

# Antler Antics



## Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks

### Message from The Exalted Ruler, Richard Platt



Almost that Time of the Year

At the monthly Calendar Planning Meeting, numerous finished items were noted, as well as several measures that needed to get back on track. Our PER's had requested that we get the **Memorial Garden** completed, by December. **Tom Ryder** provided us with an overview of the project, those things done and yet to do. Tom is working on acquiring an Elk statue, not as easy as it sounds. **Rick Herrera** and crew will be working on finishing up the landscaping. Many thanks to all our members who have contributed to this project.

Our charter is dated March 25, 1972. We have served our Order and Thousand Oaks for fifty years. We are now holding a 50-year pin contest. Look at the notices posted in the lodge. Submit your proposed design and vote your selection. Please present your vote to our Lodge Secretary. The winning design will be declared in December.

**Terry Gicking** and crew have worked very hard on putting together a wonderful Charity Ball, on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021. I hope to see you all there.

The November Calendar is full of things at your Lodge. Mid -Term Convention starts on the fourth thru the seventh. We will hold only one Lodge Meeting on the tenth, as is normal. **Veteran's Day** is the eleventh. ENF Dinner on the fourteen, more information will be forthcoming on that. Thanksgiving Dinner, Veteran's Breakfast and Flag Service, Tree Lot and so much more. That's just some of the highlights.

Gayle and I would like to take a minute to thank all who have done so much this year, as this time of the year starts to come about.

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.

### TABLE of CONTENTS

Officer Messages	1-3	COVID Clinic, Birthdays,	Continued Articles,	12
Officers, Past ERs,		First Lady	Elk Awards October,	
Help Needed	4	Sip & Shop	Christmas Toy Reminder	
Committees	5	September Pin Dinner		
Sickness and Distress,		Elk of the Month, Bunco,	Calendar attached	
Applications, Purple		Scholarship, Citizen of the Year	Fish Fry Flyer Attached	
Pig, Donations	6	Lodge Pin Contest	Bunco Flyer Attached	



## Message from the Leading Knight, Terry Gicking

October is done and now we are into the start of the holiday season! Thanksgiving and Christmas are upon us. That means time for giving thanks for all we have, and it is also time to give back, if you can. It is also a busy time at your home and at your lodge.

The Charity Ball and Yeti Cooler raffle was a huge success. The money raised from your generous contributions is helping the Lodge give to those in need during this time. Not sure as of this writing, the total of how many we will be helping, but it is good to know this Lodge went above and beyond to donate. Thank you one and all!

The Veterans Breakfast on the third Sunday is growing in attendance. It is free to any Veteran. It is 2477's way of saying "Thank you for your service to our country." Pricing is \$10 for everyone else. We expanded the menu and added a few personalized entrees as well. We have opened the breakfast to Veterans in our community, so invite your neighbors and family.

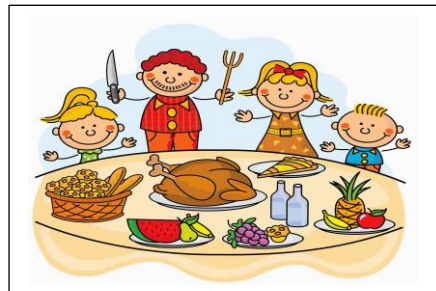
**Veterans Day Brunch.** We cannot host the Vets from Sepulveda VA or the Cal Vet Home in Ventura for Veterans Day Brunch due to the Covid restrictions. We are working on some alternative ideas. Smitty and his crew has put on a great breakfast. He will continue to cook breakfast through the football season on the first Sunday of the month, starting at 9am. Don't miss out on his delicious breakfast.

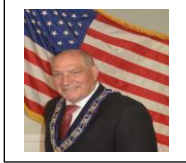
Christmas trees are coming. Set-up at Carlsen's is the Sunday and Monday of Thanksgiving weekend. (November 28 & 29), with tree delivery and opening of the tree lot shortly thereafter. **HELP IS ALWAYS NEEDED.** More details will be made available by the Robocall, so make sure we have your cell number so you can receive those calls. Call the Lodge Office (805-496-2477) to let David know your **cell phone number.**

Speaking of Thanksgiving, the Lodge will be having a traditional Thanksgiving Day feast for all Elks who do not have family close by to be with. On the menu will be turkey, ham, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, and rolls. The price will be a minimum \$5 donation along with bringing and sharing a dessert. The meal will be served from 1-3PM. This is a tradition that Jerry Serota kept alive for so many years and couldn't do anymore. I would like to continue this tradition. Reservations will be required, but we will not turn anyone away. The lounge will be open from 11-4 for the football games.

Please be safe this holiday season and remember, Charity IS the cornerstone of Elksdom!

Fraternally and sincerely,  
Terry





**Message from the  
Loyal Knight John  
Betancourt**

As we enter the month of November, we start to think of two things, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas. Thanksgiving is a great day, gathering of family and friends, lots of Food, and the watching of football games on the TV.

The Elks are also thinking of the families that cannot have a Thanksgiving dinner. Hopefully this year at our Lodge we will be able to make Thanksgiving meal will all the fixings for members who will not be with their families. This is what we do as Elks, We help those in need.

We have had our ups and downs at the Lodge this year but we always come through. Thank you for hanging in and supporting the Lodge. I like to personally thank all of those, you know who you are, that where so kind to contact me after my knee replacement surgery to see how I was doing. To **Tom and Mary Baldrige, Greg and Patty Sweet, Our ER and First Lady, Richard and Gayle Platt, and Bobby Williams** for their visits to my home to see how I was doing and if I needed anything, Thank you. I am very grateful and most important glad to be part of this Elk Lodge 2477. Looking forward to getting back and being part of the lodge again.

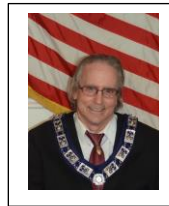
Wishing you and your families a very Happy and safe Thanksgiving

John Betancourt, Loyal Knight



**Message from the  
Lecturing Knight,  
Ron Watkins**

No Article Submitted



**Message from the  
Lodge Secretary  
David Naccarato**

**My Membership Card  
in the Elks**

By Richard S. Barrett, *Chairman of the Good of the Order Committee of the Grand Lodge*

I hold in my hand a little scrap of paper, two by three inches in size. It is of no intrinsic worth, not a bond, check, or receipt for values, yet it is my most priceless possession. It is my membership card in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America.

It tells me that I am an American citizen-the proudest title in all the world that can be conferred upon a man. It tells me that I am the peer of emperors and kings, the ruler of my own destiny, the maker of my own fortune. It tells me that I am a citizen of a land where democracy rules, where brotherhood prevails, where tolerance holds away, where justice is enthroned.

It tells me that I have joined with 800,000 other Americans in pledging of allegiance to our country and its laws; in placing the American flag first in our hearts as loyal Americans and first upon our altars as loyal Elks.

It tells me me that I have entered into a spiritual and material kinship with my fellow Elks to practice charity in word and deed; to forgive and forget the faults of my brothers, to hush the tongue of scandal and innuendo; to care for the crippled, the hungry and the sick; and to be just to all mankind.

It tells me that in 1,500 cities under good fellowship prevails ---- a home among brothers and friends; a home dedicated not only to the high principles for which the Order of Elks stands, but to the need o9f play, which is inherent in the heart of every man.

Continued on p. 12

### Officers 2021-2022

Exalted Ruler: Richard Platt  
Leading Knight: Terry Gicking PER  
PDDGER  
Loyal Knight: John Betancourt  
Lecturing Knight: Ron Watkins  
Secretary: David Naccarato  
Esquire: Adam Smith  
Chaplain: Rita DaCorsi  
Treasurer: Bill Joseph  
Inner Guard: Gregg Miraglia  
Tiler: Lyssa Wright  
One Year Trustee: Kathy Moye  
Two Year Trustee: Dan Hoffman\*  
Three Year Trustee: Reem Agel  
Four Year Trustee: Steve Kerman  
Five Year Trustee: Ed Lees

\*Chairman of the Board of Trustees

### **Help Needed**

We have four BBQ crews and one BBQ Chairman. **Steve Kerman** is our BBQ Chairman. He is also a Trustee, does the ordering of BBQ supplies, and most of the time he puts away lot and lots of the supplies. Steve also was our third week crew chief. All this got too much for him. I have had to take over the third week team, but I have some physical limitations. **Your Lodge needs a member to step up and become the third week BBQ crew chief.** The members on the team work well together. Each team indeed has its own personality. These guys are fun, and dependable. Please consider this opportunity, your Lodge needs you. Call **Richard Platt**, for more information. 805-380-4101

### Past Exalted Rulers

1972-73 Marvin D. Smith *	2001-02 John D'Ambrogio
1973-74 Erie Pittman, PDDGER	2002-03 Don Booker
1974-75 Richard Flake * PDDGER, DL	2003-04 Greg Metzgas,
1975-76 Bill Wagner *	2004-05 Jay Blockc *
1976-77 John E Henry *	2005-06 Sally Claunch *
1977-78 Robert McKee, PDDGER*	2006-07 David Naccarato
1978-79 Frank J Rindone PDDGER*	2007-08 Catherine Koeritz
1979-80 Edward F Stogsdell *	2008-09 George Meehan *
1980-81 Frank "Tex" Hastie * PDDGER	2009-10 Terry Gicking,
1981-82 Robert Hardy *	2010-11 Harry Brockwell *
1982-83 A John Nichols *	2011-12 Steve Smith
1983-84 John Nau	2012-13 Leo Rodriguez
1984-85 Vern Ogden *	2013-14 Terry Baker
1985-86 Dan Snyder *	2014-15 Dan Martyn
1986-87 Bill Lloyd, PDDGER, PDL, PSP	2015-16 Jim Moye
1987-88 John E Henry *	2016-17 Mike Flannery
1988-89 Ted Lipka *	2017-18 Jean Miraglia
1990-91 Don Ansell *	2018-19 Karen Martyn
1991-92 Gary Sleight *	2019-20 Dan Hoffman
1992-93 Tom Ryder, PDDGER	2020-21 Dan Martyn
1993-94 Jim Wallace *	*Deceased
1994-95 George Pekow *	
1995-96 Gil Riding, PDDGER	By Affiliation
1996-97 Jack Loughran * PDDGER	1981-82 Robert Thornton*,
1997-98 John Kelly *	2001-02 Bill Sternberg
1998-99 Chet Kozlowski * Vega	2009-10, 13-14, 18-19 Grace
1999-20 Richard Goldner, PDDGER	1999-00 Ralph Vester *
2000-01 Jacob Panczak	1983-04, 02-03 Harold Constantine

## Lodge Hours

**Monday-Friday 3PM to 8 PM**  
**Saturday-Sunday Noon – 6PM**

**Office Hours Mon-Thurs 10AM-3PM**

# Committees for the 2021-2022 Year

Please volunteer for a committee or lead one. Please note openings.

## Responsible to the Exalted Ruler

Antler Antics

Editor: Gayle Platt

Proofreading: Gayle Platt & Mary Woodlief

USPS Mailing: David Naccarato

Website: Kira Wagner PER

Grants Coordinator: David Naccarato PER

BBQ: Steve Kerman

Photography: Jill Williams

Protocol: Terry Gicking & David Naccarato PERS

Presiding Judge: John Moran

Lodge Room Setup: Bill Joseph

Youth Appreciation Night: Reem Agel

Membership: David Naccarato PER

Investigation: John Betancourt, Alex Rogers,  
Diane Jones

Orientation: Terry Gicking PER, PDDGER

Auditing & Accounting: Art Garcia

Lapsed and Strayed Elks: PERS

Maintenance: Dean Reichle

Grounds: Brian Williams & Richard Ibarra

Facilities: Dean Reichle & Jeff Conyers

Greeters: Dorothy Murray & Kathy Moyer

PER Association: Jim Moyer PER

## Responsible to the Leading Knight

Bar Liaison: Dan Hoffman PER

Community Activities: Terry Gicking PER, PDDGER

Major Project/Purple Pig: Dan Hoffman PER

Bequests & Living Trusts: Art Garcia

Elks National Foundation: Grace Vega PER

Christmas Tree Lot: Carlos Muzquiz

Christmas Baskets: Terry Gicking PER, PDDGER

Sickness & Distress: Alex Rogers

Charity Matters: Terry Gicking PER, PDDGER

El Konejo Kampers: Shirste Gessler

## Responsible to the Loyal Knight

Kitchen Operations: John Betancourt

Lodge Activities:

Flag Day/Flag Retirement: John Betancourt

Government Relations: John Betancourt

Elks Memorial Service: Rita Dacorsi

Veteran's Services: Tom Ryder PER PDDGER

Calendar: John Betancourt

Mediator: Rick Rodgers

Mother's Day: Rita DaCorsi

Inaugural Ball: **Needed**

Law Enforcement/Fire fighters: Paul Stein

Public Relations: Lyssa Wright

## Responsible to the Lecturing Knight

Youth Activities: Ron Watkins

Hoop Shoot: Duke Kopacz

Drug Awareness: **Needed**

Scholarship: Reem Agel

Scouting: Greg Metzgus

Americanism: **Pending**

Dictionary Program: Steve Woodlief

Youth Appreciation: Reem Agel

**HELP Us Serve Our  
Community Better**

# Elks Care – Elks Share

## Sickness and Distress

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

**Diana Metzgas** broke her leg. **Jim Moye Jr.** (a firefighter) injured his knee. **John Betancourt's** knee is healing. Keep these Elks in your prayers and good thoughts.

## Applications for Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Occupation</u>
<b>Jeannette Grasso</b>	<b>Kathy Moye</b>	Nurse
<b>Paul Campbell</b>	<b>Craig Burns</b>	Management
<b>Rick Lemmo</b>	<b>Craig Burns</b>	VP Caruso
<b>William Upston</b>	<b>Richard Goldner</b>	Retired

### Transfer

**Robert Dominquez** would like to affiliate with Thousand Oaks. He is from Gilroy Lodge #1567

## Other Donations

### Scouting Scout Camp Three Falls, Repair

Greg Metzgas  
Reem Agel  
Steve Kerman  
Ron Watkins



*A Coin a Day so they can  
Walk, Talk, See and Play!*

## Purple Pig Honor Roll

Bill Joseph \*  
Thomas Lucas  
Craig Ruhman  
Robert Williams  
Jean and Gregg  
Miraglia \*  
Thomas Baldrige

\*Century Club  
Members

## Recurring Donors

Reem Agel  
Dave Anderson  
John Betancourt  
Ed & Rita DaCorsi  
Art Garcia  
Terry Gicking  
Gerry Gillies  
Peter Gordon  
Brenda Hagen  
Inger Hogan  
Sheryl Holloway  
Diane Jones  
Ed Lees  
Greg Metzgas  
David Naccarato  
Richard Platt  
Alexandra Rogers  
Greg Sweet  
Lyssa Wright



## **COVID Clinic at Our Lodge**

The Ventura County Health Department (VCHD) held another COVID Vaccine Clinic was held on October 21, 2021, 11AM-1PM. The VCHD offered Janssen (Johnson and Johnson) vaccinations as well as Pfizer. They also offered Pfizer booster shots for those qualified. If you have not had your COVID vaccinations, we invite you to come to the Lodge in December for a first shot, second shot, or Booster. For shut-ins, you can make arrangements for the VCHD to visit that person at their residence. Flu shots were available. Next clinic is the first week in December.

## **November Birthdays**

John Duhig-01  
Roger Martin-03  
Brad Knupp-04  
Steven Grindley-05  
Kelly Jo Reed-07  
Time Lane-09  
Gina Brittany Stone-09  
Jack Carter-10  
John D'Ambrogio PER-11  
Thomas Johnson-12  
Jacob Panczak PER-13  
Joseph Cardona -15  
Scott Pickles-15  
George Thompson-16  
Russell Miller-17  
Roy Ratcliffe-18  
Robert(bobby) Williams-18  
Shannon Cunningham-19  
Larry Levine-19  
Gerry Gillies-21  
Betty Mcfarlin-22  
Pauline Nemecek-24  
Beverly Reis -26  
Wendell Oxford-27  
Steven Imes-29  
Bruce Froud-30



## **First Lady Thoughts . . . .**

Thank you, **Jill and Gerry** for your help with the Leading Knight's Christmas Toy Drive. The tree is up awaiting donations. The barrel is the place to put them. Please make certain that they are new and unopened. **Please no stuffed animals.** Jill will be hosting a Fish Fry this month on November 19<sup>th</sup>. If you bring a \$10-\$20 toy on that date you will receive a **free**, yes, **free** meal. You can donate more than once.

As of publication time, a gift-wrapping party will be held at the Lodge in the third week of December, date and time to be announced, to wrap the toys. All, will have tags on them "From: The **Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge.**" This is a Happy Season of Giving; this is what the Elks are all about.

Those coming to wrap should bring a pen, scissors, and tape. We have wrapping paper. Comradery and joy that exude at this event.

I thank you and **Terry** thanks you.





## SIP and Shop

By Jen Rice

Bring a friend or three to our first ever Sip and Shop at the Elks Lodge. Scout and Stellar will preview their Red's, White's and Sparkling wines along with Beautycounter's 2021 Holiday offerings.

Scout and Stellar wines are going beyond organic, our Clean Crafted™ wine is always free from synthetic pesticides and chemical additives and sweeteners. We partner with growers and family-owned farms to create delicious wine that's better on the vine, in the bottle, and in your glass.

We will also have Beautycounter previewed and hope to help check off some names on your Holiday Shopping List. Beautycounter's mission is: One by one, we are leading a movement to a future where all beauty is clean beauty. We are powered by people, and our collective mission is to get safer products into the hands of everyone. Formulate, advocate, & educate—that's our motto for creating clean beauty products that truly perform while holding ourselves to unparalleled standards of safety. Why? It's really this simple: beauty should be good for you.

Come for clean fun and sip while you shop with these local moms.

Any Questions Feel Free to contact Jen Rice @ 818.512.2143

**Make our Lodge a comfortable  
place to visit**



**September Pin Dinner 2019-20**



Five Year Pins: Reem Agel,  
Lynette Michell, ER, Dan Hoffman,  
Greg Sweet



10 Year Pins: Craig Burns, Mike  
Mathews, Dave Biedebach,  
Tom Baldrige



15 Year Pins: Gerry Gillies &  
Barbara Metzgun



20 Year Pins: Darryl "Duke"  
Kopacy & Bill O'Shea



30 Year Pin: Greg Metzgun



40 Year Pin: Johnny  
D'Ambrogio

### Elk of the Month

One of the jobs, the ER gets to do, is choosing, the Elk of the Month. I look around the Lodge each month, hoping to be surprised. This is fun, identifying a member going a bit above the norm. Diane Letulier was looking for the bank Sunday for members to purchase breakfast. When she nearly hurried into me. She cooks breakfast, Friday Night Dinners, as well as Monday Night Football meals. She is one fully involved “newbie.” Do you think newbie means, in a foreign language, can do, will do? Not all things Diane is doing are visible, she also works, unnoticed on any number of other events. She is helpful, pleasant, willing, and creative. Diane Letulier you are the Elk of the Month. Thank You on behalf of the Order and the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge # 2477.

### Scholarship Action

By David Naccarato

Due to the efforts of our Scholarship Chairperson, **Reem Agel**, and her Recycling Logistics Coordinator, **Richard Herrera** and the good people of Thousand Oaks Lodge bringing in their CRV recyclables, we have been able to fund these latest seniors with their college education. **Mya** is going to **Brown University** she received \$1,050. **Sruthi** is going to **UCLA** and she received \$750. **Niloufar** will be heading up to **UC Berkeley** and received \$1,500 and **Evan** is going to **University of Wisconsin** and received \$1,050.



### Bunco Party

By Lynn Rodriguez

Hello to all from the Bunco Party, we played Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> this month with a fantastic turn out! Pizza was available and of course our Bartender took great care of us taking orders and delivering our drinks to the tables! This month the Raffle winners were, Lynn Rodriguez, Kathy Moye, Lyssa Wright, Marian Anderson, Reem Angel, Bev Reis, Evie Bystrom, and Grace Vega! A big shout out and thanks to those who donated the prizes. The games winners were Rick Herrera and Winona Kreiger tied for the most games won; the most Buncos of the night was a tie with Evie Bystrom and Cheryl Schulman; the last Bunco of the evening went to Marian Anderson; and finally a tie for the “Booby” prize, “The most games LOST!” was a tie between Lynn Rodriguez and Kirsten Reis, each of them losing 12 out of 18 rounds. The group decided to give the donation from the game toward the new sound system in the Lodge Room. Our next party will be Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, we start at 6:00 pm, but ask that you come a little earlier to sign in. Please RSVP if you are planning to come, we welcome you to bring family and friends to play! Get out of the house and come down to the Lodge. It is a fantastic way to meet new people, relax and have a great evening! Any questions and to RSVP please contact Lynn Rodriguez, 805-559-0909 or 805-449-4282 or Bev Reis, 805-341-7823 so we can be sure to set up for all that want to play!

### Citizen of the Year

Though not an Elk, **Faye Stevens**, works hard at the **Elks BBQ** cutting ribs. She was awarded **Citizen of the Year**. She was not present for the Awards Night. Congrats Faye.



## ***LODGE PIN CONTEST***

### **THOUSAND OAKS ELKS LODGE**

IS TURNING "50" YEARS OLD

The Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge charter is dated March 25, 1972. So on March 25, 2022 our Lodge will be 50 years old. The members of Lodge 2477 have been serving the Order of Elks and our community for 50 years. The Past Exalted Rulers have asked the members to design a Lodge pin to mark the celebration.

### ***HOW GOEZ IT SO FAR?***

So far there has been two suggestions put forth. Use the pin designed for the 25th year and reword it to the 50th year. The other was to use the shape and color of the lodge's first pin made of wood and reword it to 50th year.

### ***NEED MORE INPUT!***

As of now the contest end date is scheduled for December 3rd. The pin designs proposed will be presented to the members at a dinner at the Lodge December 10th for the members to select the pin to be the Lodge 50-year pin.



25-year pin



Original Pin

***Please submit your proposed design to the Lodge Secretary, ASAP***

Fraternally - Tom Ryder - PER/PDDGER THOUSANDOAKSpinB

Secretary Continued from p. 3

It tells me that my loved ones, my home, my fireside, and my household, are under protection of every member of this great Order, who has sworn to protect and defend mine, as I have sworn to protect his.

It tells me that I should I ever be overcome by adversity, the hand of every Elk is all the world will be stretched forth to assist me in my necessities.

It tells me that if old age should find me alone and homeless, that, as an honored guest of our Order, surrounded by my old comrades, and with every comfort and luxury, I may sit upon the veranda at Bedford in Virginia, and watch the evening sun sink behind the Peaks of Order for the last time before my fading eyes.

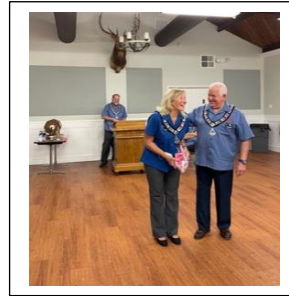
And, finally, it tells me, Brothers, that when my final exit from the stage of life has been made, there will be gathered in my Lodge Room friends and brothers, who when the Eleventh hour is struck, will recall to mind my virtues, though they be few, and will write my faults, though they be many, upon the sands.

Scanned and reprinted from the January 1932 Elks magazine by Mike Jones PER Salisbury 699.

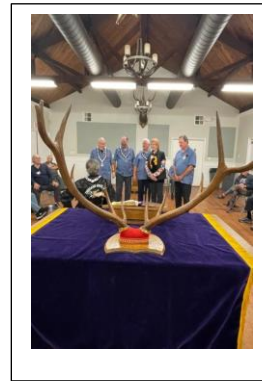
**Christmas Tree in  
the Lounge is a  
Reminder to  
Bring in Gift Cards  
and Toys for the  
Needy Children**

Barrel next to tree

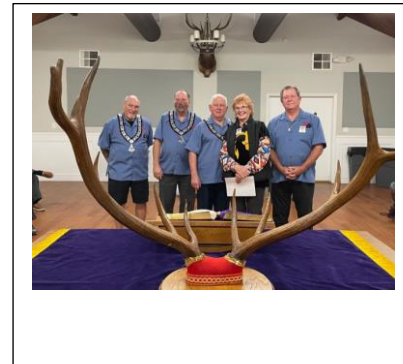
## Elks Awards



Kathy Moye receiving a gift from Dan Hoffman for use with her next plumbing issue



John Betancourt Receiving his 5 year Pin



Thank you **Reem Agel, David Naccarato, and Jill Williams** for your photos this month. Thank you, **BING** for use of photos and artwork in this month's Antler



