



Antler Antics

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks



***Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge Annual Charity Basket Project
Sign-up sheet in the lounge. See page 2 for details.***

Contents

Elk of the Month	2
Charity Basket Schedule	2
Duty Officers	2
Message from the Exalted Ruler	3
Message from the Leading Knight	3
Message from the Loyal Knight	3
Message from the Lecturing Knight	4
Message from the Lodge Secretary	4
Bingo Update	4
Sickness & Distress	5
Blood Drive	5
Birthdays	5
Purple Pig Honor Roll	5
Crying Towel	5
Veterans Services	6
Veterans Brunch Highlights	7
Christmas Tree Lot Information	8
Halloween Costume Highlights	8
Charity Ball Highlights	9
New Years Eve Flier	10
New Members	11
Membership Report	11
Elks Ladies	12
GER Message	12
El Konejo Kampers	13
PERs Corner	13
Oak Retrieval Team	14
Officers, Trustees & Chairpersons	15
Contact info, PERs & Hours	<i>Back Cover</i>

Duty Officers

12-03 to 12-09	Karen Martyn
12-10 to 12-16	Dave Anderson
12-17 to 12-23	Terry Gicking
12-24 to 12-30	Darryl Kopacz

LODGE ROOM RENTALS

Attention Members: Are you planning a party, banquet, wedding, birthday or other special event? Our renovated Lodge Room is available for rental at very reasonable rates. Catering can be arranged. Contact Brooke at 805 496 4550.

Elk of the Month



Our Elk of the Month is none other than the most important person in our BBQ business, Eddie Rice.

This individual puts in more time than any one individual including the crew chiefs combined to ensure that our lodge continues to excel in what we are known for in Thousand Oaks, our BBQ.

Thank you Ed for all you do.

Jim Moyer
Exalted Ruler
Elks #2477
Thousand Oaks



To the left is PER Harold Constantine and Virginia on their deck enjoying the good life in St. Joseph, Missouri, the "Show Me State".

There is no Elks lodge in the city, but how about getting a pool started to see how long before there is one?

Charity Basket Schedule

Sign-up sheets are in the lounge

Table and box set-up	Mon 12/14
Non-perishables distributed to boxes	Tues 12/15, Wed 12/16 & Thur 12/17
Perishables distributed to boxes	Fri 12/18
Delivery	Sat 12/19

Upcoming Initiation Schedule

Investigation	Balloting	Orientation	Initiation
	No orientation or initiation in December		
	January 6th	January 26th	January 27th
January 22nd	February 3rd	February 23rd	February 24th

The February initiation will be performed by the Past Exalted Rulers

Applicants/Transfers to be Investigated

William Russell	Of Kern River Valley Lodge #2358 requests Assoc. Membership
Mathew Daniels	sponsored by Holly Healy
Andrew Gessler	sponsored by Rik Gessler
Shirste Gessler	sponsored by Rik Gessler
James Coedell	sponsored by Jim Allen
Richard Babcock	sponsored by Jim Lovato

Exalted Ruler Jim Moye



Greetings Fellow Elks,

With more than half of our Elk year over, we are heading into the busiest season for our Lodge activities. They include our annual Memorial Service, Charity Basket

Setup and Delivery, ER Dinner, and New Year's Eve Celebration, followed immediately by our annual Hair of the Dog Party on New Year's Day. There is a lot to do, and we welcome any volunteers wishing to help out.

We attended the CHEA midterm convention in Riverside, where we received information on many subjects including ENF, Purple Pig (major projects), Lodge accounting, safety, tax issues and insurance coverage. The most significant area addressed was membership. We need to do more to attract qualified members and retain those members. Sponsors, team up with your new members and let's get them involved.

We also received an award in the CHEA website contest, with a THIRD PLACE finish in Division Two (301-500 members). The original layout was put together by Paul Wagner, and later redesigned by Steve Smith and his son Patrick. Steve continues to manage the website which will receive a makeover which he is working on as we speak.

Among the upcoming December events mentioned above is the ER dinner on Friday, December 11th, which Kathy and I will be hosting. I have enlisted the finest taco chef in the lodge, Eddie Bianchi, to prepare a Mexican fair dinner, with yours truly as his assistant. Following dinner, music will be provided by Uncle Monkey. Come down and enjoy the evening and PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS.

It's getting close to **Charity Basket** time. We will post a sign-up sheet to volunteer for this year's basket staging and delivery. This is an experience that you won't want to miss. Contact Mike Flannery for more information. Let's not forget

Leading Knight Mike Flannery



The mid-term convention in Riverside, November 5 thru 8, was a very successful and entertaining experience while meeting old friends, making new friends and having a good time. Of course, that includes attending

numerous meetings and clinics covering many items such as employee and volunteer differences, accounting and auditing procedures, insurance and safety requirements, CHEA, ENF and Major Projects plans and procedures, to name a few. In all, we brought home enough information to keep us busy well into next year.

In the past two months, we have initiated 30 new members. Since then, I have not seen more than five of these new members at the Lodge. I remind the sponsors that in the Membership Application, there is a block of three paragraphs under the heading, [PROPOSER], that states in part, "In the event that the applicant is approved and accepted, I pledge my personal interest to his/her development and progress in becoming an active member who exemplifies the principles of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America."

Sponsors, please contact these new members who you sponsored, bring them into the lodge, introduce them to other members, make them feel welcome, and get them involved. There are many upcoming events that may be of interest and they should not miss, such as the Elk's Memorial Service, the Ladies Christmas Party, the ER's Christmas Party, the Christmas Basket Delivery Program and the New Year's Eve Party.

Thank You,

Mike Flannery
Leading Knight

Loyal Knight Jean Miraglia



The Veteran's Brunch and Flag Retirement Ceremony, on November 1st, was a heartwarming event. There were approximately 110 Veterans, family members, and Lodge members, in attendance. Guest Chef Mike Lodi and crew

prepared a buffet feast that was enjoyed by all.

The Flag Retirement Ceremony followed brunch with a presentation by the Lodge Officers, the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. There were over 30 American flags, and the POW flag from our Lodge, retired that afternoon. Each flag was retired in honor of a family member, friend, or for all veterans who have served our country. An ice cream and cookie social followed the Ceremony.

Thank you Carl Lanterman, Exalted Ruler Jim Moye and his Officers, Bill Sternberg Sr., Bill Miller and Billy Sternberg for all your efforts in putting together this memorable event.

In closing, I am PROUD to be an AMERICAN and a member of the Thousand Oaks ELKS Lodge.

KITCHEN NEWS:

The kitchen will be dark every Monday, due to a lack of participation.

For Wednesday night dinners on the 2nd and 9th, see menu at the Bar, Pasta Night on the 4th, and Friday, December 11th, is the Exalted Ruler's Christmas Party.

The kitchen will be closed from December 14th through the 19th, in preparation and delivery of the Charity Christmas Baskets.

New Years Eve is quickly approaching. Watch for the flyer and make your reservations for a fun-filled, but elegant evening. Tickets will be available soon.

Fraternally,

Jean Miraglia
Loyal Knight

Continued on Page 14

Lecturing Knight Karen Martyn



One of the committees under this station is Drug Awareness. Our Drug Awareness Chairman, Don Sabol, is warning about a new “designer drug” called Flakka (aka “gravel”)

which comes as white or pink crystals and can be used in multiple manners; smoking, snorting, placing under one’s tongue, injected, or vaporized using an E cigarette. It is reported that this drug is a stimulant with effects similar to cocaine and methamphetamine. The drug is cheap and is extremely dangerous and addictive. Don warns us that now these crystals are being sprinkled on gummy bears and individually wrapped like candies. So watch out if you or a loved one, child or grandchild comes across an individually wrapped gummy bear!

Thanks Don for keeping us apprised of developments in this area and the many dangers of drug abuse which could affect us or a loved one.

Karen Martyn
Lecturing Knight

NATIONAL DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM

*“Prevention
through Education”*

www.elks.org/dap

Secretary David Naccarato



I’m told my articles are too long. So, thank you to Max Maxwell, Gerry Gillies, Gary Erland, Tom Hartin and my wife. Can’t tell you why, no room.

We had the ABATE motorcycle club here to help with the Veterans brunch. Here is some brief



information: *Thousand Oaks Elks #2477 held their annual Veterans brunch November 1st. Pictured is Veterans co-chair Spec 4 Art Urbano. Along with Art are Vietnam Veterans and Rolling Thunder Charter members Jim Kirby, Tom Warrick and Barry Hammond who came down for brunch and to enjoy our Flag retirement ceremony which immediately followed. All three flew Med-evacs, rescuing the wounded in Huey UH-1 Helicopters. Pictured retiring flags are (L-R) Leading*



Knight Mike Flannery, Exalted Ruler Jim Moye and Loyal Knight Jean Miraglia.

The lodge brought in 15 new members in September and 12 in October.

David Naccarato, PER
Lodge Secretary



October 29th was our latest Elks afternoon bingo game. Christine who has been sandbagging it the last few months came out of her slump and won 5 of the 11 games we played that afternoon. One she had to split with Art Urbano.

Bobby Williams won a game and also split one pot with Art Urbano. Barbara Gibbs who was terrified to play bingo is now a seasoned veteran. By the way, she plays here with us and wins. She also now visits the Gobel Center, Thunderbird and Leisure Village.

Paula Williams picked up a win on game #3. Art Urbano did take a pot by himself on game #4. When we started we only had six players for our 1 PM early bird start time. By 2 PM we had 15 players to the delight of Mary Woodlief who was acting as my Vanna White for the afternoon. Mary is looking to raise money for the dictionary program and 20% of the proceeds go to whoever is acting as my Vanna.

Exalted Ruler Jim Moye picked up two wins that afternoon. First Lady Kathy Moye, who normally always wins, had other family commitments and could not attend much to the dismay of the other players. The more players, the bigger the pot.

We play on the first and third Thursday of the month and always have a lunch of some kind. We play four games at one o’clock for a \$5 buy in. Then six more games starting at two o’clock with a buy in of \$10. If we have enough players I’ll add a horse race, as I call it, and a u-pick-em bingo game. After the 20% is given to the charity of choice the rest is given back to the players. Paper and daubers are paid by me or donated by many of our players like Pat Heckathorne.

Sylvia Kopfer has been ill and missed a few games but is now back with us. Pat and Sylvia know bingo forwards, backwards, and every which way. If a

Continued on Page 5

Sickness & Distress

Coleen Morris, Committee Chairperson
805-241-8928

Condolences:

To the family of member Chuck Morsa; Born 1/5/1936,
Initiated 4/25/1984, Died 10/21/2015

To the family of member Vernon Jossy; Born 5/5/1925,
Initiated 9/19/1990, Died 10/30/2015

Keep in your prayers:

ER Jim Moye who broke his toe trying to move a cement
umbrella holder in his back yard by drop kicking it.

Karin Speights who is having back issues

Dick McCann is recovering from surgery

BLOOD DRIVE

Here is a chance for Elks to care and share. It won't cost anything but a little of your time. Our first blood drive of 2016 will be on January 16th, 9:30 am to 1:30 pm, at the Lodge.

To register, go to www.unitedbloodservices.org, scroll down the left side to Find Drive by Zip Code, enter the lodge zip 91360, scroll down to T.O. Elks Lodge, 01/16/2016, then schedule your appointment. You can also call 800-715-3699. After you give a pint, enjoy one of our famous BBQ sandwiches at our Exalted Ruler's expense.

REMEMBER

Elks Care - Elks Share

December Birthdays

Richard Shaw 01
Jim Moye Jr. 02
Bruce Cameron 03
Edward Cassese 03
Charles Kudra 03
Paul Stein 04
Richard Johnson 05
Eugene Letourneau 06
Gerald Feldman 07
David Mueller 07
Pati Harrod 11
Donna Leary 11
Craig Lopez 12
Jeff Nickerson 12
Catherine Koeritz 14
Amanda Skoczek 15
IB Jensen 16
Donald Rue 16
Edward Bianchi 17
Scott Dool 17
Richard Quance 17
Sylvia Kopfer 18
Jesse Lacoff 18
James Thompson 19
Harry Isaman 20
Brett Fuchs 21
Arthur Urbano 21
William Sternberg 22
William Aubrey 23
Francine Pitassi 23
William Sandham 25
Adam Hendershot 27
Joe Palmer 28
Lewis Jones 29
Robert Jones 29
Susie Ross 29

Purple Pig Honor Roll

Coleen Morris
Carol Fredericks
Alexandra Rogers 2x
Greg Metzgas, DL
Bobby Williams
Bill Miller
Jean Miraglia
Brenda Hagen (Century Club)
Bill Sternberg, PER
Marianne Cirelli
Michael Cagley
Gregg Miraglia
Darryl Kopacz
Beate Sable
Pam Price
Jim Moye, ER
Henry Vega (Century Club)
Kathy Moye, 1st Lady
Barbara Ann Gibbs
Pati Harrod
Dan Martyn, PER
Karen Martyn



The Crying towel



October 7 capsule
drawing Bill Smail not
present

Lucky 13 won by David
Naccarato!!!!

October 21 capsule
drawing Len Cardoni
not present

Lucky 13 Billy Sternberg no winner

October 29th capsule drawing Jack Carter
not present

Lucky 13 Jim Lovato no winner
Associate membership
Being investigated is William Russell of
Kern River Valley Lodge #2358

Bingo Continued

question arises and I defer to them. They know it all. We have fun. True it's a small group but it works and everybody knows your name. Seems I've heard that somewhere before.

David Naccarato PER

Veterans Services - Carl Lanterman, Chairman

August 1 – Air Force Day

August 4, 1790 – U.S. Coast Guard Established

August 7, 1782 – Purple Heart Medal Established

August 7, 1964 – Vietnam War Began

(Dates are taken from the VFW Calendar)

BINGO @ Sepulveda V.A. – 2nd Friday each month at 1:00 pm
16111 Plummer St., at Woodley, Sepulveda, CA

KARAOKE @ Cal Vet Home – Ventura – 4th Thursday each month at 6:00 pm
10900 Telephone Rd., Ventura, CA

THOUSAND OAKS ELKS LODGE

#2477 served brunch for Veterans Remembrance Month followed by Flag Retirement with Elks & Scouts

The lodge served 75 brunches for their annual event to celebrate the Elks Veterans Remembrance tradition. They have been serving this monthly brunch for more than 30 years, and in recent years have coupled the event with a flag retirement ceremony by Scouts and Elks. Combining the two events started when Bill Sternberg, PER - Western Scouting Chairman (Navy veteran) and Carl Lanterman - National Veterans Service Committee Chairman (Air Force veteran) were discussing a specially requested and successful flag retirement ceremony at the Cal Vet Home-Ventura. The combined events have been very well received.



(L-R) Resident–Charles, NVSC Chairman–Carl Lanterman, Resident–Marvin, NVSC vice chair–Art Urbano, Trustee–Pam Price.

The event was attended by residents of the Sepulveda V.A. Hospital and the Cal-Vet Home in Ventura. Invitations were also extended to clients of the Oxnard Family Circle-Veterans Day Care and to any veterans in the immediate community. Veterans of WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Afghanistan, Iraq and possibly other conflicts have the opportunity to

visit and to learn more about what the Elks do for their communities across the country. Elks publication, A Concise History of Elks National Veterans Service Commission, has proven to be popular with our guests.

Food was prepared by Elks member Tom Hartin accompanied by Master Chef Mike Lodi – president of the Ventura Chef’s Association, and his assistant Chef John Chew.



**Left side, Master Chef Mike Lodi
Right side, ABATE volunteer, VC Stand Down–Claire Hope, Lori & Mike McManus–County VSO**

Attendees included Claire Hope – 23 year CEO of the Ventura County Stand Down, Mike McManus – County Veterans Service Officer and wife Lori, Inna Berger – CEO of the Oxnard Family Circle and RT Lee - Tuskegee Airman and wife Madeline, past president of a local American Legion Post Auxiliary of which RT has been an officer for many years. (Madeline is also past regional president and recipient of a national award.) At age 90, and wife a little younger, they are the first to the dance floor. Last year’s guest, Robert McKenrick, is a retired Army colonel and current West Los Angeles Region Director with responsibility for the benefits of more than 52,000 veterans, but was out of town for the weekend. Also, Teresa Miller, a

distinguished veteran of the Navy and Air Force and a gold ribbon wife, was unable to attend this year. When the veterans see the faces of those who are consistently helping, they have a renewed confidence that they can get the help that they need.

The flag retirement ceremony was conducted by lodge officers and scouts immediately following the brunch so that the guests who have already ridden a bus for an hour and spent two hours with brunch and visiting can get back to where they can be more comfortable. The flag retirement was attended by more than 100 people including veteran guests, lodge officers and members, scouts and their parents.

Scout Troop 754 was established in 1972 by Bill Sternberg. PER, who is now the



Bill Sternberg, Bill Sternberg & Greg Metzgas

Grand Lodge Western Region Scouting Chairman. Bill Sternberg is also a recipient of the Marvin M. Lewis Elks and Scouting award. The lodge has sponsored the troop for the past 32 years. Cub Scout Pack 3763 and Brownies from the local community also helped with the ceremony and assisting guests as needed.

Exalted Ruler Jim Moye led the Elks

Veterans Services Continued on page 14

Carl Lanterman

Chairman-Veterans Service Committee
(805) 630-8110 carl.silverstrand@gmail.com

Art Urbano

Vice Chair-Veterans Service Committee
(805) 241-5719 charlene.urbano@verizon.net

Lodge Members Serve a Sunday Brunch to Honor Veterans



Elks Tree lot Schedule

The Thousand Oaks Elks lodge will hold our annual Christmas tree sale at Carlson's Building Materials, 1432 W. Thousand Oaks Blvd.

We have a joint effort of chairmen this year:

Tree lot chairman
Ben Rieger 805-657-6608
Tree lot co-chairman
Herb Jellander 805-497-2624
Delivery Logistics'
Tom Hartin 805-813-5789
Hospitality
Jon Preston 805-373-0029
Tree lot sales accountant
Ed Rice 805- 807-1416

We will set up the lot on Monday November 30th with our first delivery of 250 trees arriving on December 2nd. We will receive our second delivery of 250 trees on December 9th. Delivering includes unloading from the truck 250 trees of different varieties, removing, by chainsaw, a 1 inch portion of the bottom of the trunk and boring a hole up from the bottom to allow the tree stand to be inserted and set up for sale to the public. Tear down of the lot is slated for December 20th.

The tree lot is fun and a good time to meet and get to know your fellow Elk members. The Ladies of the lodge really take care of the workers at the tree lot with comfort food, pastries and snacks of every kind. Yes you will gain 10 pounds this holiday season so to combat this you work the tree lot and lose those unwanted pounds.

We have a positive interaction with the customers and camaraderie among the members.

Once again;
Lot set up Monday November 30th
First Tree Delivery Wednesday Dec. 2nd
Lot opens for business Thursday Dec. 3rd
Second tree delivery Wednesday Dec. 9th
Lot tears down Sunday December 20th

Any help will be greatly appreciated. Give a call to the office or any of the chairmen listed above.

Thank you from Ben, Herb, Tom, Jon and Ed

Halloween Costume Night Highlights



Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge Annual Charity Ball





NEW YEARS EVE

AT THE ELKS

JOIN US FOR A MODERN PROHIBITION PARTY

You're invited to join an exclusive membership to a Chicago

SPEAKEASY

December 31st, 2015 ||

A catered dinner
Salmon or Pork Loin

|| **Cocktails: 6:00 pm**

Dinner: 6:30 pm

Champagne Toast: 9:00pm

\$30.00 pp General Admission

\$40.00 V.I.P Admission

V.I.P is Limited to 8 at the "Celebrities" table - or - 8 at the "Gangsters" table

General Admission is unlimited

PASSWORD AT THE DOOR: SEE TICKETS



Surprises

Come in costume as a Flapper, Mobster, Revenuer, Sports Player or make up your own.

Costumes are not required.



Toast & Drink Specials



EXCLUSIVE V.I.P. SEATING

Special Entrance, First Service, Drink Specials, Premier Location. Choose "Gangsters" or "Celebrities" Table for \$40.00 pp



Meet our New Members



Paul Coy sponsored by ER Jim Moye



Michelle Boyster(L) and Diana Brace sponsored by Jim Lovato



Mariann Cirelli(R) sponsored by Barbara Gibbs



Michael Koslow(R) sponsored by Carl Lanterman



Andrew Brady and Marco Gomez sponsored by Shannon Cunningham



Rick Beal(R) sponsored by Doug Morrison



Steve Garcia and Rich Quance sponsored by Holly Healy



Carlos Muzquiz also sponsored by Holly Healy



Luis Lara also sponsored by Holly Healy

Not pictured is Jeff Nickerson. He is a transfer from the Santa Clarita Lodge. He is a medical engineer and his wife's name is Tina.

Membership Report from our Lodge Secretary

By Grand Lodge rules I'm to give a membership report in November and since there were so many of you at the meeting the night of November 4th I decided to print the report in the Antler for the few who could not make the meeting. (new members are more abundant than seasoned members at our meetings)

April 1, 2015 our lodge had on the rolls 396 members. We have transferred into the lodge four members from other lodges.

We have reinstated three members giving us a subtotal of 47.

We had to drop 16 members for non-payment of dues. We transferred out one. We have an absolute demit for one. Sadly we have lost four to deaths. Proudly we have none expelled giving us a subtotal of minus 22. As of now our membership sits at 421 with a gain of 25 members so we are a +1 lodge.

Our average age is 66.10. Our lapsation rate currently is 0.00%.

We have investigated five. Three are awaiting orientation. Two are ready for initiation. A total of ten more will soon be members.

Our Lodge has 39 Life members and two honorary life members bringing a total of 41. This gives us a life percentage of 10.35%.

Fraternally,

David Naccarato, PER
Lodge Secretary

**2015 - 2016
Committee Chairpersons**

1st Vice President Mary Woodlief
 2nd Vice President Marian Anderson
 Secretary Lynn Rodriguez
 Treasurer Karen Naccarato
 Auditor Shirste Gessler
 Communications Mary Flannery
 & Carol Fredericks

Elks Ladies



Beth Kozlowski, President

**2015 - 2016
Committee Chairpersons**

Parliamentarian Jessica Stull
 Chaplain Barbara Gibbs
 Major Project Lynn Rodriguez
 Karen Naccarato
 Sunshine June Leadam
 Historian Jeri Miller

Birthdays:

6th Colleen McFarlane
 10th Kay Riebe
 14th Catherine Koeritz
 15th Roxie Skinner
 27th Marilyn Cissell

The Ladies are hosting the Annual Children's Christmas Party on December 5th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Lodge. All members are welcome to bring children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and friends. We will have crafts for the children, a magician, hot dog and ice cream lunch and, of course, Santa Claus making his appearance with gifts for all of the children.

Our Annual Major Project Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2016, at the Lodge. The theme is Dark Shadows, "A Vampire Society Bash". This is vampires, not zombies, with both a male and female contest, for costumes so start digging out your cloaks and daggers, and don't forget to bring your garlic!! Mark

your calendars and see the enclosed flyer. We promise an evening that you will NEVER forget!

We thank the members who supported our ice cream and cookie sale at the last Fish Fry. Your generosity and support help in raising money for our Children's Christmas Party. Look ahead for our ice cream and cookie sales at future Friday night dinners.

November 2015 Inspirational Thanksgiving Poem

T is for the Trust the Pilgrims had so many years ago
 H is for the harvest the settlers learned to grow
 A is for America, the land in which we live
 N is for the nature and beauty which she gives
 K is for kindness, gentle words and thoughtful deeds
 S is for smiles, the sunshine everyone needs
 G is for gratitude . . . Our blessings big

and small
 I is for ideas, letting wisdom grow tall
 V is for voices, singing, laughing, always caring
 I is for Indians, who taught them about sharing
 N is for neighbors, across the street and over the sea
 G is for giving of myself to make a better me

Let us Pray

Gracious Heavenly Father, when I have food, help me to remember the hungry; when I have work, help me to remember the jobless; when I have a home, help me to remember those who have no home at all; when I am without pain, help to remember those who suffer, and remembering, help me destroy my complacency; bestir my compassion, and be concerned enough to help; by word and deed, those who cry out for what we take for granted. Amen.

Samuel F. Pugh

A message from the Grand Exalted Ruler

'Tis the season for holidays, service and membership

by RONALD L. HICKS
 Grand Exalted Ruler



Christmas is the time of year when we celebrate the birth of Christ, and when our thoughts turn to family and friends, anticipating good will, social gatherings, gifts and the great foods of the holiday season. It's a wonderful time of year for every Lodge to show its "Elks Pride and Community Focus" by being a beacon of hope for the community and showing that Elks live and Elks give from the heart.

If you have been waiting for just the right opportunity to get more involved in your Lodge, the holidays are the perfect time to get started. There is so much going on at your Lodge, and there will certainly be

something that you will enjoy! Why not step forward to participate in the holiday activities at your Lodge or join with other Members in a community service program to help bring a smile to the face of a Veteran or a child, or to assist someone in need? Your efforts will be greatly appreciated, and will fill your heart with the true joy of the holiday season, increase your pride in membership and may even spark a desire to become more involved and active at your Lodge.

In addition, this is a great time of year

GER message continued on page 14

El Konejo Kampers

Let's hope the third time is the charm, as the saying goes, since once again I'm starting out with unusual weather - it was soooooo hot at Flying Flags in Buellton, we were like little moles most of the day until early afternoon when a breeze came up and we could gather in usual camper mode. By November we want to be cool and dry.

The majority of the campers showed up early Thursday and got set up before the sun melted them. We were all happy in anticipation of a great weekend. A few of the campers showed up on Wednesday but as of Thursday afternoon we checked off the following names: Jesse and Millie Garcia, Bob and Nancy Hart (our newest members and both couples are on their second campout), Jim and Kathy Moyer, Donna and Ed Collieran, Debbi and Jeff Drake, Chuck and Judy Kudra, Bev and Joel Erickson, David and Jessica Stull, Joe and Judy Nemtusak, Cheryl Templeton, and Mike and Mary Flannery. Scott and Crystal Dool, our hotel campers, were present and accounted for as well. Sue Osgood was scheduled to be our wagonmaster, but bad things happen to good people sometimes, and Sue qualifies.

Sue was well on her way when suddenly, without warning, her motorhome engine just quit. For no reason, her brand new, bright and shiny, expensive, dream motorhome conked out in the middle of the freeway. Ever prepared, Sue was able to get it over to the shoulder (almost) with

the remaining inertia. She was pulling her tow vehicle and had both Scotties in the rig when it happened. This was about a mile from the Santa Barbara Lodge. When I passed her, I could see the CHP had arrived along with a tow truck and she was talking it over with the driver. There was nothing we could do to help as she had two vehicles. Sometime later, much later, Sue was advised that her wiring harness had burned up. It was not a complicated fix, but enough to ruin her weekend plans. We missed you, Sue, but so glad you were not hurt and will be able to make the next campout.

Thursday night our ER and Leading Knight, along with their wives went to the Santa Maria Lodge on official dinner business. Several of us went out for Mexican food across the street and it was wonderful. By the time the Santa Maria crowd returned, the rest of us ladies were on our second (or third) lemon drop martini. We were toasting Sue's safety and good health (well at least that sounds good). We laughed, talked, told jokes and more until people went to bed.

Friday, moles again, some took dinner at the campground where they had a huge bbq, while about 15 of us headed out to A.J. Spurs Restaurant. That place never disappoints. From huge lobster tails to the best beef and pork chops you ever tasted - it is delicious. To make it better we had the fastest, nicest, patient waitress who got everything right and out quickly. We

couldn't have been more pleased. When we returned, Millie and Nancy provided the ingredients for a cocktail called Hop, Skip and Go Naked. This consists of blending pink lemonade, Southern Comfort and beer in a blender with lots of ice. It was beautiful pink, cool, refreshing and did I mention deadly? Most all the women and some men tried it. It also loosens tongues (which can be funny, but as the writer of the article, I'm sworn to secrecy). Yes, what happens at a campout, stays at a campout - just like Vegas. Did I mention it is called HOP, SKIP AND GO NAKED?

Saturday morning we gathered for breakfast and our usual festivities. We have so many good cooks - no wonder we all battle with weight. Everything was delicious as usual. Joe Nemtusak won the 50/50 and got \$60. The free campouts were won by the Ericksons and the Garcias. Congrats to all the winners.

Just a reminder, the Kampers Holiday Brunch is coming up on December 13 at the Los Robles Golf Course banquet facility. This is open to anyone - Elks, family and friends. We have wonderful prizes every year. It is a grand event you won't want to miss. Buy your tickets - don't be left out of the fun. No tickets are sold at the door.

October 4th the camper served 67 AA breakfasts and 20 Elks breakfasts for a

Continued on page 14

The PERs Corner

The Past Exalted Rulers serve their breakfast on the third Sunday of each month. We get help from Scott Cameron who transferred to our lodge from Simi Valley. At our breakfasts Tom Ryder had a vision of how it was to be handled and slowly but surely we are getting there. We invested in single burner propane stoves and we have omelets to order with many ingredients that are tantalizing to the taste buds, made right in front of you and in

view of the guy making toast. Just when your eggs are done the toast comes out and is buttered and served hot with your eggs or omelet. You have a choice of pancakes with or without blueberries or you may choose to have a waffle. You get it when you want it so it's hot and crisp when served.

We staff a BBQ crew in months with five Saturdays. This past month was one such month and Rick Gessler jumped in to help us old guys out. Our bread man Johnny D'Ambrogio also works on the BBQ team

of Ed Rice. Jr. PER Dan Martyn sliced for us this past BBQ and he also works other BBQ teams. You'll find many of us work other teams which tells me we have room for the new members to get involved.

We appreciate the help and would look forward to training and guiding new members to the "BBQ team way" of Elkdom.

Fraternally,

David Naccarato, PER

Kampers - continued from page 13

total of 87 while on October 26 we served 33 AAs and 29 Elks for a total of 62. Grand total for the month of October is 149 breakfasts served. You campers are a great bunch!

Jessica Stull, President
El Konejo Kampers

Exalted Ruler - continued from page 3

the **Christmas tree lot**. Ben will need a bunch of us to unload trees and set up the lot. A sign-up sheet will be posted at the lodge for this event.

I look forward to seeing all of you at these events and wish you all good health, peace and prosperity. Remember, your involvement is the key to our Lodge's success.

Yours truly,

Jim Moye, Exalted Ruler

GER Message - continued from page 12

to attract new Members by showing how "Elks Care – Elks Share." As we advance and strengthen our presence in our communities, we also introduce our friends and neighbors to Elkdom and prove ourselves a reliable community partner. Through our enthusiastic volunteer service, we are able to put a face on our Lodges, encourage others to learn more about the Elks, who we are and what we do, and increase the opportunities for new Members to join our Order.

Nancy and I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas, a wonderful holiday season and a safe and happy New Year.

Veterans - continued from page 6

ceremony accompanied by officers Mike Flannery, Jean Maraglia, Pam Price, Bill Sternberg (son) and following the lead of Bill Sternberg (father) who coordinated the functions of Elks and Scouts. Chaplain for the day was Greg Metzgus, current District Leader, PER, PDDGER and Past District Vice President, Navy veteran and submariner. Lodge Scouting Chairman Bill Miller and wife Jeri also assisted with the participation of the scouts. Bill Miller, Bill Sternberg (father) and Bill Sternberg (son) are also Navy veterans and Mike Flannery is an Army veteran.

that have the most complete flag retirement procedures are the B.P.O.E. and the Boy Scouts of America. The combined effort is always uniquely successful.



Sternbergs (Father and Son) display new donated POW-MIA flag.

Note of Interest: If one were to review information available on the internet, it can be seen that two of the organizations

In December, our Veterans Fund will again participate in the Christmas Baskets by furnishing boxes of goods to needy

military families in the county as identified by the 146th Airlift Wing - Air National Guard in Port Hueneme.

Operation Snowflake is coming again to Camarillo; a day in the park with Christmas gifts for military families, and with Terry Gicking as Santa. This event will be on Dec. 12th from 2-5 pm at the park on Carmen & Brunley in Camarillo. See Carl, or bring gifts to David in the office or donate \$25 gift cards, I-Tunes or Amazon gift cards.

The Ventura County Military Collaborative now presents a free legal counseling service for veterans. See www.military411.org or call 805-419-3185.



Picking up donated oak Gerry Gillies, Dave Anderson, Dwight Williams, Jim Allen, Max Maxwell and Jesse Garcia

Officers 2015 - 2016

Exalted Ruler	Jim Moye	Tiler	Christine Harrison
Leading Knight	Mike Flannery	Inner Guard	Gregg Miraglia
Loyal Knight	Jean Miraglia	Esquire	Billy Sternberg
Lecturing Knight	Karen Martyn	Chaplain	Dave Anderson
Secretary	David Naccarato, PER	Organist	Karin Speights
Treasurer	Pati Harrod	Officer at Large	Terry Gicking, PDDGER

Trustees 2015 - 2016

One Year	Pam Price, COB
Two Year	James Lovato
Three Year	George Meehan, PER
Four Year	Darryl Kopacz
Five Year	Dan Martyn, PER

Elk of the Year	Gerry Gillies
Officer of the Year	Pam Price
Citizen of the Year	Richard Herrera

2015 - 16 Committees reporting to the Exalted Ruler

Antler Antics	Membership: Catherine Koeritz, PER
Editor & Email Distribution: Steve Smith, PER	Investigation: Alan Hardie, Dave Anderson, Diane Scott & John Duhig
USPS Mailing: Jessica Stull and Juanita Feamster	Orientation: Catherine Koeritz, PER, Chair Ofcers, David Naccarato, PER
Calendar: Terry Gicking	Lapsed and Stray Elks: David Naccarato, PER
Website, Blog & Weekly Updates: Steve Smith, PER	Maintenance: Jim Moye
Auditing and Accounting Committee: David Pearson	Grounds: Ben Rieger
Barbeque: Eddie Rice	Facilities: Tom Hartin, Jeff Conyers & Max Maxwell
Historian/Scrapbook: Chairperson needed	Greeter: Dorothy Murray
Photography: Jill Williams	PER Association President: Terry Baker, PER
Forward Planning: Jim Moye	Parliamentarian/Presiding Justice: Dick McCann
Protocol: Karen Martyn	Grants Coordinator: Chairperson needed

2015 - 16 Committees reporting to the Leading Knight

Bar Liason: Mike Flannery	Community Activities: Mike Flannery
Major Project/Purple Pig: Pati Harrod	Sickness and Distress: Coleen Morris
Bequests & Living Trusts: Mike Flannery	Charity Matters: Mike Flannery
Elks National Foundation: Donna Leary	El Konejo Kampers: Jessica Stull
Christmas Basket Program: Mike Flannery	Christmas Tree Lot: Ben Rieger

2015 - 16 Committees reporting to the Loyal Knight

Kitchen Operations: Tom Ryder	Conejo Valley Days: Tom Hartin
Lodge Activities: Jean Miraglia	Mediator: Boyd Lindquist
Flag Day, Flag Retirement: Bill Sternberg	New Years Eve: Jean Miraglia
Government Relations: Chairperson needed	Mothers Day: Dave Anderson
Elks Memorial Service: Dave Anderson	Inaugural Ball: Jean Miraglia
Veteran Services: Carl Lanterman	Law Enforcement/Firefighter Appreciation: Paul Stein
Public Relations: Lynn Rodriguez	

2015 - 16 Committees reporting to the Lecturing Knight

Youth Activities: Chairperson needed	Americanism: Terry Gicking, PDDGER
Hoop Shoot: David Naccarato, PER	Dictionary Program: Mary Woodlief
Drug Awareness: Don Sabol	Youth Appreciation Night: Karen Martyn
Scholarships: Rick Herrera	Lodge July 4th and Labor Day Activities: Karen Martyn
Scouting: Bill Miller and Bill Sternberg, PER	

Official Publication of the Thousand
Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 - B.P.O.E.
2330 Los Feliz Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Change Service Requested

POSTERMASTER:

DATED MATERIAL: DO NOT DELAY

Office Phone: 805-496-2477

Facsimile: 805-496-9087

Office Email: toelks2477@gmail.com

Lounge Phone: 805-496-4550

Website: www.elks2477.com

Office Hours: 10am to 2pm Mon-Fri

El Konejo Kampers:

elkonejokampers.oaksdata.com

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Thousand Oaks, CA
Permit #237

Lounge Hours

(Unless otherwise noted)

Mon., Tues., Thur.: 10am - 8pm

Wed. & Fri.: 10am - Closing

Sat.: 10am - 6pm

Sun: 9:30am - 6pm

Lodge Meetings

Regular business meetings are every 1st, 3rd
and 4th Wednesday of the month.

2nd Wednesday of the Month

Trustee Meeting: 6pm

House Committee Meeting : 7:30pm

followed immediately by Officers meeting

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
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 Metzgas, PDDGER, DL
2004-05 Jay Block
2005-06 *Sally Claunch
2006-07 David Naccarato
2007-08 Catherine Koeritz
2008-09 George Meehan
2009-10 Terry Gicking, PDDGER
2010-11 Harry Brockwell
2011-12 Steve Smith
2012-13 Leo Rodriguez
2013-14 Terry Baker
2014-15 Dan Martyn

By Affiliation:

1981-82 Robert L. Thornton, PDDGER
2001-02 Bill Sternberg
1999-00 *Ralph Vester
'83-'84, '02-'03 Harold Constantine

*Deceased

The *Antler Antics* is published monthly in Thousand Oaks, California as the official bulletin of the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America, 2330 Los Feliz Dr., Thousand Oaks, CA 91360. Publication of the *Antler Antics* is an activity of the Lodge and contributions of interesting pertinent reading material and photographs are welcome. Photographs MUST be identified and captioned or they will not be published.

Deadline for receiving ALL material for publication is the 15th of the Month