



Exalted Ruler
Steve Smith

ANTLER ANTICS

Vol 41, No. 9

Editor, Sally Claunch, PER December '11

New York City New Year's Eve



T.O. Elks Lodge December 31, 2011
\$30 per person includes dinner, champagne toast
and party favors

5:30 pm - Appetizers and Social Hour
6:30 pm Dinner
Champagne Toast at NY Midnight (9 pm)

Dancing with Music for your pleasure by One Last Dance



Menu - By Boyd Lindquist and Crew
Appetizers
Cream Soup
Filet Mignon with Béarnaise Sauce or
Baked Chicken
Rosemary Potatoes, Veggies,
Dessert
N.Y. Cheese Cake



Tickets on sale behind the bar. For more information contact
Jessica at 805 371-4023 or Kathy at 805 388-6025



EXALTED RULER

Steve Smith



In my article last month I made reference to the Moose. The reference was clearly inappropriate and not well thought out. I regret any displeasure this may have caused members of Moose International and any embarrassment this may have caused members of our lodge. Both the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and Moose International strive as partners in serving their local communities. Many members of our lodge are likewise members of Moose lodges. For me to have suggested there is some disparity in the dignity and honor of members between our Orders was wrong.

For those of you who have not heard, I have appointed a new Lodge Activities Chairman. He is a member of the El Konejo Kampers, recently retired, an enthusiastic member with a host of ideas intended to attract members to the lodge for fun and games, and his name is Jim Moye. Jim has recently expressed his thoughts on lodge activities and has eagerly stepped up to fill a position that has been vacant for several months. I believe he will be a proactive Chairman with the ability to rally several other members to assist him in his efforts. Thank you Jim.

Volunteerism. Typically the only way a lodge can survive is with volunteers. Not just a ten percent member involvement, but by the entire membership. How healthy would your doctor say you were if he discovered your heart was beating at only ten percent of its capacity? Many members ask, "What can I do?" or say "They don't need me." I can assure you we do need you and there is always something you can do. The saying "By everyone doing a little, we can accomplish a lot" is so true. For our lodge to make a significant footprint in our community it takes (to coin a phrase) boots on the ground. Please, if you are not involved now, contact the office, an officer or team leader and I assure you we will find something for you to do. Your help will always be appreciated.

To our recently initiated members and those who have yet to be involved, take the opportunity to experience the joy of volunteering by assisting in the delivery of our charity baskets. It is truly a fulfilling experience.

As it turns out, the holidays being on the weekend and the charity basket project being on the week of the house committee meeting, we will not have to cancel any of our regularly scheduled meetings. This could well be one of the first productive Decembers we've had in a long time. I hope you will make an effort to attend all three meetings and be involved in the business of your lodge.

And now I would like to remind you that somewhere in a distant and foreign land far away from home amidst treacherous conditions and without complaint sits a soldier, who *volunteered* to defend our way of life, our comforts and our liberty. Merry Christmas and Happy Chanukah to you all.

Remember *Elks Care, Elks Share*



LEADING KNIGHT

Leo Rodriguez



Well we have all gotten through most of the 2011 year, and are now into the holiday season. As we come closer to the end of this year, we get very busy as our Annual Christmas Basket Program is approaching very quickly!

Before I get too far into talking about the baskets, I must mention our Charity Ball. This year was a Black and White Affair and was a fantastic event! It was so great to see such a great turn out of members. It is always nice to see members come to the Lodge whom we haven't seen in a while. I can say with confidence that everyone who attended the Ball had a wonderful evening all around. This didn't happen by accident and Lynn and I want to extend our appreciation and thanks to everyone that worked very hard and gave a lot of their time and effort making that evening such a success! We could never have pulled it off without each and every one of you. I hope that I am not forgetting to mention anyone, but I apologize if I do, so here we go: The 11 Baskets that were raffled off were done by none other than Sharon Baker and help from Lynn and Carol Stewart. Other Door Prizes and things donated to include in some of the baskets were donated by Bill and Flo Lloyd, Stan Carlton, Nydia Williams, Carol Stewart, and Dorothy Murray. As usual, the Elks Ladies came out in full force with their planning, organization and ideas, decorating the Lodge and appetizers for the Cocktail Hour. These ladies were awesome and are always there to help with any Lodge events that they are asked to help out with. Angie Prizzi, Sharon Baker, Jessica Stull, Cornelia Meehan, Madeleine Brockwell, and June Leadam. Kathy Ryder for her input and guidance even though she and Tom missed out! Crystal Dool for helping with the preparation of decorations and overall making sure that nothing was overlooked and was a big help with the raffle and dinner tickets, table assignments and greeting our guests. Coleen Morris as always arranged for her fabulous cake, hard to believe she outdoes herself every time, but this one will be hard to top! She had the cake decorated to exactly match the decorations used for the party! There were a few of us guys that had no way of getting away without helping out. Thanks to Dan Martyn, Abe Gamble, Bob Arbetman, Don Booker and George Meehan. Karen and David, thank you guys for all your direction and information you provided to us and for putting up with your daily visits or calls from Lynn Rodriguez.

Last, but certainly not the least, Barbara Booker who was there from the very beginning until the very last decoration was put away. She and Lynn had taken over my home and were doing one thing or another in the evenings, and I even thought for a moment

Continued on page 4



LOYAL KNIGHT
Terry Gicking, PER
 appointed



ANEWELKTRADITION

As the holidays approach, the giant foreign factories are kicking into high gear to provide Americans with monstrous piles of cheaply produced goods — merchandise that has been produced at the expense of American labor. This year SHOULD BE different. This year we as Elks can give the gift of genuine concern for other Americans. There is no longer an excuse that, at gift giving time, nothing can be found that is produced by American hands. Yes there is! It's time for Elks to think outside the box. Who says a gift needs to fit in a shirt box, wrapped in Chinese produced wrapping paper? Everyone — yes EVERYONE gets their hair cut. How about gift certificates from your local American hair salon or barber? Gym membership? It's appropriate for all ages who are thinking about some health improvement. Who wouldn't appreciate getting their car detailed? Small, American owned detail shops and car washes would love to sell you a gift certificate or a book of gift certificates. Are you one of those extravagant givers who think nothing of plunking down the Benjamin's on a foreign made flat-screen? Perhaps that grateful gift receiver would like his driveway sealed, or lawn mowed for the summer, or driveway plowed all winter, or games at the local golf course. There are a bazillion owner-run restaurants — all offering gift certificates. And, if your intended isn't the fancy eatery sort, what about a half dozen breakfasts at the local breakfast joint. Remember, folks this isn't about big National chains — this is about supporting your home town Americans with their financial lives on the line to keep their doors open. How many people couldn't use an oil change for their car, truck or motorcycle, done at a shop run by the American working guy? Thinking about a heartfelt gift for mom? Mom would LOVE the services of a local cleaning lady for a day. My computer could use a tune-up, and I KNOW I can find some young guy who is struggling to get his repair business up and running.

OK, you were looking for something more personal. Local crafts people spin their own wool and knit them into scarves. They make jewelry, and pottery and beautiful wooden boxes. Plan your holiday outings at local, owner operated restaurants and leave your server a nice tip. And, how about going out to see a play or ballet at your home-town theatre. Musicians need love too, so find a venue showcasing local bands. Honestly, people, do you REALLY need to buy another ten thousand foreign made lights for the house? When you buy a five dollar string of light, about fifty cents stays in the community. If you have those kinds of bucks to burn, leave the mailman, trash guy or babysitter a nice BIG tip. You see, by doing this, Christ-



LECTURING KNIGHT

Robert Jones



mas is no longer about draining American pockets so that China can build another glittering city. Christmas is now about caring about US, encouraging American small businesses to keep plugging away to follow their dreams. And, when we, as Elks, care about other Americans, Elks show they care about our communities, and the benefits come back to us in ways we couldn't imagine. Heck, Try it out at YOUR Elks lodge. There is no political agenda behind what I type here. This is what we as American citizens can do to help. THIS can be the new American Elks Christmas tradition. Won't you join me?

Leading Knight continued from page 3

that she had left Don and moved into our house!! Barbara, I thank you for helping Lynn and keeping her as sane as she can be throughout this process. Once again Lynn and I thank everyone and want you to know that each of you is very much appreciated.

Now, with that being said, I am once again asking for any and all of you, (our Seasoned and our New Members) to volunteer during anytime no matter how much time you can do, or what tasks you are able to do in the preparation for the Christmas Baskets. As most of you know, from all the years in the past, the amount of time, manpower and effort that goes into making this program happen, and most of all we all have to work together.

This year we will be starting the actual assembling of the boxes on Monday December 12th and work all the way through to Saturday the 17th when the last basket is delivered.

There will be sign-up sheets in the Lodge for all the different times and tasks we will need to be covered. Just remember that your help with this program is not only appreciated by the Lodge, but even more so by our community and the families who are in so much need of our assistance!

I wish you all a safe and wonderful Holiday and hope to see you at the New Year's Eve Party and bring in the New Year at the Lodge.



Collection bin in the lounge
 awaits your donations for
MANNA

Our plea did not fall on deaf ears. Magically a 12 pack of tuna, 6 pack of chicken noodle soup, 8 pack of tomato bisque, bag of rice, can of sweet peas. Whoever the benefactor or benefactors are on behalf of Manna it is appreciated. We now have from Manna tax deductible receipts on request

Again we thank you for opening up your ears and your hearts to the needy.



LODGERENOVATIONS

MORE GOOD NEWS! Our ladies bathroom is under construction and, by the time this Antler is published, this project should be complete or nearly complete, depending on the timing for delivery of a few remaining fixtures and the city inspector's schedule.

Our Halloween party was a success, raising enough to pay for some needed bathroom fixtures. Many thanks to Lynn and the Lady Elks who helped with the decorations as well as JB, Chris and Faye for their efforts in the kitchen. Costume prizes went to Bev Reis, Leslie Donovan, Barbara Metzgs and Greg Metzgs. Special thanks to Colleen Morris for her generous donation of \$500 to the bathroom fund.

As we complete the ladies bathroom phase of our renovation project, we are now planning to renovate the Lodge room and ante room. We expect to submit our Lodge room renovation plan to the Officers at the December Officers' meeting. Our goal will be to complete the renovation of the Lodge room by January 31, 2012.

Finally, if you have not yet purchased a ticket for the Caribe Club Princess Resort raffle sponsored by the Thousand Oaks PERs, please consider doing so as all proceeds go toward Lodge renovations. For details and to buy raffle tickets, see any PER.

As always, members' comments and suggestions are welcome, so please feel free to share your ideas with any Renovation Committee member. Stay tuned, more to come.

Dan Martyn
Lodge Renovation Committee Chair

Committee Members:

Terry Gicking	Steve Finnerty
David Nacarrato	Donna Leary
Boyd Lindquist	Sharon Baker
Abe Gamble	Tom Ryder



Renovations Chair, Dan Martyn, overseeing the project



Ring in the New Year New York Style

By Jessica Stull



Although I had my misgivings when I first received the phone call asking if I would coordinate the Lodge's New Year's Eve party, I'm here to report that all that is behind me now and I'm so excited. The first call I made before agreeing was to Kathy Moye to ask her to be my assistant (partner if you will). Anyone who knows Kathy knows she is a hard working can-do person with a positive attitude and that ever cheerful smile.

The band had long ago been booked so the next issue was a theme. I've heard complaints from some, that midnight is just too late to stay up, so we decided to do it New York style – meaning 9 pm here on the west coast. Kathy and I laughed as we talked about toasting twice since we will still have a California midnight.

With the bad economy and all, we think you will appreciate this mini vacation to New York. I'm serious, you'll think you crossed the country when you see what we have in store for you. But of course it isn't a party without you! That's step one – buy your tickets by **December 23rd**. Tickets are **\$30 each** but that is a bargain if you start checking around town, and in NY they are ten times that much. With all you have on your plate during this holiday season, don't forget about yourself – you need time to have fun and de-stress from all the holiday worries.

Now I'm famous for going on a diet at the beginning of each new year as many of you do. Why not have one last hurrah in that area too. Boyd Lindquist is a brilliant cook and he has such amazing things in store from his Prime filet mignon (okay, there is chicken for those of you who refuse to eat beef), with magnificent side dishes and what else but New York Cheesecake West Coast Style. What's that you say? You'll just have to come and find out.

The beautiful people of NY go to parties to see whose there and to be seen, and we're no exception. Of course they've all been invited. Wait until you see who will be showing up at this party! People so famous, we can't mention their names as the paparazzi would steamroll us.

"I haven't a thing to wear ..." oh yea, taken care of that one too. You can wear anything you think a New York partygoer would wear – long, short, coat (or not), tie (or not). And if that still doesn't suit you, come as a sports fan. New York has so many teams – Giants, Yankees, Knicks, Jets and so many more. Throw on a Jersey (not New Jersey, the shirt type) and root for the home team.

Bring your party spirit and join your friends for a memorable evening at your Lodge. Look out 2012 – **HERE WE COME.**

COMING ATTRACTIONS



- December 3- Tree Trimming and Children's Christmas Party
- December 4-Elks Memorial Service
- December 6- Elk Ladies Christmas Party
- December 9- ER Christmas Party
- December 10- Christmas arrangement class
- December 11- Kampers Brunch Grand Vista Hotel
- December 12-17- Charity Baskets w/Saturday delivery
- December 31- New Year's Eve Party

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

Coleen Morris-Chair
805-241-8928

OUR CONDOLENCES TO: the family of John Kelly, PER on his passing

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Our Armed Forces and their families who keep us free; Marva D,' Ambrogio

ON THE MEND: Joan Roper from a mild heart attack, Don Ansell, PER, aftrter open heart surgery, Chet Kozlowski, PER from carpel tunnel surgery, Flo Lloyd and Grace Wallace are making progress in rehab, Karen Martyn from knee surgery



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"

John Kelly

DOB 11/17/1924
 Intiated 1/28/1976
 Died 11/7/2011

ENTERTAINMENT



December 2 One last Dance

Pull Tab Collection

Thanks everyone for your continuing support of the Ronald McDonald House pull tab program. A special thanks goes to Jim Wiens, three large bags of tabs and Dorothy (big mama) Murray. Remember to keep collecting pull tabs and toiletries for the children at the Ronald McDonald Houses.



ELKSCARE-ELKSHARE



Attention an members of 1 thousand Oaks Lodge #2477

Unfortunately, for far too long, House Rule #24 has been ignored by too many members. This has placed an undue burden on cash flow and proper accounting management.

Effective immediately, House Rule #24 will be strictly enforced. We expect full compliance and courtesy with the bar staff with regard to this issue.

House Rule #24 reads as follows:

- 24. *All bar credit must be paid in full before the member leaves the clubroom and no further credit will be extended until payment in full is made.*

Thank you in advance for your cooperation, understanding and support.

Respectfully,
Your House Committee

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENT CLASS



PRESENTED BY RICK HERRERA

DECEMBER 10TH
 10 AM-11:59 AM
 \$10 FOR MATERIALS

THIS PROJECT WILL HAVE A CANDLE, LEATHERY LEAF PIONSETTA LEAVES, CANES, AND ANYTHING ELSE YOU BRING IE. SANTA FIGURINES

**OPERATION FACELIFT**

Tom Ryder ~ PDDGER

“OPERATION FACELIFT” is alive and gaining momentum. Its projects are picking up speed, all for the good of the Lodge.

Funding for Operation Facelift for the most part comes from fundraisers, the Elks Ladies Organization, the Past Exalted Rulers Association, the El Konejo Kampers and donations from individual members. Funds are running low but projects are continuing with funds available. Some funding has been provided from lodge maintenance funds.

PROJECT GREENUP

Lights remain to be installed. With the last rain the area is already starting to look better. PERs donated funds for lighting

OUTSIDE LODGE GROUNDS LIGHTING

Installation of lighting in the dark areas next to the Office Building and along the fence next to the rental house is in progress. Approved/Funded

LOBBY ENTRANCE ROOF

New larger roof over front Lobby entrance to replace small roof there.. Will provide larger covered area over Lobby door and back double doors going into lodge room for private party use. Will also provide coverage to existing picnic area. Approved/Funded.

BBQ PICNIC AREA GATE and FENCE

A project already approved is to make the picnic area more private! Plans and funds for the privacy fencing and gates is in place. Approved/Funded.

**GRUNTS - NEED MORE GRUNTS
PLEASE GET INVOLVED****FACELIFT/RENOVATION PROJECTS BEING
CONSIDERED**

Lodge Room – New floor, paint up and fix up and update

Lobby – Paint up, fix up and update

Kitchen – Expand kitchen area to include old ladies room and janitors' room. Relocate serving window. Old janitors room will become secure kitchen supplies storage area.

BBQ Room – Back storage room conversion into total BBQ support area including all BBQ refrigerators and freezers. Install outside access door for ease of movement of BBQ supplies.

Bar – Paint up, fix up and update

All Projects are reviewed and approved prior to start by the Officers and House Committee and the Trustees.

Volunteers/Grunts

Your lodge is in need of volunteers. If you have some free time, consider lending a hand at an upcoming event or project. Contact the office, any officer or me to volunteer.

There is something for Everyone to help with. Its your lodge ~
Volunteer ~ Talk To An Officer or me (805-497-1853)!!



The California-Hawaii Elks Association (CHEA) Mid Term 2011 Convention is over. At the ENF dinner Saturday night, CHEA's 19 Districts contributed \$466,742 from the California-Hawaii Elks Association 175 Lodges. Thousand Oaks lodge contributed \$991 of the \$50,562 donated by the West Central Coast's 12 lodges. There is a little more in the submittal cycle but we need more to meet the Grand Exalted Ruler's \$4.50 per capita goal.

Let's do some calculating! When our lodge reaches a per capita of \$4.50, approximately \$1,830, we can get a Gratitude Grant of \$2,000 just for asking! We will also be eligible to request a promise Grant of \$2,000 and a Lodge Assistance Grant of \$2,000. That adds up to \$6,000! Pretty good for a donation of \$1,830! The Lodge can use these grants for some of our youth activities and community projects. Please help our lodge get to \$1,830 or even more!

Scholarship Deadlines: Most Valuable Student scholarship applications, available to any high school senior who is a U.S. citizen, are due on December 2, 2011, to the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge office.

Emergency Education Grants: ENF scholarships for Elks families are also available. Emergency Education Grants, for college-aged children of deceased or totally disabled Elks, are due by December 31.

Legacy Awards Scholarships: Legacy Awards Scholarship applications, for high school seniors who are children or grandchildren of dues-paying members, must be submitted online on or before February 1, 2012.

Tom Ryder, PDDGER

TAX DEADLINE: In order to get a tax break for your charitable donations in 2011, all contributions must be in the Grand Lodge ENF office on or before December 31. Get them to the lodge earlier.

Go online at www.elks.org and check under ENF for available Scholarships and requirements for your children or grandchildren! If you can not go on line, call the lodge, leave your name and someone in the know will get back to you.

ELKS NATIONAL VETERANS
SERVICE COMMISSION



Carl Lanterman

Veterans Services Chair.

Here we are at the end of the calendar year. This is the third quarter of the Elks year and November is Veterans Month.

We finished October with a bang at Black Angus in Northridge with 14 veterans from the Sepulveda VA and a total of 27, including caregivers and 5 Elks. November is a big month with a fundraiser on the 12th, the annual brunch on the 20th, bingo on the 18th and karaoke on the 24th. In December, I would like to take something special to the VA vets. We do not do the bingo in December, but each lodge should remember our veterans for Christmas. Any ideas?

Please see or call Carl Lanterman; (805) 630-8110 if you want to help extend our military involvement. We also want to help active military members when we can.



In keeping with the Jim Kellog's tradition, our Lodge's Veterans Services Committee took 14 Veterans from the Sepulveda Hospital out for a steak lunch. Pictured front center-Vern Jossy back-JB, Terry Gicking, Bill Aubry and Carl Lanterman

KUDOS and a MARINE HOO-RAH for the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge 2477 for their caring, ongoing support and contributions to our Veterans over the years. Many of our senior veterans have outlived most of their family and friends.

Individual conversations during our Elks visitations mean a lot to many of them because we listen. You can see it in their eyes.

To some, we are their family.

Thank you to the Daily News and Dennis McCarthy's columns who over the years recognized and supported many Veterans Organizations and our VA Hospitals.

The recognition goes to our Veterans for their service to our country. The appreciation for their sacrifices will always be recognized by the Elks.

Jerry Feldman



Christmas Tree Lot

Our Christmas tree sales will be held again at Carlson's Building Materials. We have a joint effort of Chairmen this year, Ben Reiger, Ed Rice and Herb Jellander. Any help you could give them would be appreciated. The tree lot will be open every day starting December 1st.

We will have lot set up at Carlson's building Materials on November 28th. Our first tree delivery will be on November 30th. Delivery includes unloading the truck, cutting off a 1/2 inch of trunk and boring a hole up from the bottom of the trunk of the tree and then mounted into a tree stand and set up for sales to the public.

It is a lot of fun hard work with many benefits. The ladies of the Lodge really take care of the workers at the tree lot, with comfort food, pastries and snacks. We have a fire every night camaraderie among the members. We have very positive interaction with the customers. In fact last year with the pouring down rain we helped a customer who was so taken by us that he joined our organization and will probably be down at the tree lot this year. Our 2nd tree delivery will be on December 7th and lot tear down will be December 18th. Our Christmas cheer basket program delivery will be on December 17th. So in a nut shell:

Lot Set up November 28th

First tree delivery November 30th

Lot opens for business Dec 1st.

2nd tree delivery December 7th

Lot open for sales from Dec 1st to December 17th

Lot tear down December 18th.

For times see Ben, Ed, or Herb



Although it's hard to believe, the lodge year is *more than half* over. That gives us until March to raise the money to come anywhere near our last year's total for the Purple Pig fund. We are constantly pushed to "give" to so many worthy charities that at times we don't know which way to turn or feel tapped out dry. However our lodge has made a firm commitment to support the Purple Pig program as have all other California/Hawaii lodges as our Major Project. With that in mind, we are appealing to our members to continue to fill those purple piggy banks with your small change and turn them in. With over 400 members, it can add up to a surprising amount of money in support of our program to provide free treatment for kids with disabilities. Banks have been happily turned in from many members whose names appear on our Honor Roll. Some members need mention for they give every month and are racking up the Century club and 52 Club certificates. Coleen Morris, Jon Anderson, Max Maxwell, Bob Arbetman, Dan and Karen Martyn, Robert Jones, Karen Speights, Harry Brockwell, Greg Metzgas and Steve Smith Eugene Letournor, Jon Preston John Quinn, Karen Naccarato, Steve Finnerty and JB Bre are among Century Club recipients.
Thank you to all -David Naccarato, Major Project Chair



WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER



Mike Lewin with ER, Steve Smith standing in for Herb Jellander

On Saturday Oct 22, 2011 the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 held their 'Charity Ball' fund raiser frothier Christmas Basket Program. A number of raffle prizes including baskets of goodies were assembled for this event. There were 81 members who enjoyed catered Medallion of Pork Tenderloin dinner.

Last year over 70 Christmas Baskets were delivered at a cost of over \$5,000 at Christmas to the less fortunate containing a Turkey, food staples to last a family week as well as toys for the children in the family. This year it looks to follow suit with the economy and unemployment as it is.



Sunday November 13th the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 conducted a solemn Flag Retirement Ceremony and Elk members of the representative services retired a flag.

There were 40 members and guests in attendance and an ice cream and cookie social concluded the ceremony





**Pat VonWittenberg
Konejo Kampers**

OCTOBER AT FLYING FLAGS

A committee of three decided that although I couldn't get my rig out of the driveway because my entire downstairs is packed in TWO PODS in front of it (That's changed thank God)! Washing machine sprung a leak and flooded the majority of the downstairs. Cheryl was kind enough to pick me and my "pack" up and off we went. Cheryl is terrific to travel with and we have a lot of fun, but not going to do that again. When we got back, both of us tired, (she had visited Chumash till 4 a.m.) it felt like it took two hours to unload all my stuff. Love ya and I thank you – but as I said, not again!

I swear, Donna Collieran has a decorating fetish. If she doesn't have a club house to decorate, she'll do the outside tables, etc. around her motorhome. She and Ed were wagonmasters and were very creative. Donna had a new recipe for Sangria, spent hours cutting up fruit, but she was concerned about making a double batch, not knowing how it would turn out. BAD decision, everyone loved it!

Jessica Stull and Kathy Moye can give one a guilt complex, if you're exercise conscious. They got out to go walking, every morning I think. You go girls!

Flying Flags has changed a lot since the last time we were there. Of course, they've up-d the prices, but the sites are improved. One thing they added that is really nice for us dog owners is an off leash area. Kept trying to arrange play dates for Clyde and Bailey with Cookie (Judy & Joe's dog) or Megan (Sue's Scotty) but had no takers. Hey what's wrong with my boys, they're nice little guys!

It's amazing, all the days run together on a campout. I THINK it was Thursday might have been Friday, but not sure, a group of the gals took the transportation provided by the park in to Solvang. A couple came back empty handed but not all.

Solvang is no place for the diet conscious. The danged candy store, wonderful fudge – had to have some! Cheryl ordered some salt water taffy – that's also every tempting.

All in all, we had 11 rigs which was a pleasant surprise, and Scott and Crystal were motel camping. They sure can get in the swing of things, but NOT in the morning. Usually don't expect to see them until afternoon at the earliest.

I've previously mentioned the jigsaw puzzle craz,
Cheryl thought she was being kind by
bringing

A 1000 piece puzzle for me – thanks a heap kiddo – think there are a few missing pieces. Fortunately there are a number of campers who are pretty good at working puzzles, unfortunately, I'm puzzle challenged. Deb Drake is good so is Sue Osgood. Scott and Crystal are puzzle experts, they say



they have a puzzle going at their house all the time. No wonder they're good!

Patience is a virtue they say and these folks have it – sad to say

that's something I'm also short on. Perhaps the less complicated puzzles I picked out of the raffle will be less challenging.

Saturday night around the fire, there were all variations of martinis being passed around. Some were more tasty than others. In fact, some got dumped. Deb Drake was pondering the fact that Donna had been inviting her to go "shooting" with her. Deb suddenly became wide-eyed, looked rather stricken, then said, "They shoot DUCKS don't they?" What a crack up.

Judy Kudra had actually taken some time off work, well at least out of the office, but she was feeling a little on the puny side. She still managed to cowgirl up to go to the casino with Deb Drake several times. She was very closed mouth about wins and/or losses.

All in all a great time was had by the El Konejo Kampers.

Hope to see a lot of people at the Holiday Brunch – Don't forget!



UPCOMING KAMPOUTS

Nov. 11-12-Kenney Grove

Dec. 11-Brunch Grand Vista Hotel

visit the website:

<http://elkonejokampers.oaksdata.com>

THOUSAND OAKS ELKS PAST EXALTED RULERS

SPONSORING

WIN A VACATION VOUCHER, YOU PICK THE TRAVEL DATE

SEVEN NIGHT ALL EXPENSES PAID VACATION FOR 2

(Airfare ~ Lodging ~ All Food ~ All Libations)

AT THE

CARIBE CLUB PRINCESS RESORT & SPA

At PUNTA CANA In The DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



Most Beautiful Beach In The Republic



View of Lodging and 1 of the Pools

DONATION \$50 Per Ticket ~ Only 200 Tickets to be Sold

Past Exalted Rulers have tickets for sale

FUNDS RAISED AFTER EXPENSES GO INTO THE LADIES ROOM RENOVATION FUNDINGTO BE DRAWN AT THE EXALTED RULER'S CHRISTMAS PARTY DECEMBER 9, 2011
(Winner need not be present)

On Sunday October 16th at the historic Camarillo Ranch, our Lodge participated in the exciting, free event honoring children. Celebrate the Child is sponsored by Child Development Resources of Ventura County. We cooked and gave away approximately 3,050 hot dogs to the local families and volunteers. Our Elk's train started giving rides at 11:00 and ran non-stop until 4:00, with a total passenger count of 498. The Child Development Resources has been helping families in Ventura County for more than 35 years. Honored at the state and federal level as a leader in the child care field, the organization benefits 3,500 low-income, high-risk families (with more than 5,000 children), annually. It administers state and federal programs to children from birth to age 13 through its Head Start, Early Head Start, and Child Care programs. Child Development vision is that every child's growth and development will be fully supported to ensure a happy and successful adult life.

**Your Lodge Serving Our Community**

- *Hosting Blue & Gold Ceremony at Lodge
- *Providing karaoke at Saticoy Vets monthly
- *Doing bingo party at Sepulveda Veterans Hospital monthly
- *Hosting blood drive for the community
- *Participating in BSA Court of Honor
- *Sponsoring an appreciation dinner for youth in our community
- *Participating in CVD and Chili Cook Off
- * Holding Toys 4 Tots drive
- *Being a partner in Special Kids Day at CVD
- *Hosting flag retirement ceremony with Boy Scouts-open to the public
- * Cooking for Brownlympics
- * Providing use of lodge room for Girl Scouts Bridging Ceremony
- * Giving VFW free monthly meeting room
- * Sponsoring hoop shoot for local youth
- * Providing meeting place for community clubs
- * Preparing and delivering food baskets at Christmas



"The Elks Toys 4 Tots BBQ will be held on December 3, 2011. President Ronald Reagan MCL Detachment 597 will be presenting our Colors at about noon. There will be T4T boxes stationed to drop off toys. The Elks will give a free beverage for the purchase of a tri-tip sandwich, 1/2 rack of baby back ribs or 1/2 BBQ chicken. Don "Buggs" Ansel, PER will be our clown and hand out balloons and candy to the children".

Please bring a toy for the TOYS 4 TOTS!

**CALL THE OFFICE
OR COMMITTEE CHAIR
TO PARTICIPATE**

**BE PART OF YOUR ELKS
VOLUNTEER TEAM**



On November 6th, we held the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge mandated Hoop Shoot for the kids in our area. Hoping to enlarge our attendance we got in touch with the locale Boys and Girls Club.

We held our shoot at the Los Cerritos Middle School gym. Many of our members lent a hand with scoring and line judging and also ball retrieving. Of those members helping out we had quite a few brand new members lending a hand. Mike Lewin, Micheal White and Gregory Miraglia were among the new members helping. Seasoned members who may I add also worked the BBQ on Saturday were Dave Anderson, Engineer Gerry Gillies and Jon Anderson. Bob Arbetman who had many years of experience with the Hoop Shoot from his membership at the Palmdale Elks Lodge lent us his knowledge and his whistle. Past Exalted Ruler Jay Block and Past First Lady Myrna was there for set up and Registration. Robert Jones set up the audio equipment so the crowd could hear my instructions. Jerry Serota was there taking pictures hoping to get them published in the National Elks Magazine. Exalted Ruler Steve Smith and First Lady Pam along with Past Exalted Ruler Terry Gicking left early Sunday morning from Mid Term convention to make it for the shoot and lend a hand. Of course it's the ER's job to get himself in the pictures.

Terry Baker was out as long as I got him home in time for NASCAR. Grant Thistle was my legs for the weekend loading up my truck with the tables we would need.(sometimes this wheelchair comes in handy) and his Friend Nina helped out with registration and of course my wife was a help. Just about when I was ready to lose it, she had everything at the registration desk under control. Terry Gicking met up with one of the parents who had two boys entered in the contest. He was real excited about what we were doing and is big in CYBA and would like to involve himself with our program. We will be in touch with him. When we had ties with NPYBA we had very good turnout at our Hoop Shoots. . Thank you to all. I'm always told not to name people because you'll always forget someone. Let's see how I did.
David Naccarato PER Hoop Shoot Chairman



DECEMBER MILITARY HISTORY

David Naccarato, PER

December 7th 1941 Japan attacks Pearl harbor

December 8th U.S. declares war on Japan

December 16th 1944 "Battle of the Bulge" begins

December 24th 1943 Eisenhower is named commander of the Allied Forces.

December 25th 1941 Japan invades Hong Kong

December 26th 1944 U.S. troops hold Bastogne stalling the German offensive in the Ardennes.

The tree biggest mistakes of WWII

Per Admiral Nimitz's "lucky for us"

Mistake number one; the Japanese attacked on Sunday morning.

Nine out of every ten crewmen of those ships were ashore on leave. If those same ships had been lured to sea and been sunk— we would have lost 38,000 men instead of 3,800.

Mistake number two: when the Japanese saw all those battleships lined in a row, they got so carried away sinking those battleships, they never once bombed our dry docks opposite those ships. If they had destroyed our dry docks, we would have had to tow everyone of those ships to America to be repaired. As it is now, the ships are in shallow water and can be raised. One tug can pull them over to the dry docks, and we can have them repaired and at sea by the time we could tow them to America. I already have crews ashore anxious to man those ships.

Mistake number three: every drop of fuel in the Pacific theater of war is in top of the ground storage tanks five miles away. One attack plane could have strafed those tanks and destroyed our fuel supply. Admiral Chester Nimitz was chosen by President Roosevelt to assume command of the Pacific Fleet. Admiral Nimitz was able to see a silver lining in a situation and circumstance where everyone else saw only despair and defeat.



REMEMBER OUR RECYCLE PROGRAM FOR SCHOLARSHIP

2011-2012 COMMITTEE
CHAIRPERSONS

THE ELKS LADIES
Alice Kennedy

2011-2012 COMMITTEE
CHAIRPERSONS

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Karen Naccarato
2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Melinda Pekow
SECRETARY: Lynn Rodriquez
TREASURER: Charlotte Gessler
AUDITOR: Beth Kozlowski
TELEPHONE: Patti Serota



PARLIAMENTARIAN: Pat Peterson
CHAPLAIN: Marilyn Cissell
MAJOR PROJECT: Niki Case
SUNSHINE:
HISTORIAN: Carol Fredericks
CVD: Alice Kennedy & Pat Peterson

The Elks Ladies meeting was held on November 1st and we had a great turnout.....you can meet and greet people.....of course, there is dessert following the meeting.

The Elks Ladies are hosting both the Tree Trimming and Children's Christmas party on December 3rd..... The tree trimming and other fun activities for the children will be an enjoyable time, and we ask that you come and bring your children to this fun Party. There will be hot dogs and chips for the children. Please let us know about how many children, grandchildren and great grandchildren may be attending this event.

The Elks Ladies Major Projects event will be held in February.....Everyone get ready to have a great time. Take care and God bless,

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Collen McFarlane-6
Kay Riebe-10
Catherine Koeritz-14
Roxy Skinner-15
Carroll Stewart-19
Marilyn Cissell-27
Sally Claunch-30



I've aimed to please you Lord



We are your creations, Lord
Who only you can understand
and all will be so different,
each one of us uniquely planned.

Our Blessings are surprises God,
Of course we know they come from you.
And each decision that we make
we aim to please in what we do.
Amen

**Elks Ladies Beach Party
Major Project Fundraiser**



February 4, 2012
6 pm-10 pm
Music by One Last Dance

Tickets \$ 20 per person
Available from bartender
or call Niki 805-492-0212

Reserved Tables Available

**Elks Ladies Tree Trimming
& Children's Christmas Party**



December 3 11am-2 pm
Visit from Santa, lunch, music, games
Kids from 2 to 92 welcome

OFFICERS 2011-2012

EXALTED RULER - Steve Smith
 LEADING KNIGHT - Leo Rodriquez
 LOYAL KNIGHT - Terry Gicking, PER
 LECTURING KNIGHT- Robert Jones
 SECRETARY - Dave Naccarato, PER
 TREASURER - Myrna Block
 TILER - Rich Romani
 ESQUIRE - Grant Thistle
 CHAPLAIN - Rick Eddy
 INNER GUARD- JB Bre
 ORGANIST- Karin Spreights
 OFFICER AT LARGE- Greg Metzgus, PER

TRUSTEES

David Stull	1 Year
Dan Martyn	2 Year
Jim Porter	3 Year
Carl Lanterman	4 Year
Sam Frankl	5 Year

2011-12 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS-reporting to Exalted Ruler

ANTLER ANTICS: Sally Claunch, PER, Editor
 Jerry Serota: Photographer
 Calendar: Sally Claunch, PER
 Distribution: Alice Kennedy
 HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK: Jerry Serota
 GREETER: Dorothy Murray
 NEW FACILITIES: Tom Ryder, PDDGER
 OPERATION FACELIFT: Tom Ryder, PDDGER
 LODGE RENOVATION: Dan Martyn

PARLIAMENTARIAN/PRESIDING JUSTICE: Dick McCann
 LODGE VISITATIONS: Steve Smith
 AUDITING: Chet Kozlowski, PER
 ELKS TRAINING: Terry Gicking, PER
 BEQUESTS & LIVING TRUSTS: Steve Smith
 MEDIATOR: Boyd Lindquist
 PROTOCOL: Myrna Block
 BBQ TEAMS: Eddie Rice:
 offsite-Eddie Rice onsite-Max Maxwell

2011-12 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS-reporting to Leading Knight

MAJOR PROJECT/PURPLE PIG:
 David Naccarato, PER
 SICKNESS AND DISTRESS: Coleen Morris
 ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION:
 Tom Ryder, PDDGER
 MEMBERCONTROL. COM.: David Naccarato, PER
 InvestigationDon Ansell, PER:

David Naccarato, PER: Stray Elks
 Terry Gicking, PER: Orientation
 CHARITY BALL: Leonzo Rodriquez
 CHRISTMAS BASKETS: Leonzo Rodriguez
 CHARITY DINNERS: Leonzo Rodriquez

2011-12 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS-reporting to Loyal Knight

LODGE ACTIVITIES:
 Jerry Serota: Public Relations
 Sally Claunch, PER: Americanism
 Bill Sternberg, PER: Flag Retirement Ceremonies
 Rick Eddy: Memorial Service
 Gov't Relations: David Naccarato, PER:
 Lodge Picnic: David Naccarato, PER

Carl Lanterman: Nat'l Veterans Service
 Terry Gicking, PER: PER Assoc. President
 Robert Jones & Sam Frankl: Wednesday Tickets
 Rick Eddy: Mother's Day

2011-12 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS-reporting to Lecturing Knight

YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Rick Herrera
 David Naccarato, PER: Hoop Shoot
 Grant Thistle: Soccer Shoot
 Robert Jones: Drug Awareness
 Sally Claunch, PER,: Kids Christmas Party
 Bill Miller: Scouting
 Rick Herrera: Scholarship

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:
 Tom Hartin: CVD
 Dave Naccarato, PER :Law Enforcement & Fire Fighter
 Apprec. Dinner
 CHRISTMAS TREE LOT: Ben Reiger-chair
 Herb Jellander & EddieRice -co.chairs

HONOREES

ELK OF THE YEAR- Johnny D'Ambrogio, PER
 OFFICER OF THE YEAR- Rick Herrera
 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR- Bill Miller

**EDITOR'S CORNER**

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

HONOR ROLL



- Eugene Letourneau (Century Club)
 - Jon Preston
- John Quinn (Century Club x 2)
 - Jill Williams
 - Dan Martyn
 - Karen Martyn
- Karen Naccarato (Century Club)
 - Steve Finnerty (52 Club)
 - Wilson Dyer
- Coleen Morris (Century Club)
 - Gregory Miraglia
 - Robert Jones
 - Max Maxwell
 - Harry Brockwell, PER
 - Greg Metzgas, PDDGER
 - Steve Smith
 - Dick McCann
 - JB Bre
 - Ray Hilden (52 Club)
 - Rick Herrera

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1st Joan Roper
- 3rd Bruce Cameron, Edward Cassese, Chuck Kudra
- 4th Paul Stein, Grant Thistle
- 5th Richard Johnson, Richard Wixon
- 6th Eugene Letourneau
- 7th Gerald Feldman
- 11th Raymond Clayton, Donna Leary
- 13th Dennis Scully
- 14th Catherine Koeritz PER
- 16th IB Jensen, Donald Rue
- 20th Harry Isaman
- 21st Rick Goldner
- 23rd Bill Aubrey
- 26th George Estok
- 27th Mel Baker, Ed Bianchi
- 28th Joe Palmer
- 29th Steve Finnerty, Robert Jones, Michael Ramirez, Susie Ross, Nabil Sakla
- 30th Sally Claunch PER



COME BY AND RECEIVE
YOUR FREE BIRTHDAY DRINK

Help Fund



Our Scholarship Program

Bring your aluminum 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

Please do not drop off non deposit plastic items
for recycling.

for example:

Milk bottles

Engine oil bottles

Plastic alcohol containers (IE Tequila)

Medicine bottles

Plastic cups

Salad dressing containers

Aluminum foil

Thank You for your continued support, Rick



FROM THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE PROPOSED AND WILL BE BALLOTTED ON: DECEMBER 7, 2011

- Johnny D Ambriogio for life membership
- Randall Hays for membership sponsored by David Naccarato

YOUR LODGE ON YOUTUBE---HOORAY

On the right hand side you will see videos.
Just below them there is a link called see all.
Click that to see all of them
<http://www.youtube.com/user/elks2477>

CRYING TOWEL



October 5th capsule drawing Ralph Vishay Not present.

Lucky 13 No winner.

October 19th capsule drawing Thomas Varden Not present












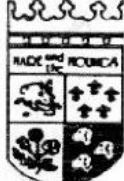


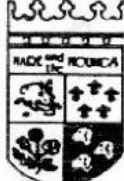

Lucky 13 No winner

October 26th capsule drawing Roger Paskill Not present

Lucky 13 No winner

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

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<http://elkonejokampers.oaksdata.com>
 Office Hours 10:00-3:00 M-F
toelks@yahoo.com

LOUNGE HOURS

Monday-Tuesday-Thursday-Saturday
 10 am-8 pm
 Wednesday & Friday
 10 am- to closing
 Sunday
 9 am-8 pm



***House Committee meets the second Wed. of the month at 7 p.m. followed by Officers' Meeting in Conference Room**
***Trustees meet the second Wed. at 6 p.m.**
***Your input is valued.. Your attendance is welcomed.**
Come for dinner and stay for the meetings.

PAST EXALTED RULERS

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 Sleight 1992-93 Tom Ryder, PDDGER 1993-94 Jim Wallace 1994-95 *George Pekow 1995-96 Gil Riding, PDDGER 1996-97 *Jack Loughran 1997-98 John Kelly	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 Metzgas, PDDGER 2004-05 Jay Block 2005-06 Sally Claunch 2006-07 David Naccarato 2007-08 Catherine Koeritz 2008-09 George Meehan 2009-10 Terry Gicking 2010-11 Harry Brockwell By Affiliation: 1981-82 Robert L. Thornton, PDDGER 2001-02 Bill Sternberg 1999-00 * Ralph Vester 2002-03 Russel Robison <p style="text-align: right;">*Deceased</p>
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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.