



George Meehan,
Exalted Ruler



ANTLER

ANTICS

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Editor, Sally Claunch, PER

January '09

Reaching Out in Elkdom

Calling All Units...



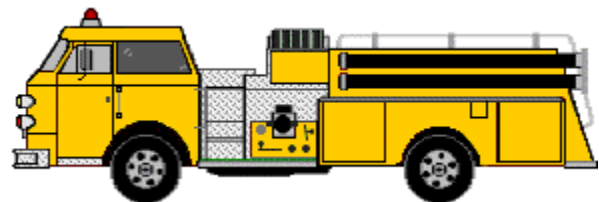
32th Law Enforcement & Firefighters
Recognition Dinner

January 21, 2009 6:30 pm Social

7 pm Chicken and Ribs Dinner \$12

8 pm Award Program

Open to--
All Elks and Guests



"Attention all personnel... " Your attendance is requested at the first ever T.O. Elks Ladies, Major Project fundraiser-----

MASH 2477 Party

Saturday, February 7, 2009

5-10 pm

\$20 pp (includes your dog tags)

Beef, Chicken, Pork, potatoes, veggies and more "mess line" style

Dance to Moon and Sol

Drawing, Games and Prizes



Tickets available from the bartenders or call

Jessica @ 805 371-4023 or

Niki @ 805 492-0212

Reserved tables available



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:

DON'T SAY NO

The year, 2008 is just about gone and I think of all that has gone on this year. We remain a very active lodge and a very charitable lodge. We continue to provide Christmas baskets for the needy look after our veterans and have them out to a brunch on the first Sunday in November, plus the monthly visits by members to the VA Hospital. The Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, the Hoop Shoot, the Christmas tree lot, the BBQ are all active. I could go on and on with all the good things we do for a lot of people. We also remember our deceased members each year as well as honoring our veterans and our flag with ceremonies.

You know, for the small building we operate from, compared to other lodge buildings, I must say that an awful lot of love comes out of our lodge. We truly are a lodge where "Elks Care and Elks Share"

In another month or so a new group of leaders from our lodge will be forming to lead us for the year 2009-2010. I would hope that if you are asked to become an officer, you will NOT say no. In order for a lodge to survive members must step forward to lead. Members who have new ideas, members who can motivate, members who can make an Elks Lodge a place where members want to be. The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is an organization that the United States of America needs! It is an organization that shows our citizens how we look out for one another, how we come together to help when disaster strikes our people, how Americans stand together to help one another, but also help the world when needed. So, if you have been inactive, become active so that you can rediscover how wonderful you will feel helping others



Marilyn Cissel and Colleen McFarlane, being honored at Memorial Service



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"
Marion"Jack" Malone**

*Born: 12/15/1923
Initiation: 7/01/1946
Died: 12/4/2008*



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

Antler Antics Ying and Yang

There is good news and bad news. The good news first--yes, color is back on all pages for copies emailed to your box. The bad news is the snail mailed copy will be all black and white. Due to computer glitches in the office, the Antler will once again be printed at Cybercopy. If you wish to receive your Antler in living color, please notify me and I will add you to the list of 132 members.

OFFICERS/HOUSE COMMITTEE MTG.

Repairs to kitchen floor have been completed. Donated TVs have been installed in Lounge. Office computers are now operating and are secure. CLEMS software has been installed and is operational. All bookkeeping can now be done in-house. A New Year's Eve party was approved with pot-luck and jukebox as food and entertainment. There will be no cost to the Lodge.

TRUSTEES REPORT

After meeting several times to review the profit and loss statements from April to December, we will be making recommendations to the Officers and House Committees on areas that need tightening .. As the nation is in a recession, so is our Lodge. Revenues from functions and attendance are down. Our spendable cash has dwindled dangerous low, perhaps making moving monies from restricted funds necessary to pay monthly bills.

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: Laura Malone and family on the passing of Jack; Raven West and family on the passing of her mother

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Our soldiers in harms way, Jeff Hathway had a brain hemorrhage

ON THE MEND: Fred Britton, Herb Jellander from surgery and John Ennis from surgery, George Meehan from an infection in his foot

REMEMBER CARDS AND CALLS ARE ALWAYS APPRECIATED!!!

COMING ATTRACTIONS



January 21- Firefighters & Peace Officers Appreciation Dinner

February 7- Elk Ladies Major Project Fundraiser

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

Our Lodge, Our "Third Place", Our CHEERS

Every day when the work is behind you, and the shop and the store put the lock on the door, Just get away where your worries won't find you, if you like, then I'll tell you more...

Sociologist Ray Oldenburg wrote "The Great Good Place," his homage to "third places" — neither work nor home — that help us get through life.

A "Third Place" frees people from "the obligations of social roles and the styles and demeanor with which those roles must be played. Here, individuals may uncork that which other situations require them to bottle up. On any given night, a motley assortment of characters gathers there to drink and talk, talk and drink. And believe me, we don't always get along. Some of the strangers there have become acquaintances, and some acquaintances have become friends.

What better depiction of what Oldenburg was describing is our very own Elks Lodge #2477?

Our Elks members are an extended family, and this Lodge is our "Third Place". Within these walls exists a sanctuary from the daily restrictions and regulations of the outside world. We come from a wide variety of backgrounds, have fierce opinions, which we can voice (as some do quite often and quite loudly!) in the safety of our own "place".

People wonder why the series "CHEERS" was such an enormous success. The writing was fair, the acting wasn't anything special, but the place where "everybody knew your name" was a location that the audience needed to return to week after week, even if it only existed on a Hollywood set.

The characters argued and voiced their opinions. They even insulted each other as part of the humor which relieved the tensions of their daily lives. And when the door of CHEERS closed every night we all knew, that no matter how cantankerous the characters were towards one another, they would be back in their bar stools the next night, because it was their "Third Place" and there was no other place like it. When the series ended, life went on, but everyone felt the loss of something very special.

Everyone except the members of Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477.

Walk into our lodge at any time of the day or night and you will be greeted by bartenders Corrine, or Joe, or Ryan, or Heather, by your first name. Your "Zima" will be served to you even before you place your order. In times of personal tragedy, you know you will receive condolences, much needed humor and stress relief. In times of community need, our members will work hard to give comfort and joy to many families who, without us, would have nothing.

It is 2009, not 1999.

We all know of the changes in our Lodge over the past few years. The laments of "I remember when", "if it ain't broke, don't fix it" and "it's always been done that way, why change?" is stagnation at its finest. Life is a one-way trip into the future, not a remorseful remembrance of the past. The times, as they say, are "a-changin'" and we must change with the times, whether we want to or not. We must adapt to the present and make plans for the future and the changes of which we have no control.

Laws are much more strictly enforced than they were a decade ago. From the IRS, to the ABC to the DWI's, the outside world intrudes on our "Third Place" home with greater restrictions on our freedoms, but we've managed to be both in compliance with the laws and accommodating to the membership in order to maintain the very best of a relaxing environment within the constraints of Grand Lodge statutes and government codes.

The task of balancing past and present is not an easy one for those at the helm. The Officers of our Lodge have the daunting task of maintaining this balance. Chair Officers, Secretary, Treasurer and Trustees are elected to manage the business side of our Lodge so that the membership is free to enjoy the benefits of our Lodge. Being an officer is not an easy job, but it is a necessary one, because no Lodge can exist without them. The paperwork is enormous. Grand Lodge rules and regulations are constantly changing and we must comply with them. Reports to the IRS and other government agencies must be sent by deadline, or we face serious

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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

QUOTE OF THE MOMENT:

Some minds are like concrete... **all mixed up and permanently set.**

Happy New Year! Hey, how was your coffee this morning? Mine was great because I made it. I bought it and I made it because I am fortunate to be able to do that. Yet there is some who are not able to have that cup of coffee, or enjoy a decent meal, even a holiday meal, let alone have a few presents for their kids. But guess what? You as Elks made this possible for 83 families this year. That's a lot. But this lodge got together and came thru for those a little less fortunate than us and put a smile on a lot of faces. There was a lot of hugs and tears and a tremendous amount of thank you's. I know because I saw a lot of it first hand by delivering. What those *people* didn't see was there was a lot of help in the background from our members who worked hard to put the whole thing together. From the setting up of the room, the building of the boxes, ordering the food, picking up the food, packing the food, wrapping the gifts, heck even supplying the gifts, to mapping out where we go. The thank you's we got also go for you! I know one thing, I am *very thankful* for all the help with this years basket program. The Pearsons, Blocks, Claunchs, Ryders, Kozlowskis, Tom Hartin, John Peterson, Big Dave Naccarato, my sons Steven & Bryan, and next month will be the names that I forgot because this is written before the event. OK, so I spoke like it just happened, but it happened that way last year and, as well as the aforementioned people have put this together, there is no reason to think it will be any different this year!

Now what does the quote of the moment have to do with all of this? Nothing!! Hey, it's the start of a new year. And with the help from those who wished they could have helped but their plate was full during the holidays, I was thinking that you know, concrete can be recycled now. All it takes is a little jack hammering to break up the permanently set mind, add more mixing and water (or alcohol) to set your mind to come down to the lodge a lot more this year and join in the fun! Man what a stretch! You know I wouldn't have to do this if everyone

participated. HAHA LOL! But I am looking forward to meeting you down here soon! (not that I live here!)

Your Lodge Serving the Community



November 13, 2008 Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 strikes a blow for literacy in the Pleasant Valley Unified District by donating 60 brand new dictionaries to all the 3rd grade students at the Camarillo Heights Elementary School which is the 5th school to be so honored believing the 'Youth of Today - Leaders of Tomorrow'.

The Dictionary Project is just one of the ways the motto 'Elks Care and Elks Share'. Making the presentation was Richard Goldner, Grand Lodge Elks Public Relations Chairman and his trusty helper Elroy, the Elks mascot who promotes Drug Awareness as an action character in Marvel Comics war on drugs.

The dictionary is also a small compendium of encyclopedia facts containing the Declaration of Independence; All our American Flags since we declared our Independence; Weights and measures; Sign language for the hearing impaired; The Presidents of the United States. Who knows that in 50 years these same dictionaries may start one of these students on the road to the White House for they are the 'Youth of Today - Leaders of Tomorrow'



Richard Goldner and Elroy performing for 3rd graders



ENTERTAINMENT

16 Karaoke
30 One Last Dance Band

Corinne Richenson
Bar Manager



Elks and Scouting Partnership

The Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477, on Sunday, November 16, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. conducted their 18th Annual Elks Flag Retirement ceremony along with their sponsoring Girl Scouts, and Cub Scouting units. It was a clear sky and mid 70 degree weather. There were over 50 members and guests in attendance.

When patriotism is rekindled in our nation and flags flown daily there is a need to retire old and worn flags respectfully. Patriotism is first and foremost with Elks also with Scouts and this is a patriotic colorful inspirational ceremony made special by their participation. The Lodge is proud to sponsor scouting and invited the public to pay their respects. The scouts proudly started the ceremony by presenting the colors. The chaplain made the invocation, and the lodge officers presented the flags to be retired. The Boy Scouts then conducted their ceremony by cutting away each stripe separately and with a patriotic message placed each one in the fire. The last act was the placement of the blue field of stars to finalize the ritual.

An ice cream social followed the ceremony.



Bill Sternberg, PER and George Meehan, Exalted Ruler properly retiring the flag

POP TAB COLLECTION



November was a great month for our Ronald McDonald pull tab donations. Thanks again to every ones generous donations. of pull tabs, especially Tom Hardin. Tom noticed that Simi Valley Elks had an overflowing box of pull tabs. I cleaned out their pull tab box, sorted, bagged and weighed them. Thanks to Tom, 244 pounds of pull tabs was added to our donations and delivered to the Ronald McDonald House. Other known contributors were Dee Swanson, Rich Herrera (Paul Revere Middle School and George Hall Middle School), Bill Von Wittenburg and Dorothy Murray (Jafra). A special Thanks to all.
Gerry Gillies



ER, George Meehan and Gerry Gillies with Rick Herrera with a small portion of Aluminum pull tabs collected for McDonald House.

SUPERBOWL SUNDAY PARTY

LEADING KNIGHT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

consequences. Reports to the District and Grand Lodge must be complete. Mid-Term and DDGER Clinics are mandatory. It is a job with no salary, no benefits, little appreciation and tons of criticism.

So, why would anyone want to be an Officer of our Lodge? For one reason, and one reason only; if there are no Officers, there is no Lodge. We lose our "Third Place" and "CHEERS" closes forever.

Let's for a moment imagine what life would be like without this Lodge. Where would the bar-b-que crew go on Saturday mornings? Where would widows go to find solace at the loss of their spouse? Where would veterans go for help and support? Where would the youth of our community go for much needed Scouting and Scholarships?

Where would you go to hang out with friends in the middle of the day to share a few drinks, conversation and enjoy the pleasures of our comfortable outdoor patio? Where would you go on Friday night to have a great dinner and listen to a live band? Where would you go on Wednesday night to enjoy the time honored ritual, hear the chimes of memory at 11:00pm and where would any of us go when a business is lost to the economy, or a home is lost to a fire, flood or earthquake, and where, in this age of impersonal "Wal-Mart" mentality, can you go where "everybody knows your name"?

Our Lodge is so much more than a structure. It is our "THIRD PLACE". Perhaps the last remaining place of its kind in our community. Our Lodge IS worth fighting for. Our Lodge IS worth all the hard work and late hours.

All of us became Elks the exact same way. Except for a few modifications, we all went through the sane ritual to become members, swore the same oath, assumed the same obligation.

It does not matter where you sit at the meetings, or what clothes you wear, or what color jewels adorn your jacket, we are ALL equal as ELKS, UNITED in the noble work to which this order is dedicated.

Being the Exalted Ruler is not a single position, it is the designation for the leader of a TEAM.

A team of officers who will take on the business side of our Lodge so that the members can enjoy the benefits. A team united with a new, clear vision for the future, not gazing at the fading memories of the past. It will be exciting. It will be challenging. It will be amazing, because we all need a "place to go" where "everybody knows your name". Our "Third Place" is Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477.

It is not 1999, it is 2009. The past is gone, the future is waiting for us.

Cheers and Happy New Year!

ELKS DICTIONARY PROJECT COMPLETED

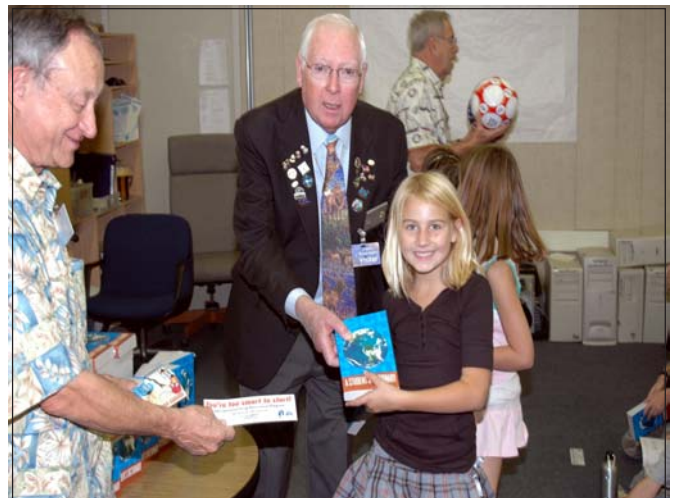
One hundred 3rd Graders were assembled at Westlake Elementary School to receive their new dictionaries for their very own from the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477. They in turn gave the Elk presenters a lesson in patriotism that was very refreshing.

At the beginning of the program the Principal started the children off with the first words to the 'Preamble to the Constitution' and they in turn recited in the sing song of children that age "We the people of the United States". Each paragraph was started by the teacher and the children in unison completed it. Elks are patriotic Americans and were elated to see this act of patriotism instilled in our children.

Also included were book marks picturing ELROY the Elk mascot with the action figures in Marvel Comics that reads 'HEROES DON'T USE DRUGS AND ALCOHOL!' and the reverse side it says 'Your too smart to start'. It is one step in the Elks Drug Awareness campaign against drugs.

Under the direction of Bill Miller, Committee Chairman and Al Hardie they demonstrated to the children the magic that is between the covers of the books and additional encyclopedia information like all the Presidents; The Flags of our country since it's beginning; Weights and measures etc.

We hope that of all the children that finds the magic between the covers one may turn out to be a published author, or even President of the United States.



Alan Hardie and George Meehan, ER with Bill Miller in the background presenting the dictionaries



Jerry Serota, Public Relations

THOUSAND OAKS ELKS LODGE #2477 HONORS HOOPSHOOT WINNERS

How do you keep kids off drugs? Answer, by keeping them busy in sports. That is why the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks sponsors athletic programs like the basketball Hoopshoot and the soccer Shootout tournaments in their commitment to keep kids off drugs.

On Sunday, November 23rd, the T.O. Elks Lodge 2477 honored young athletes and their parents with a luncheon buffet and presented them with Elk basketballs and individual trophies.

Making the presentation was David Naccarato, PER, Hoopshoot Chairman and George Meehan, ER L-R Kali Brown, Lexi Brown, Kierra Landon, Jack Boyd, Jordan Pancer, Jake Miller, Dalton Kebely and Emily Hoffman.



The call was sent out and the message was clear. In this time of recession when jobs are vanishing and families are rejoining the folks for survival the need for assistance is loud and clear. That is why the Elks El Konejo Kampers have donated \$1,000 to the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 Christmas Basket program.

So far we have had requests from over 80 families this year. Over \$5,000 needs to be generated to meet this need. Each family will receive a turkey, staples of vegetables, milk, eggs and each child will receive at least one new toy.



The Elks Christmas Tree lot opened on December 3rd and will remain open until December 20th. Thanks to the generosity of our members and to Carlson's Building Materials, located on Thousand Oaks Blvd., near Erbes Road, for allowing us to use their facility to raise monies for our various charities-scouts, veterans, scholarship.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

El Konejo Kampers AND ALL MEMBERS

for your generous donations to the Christmas Basket Program

**COMING SOON
LEGENDS
IN CONCERT
ON BROADWAY**

*SHOW ME MEN OF SPIRIT
AND ELKS COME TO THE FOREFRONT*



(L-R) Dwight Williams, Al Lenahan, Terry Baker, Bill Sternberg, Max Maxwell, Bill Dyer, Jerry Gillies, Jim Mullen, Jim Anderson, Ben Rieger, Grant Thistle, and Herb Jellander at home resting from surgery

ELK LADIES TREE TRIMMING & MEMORIAL SERVICE



WELCOME ABOARD OUR NEW MEMBERS



Donald Rue with Exalted Ruler, George Meehan standing in for sponsor Pete Jackson



Paul and Kira Wagner with sponsor Rick Herrera



**Pat VonWittenberg
Konejo Kampers**

TURKEY FEST - NOVEMBER AT KENNEY GROVE

The Ericksons have retired again - - for real this time. As always, Joel and Beverly did an incredible job and our heartfelt "THANKS" for the many years of handling this happening. After surviving the campout with their refrigerator on the blink, all was handled, if not easily, smoothly.

But never fear, the tradition will continue with the "Chain Gang" taking over the chore. The Drakes, Collerans, LaFarrs and Kudra (I think) will be taking on this task.

Although this campout is always, in my opinion, one of the best of the year, the attendance was down dramatically. We had only 22 rigs, but nonetheless, had an outstanding time and as usual the food - well, what can I say? If you walk away hungry, ya just weren't paying attention.

We had TWO very exciting events! First, Gene Ewald returned for a visit and as many know he's now allegedly living in Red River, New Mexico. I'll explain "allegedly" in a bit. For months, some of us have been receiving his emails, pictures, etc. The most interesting being that although he had sworn off "women", he had found a lovely lady with whom he had become quite smitten. A few of us had "concerns" BUT when (his) Pam was closely scrutinized by the group (we're very protective of our Gene), we found her to be an absolute jewel. Poor gal had never been exposed to a group like ours but decided we were pretty darned great too. There were more than a few teary eyes when observing this loving, delightfully happy couple. SO DESERVED!

Pam has a home in Dallas and winters there, but spends summers, acting as one of the camp hosts at Red River. Her mobile is next door to Gene's and to hear the story of their budding romance had us nearly on the ground laughing. This budding romance will culminate in a wedding in Red River on June 6, 2009. We've all been invited and a number of us will be attending. Congratulations and much love to you two.

The second event was the attendance at the campout of the Kudra's daughter and son-in-law, Kim and Mark Rediger. Kim absolutely LOVES camping and is about as enthusiastic as a young woman can be, what an absolutely charming, delightful gal (cute too). Mark is a bit more reserved, but still charming AND his application to become a Lodge member is already in the works and then members of the Kampers. Is this the



first time we've had two generations as Kamper members? ? ? How cool is this! Guess they don't find old fat people a turn off (giggle - and inside joke:-).

We were all pleased when Walt Ogden reported that John Ennis is doing well after a rather scary period of time. If I understand correctly the Ennis' daughter did some research on line, finding that his previous doctor who had diagnosed and treated him some time ago is back in the area and is caring for John again. Our prayers for continued healing are with you John.

Lo and behold, some Kampers I vaguely recall showed up for this campout. Yup, Catherine and Robert Koertz and Toni and Pat Hartin. I thought for sure my tired ole eyes were deceiving me, but there they were in the flesh! Very nice to have you people back, hope to see you more often.

When the group is this size, it is nearly impossible to appoint a Sheriff to deal out fines. Although Beverly didn't think her rhyme wasn't as clever as some in the past, she did extremely well and just fined us all rather than one by one.

The Ogdens won the 50/50 and the usual last raffle draw for a campout, this time was for two tickets to the Brunch, won by the Drakes.

Pat and Jay Peterson dropped in for dinner. Pat made an awesome cake for dessert. When I whined about not having had a piece, begrudgingly (tease) Jay went to the car and brought back two sizeable pieces for Bill and me. Thank you Jay, you're really not the grump you often portray. Thankfully, Pat is recovering well from her recent surgery and it was good to see her out and about, looking very well in deed.

Dang, the Flannerys, Chiszars and Millers were on the upper level. I did not observe or hear of any of their late night capers which are usually the norm when those three gals get together. Ya tired or something?

All in all, it was a very good campout. Thanks to all of you for coming and especially the crew who helped set up and clean up.

Upcoming Campouts

January 9-10-Valencia Travel
February 13-15- California RV Acton
March 13-14 -Newport Dunes



visit the website:

<http://elkonejokampers.oaksdata.com>

to join call Bev Erickson 495-9715



Dave Nacaarato, PER

OUR HISTORY

Last month I told you how we got to the location of our lodge. This month I will include some dates of interest:

FEBRUARY 12, 1972- The first Thousand Oaks Elks Sweetheart Ball was held at the Los Posas Country Club in Camarillo. 175 people attended. We haven't had attendance like that for a long time.

FEBRUARY 16TH, 1972-It was Piggybank Night. Purple pigs yielded \$376.45 for first Major Project March.

MARCH 25, 1972-It was the Institution of the Thousand Oaks Elks lodge # 2477 at Thousand Oaks High School with a dinner and dance at Oxnard Lodge which cost \$3.00 per person.

APRIL 1, 1972- Marvin D. Smith became first Exalted Ruler of Thousand Oaks.

MAY 1972 -Thousand Oaks Lodge officers entered their first West Central Coast District Ritual Contest

SEPTEMBER 2, 1972- It was the first annual luau which cost \$7.50 per person.

NOVEMBER 18, 1972 First annual Charity Ball at the Holiday Inn was held which cost \$8.00 pp.

DECEMBER 1972- First Thousand Oaks Elks Christmas food baskets were distributed to community needy.

JANUARY 19, 1973, Dick Lewis announced as first Elk Of the year

MARCH 1ST 1973- Exalted Ruler, elect Marvin Smith, sent letters to all members asking them to come and vote on the purchase of former Lutheran Church property at 158 Conejo School Road.

APRIL 1, 1973- Erle "Doc" Pittman was installed as 2nd Exalted Ruler



Our own Beau Anderson, Pearl Harbor survivor, featured in the Star on December 7, 2008 and celebrating his 89th birthday at the Lodge with cake and friends.

2008 LAW ENFORCEMENT AND FIREFIGHTER APPRECIATION NIGHT

On Wednesday, January 21, 2009, at 8:00 p.m., the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge will conduct the 32nd annual law enforcement and firefighters recognition program for 2008. The geographic area for membership of the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge includes Newbury Park, Thousand Oaks, Westlake Village, Oak Park, Agoura Hills and Hidden Valley.

This area is served by peace officers of the Ventura County Sheriff's Department, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, and the California Highway Patrol (Moorpark area office and West Valley area office). Attending the program to assist in the presentation of the Four (4) peace officer awards will be Ventura County Sheriff Bob Brooks; Los Angeles County Malibu/Lost Hills Sheriff's Station Captain, Thomas G. Martin; Moorpark Area Highway Patrol, Captain, Cliff Williams; and Los Angeles County/West Valley Highway Patrol Captain Jeff Goodwin.

Our area is served by firefighters of the Ventura County Fire Protection District and Los Angeles County Fire Department. Attending the program to assist in the presentation of the two (2) firefighter awards will be Ventura County Fire Chief Bob Roper and Los Angeles County Assistant Fire Chief Joseph Graham.

At our recognition program, a plaque will be presented to a person from each of the six (6) agencies in recognition of their service to our community. The individual peace officers and firefighters selected for recognition have made outstanding contributions to the geographic area served by our Elks Lodge during 2008.

The County of Ventura and the City of Thousand Oaks will also present awards to each of the peace officers and firefighters. The presentations will be made by Supervisor Linda Parks and by the Mayor of Thousand Oaks. In addition presentations by Elton Gallegly, on behalf of the House of Representatives, 24th District, of the U.S. Congress, assisted by District Chief of Staff Brian Miller.

The evening is open to the public. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a no-host social period in the Elks Lodge Lounge Area. At 7:00 p.m. there will be a BBQ Ribs and Chicken dinner for \$12 per person followed by the presentation of awards at 8:00 p.m. in the Elks Lodge Meeting Room. The Lodge is located at 158 Conejo School Road, Thousand Oaks, Ventura County, California. For more information call Crystal Dool at (805) 495-0624.

Bring your family and friends to this program for an evening of social enjoyment, good food, and community service.

Submitted by: SCOTT F. DOOL, Chairman

Law Enforcement and Firefighter

Elks Appreciation Committee

(805)495-0624

2008-09 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

**LECTURING KNIGHT
Greg Metzgus, PSVP**

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



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

This may be the start of a new year for the rest of the world but for Elks it is the start of the last quarter of the lodge year. We have gone through a major lodge accounting transition and with the help of our office staff we now have the ability to do everything financially in-house. This doesn't mean we don't need an accountant, we will still have our quarterly/year end paperwork and returns done by a qualified accountant but we can now process checks and payroll ourselves, something we haven't been able to do since I have been a member here.

Our lodge has also joined the ranks of most of the rest of the lodges in the country and converted our membership data over to CLEMS. That is an acronym for Chicago Lodge Elks Management System. With this new system we will be better equipped to communicate with the Grand Lodge and our communication will be in a standard format. Thank you Bob and Carol Saynay for bringing us into compliance (with a little help from Lance Erickson, PER from Atascadero Lodge).

Our lodge will be going through another leadership change soon. Here is a chance for members to become involved with the management and operation of our lodge. It is one thing to criticize how something is being done or an officer, it is another to step up to the plate and serve. This lodge does not run itself. Everyone's support is needed. Our BBQ people, our cooks and our Tree Lot members are doing a fantastic job of raising funds for our various charities and needs. What is needed is a strong management team to govern over those funds and the running of this lodge.

Next month the PERs will be conducting the initiation. The following month your new staff of officers will perform. Please plan on attending one or both of these meetings to lend support to these fine Elks. And while I am on the subject of meeting attendance, try to attend at least one meeting a month to keep up on what is happening at our lodge currently. As I have stated before, second hand information passed around the lounge is not always 100% accurate. I know it is hard to believe.

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. This campaign will end in July of 1009. There are additional cans available for placement in local businesses. See me if you would like to work with this program.

An open letter to my brothers and Sisters

As many of you are aware, on Friday, November 14th, the homes of my brother-in-law, Mr. Ned Shanks his wife, Rosemary, their daughter's family and Rosemary's father, Mr. Bud Bergseth were all destroyed in the Sayre fire in foothills that surround Sylmar, California. More than eleven thousand acres burned in winds that reached seventy plus miles an hour. Approximately four hundred and eighty mobile homes in the Oakview Park burned. Roy Cooper's son John also lost his home, as did the daughter of a close friend of my wife. Our family members are doing well under the circumstance. Fortunately all three families owned motor homes and are adjusting to living in them. Tears shed over the loss of treasured possessions, antiques some of which were six generations old, Ned's beautifully restored 1948 Chevrolet coupe, photo albums and the little things we keep to remind us of happy times. Their lives are slowly getting back to some degree of normalcy. The generosity of my fellow Elk brothers and sisters has been a heart warming and humbling experience. For those of you that held our family members in their hearts and prayers and for those of you that so generously donated clothing and money, thank you. DaraLynn and Max Maxwell

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


“IT’S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS...”


It’s the early morning hours of Wednesday and the Elks Ladies Christmas dinner only ended a few hours ago leaving only vivid and wonderful memories. Tom Ryder is such a wonderful man to work with and provides a lovely presentation and gastronomically perfect dinner. Along with Chet Kozlowski and Mr. Robertson, they did an outstanding job. The comments I heard about the salmon were heavenly though I opted for the prime rib this year as I had the salmon last year and was envious of the beef – oh, I just can’t win, it is all too delicious! The Lodge room looked like a magical place thanks to the Blocks and the Bookers. Thank you guys. And the tables – well, words are inadequate to describe how festive and cheerful it all looked. A big thanks to all the ladies that worked so hard on the tables. Didn’t the new centerpieces look divine? You just had to be there. The piano music and the games just added to the merriment. Thank you Carol Fredericks and Patty Feeney. The Westlake HS chorus and their angelic voices were so well received; I’d recommend them for just about any function. What a way to get into the spirit! Of course all the finest ladies from our lodge attended, bedecked in their holiday finery and sporting vibrant colors of the season, making this the social event of the year! If you missed it for any reason, mark your calendar now for next year.

PS Marva’s Christmas topiary type table decorations are missing. If you have them or know where they are, please let either Marva or I know. She’d like them back.

M.A.S.H. COMES TO THE 2477TH

Hot Lips Houlihan, Hawkeye Pierce, Radar O’Reilly, Father Mulcahy along with Sister Teresa from the orphanage will be up to their old (new) antics on Saturday, February 7th at a whole new time – 5 – 10 pm. That’s right, we’re starting earlier, so you early birds have no excuse not to join in the debauchery. If you ever saw the TV show you know this is a crazy bunch of Army misfit surgeons and others who make life in Korea

| | |
|---|---|
|  | 15 Darlene Stogsdell 18 Carol Fredericks 18 Carole Saynay 22 Alice Wagner 27 Sheila Aitken 27 Elaine Goldner |
|---|---|

| | |
|--|---|
| ELKSLADIES CHRISTMAS DINNER | |
|  | We celebrate each year, dear Lord, Elks Ladies and friends this joyful season. You bless us with togetherness, Which fills our hearts with grateful reason. Our officers, their plans, decorations and food, The servers and cooks all give their best. Tonight’s for us to just enjoy. And know each one of us is blessed To put all problems and pettiness aside Be thankful for each day we live This Christmas program here tonight More praise to your, our God, we give. Amen |
| Marilyn Cissell | |

bearable with their practical jokes and the STILL! This event is not like any you’ve attended in the past. Watch Elks Lodge 2477 transform into MASH 2477 complete with realistic props. All the ladies are working very hard to make this a success, as it will be our only big fundraiser in 2009 as there will be no CVD gates revenue. Tickets for the gift baskets to be raffled off will be sold at the Friday night dinners – volunteer to sell and be sure to buy lots of your own tickets. Support your group, your Lodge and your Major Project charities. Your \$20 entry ticket includes food, dancing to the band of Moon and Sol, some zany entertainment and military dog tags. Dress up or not – it’s up to you. Ideas can be found by watching MASH on TVLand or Hallmark channels. Until next month, I wish you the best of the season and hope all your dreams come true.
 Sincerely,
 Jessica Stull, President

HONOR ROLL

A COIN A DAY



Greg Metzgus, PSVP
 Max Maxwell
 Terry Gicking
 Robert Jones
 Kiren Spreights
 Dave Anderson
 David Naccarato, PER



January Birthdays

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 5 Chuck Morsa | 10 Dale Iddings | 20 Denise Brady |
| 8 David McFarlane | 11 Jim Bodenhamer | Heather Maddox |
| David Pearson | Jack Murray | Bill Sternberg, PER |
| Chris Prince | Ron Schwartz | 22 John Quinn |
| 9 Tom Heller | 13 John Michael | 24 Peter Gordon |
| Hubert Ofer | Jon Preston | 27 Cheryl Templeton |
| | 14 Stephen Pence | 28 Ted Radabaugh |
| | 15 Tommy Claunch-love u | 30 William White |
| | Lou Mages | |
| | Mike Markey | |
| | 17 Leo Lambert | |
| | 18 Tony Gomes | |
| | Larry Savokinas, Sr. | |
| | Sterling Wetzsteon | |

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

January 14, 2009

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
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CRYING TOWEL



- | | | | |
|----------|-------|-----------|----------------|
| 11/5/08 | \$175 | #174 | Jan King |
| Lucky 13 | | No Winner | |
| 11/12/08 | \$200 | #552 | Doug Routh |
| Lucky 13 | | No Winner | |
| 11/19/08 | \$225 | #2022 | Dave McFarlane |
| Lucky 13 | | No Winner | |

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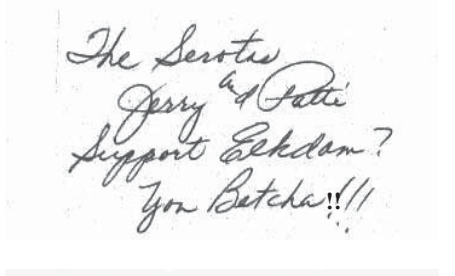










Drop off at Wed. meetings
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Thanks-
Rich Herrera
Scholarship Chair.

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CHAPLAIN - Rick Herrera
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ORGANIST - Kirin Spreights
OFFICER AT LARGE - David Naccarato, PER

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Tom Hartin 2 Year
Bill Sternberg, PER 3 Year
David Stull 4 Year
Steve Smith 5 Year

PAST EXALTED RULERS

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| 1972-73 *Marvin D. Smith | 1998-99 Chet Kozlowski |
| 1973-74 Erle Pittman, PDDGER | 1999-00 Richard Goldner, PDDGER |
| 1974-75 Richard Flake | 2000-01 Jacob Panczak |
| 1975-76 Bill Wagner | 2001-02 John D'Ambrogio |
| 1976-77 John E. Henry | 2002-03 Don Booker |
| 1977-78 *Robert McKee, PDDGER | 2003-04 Greg Metzgas, 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.