

George Meehan, Exalted Ruler

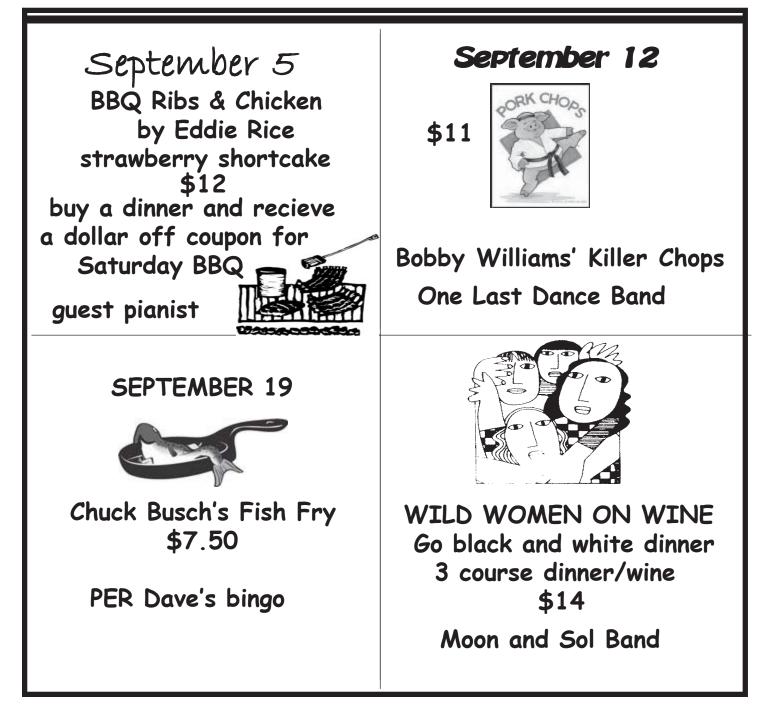
Vol 38, No. 6



Editor, Sally Claunch, PER

Sept. '08

Reaching Out in Elkdom



OPERATION FACELIFT Tom Ryder, PDDGER



The "OPERATION FACELIFT" committee Continues to work on select project	s. Work has been progressing slowly 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! Let's get some pride in what we have. Our facility is beginning to look more presentable to our members, neighbors and the community!

New Facility – A project of Operation Facelift could be the relocation to a new property! Somewhere in our community there is a building and facilities 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.
- Would like to have some Motor home/ Overnight camping sites available

The "Find a new Facility Committee" members and Lodge Officers visited a building in an industrial area of Newbury Park that was brought to the Committee's attention by Rick Herrera. All persons that visited this facility believe it could fulfill our needs for a new home for the Lodge. Talks are in progress with the Real Estate broker to determine if the lodge could afford to purchase and remodel this facility. All members will be invited to inspect the property, review the plans for remodeling, and review the estimated costs and financing necessary. A vote by the members to proceed would then be taken and if favorable start the process to get Grand Lodge approval to proceed with the project.

Parking – Area Clean up and relocation of the wooden fence in front of the rental property is approximately 70 percent completed. BBQ wood has been split and stacked in the wood area and cleaned up area where the wood had been randomly dumped. Jim Allen, Ben Reiger, Tom Hartin, Jim Mullen, others not known to me and some hired help did an outstanding job!

Operation Green Up - Rick Herrera and crew working monthly to keep shrubs, flowers and flowerbeds looking great!

Outside Painting Of Facilities – Our buildings have been painted. Shaggy" fence behind the new flowerbed is to be painted so as to blend in with our buildings and the new apartment buildings on both sides of us.

Steve Harrison, a District Sales Manager for Dunn-Edwards, donated 70 gallons of paint for the job.

Dan Johnson, a painting contractor, had his crew prepare and paint the buildings for a labor cost only. They also fixed some of the areas that needed repair and did a two coat rolled on paint job. Swing by and see the results!

Property Line Stabilization – Material has been put in place for stabilization of existing property line. Storage container to be moved from its location next to the wood storage area to the side of the property to create a sight barrier screening our back parking area from traffic on Conejo School Road. Fenced recycle area and new garbage container enclosure part of project.

Saturday BBQ Area - Fence and Gate. - About number three on our current priority list of projects planned.

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 gave of their time! You are greatly appreciated

NEEDED Kitchen – Cooks, helpers, specialty cooking teams ~ Painters – General - no talent required

September '08

ANTLER ANTICS

2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS	EXALTED RULER George Meehan	2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS		
ANTLER ANTICS: Sally Claunch, PER, Editor,		NG MAINT. : Max Maxwell/Tom Hartin MENTARIAN: Bill Lloyd PDDCER DI		
Jerry Serota, Photographer Calendar: Tom Ryder, PDDGER NEW BEGINNINGS: HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK: GREETERS: Dorothy Murray PUBLIC RELATIONS: OPERATION FACELIFT: Tom Ryder, PDDGER	LODGE BBQ W AUDITI ELKS T SHOE T BEQUE	PARLIAMENTARIAN: Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, DL LODGE VISITATIONS: 3BQ WAGON: AUDITING: Chet Kozlowski, PER ELKS TRAINING: George Meehan SHOE TOURNAMENTS: Mike Budenski 3EQUESTS & LIVING TRUSTS: Robert Jones PLANNING COMMITTEE:		

GRAND LODGE CONVENTION HIGHLIGHT OF MY ELK LIFE...

The Grand Lodge Convention for Cornelia and me was a wonderful experience. It opened on Sunday evening with the presentation of the flags of each state, which were posted on the stage and remained there throughout the convention. With all those beautiful flags you can imagine what a colorful ceremony it was. To be there and be a part of it makes you proud to be an American as well as being an Elk.

The business sessions began promptly every morning at 7:55 AM. On Monday through Thursday, the convention ended at noon on Thursday. We were kept pretty busy during the morning and heard reports on everything the Elks are involved with. Some of the highlights were hearing speeches by the young man and young woman who received the top scholarship awards. Their speeches were inspiring. The two winners of the hoop shoot contest that went to Springfield, Massachusetts and won the top awards also spoke. These young people made us feel good and glad that we supported them. We also attended a Memorial Service for all departed Elks who over the years kept this wonderful organization going and giving us the opportunity to carry on.

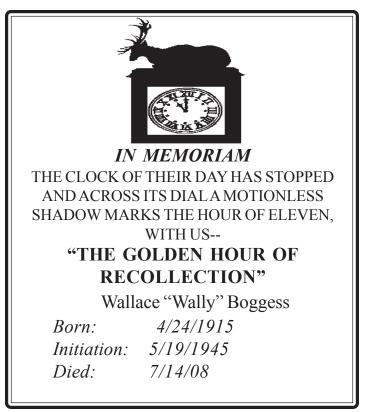
I have been an Elk for many years and this was my first National Convention, but I wish I had known what went on at these conventions. I would have liked to attend before this year. I recommend to all Elks if you have the opportunity to go, as an officer or on your own, do try to go. You won't be sorry.

In the meantime, the lodge carried on. There are lots of things happening for all members to get involved with. Check your calendar for events and come to the lodge. Join your fellow members in doing the good things that Elks do for others. It will make you happy and proud.

See you at the Lodge.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

As I wrote in the August issue of the Antler Antics, Larry and Coleen Morris and Chet and Shirley Kozlowski have retired from the Memorial Committee after 18 years of servide. They certainly have earned the right to retire. Replacements must be found if the Elks are going to be able to continue to provide a breakfast or a luncheon after a funeral or memorial service. A few people have stepped forward to help, but more are needed. We will probably not need everyone on the list for every occasion. The more who offer, make it not a job but a wonderful opportunity to serve our fellow Elks in their time of sorrow. Please sign the list posted on the lounge bulletin board





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

Thanks to the new color printer leased by the Lodge, the Antler Antics can be printed onsite, saving our Lodge money. Also the center pages are in glorious color, and printed on heavier paper.

However the emailed copy will also have to be in black and white, unless someone can show this semi-literate editor the technique to convert. All help is graciously accepted.

OFFICERS/HOUSE COMMITTEE MTG.

Johnny D' and Bill Sternberg will build a new cart for BBQ slicer.

New Elks mandated computer program has been installed-office training to follow

Plans for BBQ teams Appreciation Dinner were discussed.

Potential fundraiser for Major Project was pre sented by Raven West

Potential property for relocation was presented by Tom Ryder

TRUSTEES REPORT

Dave Stull was appointed Safety Chair.

Trustees are updating property list.

Insurance coverage for drivers on lodge vehicles was discussed per request of member.

Recommendation was made to House Committee and will be voted on by Lodge membership to purchase truck for BBQs use not to exceed \$8000.

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

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Rusty Kennedy, Donna Hardy

ON THE MEND: Bob Saynay from hernia surgery, Barb Metzgus from back problems, Dee Swanson has completed all treatments, Jack Loughran, PER is home from the hospital

REMEMBER CARDS AND CALLS ARE ALWAYS APPRECIATED!!!



COMING ATTRACTIONS

September 7-Lodge Picnic at Lodge September 20- Dinner Dance fundraiser September 21- Appreciation Dinner for BBQ teams

October 3-Junior PER Roast October 18- Shrimp Feed October 22-DDGER Visitation

November 6-8-MidTerm Convention November 15-Charity Ball

Page 4

2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

LEADING KNIGHT Raven West

2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

MAJOR PROJECT/PURPLE PIG: DavidNaccarato,PER SICKNESSANDDISTRESS: Sally Claunch,PER INVESTIGATION: Bob Arbetman ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION: Tom Ryder, PDDGER



CHRISTMAS BASKETS: Raven West INDOCTRINATION: Dave Naccarato, PER MEM.CONTROL.COM.: CVAC: Tom Hartin COMMUNITY RELATIONS: CHARITY DINNERS: Raven West

CHARITY IS....

The Webster Dictionary defines the word "Charity" as: 1. Generous actions or donations to aid the poor, ill, or helpless;

2. Something given to a person or persons in need;

3. A charitable act or work.

4. A charitable fund, foundation, or institution.

Many famous individuals have been quoted under the theme of "Charity" Among them are:

"Charity begins at home, but should not end there." Thomas Fuller

"Goodness is the only investment that never fails." - Henry David Thoreau

"Charity and personal force are the only investments worth anything." - Walt Whitman

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is every wasted." - Aesop

"No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave" - Calvin Coolidge

"It is one of the most beautiful compensations of life that no person can sincerely try to help another without helping themselves." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

"I am only one; but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; I will not refuse to do the something I can do." - Helen Keller

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change

the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

Within the walls of Thousand Oaks Lodge #2477 exist dedicated members whose hearts are full of pride for the wonderful work that we do for those less fortunate. Every year, the Leading Knight plans our "Charity Ball" in November in order to raise funds to support our Holiday Baskets that our "Santa's and Elves" deliver to families throughout the Conejo Valley in December. Under the banner of planning WAY ahead, this year's Charity Ball will be held on Saturday, November 15. We will host a Comedy Showcase, with five or six professional comedians from Los Angeles, courtesy of the "Comedy Machine". This group performed at our Cabaret Saturday Night event and received great reviews. We will also be entertained by the Fabulous Magician Extraordinaire; The GREAT Robert. Tickets will be going on sale October 1 for \$20.00. After November 1, they will be \$25 and \$30 at the door.

We will be preparing an Italian Banquet, Antipasto, Linguini with either Clam Sauce or Mariana, garlic bread and Italian ices for dessert. There will also be a bottle of Chianti on every table, donated by John and Cherri Peterson! And of course auction items, fun and games.

As we get closer to December, a sign-up sheet will be posted for volunteer "ELVES" to help "Santa" with toy and food donations, wrapping and packaging, and of course the MAIN event of delivery. For those of you who have participated in this event, I'm sure you will all agree that we gain so much more in the smiles on the faces of those we help.

This year, with the hard economic times, the food and toys from our LODGE may be the only Christmas these families will have. And what better way to express our motto: ELKS CARE, ELKS SHARE, then by our wonderful charities!



Your Lodge Serving the Community

Providing monthly Bingo Party and an outing for the Vets by Jim Kellogg and Crew

Serving as Boy Scout leaders at Casa Pacifica

Maintaining community image by BBQ wagon participating in local fundraisers

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

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 Rodriquez LAW ENFORCEMENT & FIRE FIGHTER APPRECIATION: Scott Dool PRESIDING JUSTICE: YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Robert Jones

THANK YOU....

I was sitting at the lodge the other day, I thought back on what we have done here this summer, and I realized we have had a lot of fun! We have had a lot of great cooks who have put on a lot of great meals. Dinners, lunches, breakfasts, many of you have risen to the task of volunteering your time and specialties.

This brings me to another thought: THANK YOU! When I took on the position of being your loyal night, I knew the kitchen was going to be a challenge, but the volunteers who have stepped up, man you guys are great! One person in particular who deserves a huge THANK YOU is Chuck Busch. He has stepped up and taken the lion's share of cooking. From breakfasts to dinners, he has done it all! I know he loves to cook! Hey Chuck, THANK YOU! And to all of you others who have helped put on a meal or two, THANK YOU! I know that without all of you, the kitchen would not have had the success that we have had! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Also, Heather Flittner has brought the JR Elks back and they need our support. They had a car wash on Sunday, august 17, and I have a feeling it was a great day! Please, if you see that the JR Elks are doing anything, come down and support it. We are putting together a behind the scenes trip to a fire station and maybe even a police station. More details later!

Also, if you have an e-mail address, please get it to Sally Claunch, (claunchsally@gmail.com). She has been sending out WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT THE LODGE e-mail every week to keep us updated and to let us know of any changes in the calendar. THANK YOU SALLY!

AND FINALLY! As we head into the Fall season of this year, let's remember the kids start going back to school (drive careful), the days start getting shorter, but the FUN never stops at the Lodge! We are planning some fun times to get us thru the holidays. Come down to the lodge to see what we are doing! Looking forward with a positive attitude and fraternally grateful!

(PS. Tom, the lodge is looking great! Love the paint job. THANK U- Dan Johnson



How is the Elks National Foundation Helping

California-Hawaii?

When you give to the Elks National Foundation, you're doing more than funding the Elks National Drug Awareness and "Hoop Shoot" programs. You're doing more than supporting the Community Investments Program and providing Emergency Educational Grants to the children of deceased or totally disabled Elks. You're doing more than maintaining the Elks Veterans Memorial.

You're doing all that, and you're supporting Elkdom in your state.

Since inception in 1928 through March 31, 2008, the Foundation has granted a total of \$28,584,793.29 to your state, compared with your state's total donations of \$25,479,792.56. That's a ratio of 1.122 for every dollar the Foundation has received from your state.

The Foundation's past support includes:

- \$13,296,124.00 in State Charities Grants
- \$4,487,652.00 in Special Projects Grants
- \$6,873,358.57 in "Most Valuable Student" Scholarships
- \$452,337.00 in Emergency Educational Grants to the children of deceased or totally disabled Elks

For more information about the Elks National Foundation, contact your local chairman or write us at Elks National Foundation, 2750 N. Lakeview Ave., Chicago, IL 60614, enf@elks.org.



ENTERTAINMENT

September 5-guest pianist September 12-One Last Dance Band September 19-Bingo by PER Dave September 26-Moon and Sol Band

I would like to thank Robert Jones for donating a brand new microwave to the bar. Also hot snacks will soon be available at the bar. Bryan Gicking will be doing bacon & eggs breakfasts when other crews are not available. Show him your support by attending breakfast/

Corinne Richenson Bar Manager



Dave Naccarato, PER Major Project Chair MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Mark your calendars for September 20th. September 20th marks the date to attend an event at our lodge. The way it used to be. Elks are all about having a good time with each other and raising money at the same time. We will be having a dinner dance with proceeds to go to the Major Project and ENF. The Major Project is a charity that all Elks Lodges in California and Hawaii are involved with. In the year 1950 a desperate shortage of trained therapists led the Elks to come to the aid of children with disabilities with no cost to their families. 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.

The Elks National Foundation (E.N.F.) the Major Project and the Scholarship programs of the state associations only spend the interest never touching the principle.

We will start the Evening at 6:00 with a Prime Rib dinner, then dancing to the sounds of the Starlighters. Half way through the evening the dance floor will be cleared and Buddy Teachout will swoon you to the sounds of Frank Sinatra. Its been said from many nightclubs in Las Vegas that Frank Sinatra sounds allot like Buddy Teachout not the other way around. To finish the evening there will another hour of dancing. We will have 50/50 drawing and door prizes. This will be a sit down served dinner with all the trimmings Plan to get your tickets early. Tickets go on sale August 22nd \$20.00. \$25.00 at the door if we have space available.



JUNIOR PER ROAST Catherine Koeritz October 3rd

Come for dinner, participate in the roast or sit back and enjoy the laughs as we roast and toast... Catherine

All who wish to speak, please notify Sally Claunch, MC

SEPTEMBER 26

Wild Women On Wine..

Go Black and White With a little Color

\$14

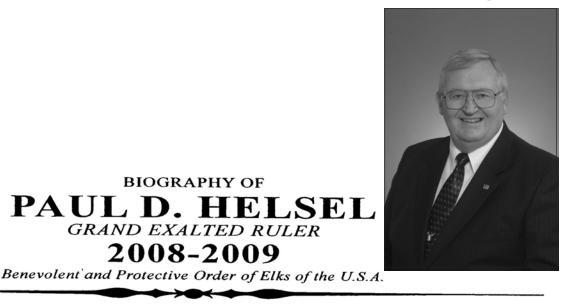
- + black peppercorn beef/breast of chicken
- + bowtie pasta with alfreda sauce
- + seaonal veggies for color
- + salad featuring black and white
- + rolls

+ sinfully chocolate dessert served with complimentary white wine music during dinner

For your dancing pleasure.. Moon and Sol in the Lounge Please wear black and white attire

> CONEJO RELAY FOR LIFE Saturday, October 4th Survivor Lap 10 a.m. Contact Sally Claunch for more info 495-0577

September '08



Paul D. Helsel, born March 9, 1941, the oldest of two children, grew up on a 250 acre farm near Trout Run, Pennsylvania with his sister Karen and parents, Paul C. and Marion F. Helsel. Working on the farm until college instilled him with the values of honesty, integrity, and hard work.

Paul attended a one-room schoolhouse in his elementary years, later graduating from Liberty Joint High School in Liberty, Pennsylvania. He earned a degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Pennsylvania State University and later a second degree in Accounting from Goldey-Beacom College.

He began his professional career in Facility Engineering and Facility Engineering Management in 1962 with E.I. DuPont de Nemours and Company in Newark, Delaware. As a capable and reliable Engineer Paul distinguished himself and moved to increasingly more responsible jobs with Milprint, Wilmington Chemical Company and finally in 1979 with ATK Elkton Company (formerly Thiokol Corporation) in Elkton, Maryland. Each position he assumed with these companies provided him with valuable technical, administrative and leadership experience. After a distinguished and successful 43-year professional career, Paul retired from ATK Elkton Company on September 23, 2005.

On August 28, 1965, Paul married his lovely wife of 42 years, Jane L. Valiante in Newark, Delaware where they still reside today. They are blessed with two daughters, Diane Coleman and Janet Caruccio, and three grandchildren. Diane with her husband Joe and son Paul Joseph "PJ" (9) resides in Melbourne, Florida. Janet with her husband John, son Benjamin (8) and daughter Amanda (5) resides in Newark, Delaware.

Paul served for more than 20 years on the Board of Directors of the Triumph Industrial Park Utility Maintenance Corporation and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Steam Valley Cemetery Association. He was a Charter Member and Charter President (June 1980) of the Thiokol Chapter of the Toastmasters Club.

Paul was initiated in Newark Lodge No. 2281 on May 10, 1970. He immediately became active in the lodge and served as Exalted Ruler in 1975-1976 where he earned "All-State Exalted Ruler" honors in the Ritual. He served as the Lodge Treasurer for 15 years and for the last 11 years as a Lodge Trustee.

He remains active in Newark Lodge No. 2281 on various committees including the Board of Trustees,

PER Association, as Chairman or Co-Chairman of the House/Rental Committee, and as a working member of the Bingo Committee.

Paul became active in the Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association in 1976 and has been actively involved in its operation for the past 31 years. He served on various committees including the Executive Committee of Elks Camp Barrett, the Association's Major Project, was Chairman of the Elks National Service Commission Committee for 4 years, and Chairman of the Elks Training Program for 6 years. He served with distinction as a member of the Board of Trustees for 2 years, as Vice President of the Northeast District and as President of the Association in 1981-1982. He served as State Treasurer for 2 years and was a certified Ritual Judge for 16 years, judging contests in his own Association, the Pennsylvania Elks State Association and the New Jersey State Elks Association. He also served as Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Association for at least three terms and continues to serve the Association in an advisory and leadership capacity, working closely with the elected State Officers and the District Deputy Grand Exalted Rulers.

In 1979, he was appointed District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler. He continued to serve the Grand Lodge on the State Associations Committee from 1989 to 1991 and in 1992 was elected to the Board of Grand Trustees where he served with distinction until 1996. He continued to serve with the Board of Grand Trustees through 1996-1997 on a Planning Committee tasked with developing a long range plan for upgrading and improving the Elks National Home.

He has been a Special Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for the past 11 years and is currently serving in his 4th year as the group's President. He served with distinction as the Chairman of the Host Committee for the 2001 Grand Lodge Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Paul is an Elk that has risen through the ranks of Elkdom as a result of his talents, ability to work with people, dedication and hard work. He leads by example and firmly believes that "you get out of Elkdom what you put into it." As he fulfills his duties as Grand Exalted Ruler his message will be one of working to build a stronger, better Order. Please join with him and be a part of "Elks — Growing Elkdom and Strengthening America" and demonstrating that "Iks Care— Iks Share." September '08

ANTLER ANTICS



Jerry Serota



GUARD WELL THE DOORS

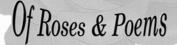
Each and every paid up member is responsible for maintaining the privacy of our Lodge. Propping the lounge door open to let strangers in our midst not only violates our House Rules but puts us in jeopardy of losing our liquor license and our charter.

When you prop open the door with the dead bolt or a rock you steal from every member his privilege of privacy for which he pays his dues. We ask every member who sees this happen to remedy it immediately by securing the door from outsiders.

Let's be responsible and let's guard well the doors upon which we hold dear our right to privacy.

The following sign has been posted in the lounge.

PROTECT OUR PRIVACY BLOCKING THIS DOOR OPEN VIOLATES OUR RIGHT OF PRIVACY AND CAN BE SUBJECT TO LOSS OF OUR LICENCE



Meant for each other A Fragrance... With petals & colours Just so A series of words... Enlisting the senses Harmony that roams... The mind.



The dress code after 6 pm-

please no tank tops please no clothing with demeaning language

ELK BBQ FOR FIRST MEAL

Some people travel great distances for our famous tri-tip sandwiches. Some people take a break from their Saturday activities to taste our delicious meats. Yet last weekend, we experienced a first on the BBQ wagon. A bride and groom stopped by on their way from the church enroute to the reception. They wanted sandwiches as their first meal together as a married couple. And in the spirit of Elks Care, Elks Share-Max Maxwell paid for their lunch.



phone

A Real American Beauty courtesy of : T-51 Townstran American

Our BBQ Wagon is the bread and butter of our Lodge's weekly revenues. During the months of September and October 3 major BBQ events have been scheduled. To assist in planning, there are sign-up sheets for volunteers in the Lounge. If you are available, please give your time.

> September 21-Corvette Car Show-Conejo Creek Park

October 5-Car Show-Westlake Village October 19-Street Faire-Thousand Oaks



Donna Hardy accepting flowers at her appreciation breakfast.

would like to take this time to say (ALL ELKS) how wonderful it was to see everyone and the Breakfast was very nice. My family and I want to THANK EVERYONE for coming and to let you know that it was appreciated. ALL the kind words that were said on my behalf. First of all it takes all the Elks' to make Elkdom what it is, and ALL the friends that you meet along the way. YOUR prayers are with me along this journey that I am on and with that I am going to win this battle. SO AGAIN THANK YOU EVERYONE. Donna Hardy





Richard Goldner, GL Public Relations Chair at Grand Lodge Convention with Elroy the Elk mascot



Dave Naccarato, PER, Major Project Chair presented Cheri Peterson with Century Cllub and 52Club certificates

Elk Ladies President Jessica Stull presented (L-R) Donna Churik, Eula McKee-charter members certificates and Shirley Kozlowski and Vera Bailie with appreciation certificates for service on the Memorial Committee





ELK LADIES APPRECIATION LUNCHEON





Pat VonWittenberg Konejo Kampers

JULY AT KENNEY GROVE

We had more people at the "unofficial" campout over the 4th than we had at the regularly scheduled campout.

We had 9 rigs over the Fourth. Deb and Wayne Garrison made it out, hadn't seen them since March. Wayne was in rare form and Deb just shook her head. Bev Erickson brought fresh peaches from their tree and we were recipients of her famous "Peach Smash" concoction. Great stuff, Beverly.

Glad to see Mary Flannery had survived the early arrival of their granddaughter, Casey Renee, who made her appearance about a month early. Mike is Mike, wonder if that man gets excited about anything (giggle).

Next concern for grandmother to be is Judy Kudra. She's now convinced her daughter-in-law is going to deliver early. Talk about "nervous as a cat on a hot tin roof". Calm, cool, Judy is exhibiting signs of anxiety - - at least from my perspective (VBG very big grin).

After suffering the loss of their beloved "Lady" dog, it was absolutely elating to see the Drakes arrive with their new puppy "Blazer". Both Deb and Jeff appeared to be pleased as punch, no wonder, that little guy has one of the cutest faces and the calmest personality one could ever want. He wanted to play with our Bailey so bad, but Bailey was being a real snot - - not proud of his behavior at all.

The scheduled campout was so poorly attended, Vice President Chuck Kudra called the meeting to order and after the pledge, entertained a motion to adjourn. I was so bummed, cause there was a great collection of stuff for the raffle, oh well, it'll keep.

There were two main reasons given by the "stayat-homes". The bugs and the heat. WRONG on both counts.

It was very interesting, that the Thorntons, residents of the "cool" Santa Rosa Valley came out to find the temperature not at all objectionable. These people are so neat, full of very interesting stories of their experiences over their lives, and I believe that Margaret is one of the most knowledgeable nurses I've ever met. Bob is no slouch in his areas (yup plural) of expertise either.

We set up a screen room - then sat outside it. The pokers players did use it, thank goodness, after the chore of setting it up (thought Ed Colleran was either going to



choke someone (me?) or have an attack of some sort), certainly glad it was used. The Ericksons brought theirs too, but it stayed where it was stowed.

I drove in to Simi on the 7th, on my way to a class in Thousand Oaks. It was HOTTER in Simi than at Kenney Grove.

The Ericksons and vWs stayed from the 3rd through the 14th, and the Collerans left their rig there the entire time. On Wednesday the 9th we were sitting outside the Erickson's rig sipping "Moscow Mules". At 7:30 p.m. I had to go in cause I was cold.

Chuck Kudra went back and forth, returning on Thursday without Judy. Seems she had scheduled an "educational" meeting for Friday afternoon that couldn't be rescheduled and a "must show" baby shower.

Cheryl, bless her dedication, came out just for Saturday nite. The ten of us went to our favorite Mexican restaurant, Familia Diaz, in Santa Paula for dinner, deciding to have our homemade (Joel's) as dessert. Is it any wonder that dieting is next to impossible at a campout, even eating reasonably is not a strong possibility.

Not much more to say with so few people to pick on(giggle).

* * * * BE ADVISED - THE KAMPERS' SEPTEMBER BREAKFAST WILL BE FEATURING JOEL ERICKSON'S *EGGS BENEDICT* and BEVERLY'S HOMEMADE *HOLLANDAISE SAUCE.* * * * *

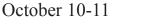
Keep in mind ALL, this is the only Kampers' fund raiser. We need your support in order to continue our support of the Lodge.

Upcoming Campouts

September 12-13-

Santa Barbara Lodge

Santa Darbara Loug



Tapo Canyon Simi Valley

November 7-8 Kenney Grove

December 7-Brunch-Grand Vista Hotel

visit the website:

http://elkonejokampers.oaksdata.com





Pat VonWittenberg Konejo Kampers

TRIBUTE TO DONNA HARDY

August 3, 2008 saw a turnout for breakfast that was remarkable. Obviously to honor an awesome lady of the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge.

As Chet Kozlowski remarked when presenting the fantastic certificate created by Joel Erickson, from the El Konejo Kampers, he saw people he hadn't seen for a long time and some he didn't even know. Beverly Erickson gave Donna a lovely bouquet of yellow roses, as well as a DVD of Kamper memories.

As President of the Ladies, Jessica Stull also presented Donna with a certificate of appreciation.

A life-long dedication was recognized for both Bob and Donna since Bob was a Charter Member of #2477. We all know that it takes a lot of dedication on behalf of both parties, and Donna was no exception.

It was exhilarating to hear Donna remark that Saturday was questionable as to her ability to be at the Lodge on Sunday, but she acknowledged it was obvious that prayers enabled her to be there. WAY TO GO GIRL! And keep prayers going everyone.

As I stated, "If there is a fight to be fought and WON - Donna can do it" She is an remarkable friend, and I love her dearly.

Remember to Save Pop Tabs for the McDonald House



Remember to keep collecting tabs for the children at the Ronald McDonald House. A special thanks to the large contributors,(who put their name in the bags), Dorothy Murray(Jafra), Jim and Lee Wiens, and Harold Cooper(Cooper's Automotive). It means a lot to the Ronald McDonald families, so keep putting the tabs in the collection box in the lounge. Thanks,

Gerry Gillies



Tony Markarian District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler West Central Coast District

Tony Markarian was born in Glendale CA in 1964 and raised in Northridge California. After graduating from Granada Hills High School, he received his Associates degree from Pierce Collage, then went on to Cal State University of Northridge majoring in Business Administration. While attending CSUN he became involved in Mortgage Lending and became a top producing Loan Officer working with companies such as Bank of America, Chase Manhattan, Continental Savings and Loan. He opened Pacific Independence Finance at the age of 26 and after 7 successful years then sold the business. Later went on to run Simi Valley Financial Center also known as Union Pacific Mortgage for 9 years. He is presently working with CFC Mortgage Bankers as a senior Loan Officer.

Tony joined the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks in 1994 and immediately became an Officer. In 1998 he became Exalted Ruler, he then went right to work in the West Central Coast District as the Major Project Committee Chairman a twoyear position he held twice. In the fraternal year of 2006 and 2007 he became the State Vice President. During the time period when he was the District Major Project Chairman he started and chaired the Habitat for Humanity project in Simi Valley for the Simi Valley Moorpark Association of Realtors and is still active today.

Tony has been married for 22 years this December to his teen sweetheart Sherri. They have two beautiful children, a son Anthony 16 attending Santa Susanna High School and a daughter Amanda 18 who just completed her freshman year at Wesleyan university in Ohio. Tony and his family are active members in their Church and his hobbies are fishing, hunting, movies and golf. 2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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



2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS



GOLF TOURNEY: Dave Pearson LODGE PICNIC: Joe Clancy & Ed Bianchi MEMBERSHIP: Every Lodge Member CHRISTMAS TREES: Herb Jellander Bill Sternberg, PER/Terry Baker EL KONEJO KAMPERS: Mike Flannery

VETERAN CANS AVAILABLE

We are well into the year now and have finished visitations by the State Vice President and have started with the District Deputy visitations. Please keep in mind; these visitations are open to all Elks. Tony Markarian, our district deputy, is a fine speaker and attending visitations at other lodges gives us an opportunity to broaden our Elk horizons and a chance to meet other Elks.

The Grand Lodge drive to raise money to assist our troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan is under way. There are donation cans in the lounge and cans are available to place in local businesses. To date only about 10 members have stepped forward to assist in this effort. Our returning troops need our support and this is a program where the Vietnam Veterans Association is working hand in hand with the Elks. If you are a WWII, Vietnam or Korean Veteran you can relate to these fine young men returning home after their tour overseas. Please lend them a hand. If you would like to participate, please see me.

Every Elk in our lodge is a member of the Membership committee. Our dues have been lowered, our lodge has been painted, and the one thing left to do is to invite your friends and neighbors to join us



Vietnam Veterans of America Fundraising Program in honor of Michael F. Manning -"Can-Coin Program" Back in September, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the U.S.A. made a commitment to the Vietnam Veterans Alliance to collaborate in a fundraising program named in memory of Michael F. Manning, past Director of the Elks National Veterans Service Commission. The program is now underway and will benefit all veterans, all across America.

Prior to the program being launched in a State, a sample of what will be furnished to individual Lodges will be sent to the Special Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler and/or State President.

Each Lodge will receive 32 canisters, along with a set of instructions and forms for documenting the collection of funds. We are asking each Lodge to find a few dedicated Elks to work this program, which will last only until July 31 of 2009. We suggest that 15 canisters be placed in public locations; such as convenience stores, barbershops, local businesses, or any other locations deemed appropriate. These should be replaced with an empty canister at one-month intervals. This gives you a rotating replacement for all of the 15 locations. The 31st and 32nd canisters could be placed on each Lodge's bar. Another suggestion is a canister drive on a street corner, in a Shopping Mall or in a Supermarket.

One of the important things we want to stress is the fact that the funds collected are from the general public and should not interfere with any of a Lodge's existing funds or programs.

This program will take dedication and a sincere effort only until July 31 of 2009. We are asking all Lodges to participate, not only in the name of a Great Elk, but in a renewed dedication to assist our nation's heroes as specified in our motto.

Share the Excitement

Sponsor a new member. Applications are available in the lounge or office September '08

ANTLER ANTICS

20008-2009 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS	THE ELKS LADIES Jessica Stull		20008-2009COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Pat Peterson 2ND VICE PRESIDENT: 3RD VICE PRESIDENT: SECRETARY: June Leadam TREASURER: Diane Isaman AUDITOR: TELEPHONE: Patti Serota		CH MA CV HIS	RLIAMENTARIAN: June Leadam IAPLAIN: Marilyn Cissell AJOR PROJECTS:Niki Case D: Alice Kennedy & Marilyn Cissell STORIAN: NSHINE: Shirley Kozlowski

Charter Member Tribute is History

What a talented group of ladies we have. Everyone who volunteered to help with the 4th Annual Ladies Appreciation Luncheon, A Tribute to Our Charter Members, held on July 26th, put forth their special talents for the success of our luncheon. The tables were decorated with deep purple tablecloths; pink napkins set in each glass opened into flower petals (Angie Prizzi's magic), and a festive floral plant centerpiece combining the colors set off the tables. Rena Dyer received many compliments on the centerpieces and on the little multicolored rocks she found to use as a ground cover for each plant. Jessica Stull, Marilyn Cissell, Jeri Miller, Rena Dyer and our Lounge Manager, Corrine Richeson, took over the kitchen and prepared the food. David (Stull) was also in there cutting the lemons into slices for the iced tea. Jessica's recipe for the Gorgonzola Salad was a big hit. The dessert, a frozen cupcake topped with "soft" serve ice cream, and sprinkled with multicolored pastel candies required a "big hit" to get it into bite sized pieces, or patience waiting for it to slowly thaw out. Pat Peterson took a few timely snap shots of the "break up."

Eula McKee and Donna Churik were presented Certificates of Recognition, as they were the two Charter Members in attendance. Marilyn Corrigan, the first Elks Ladies President and Charter Member was expected, but was unable to attend at the last moment. Dee Swanson will present her with her Certificate of Recognition. Donna Hardy was presented her Charter Member Certificate of Appreciation at a breakfast in her honor on Sunday, August 3rd. Donna was a long time Treasurer of the Ladies organization. Our Charter Members and others who were members in the early days regaled us with some fond memories and humorous stories. These stories are not only of historical value, they were quite entertaining. If you missed Marilyn Cissell's story about the papayas, you might ask her about it. Be ready for a belly laugh.

Shirley Kozlowski and Vera Bailie were surprised to be the recipients of Certificates of Appreciation for their





- 5 Cornelia Meehan
- 6 Teri Rochford
- 12 Annie Pearson
- 17 Annie McIntyre
- 17 Dee Swanson
- 20 Donna Hardy
- 21 Doris Dellinger
 - 22 Becky Krabel



Marilyn

Cissell

WHEN IT'S TIME TO LET GO

When you get our attention, Lord, at last we know that we must change. And it's just your way only, now, our routines or lifestyles we'll re-arrange.

You never will give up on us, but if life makes no sense at all. You're here for all our answers,God, and ready to catch us if we fall.

Amen

many years of service and dedication and their work on the Memorial Committee. Those shoes will be hard to fill and volunteers are still needed. The more volunteers we have, the less often we will be called upon to help in times of need. Our guest artist, Susanna Elena, a Spanish classical and flamenco dancer, captured our attention with her energetic, dramatic, commanding presence on the dance floor. Marilyn Cissell, at ringside, was right in the middle of the action and knowing how Marilyn loves to dance, I'm sure she was lovin' it. On the other side of the room, Angie Prizzi was moving to the beat.

Our wonderful turnout for this event was due in great measure to all the ladies who spent their time networking. Thanks to everyone who participated including, everyone who attended, prepared and cleaned up afterward. **Diane Isaman, Treasurer & Ladies Appreciation Luncheon Chair** Page 16

20 George Sylvester

22 Juanita Feamster

23 Jerry Serota

27 Bill Goff

24 Boyd Lindquist

John Tracy

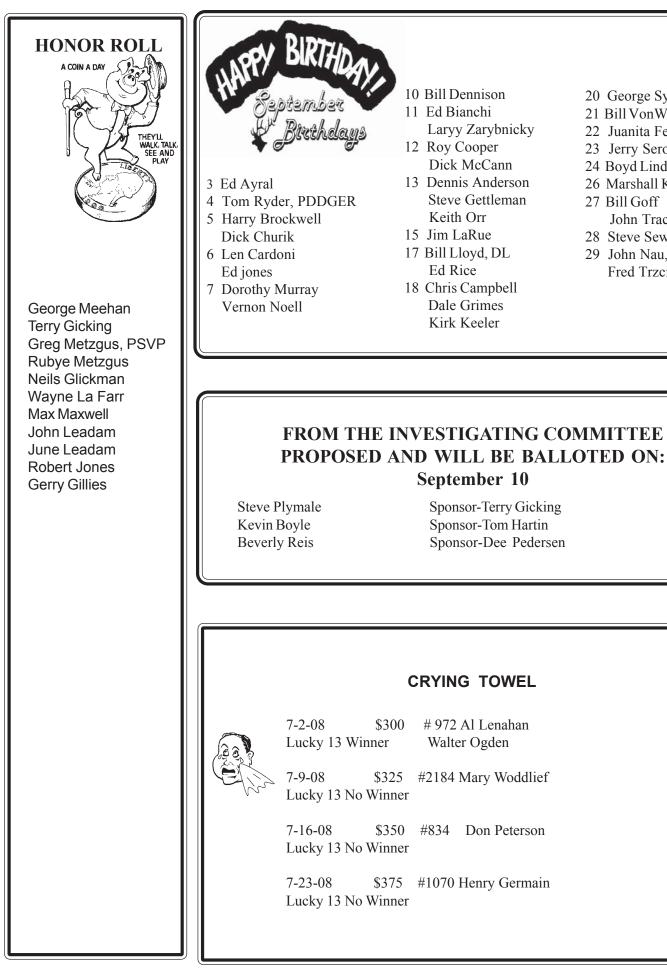
29 John Nau, PER

Fred Trzcinski

28 Steve Sewell

21 Bill VonWittenburg

26 Marshall Knowlton





DONATE YOUR UNUSED CAR TO THE LODGE

- Get the tax write-off
- Know that you are helping
- Major Projects and ENF charities
- Be living the motto---
- Elks Care Elks Share

IS YOUR GROUP LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO HAVE A LUNCHEON MEETING ????

- Your search is over
- The newly painted and carpeted banquet room is available
- Call Banquet Manager 496-4550 for menus and a tour of the facility

BIRTHDAY COUPON

INSERT YOUR NAME AND ENJOY ONE ON US

We would like to celebrate your birthday with you Bring in this coupon and receive a Well Drink, Glass of Wine or a Beer Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge

We look forward to seeing you!!! Bring driver's license as proof of birthday

Offer good during your Birthday month. Limit one drink per member

Help Fund



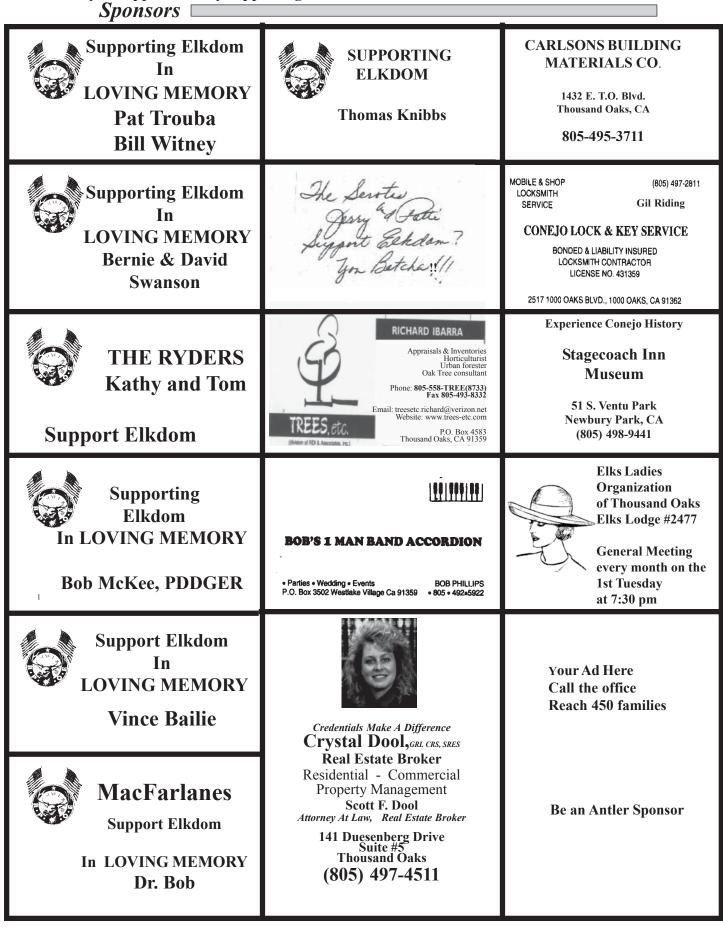
Our Scholarship Program

Bring your alumninun cans, plastic and glass bottles to the Lodge



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

Thanks-Rich Herrera Scholarship Chair. Our sponsors through their generosity help defray the cost of this publication. We thank them. Please show your appreciatin by supporting them.



Our sponsors through their generosity help defray the cost of this publication. We thank them. Please show your appreciatin by supporting them.



Official Publication of: 1000 Oaks Elks Lodge NO. 2477 B.P.O.E. P.O. Box 2110 Thousand Oaks, CA 91358

Change Service Requested

POSTMASTER; DATED MATERIAL DO NOT DELAY

158 Conejo School Rd. Office: (805) 496-2477 (805) 494-6779 Fax: (805) 496-9087 Lounge (805) 496-4550 WebSite:www/elks2477.com http://elkonejokampers.oaksdata.com Office Hours 10:00-3:00 M-F

Non Profit Org. U.S. Postage Paid Thousand Oaks, Ca. Permit #23'

OFFICERS 2008-2009	PAST EXA	LTED RULERS
EXALTED RULER - George Meehan LEADING KNIGHT - Raven West LOYAL KNIGHT - Terry Gicking LECTURING KNIGHT - Greg Metzgus,PSVP SECRETARY - Jerry Serota TREASURER - Tom Ryder, PDDGER TILER - Bob Arbetman ESQUIRE - Robert Jones CHAPLAIN - Rick Herrera INNER GUARD-Leo Rodriquez ORGANIST - Kirin Spreights OFFICER AT LARGE- David Naccarato, PER TRUSTEES Sally Claunch, PER 1 Year Tom Hartin 2 Year Bill Sternberg, PER 3 Year David Stull 4 Year Steve Smith 5 Year	1972-73 *Marvin D. Smith 1973-74 Erle Pittman, PDDGER 1974-75 Richard Flake 1975-76 Bill Wagner 1976-77 John E. Henry 1977-78 *Robert McKee, PDDGER 1978-79 *Frank J. Rindone, PDDGER 1979-80 *Edward F. Stogsdell 1980-81 *Frank "Tex" Hastie 1981-82 * Robert Hardy 1982-83 *A. John Nichols 1983-84 John Nau 1984-85 Vern Ogden 1985-86 Dan Snyder 1986-87 Bill Lloyd, PDDGER,DL 1987-88 John E. Henry 1988-89 Ted Lipka 1989-90 Don Skinner 1990-91 Don Ansell 1991-92 Gary Sleigh 1992-93 Tom Ryder, PDDGER 1993-94 Jim Wallace 1994-95 *George Pekow 1995-96 Gil Riding, PDDGER 1996-97 Jack Loughran 1997-98 John Kelly	1998-99 Chet Kozlowski 1999-00 Richard Goldner, PDDGER 2000-01 Jacob Panczak 2001-02 John D'Ambrogio 2002-03 Don Booker 2003-04 Greg Metzgus, PSVP 2004-05 Jay Block 2005-06 Sally Claunch 2006-07 David Naccarato 2007-08 Catherine Koeritz By Affiliation: 1981-82 Robert L. Thornton, PDDGER 2001-02 Bill Sternberg
		*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.