



Catherine Koeritz,
Exalted Ruler



ANTLER

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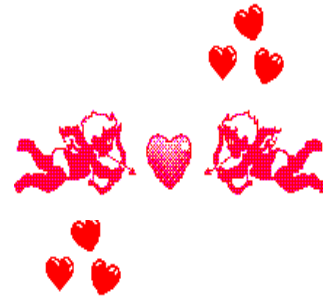
Editor, Sally Claunch, PER

February '08

LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE

Sweetheart's Ball

Elks Ladies Major Project Fundraiser



Menu:

- Greek Salad*
- Chicken & Shrimp Skewers*
- Rice Pilaf*
- Spanakopeta (spinach pie)*
- Tyro petakia (cheese phyllo triangles)*
- Dolmades (rice stuffed grape leaves)*
- Satziki (yogurt garlic sauce)*
- Aphrodite's Passion Punch*

Dessert

Saturday

February 9, 2008

6:00pm

Enjoy the sounds of *One Last Dance*

This event is not just for couples, singles are encouraged to attend!

OPERATION FACELIFT

Tom Ryder, PDDGER



The “**OPERATION FACELIFT**” committee is set up to prioritize, recommend and oversee programs and work required to make our current facility more appealing to our members and their guests. There already have been some comments as to spending money on our current facility. Until there is a definite decision as to what and where we are going we have to assume that we are staying here and will try to make the best of it!

Lodge Rugs Cleaning – Rugs were cleaned professionally by Surf Pro. Cost \$451. Thank you Corrine Richeson for Coordinating effort.

Repair Lodge Building Roof. With the Winds and Rains of December it is more apparent the roof is leaking badly. Terry Gicking and Max Maxwell getting estimates for rework required. First bid received was for \$21,000 but after review it was apparent the bid did not cover replacing the entire roof. Waiting for two more bids. Maintenance band aid fix in progress to get us through the rainy season. Entire roof replacement is being considered after determination is made as to our next move on a new facility away from this site or do we remodel what we currently have.

Update Ladies Lounge – Need a major upgrade to this area. Preliminary plans are to move the inside wall, install a full handicapped stall and increase the size of the other two stalls. Leo Rodriquez and Terry Gicking coordination this effort.

Operation Green Up – There is a need to make our outside area greener and more presentable! Rick Herrera has come up with some ideas and layouts for green up. Current estimate is for a \$5,000 landscaping effort to make our facility more compatible with the new building going on in our area. The House Committee approved the cost for the landscaping. Rick Herrera has started.

Update Lodge Electrical Wiring – The Lodge electrical wiring is old, overworked and tired. Duke Kopacz and Boyd Lindquist have had electricians survey the current wiring. Waiting for their recommendations and estimates for work required to update lodge electrical system. Boyd Lindquist Coordinating

Property Line Stabilization – No change in status. It has been suggested we go to the city and find out what the status of the building project for the lot next to us is. Also should get the city to get in touch with the property owner as to what he plans to do. Tom Ryder coordinating.

Outside Painting Of Facilities – Talking with person who volunteered to paint our building for a minimal cost as to approximately what his costs would be and when he would paint the building. Tom Hartin coordinating.

Saturday BBQ Area - Fence and Gate. – Our outside patio and eating area is a success with the Saturday people that come down and partake in our BBQ offerings. An effort is in progress to make this area less visible to the road so people will feel more at ease while eating Also will make area more private to members wanting to use this are for their happenings. Estimated cost \$600. Tom Ryder coordinating

New Front Entry Door – Door to Lobby narrow and needing fixing. Cost estimate is for approximately \$900 for a new door including installation. Terry Gicking coordinating.

Tree Trimming – Another project needing to be done. The eucalyptus trees have again become overgrown and present a problem. Jim Allen has come in with a bid to trim, thin out and top these trees. Bid is for \$500. House Committee approved this effort. Jim Allen coordinating.

Pick up – Clean Up – Please help keep your lodge buildings and grounds presentable. There is a lot of loose garbage and litter around the lodge. As you come to the lodge, if you come across any, please pick it up and deposit it in a garbage container. Let’s get some pride in what we have and try to make our facility more presentable to the members, the neighbors and the community!

Again, a few good Elks have already volunteering to assist in getting these proposed programs in progress. Need more committee persons and ideas. Need your suggestions and comments. Have heard rumors as to other projects for upgrading our facilities. Please contact me with suggestions and offers of help. This is a committee that is not restricted in numbers of members, all are welcome and all ideas will be considered.

If there is something that you feel that you would like to help with, call me or get in touch with the person coordinating the effort and let us know that you are interested and might offer some help!

It should be noted that before any project is started it will be reviewed and approved by the Officers and House committees.

Come to a Lodge meeting and discuss your ideas with the members present. Always need more interest in the happenings to your lodge.

2007-08 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS



EXALTED RULER
Catherine Koeritz

2007-08 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

ANTLERANTICS: Sally Claunch, PER, Editor,
Jerry Serota, Assoc. Editor/Photographer
Calendar: Tom Ryder, PDDGER
NEWBEGINNINGS: Jerry Serota, Myrna Block
HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK: Jerry Serota
GREETERS: Dorothy Murray
PUBLIC RELATIONS: Jerry Serota
OPERATION FACELIFT: Tom Ryder, PDDGER



BUILDING MAINT. : Max Maxwell/Tom Hartin
PARLIAMENTARIAN: Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, DL
LODGE VISITATIONS:
BBQ WAGON: Al Lenahan
AUDITING: Tom Ryder, PDDGER
ELKS TRAINING: Catherine Koeritz
SHOE TOURNAMENTS: Mike Budenski
BEQUESTS & LIVING TRUSTS: Robert Jones
PLANNING COMMITTEE:

DICTIONARY PROJECT

As an ongoing project in partnering with the schools in the Pleasant and Conejo Valley School Districts, we supply the 3rd graders their very own Student Dictionary. In addition to the dictionary, we provide drug awareness information. Once again we have a great opportunity to provide 585 dictionaries to 8 schools in the Conejo Valley School District.

The Pleasant Valley School District received 864 thanks to Richard Goldner who spearheaded this effort. He made a 30-40 minute presentation to each of the schools with each delivery.

Bill Miller (and I'm sure Jeri helped) has been busy putting labels on the dictionaries to be distributed and Richard has offered to do the same presentation for the Conejo Valley schools.

DUES VOTE

As most of you are aware, the vote to change the dues for 2008-2009 was presented to the membership on the floor of the Lodge on January 9th. The vote passed and the request was sent to the Grand Lodge Office for approval. Effective in April 2008, the dues will be reduced to \$120.00 (plus G.L. assessments) and \$60.00 for life members.

We continually need new members. Members are our lifeblood to this organization. We hope through the efforts of the "New Beginnings" Committee, we can increase our membership by offering a friendly re-acquaintance with our Lodge. The first step is an invitation to Cooper's Fish Fry.

COMMITTEE INFO

In December a new Committee was formed. It is called the Planning Committee. I hope by the time you read this newsletter we will have a Committee Chairperson and have investigated opportunities, options and can make recommendations for a new lodge. If you have ideas, please join one of the committees so that we can work together.

Have a Happy Valentines Day! Remember to take your Sweetheart to the Ball.



Who are these legends? Ask Vickey Egan or Terry Gicking



Leo Rodriquez and Jerry Serota, two Italian tenors????

In February
Your Lodge Serving the Community

Monthly Bingo Party and outings for the Vets by Jim Kellogg and Crew

Scholarship applications being rated by Scholarship Committee

Hoop Shoot winners and Scouts being honored with receptions at the Lodge

Be an Elk volunteer, call the office with your name and phone number



Sally Claunch, PER Editor
 claunchsally@gmail.com
 articles are due the 5th of the month
 send as a word document

STROKE: Remember The 1st Three Letters.... S.T.R.

Friends have sent me this, and I agree it is a timely message to be passed on to others.

STROKE IDENTIFICATION:

During a BBQ, a friend stumbled and took a little fall - she assured everyone that she was fine (they offered to call paramedics)she said she had just tripped over a brick because of her new shoes.

They got her cleaned up and got her a new plate of food. While she appeared a bit shaken up, Ingrid went about enjoying herself the rest of the evening.

Ingrid's husband called later telling everyone that his wife had been taken to the hospital - (at 6:00 pm Ingrid passed away.) She had suffered a stroke at the BBQ. Had they known how to identify the signs of a stroke, perhaps Ingrid would be with us today. Some don't die.... they end up in a helpless, hopeless condition instead.

It only takes a minute to read this...

A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within 3 hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke... totally . He said the trick was getting a stroke recognized, diagnosed, and then getting the patient medically cared for within 3 hours, which is tough.

RECOGNIZING A STROKE

Thank God for the sense to remember the "3" steps, STR . Read and Learn!

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke .

Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

S * Ask the individual to SMILE.

T * Ask the person to TALK and SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE (Coherently)

(i.e. It is sunny out today)

R * Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS.

If he or she has trouble with ANY ONE of these tasks, call 999/911 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

New Sign of a Stroke ————— Stick out Your Tongue

NOTE: Another 'sign' of a stroke is this: Ask the person to 'stick' out his tongue.. If the tongue is 'crooked', if it goes to one side or the other , that is also an indication of a stroke.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

805-495-0577

OUR CONDOLENCES TO: Bill and Flo Lloyd, on the passing of her daughter; Richard and Elaine Goldner on the passing of her mother and to the family of Rose Farhat widow of charter member.

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Dean Nash

ON THE MEND: Marva D'Ambrogio and Bob Thornton, PDDGER from heart surgery

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



COMING ATTRACTIONS


February 3-Super Bowl Party
 February 6&13 Nomination of Officers
 February 8-9 Kampers at Lancaster Elks Lodge
 February 9 Elk Ladies Event for Major Project
 February 15 New Beginnings Fish Fry
 February 20 Election of Officers
 February 24 Scouting Awards Ceremony

March 29- Inaugural Ball

**THANK
 YOU SO
 MUCH!**

Bill Sternberg for making the wine rack and lights on the pin board.

Terry Gicking for the divider door in the bar area

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

The Charity Baskets event went very well again the year (oops, I mean in 2007). Five agencies gave us names of families we could help. The number of families was down to fifty-one compared to seventy-five last year, but we did our best and things worked out well. As usual, many members and spouses stepped forward to help out and make the event run smoothly. David Pearson did a fine job in setting up on his computer, the ordering of food, the delivery and the list of children by sex and ages. **THANK YOU, DAVID.**

Another member who we don't see too often at the lodge came in with his wife and packaged all the fruit, vegetables, etc— Thank you, Mr & Mrs George Vivlamore, a charter member. Also a special thanks to all of the following: Marilyn Cissell, Dave Anderson, Patti Serota, Myrna Block, Jessica Stull, Cornelia Meehan, Cherri Peterson, Diane Isaman and Gayla Lindquist. These good people did the wrapping of gifts for the children. The following did the delivering: John Peterson, Raven West, Tom & Marlene Walsh, Steve Finnerty, Terry Gicking, Leslie Smith, Rick Herrera, Mike Budenski, Rob Flemming, George Vivlamore and Bob Arbetman. Several wives, sons & daughters of these people helped them whose names I do not know. So I say, **THANK YOU** to one & all for helping me make this a success. If I missed mentioning anyone, please accept my apologies—it certainly was not intentional.

The next big event, I see happening at the lodge is the Police and Firefighters Appreciation. Night on January 23. Now, I know this article is for the February issue of the Antlers, but it should reach you by the 20th of January, so don't let this event get by you. These policemen and firefighters put their lives on the line for us every day. A good turnout at this dinner would show them that we really do appreciate them.

I hope to see you all at the Lodge—it needs you support physically as well as financially.

OFFICERS
HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

New keys for the outer doors have been installed.

Operation Green Up was approved to landscape Lodge areas.

New Beginnings Committee overview was given by Jerry Serota

TRUSTEES REPORT

Ongoing review of the budget to develop strategies on cost savings

Recommended moving monies from general charity account to specific youth and veteran accounts.

Bank accounts held by subordinate groups are being aligned to comply with Grand Lodge Statues

House Committee meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Trustees meet the first Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Your input is valued. Your attendance is welcomed.

2007-08 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

LOYAL KNIGHT Raven West

2007-08 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

CONEJO VALLEY DAYS: Ed Rice
LODGE ACTIVITIES: Dave Naccarato, PER
SCOUTING: Bill Miller
HOOPSHOOT: Dave Naccarato, PER
WED. NIGHT DINNERS: Bob Arbetman
DRUG AWARENESS: Robert Jones
STRAY ELKS: Herb Jellander



MOTHER'S DAY: Robert Jones
ENTERTAINMENT: Corinne Richeson
WED. NIGHT TICKETS: Terry Gicking
**LAW ENFORCEMENT & FIRE FIGHTER
 APPRECIATION:** Scott Dool
PRESIDING JUSTICE: Dick McCann
YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Robert Jones

Please note that the Innaugual Ball is now on Sat. March 29th at the Thousand Oaks Inn. I don't have any more details.

Historic research tells us that St. Valentine was a bishop living near Rome in the year 270 A.D. At that time, Roman Emperor Claudius-II felt that married men were more emotionally attached to their families, and thus, would not make good soldiers. So, to assure quality warriors, he banned marriage. In defiance, Bishop Valentine arranged to meet young lovers in a secret place and perform outlawed marriage ceremonies. When Claudius learned of this "friend of lovers," he ordered the bishop arrested and put to death.

While Valentine was in prison, his jailer, Asterius requested the Bishop pray for his blind daughter. It is said that through his faith, Valentine miraculously restored her sight. Just before his execution, he asked Asterius for a quill and parchment to write a farewell message to his daughter. The message was signed "From Your Valentine." Valentine thus became the Patron Saint of Lovers, and a spiritual overseer of an annual festival held on February 14, in which young men would offer handwritten greetings of affection to women they admired and wished to court. These "greeting cards" acquired St. Valentine's name. One of the earliest "Valentine's Day" cards was sent in 1415 by Charles, Duke of Orleans, to his wife while he was a prisoner in the Tower of London. The card is now preserved in the British Museum. The tradition of the Valentine's Day card and annual holiday is now celebrated on February 14 around the world.

Fortunately, American men of the twenty-first century (and women) don't have to be imprisoned to be motivated to send their sweetheart a Valentine's Day card. Nor do they have to rely on mere quill and parchment to deliver warm thoughts to their loved one.

Wishing you all a very happy Valentine's Day!



Are Bill Sternberg and Robert Jones listening to Neil Diamond???



Legends in our Lodge performing for charity



Richard Goldner, PDDGER receiving the Millinium Club award from ER, Catherine Koeritz and Major Project Chair, Dave Naccarato, PER

ENTERTAINMENT



**1 Karaoke with Robert
8 Bingo with PER, Dave
15 Karaoke encore**



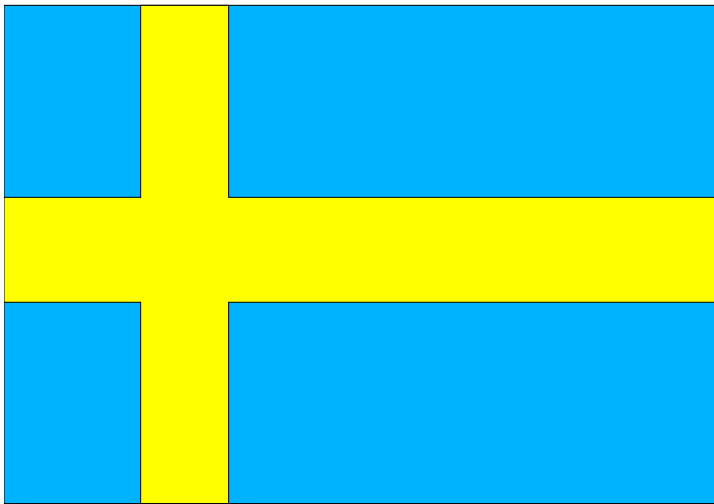
Tabs, tabs, tabs, are we ever collecting pop tabs. So far we have delivered 57 pounds to the Los Angles Ronald McDonald House. That's approximately 72,276 pop tabs which equals \$72,276 donation. I want to thank everyone who has been collecting the pop tabs. A special thanks to Bugsy(Don Ansell, PER) who gave me a suitcase full, approximately 30 pounds. He received the tabs from his brother-in-law, Mr Les Dempsey of Kansas. On behalf of the kids at Ronald McDonald House, thank you. Gerry Gillies.



**22 One Last Dance Band
29 Line Dancing/Entertainment**

**Corinne Richeson
Bar Manager**

Swedish Night at the Lodge



PER, Bugsy Ansell, PER presenting ER, Catherine Koeritz and pop tab chair, Gerry Gillies with a suitcase full of tabs

Friday - February 1st \$9.00

- Kottbullar - Swedish Meatballs
- Potatishos - Mash Potatoes
- Grona Boner - Green Beans
- Maja - Corn
- Rodbetor - Beets
- Efteratt - Dessert
- Vaniljbullar - Rolls
- Sallad - Salad

Setina and Emma Lindstrom (2 ladies from Sweden) Imported by Joe & Betty Smith -

KARAOKE

SUPER BOWL PARTY

FEBRUARY 3
1:30-???

**BRING AN APPETIZER/DESSERT
EQUALS 2 FREE DRINKS**

**BOWLING TOURNAMENT
HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT
AT HALFTIME**

DRAFT BEER \$1 HOT DOGS/HAMBURGS \$2



**Elks Ladies
Christmas
Party-**
**Girls Just
Having Fun**





**Charity
Baskets
Program**



**Elks Care
Elks Share**



**Christmas Basket
Program**



Listed below are the honored members who will be awarded pins at the March 5, 2008 meeting for attaining 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 55 years of membership in Elkdom. If you feel your name has been omitted, please contact the office.

5 Year

Mel Baker
Elizabeth Bell
James Bragg
Steve Chiszar
Penny Flanagan
H. Wayne Foss
Woody Hammer
Antonia Hartin
Darryl Kopacz
Frank Lussier
William Miller
William O'Shea
John Peterson
Roy Ratcliffe
Leo Rodriguez
Robert Saynay
Steve Smith
Mitchell Strunk
Michael Tanner

10 Year

Leonard Cardoni
William Dennison
Marc Donovan
John Ennis
Wayne La Farr
Boyd Lindquist
Donald Long
James McPherson
Jack Paulson
Fred Severo
David Stull

15 Year

Richard Goldner, PER, PDDGER
Peter Nolan
David Pearson
Gerald Reingans

20 Year

James Allen
Robert Koeritz
Larry Morris
M. Larry Stermole
Louis Thomas
William White

25 Year

Robert Foley
Herb Jellander
Chester Kozlowski, PER
Donald Skinner, PER

30 Year

Scott Dool
Stephen Pence
Charles Thompson

35 Year

James Barker
Ronald Barron
Ted Radabaugh
Larry Zarybnicky

40 Year

Sterling Wetzsteon

45 Year

Raymond Clayton
Ronald Pizitz

55 Year

James Wallace, PER

**OPERATION
ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT**



Does it appear there is an attitude problem around the Lodge?

You bet it does!

Is it time for an Attitude Adjustment

You bet it is!

Is It Necessary

MOST DEFINATELY!

Why – Criticism is cheap and easy to give and your Lodge has lots of it. Any one can be a critic!

Getting things right is hard and takes work. It takes a big person to stand up and support right!

The decision about the new building was made and not to everyone's liking.

That does not mean that all those not agreeing with that decision are to stand back and take shots at what is being proposed as follow on efforts to get our lodge to the next step.

The Exalted Ruler and the Officers are trying to come up with a program that will be appealing to the majority but know that it will not be fulfilling the desires of a few.

Support your Officers, Come to a Lodge meeting and let them know what your desires are. Your ideas might just be the key to what is needed.

The bar, the patio, the hallways, the back room, the kitchen and other remote areas are not the place to solve the problems of the Lodge. The Lodge meeting room, at a regular meeting is the place for you to start to let your intentions be known.

House Committee and Officers Meetings are another place to visit and observe the activities of those you elected to serve as the leaders' of your lodge.

GET INVOLVED! YOUR LODGE NEEDS YOU! ! !

Tom Ryder, PDDGER, Treasurer
Sally Claunch, PER, Chair of Trustees

**FROM THE
THOUSAND OAKS ELKS LODGE BUILDING
To The Membership**

Yes I'm an old Building

Yes I'm Tired

Yes I'm Worn

Yes I've Grown Ugly

But You Made Me This Way!

Remember From My Halls Come

Charity and Aid For

Scholarships For Students

Veterans Help Programs

Drug Awareness

Community Support Programs

Community Help Programs

Relaxation and Sociability

Please Help Me!

You Used Me

You Abused Me

You Forget Me

Please Help Me!

Operation Facelift ! ! ! !



**Nominations and Election of
Officers for 2008-2009**

Feb. 6,13,20

**If interested in running
for a position, let the office
know. Members your input
is needed. Please attend
these important meetings.**



EL KONEJO KAMPERS

Pat VonWittenburg

CHRISTMAS BRUNCH -- GRAND VISTA HOTEL

By the time you read this, the Holidays will have come and gone. The Kampers hope your Holidays were all you wanted them to be and wish everyone a Happy, Healthy New Year.

Although our attendance was not what it has been in the past, we had a terrific time. After a bit of research last year, we sure get a lot of bang for our buck. One place that was contacted wanted several THOUSAND dollars for the use of the room ALONE.

It was truly great to see some of you campers we don't see frequently. Perhaps you believe we don't miss you, but we really do. It would be very nice if ya'll would check out the Kampers schedule on the website and plan to join the group. We have a terrific time. In view of the rising gas prices, Chuck Kudra, our new Vice President, is attempting to find some new (some old) campsites that are just a bit closer to home. Apparently there's a new campground in Simi, which we have heard is quite nice.

While on my way to Costco one day, I decided to check out Oak Park. I know, I know, the sites aren't wonderful, but the cabana is and the park has been cleaned -- dramatically. As I've said numerous times before -- the camaraderie is the most enjoyable "activity" not to mention the FOOD. Found out over New Year's that home-made corn beef hash isn't that difficult to make and everyone seemed to like it -- so guess I'll be making that in the future for our Saturday brunch.

Thanks to Cheryl and Donna Colleran who did the "Black Friday" gig, the raffle prizes were terrific. Debbie and Wayne Garrison were giving me a hard time because I "usually" pick up a couple raffle prizes at campouts (spend a lot of money too[giggle]). Well -- they needed a hand truck to cart out all their winnings.

Don't know what it is with the front corner table? The Pearsons, Claunchs, Williams, Debi Fitzpatrick, Hartins and a few others -- ALWAYS win numerous prizes. Next year -- I'm gonna stake out that

table. Probably won't do a bit of good -- whadda ya think?

I believe John and Cherri Peterson were in that corner also, and guess who won the 50/50, quite a sizeable one -- CHERRI!

Was just commenting to Bill, this is one of the most difficult articles to write (still enjoy writing them though) cause everyone comes all decked out, we socialize, eat, install new officers, have a raffle and go home. Everyone usually uses their "party manners" and nothing ridiculous, funny or outrageous happens. Quite a well turned out, well behaved group. Can you believe that? Dang, even Steve Chiszar was quite subdued.

Must mention that Walter Ogden does an awesome job as chaplain, although we miss Marilyn Cissell terribly, we do have a couple of people in the group who do a good job.

Speaking of missing people, Donna Hardy's absence was noted and a lot of us would enjoy seeing her, at least occasionally. Please know you are missed, Donna. Also among the missing were John and Marva D'Ambrogio, hope you're feeling much better Marva; Peggy and Gary Mullenau, not only their presence, but their usual beautiful home made raffle prizes.

Upcoming Campouts

February 8-9	Lancaster Elks Lodge
March 9-11	Camp Komfort- Ojai
April 13-15	Lake Piru-Santa Paula
May 18-20	Kenney Grove-Chili Cookoff

VISIT THE KAMPERS WEBSITE

<http://elkonejokampers.oaksdata.com>

for upcoming campouts
& photos of events



to join call Bev Erickson 495-9715

YOUR LUCKY DAY



**LOTTO TICKETS
AVAILABLE IN THE LOUNGE**

1 2 3 4 5

Your Name

Lunch Bunch Card

Please present when ordering food.
It will be initialed by server.
One free entree when card is completed.
Good Monday-Friday
Thousand Oaks Lodge #2477

6 7 8 9 10



Don't Miss

**Elk Ladies
Sweetheart Ball
February 9
6 p.m.**

**RECEIVE THE ANTLER VIA EMAIL
ONLY-SAVE THE LODGE \$2 PER
ISSUE**

email the editor at
claunchsally@gmail.com
to receive an email copy only

OR

**BE THE FIRST ON YOUR BLOCK
TO READ THE ANTLER AND ALSO
RECEIVE A HARD COPY BY MAIL**

email the editor at
claunchsally@gmail.com
to receive an advance copy
and a hard copy

Keep the Communications Flowing

Please notify the office of change of address
or email address so the computer data systems can be
updated. Notification ensures members receiving the
Antlers and timely communications from the office.

**JOIN US
FOR
HOSPITALITY HOUR
EVERY TUE. & THUR.
4 p.m.-6p.m.
APPETIZERS**



Legends in Concert

Dave Naccarato, PER

January 12th we the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge held the 2nd of the legends in concert series. The first went towards our new facility and this one went to the youth charities our lodge supports. Our lodge supports Scouting and disabled children or better known as the Purple Pig. Every third grader in the Thousand Oaks Unified School District receives a dictionary compliments of the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge 2477.

We held our Elks basketball free throw contest and had the Awards Sunday the 13th, Conejo Valley days every year we provide a lunch for the handicapped children and the carnival workers who allow the children to ride the rides for free.

Our Legends show ticket sales started out slow with only 15 sold by Friday night but Saturday night in pure 2477 fashion everyone showed up. Members had a good time taking in the sounds from Sonny and Cher and LULU to Willie Nelson and Julio. Even family members got into the act with Fallon Naccarato and her friend Liana Groel with a rendition of Jefferson Starship "Nothings gonna stop us now" Fallon's guitar Solo stole the show. E.R. Catherine Koeirtz was in fine form with "Cry Me A River" and duets with myself. Vickie Egan as Jeanie C. Reily and my counter part in "Ruby don't take your love to town" A big thanks to all who attended and special thanks to Liz Bell as Duty officer she took her duty to the next level. A big help.

Grant Thistle was our MC for the evening. The show started out with Scouting Chair, Bill Sternberg and Catherine in a wild duel of Dueling Banjos. So if you missed Terry Gicking with hair and Jerry Serota and Leo Rodriquez as Willie and Julio you get another chance, Legends in concert III "Show Tunes" due out this summer. We had a cocktail show this time next time will be a dinner show so look for a flier. Robert Jones was Our sound Technician during the show and sang "Green Green Grass Of Home"

Happy Birthday Elkdome
Founded February 16, 1868
In New York City
By a troupe of actors

Hoop Shoot



Grand Lodge has a program for 8 to 13 year old that is a basketball free throw contest. We had ours in November with 58 kids participating. We held our awards January 13th. Glen Welman and Marc Kennedy put together a fine spaghetti dinner for the award recipients and their family. The first place winners will go on to Santa Barbara for the district shoot. I have my eye on our 12-13 year boy who shot 22 out of 25 plus sunk all 5 of his practice shots. I'll keep you up to date with his progress. I would like to give a big thanks to my wife for all her help with the Hoop Shoot paper work. Calling the players and talking with the parents and greeting them at the awards. Jay and Myrna Block were there to lend a hand. Catherine was their to present the awards.



ER, Catherine Koeirtz and Hoop Shoot Chair, Dave Naccarato, PER, giving plaques to winners



We had our Bingo January 11th had 17 players and one game had 6 Bingos So it was 4 dollar to each winner so the winners banded together and donated their winnings to the Major Project. 20 % of the take at Bingo goes to the Major Project. Also player John Quinn donated \$20.00 of his wife's winnings to the Major Project. Look for Bingo next month.

SUPERBOWL PARTY

Where: Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge

When:

When:

HOT DOGS \$2

HAMBURGERS \$2

(Come early to sign up for the games) BOWLING TOURNAMENT
HORSESHOES-HALF TIME

FOOD - PRIZES - GAMES

BRING AN APPETIZER/DESSERT--YOUR FIRST TWO DRINKS ARE FREE--DRAFT BEERS \$1



**LARGE SCREEN TV
IN MAIN LODGE ROOM**



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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She promises a super party!!!!**



CHRISTMAS TREE LOT REPORT 2007

Due to all the hard work of our members and the friendship and generosity of the Carlson family, the lot was again a success this year. We sold, or donated the last few, every one of the 510 trees we ordered and finished up three days early to boot. By our calculations, we netted almost \$14,000 after all expenses, sales tax and credit card commissions. These funds will support all our charitable endeavors as well as the General Fund.

The lot also provides us with a lot of community visibility. We estimate we saw at least 1000 people, the great majority of them repeat happy customers or others referred by them. Most remarked that they never go elsewhere for their tree and many left us saying, "See you next year!"

We had a lot of help on the lot this year as well as support in the form of donations, food and beverages. We thank you all.

For the future, we'd like to add at least one new co-chairman. Terry, Bill and Herb plan to be there in 2008 but we'd like a day off once in a while. If we can add one or more co-chairman, we can all spend a little less time at the lot. We envision working in teams or shifts. We particularly would like someone with some administrative skills to run the lot, handle finances and logistics and make decisions. It's not rocket science and it can be learned fairly quickly. Let Terry, Bill or Herb know if you can help.

We hope to have a reunion party/barbeque when the weather warms up a little. Keep an eye out for the information. Thanks to all the folks listed below. If we missed anyone, we owe you a drink.

Fraternally, Terry/Bill/Herb

Jim Allen	Max Maxwell
Dave Anderson	Bill & Jeri Miller
Jim Andrews	Jim Mullen
Jay & Myrna Block	Dave Naccarato
Mike Bruton	Pete Nolan
Lloyd Carter	Jack Paulsen
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Harry Isaman	Tom Walsh
Marc Kennedy	Dwight Williams
Donny Long & family	Steve Woodlief



Jerry Serota, Public Relations Chair.



NEW BEGINNINGS

Jerry Serota/Myrna Block, Comm.. Chair

Once An Elk Always An Elk

It was voted on to seek alternative means for a new facility and it was also voted on to lower the annual dues as of April 1st. to just \$120 plus Grand Lodge assessments.

A letter and flyer has been sent out to all the lapsed members inviting them to a **NEW BEGINNINGS** special Fish Fry by Roy Cooper and his crew on Friday Feb. 15, 2008, see flyer enclosed in this issue. Dinner that night will start at 4:00 p.m. for those wishing to get an early start. (2) dinners are for the price of one just \$7.50.

A **NEW BEGINNING** program has been implemented for the next two months which will enable members who lapsed their dues to reinstate their membership as of April 1, 2008 of just \$120 a year. A member wishing to reinstate after they filling out the Reinstatement Form will have their application

- (A) February: Read on the floor
- (B) March: Be investigated
- (C) April: Be printed in the Antler Antics and be voted on.

This takes about 3 months to complete. There is no initiation since they have already been initiated.

In order to be a success, it will take the full cooperation all our members. We call on all our Brothers and Sisters to not only invite members they know who have lapsed but attend and act as Greeter/Hosts at this important undertaking. The warmth and fraternalism shown on this night can be a giant turning point in the success of **NEW BEGINNINGS** in rebuilding our membership.

Share the Excitement

Sponsor a new member.

Applications are available in the Lounge
or in the office.



NEW BEGININGS

(FOR THE ONES WHO GOT AWAY)

Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477

am·nes·ty (ăm'nĭ-stē) *n.*,. To grant a general pardon to.

As **a** one who got away, you are cordially invited to get re-acquainted with the new beginnings of the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge.

A **special Fish Fry** is planned just for you by the renowned epicurean

BROTHER ROY COOPER AND HIS CREW

When: **Friday, February 15, 2008**

Program starts: **4:00 p.m.**

Two (2) Dinners for the price of one (1)
Just \$7.50

Bring this invitation for your **special** (2 for 1 dinner) ... become **rejuvenated** about the Lodge's **re-direction**, "**welcome back**" and **reduced annual dues** programs.

DON'T MISS THIS ONE

New Beginnings Committee,
Jerry Serota / Myrna Block
805-497-1197 - 492-4016

2007-08 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

LECTURING KNIGHT

Steve Smith

2007-08 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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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



GOLFTOURNEY: Dave Pearson
LODGE PICNIC: Joe Clancy & Ed Bianchi
 David Naccarato/Tom Hartin
MEMBERSHIP: Every Lodge Member
CHRISTMAS TREES: Herb Jellander
 Bill Sternberg, PER/Terry Baker
EL KONEJOKAMPERS: Mike Flannery

Army Posts Move to Improve Services Provided to Families. The Army has vowed to improve ties between military and civilian organizations, opening up new opportunities for lodges to forge new ties with nearby military posts and to expand their involvement with military families.

Seventy active duty and six Reserve installations last month made a formal commitment (with commanders signing the Army Family Covenant) to improve services to families. Among items in the covenant are reaching out to those not living on post, extending day care hours, providing better access to health care, improving housing, adding assistance for continuing education, and finding jobs for family members.

Report Shows Many Charities Are Shortchanging Veterans

The American Institute of Philanthropy, a nonprofit watchdog group, studied 29 charities for veterans and found 20 engaging in egregious practices such as inflated overhead costs, high-cost solicitation pitches and huge salaries for their executives. Inefficient management practices kept millions of dollars from the troops. Less than a third of the money raised actually went to the veterans.

In December, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform held hearings on issues raised in the report, and more are scheduled. There are no laws regulating the amount of money that charities can spend on overhead, fundraising, or dispersing funds. Look for this to change.

One of the biggest charities cited in the AIP report was the American Veterans Relief Foundation. For every \$100 the organization raised, only \$16 ended up going to veterans, and \$84 went to operating expenses such as salaries and marketing. Another group flagged in the report was the Military Order of the Purple Heart Service Foundation. While 32 percent of the money it raised went to charitable causes, the group is considered a donor risk because it is not very open about sharing its financial information. A third failing charity was the National Veterans Services Fund, which the report said spends \$97 on operational costs for every \$100 it receives in donations.

However, the AIP report identified several "good" charities that provide funds for veterans, including the Fisher House Foundation, which spends only \$2 for overhead for every \$100 it collects; the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund, which

gives away all but about 3 percent of money raised, and the National Military Family Association, which spends just 18 percent on operational expenses.

Ruling Lets Antigua Become a Pirate As Punishment for U.S. in Trade Fight

In an unusual ruling by the World Trade Organization, Antigua won the right to violate copyright protections on goods like films and music from the United States—up to \$21 million—as part of a dispute over online gambling.

The award follows a WTO decision that the U.S. had wrongly blocked online gambling operators on the Caribbean island nation from the American market at the same time the U.S. was allowing online wagering on horse racing. The case was reported in the October issue of this newsletter and discussed at the fall Elks Government Relations seminar as an example of difficult new questions brought on by globalization and changing technologies. The issues are far from being settled.

Lodges Should Be Alert For Potential Media Visits

In coming weeks, almost 30 states will be holding primaries to nominate Republican and Democratic candidates for president.

It's an exciting time, and the campaign rallies and speeches of Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton, John Edwards, Mike Huckabee, John McCain and Mitt Romney will dominate network and cable television. Some of these rallies might be staged in your Elks lodge, attracting a national media following.

As the folks in Iowa and New Hampshire know, this is a chance to strut your stuff and show these visitors that there is more to an Elks' lodge than just a place to play cards or get a drink. If the candidates are coming, you should spruce up the lodge and set up attractive displays with photos that show Hoop Shoot contests, scholarship winners, work with hospitalized veterans and other ways that your lodge plays an integral role in the life of your community.

You never know what might happen. Some reporter, bored with listening to the candidates' same old stump speeches, might look for something new and decide to spotlight the civic minded lodge members who will be voting in your state's primary.

<p>20007-2008 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS</p>	<p>THE ELKS LADIES June Leadam</p>	<p>20007-2008 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS</p>
<p>1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Jessica Stull 2ND VICE PRESIDENT: 3RD VICE PRESIDENT: Jeri Miller SECRETARY: Pat Peterson TREASURER: Jeanne Sandt AUDITOR: Kathy Ryder TELEPHONE: Patti Serota</p>		<p>PARLIAMENTARIAN: CHAPLAIN: Marilyn Cissell MAJOR PROJECTS: Niki Case CVD: Dee Swanson & Marilyn Cissell HISTORIAN: SUNSHINE: Shirley Kozlowski</p>



In The News...

By the time you read this, 2008 will be well under way and the end of the year holidays, just a distant memory. I hope everyone is healthy and happy albeit a few pounds heavier – but whose counting?

Just wanted to mention that the ER Christmas Party was a lot of fun. Thank you Catherine. The Elk Ladies generously donated delicious cheesecakes for the event. Thank you June Leadam for handling this for us – we’re here to support the Elks!


Check out the menu in this issue for the Sweetheart’s Ball. Doesn’t it just make your mouth water? This is probably one of the more “SPECIAL” events we’ve held in a while. The shrimp and chicken skewers (kabobs) are being prepared and cooked by Pacific Fresh Grill in T.O. If you’ve ever eaten there you know how yummy their food is. And all those wonderful side dishes made by our own Niki Case and crew, like those puff dough things filled with cheese (Tyropetokia, I believe) and the spinach pie are a gourmet delight. I tried to pry the dessert out of Niki, but she’s keeping that a closely guarded secret. Trust me, if you miss this one you won’t be able to forgive yourself. Having attended all the planning meetings on this event, I can tell you it will be GREAT. The decorations, the band, and some surprises, so bring your camera if you like. Have you bought YOUR ticket(s) yet?

Our loving thoughts and prayers go out to Flo and Bill Lloyd on the recent loss of their daughter.


Test Your Knowledge

Which Elk Lady met her husband of 38 years at a friend’s wedding where they were partners in the wedding party? Her future husband told her mother at the reception that he was going to marry her. She won an award for being a top seller with Avon, but was

FEBRUARY

	<p>1 Kathy Messmer Grace Wallace 5 Jackie Coley 8 Pam Smith 9 Pat Smail 10 Kathy Ryder 14 Karen Naccarato</p>	<p>16 Margaret Thornton 24 Kathy Jenkins Judy Panczak</p>
---	---	---

OUR MAGIC SLATE
Marilyn Cissell



Forgive us God if we forget,
to thank you for those things you bring.
Into our lives so lovingly,
We’re sons and daughters of the King.

Invisibly we have a gift,
our yearly, private magic slate.
To write upon new hopes and prayers
it’s cleared now for 2008

Amen

never an Avon lady in California. Hint: This lady has four children six grandchildren, including a set of twins.

What former Ladies Appreciation Award winner will be attending her Family Reunion in February at Mammoth Lakes? She loves travel, golf, bowling and so much more. She and her husband are members of the El Konejo Kampers. She has three children, four grandchildren and five great grandchildren and has been married to John for 57 years!

Answers will be revealed next issue. Fill out your “Getting to Know You” form and get it to me. See how well your friends know you.

HONOR ROLL



- Mike Asadurian
- Don Ansell, PER
- Chris Prince
- Jack Loughran, PER
- Greg Metzgus, SVP
- George Meehan
- Cheryl Templeton
- Tom Hartin
- Robert Arbetman
- William Maxwell
- David McGuiure
- Bill Sternberg, PER
- Scott Dool
- The Cigar Patrons
- Catherine Koeritz, ER

FEBRUARY



- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|---------------------|
| 1 | Richard Flittner | 16 | Charles Pederson |
| 4 | Fred Britton | | Dean Reichle |
| | Terry Gicking | 17 | Louis Thomas |
| | Nick Schiele | 18 | Robert Iritano |
| 7 | Rick Eddy | 20 | Robert Phillips |
| | Bart Manzo | | Charles Christensen |
| 8 | Joseph Smith | | Toni Hartin |
| 11 | Joe Smith | | Robert Huffman |
| | Charles Thompson | 21 | William O'Shea |
| 13 | Arnold Antle | | Terry Baker |
| | Richard Whitmire | 23 | Jim Wallace, PER |
| 14 | Karen Naccarato | 28 | Kevin Gullick |
| | | | Michael Tanner |

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

February 13, 2008

Transfer from Oxnard #1443 Robert H. Scudder

Life Membership

Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, DL will be balloted on March 19, 2008

CRYING TOWEL



- | | | |
|-------------|-------|----------------------|
| December 5 | \$150 | Joan Roper #2157 |
| Lucky 13 | \$195 | Darryl Kopacz-WINNER |
| December 12 | \$175 | Penny Flanagan #1980 |
| Lucky 13 | \$15 | No Winner |



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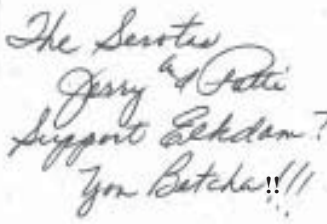










**Drop off at Wed. meetings
or at Sat. BBQ by rear
entrance to the bar parking
lot**

**Thanks-
Rich Herrera
Scholarship Chair.**

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Sally Claunch, PER	2 Year
Jay Block, PER	3 Year
Boyd Lindquist	4 Year
David Stull	5 Year

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1973-74 Erle Pittman, PDDGER	1999-00 Richard Goldner, PDDGER
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1977-78 *Robert McKee, PDDGER	2003-04 Greg Metz Gus, SVP
1978-79 *Frank J. Rindone, PDDGER	2004-05 Jay Block
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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	
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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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