Antler Antics





Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Message from the Exalted Ruler, Richard Platt

Well as you all know, our Lodge's inspection was Wednesday, December 8th, 2021. David Martin, DDGER said things were looking good with Thousand Oaks #2477. David and his team were going to review in detail, the findings of the Auditor and get back to me.

So, on Monday December 13th, I went to the Lodge around nine am, to start the ordering process for the December 18th, BBQ. **Bobby Williams** came into the Lodge, to set up for the Quilters. He would not let me help him with the chairs and tables. My wife came down to the Lodge, she too was worried about me, as I had told her at home, I was short of breath. Prior to going to the Lodge, I had stopped at Von's Market, and assessed my blood pressure, which was 168 over ninety. **Bobby and Dan Hoffman** encouraged me to stop by my Doctor's Office on the way home. Blood Pressure medication issue maybe?

As I did not have an appointment at the Doctor's office, I told the receptionist my story, she got up walked back towards the examining rooms. I called Gayle and asked her to come down to the Doctor's office.

I got to the Los Robles's ER, and within a very short time, I was looking at a screen, watching my heart beating. Doctor Fontana and his team disclosed, I had four arteries blocked. And as they say, the rest is history. I have a Cardiac Rehabilitation program to finish, then I should be able to return to my life. Thank you to all who have called and sent cards. Please use my narrative to review your overall health needs, see you Doctor regularly, take good care of yourself. I will see you all as soon as I am able. You can reach me at rplatt_1998@yahoo.com or 805-380-4701.

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Message from the Leading Knight, Terry Gicking

FEB-RU-ARY! Oh, my how time flies It's my birthday month. I celebrate all month long, so when you see me at the Lodge in February, take time to say hello, and I will have a token of my appreciation for you being a member of 2477 and being my friend! I hope to see all of you, especially this month, and all year long. We will be celebrating 50 years of 2477 this March and, of course, throughout the whole year. I have been a member for 41 of those years and I still love this place. From my great experience of having my father sponsor me into this great organization, to meeting the beautiful people from this and other lodges, to learning leadership from the smartest minds in Elkdom and business, to seeing all the great things this Lodge has done for this community that I grew up in and continue to live in. I could not have been more blessed. So, please, come see me. I should recognize your face, but I might have trouble with your name.

So, the NFL throws this big celebration on or around my birthday. They call it the Super Bowl and this year it is on the 13th of February. So, to help celebrate, we are having a Super Bowl party for the game. We cannot have a potluck per the VCHD rules so will have party food and snacks available for purchase. The games, including a fifty-fifty drawing, before, during, and after will be the same, just the teams and players might look different. Pregame warm-up will be available days before the game and pre-game. See **Sir Bill J.**, **Smitty** or me for more info. There will be other opportunities to feel lucky as well. Lodge opens at 10 and the game starts after 3. Get your seats early.

February also brings with it Nominations and Elections for officers of the Lodge. As per the GL Statutes 3.080 and 3.090, nominations can only be made on the first meeting of the month unless no one is nominated for that position. (which is the 9th) This is because we only have two meetings per month. There are no nominations on the second meeting unless (Continued p.3)

Message from the Loyal Knight, John Betancourt



Happy Valentine's Day

February is the month that we think of that special person in our lives on the 14th, so don't forget.

Despite all the problems that we are facing with COVID, we at the Lodge are moving forward and enjoying a good time at the Lodge. The BBQ on Saturday is doing great and we are starting to see the line going past the grill into the parking lot. Our Friday night dinners are also doing fantastically and as always you and either stay and enjoy, or do a grab and go. For Sunday breakfast we welcome the Blue Star Moms. The Blue Star Moms are moms who have sons or daughters in the military. They will be cooking on Feb 20th for the Lodge members as well as Lodge members who are Veterans. The Kampers will be doing breakfast on the last Sunday, February 27th. Veteran's breakfasts are always complimentary. As the Loyal Knight I would like to thank all the Elks members who go out of their way to come in and to cook theses meals for our members, by supporting these meals and THANKING them. Football will be coming to an end with the Super Bowl on February 13th and the Lodge will be serving Party Food and snacks for sale. Hope you all come for the festivities prior to the big game. On Monday nights we are still doing Darts and food is available, check the calendar for all the happenings in the month, HINT: Mardi Gras with live music by Smithy's Band.

I'd like to mention I became a proud grandfather of Stella Marie. 4 boys and 3 girls

Be a safe and remember to wear your masks when you are at the Lodge.

John Betancourt, Loyal Knight

Jill Williams and **Bing** (Microsoft) for their Photographs and artwork for this publication.



Christmas Tree lot

By David Naccarato

The Tree Lot was another success. Thank you goes out to Carlos Musquiz for taking on chairmanship of the Tree Lot. We told him we'd make him the "Branch Manager". A huge appreciation goes out to those who worked it again this year. It was unclear if it was even going to happen with the tree situation, but we were able to receive at least enough to open. The office receives calls every year from returning customers wanting to know when and where we will be. Our great trees and great members bending over backwards is what bring these customers back every year. Sold out in two weeks!

Gicking Continued from p.2)

If a position did not receive a nomination. Elections for those positions which have more than 1 member nominated will be on the 2nd meeting night, (the 23rd).

The positions that will be open for nominations are as follows:

Exalted Ruler, Esteemed Leading Knight, Esteemed Loyal Knight, Esteemed Lecturing Knight, Secretary, Treasurer, 5-Year Trustee. The Esquire, Chaplain, Inner Guard, and Tiler are appointed by the incoming ER. The four remaining Trustees will drop down in number and do not need to be voted on, unless one of them resigns. Please plan on attending these meetings as the future of our Lodge depends on these nominations and elections.

We have two new bartenders. They are Louise and Jeanette. They are here to serve alongside Megan, Jared, and Zack. Please come down and introduce yourself to all of them. We have added two additional beer taps to the four we already have. We have also added some new wines to the wine list. Now if you have not seen our new game room, come down and check it out. It is the quiet side of our lounge.

Last, but certainly not least, we will be celebrating our 50th Birthday in March and continuing the party every month, all year long. More to come on that in the next bulletin. Stay tuned . . .

Fraternally, EIEIO 805-231-9788 pddgergicker@gmail.com

Message from the Lodge Secretary, David Naccarato, PER

Elks Memorial Project



With the addition of the rather large Elk located in the corner of our parking lot, the project is moving along. This was a vision of **Thomas Ryder**, PER, SVP, PDDGER. Tom has funded most of this project on his own dime, making sure it came to be. Tom has received pledges from the **El Konejo Kampers** and **Past Exalted Rulers Association** and a few members. The newly added plants, new member **Tom Lucas** of **Performance Nursery** to a tune of \$524. Through the project manager **Rick Herrera**, he was able to acquire at no charge, bark and soil amendments from Peach Hill soils to a tune of \$100.00. Our grounds keeper **Jose** installed the plants and drip system.

Ronald McDonald House

Besides the 5 cents we get back on CRV we have volunteers that remove the can tabs. **Bobby** Williams collects them and turns them over to Gerry Gillies who turns them in to Reynolds **Aluminum** who in turn donates the going rate of aluminum to the **Ronald McDonald House** charities. Aluminum trades just like silver, gold, platinum. It's a write off for **Reynolds**, but why just cut a check, let's make it a community event. We work for it, we reap the awards. The **Ronald** McDonald House became very real to Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge when one of our member's granddaughter's needed lifesaving treatment at the LA Children's hospital and her parents stayed at the Ronald McDonald House during her treatment. As of 12/30/202,1 TO turned in 195 pounds of tabs and recorded 98 miles in delivering tabs. It all counts to the "All American Lodge Contest". 195 pounds is about 247,260 tabs. Many thanks to those who contributed. Trudy Smith, the lady in charge of the Quilters collects from her students and Patty **Harrod**, who was a past officer of the Lodge, her daughter still mails in a bag of tabs when she gets enough. Her Mother Patty has since passed away but the groundwork she laid remains. March will be the release of how much was received this past year.

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 *	2003-04 Greg Metzgus, PDDGER, DL
1975-76	Bill Wagner *	2004-05 Jay Block *
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 *	2009-10 Terry Gicking, PDDGER
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 Sleigh *	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 *	1981-82 Robert Thornton*, PDDGER
1997-98	John Kelly *	2001-02 Bill Sternberg
1998-99	Chet Kozlowski *	2009-10, 13-14, 18-19 Grace Vega
1999-20	Richard Goldner, PDDGER	1999-00 Ralph Vester *
2000-01	Jacob Panczak	1983-04, 02-03 Harold
		Constantine
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Officers 2021-2022

Exalted Ruler: Richard Platt Leading Knight: Terry Gicking

PER, PDDGER

Loyal Knight: John Betancourt Lecturing Knight: Ron Watkins Secretary: David Naccarato PER

Esquire: Adam Smith Chaplain: Rita DaCorsi Treasurer: Bill Joseph Inner Guard: Gregg Mir

Inner Guard: Gregg Miraglia

Tiler: Lyssa Wright

One Year Trustee: Kathy Moye

Two Year Trustee: Dan

Hoffman* PER

Three Year Trustee: Reem Agel

Four Year Trustee: Steve

Kerman

Five Year Trustee: Ed Lees

*Chairman of the Board of Trustees

February Activities

2/2 Bunco 6PM

2/3 \$3 Chili Dogs

2/4 \$10 Enchiladas

2/5 BBQ Carlos

2/6 Smitty's Breakfast 9-12

2/7 Darts/Food Available

2/9 Lodge Mtg/Nominations

2/10 \$3 Chili Dogs/Calendar Mtg

2/11 \$10 Shepherd's Pie

2/12 BBQ Bryan

2/13 Super Bowl Potluck

2/14 Darts/Food Available

2/16 Elk's Bday. Ziti & Cake House/Trustee Mtg 6/7

2/17 \$3 Chili Dogs

2/18 AVP Luncheon 12/Fish Fry 5:30

2/19 BBQ/ AVP Homecoming Simi

2/20 Blue Star Mom's Breakfast

2/21 Darts/Food Available

2/22 Orientation 7PM

2/23 Dinner 5:30/Initiation 7PM/PER Night/Election

2/24 \$3 Chili Dogs

2/25 Mardi Gras Dinner and Band

2/26 BBQ Jill

2/27 Kampers/Veteran's Breakfast 10-12

2/28 Darts/Food Available

Lodge Hours

Monday-Friday 2PM to 8 PM Saturday Noon – 6PM

Sunday As posted on Calendar Office Hours Mon-Thurs 10AM-3PM

Lounge Phone 805-496-4500 Office Phone 805-492-2477

Crying Towel

11/10/21

1st capsule drawing \$500 **Timothy Hinche**, not present 2nd capsule drawing \$75 **David Mueller**, not present Lucky 13 \$90 **Adam Smith**, close but not close enough.

11/17/21

1st capsule drawing \$500 **Doug Ryan**, not present 2nd capsule drawing \$100 **Jim Porter**, not present Lucky 13 **Ron Watkins** no winner

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: Jill Williams

Photography: Jill Williams

Protocol: Terry Gicking & David Naccarato PERS

Presiding Judge: John Moran Lodge Room Setup: Bill Joseph

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 Moye

PER Association: Jim Moye PER

Responsible to the Leading Knight

Bar Liaison: Dan Hoffman PER Christmas Tree Lot: Carlos Muzquiz

Community Activities: Terry Gicking PER, PDDGER Christmas Baskets: Terry Gicking PER,

PDDGER

Major Project/Purple Pig: Dan Hoffman PER

Bequests & Living Trusts: Needed

Sickness & Distress: Alex Rogers Charity Matters: Terry Gicking PER,

PDDGER

Elks National Foundation: Grace Vega PER El Konejo Kampers: Shirste Gessler

Responsible to the Loyal Knight

Kitchen Operations: John Betancourt

Lodge Activities: Needed

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 Scouting: Greg Metzgus
Hoop Shoot: Duke Kopacz Americanism: Pending

Drug Awareness: Needed Dictionary Program: Steve Woodlief Scholarship: Reem Agel Youth Appreciation: Reem Agel

Help Us Serve Our Community Better

My Care— My Share

Sickness and Distress

Alex Rogers, Committee Chair, Home number: 805-492-3280,

In Memorium

Cell: 805-427-3013

Myrna Block had a heart attack and is at home doing well. Richard Platt, Exalted Ruler, had a heart attack on December 13th. He is at home. Joe Buckout is in Rehab. Jean Miraglia is doing fine at home. Greg Metzgus's granddaughter has COVID. Terry Gicking's sister, Ann, beat cancer. Lynn Rodriguez discovered a lump during a Mammogram. Keep these Elks in your prayers and good thoughts.

 Gerald Feldman
 Walter Ogden

 Born: 12/7/21932
 6/20/1937

 Death: 1/3/2022
 1/14/2022

<u>Applications for membership</u> No applications this month

Organ Donors:

Bobby Williams Richard Herrera Jean Miraglia David Naccarato0 Jim McHarg Mike Flannery Leo Rodriguez Lou Mages Robert Koeritz Terry Gicking Terry Gicking **Gerry Gilies** Richard Platt Diane Scott **Gayle Platt** John Leadam Diane Scott June Leadam Gary Abrams John Nau

It is time for the "All American Lodge Contest". One item that we can achieve points for are organ donors. The list won't be in the *Antler* all year but this is to bring



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

Purple Pig Honor roll

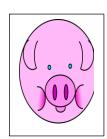
Anonymous
Robert "Bobby"
Williams
Darryl Kopacz ***
Tom Lucas
Jean and Gregg
Miraglia **
Ed Lees
David Naccarato
Richard Wohl * (52
club)
Bem Rieger*
Lyssa Wright* (52
Club)
Greg Metzgus

attention to the contest. If you are an organ donor but are not on the list, call the office and let me know and we'll get you on the list and earn some points. Office # 805-496-2477 leave a message if I'm not answering. Thank you

David

Recurring Purple Pig Roll

Reem Agel David Anderson Jophn Betancourt Ed and Rita DaCorsi Art Garcia **Terry Gicking Gerry Gillies** Peter Gordon Brenda Hagen Dan Hoffman Inger Hogan **Diane Jones** Ed Lees Greg Metzgus Alexandra Rogers **Greg Sweet** Lyssa Wright



Pull Tabs Collection



Elks Care - Elks Share

We, the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge, collected and delivered to the Pasadena Ronald McDonald House 195 pounds (that is approximately 247,260) pull tabs in 2021. The Ronald McDonald House Charities usually post their donations sometime in March. We will know the value of our donations at that time. To all that collected pull tabs on behalf of the kids and families of the Ronald McDonald House Charities, THANK YOU

ELKS CARE – ELKS SHARE

Gerry Gillies

Elk of the Month

By Terry Gicking

Elk of the Month, it goes to **Greg Sweet.** He has been working behind the scenes of the tree lot as well as taking over leadership of the woodworking crew and is a big help in the kitchen during Saturday BBQs. Thanks **Greg.** Everyone loves working with you. **Greg**, you get your own reserved parking space in February.

Thank You Tree Lot and BBQ Teams Dinner



<u>Dues Notices</u> <u>going out</u> <u>February 1st</u>

By Davis Naccarato

The Lodge dues will be staying the same but the **Grand Lodge** assessment that every lodge member pays for liability insurance has increased. Due to many overriding lawsuits, not us, but throughout **Elkdom**, the assessment will go up \$5 a member. **The dues for 2022-2023** will be \$158.00

2023 will be \$158.00. The state association assessment will

remain the same. Any volunteers to stuff envelopes given me a call.



February Birthdays

Jennifer Hassell-01 Amber Gentry-02 Alan Azoff-3 Dave Biedebach-03 **Terry Gicking** PDDGER-04 Suzanne Osgood-04 Nick Schiele-04 William Fulton-05 John Pecel-05 Craig Burns-07 Allen Zatkin-07 Rick Herrera-08 Elvis Presley-08 Robert Scudder-09 Pattie Queen-11 Charles Pederson-16 Dean Reichle-16 Jan Robles-17 Robert Phillips-18 Christine Harrison-20 Antonia Hartin-20 Robert Huffman-20 Bill O'Shea-20 Terry Baker-21 Inger Hogan-21 Bill Schenewerk-21 James Anderson-23 Kevin Gullic-23 Ed DaCorsi-27

Elks and Veterans

By David Naccarato

The Korean war ended in 1953. The Elks Veterans service commission went on, now serving the suffering and broken patriots left from another conflicts. The Elks were operating in hospitals in all 48 states. Most of this great work went largely unheralded and unseen. Many lodges collected items that were needed by the hospitals that they supported. A HIDE program was started. Where Elks, who were hunters, sent the hides of the animals that were prepared in a way that the disabled in rehab hospitals would sew gloves to be used by the disabled in wheelchairs. Elk lodges banded together to help find vital jobs for returning vets or encouragement when needed. During and after the Cold War, family life in America was changing. During the 60's the Elks grew. The Elks started the National Veterans Service commission where we came up with "As long as there are veterans, the Elks will never forget them". For years the Elks did not want to beat our chest with the good work we do. We hid it under a bushel. Soon we realized the Elks programs would be more successful if more Americans heard of the good works we do.

During the Vietnam War the Elks stared Operation Gratitude where we would put together boxes of item from home to help with morale. This went on through the war in Afghanistan and has now been picked up by many other organizations. Right now, still "Americans serving Americans" is here in Thousand Oaks accepting donations for boxes to be sent to all overseas service members. Each box has postage of \$21. A list will be in the fliers. Drop it off at the Lodge.



First Lady Thoughts

It has been a tough year for the Lodge. We reopened with some difficulty and expense. We have made up those deficiencies and are functioning in the black. Great management from the **Trustees**. The Lounge is up and functioning thanks to **Dan Hoffman**, **Terry Gicking**, **Kathy Moye**, **Grace Vega**, and **Steve Kerman**. Hours have been extended and we have hired new staff. Better quality beverages, too.

We have changed purveyors of our meat for the BBQs. **Sysco** provides a better quality along with a higher price, but our customers love it. Prices had to be raised to accommodate the increase in costs. Customers don't seem to mind. During this time, members have provided sandwiches to Los Robles medical personnel as well as first responders in our midst.

Health Department inspections have been a dread for years. Not anymore. Our inspector cannot believe how clean the Lodge is and compliments us following each inspection.

Thank you, **Kathy Moye** for washing the lamps in the Lounge. That really impressed her! Thank you, maintenance people. **Jose** and **Margarita** are doing a fantastic job, occasionally even under some unpleasant conditions.

Speaking of the Health Department, we have a new relationship. We have held several COVID testing sessions. Many have been tested from the community as well as members. In addition, we have held COVID and Flu vaccination clinics. We are hoping to have more.

Jim Moye has held several Blood Drives, even when we were not open. More to come.

I have been out of touch for the last month. Thank you, **Officers** for taking over after Richard's heart attack. He has great faith in you. He will be returning in February; doctors do not want him in contact with groups of people until this COVID surge ends. Thank you all!!!!!! Wear your masks and stay safe!

El Konjo Kampers

The El Konejo Kampers are looking forward to a very busy 2022. Almost all of our monthly campouts are scheduled, and we plan to continue to do our breakfast on the last Sunday of each month.

Please join us for the Kampers Breakfast on Sunday, January 30th from 10am to noon. Veterans are free. For the rest of us, the cost is \$10. We will be holding our monthly Kampers meeting at 1pm that afternoon in the Lodge Room.

Here is what we have lined up so far in 2022:

- February 2022 Ocean Mesa RV Park Wagonmasters: Rita/Ed DaCorsi
- March 2022 Pismo Coast RV Park Wagonmaster: Jane Watson
- April 2022 Santa Maria Elks Lodge Wagonmaster: Jim Moye
- May 2022 Santa Barbara Elks Lodge Wagonmasters: Rita and Ed DaCorsi
- June 2022 Pechanga RV Resort Wagonmasters: Rik and Shirste Gessler
- July 2022 Oceano Elks Lodge Wagonmaster: Paul Stein
- August 2022: Vista Elks Lodge Wagonmaster: Lyssa Wright
- OPEN: September 2022
- October 2022: Flying Flags Wagonmaster: TBD
- OPEN: November 2022

Attention ALL KAMPERS:

- If you are interested in signing up for an upcoming campout, you will need to wait until the flyer is distributed and then you will need to send a check to the Wagonmaster to reserve your spot. As of now, the flyer has been sent out for our February campout at Ocean Mesa RV Park. That email went out on January 11th. The March campout flyer to Pismo Coast RV Park should be distributed by the end of January. Please keep your eye out for an email soon! For more information, please come to our meeting on January 30th.
- Also, if you haven't already paid your 2022 dues, please send a \$25 check to Jan Ryland. Jan's address is on our roster. If you need additional information, please contact me at sigessler@yahoo.com or call me at (805) 390-3323.

Respectfully, Shirste Gessler President

ENF FUNraiser

Your Lodge's January Fundraising Statistics 2021-2022 Per Member-Giving Goal: \$4.00 Donation Deadline: March 31, 2022.

> Total Donations: \$5,576.16 Per-Member Giving: \$13.40

A great big THANK YOU goes out to all that joined the ENF FUNdraiser dinner prepared (and totally donated) by **Jean** and **Gregg Miraglia**. Thank you also goes out to your friendly 2477 servers/helpers: **Kathy Moye, Jill Williams** and **Rik Gessler**. Appreciate all the members that have donated. Please continue to donate.

Volunteer Dinner

Thank You Tree and BBQ







