

Antler Antics



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

My year as Exalter Ruler is about over. And so, it must be time for the election of officers. February 9th Lodge meeting was just that. **Terry Gicking** was nominated for Exalted Ruler. **John Betancourt** for Leading Knight, **Ron Watkins** for Loyal Knight. **John Puckett** for Lecturing Knight. **David Naccarato** for Secretary. **Bill Joseph** for Treasurer. **Kathy Moye** for Five Year Trustee, all ran unopposed. A motion was made and seconded, to elect by acclamation, all. No descending votes were noted. 2022/2023 will be our Fiftieth Year as a Lodge. Look for **Terry** to move us forward. We all will have a role to play next year.

It was wonderful to be back in the Lodge. Eighteen subdivisions, make up a normal Lodge meeting. **Greg Metzgus**, was asked to take over after fourteen of the eighteen, were concluded. Better to sit and watch my first meeting back. This time of the year, we name but a few members, for their outstanding work and contributions. What I mean by that is, many work year long, behind the seams, without public acknowledgement. I just wanted to say thank you to all, who have worked so hard to make this the year a success. If just maybe. we are coming out of this Covid Thing. Gayle and I look forward to Elk Year 2022/2023 announcement.

Please use my health experience to review your overall health needs, see your DOCTOR regularly, take diligent care of yourself and those you Love. I will see you all as soon as I am able. You can reach me at rplatt_1998@yahoo.com or 805-380-4101.

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*Message from the
Leading Knight,
Terry Gicking*

MARCH! Not only is it March madness for the NCAA, but it's also March Elk madness. It's the time of Year that we start the change of the guard in the leadership of the Lodge. So, as this is my last article as Leading Knight, I would like to say thank you to **Richard Platt** for an outstanding year in leading this lodge out of one of the most troubling times in our nation's history, **COVID**. I hope that is the last time I must write about it. It has wreaked havoc on all of us in different ways, but I do see light at the end of the tunnel. Richard and the whole lodge team started this year unsure when we would be able to open and charted a course of reconstruction as we opened this lodge little by little. Your Officer corps put in long hours in getting the lounge, kitchen and office going in a positive direction and we have now set the course for celebrating our 50th Birthday and Anniversary year.

We also had nominations for all the Officer positions and the new 2477 Team for 2022-23 is as follows.

- Exalted Ruler – Terry Gicking
- Esteemed Leading Knight – John Betancourt
- Esteemed Loyal Knight – Ron Watkins
- Esteemed Lecturing Knight – John Puckett
- Secretary – David Naccarato
- Treasurer – Bill Joseph
- 5 Yr Trustee – Kathy Moye. All of them ran unopposed and were voted in by acclamation. The other 4 Trustees remain with 1 yr less on their title. The Exalted Ruler appointed positions are as follows; Chaplain – Rita Dacorsi, Inner Guard – Lyssa Wright, Esquire, Adam Smith, aka “Smitty”. I am currently looking for a Tiler, who guards the outer door and oversees the lodge jewels for the meetings. Please contact me or one of the other officers if you have any interest or questions about the position. Thank You for this opportunity to lead this Lodge into our 50th year and beyond.

(Continue on last page)

*Message from the Loyal
Knight, John Betancourt*



Happy St Patrick's Day

As I come to the end of my year as being your Loyal Knight I look back and think of all we have done since we opened back in May 2021. At times, I wonder if the Lodge would ever again open due to Covid, but we did. The Lodge has done great due to all the members who come and supported the Lodge.

Thanks goes out to all who do the Friday Night Dinners, Sunday Breakfast and our 4 BBQ Chiefs and crews. Let's not forget all the Monday Night Football and the awesome food that was prepared by **Reem and Diane** and continue with Thursday Night Football with **Jill William's** Chili Dogs. Thank you, **Bill Joseph** for making those nights fun to be at. Darts on Monday night have been great now that the football season is over. On the first Wednesday of each month, we have Bunco, so you can see the Lodge is alive and doing well and it can only get better. A very big **Thank You** goes out to **Jill Williams** for her great work in getting the Friday night dinners on the calendar every month along with her partner in crime **Kathy Moye**. I also must mention these two ladies keep me in line when we work together on the Saturday BBQ. Our Super Bowl party was a lot of fun and well attended. It ended with your Los Angeles RAMS winning the Super Bowl. Congrats to all Ram fans.

Finally, I am happy to report that we had 44 new members join our Lodge this year, let's see if we can get 50 for our new year starting in April, which, by the way, will be the 50th Birthday of our Lodge.

It has been an honor in being your Loyal Knight and look forward to my next step in being the Leading Knight.

John Betancourt
Loyal Knight.

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



President of California-Hawaii Elks and Visits Thousand Oaks Lodge

Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 hosted President Jay Larkin and Ginger at a luncheon on February 18, 2022. The catering was done by **Sancho's in Newbury Park**. It is owned by one of our members. Thank you for doing such a great job, **Joe Escobar**. It was delicious. Thank You.

Pull Tab Collection



By Gerry Gillies

Some good news and some bad news. Good news, two Elks collected and turned in 127,632 tabs. Thanks **Bobby** and **Jim**. Bad news, the Ronald McDonald House Charities lost their support that they have had for over fifty years from Alcoa. No reason given. I am told for now the tabs will bring in market value. I will continue collecting and delivering the pull tabs.

The Ronald McDonald House kids and their families still need all the support they can get. Please keep dropping those pull tabs off at the bar or office, every one of them counts.

ELKS CARE – ELKS SHARE

Message from the Lodge Secretary, David Naccarato, PER



Around the Lodge

Kudos to **Casey Boggiano** who bought lunch for a group of fire personnel out of station 35. Kudos to **Diane Letulier** for supplying lunch for front line workers at Los Robles. Kudos to **Gerry Gillies** for separating our flags between cotton and nylon flags and disposing properly the nylon flags that we cannot retire during our retirement ceremony. It's a big job we receive lots of flags. We can retire cotton flags in our retirement ceremony, true the nylon flags are cheaper but when burned they release a toxic smoke and then the fire department shows up.... True story. After the passing of **Past Officer Walter Ogden**, his wife **Anne** needed some help in moving some of Walter's property. **Dave Anderson** and **Gerry Gillies** went over to lend a hand **Elks Care-Elks Share**. Kudos to **Gerry Gillies** and **Bobby Williams** delivering 247,260/ 95 pounds pull tabs to Alcoa/Reynolds Aluminum for **Ronald McDonald House** and all you that brought them in.

Interesting Tidbit!

Our founder **Charles Vivian** (who never actually became an Elk, story for another Antler Antics) was on the road entertaining in opera houses across the USA. After arriving in Leadville, Colorado, Charles passed away from pneumonia in 1880 at age 34. The town of Leadville held a benefit for his funeral expenses. His service was held at the Tabor Opera House, a fitting tribute to a man who'd lived half his life on stage. The Leadville newspaper wrote of Vivian "a man of many friends whose kind nature and genial manners drew toward him, and many a tear has shed. He has no successor in either stage or social circles."

In 1889, nine years after his death, Elks Lodge #10 in Boston, Massachusetts, raised funds for a monument to **Charles Vivian** and paid for his body transport to its new home at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Boston.

Past Exalted Rulers

1972-73 Marvin D. Smith *
 1973-74 Erie 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 *
 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 *
 1999-20 Richard Goldner, PDDGER
 2000-01 Jacob Panczak

2001-02 John D' Ambrogio
 2002-03 Don Booker
 2003-04 Greg Metzgus, 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
 2020-21 Dan Martyn
 *Deceased

By Affiliation
 1981-82 Robert Thornton*, PDDGER
 2001-02 Bill Sternberg
 2009-10, 13-14, 18-19 Grace Vega
 1999-00 Ralph Vester *
 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 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

March Activities

03/02 **Bunco 6PM**
 03/03 \$3 Chili Dogs
 03/04 Pot Pie Dinner
 03/05 **BBQ Carlos**
 03/06 Breakfast 10-12
 03/07 DARTS F/A
 03/09 **Lodge Meeting**
 03/10 **Calendar Mtg**
6:30
 03/11 Pork Loin
 03/12 **BBQ Bryan**
 03/14 DARTS F/A
 03/16 **House Mtg 6PM**
 03/17 **St Patrick's Day**
 Corned Beef
Reservation
Required
 03/18 **ELK of the Year**
 Fish Fry
 03/19 **BBQ #3**
 03/20 Blue Star Mom's
Veteran's
Breakfast
 03/21 DARTS F/A
 03/22 **Orientation 7PM**

March Activities

03/23 **Initiation**
 Hamburger
 03/24 Chili Dogs
 03/25 **Anniversary**
 Ziti Bake
 03/26 **BBQ Jill**
 03/27 Kamper's
 Breakfast
 03/28 DARTS F/A
 03/30 **Installation**
Of Officers
 Dinner
 03/31 \$3 Chili Dogs

F/A Food Available



Lodge Hours

Monday-Friday	2PM to 8 PM
Saturday	Noon – 6PM
Sunday	Noon - 6PM
Office Hours	Mon-Thurs 10AM-3PM
Lounge Phone	805-496-4500
Office Phone	805-492-2477

Crying Towel

1/12/2022
 1st capsule drawing \$500 to **James Anderson** (not present)
 2nd capsule drawing \$125 to **Erle Pitman** (not present)
Lucky 13 \$120 to **Darryl Kopacz** pulled the ace
 Winner!!!!
Trustee Drawing \$11 **Lyssa Wright** donated to Purple
 Pig
 1/26/2022
 1st capsule drawing \$500 **Angela Porter** (not present)
 2nd capsule drawing \$150.00 **Jan T. King** (not present)
Lucky 13 \$15 **Terry Gicking** 7 spades 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

Community Activities: Terry Gicking PER, PDDGER

Major Project/Purple Pig: Dan Hoffman PER

Bequests & Living Trusts: **Needed**

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: **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

Hoop Shoot: Duke Kopacz

Drug Awareness: **Needed**

Scholarship: Reem Agel

Scouting: Greg Metzger

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

Paul Stein has suffered a pulmonary embolism and is at home resting. **Dennis Shankle** is recovering from bypass surgery but is allowed **no visitors** at the VA hospital. **Adelaide Wavra's** son, **Doug**, has been on a ventilator for over three weeks. **Dave Anderson's** daughter-in-law, **Marcy Anderson**, will undergo surgery for colon cancer. **Diana Metzgus** fell and broke a hip. The mother of **Bryan Gicking** has Covid. **Terry Baker** turned 80 looks 50.

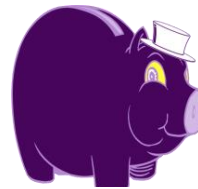
Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers

Applications for membership

Robert Lemon being sponsored by **John Berg** of Oxnard Lodge soon to be T.O.

Carl Steinkraus being sponsored by **Dave Tostenson** of Canoga Park Lodge #2190

William Johnson being sponsored by **Dave Tostenson** of Canoga Park Lodge #2190



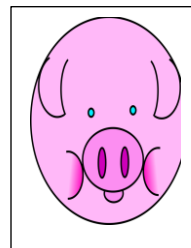
*A Coin a Day so they can
Walk, Talk, See and Play!*

Purple Pig Honor roll

Jean Miraglia
Bobby Williams
Gerry Gillies
Gregg Miraglia
Ben Rieger
Jill Williams
Reem Agel
Bill Joseph
Darryl Kopacz
(Century Club)67
Lyssa Wright

Recurring Purple Pig Roll

Reem Agel
David Anderson
John Betancourt
Ed DaCorsi
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



Organ Donors:

David Stull
Bobby Williams
Richard Herrera
Jean Miraglia
David Naccarato
Jim McHarg
Mike Flannery
Lou Mages
Leo Rodriguez
Robert Koeritz
Terry Gicking
Gerry Gilies
Richard Platt
Diane Scott
Gayle Platt
John Leadam
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 attention to the members

Elk of the Month

By Richard Platt

Our regular order of business for a regular meeting: God, Country, Rollcall of officers, PERS recognition, Elk of the Year, Officer of the Year, Minutes, candidates, and then the Leading Knight introduces **Alexandra Rogers** who presents the **Sickness and Distress Report**. **Alex** has done this for a very long time. She sits on the Investigations Committee, regularly attends meetings, and Friday Night dinners. She is one of the many Elks who has diligently served our Lodge without recognition. Updating our Lodge members on our ill, injured, and members in distress allows us to reach out to them. You have earned this accolade for these and many other unrecognized contributions. **Alex** you are the **Elk of the Month!!!** Enjoy, your parking space.

California and Hawaii Elks President's Luncheon



Dues Notices are out

By Davis Naccarato

All right everyone can relax now, **Scott Pickles** was the first to pay his 2022-2023 dues. Of course, **Robert Wylie** did pay for two years last year) (he's always late)

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.** The state association assessment will remain the same.

March Birthdays

Harvey Flam-01
Leslie Smith-01
Craig Acerboni-03
Alan Van Cleave-03
Lyssa Wright-03
Timi Vaughn-04
James Coon-05
Dee Ansell-06
Milton Price-06
Dave Cundy-07
Marie Reichelt-07
Thomas Hartin -08
Mark Rediger-08
Michael Callahan-09
James Lovato-11
Craig Ruhman-11
Lennard Benson-12
Shelby parris-12
Carmine Prizzi-12
Kevin Metzqus-16
Carlos Muzquiz-16
Casey Boggiano-17
Ed Lees-17
Phillip Johnson-19
Richard Platt-19
Jill Williams-20
Doug Bevan-21
Jay Schmindt-21
Gary Erland-22
Doug Ryan-22
Richard Goldner-24
David Guerra-31

Elks National Veterans Service Commission

By David Naccarato

Elks who worked at veteran events **127,889**
Non-Elks **69,839**
Hours donated Elks **668,635**
Non-Elks **328,913**
Cash Value of hours donated **\$20,200,347.00**
Miles traveled **4,880,118**
Cash value of miles traveled **\$2,879,270.00**
Total contribution including cash
\$30,625,738.00

We need to report how many Elks/non-Elks/ Milage, cash and hours donated to report to the government to keep our nonprofit status. Anything you do, charity-wise, on your own, let me know the hours and miles and we get credit. Remember "All American Lodge"
These are pre-Covid totals. I'll report when it is updated.



First Things First

By David Naccarato

The first White House car 1909 Stanley Steamer for President Taft
First drive through gas station. "GULF" located in Pittsburg 1913
First parking meters in Oklahoma City 1935
First drive-in restaurant. "Royce Hailey Pig Stand" in Dallas 1921
First 3 color traffic light, Michigan 1919
First drive-in theater, Camden New Jersey 1933



First Lady Thoughts

This will be my last column as First Lady. I hope the tradition is picked up again when we do not have single ERs. That, however, looks to be the case of the election of officers for the next few years. Love you guys, but no wives.

I have enjoyed much of **Richard's** tenure as ER, except, of course, our trip to and from Florida. Doing the Christmas trees with **Jill Williams** and **Kathy Moye** always fills me with joy. I love Christmas. A special thanks to the **PERS** for making certain I was welcomed at the **PER Christmas Dinner** representing **Richard**. Next year we must pay for our own dinners.

I want to thank all the **Officers and Trustees** that stepped up when **Richard** was out of commission with his heart attack. No, the Elks did not cause it. Lots of years of no activity and eating the wrong foods. We are now on a strict, no fun diet. I hope we can cheat the diet occasionally.

I do not think you know **Richard** is a Celiac and cannot eat gluten. Unfortunately, many of the numerous AVP and DD visitations across our District, most meals used some gluten. It can cause rashes and severe stomach distress. Sometimes that is why we do not attend Friday dinners. Always look at the calendar for the menus if you have allergies or dietary concerns. Our members are great cooks, and the food is wonderful.

I especially want to thank **David Naccarato** for all his help with the **Antler**. He has assisted me very much in Elk's tradition and the way things have always been done around #2477.

I want to thank all of you, Elks, spouses, and families, for welcoming me into your fold. You are an inspiring group that does so much good in this community and surrounding areas. I am extremely proud of **Reem Agel's** work with scholarships. Hey **Reem**, Logan will be starting his junior year in a few months.

Thank you all again for the privilege of being your First Lady this year. **Stay safe!**

Continued from Page 2

Ok, I've mentioned about a 50th birthday celebration and here it is. We are going to celebrate IT on Friday, March 25th with a Baked Ziti dinner prepared by our Lodge Chaplain, **Rita DaCorsi** and her crew. Cost is **FREE** to all our members and 50 cents for their guest. As always, donations are always in order. We will have birthday cake, along with all the Lodge memories on display around the lodge room. A few of the charter members will be here to add stories to some of those memories. Looking forward to seeing you **AT THE LODGE!** We will be having a celebration every month during our 50th year.

We will not be having an **Inaugural Ball** this year because of all the celebrating going on around that time, so we will be having the Installation of Officers on Wednesday, March 30th at 6:30 with a pulled pork dinner for \$10 immediately after.

We had a great Super Bowl Party. We raised \$825 for our Charities that day! What a great day to be an Elk and a Rams fan. We had so much food and friendship and had a blast working to raise that money for Charity.

Speaking of Charity, signing up for donating monthly is so easy to do for ENF (the GREAT Heart of Elkdom) and/or the Purple Pig. Speak to any of the Officers and they will be more than happy to show you how, right on your phone or computer. Donating this way helps our major charities know how much of a base they will have in setting up their budget for the coming year and it makes it easy for you to donate. Thank you for your donations now and in the future!

Till next month,

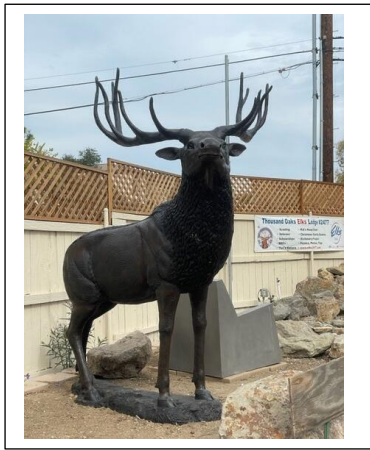
Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Terry (aka EIEIO) 805-231-9788 tgicker@gmail.com



Lodge Officers





Memorial Elk



Americanism



Awards



*Blue Star Moms
First Veteran's
Breakfast*