

March 2023 Volume 50 issue 12

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



POLICE • EMS • SHERIFF • FIRE

FIRST RESPONDERS

Show your support at our upcoming **Police** and **Firefighter** appreciation night. Friday March 24th

5:30 PM \$20

Not a night to stay home. BBQ dinner and award the outstanding first responders of Ventura County

Applications for membership to be voted on March 8th 2023

Nicole O'Connell– Relator- Sponsored by Mike Mathews
Mark Sandstrom– Surveyor– sponsored by Mike Mathews
Mitchell King-Accountant-sponsored by Richard Holt of Simi Valley Lodge #2492
Roger Meyer– retired– sponsored by Greg Sincock
Richard Koppel-Attorney-sponsored by John Duhig
Donald Halvorson-Expert Witness-sponsored by Dave Anderson
Edward Ratzieff request transfer from Henderson lodge #2802
Gary Phillips request transfer from Simi valley Lodge #2492

Sickness, distress & recovery

Bill Joseph moved to North Carolina for rehab and be near family.
Harold Constantine home from the hospital, heart condition
Mystery solved, Ben Rieger has had some health issue's but came by to pay dues and is still tough as nails
Lynn Rodrigues to undergo breathing treatments.
Diane Letulier down with the flu
Terry Baker recovering from a stroke, diabetes and a loss of 45 pounds.
Playing Pickle Ball, Gayle Platt broke her arm.
Dan Hoffman to undergo out patient back surgery.
Son of Paula Williams passed away.
Anita Gorino passed away February 11th, Initiated November 17 2009



Reports of sickness and distress are always in order



Recurring donors

Reem Agel	Kathy Moye
Dave Anderson	Greg Metzgus
John Betancourt	David Naccarato
Ed & Rita DaCorsi	Richard Platt
Art Garcia	Alexandra Rogers
Terry Gicking	Paul Stein
Gerry Gillies	Greg Sweet
Peter Gordon	Lyssa Wright
Brenda Hagen	

Purple Pig Honor Roll

Bobby Williams
Paul Stein
Darryl Kopacz Century Club X 2)
John Gin
Jean and Gregg Miraglia(Century Club)
Ben Rieger
Tom Lucas
William Upston

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

March 2023. My final article as your ER. Let us talk about the fun year this lodge has had! First, I want to thank my great officer corps for making this lodge year such a success!

We kicked off the year with the 50th anniversary party. Rita and her illustrious crew put together one heck of a party. We then had a great summer of events which more members attended and enjoyed. At the end of summer, we helped host a remarkably successful Band Tree event!

For Thanksgiving we hosted many Elks and their families to a great meal, then sold out of Christmas trees in a week and dedicated our new Elks Memorial Garden and waterfall before heading into the Christmas season and Super Bowl. We are now wrapping up our fiscal year. I am immensely proud of all the members of this lodge who have come back after Covid and got involved in moving this lodge forward! Thank You! Thank You!

We start the month with Bunco on Wednesday the 1st . If you have not played with this crazy group of fun seekers, come check it out. Not a lot to learn, just roll the dice. Casey and crew cook their famous meatloaf on Friday the 3rd . Then we start our first month with closing on Mondays and the opening of Taco Tuesdays on the 7th ! My son Bryan and I will kick off opening on Tuesdays with chicken or beef tacos at \$2 ea. You can add rice and beans for \$1 ea. We will also have cheese quesadillas for \$1 and chicken or beef for \$3. This menu might change depending on who the cooks are.

We might add enchiladas, burritos, fajitas if we can find the cooks to help with putting this meal on.

The second Friday is Fish Fry with Elk of the Year awards. We will have our Veterans breakfast on Sunday, the 12th . We moved fish fry up because St Patrick;s day (17th) is the 3rd Friday this year. Corn beef and Cabbage dinner for \$18. Buy your tickets in advance for this dinner online @ <https://2477elks.square.site>.

New member initiation on the 22nd . Our Police and Firefighters Appreciation Dinner and Awards night is Friday, the 24th . \$20 for our famous BBQ served family style. Kampers breakfast on the last Sunday (26th) of the month.

We will be having our Installation of Officers for 2023/24 on Wednesday, the 29th and we finish out the month with Carlos and his crew preparing Taquitos, rice, and beans.

Please come down and enjoy YOUR lodge. We have plenty of events for you to enjoy!

I also want to give a shout out to Craig Acerboni, our Hoop Shoot chairman, for organizing a great local competition at CLU, where we had a good turnout and produced 6 winners who went on to compete at the district level, where 2 of them won and continued to the State competition where Luke won and proceeded to the Area 7 competition and finish 4th . We will be recognizing them at our youth appreciation awards night in May.

Elk of the month Officer of the month

Our Elk of the Month ; Jill Williams

Jill could have qualified for Elk of the month every month. She goes above and beyond everything that is asked of her. Even what's not asked of her, plus she doesn't even need to be bribed with a Bacardi.--

Officer of the Month . John Betancourt

John has been at my side every step of the way, not only in physical labor , but in making decisions and helping this lodge move forward and he has done this every month for which I am grateful. Thanks John you get a parking spot.

ER Article Cont.

We are still in need of an Esteemed Loyal Knight. Please consider becoming an Officer. Your lodge needs the members to volunteer for this position, and we also need some committee chairs and helpers. Call David Naccarato or John Betancourt for more details.

Once again, thank you for a wonderful second term as Your ER.

Sincerely and Fraternally

Terry Gicking, PER/PDDGER

Elks History

Our Founder Charles Algernon Sidney Vivian was 25 years old and a singer from England who arrived in New York on November 15, 1867. He rapidly attained some measure of success as a variety performer. He also struck up a large and boisterous number of acquaintances in the performing world, the nucleus of what would become the Elks.

Vivian went on to found a drinking and performance society with other theater folk:

Sunday November 17th Charles awoke to find his hang out the Star Lounge was closed due to Blue laws in New York that saloons, restaurant and theaters are closed due to the excise law was being strictly enforced and Sunday in New York City was a dry day.

His circle of friends started meeting at Mrs. Giesman;s house where Charles had arranged lodging. Charles would save up libations during the week and his circle of friends would meet and drink. When the group got to large they moved to 17 Delancey street which was a saloon but kept under wraps. Charles introduced the cork trick and one member George McDonald called the group the Jolly Corks.

After hearing the story of a funeral of a friend the "Jolly Corks" attended, McDonald suggested that the organization should become a "protective and benevolent society.

At a meeting held February 2nd 1868 McDonald offered a motion to organize the Jolly Corks as a lodge along benevolent and fraternal lines providing that a committee be appointed to formulate rules and regulations for it's government, prepare a suitable ritual, and select a new name.

More next month David

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

As we come to an end of our year at the lodge I would like to Thank all of you for your support.

As your Leading Knight. This year has been one of ups and downs as but we overcame whatever was stopping us and moved on to bigger and better things.

Now comes the biggest challenge for me in that you have put your trust in me to be the Exalted Ruler for the upcoming year,2023-2024.

On Wednesday March 29, is the night when I along with the officers and trustees stand before our follow Elks, guests, and family to take the solemn and binding obligation of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. I look forward to leading our lodge this coming year and with your help and the guidance from the PER Association we will have another great year.

John Betancourt

Leading Knight.

Happy Birthday Rick Herrera
Celebrated at general meeting
Held 2/8/2023

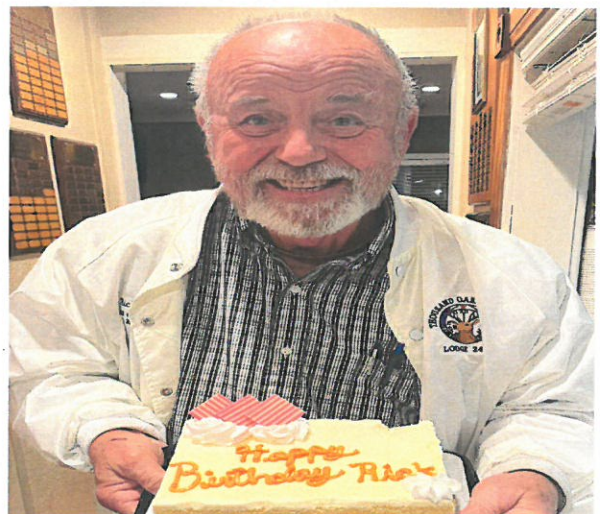


Major Project Honorees

Paul Stein, latest recurring donor

Jean and Greg Miraglia, Millennium club certificate

Bryan Gicking, employer matching donation certificate



Diaper Dash

Yesterday John and I visited James Storehouse in Newbury Park to make a donation of half of the supplies from the diaper drive. The remaining half will be delivered to Lighthouse for Women and Children next week.

James Storehouse is a unique organizational serving children in foster care from ages 0-18, as well as helps teen moms get resources to get jobs and provide for their children. They provide resources through donations and volunteer programs, and they even provide a safe space for court supervised visitation.

They were so grateful for our donation and gave us a whole tour of their facilities and warehouse. Jennifer on the left of the photo was so kind and gave us their future "wish lists".

Here is the picture I took with John while we were there!

Best,
Reem



Thank you to all the members who took the time to pick up a bag of diapers for our diaper dash. It was brain child of Reem Agel and our members did not let us down.

Thank you

Member Daniel Picard is behind the Jacket collection. These jackets went straight to the homeless on the streets. Some were brought to the Simi Valley Samaritan Center where the jackets were put on racks and the people could choose what they wanted. Another destination was the Salvation Army Santa Monica. Thank you again #2477 lodge members.



JOHN PUCKETT LECTURING KNIGHT

Committees reporting to the Lecturing Knight

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

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

Americanism Lyssa Wright, Youth Appreciation: Reem Agel

Drug Awareness: Richard Platt

Scholarship checks have gone out to the colleges of choice by our scholarship winners. Come meet them at our upcoming Youth Appreciation night in May.

Our top winner's were Tayler Freidman who will attend Tulane University who was awarded \$1500 from the lodge. Jacqueline Emanuel who will be attending Fordham University who was awarded \$1,500 from our lodge. Catherine XU received \$1,050 and will be attending USC. Two free throw shooters will attend the State Shoot Feb 11th, I'll let you know where they place.

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

The Blue Star Mom's put on a great Valentine Day breakfast. The Blue Star Mom's have children who are actively serving in the military. All profits from their breakfast is a donation from the lodge. These funds will allow them in sending care packages to the outlining area's that are being protected by our military personnel. Support their breakfasts I guarantee you'll get more than Denny's Grand Slam.



To the right of Terry is member Karen Abbitt with crew

BBQ, Tree lot and lodge volunteer appreciation dinner



On left is Paula, Diane, Roberta, Paul Stein, Darryl Kopacz and Jim Lovato

Jim was a walk up to join the elks. I told him after a few times over the grade you'll quit. He stuck around just to show me up.

Past Trustee he supports our lodge along with Darryl Kopacz past Trustee who also subsidized our Karaoke night's . Thanks



Bryan, Jane, Casey



Teresa & Johnny Gin, Faye and Miraglia's



Terry, Grace, Bryan
Hosts



Jasmine and Alexandra



Happy Volunteer's



Tom and Mary Baldrige with
friends



Dan and Sandy Hoffman



David and Michelle Guerra

March Birthday's

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
Katherine Phillipson-06
Milton Price-06
David Cundy-07
Thomas Hartin-08
Mark Rediger-08
Michael Callahan-09
James Lovato-11
Craig Ruhman-11
Lennard Benson-12
Carmine Prizzi-12
Kevin Metzgas-16
Carlos Muzquiz-16
Casey Bofggfiano-17
Edward Lees-17
Phillip Johnson-19
Richard Platt-19
Jill Williams-20
Douglas Bevan-21
Jay Schmidt-21
Gary Erland-22
Douglas Ryan-22
Kim Baumann-23
Richard Goldner-24
Paul Nash-24
David Guerra-31

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

Note from the kitchen

Please, please, do not throw away pots or pans that you feel are trashed. Every item, dish, bowl, pot and pan even the forks, knives and spoons are inventoried. Bring a used pot or frying pan to the attention of the kitchen liaison. Many teams bring their own pans and take them home again. We appreciate the Sunday breakfast crews. We did have breakfast every Sunday and the goal of the Exalted Ruler is to get back to that. If you have a urge to donate an omlete pan to the lodge, it would be accepted graciously. Thank You

Kitchen Liaison Ron Watkins

Welcome our new members



**Christan Perez and
Daniel Shuyler
With sponsor Greg Metzgun**



**Lyssa Wright with
New member
Celia Shannon**



**Kim Baumann with Kwek
Sponsors Larry Levine and
Mike Mathews**

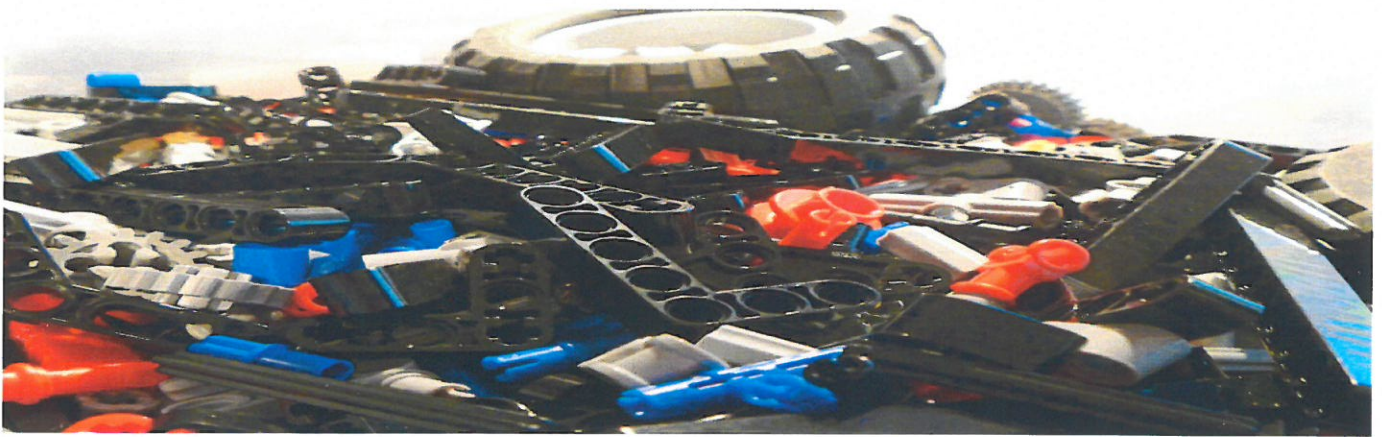


**John Haigh with
Gerry Gillies
Standing in for Paul Stein**



**David Bush with
Sponsor Adam Smith**

Bits and Pieces



If you ever been traveling down Hodencamp and noticed a street sign "Flittner Circle" It was named after one of our members. Richard "Dick" Flittner who was a charter member of our lodge had built the first house on that street and when it came to naming that street the city named it after the first house on the block.

Dick Flittner was very much involved with Conejo Valley days. He owned "Flittners screen Shop and had a 3 wheel Cushman cart that he would drive around the grounds of CVD selling and distributing CVD buttons.

By the way Mr. Flittner's daughter Heather, was the first women to join the lodge after the Grand Lodge convention in 1995 that allowed women to join. At that time the order knew it needed a shot in the arm by way of membership and it helped greatly but spelt the demise of the Elk Ladies group. There have been rumblings to restart the organization. They were a big help with the lodge when we needed a women's touch they were counted on.

Editor

Huge thanks to Gerry Gillies who emptied out all the clothes that we collected for the stand down that was held every July. Gerry was able to still deliver them to the Gold Coast Foundation so the Veterans still got to benefit from our donation. Jeff Vargo donated Italian suits which were from his father and I am glad that now they have found a home.

Clair Hope, the daughter of Bob Hope put the Veterans Stand Down together, It was a huge task to coordinate everyone and all the volunteer's. The Stand down is a weekend where the Homeless Veterans are picked up and brought to the Ventura Armory where they enjoyed 3 square meals a day, pick clothes off the rack. Free dental work, free medical, Optometry and legal matters. All 4 lodges in Ventura County were involved along with the VFW posts. We provided clothes, Saturday night dinner and Sunday Lunch. Northern part of our district still has a Stand Down, maybe we could help them out. More information comes in I'll let you know.

Still looking for an Engineer this year for the parades coming up.

2022-23 OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler-Terry Gicking
Leading Knight-John Betancourt
Loyal Knight-Ron Watkins
Lecturing Knight-John Puckett
Secretary-David Naccarato
Treasurer-Bill Joseph
Esquire-Adam Smith
Chaplain-Rita DaCorsi
Inner Guard-Lyssa Wright
Tiler-Virginia Grindley

2022-2023 TRUSTEES

One year Dan Hoffman
Two Year Reem Agel
Three Year Steve Kerman
Four Year Ed Lees
Five Year Kathy Moye



PAST EXALTED RULERS

72-72 Marvin D Smith*
73-74 Erle Pitman PDD
74-75 Richard Flake*
75-76 Bill Wagner*
76-77 John Henry
77-78 Robert McKee PDD*
78-79 Frank Rindone PDD*
79-80 Ed Stogsdell*
80-81 Frank Hastie*
81-82 Robert Hardy*
82-83 John Nichols*
83-84 John Nau
84-85 Vern Ogden*
85-86 Dan Snyder*
86-87 Bill Lloyd PDD
87-88 Jack Henry*
88-89 Ted Lipka*
89-90 Don Skinner
91-92 Don Ansell*
91-92 Gary Sleigh*
92-93 Tom Ryder PDD
93-94 Jim Wallace*
94-95 George Pekow*
95-96 Gil Riding PDD*
96-97 Jack Loughran*
97-98 John Kelly*
98-99 Chet Kozlowski*
99-20 Richard Goldner PDD
20-01 Jacob Panzcak
01-02 John D. Ambrogio
02-03 Don Booker
03-04 Greg Metzgas PDD
04-05 Jay Block*

05-06 Sally Claunch*
06-07 David Naccarato
07-08 Catherine Koeritz
08-09 George Meehan*
09-10 Terry Gicking PDD
10-11 Harry Brockwell*
11-12 Steve Smith
12-13 Leo Rodriguez
13-14 Terry Baker
14-15 Dan Martyn
15-16 Jim Moye
16-17 Mike Flannery
17-18 Jean Miraglia
18-19 Karen Martyn
19-20 Dan Hoffman
20-21 Dan Martyn
21-22 Richard Platt

*** DECEASED**

BY AFFILIATION

81-82 Robert Thornton*
01-03 Bill Sternberg*
09-10, 13-14, 18-19 Grace Vega
99-00 Ralph Vester*
83—84, 02-03 Harold Constantine


***DECEASED**

THOUSAND OAKS ELKS LODGE #2477

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

Web: 2477elks.com
Email: toolks2477@gmail.com

MARCH 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Lounge Hours</p> <p>Sunday: Noon - 6pm Sunday (if Breakfast): 10am - 6pm Mon - Fri: 3pm - 8pm (closed Mon) Saturday: Noon - 6pm</p>						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Breakfast	Lounge Closed	TACO TUESDAY!	Duty Officer: Kathy Moye 805-443-0309	TO Booster Baseball Fundraiser see flyer	Friday Night Dinner Jill & Crew Fish Fry Dinner 5:30 pm \$10 *Elk of the Year* Awards	BBQ Team Bryan
Veterans Breakfast 10am - noon	Lounge Closed	TACO TUESDAY!	Duty Officer: Ed Lees 805-807-9159	Game Night \$3 CHILI DOGS 5:30 \$5 BURGERS	Friday Night Dinner Casey & Crew Meatloaf mashed potatoes, green beans & salad 5:30 pm \$10	BBQ Team Carlos
BINGO Noon - 2pm	Calendar Mtg 7pm	TACO TUESDAY!	HC Meeting 7pm Duty Officer: Rita DaCorisi 805-444-0449	Game Night \$3 CHILI DOGS 5:30 \$5 BURGERS	Friday Night Dinner Police and Firefighters Appreciation BBQ 5:30 pm \$20	Elks BBQ Open to the Public Saturday 10am-2pm
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Breakfast	Lounge Closed	PER Meeting 6pm	Duty Officer: Virginia Grindley 805-660-0852	Game Night \$3 CHILI DOGS 5:30 \$5 BURGERS	Friday Night Dinner Carlos & Crew Taqritos, rice & beans 5:30 pm \$10	BBQ Team Jill
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
1st Day of Spring	Lounge Closed	TACO TUESDAY!	New Member Initiation 7pm Burgers & Chips 5:30 pm \$8 Step-Up Night	Game Night \$3 CHILI DOGS 5:30 \$5 BURGERS	Friday Night Dinner Simi Officer Install	
Trustees Mtg 11am	Lounge Closed	New Member Orientation 7pm	Duty Officer: John Betancourt 805-551-4450	Game Night \$3 CHILI DOGS 5:30 \$5 BURGERS		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Kampers Breakfast 10am - noon	Lounge Closed	TACO TUESDAY!	INSTALLATION OF 2023/24 OFFICERS TBA see flyer	Game Night \$3 CHILI DOGS 5:30 \$5 BURGERS		
						

Lodge Address: 158 N. Conejo School Rd., Thousand Oaks, CA 91362 Office Mailing Address: 2330 Los Feliz Dr., Thousand Oaks, CA 91362