



George Meehan,  
Exalted Ruler



# ANTLER ANTICS

Vol 38, No. 5                      Editor, Sally Claunch, PER                      August '08

## Reaching Out in Elkdom

Spareribs Aug 1st \$9



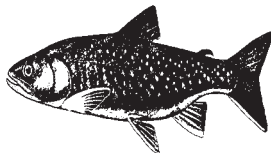
Cook Your Own Steak  
August 8th \$11



August 15th

\$7.50

Elk Ladies Ice-Cream  
Social



Salmon & Steak Nite  
August 22th  
\$14  
by Salmon King Kozlowski



August 29th

pork chops or  
liver and onions  
by Trzcinski  
\$8

One Last Dance Band  
Guest Bartender-making  
martinis



## OPERATION FACELIFT

Tom Ryder, PDDGER



The “**OPERATION FACELIFT**” committee continues to work on select projects. Work has been going at a snail’s pace due to the lack of available workers. Need some volunteers! HELP

**Operation Pride** - The most important **Operation Facelift Project!** Help keep your lodge buildings and grounds presentable. There is a lot of loose garbage and litter around the lodge. Please help us pick it up and deposit it in a garbage container. Let’s get some pride in what we have, make our facility more presentable to our members, neighbors and the community!

**New Facility** – A project of Operation Facelift could be relocation to a new property! The Exalted Ruler has set up a committee to coordinate all efforts to locate a facility for us. Somewhere in our community there is a building and grounds that can be made suitable for our use. It is up to us all to be looking for this property. Please help us find it. When looking, some considerations to be taken into account are;

- Need a building approximately 12,000 square feet in size, preferably in an industrial area.
- Would like approximately 3 acres or more of land. Need separation from neighbors!
- Need parking available for 170 cars, some parking could be shared with adjacent facilities.

The Exalted Ruler and several members are having ongoing meetings with a commercial real estate firm to determine the approximate worth of our current property and what might be available in our community. Also discussed were the types of funds available, if a trade is possible and/or financing of a new facility. Some interesting concepts were put forth and will be discussed in later articles.

**Outside Painting Of Facilities** – Dan Johnson crew is painting the Lodge and Office buildings. Now that dry weather is here, the “shaggy” fences will be painted so as to blend in with the new apartment buildings on both sides of us. Paint has been donated for all projects.

**Parking** – Area Clean up and relocation of the wooden fence in front of the rental property is approximately 80 percent completed. Some grading is to be done. The dumped BBQ wood is cleaned up so a overall plan can now be developed.

**Property Line Stabilization** – Material has been put in place for stabilization of existing property line. Planning to move a storage container from its location next to the wood storage area to the side of the property so as to create a site barrier screening our back parking area from traffic on Conejo School Road. Recycle area and new garbage container enclosure part of project.

**Saturday BBQ Area - Fence and Gate.** –It is about number three on our current priority list of projects planned.

**Operation Green Up** – Rick Herrera and crew are continuing to keep shrubs, flowers and flower beds looking great!

**Repair/replace Lodge Building Roof** – Effort is on hold at this time.

**Remodel Ladies Lounge** – Project is on hold at this time.

**Update Lodge Electrical Wiring** – Effort being studied and determination of extent of effort required to be outlined.

**New Front Entry Door** – It is on hold at this time..

**Volunteers** - Your lodge is always in need of volunteers to help with various Lodge functions. If you have some time on your hands, consider lending a hand at an upcoming event or project. Contact the office or any officer or me to volunteer some time. Thanks to all those who already given of their time! You are greatly appreciated.

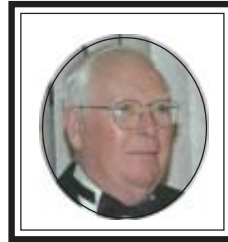
2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS



**EXALTED RULER**  
**George Meehan**

2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

**ANTLER ANTICS:** Sally Claunch, PER, Editor,  
Jerry Serota, Photographer  
**Calendar:** Tom Ryder, PDDGER  
**NEW BEGINNINGS:**  
**HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK:**  
**GREETERS:** Dorothy Murray  
**PUBLIC RELATIONS:**  
**OPERATION FACELIFT:** Tom Ryder, PDDGER



**BUILDING MAINT.:** Max Maxwell/Tom Hartin  
**PARLIAMENTARIAN:** Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, DL  
**LODGE VISITATIONS:**  
**BBQ WAGON:**  
**AUDITING:** Chet Kozlowski, PER  
**ELKS TRAINING:** George Meehan  
**SHOE TOURNAMENTS:** Mike Budenski  
**BEQUESTS & LIVING TRUSTS:** Robert Jones  
**PLANNING COMMITTEE:**

On Saturday, June 28, the PER's of our lodge gave me and my wife a going away party. The going away party, of course is for our departure for the National Convention which is being held this year in Anaheim. The theme of the party was "Pirates" which is appropriate to a Disneyland visit. The party was a wonderful time and of course a great dinner prepared by our Master Chef, Tom Ryder and PER Chet Kozlowski. Thank you, Past Exalted Rulers. You were very kind to give us such a great treat and for your generous gifts to us.

So, we are off to Anaheim on July 5 and will be there until July 10. Now, some have made the comment, "Oh, you are only going to Anaheim, that's not much of a treat." However, we look at it this way. We lived in Brea in the 1980's and at that time belonged to La Habra Lodge #2093. We have friends in the area and it will be nice to see them and talk about old times.

A new committee was formed in July to look for a new building for our lodge. I would suggest that if any member sees a building that they think would be appropriate for a lodge, they should let a committee member know about it so it can be checked out. With property values down and empty buildings becoming more available, this could be the right time to act. You know that the process can be slow because, if something is found, approval must be granted from Grand Lodge. Then a presentation must be made to the membership for their approval and negotiations begun with the Real Estate people. We have lost opportunities such as this in the past because of this. The New Facilities Committee members are Tom Ryder, Tom Hartin, June Leadam, Jerry Gillis and Alan Hardie. So, if you see anything you think might work pass it along.

Finally, I'm making an appeal for help with our Memorial Committee. Larry and Colleen Morris and Shirley and Chet Kozlowski have worked on this for about 18 years, planning luncheons after funerals or memorial services. They are retiring from that job. If you

see them, please thank them for always being there and doing an excellent job. We also must thank Vera Bailey for all her help. Now we need new members and spouses to step up. Now, before you say "no" think about this. If you were in such a position to want a luncheon at the lodge after a loved one's funeral and there was no one to do it for you, how would you feel? I can guess that you wouldn't be very happy about it. So, please give it some thought and then get in touch with me. I have a coordinator, she will work with you and make it a pleasing experience. The more people who volunteer to help will make it easier for all.



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

**"THE GOLDEN HOUR OF RECOLLECTION"**

Elmer Johnson  
Born: 11-22-1920  
Initiated: 4-21-83  
Died: 6-5 -08

Dean Nash  
Born: 6-27-37  
Initiated: 4-28-04  
Died: 6-18-08

Gus Chinnery  
Born: 1-4-34  
Initiated: 7-26-95  
Died: 6-22-08



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

If you have not been to the Lodge in a while, I invite you to observe the new improvements-paint, windows and updated lounge area. Please stay for a beverage or meal. If you have not had a Friday night dinner in a while, I invite you to sample the culinary skills of our August's chefs. Please stay and enjoy dancing, bingo or karaoke. You will not be disappointed.

### TRUSTEES REPORT

Review of monthly budget reports

In light of financial difficulties at IndyMac bank, alternative financial institutions are being explored

Discussions concerning the handling and location of bookkeeping files and data

### OFFICERS HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Corrine gave monthly update-sales are improving over last month.

Discussions concerning securing a new building

Updates on lodge improvements

**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.**

### SICKNESS AND DISTRESS 805-495-0577

**OUR CONDOLENCES TO:** Carol Fredricks on the passing of Dean Nash; the Chinnery family on the passing of Gus and the Johnson family on the passing of Elmer

**KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Donna Hardy, Rusty Kennedy, Lloyd Carter's brother

**ON THE MEND:** Jerry Gillies broke his hand in a fall; Shirley Kozlowski from the flu

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



### COMING ATTRACTIONS

August 8-9-Kampers at Malibu

September 6-Lodge Picnic at Lodge  
 September 21- Appreciation Dinner  
 for BBQ teams

October 3-Junior PER Roast  
 October 18- Shrimp Feed



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**September 20-Black and White Dinner  
 Dance and Show  
 fundraiser for ENF & Major Project  
 featuring Buddy to Show**

2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS	<b>LEADING KNIGHT</b> <b>Raven West</b>	2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
<b>MAJOR PROJECT/PURPLE PIG:</b> <b>David Naccarato</b> <b>SICKNESS AND DISTRESS: Sally Claunch</b> <b>INVESTIGATION: Bob Arbetman</b> <b>ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION: Tom Ryder,</b> <b>PDDGER</b>		<b>CHRISTMAS BASKETS: Raven West</b> <b>INDOCTRINATION: Dave Naccarato, PER</b> <b>MEM. CONTROL. COM.:</b> <b>CVAC: Tom Hartin</b> <b>COMMUNITY RELATIONS:</b> <b>CHARITY DINNERS: Raven West</b>

### Major Project Scores

Over a half - century of caring and sharing began in 1950 when a desperate shortage of trained therapists led the Elks to come to the aid of children with disabilities. From this need was born the idea of the mobile therapy unit, and the seed took root for the growth of the California - Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc.

That very next year in Eureka, California, with only two therapists, two station wagons and nine children, the Elks' vision for a better future for children with disabilities began its first steps. Since then, the Major Project has provided services, at no cost to the families, for well over one million children during its 50 plus year existence. Our Major Project employs 34 trained professionals who, on the average, provide over 14,000 therapy sessions per year and screen 45,000 to 50,000 children for vision problems.

We serve children from birth to age 21 with home-based occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech-language therapy, focusing on those children in rural areas who do not have access to specialized health care. Our Major Project also provides vision screen in daycare centers, preschools, Elks lodge open screenings and health fairs, targeting the preschool age child for early identification of possible visual disorders. In addition, scholarship programs for students with disabilities and monetary grants to established hospitals for specialized children's care are in place to reach an even wider number of children.

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

In Arizona, Elks help children in two distinct ways. We have sponsored research at the University of Arizona's "Steele Children's Research Center" since 1992 with over \$4 million in donations. We remodeled and modernized the "Arizona Elks Clinic for Children and Young Adults" and provide funds for an endowed chair in Neonatology. We are also very proud of our Elks Youth Camp located in the Sierra Ancha Mountains in northeast Arizona. This camp is open and available to all youth groups throughout the state for a nominal fee.

The South Dakota Elks Major Project has two parts. The Children Care Hospital and School serves over 1200 South Dakota children annually through evaluations, therapies, in-home support, day care, outreach programs, a school, a medical unit, and rehabilitation services. The Children's Home Society provides a home, school and therapy for children ages 4-13 with emotional disturbances and behavior disorders.

Laradon is the State Major Project of the Colorado Elks Association. Laradon was the first charitable organization in the Rocky Mountain region to offer support, guidance and training to children with developmental disabilities.

The Major Project of the New York State Elks Association is the Home Service Program of the Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State

Indiana Elks State Major Project is in the area of Cancer Research

Maine Elks Association has two such projects; the Diabetes-Hypertension Van and the Maine Children's Cancer Program.

The Utah State Elks Association Major Project is Camp Wapiti. Located in Settlement Canyon near Tooele, Utah, Camp Wapiti (pronounced Wôp-i'-të — a Shawnee Indian word for "white rump" — a large deer or elk), the camp has a mountain setting, is close to goods, services, hospital and it is at a medically acceptable altitude for cystic fibrosis clients.

These are just some of the State Elks Association's Major Projects. Large or small, or our "Purple Pigs" will help them all!



2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

## LOYAL KNIGHT Terry Gicking

2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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



**MOTHER'S DAY:** Rick Herrera  
**ENTERTAINMENT:** Corinne Richeson  
**WED. NIGHT TICKETS:** Leo Rodriguez  
**LAW ENFORCEMENT & FIRE FIGHTER  
 APPRECIATION:** Scott Dool  
**PRESIDING JUSTICE:**  
**YOUTH ACTIVITIES:** Robert Jones

### Attitude is Everything!!!!

Well, here we go into August already and the lodge be the happenin' place! With all the great Friday night meals, Sunday breakfasts and simple Wed. night dinners before the meetings. The food and fun have never been better! So please pick a meal or two and come down and join us. You'll be glad you did!

**And now for something completely different.** I grew up in Thousand Oaks and have seen a lot of changes. I've watched this town grow, seen its struggle, seen it flourish, and seen it become one of the finer cities in America! It took a lot of great people to lead this city to get it to where it is today! This isn't a political endorsement for anybody. With the recent passing of Brother Elks, it got me thinking of some of the people from this lodge who had a vision about starting our Elks Lodge and helping it grow.

One person who stands out in my mind was Floyd "Frosty" Miller. Frosty always had a great attitude about everything! He would always greet you with a smile and a firm handshake. He always looked on the positive side of everything. When anyone would ask him how he felt, he would always reply, "If I felt any better, I would be twins!" As the years took their toll on him, his attitude never changed. One day I had to ask him, how are you so positive all the time? How do you do it? He replied, "Each morning I wake up and say to myself, you have two choices today. You can choose to be in a good mood or ... you can choose to be in a bad mood. I choose to be in a good mood!"

Each time something bad happens, I can choose to be a victim or I can choose to learn from it. I choose to learn from it! Every time someone comes complaining, I can choose to accept their complaining and complain with them or I can choose to point out the positive side of life. I choose the positive side of life!" I remember saying to him that it wasn't that easy. He looked me right in the eye and replied, "Yes, it is Terry. Life is all about choices. When you cut away all the junk, every situation is a choice. You choose how you react to situations. You choose how people affect your mood. You choose to be in a good mood or bad mood. The bottom line: it's your choice how you live your life!"

Wow, no truer words were spoken. If we choose to complain about how things are done, we are all going to be miserable. But if we work together with a positive look on things, we can do a lot of great things!

I also had a friend named Mike Reilly. Mike had fallen off a roof and broke his back and few other bones. When they wheeled him into the emergency room, all the people who had looked at him had an expression like he was a dead man. When the head nurse started shouting questions at him, he thought he better help them change their attitude about him. When she asked if he was allergic to anything, he replied, "Yea, gravity!" after they all stopped laughing he told them, "I am choosing to live, please operate on me as if I am alive, not dead!" He made it thru all of the surgeries and therapy because of **his great attitude!**

My point with all this is: **attitude about where the lodge is and where it is going is everything! We all need to look on the positive side to help this lodge achieve the goals of those members who had the vision to start this lodge years ago!**

I firmly believe it! **DO YOU?**

With fraternal gratitude!

ELK Terry Gicking

**THANK  
YOU SO  
MUCH!**

**Dan Johnson's crew for patching, repairing and painting the exterior of the buildings. It looks great.**

**Terry Gicking's crew for installing the lounge window and painting the lounge. It looks terrific.**

**Catherine Koertiz, guest bartender, whose \$110 tips were donated to Manna in the Lodge's name**

ENTERTAINMENT



- 1 - Karaoke
- 8 - Bingo
- 15 - Karaoke
- 29 - One Last Dance



Lunches are now being served again on Mondays-Thursday. New chef, Bryan Gicking, invites all to sample his cuisine

Corinne Richeson, Lounge Manager



**A Pirate's Life For Me**

"Yo Ho Yo Ho a Pirate's life for me." On June 25th we had our official sendoff of our Exalted Ruler George and First Lady Cornelia to Grand Lodge Convention in Anaheim Calif. Being the Happiest place on earth we went with a Pirates of the Caribbean Theme. We had a good time with an officers night at the races absent after a two-year hiatus. The members present had a great time. I had forgotten how exciting that game was on a Friday night. Bill Lloyd and Bill Sternberg ran the races. Room decorations were designed by Karen Naccarato, Jay and Myrna Block helped make it all come together. Tom Hartin was pulled off the Bar B Que to bring the room a nautical theme with some props from home. Tom Ryder worked his magic once again in the kitchen and Kathy Ryder on table settings making sure I put the silverware on the correct sides. The centerpieces were designed and made by Marva D'ambrogio. If you missed it you missed out. Big thanks to all the PERs for their support and the members who supported our function. Don't miss the next function at our lodge. We need to bring back the togetherness our lodge once had. Coming down on a Friday night enjoying our lodge brothers our sisters supporting events put on by our committee chairman and officers. Remember, "Do good unto others, for we pass this way put once".

David Naccarato PER President

**They are back on September 26...**  
**Wild Women on Wine Dinner**



**Your Lodge Serving the Community**

Providing monthly bingo party and outings for the Vets by Jim Kellogg and Crew

Donated flag to University Plaza

Provided camping experience for Casa Pacifica Scouts

Donated monies to Manna to resupply foods

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

**Bingo 101**

Bingo in June was the smallest group yet but the liveliest.. Now some one was trying to tell me something. For those who do not go to Bingo won't understand this but on my bingo board B-9 was covered up and my B-9 beach ball that was presented to me by Max Maxwell was flattened if you catch my drift. I want to thank the Ladies president the lovely Jessica Stull who acted as my Vanna White to worked the Bingo Board. Other Bingo Parlors may have electronics but they don't have Jessica Stull. We just have to put up with David (lol). Our Friday night Bingo is one of our lodges way of supporting our major Project with 20 % of the proceeds to go to the kids. I've been told I talk to much at bingo and all the money should go back to the winners but I took a poll "WRONG" That's not how we do things. We have fun, raise a little money and again have allot of fun doing it. No Bingo in July look for it in August. Jeri Miller and Dorathy. Hardie both donated their winnings to the Major Project



**Junior Elks Car Wash**  
**August 17th**  
**9a.m. -2p.m.**

**Enjoy Bobby William's breakfast while getting your vehicle cleaned**

**HAPPENINGS AROUND OUR LODGE**



Cornelia and George Meehan along with Sherri and Tony Markarian, DDGER, being feted at the ER Going Away Party, sponsored by the PER Association



Cornelia and George Meehan showing off departing gifts for their trip to the Grand Lodge Convention



Newly elected 3 year Trustee, Bill Sternberg, PER, with his installer, Jay Block, PER



ER, George Meehan welcoming new member Betty McFarlin



State Vice-President, David Coleman sharing a laugh with George Meehan, ER, during his visitation to our Lodge

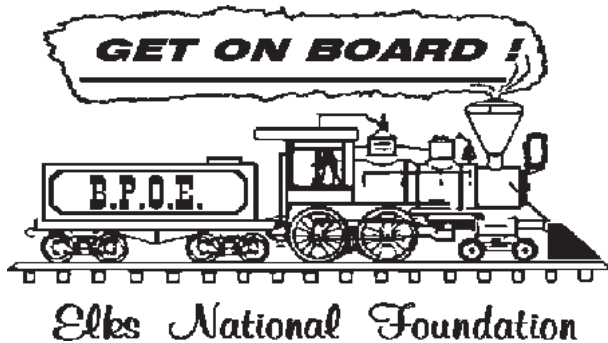


Now performing at the Exalted Ruler Going Away Party, Pirate David Naccarato or was it Black Beard?





## ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION ~ ENF ~



Catchy phrase! *Please Get On Board.* Just checked with Grand Lodge ENF and Thousand Oaks Lodge is listed as 74<sup>th</sup> out of 180 Lodges in the California-Hawaii Elks Association. Our per capita as of June 28<sup>th</sup> is \$0.71 per person (\$250 total donation). That means that we haven't contributed much to, cover the programs in the Order of Elks.

The mission of the Elks National Foundation is to help Elks build stronger communities. ENF fulfills this pledge by investing in communities where Elks live and work. ENF provides tomorrow's leaders, our youth, with a healthy beginning; honor the Elks pledge to never forget our veterans; help state associations accomplish their charitable objectives and fund projects that improve the quality of life in our community.

I know there are some checks in the pipeline to Chicago, but they have been hung up somewhere in route! I am working to find this hold up area. If you have donated to ENF this year, please contact me so I can track down your contribution and get it credited to the Thousand Oaks Lodge.

If you chose to donate by check, make your check payable to the Elks National Foundation, put Lodge #2477 on the check and mail it to the Elks National Foundation, 2750 Lakeview Ave, Chicago, Il, 60614-2256. If you want to you can give it to me and I'll mail it for you. I also accept cash but make sure that you get a receipt from me. I am forgetful at times! Also if you are brave and internet savvy you can make your donation on line, [enf@elks.org](mailto:enf@elks.org) (e-mail).

### Fundraisers being planned;

- Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup> –Dinner Show, Prime Rib Dinner – Dual effort ENF/Major Projects
- Saturday October 18<sup>th</sup> – Peel your own Shrimp Feed – Dual effort ENF/Major Projects

Fraternally

Tom Ryder – PDDGER – 805-497-1853  
Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge ENF Chairman

## Elks Donate Flag



With Lee Greenwood on CD singing the "Stars Spangled Banner" in the background, Raven West, Leading Knight of Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 retires the old Flag at the corner of University Shopping Center on Avenida De Los Arboles and replaces it with a new American Flag to commemorate Flag Day.

Joining her in the ceremony were Tom Ryder, Shopping Center store representatives Matt Judd, Trader Joe's Captain and Nikki Traversa from P.J.'s Pub and her daughter Kimberly Westmiller.

The new flag was donated by Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 as part of their Americanism community activities which include an annual essay contest for all 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders in the Conejo Valley and surrounding school districts

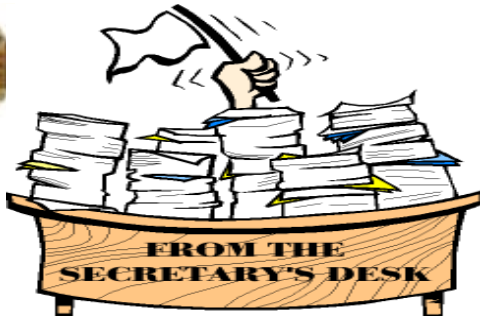
## Honoring Our Flag

On Wednesday June 14, 2008 a Flag Day Ceremony was conducted at the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 with members, guests and Boy Scout Troop #754, also the Cub Scouts presented the colors to start the evening off. Lee Armer donated a Digital Picture frame to the Lodge in appreciation of the Lodges sponsorship of Scouts.

Robert Jones, Esquire read a brief history of our Flag and Exalted Ruler read a tract on the significance of our Flag and the principles of patriotism in relation to Elkdom.

There were around 20 scouts and parents at the meeting. At the end of the meeting we adjourned outside and Tom Fields, Scoutmaster of Troop #754 conducted a respectful Flag Retirement Ceremony.

Ice cream topped off the evening.



**FROM THE SECRETARY**

One of the duties of your Secretary is to keep track in an orderly manner all our chritable endeavors not only for tax purposes but to let our members know when they pay their dues how important they are to Elkdom.

Please note the numbers reported for the year April 1, 2007 - March 31, 2008.

Every once in a while the spirit has to be refreshed or we let the values we hold near and dear slip away because they do not seem that important. The great heart of Elkdom is too precious to let slip away.

We are planning on attending the Grand Lodge convention in Anaheim and hope to come back to pass on to you how imprtant your membership is.


**Have you filled your Purple Pig this month????**

**A coin a day---they'll walk. talk, see, and play**



**The dress code after 6 pm-**

**please no tank tops  
please no clothing with  
demeaning language**



A Fraternal Organization

Survey of Volunteer, Youth, Charitable and Community Service Programs for Fraternal Year - April 1, 2007 - March 31, 2008

Compiled by the Office of the Grand Secretary

Participants in Programs:	16,542,184
Elks Who Worked	1,284,713
Helpers Who Worked	<u>641,880</u>
<b>Combined Total</b>	<b>1,926,593</b>
<b>Hours Donated:</b>	
Elks	6,133,436
Helpers	<u>3,831,203</u>
<b>Total Combined Hours</b>	<b>9,964,639</b>
<b>Cash Value of Donated Hours*</b>	<b>\$194,310,460.50</b>
<b>Miles Traveled:</b>	
Elks	17,099,063
Helpers	<u>7,536,638</u>
<b>Total Combined Miles</b>	<b>24,635,701</b>
<b>Cash Value of Miles traveled**</b>	<b>\$12,564,207.50</b>
<b>Contributions:</b>	
Cash	\$ 55,255,827.00
Non-Cash	30,181,641.00
Hours Worked	194,310,460.50
Miles Traveled	<u>12,564,207.50</u>
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 292,312,136.00</b>

\*The Federal Government has determined that the cost of work done by charitable organizations like the Elks would average out to \$19.41 per hour if performed by social care and government agencies.

\*\*Mileage computed at \$.51 per mile.

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks • Grand Lodge *Elks Care - Elks Share*



**Pat VonWittenberg  
Konejo Kampers**



## **JUNE AT LAKE CASITAS**

Things did not start out too well for me. While loading the motorhome, a bottle of Butter Shots had a loose lid and spilled all over the cart and the galley floor. Oh well no biggie, a swiffer mop should handle that. NOT - - all it succeeded in doing was spreading the sticky stuff evenly around the floor. Didn't realize that until I walked on it and my sandals stuck to the floor. On top of that, the LP detector started screaming. Little did I know the LP detector was malfunctioning - - GOOD GRIEF! No hot water- -ah ha! Can't do dishes or cook (sob). Things were looking pretty grim.

No way was this going to effect our having a good time. So off we go - - upon arrival, thinking we knew exactly where our campsites were, the search began - - wrong again. We were in an entirely different area. Not only was it different, we were spread all over that area. Chuck Kudra and the vW's were in the south 40, the Ericksons and Thorntons were somewhere in between and Templeton, Stewarts and Stulls were in the north 40.

It seems when Carroll called to cancel 8 reservations, she wasn't allowed to keep our 7 in successive order.

Speaking of having to cancel reservations, folks you're gonna have to start looking ahead and making plans. I realize there are some circumstances beyond control, however, it cost the Kampers \$12.50 per site cancellation fee. Yup, 100 bucks for non-participation. It will be surprising if the Kampers didn't go in the hole on this one. Had we known 30 days in advance there would have been no cancellation fee.

It was tough cause that was Father's Day weekend and also graduation. We'll be faced with a similar problem next year, even a worse case scenario, cause it appears from checking the calendar, Graduation is on one weekend and Father's Day another - what a dilemma

It was good to have the Stewarts out, even acting as wagon masters, and did a mighty fine job. I believe I heard that Cheryl was the "secret shopper" for the raffle prizes. I swear that woman is in her element - - shopping.

The Stulls had their new to them rig out for the first time and it is gorgeous. Not sure who was more proud David or Jessica and justifiably so. Apparently when the man from the RV sales called to tell them he might have exactly what they were looking for, David wasn't all that sure about it, thinking it would only be a sales pitch. Jessica insisted it was ONLY a drive to Acton and they'd never

know if they didn't go look. Chalk one up for Jessica. Exactly what they had been searching for, for nearly 2 years..

President, Mike Flannery, was out of town, so Chuck took over for him. Thank goodness Bob Thornton (this man really knows his stuff) was on board also. In checking Roberts Rules of Order, there was a request to table a discussion in May that was totally out of order. We learned that a Motion must be made and approved by a 2/3's majority VOTE to table a "motion". Live and learn.

We all recognize the fact that Chuck Kudra is a very busy man, who's doing one fantastic job of negotiating unbelievable fees for various campouts. He presented the information regarding the campout scheduled at Newport Dunes next year. Now - - this very busy man was to email the EXACT information so that I wouldn't screw it up. That was SIX weeks ago. Time and the editor waits for no man (or woman)!

SO folks, if this is a bit inaccurate, don't blame me. If you have never been to Newport Dunes, believe me, it is awesome, a 5 STAR RV Park. Yes, it is a bit further than usual but the price of \$38 +/- for premium sites is unbelievable. Plus it applies for early arrivals as well as those who wish to stay over. As I recall - - the fee of \$208 +/- for SIX days in Newport is unheard of - - that's less than one night in a hotel.

For our "hotel" campers, they have cottages available in the park also. When you check their website (Newport Dunes RV Park), which is awesome, you'll note that the premium, back in spots usually go for \$135 a nite - - and the numbers - - 20 feet wide by 40 feet long sticks in my alleged mind. WAY TO GO CHUCKIE BABY - - even if you can't get the correct information to me in a timely manner..

So folks, if this is too, too inaccurate, hopefully Chuck will provide the "to-the-penny" info next time.

## **Upcoming Campouts**

September 12-13-

Santa Barbara Lodge

October 10-11

Tapo Canyon Simi Valley

November 7-8 Kenney Grove

December 7-Brunch-Grand Vista Hotel

visit the website:

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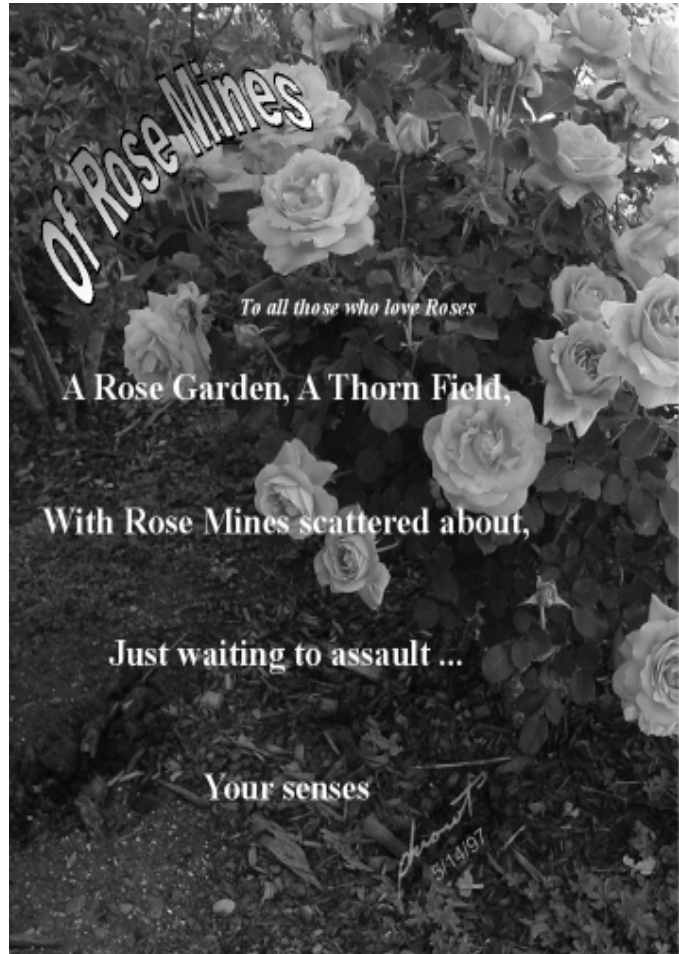
to join call Bev Erickson 495-9715





Dean Nash at the helm of his boat

I would like to express my deepest thanks for all of the support, prayers, cards, and good thoughts over the last many months. Dean fought a courageous battle with never a word of complaint and I know that the compassion and caring of his Elks family helped him keep his positive attitude and gave him strength throughout this past year. I will carry all of you in a special place in my heart.  
Fondly, Carol Fredericks Nash



phrowt

### Community Correspondence

Jerry,  
On behalf of the 180 youth and 65 leaders, thank you to the Elks for its generosity in allowing us to borrow the BBQ grill for our feast last Thursday.

Because of the BPO of the Elks, the event was very successful.

Please let Ed Rice know how appreciative we are.

Sincerely,  
Grant Wilkins  
Unit Commissioner  
Conejo Valley District  
BSA



**Remember to Save Pop Tabs for the McDonald House**



ER, George Meehan presenting Dave Naccarato, PER, and Tom Hartin with presidential pins

On Wednesday June 18th Dave Coleman, State VP WCCD made his official visitation to the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge 2477. He delivered the message from President Jerry Rucker on the hopes and goals for the year 2008-2009.

He gave Exalted Ruler, George Meehan 2 special presidential pins. Every Lodge in the District will get 2 pins to honor the Elks most committed to Elkdom. The recipients of those pins for our lodge were David Naccarato, and Tom Hartin.

2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

## LECTURING KNIGHT

### Greg Metzgus, PSVP

2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

**AMERICANISM:** Grant Thistle  
**FLAGDAY/FLAGRETIREMENT:**  
 Robert Jones  
**SCHOLARSHIP:** Rick Herrera  
**GOVT.RELATIONS:** Scott Dool  
**MEMORIALSERVICE:** Rick Herrera  
**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

### Invite Your Neighbors

The first quarter of the current Elk year is now behind us. We have had our visit by David Coleman, the State Vice President and we are looking forward to our visit by the District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, Tony Markarian. These visits are both enjoyable and necessary. Enjoyable in the sense that we welcome members from other lodges at these visits and necessary to insure we are not overlooking any area of the Elk programs. Please keep in mind; we are welcome to visit other lodges anytime and especially when they are being visited by a dignitary.

The Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge honored our flag with a very touching ceremony during an open meeting. The flags were presented by both Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts sponsored by our lodge. A flag was retired ceremonially by several Scouts. Thank you to Robert Jones and George Meehan for conducting this event.

Please remember, our Army of Hope cans are placed in our lounge and at several businesses around town. The proceeds from this donation are being used to help our veterans returning from Afghanistan and Iraq. The Vietnam Veteran's Association has partnered with the Elks in this effort. Please dig deep and give what ever you can. There are additional cans available for placement in local businesses. See me if you would like to work with this program.

Membership continues to be a problem in not only our lodge but all of Elkdom. Our lodge is bringing in members one and two at a time but we are losing more than that due to natural attrition. Every member of our lodge is on the membership committee and we need to find new ways to attract members. We all know that our facility leaves a lot to be desired, but our lodge does have many activities that will attract members if they are invited. Ask your friends and neighbors to join us.

### Scouts Experience Camping

by Greg Metzgus, Assistant Leader Troop 871

Thanks to the effort of many Thousand Oaks Elks, 3 boys from Casa Pacifica Boy Scout Troop 871 were able to experience an overnight backpacking trip in Los Padres National Forest. This is the first backpacking campout these boys have ever experienced.

Casa Pacifica is a facility in Camarillo that serves abused, neglected and severely emotionally disturbed children and adolescents from the Tri County area of Southern California. The thousand Oaks Lodge, through the efforts of Brothers Bill Sternberg and Bill Miller established a Boy Scout troop there several years ago

and have been working with boys from the age of 11 to 17 ever since. For security reasons, the policy at Casa Pacifica is to not allow pictures or names to be published of these youth.

The camp chosen for this camp out was Oak Camp. It is located about 5 miles above Wheelers Gorge and at an altitude of about 4500 feet. The hike in is considered moderate and everyone made it into camp fine and a bit tired. After brief rest, a bit too brief for this author, activities began. The boys caught lizards and observed their first California Horned Lizard (Horny Toad). They thought they had discovered a new species. After catching and naming several lizards, they (the lizards) were returned to the brush and the boys were shown a rock area full of fossils. They dug fossils until their pockets were full.

On this camp out the boys had to filter their own stream water to drink, cook their own food on a backpacking stove and clean up after themselves; a new experience for all of them. Their favorite part of the dinner was dessert, campfire baked cinnamon apples. During their time in camp they fiddled with their new pocket knives, compliments of Max Maxwell, continuously. We hadn't been in camp 3 minutes before the first one tried to carve his initials in a tree. It is a boy thing and he was advised that if he desired to carve his initials that they could be carved into a dead, detached branch on the ground. That same branch could be either packed out or used to stoke the camp fire, insuring there would be "no trace" when he left camp. Be assured, the knives were all collected after the campout with no holdouts.

The hike out was mostly down hill and there was a promise of a stop at McDonalds in Ojai for lunch. Those two factors made for a very fast hike out. The boys were returned to Casa Pacifica and aside from a few new scrapes and a bag of dirty cloths, none the worse for the ware. I am sure this is an experience they will not soon forget. Thanks to everyone that helped make this campout come together.

### Share the Excitement

Sponsor a new member.

Applications are available in the lounge or office

2008-2009 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS	<b>THE ELKS LADIES</b> <b>Jessica Stull</b>	2008-2009 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
<b>1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Pat Peterson</b> <b>2ND VICE PRESIDENT:</b> <b>3RD VICE PRESIDENT:</b> <b>SECRETARY: June Leadam</b> <b>TREASURER: Diane Isaman</b> <b>AUDITOR:</b> <b>TELEPHONE: Patti Serota</b>		<b>PARLIAMENTARIAN: June Leadam</b> <b>CHAPLAIN: Marilyn Cissell</b> <b>MAJOR PROJECTS: Niki Case</b> <b>CVD: Alice Kennedy &amp; Marilyn Cissell</b> <b>HISTORIAN:</b> <b>SUNSHINE: Shirley Kozlowski</b>

Summer has arrived in all its glory and we've had some really HOT days, which reminds me of some really HOT events, both upcoming and past. You will be entertained and delighted at the Ladies Appreciation luncheon held here at the Lodge on July 26<sup>th</sup>. Diane is keeping it under wraps, but I hear this year's entertainment is top notch. If you are a paid member and did not receive your invitation, call Diane Isaman or Jessica Stull. We are celebrating and honoring our history with a TRIBUTE TO THE ELKS LADIES CHARTER MEMBERS. It's always nice to see those members who may no longer be able to attend meetings, but who can make it out during the day.

We had Father's Day brunch and the room looked quite fatherly – with uniforms suspended along the walls and a variety of vehicles such as fire engines and helicopters serving as centerpieces. The food was yummy – the hash browns being my favorite. Pat Peterson and her crew, which included June Leadam, Beth Kozlowski, Kathy Ryder Alice Kennedy, Sharon Baker, Jeanne Sandt and me, Jessica Stull did a stellar job at decorating and serving. A HUGE thanks goes to Terry Gicking and his cooking crew that includes his son, Bryan Gicking, Jay Peterson, Bob Arbetman, and David Naccarato. You guys can cook for us anytime! A special thanks to Robert Jones who helped with logistics.

First Lady, Cornelia Meehan hosted the wives of Elks (and some Elks) during the State Vice President's visitation by David Coleman. The ladies were entertained by *Endless Harmony*, an a cappella quartet, with songs, humor and endless talent. Everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves. There were plenty of desserts and lively conversation. The ladies mingled and got to know each other. It was a very fun evening.

Sharon Baker did not attend the June meeting. This may seem like nothing to you, but did you realize that Sharon has never missed a meeting of the Elks Ladies in FOURTEEN years! Now that's loyalty. Sharon and Terry decided to go away and celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We wish them lots of love and forty more.

Shirley Kozlowski is recovering slowly at home after a couple of serious bouts with the flu. Shirley, we sure miss you. You are remembered in our prayers.

August

1	Judy Sandham	10	Jeanne Sandt
2	Sharon Baker	26	Myrna Block
	Beth Kozlowski	30	Gladys Ennis
	Marie Wagner		
9	Niki Case		



IT'S TIME TO LEAVE OUR COMFORT ZONES



Marilyn Cissell

Lord, help us welcome changes, we know your ways are best. You've set two paths before us, to follow one -our quest.

And if we leave our comfort zones, which journey will we take? Results will both be fruitful, the choice is ours to make. Amen

Sometimes those little kindnesses, an extra courtesy, or helpfulness goes a long way. Because we see people in certain roles on a daily basis we often forget how much they make our lives easier. I'd like to express my appreciation to Karen Naccarato and Jerry Serota for their help on one of my visits to the office. You see, the office had just installed a new copy machine that is very sophisticated and can do everything except butter your toast. I needed to make some copies as part of Elks Ladies business and both of them let me interrupt their work to assist me. I (as well as many others, I'm sure) appreciate your patience and friendship. That's the spirit of cooperation!

**Please note that the Ladies Meeting in August will be held on Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup> instead of Tuesday the 5<sup>th</sup>.** Until next month, I remain  
 Jessica Stull, Elks Ladies President

**HONOR ROLL**

A COIN A DAY



Rubye Metzgs  
 Max Maxwell  
 Tom Ryder, PDDGER  
 Robert Jones  
 Dwight Williams  
 George Meehan  
 Paul Stein



**AUGUST**

- |                      |                     |                       |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Darryl Kopacz      | 11 Steve Ogden      | 24 Joel Erickson      |
| Erle Pittman, PDDGER | 14 Frank Coley      | Marc Kennedy          |
| 2 Max Maxwell        | Jan King            | 26 Bill Burimester    |
| David Naccarato, PER | 15 Philip Panzera   | 27 Ken Warren         |
| 3 Mike Ferragamo     | 17 Don Skinner, PER | 28 Gil Riding, PDDGER |
| Doug Routh           | 18 Jim Barker       | 29 Dan Johnson        |
| 4 Bill Doody         | 22 Jay Peterson     | 31 Dan Kozlowski      |
| 9 Mike Asadurian     | 23 Bart Vanderlip   |                       |

**FROM THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE  
 PROPOSED AND WILL BE BALLOTTED ON  
 August 13, 2008**

Ed Yankajtis-sponsor: Lee Westenhiser

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- |          |       |           |                  |
|----------|-------|-----------|------------------|
| 6/4/08   | \$225 | #1407     | Tom Claunch      |
| Lucky 13 |       | No Winner |                  |
| 6/18/08  | \$250 | Demit     | Dan Snyder       |
| Lucky 13 |       | No Winner |                  |
| 6/25/08  | \$275 | #1888     | Cheryl Templeton |
| Lucky 13 |       | No Winner |                  |





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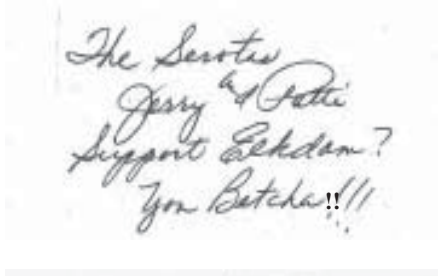










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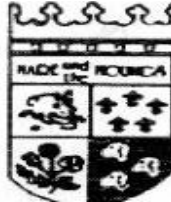
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1974-75 Richard Flake	2000-01 Jacob Panczak
1975-76 Bill Wagner	2001-02 John D'Ambrogio
1976-77 John E. Henry	2002-03 Don Booker
1977-78 *Robert McKee, PDDGER	2003-04 Greg Metzgus, PSVP
1978-79 *Frank J. Rindone, PDDGER	2004-05 Jay Block
1979-80 *Edward F. Stogsdell	2005-06 Sally Claunch
1980-81 *Frank "Tex" Hastie	2006-07 David Naccarato
1981-82 * Robert Hardy	2007-08 Catherine Koeritz
1982-83 *A. John Nichols	
1983-84 John Nau	By Affiliation:
1984-85 Vern Ogden	1981-82 Robert L. Thornton, PDDGER
1985-86 Dan Snyder	2001-02 Bill Sternberg
1986-87 Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, DL	
1987-88 John E. Henry	
1988-89 Ted Lipka	
1989-90 Don Skinner	
1990-91 Don Ansell	
1991-92 Gary Sleigh	
1992-93 Tom Ryder, PDDGER	
1993-94 Jim Wallace	
1994-95 *George Pekow	
1995-96 Gil Riding, PDDGER	
1996-97 Jack Loughran	
1997-98 John Kelly	

\*Deceased

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