

# *Antler Antics*

*Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks*



SEPTEMBER 11, 2001



**PATRIOT DAY**  
WE WILL NEVER FORGET

## Table of Contents

Sickness and Distress	2
September Birthdays	2
Candidates, Transfers & Reinstates	2
Purple Pig Honor Roll	2
Special Thanks	2
Spectrum Hold Notice	2
Message from the Exalted Ruler	3
Message from the Leading Knight	3
Message from the Loyal Knight	4
Message from the Lecturing Knight	4
Manna Donation	4
Names on a Wall	5
El Koneo Kampers Article	5
Past Exalted Rulers	5
Officers, Trustees & Chairpersons	6

## Sickness and Distress

Alex Rogers, Committee Chair  
Home 805-492-3280  
Cell 805-427-3013

### Condolences to:

None to report.

### Keep in your prayers:

**David Naccarato, PER**, who is recovering from recent surgery.

**Rick Herrera** who will be going in September 3<sup>rd</sup> for shoulder replacement.

**Bill Sternberg, PER**, who fell and broke his hip. He is now staying with his son in Missouri.

### Good News to Report:

**Harold Constantine, PER**, had polyps removed from his throat, no cancer found.

**Faye Stevens** welcomed great-grandson Oliver Gene.

## Candidates, Transfers & Reinstatements

### Candidate

Ralph "Ken" Davis Jr.

### Sponsor

John Gin

## September Birthdays

Edward Ayril-03  
Julie Cook-03  
Daniel Hoffman, PER-03  
John Mutolo-03  
Geoffrey Garcia-04  
Juan Garcia Lopez-04  
Tom Ryder, PDDGER-04  
Len Cardoni-05  
Charles Hall-06  
Edwin Jones-06  
Dorothy Murray-07  
Vernon Noell-07  
Anna Garcia-08  
Jean Miraglia, PER-10  
Larry Zarybnicky-11  
Kathee Wilson-12  
Dennis Anderson-13  
James La Rue-15  
Christine Rundle-15  
Lisa Teevan-16  
Bill Lloyd, PSP-17  
Ed Rice-17  
Christopher Campbell-18  
Kirk Keeler-18  
John Wendling-18  
Steven Henderson-21  
Robert Jacalone-21

### *September Birthdays continued*

Juanita Feamster-22  
Stella Violano-23  
Boyd Lindquist-24  
Karen Martyn, PER-25  
Robert Wylie-25  
Michael Dow-26  
Marshall Knowlton-26  
Vanessa Romano-27  
Richard Russillo-27  
Stephen Buczynski-28  
Doug Carroll-28  
John Nau, PER-28  
Brian Boals-29  
Reem Agel-30

## Purple Pig Honor Roll

### Recurring Members

Arthur Garcia  
Gerry Gillies  
Dan Hoffman, PER  
Inger Hogan  
Ed Lees  
Greg Metzgus, DL, PDDGER  
Alexandra Rogers  
Gregory Sweet  
Lyssa Wright

## A Special Thanks

A special thanks to Beverly Reis, for volunteering to sanitize the BBQ room and kitchen in preparation of our VC Health Department inspection.

Dan Martyn, ER

*continued in next column*

### **LODGE ROOM RENTALS**

Our renovated Lodge Room is available for rental at very reasonable rates. Catering can be arranged. For more information contact Brooke at 805-496-4550.

### Notice about Spectrum Hold

In order to reduce costs while our lodge is closed, we have placed our Spectrum account on seasonal hold, during which time there will be no phone service, internet, Wi-Fi or television in the lodge. If you need to contact the lodge, please call the office at 805-496-2477.

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

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.**



## ***A Message from Exalted Ruler, Dan Martyn, PER***

Inasmuch as we have not had regular meetings which typically include reports on bills, receipts and bank balances, this month's article will attempt to bring our membership up to date on where things stand financially and operationally.

As you are aware, the Elk year runs from April 1 to March 31. Following our closing on March 18, the trustees revised our budget based on the assumption that during the first quarter, we would have no income other than dues, which are accrued monthly on our financials. More importantly, please keep in mind that our dues cover only office expenses, officer participation in state and regional meetings and our Grand Lodge and California state assessments. Dues do not cover any operational expenses.

With no receipts other than dues, our lodge still must pay the cost of utilities, taxes, license fees, maintenance and repairs and such. Although our lodge remains closed, our electric bill alone exceeds \$1,000 per month. It should be no surprise then that during the first quarter through June 30, our lodge suffered a loss, which was anticipated.

In June, we were able to start our barbeque operation again, after several consultations with and inspections by our Ventura County Health Department representative. Because our county has adopted very restrictive operating guidelines, even for

take-out restaurant operations, we were required to bring our barbeque operations indoors except for grilling. Needless to say, significant changes were required. I thank our barbeque crew chiefs and volunteers for working to accept and adapt to these changes. We did not hear a whole lot of the usual "we've never done it this way." Instead, our crews stepped up and did what needed to be done to stop the financial bleeding.

How has it worked out? In a word, GREAT. We have adjusted our prices to reflect increased costs. Although we operate on a take-out basis only, our receipts have exceeded our expectations, even though we estimate that we have lost between 15% and 20% of our customers because dining in our picnic area is prohibited. So, what does that mean to the lodge financially?

Well, it's good news and bad news. The good news is that we have regular income at a consistent level week to week. So, what's the bad news? Our barbeque income barely covers our current monthly operating costs by a slim margin. What does this mean? It means we are watching every penny to make sure we avoid any expense not absolutely necessary.

What's next? We continue to monitor state and county COVID-19 orders in the hope that some restrictions will be eased. Presently, indoor restaurants and bar operations are prohibited, and outdoor operations require social distancing and food service with any alcoholic beverage. Our staffing for outdoor service would require bartenders, servers, sanitizing by table cleaners and other staffing. It is not

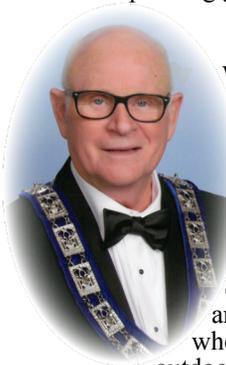
an easy task to plan to operate within current Ventura County guidelines given our physical layout, staffing requirements and the need to conduct operations without taking a loss. As stated above, our barbeque income (net after sales tax, food costs and supplies) barely covers our current monthly bills. That income is not enough to subsidize limited bar and kitchen operations.

To sum up, we are now operating without a monthly loss, we have adequate working capital and we have not (and we will not) invade our restricted funds which are to be used solely for our community service and charitable works. Notwithstanding the present COVID-19 pandemic and its physical, social and economic impact on all of us, our lodge remains in a good financial position. We are working on alternative plans for Veteran's Day, the annual Memorial Service, our Christmas Tree Lot, as well as our annual Charity Basket Program. Your officers will continue to work toward normalizing our operations to the extent possible, given current restrictions, our responsibility for the lodge's finances and, most importantly, our concern for the safety of our members.

I apologize for the length of this "state of the union" message, but it is our responsibility as officers to keep members informed. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [danmartyn2477@aol.com](mailto:danmartyn2477@aol.com).

Stay safe!

Dan Martyn, PER  
ER



## ***A Message from Esteemed Leading Knight, Richard Platt***

We are five months into this Elk year. Hopefully, we will be able to open soon. The Ventura County Health Department has a directive mandating that bars cannot operate indoors and must serve a meal when one orders drinks outdoors. We are looking for

the right answers for your Lodge. We will continue to look into options and keep you informed. We are planning to install a fence in the patio area, which has been funded by our Kampers, in order to facilitate outdoor service.

We have been informed that the Mid-Term Convention has been cancelled. David Naccarato was able to obtain a Grand Lodge Spotlight Grant for community assistance during the present COVID-19

pandemic. Last week that check was given to Thousand Oaks Manna. We also held a blood drive in July in support of the ongoing community COVID-19 fight.

I had the opportunity to participate in the Grand Lodge's Drug Awareness Webinar. This is one of the classes that are usually presented at the National Convention. I heard from the DEA agent who was the recipient of the Enrique Camarena Award and who was instrumental in bringing the Elks Drug Awareness Program into a meaningful relationship with the DEA. In addition, Special Agent Sean Fearn, who is the Demand Reduction Coordinator at the Drug Enforcement Administration Headquarters in Washington DC, informed us about the latest and growing drug trends in the USA.

We also learned about the latest Elk video being produced by Robert Sabouni, who has produced our Elk comic books and

award-winning videos. We previewed the winning contest video prepared by a high school student, whose family was and is still fighting prescription drug abuse. One bit of information that stood out to me is that there are now more legal marijuana outlets than McDonald's and Starbucks in California. Law enforcement believes that California's marijuana growers sell about one-fifth of the total marijuana crop to legal vendors, which means there is still big money in weed on the black market, and far more crime.

See you at the BBQ Saturday! Thank you and if I can be of help, please call me at home (805) 380-4101 or email me at [rplatt\\_1998@yahoo.com](mailto:rplatt_1998@yahoo.com).

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Platt  
Leading Knight



## ***A Message from Esteemed Loyal Knight, Adelaide Wavra***

Hi Everyone. I hope this article finds all of you healthy and adjusting to this new norm. I know it's hard, but change is here. Just remember to be kind.

I would like to start with an apology. I am so very sorry I did not inform all of you that we decided to delay the car show. With the Covid-19 state and county regulations that are changing daily, we just can't plan on a

successful event. Thank you for your understanding. We WILL plan for a future date.

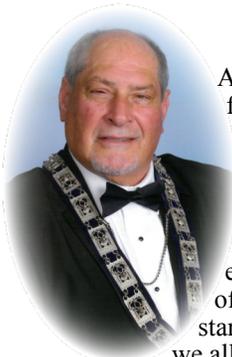
The BBQ's on Saturdays are doing great. Please share the Facebook reminders and ask your friends to do the same.

The Antibody Testing as well as our 2nd Blood Drive went very well. Even though we are not open, we are still reaching out to help our community.

I would like to remind all of you that September 11 is Patriots Day. Please take

time to remember all those lost in the Twin Towers in New York, at the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania. We should never forget that horrible day in history. Be as proud of your country, The United States of America and our beautiful American Flag, as they were.

***I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands one nation under God indivisible with liberty and justice for all***



## ***A Message from Esteemed Lecturing Knight, John Betancourt***

As we enter into the final month of the second quarter of the Elk year, I look back and reflect on what kind of a year we have had so far. We elected our new officers for the year starting on April 1 and we all looked forward to another great year at our lodge, but then came the Corona virus and we were closed as was the rest of the country. Once we were able to get the OK from the county, our ER got the BBQ started and it gave us

hope that the Elks were back in business. The BBQ has been going strong ever since we opened. As the Lecturing Knight we have not been able to have our Youth Appreciation Night or the recognition of our Scholarship winners. Other activities such as the Hoop Shoot and the Dictionary Program may not come about since the local schools are not open at this time due to the virus, but rest assured that when we can resume, we will do our best to put these activities back on the calendar.

September is also a month to reflect on what happened on September 11, 2001, a day that we will always remember. On this

day I hope all of our Elk members remember to fly our great and beautiful American Flag to honor all who are not with us as a result of the events of that tragic day.

In closing, I wish all of our follow Elks a safe and happy Labor Day. Until we all can be together again at our lodge, be safe and keep the faith as things will get better.

John Betancourt  
Lecturing Knight

## **Our Members Helping Manna**



Our lodge received a \$2000 ENF Spotlight Grant from Grand Lodge to provide assistance to members of our community impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Shown (pictured above L-R) at the check presentation are Lecturing Knight John Betancourt, Edgar Thatcher of Manna, ER Dan Martyn and Leading Knight Richard Platt.

## Names on a Wall

Last month I took my two sons to visit the 9/11 memorial at the World Trade Center site in lower Manhattan. I had made many trips to the towers. Years ago between classes, Joe, my friend and study group member, and I would frequently walk to the Galway Bay, where we would enjoy cheap cold beer and NYC Irish bar style steam table sandwiches before heading back out on West Broadway, where on a cold day the wind funneling through the twin towers off the bay would chill you to the bone.

Joe was one of the nicest people you could know and loved dining and cooking, and we would frequent Little Italy and Chinatown. I remember the time we promised each other we would not discuss the bar exam after taking it, and instead had a few beers near Times Square and resisted the urge to ask each other how we thought we did.

Joe started a new job at the World Trade Center the first week of September, 2001. Until I received a notice from my school, I

did not know that Joe had been killed on 9/11, along with several other alumni. I was in New York City for my brother's wedding a couple of weeks after 9/11, and I asked the priest about the list of 30 names on the wall in the vestibule. He told me that those 30 parishioners were missing at the World Trade Center, and that there were over 200 names on the wall at the adjoining parish.

And so I went to the 9/11 memorial to pay my respects. I found Joe's name in the black granite surrounding the footprint of the North Tower, showed it to my sons and asked them to take a picture of it. As strange as this may sound, my thought when I touched Joe's name was that I hope he did not suffer.

Some time ago I took my children to the traveling Vietnam Memorial and showed them George's name, a neighborhood kid who got into some trouble in 1968 and wound up with his name on the wall. We have names on the wall at the Thousand

Oaks Library and on a monument at Westlake Blvd. and Triunfo Canyon Rd.

So what's the point? I think we should never let those words become just names on a wall. They represent the ultimate sacrifice that so many have made; some while defending our country, and some for just being Americans. It is often said that the price of freedom is high, and it is important that we make sure our children and grandchildren understand the sacrifices so many have made. When you take your kids or grandkids to Hawaii, take them to the Punchbowl Cemetery, or to the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial. If you take them to Washington, D.C., take them to the Vietnam Memorial. Show them the names on the wall.

Dan Martyn

*Reprinted from October 2012 Antler Antics*

## El Konejo Kampers

The El Konejo Kampers had a wonderful campout in July at the Oceano Lodge. The weather was a bit chilly, but that didn't stop us from having a great time. Cheryl and Paul Stein were very gracious Wagonmasters – Saturday night we were even treated to Adult Root Beer Floats. Thanks Cheryl and Paul!

In August, we headed to the Vista Lodge. Shirste and Rik Gessler were the Wagonmasters. We had a very exciting Corn Hole Tournament while keeping our social distancing. The Lodge was open for patio dining so all 12 of us took advantage by having Steak and Lobster on Friday night. We had two new Kampers join us on this trip: Teresa and John Gin. They are a lovely couple. Welcome Teresa and John!

The remainder of the year is booked. In September, we are headed to the Santa Maria Lodge from 9-10-20 to 9-13-20.

Please contact Kathy or Jim Moye if you would like to be on the waiting list.

In October, we are staying at the Flying



Pictured above (L-R) are Teresa & John Gin, Patti Bauman, April (guest of Lyssa Wright) and the back of Jimmy Miller.

Flags RV Park in Buellton. Our Wagonmaster is Virginia Grindly. In November, we are planning to stay at the Rincon Parkway.

We have great news about our annual El Konejo Kampers Holiday Brunch. Please "Save the Date". We are penciled in for Sunday, December 13, 2020 at Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477. At this point, we are tentative as it is not clear if the Lodge will be open and/or gatherings will be allowed. There will be more information to come!

We are currently working on the 2021 campout schedule. Please visit our website at <http://elkonejokampers.oaksdata.com/> for more details on upcoming activities as they become available.

Stay safe and healthy!

Shirste Gessler

## 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, PDL, PSP  
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, 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  
2015-16 Jim Moye

2016-17 Mike Flannery  
2017-18 Jean Miraglia  
2018-19 Karen Martyn  
2019-20 Dan Hoffman

By Affiliation:

1981-82 \*Robert L. Thornton, PDDGER  
2001-02 Bill Sternberg  
2009-10, 13-14, 18-19 Grace Vega  
1999-00 \*Ralph Vester  
1983-84, 02-03 Harold Constantine

\*Deceased

## Officers 2020-2021

<b>Exalted Ruler</b>	Dan Martyn, PER	<b>Tiler</b>	Lyssa Wright
<b>Leading Knight</b>	Richard Platt	<b>Inner Guard</b>	Gregg Miraglia
<b>Loyal Knight</b>	Adelaide Wavra	<b>Esquire</b>	Terry Gicking, PDDGER
<b>Lecturing Knight</b>	John Betancourt	<b>Chaplain</b>	Adam Smith
<b>Secretary</b>	David Naccarato, PER	<b>Officer at Large</b>	Jim Moye, PER
<b>Treasurer</b>	William Joseph		

### Trustees 2020 - 2021

<b>One Year</b>	Ray Laraway, COB
<b>Two Year</b>	Rich Lucariello
<b>Three Year</b>	Darryl Kopacz
<b>Four Year</b>	Vacant
<b>Five Year</b>	Steve Kerman

**Elk of the Year** Kathy Moye  
**Officer of the Year** Richard Platt  
**Citizen of the Year** Rick Bucaria

**Grand Exalted Ruler Outstanding Member Award Recipients**  
Carlos Muzquiz and Jill Williams

### 2020 - 2021 Committees reporting to the Exalted Ruler

Antler Antics

Editor & Email Distribution: Steve Smith, PER

Proofreader: Karen Martyn, PER

USPS Mailing: Juanita Feamster

Website: Steve Smith, PER

Auditing and Accounting Committee: Art Garcia

Barbeque: Dan Martyn, PER

Photography: Jill Williams

Protocol: Karen Martyn, PER

Presiding Justice: John Moran

Grants Coordinator: David Naccarato, PER

Membership: David Naccarato, PER & Terry Gicking, PDDGER

Investigation: John Betancourt, Richard Platt and Alex Rogers

Orientation: David Naccarato, PER, Chair Officers and

Terry Gicking, PER/PDDGER

Lapsed and Stray Elks: David Naccarato, PER

Maintenance: "Max" Maxwell

Grounds: Needed

Facilities: Tom Hartin, Dean Reichle and Jeff Conyers

Greeters: Dorothy Murray and Kathy Moye

PER Association President: Jean Miraglia, PER

Lodge Room Setup: Bill Joseph

### 2020 - 2021 Committees reporting to the Leading Knight

Bar Liaison: Richard Platt

Major Project/Purple Pig: Dan Hoffman, PER

Bequests & Living Trusts: Arthur Garcia

Elks National Foundation: Grace Vega, PER

Christmas Basket Program: Richard Platt

Community Activities: Richard Platt

Sickness and Distress: Alex Rogers

Charity Matters: Richard Platt

El Konejo Kampers: Virginia Grindley

Christmas Tree Lot: Carlos Muzquiz

### 2020 - 2021 Committees reporting to the Loyal Knight

Kitchen Operations: Adelaide Wavra

Lodge Activities: Adelaide Wavra

Flag Day, Flag Retirement: Adelaide Wavra

Government Relations: Richard Platt & John Betancourt

Elks Memorial Service: Adam Smith

Veteran Services: Tom Ryder, PDDGER

Public Relations: Adelaide Wavra

Calendar: Adelaide Wavra

Mediator: Rick Rodgers

Mothers Day: Adam Smith

Inaugural Ball: Adelaide Wavra

Law Enforcement/Firefighter Appreciation: Paul Stein

### 2020 - 2021 Committees reporting to the Lecturing Knight

Youth Activities: John Betancourt

Hoop Shoot: Anna Garcia

Drug Awareness: Needed

Scholarships: Reem Agel

Scouting: Steve Henderson

Americanism: Rick Herrera

Dictionary Program: Steve Woodlief

Youth Appreciation Night: John Betancourt