

January 2023 Volume 50 issue 10

Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477

Of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks

Antler Antics



50 years of service to our community

Exalted Ruler Terry Gicking – B.P.O.E. Be Proud Of Elkdom

HAPPY NEW YEAR

No parade on Sunday's. Lodge hours Sunday January 1st,

Noon-6PM

Monday, parade is back. Watch for the Elks Float. Rose Bowl game and Pot Luck at the lodge. 10AM-7PM Bring a dish to share receive a ticket for drawing.



Applications for membership to be balloted on January 11th

Nathan Aurich, Carpenter, sponsored by Boyd Lindquist
Aaron Lewis, in Construction, sponsored by Boyd Lindquist
Jeff Albaeck, Contractor sponsored by Boyd Lindquist
Kim Baumann, retired, sponsored by Mike Mathews

Sickness, distress and recovery

Paul Stein back surgery . No BLT- bending, lifting or twisting.

Barbara Booker in Hospital

Paul Nash in at Shoreline Wound Recovery Center in Oxnard

Dwight Williams passed away 12/11/2022

Lynn Rodriguez on oxygen

Remember, reports of sickness and distress are always in order

Joseph Nemtusak

Born 4/10/1938

Initiated 5/27/2009

Died 12/1/2022

[Recurring donors](#)

Reem Agel
Dave Anderson
John Betancourt
Ed & Rita DaCorsi
Art Garcia
Terry Gicking
Gerry Gillies
Peter Gordon
Brenda Hagen
Dan Hoffman
Cheryl Holloway
Ed Lees
Kathy Moye
Greg Metzgas
David Naccarato
Richard Platt
Alexandra Rogers
Greg Sweet
Lyssa Wright



Purple Pig Honor Roll

Greg Metzgas
Darryl Kopacz
Bobby Williams
Paul Stein
Cheryl Templeton (Century Club)
David Guerra
Adam Smith (Century Club)
Jean & Gregg Miraglia (Century Club)
Greg Sincock
Jim Nuciforo

Crying Towel

11/30 1st capsule drawing \$500 Chris Vrakelos Not present

2nd capsule draw \$50 Alex Rogers present. Winner! Donated to Leading Knight Challenge

Lucky 13 \$45 Darryl Kopacz no winner.

11/09 1st capsule draw \$500 John Leadam not present

2nd capsule draw \$25 Steven Brodie not present.

Lucky 13 \$30 Myrna Block no winner



Lodge Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 3PM-8PM

Closed on Tuesday

Saturday-Sunday 12PM to 6PM Saturday BBQ

10am-2pm

Office Hours Mon-Thurs 10AM – 3PM

Lounge Phone 805-496-4550

Office Phone 805-496-2477

Email- toelks2477@gmail.com

Elk of the year- Robert” Bobby” Williams

Officer of the year- Daniel Hoffman PER, COB

Citizen of the year- Thomas Ryder PER, PSVP, PDDGER

Grand Exalted Ruler Outstanding Members– John Betancourt & Jill Williams

Exalted Ruler's Page PPDDGER Terry Gicking

Committee chairs reporting to Exalted Ruler

Antler Antics: David Naccarato , Mike Mathews

Website: Kira Wagner

Grants Coordinator: David Naccarato

BBQ: Jill Williams

Tree Lot: Carlos Muzquiz

Audit & Accounting: Lyssa Wright

Investigations: Alex Rogers, Jasmine Sylvestre, Rita DaCorsi

Orientation: Terry Gicking

PER Association Jim Moye

Membership: David Naccarato

Happy New Year 2023! Hope your holidays were as awesome as mine was. As we start 2023, we start with a twist! New Years Day is on a Sunday, so there are no College Bowl games.

But we do have Pro Football on all day at the lodge, starting at 10 am. We will also have pizza @ \$2 a slice during the games. Come on down to cheer your team on.

Next, we get to the best day of the long weekend, Jan 2 nd . If I can do ER twice, so can the lodge in celebrating New Years Day twice! Once with the pros on the 1 st , and the 2 nd time with the all-important College Bowl games on Monday, January 2nd! We will be having our annual Potluck sharing party! Bring a dish and get a ticket for a chance to win \$50. We will have 2 drawings. We will also have a 50/50 drawing to be drawn at the start of the 4 th quarter of the Rose Bowl game. There will be other opportunities for chances to win! The lodge will open at 10am for the Cotton Bowl game featuring USC vs Tulane. This is the warmup game to the Grand Daddy of all the Bowl games, the Rose Bowl, Utah vs. Penn St, at 2pm. This will be the one party you will not want to miss.

There will be other bowl games on the TVs also. We have 7 of them now! Ok, enough about that. We will have a flyer with more details.

What a way to start the New Year at YOUR lodge! The next Monday, (9 th) is the College Football National Championship Game at SoFi Stadium in LA.

We will have a spaghetti feast at YOUR lodge for \$10 at 5:30pm. Come early to enjoy the opportunities and food, along with a great game!

Now Saturdays and Sundays in January will be filled with Pro Football playoffs leading up to the Super Bowl on February 12th. This is a big opportunity to get into the draw for a space for the big game. Details at the lounge. Our Super Bowl Potluck party will be similar to, but bigger than, New Years Day 2!

Now if that's not enough to make you come down to YOUR lodge, we have 4 different Friday night dinners and a special Birthday Bash for Smitty's 60th! It's featuring the return of the K-Tel Allstars band! It's a great dinner and dance. See flyer for the details and get your reservations early. You won't be disappointed.

Now is the time WE start looking for officers for the upcoming year. Please consider helping YOUR lodge and become an officer or committee chairperson. This lodge cannot run effectively with the same old faces doing everything.

Elkdom has a LOT to offer, and it takes more than the 10% who do all the work. Those 10% burn out faster than they should, and the lodge can become stagnant.,

Exalted Ruler Continued

Yes, not everyone will want to be an Exalted Ruler, but there are plenty of other things you can do for YOUR lodge. Ask the current officers, John B, Ron, John P, David, Reem, Ed, Steve, Kathy, Dan H or myself if you have any questions about stepping up and helping out YOUR LODGE! WE NEED YOU! Fraternally and Sincerely, and to a great 2023!

Terry Gicking, EIEIO



Jill Williams and Terry Gicking at Elks Memorial service



Laurie Fredericks and Dee Thomas all festive for the ER's Christmas Party

Elk of the month Officer of the month

Our Elk of the Month -- Shirste Gessler

As President of the El Konejo Kampers Association, she keeps that group moving forward in a positive direction with a smile and great dedication. Enjoy your parking spot and dinner. You not Rik (He walks)

Officer of the Month . Kathy Moye

She is always ready to help and volunteer. Your at the lodge, she's there, Your passing the kitchen, she's there. You go to a meeting, she's there, your in the rest room SHE'S THERE, Always with a smile on her face.



Ruth Mullen remembering Jim

Exalted Rulers Christmas Party

Bryan Gicking, Terry Gicking & Grace Vega



Enjoying friends and family at the Lodge

John Betancourt Leading Knight

Committees Reporting to Leading Knight

Major Project: Dan Hoffman- ENF: Grace Vega -Kampers Shirste Gessler

Community Activities-Charity Baskets– BLT

Sickness and distress-: Alexandra Rogers



Happy New Year and a safe and healthy year to you and your family.

As we enter January we start to wind down before the new core of officers start the new term.

Between now and March 31st we will be busy with the choosing of an Elk of the Year, Officer and Citizen of the Year, and Grand Exalted Ruler outstanding members.

Police and Firemen appreciation night, election of new officers and the Leading Knight challenge.

Any Elk member of the lodge in good standing can run for any of the officers chairs as well as the Fifth year Trustee chair. In addition to the officers position we will be in need of committee members for the new year, new members , new ideas, new challenges.

Don't forget to look at the Help Wanted page from your Lodge Secretary, it will make his day!

Let's have a great ending to the 2022-2023 year and the start to another great year in 2023-2024

For our Holiday donations from lodge 2477, Terry Gicking and myself were able to deliver checks in the amount of \$1,750 to both Food Share and the Conejo Manna Food Bank.

Manna has moved into a two story building that was a Foursquare church just around the corner of the lodge and on Saturday's Food Share sets up just across the street from the lodge to distribute food to those that require help during these lean time's, I'm thankful for our members donations to make this happen.

John Betancourt



Happy Birthday

Ron Watkins Loyal Knight

Committees reporting to the Loyal Knight

Veterans: Terry Gicking Elks Memorial: Rita DaCorsi

Government Relations, Public Relations: Diane Letulier

So long as there are Veterans the Elks will never forget them

\$50 Groceries cards were delivered to Operation Snowflake at Pt, Mugu for deployed Military families that left spouse and children behind as they serve our country. We are glad we could help. Thank you to Paul Stein who on his own donated \$500 in cards.

I'm sure you have all seen the die hard Elks with their pins proudly displayed. In the Military the most sought after pin / crest is the Wreath Pin, signifying they have served as guard of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. To make one pass in front of the tomb the soldier takes 21 steps, alludes to the 21 gun salute which is the highest honor given to any military dignitary. Before the return trip he waits 21 seconds. His gloves are wet to prevent losing his grip on the rifle. The rifle is carried on the shoulder away from the tomb.

The Guards are changed every 30 minutes, twenty four hours a day 365 days of the year.

To be a Tomb Guard you must be between 5'10-6'2 and your waist cannot exceed 30 inches. The Guard must commit 2 years of life to guard the tomb and live in barracks under the tomb. Cannot drink any alcohol on or off duty for the rest of their lives. Cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives and cannot disgrace the uniform or the tomb in any way. After two years the guard is given a wreath pin that is worn on their lapel signifying they served as guard of the tomb. There are only 400 presently worn.



The guard must obey these rules for the rest of their lives or give up the wreath pin. The shoes are made with very thick soles to keep heat and cold from their feet and a metal heel plate makes a loud click as they come to a halt.

First 6 months of duty, cannot talk to anyone nor watch TV. Off duty time is spent studying the 175 notable people laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. The guard must memorize who they are and where they are interned.

It takes 5 hours a day to get their uniform ready. There are no wrinkles, folds or lint on the uniform. They dress in front of a full length mirror

In 2003 Hurricane Isabelle was approaching Washington DC. The Guards of the tomb were given permission to suspend the assignment, all respectfully declined the offer. The tomb has been guarded 24/7 since 1930.

Editor

John Puckett Lecturing Knight

Committees reporting to the Lecturing Knight

Scholarship:: Reem Agel, Hoop Shoot: Craig Acerboni, Darryl Kopacz

Scouting :Greg Metzgas, Dictionary Program: Steve and Mary Woodlief

Americanism Lyssa Wright, Youth Appreciation: Reem Agel

Drug Awareness: Richard Platt



Volunteers needed for the 2023-2024 Hoop-Shoot Free Throw Contest. Date of the event January 7th. Location is Cal Lutheran University located at 1-67 Olsen rd. at 2 PM. Help is needed with set-up, scoring, registration and shagging balls that miss the net. Now is a time to help out the lodge with one of its programs.

8 through 13 year old Boys and Girls will shoot best of 25 free throw shots to move on. Call for more information .

Craig Acerboni Darryl Kopacz



2023 Elks Hoop-Shoot

The American Essay contest this year's topic was "My American Dream". After two years of no contest, we received many Entries and judging has begun. Lodge finalist move on to district judging, then on to State judging and then to national judging where they could win a savings bond and their family is invited to attend the Grand Lodge Convention in Minneapolis Minnesota in 2023 where the student will read their essay to members present at the convention. It will be great to have this accomplishment on there college application. Winners announced next month.

John Puckett



Welcome our new members



Robert Carrillo with sponsor Greg Metzgus



Dennis Sannow, Brad Bryan, Sponsor Michael Griffiths Michael Galuppo



Kim Payne sponsored by Rick Herrera



Pull Tab Collection



ELKS CARE— ELKS SHARE

Thank You everyone for your continued support to the “pull Tab program for the Ronald McDonald House Charities for 2022.

A special thank you goes out to Jim and Jan Ryland and their friends, last month Jim and Jan turned in 29 pounds of pull tabs. That’s approximately 36,772 tabs.

We make the holiday season a little better for those 28 families staying at the Pasadena Ronald McDonald House because Elks Care. Elks Share

On December 15th Bobby Williams and myself dropped off 164# of tabs which is 207,952. Six hour round trip at 96 miles x 2 for our All American lodge contest.

Elks Care-Elks— Share

Gerry Gillies

Happy
New
Year

A word from the District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Kris Picard



The state of California has had a membership increase which is rocketing us to 1st place in the National award. The state delinquency rate is **6.8** percent. The National average is **8.4** percent.

CA-HI has added 9,284 new members and is at 100% of the goal.

We still have 2,237 candidates waiting for their initiation. Special Initiations are allowed to help in getting these candidates initiated and maximize our growth.

In our lodge many members have brought in new members, but those that have brought in 3 or more and are in line to receive the Grand Exalted Rulers award pin they are Tommy Bolger, Greg Metzgas,, Paul Stein and Rick Herrera.

Our lodge has 30 members who have decided not to continue their membership. A final letter will be going out in January. If you know these members (they all had a sponsor at one time) give them a call and see what's up and if we can help.

David Naccarato

Membership / Secretary

January Birthday's

James Dills - 01
Joel McGinnis- 05
John Berg-07
Carl Steinkraus-07
David MacFarlane- 08
David Pearson-08
Richard Beal-09
Drew Oliver-09
Jack Murray-11
Ron Schwartz-11
Carol Spinner-11
James Barron-13
Bill Joseph-13
Jim Ryland-13
Dennis Sannow-13
Stephen Pence-14
Lou Mages-15
Michael Markey-15
Ernest Escoto-16
Frederick McCord-16

Stephen Dodge-18
Carol Fredericks-18
Ronald Watkins-22
Michael Hanika-23
Peter Gordon-24
Douglas Morrison-25
Adam Smith-26
Ted Montoya-27
Cheryl Templeton-27
Gerry Lieberman-30
Sherri Jones-31

Enjoy a birthday drink
on your birthday
Compliments of
Exalted Ruler
Terry Gicking PDDGER
EIEIO



The Memorial Garden dedication went off, rain and all. Dan Hoffman's Idea that PDDGER Tom Ryder ran with and made happen with help from Rick Herrera and his crew with landscape and brick work. Personal donations and others by the Elk Ladies, PER Association but the bulk from Tom Ryder himself. Thank You Tom members are already stopping by to sit and remember a past member.



Tree Lot Volunteers we thank you



The set up crew. Many new faces.
Thank you for your help.

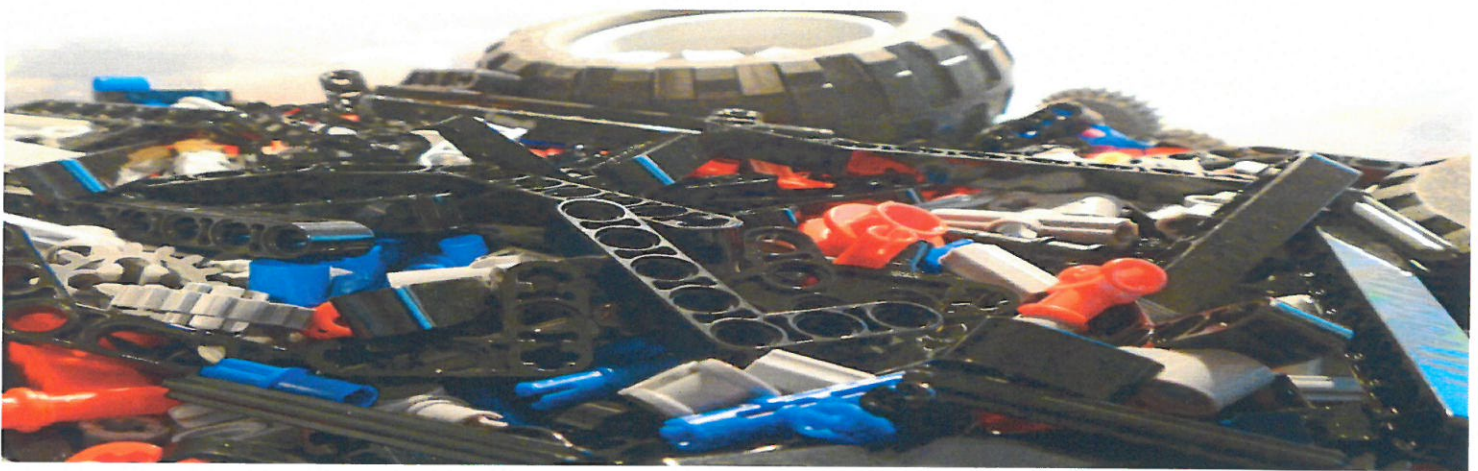
Branch Manager Carlos Muzquiz.

Jills bark is worse than her bite.

Steve Kerman went out on a limb
and worked everyday.

Great Job Guys

Bits and Pieces



Huge thank You to Paul Stein for donating gift cards to the Charity Basket program

While were on Paul Stein he has schedule the Police and Fire Fighters Appreciation night for March 24th. More info coming forth with.

Huge thank you to Gerry Gillies for the repair on my 2001 F150. The seat that is under the truck that lifts me up into the drivers seat so I can drive and have some mobility on my own, had a short and Gerry repaired it.

Speaking of shorts, my electric scooter that I will use to take out the trash has left me stranded a few time had a short. Gregory Charles staying in our RV lot fixed that and had time to unload 240 Christmas trees.

While on trees thank you to Carlos Musquiz and Jill Williams for chairing the tree lot. Thanks to all of the volunteers that helped. Monies go to the great works that the elks do.

Member Gregory Charles, visiting from Arizona changed all the leaky hose bibs around the lodge and changed out the broken 30 amp electrical connections we have at our RV parking area. Thank you Gregory.

After my wife lost the key to the closet in the conference room, yes I said my wife, I'm not taking the fall for this one, Jeff Conyers removed the door from the hinges and replaced the lock with one I had bought for the office door which was wrong, but worked great for the closet

Did you know the U.S. Constitution, The Bill of Rights, and the Declaration of independence are lowered into a bomb-proof safe every night?

Try out Bunco, first Wednesday every month 6 PM, \$10 buy in.

Charlotte Gessler donated a typewriter to the office. Thank You Charlotte.









Not all can be done by computer.

THOUSAND OAKS ELKS LODGE #2477

Office: 805-496-2477 * Lounge: 805-496-4550

Web: elks2477.com
Email: foelks2477@gmail.com

JANUARY 2023

Day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sunday	1 Lounge Open Noon - 6pm 	2 POTLUCK 10am - 7pm 	3 Lounge Closed	4  Bunco 6pm Duty Officer: Virginia Grindley 805-660-0852	5 Game Night \$3 CHILI DOGS 5:30 \$5 BURGERS	6 Chicken Fried Steak Dinner 5:30 pm \$10	7 Saturday BBQ Team Carlos  Hoop Shoot CLU 2pm
Monday	8  College Football National Championship Spaghetti garlic bread & salad 5:30pm \$10	9 Lounge Closed	10 Lounge Closed	11 Lodge Meeting 7pm Duty Officer: Ron Watkins 805-231-1194	12 Game Night \$3 CHILI DOGS 5:30 \$5 BURGERS	13 Friday Night Dinner Pot Roast Dinner 5:30 pm \$10	14 Saturday BBQ Team Bryan  DD Homecoming Simi Valley
Tuesday	15 Veterans Breakfast 10am - noon	16 Lounge Closed	17 Lounge Closed	18 Duty Officer: John Puckett 805-630-0883	19 Friday Night Dinner Fish Fry Dinner 5:30 pm \$10 DIAPER DRIVE (diapers and wipes)	20 Friday Night Dinner Kwekels Pork Loin Dinner 5:30 pm \$10	21 Saturday BBQ Team Terry 
Wednesday	22  1pm - 3pm	23 Trustees Mtg 11am	24 Lounge Closed	25 New Member Initiation 7pm Burgers & Fries 5:30 pm \$8 Duty Officer: Smitty 805-479-8154	26 Game Night \$3 CHILI DOGS 5:30 \$5 BURGERS	27 Friday Night Dinner Kwekels Pork Loin Dinner 5:30 pm \$10	28 Saturday BBQ Team Jill Smitty's 60th Birthday Bash Return of K-Tel All-Stars Presale \$25 Door \$30
Thursday	29 Breakfast	30 Lounge Closed	31 Lounge Closed		<p>Lounge Hours</p> <p>Sunday: Noon - 6pm Sunday if Breakfast: 10am - 6pm Mon - Fri: 3pm - 8pm (closed Tues) Saturday: Noon - 6pm</p>		
Friday							
Saturday							

Lodge Address: 158 N. Conejo School Rd., Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

Office Mailing Address: 2330 Los Feliz Dr., Thousand Oaks, CA 91362



Now is the time to be an involved member.

The lodge runs on volunteer help

Here's what we need **Officers!!!**

- 1, Lodge table set up and take down, my Dad always said many hands make lite work.**
- 2, Get on a BBQ crew, no reason for members to work more than one a month.**
- 3, Dinner on the 2nd Wednesday night of the month before the start of lodge general meeting. Easy Peze, Taco's, Albertsons chicken, chili, chicken salad, anything easy. Just set it up, serve at the window, clean it up and help out your lodge. One complaint for low member turnout is no dinner available. Lets find out if their right.**
- 4, Help with the wood lot. Splitting, stacking and pickup when a tree comes available**

If you can spare a few hours a week, see an officer or call the office for more information 805-496-2477 or my cell 805-300-3264