1998-2004, during that service Brother Oren was Secretary 1998-2001, Vice Chairman 2002-2003 and Chairman 2003-2004.

Oren was selected to serve as East Central District Leader in 1994 and completed that assignment in May of 2006 when he was Elected First Vice President of the California-Hawaii Elks Association.

He married his sweetheart Charlene and made their first home in Red Bluff California. They have three children and seven grandchildren. After receiving an Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force he spent nine years as a Cotton Classer in Fresno, obtained a job with a large utility company and moved to Coalinga, California where he retired in 1994 as an Electrical Technician.

2007-2008 PRESIDENT'S OFFICIAL VISITATION SCHEDULE

2007

April 19-22	Nevada State Elks Association Convention
May 16-19	California-Hawaii Elks Association Convention - Fresno
May 31-June 3	Santa Maria Elks Rodeo
June 9	75 th Pin Celebration for 96 year-old member - San Diego
June 15	Elks Luncheon Club - Burbank
June 16	Metropolitan District
July 5-12	Grand Lodge Convention - Charlotte, North Carolina
July 28	Northeast District
August 3-4	Orange Coast District
August 11	West Central Coast District
August 25	South Central District
September 8	Inland District (Jamboree)
September 15	Hawaii District
September 22	Bay District
September 29	South Coast District
October 1-5	CHEMPI Professional Conference - Bass Lake
October 13	North District
October 19-21	Arizona Elks Association Mid-Year Meeting

November 1-4	California-Hawaii Elks Association Mid-Term Conference – Sacramento
November 10	San Gabriel Valley District
November 17	West Central District
December 1	North Central District
December 30-31	Pasadena New Years Celebration

2008

January 1	Pasadena New Years Celebration
January 4-5	Northwest District - Ukiah
January 11-12	CHEA and CHEMPI Board of Trustees Meetings – Fresno
January 18-20	South District (Jamboree) – Palm Springs
January 26	Southeast District
February 2	Central District
February 15-16	South Central Coast District
March 6-9	East Central District (Homecoming) - Fresno
May 1-4	Utah State Elks Association Convention
May 15-18	California-Hawaii Elks Association Convention - San Diego

Annual Polish Dinner

by the Kozlowski's

Friday, May 25, 2007

\$12.00

Sour Cream Cucumber Salad

Kapusta (Sour Kraut)

Pierogi (Dumplings)

Cwika (Pickled Beets)

Rye Bread



Kielbasa (Polish Sausage)

Golabke (Cabbage Rolls)

Mashed Potatoes

Babka (Sweet Bread)

HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT

MAY 12TH

\$10

8:30 A.M. SIGN IN



**EDITOR'S CORNER**

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

A Timely Message

“OUR FUTURE LIES IN THE HANDS OF OUR YOUNG.”

We Elks are leader is promoting programs that benefit the enhancement of the youth in our communities. Elks start by providing each third grader in our subordinate lodge area with a free personalized dictionary. We have a state wide major project that provides free physical in home therapy to children with disabilities, along with free pre-schools eye screening. We provide monthly student of the month cash awards and recognition along with scholarship programs for academic and leadership achievement. We do this all in addition to sponsoring and supporting both Boy and Girl Scout troops, along with Hoop shoot and Soccer contests.

Now we must refocus our attention on a program that is not so pretty and colorful a program that is designed to protect and defend our children from their own curiosity, inexperience, and lack of knowledge. This is the purpose and goal of the Elks National Drug Awareness program. We must be proactive in getting the word out into our community. We can do this by passing out the material supplied to each subordinate lodge gratis complements of the Elks National Foundation, however we need your help. We need those of you connected with the schools and PTA to step forward with contacts in your community. The coaches of sports and scout leaders of all scouting troops need to also step forward and get in touch with your Lodge Drug Awareness Chairman, Robert Jones, so we can plan how to get the literature into the hands and minds of our children.

Robert A. Scalise, PER
 District Drug Awareness Chairman
322elk@charter.net

HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT

MAY 12

\$10

8:30 A.M. SIGN IN

SUGGESTION BOX

Dave Naccarato, P.E.R

As many of you have seen we have a suggestion box out in the lounge to receive your suggestions that will be discussed at the monthly officer meetings. The response has not been overwhelming. But we have had a suggestion that I would like to share with you.
 It read” BBQ Awareness”
 Hire lodge members kids or grand kids to actively promote the Sat. BB Q’s on T.O. Blvd and Hillcrest at \$10.00 per hr for 3 hours 10am -1pm. The kids would hold our BBQ signs at the corner and wave to people. We should try it for a week and check results. This will be brought up at the next meeting.



COMING ATTRACTIONS

June 13-Flag Day at Lodge Meeting
 June 17-Father’s Day Brunch
 June 25-27-Elk Ladies Bus Trip to State Line
 Casino

July 6-Exalted Ruler Going Away Party
 July 8-12-Grand Lodge Convention
 Charlotte, N.C.

August 8-Greg Metzgs, State Vice President,
 Visitation to our Lodge

2007-08 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

LEADING KNIGHT
George Meehan

2007-08 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

MAJORPROJECT/PURPLE PIG:
David Naccarato
SICKNESS AND DISTRESS: Sally Claunch
INVESTIGATION: George Meehan
ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION:



CHRISTMAS BASKETS: George Meehan
INDOCTRINATION: Dave Naccarato, PER
MEM. CONTROL. COM.: Herb Jellander
CVAC:
COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Jerry Serota
CHARITY DINNERS: George Meehan

The Inaugural Ball was held on March 31 at the Thousand Oaks Inn and a swell time was had by all. We were about four peoples shy of a full house. The room was decorated elegantly and the banquet chairman for the Inn did a fine job. The meals served were delicious, the band, "The Original Renegades" played wonderful music and the dance floor was full with smiling faces most of the evening.

I would like to say thank you to everyone who came and showed support, to the new officer corps, but especially to our new Exalted Ruler, Catherine Koeritz, who was launched into her year with enthusiastic support.

To all of those wonderful people who gave extra help to make this event a success, I say "Thank You". These people were, Gil Riding PDDGER for being Master of Ceremonies, Phyllis Riding for her help with programs and keeping me on track, David & Annie Pearson for being Grand Marshals, PER Chet Kozlowski and Shirley for being Outer Escorts, Patti Serota and Angie Prizzi, Greeters, Carol Saynay for her work in printing the programs, Marva D'Ambrogio for all her help with protocol, seating and general advice, PER Jay Block & Myrna for doing tickets and flowers and being advisors to us, and finally to my wife, Cornelia for all her help and support. Everyone did a wonderful and very appreciated job.

Now we are under way into 2007-2008 and some of the officers need help in filling Chairmanships under their stations. Tom Hartin has agreed to do Conejo Valley Days again this year. I need someone to chair, Elks National Foundation(ENF). PER Jim Wallace and Myrna Block have done it in the past few years and did wonderful jobs. Now I need someone new. It is not a hard job, but one that needs to be organized and managed. Please give me a call or stop me when you see me and I will fill you in on what ENF is all about.

That's it for this month. Hope all you NEW MEMBERS are coming around and becoming a part of Elkdom.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

805-495-0577

OUR CONDOLENCES TO: Jack Henry, PER and Charlie on the passing of her mother

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: George Meehan broke his shoulder; Grace Wallace still has a blood clot and is on home care; Flo Lloyd is in rehab following hip replacement; Harry Brockwell had heart surgery

ON THE MEND: Eula McKee is home from rehab following a hip replacement; Bill Sternberg, PER from heart surgery

REMEMBER CARDS AND PHONE CALLS

ARE ALWAYS APPRECIATED!!



PURPLE PIG

We have four more Century Club recipients they are: David Pearson, Greg Metzgus, Rubye Metzgus and Richard Goldner. A donation of one hundred dollars in lump sum entitles you to be a member of the Century Club. It raises money for our handicapped children and for Catherine to bring to the State Convention. We also had a donation from Scott Dool and Boyd Lindquist. They are sponsors of the cigars that are sold in the lodge with the moneys earned donated to the Purple Pig. Thanks guys
David Naccarato, PER. Major Project Chairman

Presented by the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477



Mother's Day Service 11:00 a.m.

Happy Mother's Day

Sunday May 13, 2007

Champagne Brunch Buffet

Adults \$10.00

Children under 12 are \$5.00

Location:

Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477

158 Conejo School Road

**Bring Mom and join
the Elks for Brunch and a
tribute to Mothers**

2007-08 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

**LOYAL KNIGHT
Raven West**

2007-08 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

CONEJO VALLEY DAYS: Ed Rice
LODGE ACTIVITIES: Glenn Wellman
SCOUTING: Bill Miller
HOOPSHOOT: Tom Hartin
WED. NIGHT DINNERS: Bob Arbetman
DRUG AWARENESS: Robert Jones
STRAY ELKS: Herb Jellander



MOTHER'S DAY: Robert Jones
ENTERTAINMENT: Glenn Wellman
WED. NIGHT TICKETS: Terry Gicking
**LAW ENFORCEMENT & FIRE FIGHTER
APPRECIATION:** Scott Dool
PRESIDING JUSTICE: Dick McCann
YOUTHACTIVITIES: Robert Jones

The first week of May has been designated as Elks National Youth Week. As Loyal Knight, Youth Activities comes under my station. I am very proud to be the chair person for this year's Youth Appreciation and Awards Banquet which will be held at the Lodge on Friday, May 11. We will be honoring the outstanding young American citizens and awarding the winners of the 2006-2007 Americanism Essay contest and the 2006-2007 Scholarship winners. We will also be recognizing Boy Scout Eagle and Girl Scout GOLD award winners,

This year invitations went out to Mayor Andy Fox; Supervisor Linda Parks; Assembly member Audra Strickland and Congressman Tom McClintock to attend our awards dinner. If schedule permits, Supervisor Linda Parks plans on attending. As of this date, I've not as yet received any other confirmations, but I'm certain we will have several dignitaries at our very special event. On May 8, I will be attending the Ventura County Board of Supervisor's meeting in Ventura where Thousand Oaks Lodge #2477 will receive a special Proclamation establishing the first week of May as Elks National Youth Week.

Please join us in celebrating the best and the brightest young people in our community.

This year's High School Senior Scholarship winners are:

- First Place Boys - Hank Yan - \$500
- Second Place Boys - Dustin Burke - \$400
- First Place Girls - SarahRidders - \$500
- Second Place Girls - Mackenna Briden - \$400
- Third Place Girls - Summer Florence - \$300

Our Americanism contest winners came from two Ventura County cities:

- First Place winners receive a \$300 U.S. Savings Bond
 - Second Place winners receive a \$200 U.S. Savings Bond
 - Third Place winners receive a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond
- In Camarillo.

BINGO IS BACK

We had Bingo last month. We had 17 players and earned \$40.00 for the lodge \$130.00 in prize money was given away Next Bingo night is April 27Th. Here is how it goes .We play 4 games. The buy in is \$10.00. Also there will be bingo on May 25th.

You receive 2 cards 20% of the take goes to the lodge the rest is divided up between games- more players, more prize money. We have a lot of fun and I have just received a set of new Bingo Balls from the Gamblers General Store in Las Vegas. Our old ones were looking pretty shabby. Come on out and have some fun, inexpensive entertainment. Besides doing blackout at the end, we have one called hang the caller, if you don't have a good time. Give it a shot.

Division I - 5th and 6th grades:

- First Place - Jacob Wilkins
 - Second Place - Lorenzo Francisco
 - Third Place - Jasmine Jacquez
- Division II - 7th and 8th grades:**
- First Place - Hunter Armstrong
 - Second Place - Sarah Wilson
 - Third Place - Kevin Ardebili
- In Thousand Oaks

Division I

- First Place - Noah Coscarelli
- Second Place - Rosemary Houilhan
- Third Place - Jianing Wang

Division II

- First Place -Roxanne Myers
- Second Place - Hannah Heitzig
- Third Place - Erik Pinuelas

Congratulations to all the 2006-2007 winners and their parents.

ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION FAST FACTS

1. What is the Elks National Foundation?

With a grant of \$100,000, the Elks National Foundation was established in 1928 as the charitable arm of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America. Today, the Foundation has a market value of more than \$320 million. The Foundation is a public, non-profit, tax-exempt corporation as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Tax Reform Act of 1959. Donations to the Foundation are deductible for federal income and estate tax purposes.

2. What is the mission of the Elks National Foundation?

The Elks National Foundation's mission is "helping Elks build stronger communities." We do this by providing tomorrow's leaders, our youth, with a healthy beginning; honoring the Elks' pledge that, "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them"; and helping the state Elks associations accomplish their charitable objectives.

3. How is the Foundation administered?

The Elks National Foundation is administered by a board of trustees composed of seven past national presidents of the BPO Elks of the USA, each serving a seven-year term. A director who reports to the board oversees day-to-day operations of the administrative offices in Chicago.

4. Who contributes to the Elks National Foundation?

Since inception in 1928, the Foundation has received more than \$147 million in contributions from Elks and their families. These donations go directly into the Foundation's endowment fund, where they are never touched; only income from the fund is expended. Contributions are currently coming in at a rate of about \$5 million a year.

5. Who pays the Foundation's operating expenses?

The Foundation has an operating budget of \$1,298,785. These expenses are borne by the Foundation.

6. How much will the Foundation disburse this year?

The Elks National Foundation will disburse more than \$14.8 million during the 2007-08 year.

* How will this money be used?

* Scholarships. The Foundation has budgeted a total of \$3.162 million for its five scholarship programs: The "Most Valuable Student" scholarship contest (\$2.216 million); Emergency Educational Grants for children of deceased or totally incapacitated Elks (\$350,000); ENF Legacy Awards (\$500,000); Eagle Scout Scholarships (\$48,000); and Girl Scout Gold Award scholarships (\$48,000).

* State Elks Association grants. The Foundation will distribute \$4.512 million in state charities grants. This includes a bonus grant of \$1.5 million. These grants help fund each state's major charitable project, as well as fund state "Hoop Shoot," Soccer Shoot and Drug Awareness Programs. In addition, the states received more than \$2.24 million in special charitable project grants that help fund

scholarship programs or other projects that will best extend a state's philanthropic outreach.

* Drug Prevention. The Foundation budgeted \$547,000 for the Elks Drug Awareness Program.

* Veterans Service. The Foundation granted \$722,000 to help fund the Elks National Veterans Service program.

* Youth Athletics. The Foundation granted \$585,000 to fund the Elks "Hoop Shoot" free throw contest, in which more than three million kids will participate. ENF also approved a grant of \$148,000 for the Elks Soccer Shoot program.

* Elks National Home. The Foundation granted \$715,000 to the Elks National Home, a retirement facility for Elks located in Bedford, Virginia.

* Elks Veterans Memorial Maintenance. The Foundation granted \$484,770 for building maintenance. In addition, a grant of \$250,000 was approved to the Foundation's Elks Veterans Memorial Maintenance Reserve Fund.

8. What are the Foundation's primary giving methods?

* Pledge: The most popular way to support the Foundation is through a pledge. A donor can choose to receive a pledge reminder annually, semi-annually, quarterly or monthly.

* "Non-pledge" Donation: If a donor does not wish to receive pledge reminders, the donor can make a "non-pledge" donation.

* Matching Gift: Many employers will match gifts given to charitable organizations by employees and their spouses, even if they're retired. Check with your company's H.R. office to find out if it sponsors a matching gift program.

* Tributes: Donors may contribute to the Foundation in memory of or in honor of friends and loved ones, online or through the mail.

* Planned Gift: Planned gifts can include bequests and gifts of appreciated stock or life insurance. More information about planned giving is available online at www.elks.org/enf/malleysociety.cfm.

* Online Giving: You can now support the ENF at any time of day from the convenience of your own home. To make your gift, go to www.elks.org/donate.

Donations payable by check or favorite Visa or MasterCard.

9. How can I get more information?

Contact the Elks National Foundation, 2750 N. Lakeview Ave., Chicago, IL 60614-1889; phone: 773/755-4728, fax: 773/755-4729, e-mail: enf@elks.org.



Bob's Kitchen Ramblings

We are in our second month and doing a great job with the meals. It is so fantastic to have Fish King Cooper back. I finally like fish again.

In May we will see more of what we enjoyed last month. First Friday Buffet will once again have 3 hot dishes. We will always have pasta along with chicken, and topped off with a meat entrée. The salad bar will be only 6 feet of enjoyable different salads. Trap and company will be doing an Italian dinner for Youth Appreciation Night on the 11th of this month. On the 25th, Chet and Shirley Kozlowski will present their famous Polish feast. Remember, if you want to try your hand cooking or want to do a dinner on a Wednesday or Friday let me know.

Trap's lunches are taking off with a gain especially on his Taco Tuesdays. Dale Smith has set a record for tacos eaten at one sitting-20 Wow.

Can anybody beat him?

Breakfast on Sunday is a pure delight seeing so many take advantage of each team's great offerings, Power Dave's Chicken Fried Steak Specials Then the following week the Super Stars have their menu of omleets, pancakes, waffles, French toast and everything else. The third week of the month is our new team of Jan, Mike, and Liz creating great breakfast. The last week of the month is taken by the El Konejo Kampers with their Kamptown specials.

Thanks to all the cooks, great job, keep it up.



Bill Miller, Scouting Chair



The Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 is proud to announce that Bill Miller, Scouting Committee Chairman was named the Grand Lodge Marvin Lewis Award for the year 2006-2007, for the Western Regional Scouting area. Bill joined the Lodge in the year 2002. His son is an Eagle Scout and under his direction the Lodge now sponsors (2) Boy Scout Troops, (2) Cub Scout Packs and (11) Girl Scout units. Bill is the fourth lodge member to have this honor bestowed on him, following, Richard Goldner, Greg Metzgas, and Bill Sternberg. The presentation will be made at the Grand Lodge convention in Charlotte, North Carolina July 8-12th.

The award was approved in 1998 by Grand Lodge and immediately put under the control of the Scouting segment of the Grand Lodge Youth Activities committee. There have been 72 award winners since that time. In 2005, it was recommended the Scouting Committee only select four every year. The four regional representatives that are under the control of the Grand Lodge Scouting coordinator to select one candidate from their area for the MML award. Each Regional Representative has between 10 to 13 states to promote all of Scouting, Girl & Boy.

The West Regional Representative is Mr. William Sternberg who is a former Marvin Lewis Award recipient and member of the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 from Santa Paula, CA. Bill's phone number is (805) 933-9020 and his e-mail address is bigjockeywing@yahoo.com.



Glenn Wellman, Bar Manager

Join us for Happy Hour every Tuesday and Thursday for great appetizers and fellowship with your fellow Elks.



entertainment

- May 4-Blue Diamond Band
- May 18-Visions Band
- May 25- Naccarato Bingo

**HELP HONOR OUR YOUTH
MAY 4TH
BY ATTENDING
YOUTH APPRECIATION
DINNER**

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS



Exalted Ruler, Catherine Koeritz with Junior PER, Dave Naccarato.

The gavel of authority has been passed to Catherine.



Sally Claunch, PER gave the Trustees gift to outgoing chair, Denise Goldstein, while Esquire, Grant Thistle watches.

Denise Goldstein accepting certificate naming her Officer of the Year from Dave Naccarato, PER



Patti Serota accepting Citizen of the Year award from Dave Naccarato, PER, with proud husband, Jerry Serota

Leading Knight, George Meehan presenting Junior PER, David Naccarato with mementos of his year. with wife Karen.

35TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR LODGE



Charter Members honored at anniversary party.(l-R) Jim Wallace, PER, Dick Churik, George Vivlamore, ER Dave Naccarato, Jerry Gilmore, Dennis Gillette and Chet Kozlowski, PER

Jack Henry, PER, and charter member with Ed Bianchi sharing stories at anniversary party.



5 Year Trustee David Stull and wife Jessica enjoying the celebration of our anniversary.

ER, Catherine Koeritz and PER, Dave Naccarato accepting a plaque from Canoga Park Lodge on our 35th anniversary.



PER, Dave Naccarato, Major Projects Chair presenting Dave Pearson with the Century Club certificate.

David Naccarato, PER, Major Projects chair presenting, Greg Metzgus with Century Club certificate



EL KONEJO KAMPERS

Pat VonWittenburg



CAMP COMFORT THEN - - - AND NOW!

WOW – what a difference. A few years back when I was scouting out different campgrounds, I had occasion to be in Ojai – and just thought I take a look at Camp Comfort! Well folks, I’m not easily scared, but I locked all the doors, turned the car around as quickly as possible and got the blazes outta there. There were all kinds of transients, skuzzy vehicles, etc.

The rains washed out all the spaces behind the “building” and the 16 new sites are wonderful. There are only 15 available – the camp host occupying one and unfortunately someone had beat us to one site, so we could only get 14 – and we filled them ALL. Camp Comfort is ours for March 2008 – ALL 15 sites. It was unanimous, all the Kampers there want to return, so Cheryl called immediately, and we squeezed in just over the 1 year prior to use requirement. YAHOO! The general consensus of opinion was that any later in the year might be a little too warm; it was very warm as we were getting ready to leave on Sunday.

Thursday night must have been “pick on Pat” night. Chuck Kudra was really on my case, cracked Don Newcomer up, but I can’t put in print my response. I kept reminding him of the power of the pen, and as a Scorpio, I don’t get mad I just get even. (Mind your P’s and Q’s Kudra) Bless dear Judy, she has a VERY calming effect on that man, wonder how she manages that? I don’t have it in my heart to pick on the “poor dear” facing shoulder surgery the end of this month – but look out in the future, bud!

Mike and Mary Flannery (what a worry wart she is) and Jim and Patty Miller were co-wagon masters. Did a mighty fine job too! Mike’s Mulligan Stew was darned good – as usual no one goes hungry around these campouts.

Joel Erickson has been experimenting with various new types of bread and doing a first rate job. He made some “baguettes” that were wondrous! Salads abounded – all of them good. I had racked my brain – other than bread and salad, what the heck goes with stew? I figured a dessert might work, so I drew on my memory (such as it is) and came up with the banana, vanilla wafer, pudding combination. Guess it was a hit, the bowl was scraped clean. Gene Ewald told me I could make that for every campout. Looks like Carrol Stewart’s apple thing and this

pudding dish are something each of us are stuck with – if we wanta be, saves brain stress (giggle).

I know I’ve mentioned this before – but the poker players really do whine when they don’t have enough players. Thank goodness – Friday provided the appropriate number of players. Bill vW has been drafted and apparently the first coupla times he played he did okay – but of late he’s coming back to the rig with his sack nearly empty. Poor baby! One of Cheryl’s favorite games is “Acey-Ducey” to which Joel usually groans, but in her honor (she had to be elsewhere) they played “her” game not once but TWICE. Seems like most of them were complaining about “not doing well” or “just okay”. Guess it was pretty even.

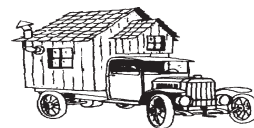
We learned that the granddaughter of Gary and Peggy Mullenau will be undergoing a rather serious surgery in the near future (sorry I didn’t note the exact date). This is the young lady that went to Washington and has done many accomplished “things” for her age – and this surgery, as I understand it, will be for a benign tumor very near her heart. They were hoping to accomplish this through an incision under her arm - - but that isn’t going to happen – She will have to have surgery akin to open heart surgery. I’m sure Peggy and Gary will appreciate all our thoughts and prayers for Amber. (Lord I hope I named the correct granddaughter).

I really try to create a well written article, using spell check and having Bill proof read it before I send it. It always amazes me – even AFTER Bill proofs – I can read back and find additional errors. Guess it truly proves that silly test often sent around by email with words missing letters and/or having them incorrectly arranged – can still be read without a lot of difficulty – we see what needs to be there. AMAZING

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

Easter Sunday, April 8th the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 conducted its annual Easter Egg Hunt for the children. This event was Chaired by PER, Don Ansell and his wife Dee Ansell.

There were over 75 children and adults attending. A pinata and at least one toy each for all the children attending were the highlights.

Ice Cream, candy from the pinata and sodas were served as refreshments.



INAUGURAL BALL - Jerry Serota Photographer



MAX MAXWELL
Elk of the Year 2006-'007

Written by Jim Mullen

Every morning at the Elks Lodge you could see him arrive, he stood 6'6" weighed 245 kind of broad and narrow at the hip and everybody knew you didn't give any lip to the Elk of the Year. Our Elk of the Year was born in San Pedro, CA., played in the oil fields and was near the water so when duty called he enlisted in the United States Navy. Served aboard the Saint Paul.



Our Elk of the Year also spent several productive years at various dispatch centers through out the city. About 1,000 to 1,500 dispatches a day was not unusual. This provided a unique opportunity for our Elk of the Year who thoroughly enjoys telling people where to go and how to get there. After 31 years in the Fire Department. he retired August 3rd 1996. I was told the department will never be quite the same but it was better while he was there. Our Elk of the Year joined the Elks February 2002 and his sponsor was Roy Cooper, Johnny D'Amrogio was the Exalted Ruler. This Elk of the Year has alway embodied the Elks motto 'Elks Care and Share'. Has always been there to help and will work to the very end. As a fireman and friend William K. Maxwell is our Elk of the Year 2006-2007 member #1968.



Daralynn and EOY 2006-2007, Max Maxwell

He moved on to Nevada and worked as a cattle rustler, (cowboy) herder of cattle. He was an outdoorsman, rancher, cowboy or simply an individual who treasured the bond between man and horse. This was a complex issue because in 1924 the Los Angeles Fire Department retired their beloved hard working horses. That was a problem for our Elk of the Year as he joined the Los Angeles Fire Department. He went through his probation (if you can imagine) on the West Side of Los Angeles later moving down to South Central Los Angeles. At one of those positions he was assigned to a rescue ambulance. He was truly a medical miracle worker, patients after being provided with a thrilling ride to the hospital and after being removed from the ambulance would suddenly jump off the gurney and dissappear into the night without the slightest need for additional medical intervention. don't know how he did it, a miracle, maybe?



Marva D'Ambrogio presenting Jeri Miller at Elk Ladies meeting a certificate for cooking dinner for installation of officers.



Elk Ladies, Pat Peterson and Jessica Stull presenting Cherri Peterson with gift for preparing Mardi Gras dinner.

2007-08 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

LECTURING KNIGHT

Steve Smith

2007-08 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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



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

As of the writing of this article I have not yet received the contact information from the committee chairpersons listed under my station. However, the April edition may not have reached everyone yet. Please forward your contact information ASAP so I may include any upcoming events or committee reports in future articles as timely as possible.

The Inaugural Ball was a tremendous success and everyone seemed to enjoy the event. The band was entertaining as always and Catherine's singing was the highlight of the gala. There were some unfortunate mishaps in the kitchen, but they did their best to overcome them. The Escarole tasted a little like Salmon, and the cooking procedures for the chicken could use some review. Nonetheless, due to the efforts of the staff at the Thousand Oaks Inn, it appears all those in attendance enjoyed the evening.

Since Americanism falls under my station I felt compelled to research some information concerning Memorial Day. I found an article on the internet which provides some historical references as well as reflections on how the holiday is regarded today. The following consists of excerpts from the article, the full text of which can be found at www.usmemorialday.org/backgrnd.html

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service. While Waterloo N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day. It is more likely that it had many separate beginnings that culminated in Gen. Logan giving his official proclamation in 1868. It is not important who was the very first, what is important is that Memorial Day was established. Memorial Day is not about division. It is about reconciliation; it is about coming together to honor those who gave their all.

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11, and was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war). It is

now celebrated in almost every State on the last Monday in May (passed by Congress with the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90 - 363) to ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays), though several southern states have an additional separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead.


Traditional observance of Memorial Day has diminished over the years. Many Americans nowadays have forgotten the meaning and traditions of Memorial Day. At many cemeteries, the graves of the fallen are increasingly ignored, neglected. Most people no longer remember the proper flag etiquette for the day. While there are towns and cities that still hold Memorial Day parades, many have not held a parade in decades. Some people think the day is for honoring any and all dead, and not just those fallen in service to our country.

To help re-educate and remind Americans of the true meaning of Memorial Day, the "National Moment of Remembrance" resolution was passed on Dec 2000 which asks that at 3 p.m. local time, for all Americans "To voluntarily and informally observe in their own way a Moment of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or listening to "Taps."

The Moment of Remembrance is a step in the right direction to returning the meaning back to the day. What is needed is a full return to the original day of observance. Set aside one day out of the year for the nation to get together to remember, reflect and honor those who have given their all in service to their country.

Many feel that when Congress made the day into a three-day weekend with the National Holiday Act of 1971, it made it all the easier for people to be distracted from the spirit and meaning of the day. As the VFW stated in its 2002 Memorial Day address: "Changing the date merely to create three-day weekends has undermined the very meaning of the day. No doubt, this has contributed greatly to the general public's nonchalant observance of Memorial Day."

On January 19, 1999 Senator Inouye introduced bill S 189 to the Senate which proposes to restore the traditional day of observance of Memorial Day back to May 30th instead of "the last Monday in May". On April 19, 1999 Representative Gibbons introduced the bill to the House (H.R. 1474). The bills were referred to Committee. There have been no further developments.

20007-2008 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS	THE ELKS LADIES June Leadam	20007-2008 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Jessica Stull 2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Mary Woodlief 3RD VICE PRESIDENT: Jeri Miller SECRETARY: Pat Peterson TREASURER: Alice Kennedy AUDITOR: Kathy Ryder TELEPHONE: Patti Serota		PARLIAMENTARIAN: Carol Neuner CHAPLAIN: Marilyn Cissell MAJOR PROJECTS: Kelly LaCross CVD: Dee Swanson & Marilyn Cissell HISTORIAN: SUNSHINE: Shirley Kozlowski

Here it is May again and every May I remember Junior High School (that's what it used to be in the Los Angles School District) where we had a Mother's Day program. Part of it was a May Pole Dance. The girls wove colored ribbons in and out to music. Twenty years later I was a young woman with a home and family. I had lots of roses in my yard and in remembrance of those programs I took the first blooms to my next-door neighbor.

We now look forward to Mother's Day and being honored by our families. Each of us should celebrate our sameness and our differences as well. They make us all unique. We are like pieces of a quilt – all different but so beautiful when combined. Oh, remember the Mother's Day Buffet at the Lodge.

It's been a great year so far with our successful fundraiser followed by installation of officers where Alice Kennedy was awarded the Elks Ladies Appreciation Award. It was such a pleasure to see her joy and happiness. A special thanks to Bob Arbetman and David Naccarato who cooked for us and to the servers George Meehan, Jay Block, Robert Jones, and Grant Thistle.

Jessica Stull and Pat Peterson thanked Cherri Peterson for cooking for the Mardi Gras dinner. Cherri was given a gift from the Elks Ladies in appreciation for a wonderful meal.

Marva D'Ambrogio thanked June Leadam and Angie Prizzi for decorating; Jeri Miller for cooking; Carol Fredericks, Kelley LaCross, and June Leadam for serving. Marva presented Jeri with a potholder in appreciation for cooking dinner. Jeri now knows how to make an elk stew!


We welcome three new members to our group. They are Kelley LaCross (husband Michael), Niki Case (husband Rich), and Cherri Peterson (husband John). We look forward to getting to know all of you.

If you haven't already done so, please volunteer to help at Conejo Valley Days. The ticket takers work in pairs for two and one hour shifts. Dee Swanson is chairperson and Marilyn Cissell is co-chair for the Elks Ladies and we are paid for this. You may contact Dee at 495-1735 or Marilyn at 495-9645.



MAY

- 5 Barb Metzgus
- 17 Patti Serota
- 20 Diane Isaman
- 22 Louise Lampron
- 29 Alice Kennedy
- 30 Iris Schwartz



Marilyn Cissell
WHEN WE IGNORE YOUR ROADBLOCKS, LORD
Marilyn Cissell

**Whenever expectations, God,
 Almost outshine reality,
 New friends, that job, a need or game ,
 to lose---a possibility.**

**If we ignore your roadblocks, Lord,
 and feel secure in choices made,
 Then rush ahead with little thought,
 did we lose something in the trade?**

Amen

The Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 celebrated its 35th Anniversary on March 25, 2007, at the Lodge. Verna McNaboe, member of our ladies group was recognized as the widow of Vern McNaboe, Charter member #8.

Grand Lodge as the Distinguished Citizen of the Year honored our very own Patti Serota for Outstanding and Meritorious Service to Humanity. Please congratulate her when you pay for dinner on Friday night.

June wishes to express her sincere thanks for the large turnout at her first meeting as president and hopes that your attendance will remain high.

Coming up June 24 to June 26 is Annie Pearson's trip to Stateline. There will be more details in the near future.

Respectfully,
 Mary Woodlief

HONOR ROLL

A COIN A DAY



- Robert Jones
- Jay Block, PER
- Myrna Block
- George Meehan
- John Peterson
- William Maxwell (Max)
- George Sylvester
- Sally Claunch, PER
- Donald Skinner, PER
- Jack Loughran, PER
- Joel Erickson
- Louis Wolff
- John & June Leadam
- Gil Riding, PDDGER
- Ken Kolde
- John Quinn
- Cheryl Templeton
- Ruby Metzgas
- Chris Prince
- Tom Walsh
- Dave Naccarato, PER
- Bill Lloyd, DL
- Greg Metzgas, PER



MAY

- 2 Dick Hejik
- 5 Vernon Jossey
Robert Koeritz
Peter Padilla
- 6 David Anderson
George Vivlamore
- 7 Charles Archer
Barbara Metzgas
Larry Stermolle
- 8 Lloyd Carter
- 9 Kenneth Daly
James Wagner
- 10 Michael Budenski
Herb Jellander
Leroy Russell
- 11 Gerald Reingans
- 12 Anthony Federico
Bob Arbetman
Bob Hart
- 13 Joni Melickian
- 14 William Miller
- 15 Denise Goldstein
- 16 Alvin Caddin
- 17 Barry Kelman
- 19 Britt Rutherford
- 20 Julie Daly
- 21 Penny Flanagan
- 22 Kenneth Keller
David Maddox
- 23 David Stull
- 24 Steve Woodlief
- 25 Tom Varden
- 26 Ron Watkins
- 27 Michael Murray
Rick Naranjo
- 29 Dale Haas
Bob Saynay
- 30 Russell Oviatt

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- March 28 INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

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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 Metzgus
1978-79 *Frank J. Rindone, PDDGER	2004-05 Jay Block
1979-80 *Edward F. Stogsdell	2005-06 Sally Claunch
1980-81 *Frank "Tex" Hastie	2006-2007 David Naccarato
1981-82 * Robert Hardy	
1982-83 *A. John Nichols	By Affiliation:
1983-84 John Nau	1981-82 Robert L. Thornton, PDDGER
1984-85 Vern Ogden	1999-00 Ralph Vester
1985-86 Dan Snyder	2001-02 Bill Sternberg
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1987-88 John E. Henry	
1988-89 Ted Lipka	
1989-90 Don Skinner	
1990-91 Don Ansell	
1991-92 Gary Sleight	
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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