

August 2023 Volume 51 issue 5  
Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477  
Of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks

# Antler Antics



*51 years of service to our community*

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## Exalted Ruler John Betancourt — Soaring to New Heights with Elkdom!

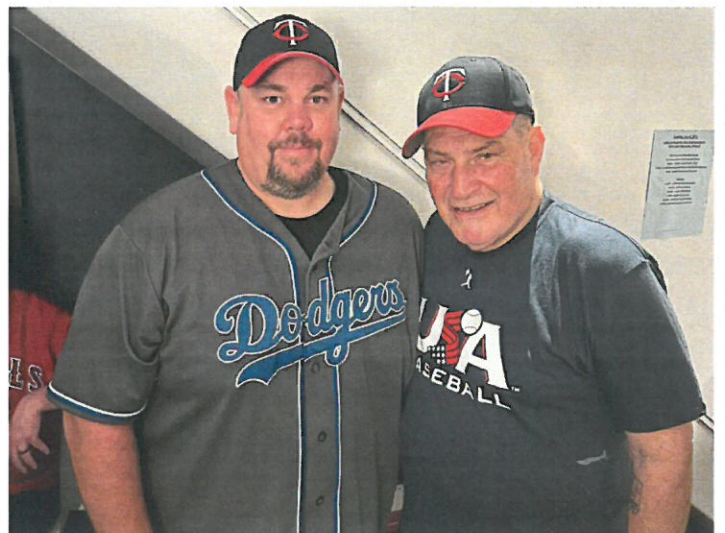
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Exalted Ruler John Betancourt at Grand lodge Convention in Minneapolis Minnesota, standing with incoming District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Henry Schmitz.



West Central Coast District #1240  
Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, Oxnard, Ventura,  
Santa Barbara Santa Ynez, Lompoc, Santa Maria,  
Oceano 5 Cities, Atascadero, San Luis Obispo, Paso Robles



At the Twins Game I-R Henry DDGER, John ER

## Applications to be balloted on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Abdullah Vincent Ciullini– restauranter– sponsored by Richard Platt

Alexis Garcia– Carpet Time owner– sponsor Craig Acerboni

Keith Liddle– Retired– sponsored by Terry Gicking

## Sickness, Distress and Recovery.

K.C. Radomski dealing with severe back pain, prayers needed.

Paula Williams to start Chemo therapy

Prayers for PER Mike and Mary Flannery.

Mary Woodlief is up and around and will resume her duties mailing out the Antler Antic's. I'd milk it another month. But not Mary. Thank you Mary and Steve Woodlief. Next they will be distributing dictionaries to 3rd graders. Want to help, call the office.

*Reports of sickness and distress are always in order*



## Recurring donors

Reem Agel

Dave Anderson

John Betancourt

Ed & Rita DaCorsi

Carol Fredericks

Art Garcia

Terry Gicking PER

Gerry Gillies

Peter Gordon

Brenda Hagen

Dan HoffmanPER

Sheryl Holloway

Diane Jones

Ed Lees

Greg Metzgas PER

Kathy & Jim Moye PER

David Naccarato PER

Richard Platt PER

Alexandra Rogers

Paul Stein

Greg Sweet

"Dee" Thomas

Lyssa Wright

At State Convention our lodge donated **\$21,437** to the State Major Project. Every State Association has a Major Project. California/ Hawaii is Therapy for disabled children from 6 months to 18 years of age. All paid for by the Purple Pigs we have around the lodge and those members listed here. Our per capita was **\$50.20** per member. All the lodges in Calif./Hawaii donated **4.1 million**. We did good this year. Dan Hoffman is the lodge and district Major Project Chairman. But it all starts over again, starting now. Become a recurring donor and you won't even miss the \$5, \$10, or \$20 each month.

Purple Pig is a 501-© - 3 tax deductible donation.

## Purple Pig Honor Roll

Bobby Williams

Jean and Gregg Miraglia

Darryl Kopacz

Nathan Aurich

Ben Rieger

Travis Huffman

Eva Huffman

Robert harmon

## Crying Towel

June 14 capsule draw \$325.00 Ralph Sherwood not present.

Lucky 13 \$45 Adam Smith, no winner



June 28 Capsule drawing \$350.00 Richard Newkirk Not Present.

Lucky 13 \$75 Alex Rogers- Pulled by Rick Herrera, no ace no winner.

## Lodge Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 4:00PM-9:30PM

Friday's, Wednesday's *may* be open later.

Saturday-Sunday 12PM to 6PM Saturday BBQ 10am-2pm Sunday breakfasts start at 10 AM

Office Hours Mon-Thurs 10AM – 3PM

Lounge Phone 805-496-4550

Office Phone 805-496-2477

Email- [toelks2477@gmail.com](mailto:toelks2477@gmail.com)

Web address: [//2477elks.com/](https://2477elks.com/) Password– 1972

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/79599886093> (Elk members only access)

<https://www.facebook.com/ThousandOaksElks2477/> (Public page)

Twitter: Follow: [@1KOaks2477](https://twitter.com/1KOaks2477) Instagram: Follow: [toelks2477](https://www.instagram.com/toelks2477)

Online Event Ticket Sales: <https://2477elks.square.site/>



## From the Club Coordinator

I apologize for no article, I had emergency surgery on my appendix's and was out for a couple of weeks. But I am on the mend and will be back at it soon.

## Lodge Committee Chairpersons.

**Antler Antics editor:** David Naccarato  
**Mike Mathews, Diane Letulier**  
**Americanism;** Lyssa Wright.  
**Audit & Accounting:** Lyssa Wright.  
**Bequest & Living Trust:** **Needed**  
**BBQ:** **Needed**  
**Business Practices;** Steve Kerman.  
**Chili Cook-off:** Terry Gicking  
**Conejo Valley Days:** Terry Gicking,  
**Dictionary program;** Steve and Mary Woodlief  
**Drug Awareness;** Richard Platt  
**Community Activities;** Ron Watkins  
**El Konejo Kampers;** Shirste Gessler  
**ENF;** Jean Miraglia  
**Government Relations;** David Naccarato  
**Grants Coordinator:** David Naccarato  
**Grounds Maintenance;** Dan Hoffman  
**Hoop Shoot;** Craig Acerboni  
**Insurance consultant :** Darryl Kopacz  
**Investigations:** Alex Rogers, Jasmine Silvestre,  
Rita DaCorsi  
**Lodge Activities;** **Needed**  
**Mailing Antler Antic's;** Steve & Mary Woodlief  
**Maintenance;** Jeff Conyers, Dean Reichle  
**Major Project;** Dan Hoffman  
**Membership;** David Naccarato  
**Memorial;** Rita DaCorsi  
**Mediator;** Richard Rogers  
**National Veterans Service;** Daniel Picard  
**Presiding Justice;** **Needed**  
**Orientation;** Terry Gicking  
**PER association;** Richard Platt  
**Public Relations;** David Naccarato  
**Photography:** **Needed**  
**Proof Reader:** Diane Letulier  
**Ritual Training:** Terry Gicking, David Naccarato  
**Safety:** Kathy Moye  
**Scholarship:** Reem Agel  
**Scouting;** Greg Metzgus  
**Sickness, distress and recovery;** Alex Rogers  
**Wood Lot;** Greg Sweet  
**Youth Activities;** Mason Nauenberg

## Bits and Pieces



**Loud** shout out to member Trudy Smith who repaired an Elk Tapestry I've been hanging on to. The mice had gotten to it but I knew it could be saved. Trudy is the member in charge of the Quilters that use the lodge on Monday's and Tuesday morning's. She repaired the tapestry to the point you cannot tell where the damage was. Good job Trudy I really appreciate it.

Good job to Reem Agel who put together the Youth appreciation awards night. Reem had gotten the team together from the cooks to the server's the awards and contacting all the recipient's. Fair turn out. Changing a few things next year may make it bigger.

The ER going away party was a nice evening. We missed the visit from the Simi Valley Lodge ,but it couldn't be helped. Check out the pictures on another page in the Antler.

Rita DaCorsi held her "get the Elk Ladies going again meeting". The Elk Ladies are an integral part of the lodge with helping out in fund raising, putting on special dinners and making visiting dignitaries wives feel at home. They could use more members to spread the work around. Great way for new members wives to get to know the other ladies in their lodge.

# Exalted Ruler John Betancourt's page

Antler Antic's, Auditing & accounting, BBQ, membership, facilities, PER Association.

The Elk's convention was held from July 2 through July 5 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. It truly was an eye opening experience to be among the Five Thousand plus in attendance this year.

One of the best things along with the sessions was to get to network with the other Exalted Rulers from the other lodges in our district and state. We were able to discuss various issues that plaque each of our own lodges and helped each other in how we would approach a particular situation.

Henry Schmitz is our District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler along with Todd Osborne PER Esquire To the DD, and Tom Silva PER, Assistant Esquire to DD, all are from the Paso Robles Lodge #2364. Finally, our own Dan Hoffman PER will be the Auditor to the DD. We wish them all the very best in the upcoming DD visits for the 2023-2024 Elk year. We will be having our DD visitation on Wednesday December 13 at our lodge so mark your calendar.

Our new Grand Exalted Ruler for 2023-2024 is Randy P. Shook of Lawrenceburg, TN lodge # 2206. GER Shook has been an ELK since 1993. His theme is "we are the Elks." GER Randy has recommended a focus on recruitment and the use of a video " Why We Join" . A tool not only for new members but for our existing members.

This year the Elks will again be in Rose Parade on January 1,2024 and the theme of the Elks Float will be Chimes of Liberty/ Protecting Our Future. I will post a picture of what the float will look like and also, I am selling the Limited-Edition float pins for \$10.00 each to help defray costs of the float.

The heart of being an Elk is in volunteering. We are always in need of the following;

LODGE table set up and take down.

Being on a BBQ crew, we have 4 crews.

Wood lot crew from stacking to pick up and splitting.

Meals, Sunday breakfasts, Taco Tuesday, Thursday Night Burgers and Hotdogs, and Friday night dinners.

These are all very important in helping the lodge and most important a great time when we are all together. So please think hard about getting involved. You can call the office,805-496-2477 or my cell.

805-551-4450.

John Betancourt

Exalted Ruler

## Pin Night 2023



20 years  
Dean Reichle, Juanita Feamster  
Peter Gordon



30 years  
Jacob Panzcak PER



35 years  
Pete Padilla, Jim Horning  
45 years  
Brian Boals

# Pin night continued



**10 years**

Kathy Moye, Casey Boggiano  
Jean Miraglia PER, Gary Berg



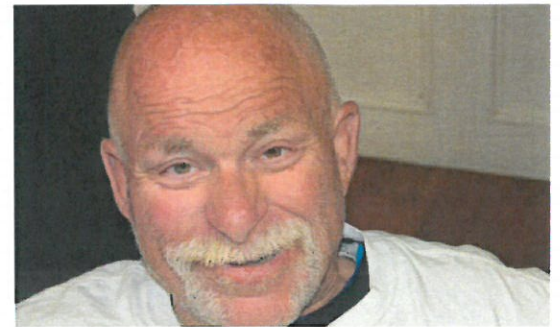
**5 years**

Laurie Fredericks, Jasmine Silvestre  
Dennis Albi, Lyssa Wright  
And Sandro Cano

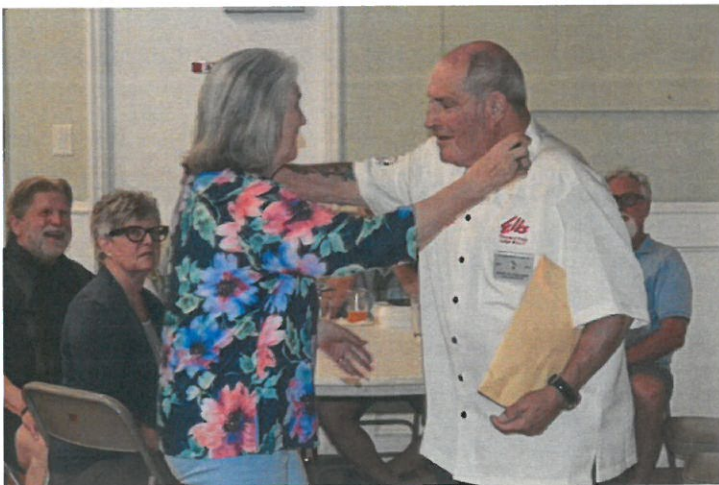


Having a moment

## Member Recognition

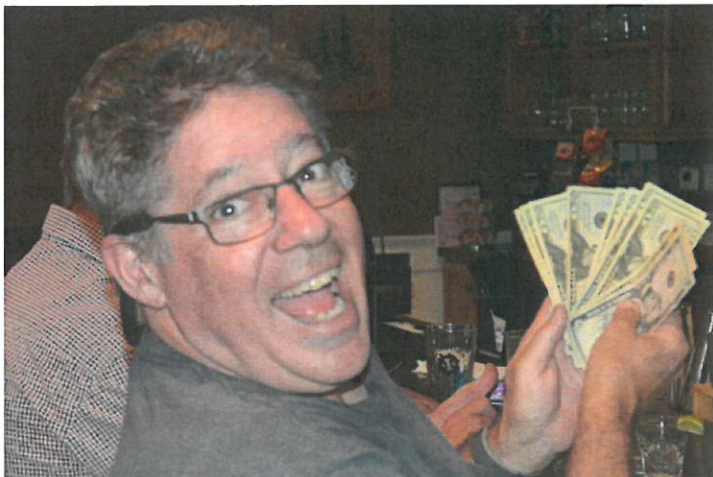
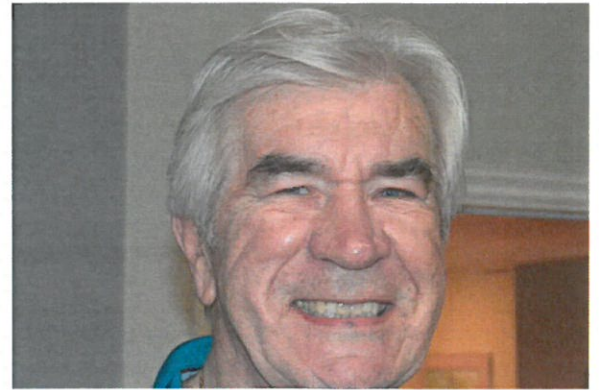


Bret Taylor receives certificate  
For flying the flag correctly



He gets all the girls

# ER Going Away Party and Horse Races







# Ron Watkins Leading Knight- Charity

Letter received from Manna, Conejo Valley Food Bank

Dear members of Elks Lodge #2477

Thank You for caring for your neighbors that are suffering.

You have seen the headlines: *inflation at a 40- year high! Food prices up 7%! Manna's clients face these realities daily. They already live on a average annual household income of \$22,000. Now they are faced with ever rising costs at every grocery store, the gas pump, and rent. Often, they can feel like things are out of control.*

You are making a difference in the lives of these neighbors in the Conejo Valley. Your commitment to feeding people in need means that Manna provides a full shopping cart of items chosen by the clients themselves. You are providing free groceries to a mother of three boys who shared that she cannot keep up with their growing appetites, the widow worried about food or her mortgage payment. You are providing free groceries to the Woolsey Fire Victim who still does not have her permanent home restored. Clients can select from a wide variety of nutritious options including fresh produce, eggs, dairy, frozen meat, and pantry staples.

Your gifts allow Manna to serve those most in need during these trying times.

Thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely,  
Leanne Portzel  
Executive Director; Manna Food services

3/21/2023 donation of \$2,500 from a ENF grant we qualified for by donating to ENF.

6/14/2023 donation of \$301.00 in memory of Lynn Rodriguez, From Rick Herrera selling her succulents.

# MANNA FOODBANK



A member of **FEEDING AMERICA**





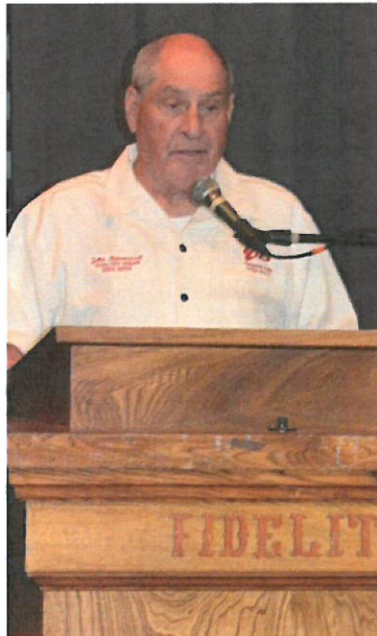
# Mason Nauenburg Lecturing Knight

## Youth Activities, scholarships, Americanism



Youth Appreciation awards night 6/22/23

Lodge members show support for our youth award night recipients. Represented is Hoop-Shoot, Americanism and Scholarship. Many scholarship winners Received awards from District, State and National. Hoop-Shoot had A District, State and Area 7 4th place winner. Tough to do. Food for the evening prepared by Jill Williams and crew and served by Brenda And Lonnie Hagen and thier crew.



John Betancourt E.R. Addressing the crowd.



Students and family awaiting the call.



Sarah Ziff and parents



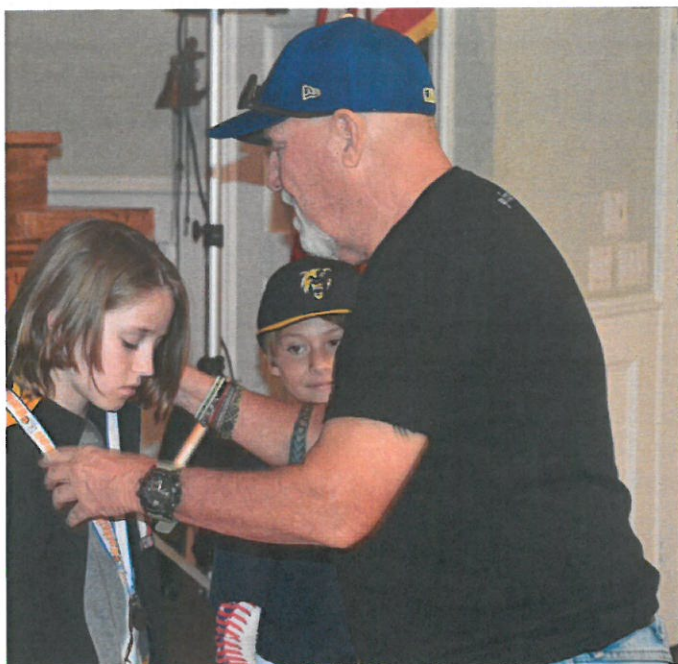
Chaplain Rita DaCorsi opening in prayer.



Reem Agel addressing the scholarship winners.

More pictures next page





Hoop-Shoot Chairman Craig Acerboni awarding  
Cassius Nunes 8-9 male first place  
Luke Patton 12-13 male first place winner



Americanism chairwomen Lyssa Wright with  
2022 Winner Jacob McDermott (not available last year)  
receiving brother Nathaniel 2023 6th grade Essay award  
(not available this year) and Addison Peters 5th grade first  
place winner.



Mr. and Mrs. Lee receiving 1st  
place scholarship award  
plaque Plus \$1,500 for  
daughter Vivian Lee with  
Scholarship Chairwomen.  
Reem Agel



Shy Addison Peters has her mom  
Mrs. Peters read her essay to the



Lyssa Wright Americanism  
chair women calling up her  
\$100 essay winners



Noah De La Rionda  
2nd place \$1050



2nd place Sarah Ziff receives her  
awarded scholarship plus \$1,050  
from Reem Agel. At T.O. high  
School awards night, Sarah won  
many scholarships.



3rd place Jacob Warner  
\$750 He is also appearing  
In Phantom of the Opera

# Loyal Knight

Lodge Activities, Veterans, Kitchen

## Veteran Profile,

Michael Callahan member #2714

Joined the lodge in January 2020. His sponsor is Dan Hoffman. He is an example of Veterans that have issues after returning from war.

Michael served in Africa, Beirut, and Somalia. He was assigned to the 24<sup>th</sup> Amphibious division. Michael is trained on the Bradley fighting vehicle, the Humvee, and Halftrack. From serving in foreign lands, Michael developed a blood disorder and was hurt when the truck he was in hit an IED, flipped over and he was wounded by shrapnel. Michael has a Purple Heart and is proud of it. Michael has had struggles his whole life. Military gave him some stability. Joining the Elks allowed him to continue serving. It's what he wanted to do till his wounds make it impossible. Michael feels he will rebound and come out on top and get back to serving the lodge anyway he can.

August 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> President Harry Truman member of Kansas City Mo. Lodge #26

Ordered the dropping of the Atom bomb for a two fold. Reason. 1<sup>st</sup> Japan would have fought till every man, woman and child died for the emperor.

2<sup>nd</sup> was to show the might of the United States to keep Russia from invading Japan. The most obvious reason is the saving of American lives.

After the August 6<sup>th</sup> bombing of Hiroshima Truman asked for an unconditional surrender of Japan they refused so the August 9<sup>th</sup> bombing of Nagasaki took place and that one did the trick. The Atom bomb was a weapon that was being developed in Germany but the scientist defected to the U.S. for they could not Trust the German high command to treat it with respect.



## August Birthday's

Darryl "Duke" Kopacz-01  
Michael Koslow-01  
Erle Pittman Charter Member-01  
Janine Van Poppel-01  
Alfonso Centanni-02  
Jeanette Grasso-02  
William Johnson-02  
Harold Constantine-04  
James Faulkner-04  
Stephen Hearst-04  
Joe Medrono-04  
Shawn Kerkhoff-06  
John Lombardi—06  
Louis Reis-06  
Rick Lemmo-07  
Elvis Presley-08  
Greg Ryder-11  
Dan Dankberg—12  
Jason Frase-12  
Mike Violano-13  
Jan T King-14  
Art Garcia-17  
Don Skinner-17  
Jane Watson-20  
Jerry Humphries-21  
Luz Herrera-22  
Rich Lucariello-22  
Jesse Garcia-23  
Susan Williams-23  
Myrna Block-26  
Bill Burmister-26  
Christine White-27  
Gary Berg-28  
John Gentzvein-28  
Daniel Kozlowski-31  
[Free drink on your birthday](#)  
[Complements of E.R.](#)  
[John Betancourt](#)

# Welcome our new members



Terry Gicking standing  
In for Edward Meza with  
Eva and Travis Huffman



Sarah Onfiveros, Reem Agel  
Gabriela Fulmer. And John Carmelo



The Magnificent Seven  
L-R David Chesson, Gabriela Fulmer, John Carmelo,  
Phillip Maness, Sarah Onfiveros, Travis Huffman and Eva Huffman,

# More New Members

June 28th 2023



**Brenda Hagen**  
Standing in for Steve Kerman  
With Phillip Maness



**Sponsor Ken Krabel**  
With David Chesson



**Omitted in September 2022 Antler Antics.  
The error was brought to my attention.  
My Bad. Rick Herrera sponsored two members.  
Robert Harman and Delores Thompson.  
Both involved members.**

# El Konejo Kampers of Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge #2477 Oceano 2023

KONEJO KAMPERS CAMPOUT JULY 6-9, 2023

Once again, a lot of fun, games, and laughs prevailed at the Oceano Elks Campout. However, it was one of the coldest and windiest campouts we have had for a long time.

Check in day we all met for horsd' oeuvres. We had lots of good food and drink. The Oceano Lodge held Bingo that night.

Friday was golf day. 5 guys and one Lady (Cheryl of Course) played at the Cypress Ridge Golf Course. It was a beautiful golf day. John Puckett, (ringer) had the best golf score. The beer after at the course lounge tasted really good.

Friday evening, we all had dinner at the lodge. The lodge held a cook your own steak or chicken night. After dinner Jim Miller and Lyssa Wright participated in Karaoke. While Jim was singing the karaoke machine broke down but Lyssa saved the night by engaging the whole crowd in a sing-a-long.

Saturday was game day. We braved the wind and cold and played several dice games. We used Jim Rylands big truck as a wind screen. Consuming alcohol helped us brave the wind and cold. To the dismay of all, Kathy and I were the big winners.

I want to thank Jim Niciforo for bringing and setting up his Corn Hole equipment., However, it was too windy to play.

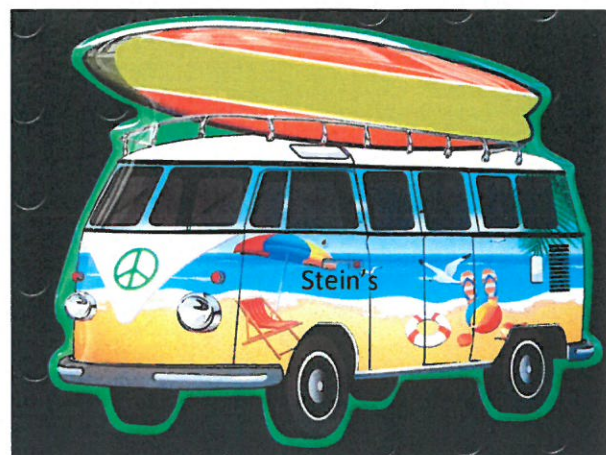
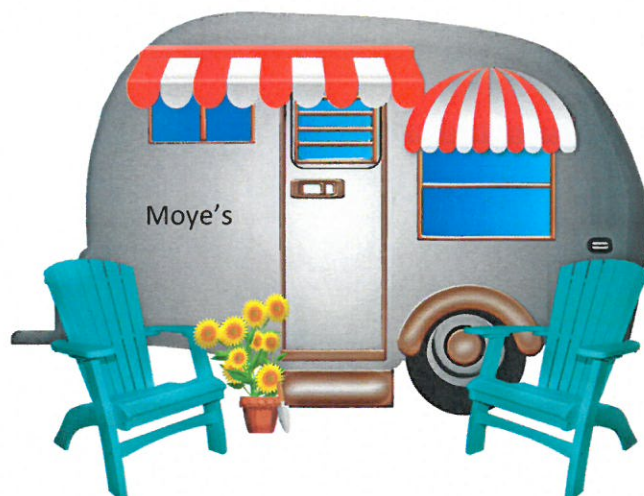
During the late afternoon, it was Sheriff time and Raffles. Sheriff Lyssa Wright fined everyone in attendance for one reason or another. She even fined a couple of people for "just because." As a matter of fact, she even fined herself. The Rylands won the 50/50 and Sue Osgood once again won the free campout along with Al and Marie Centanni.

Dinner was Spud Night. Members brought their own cooked potatoes and we provided all the fixings. Diane Lovato made a great salad for all and Cheryl provided desert.

That evening we all sat around the fire pit that Jim Miller brought and all enjoyed conversation and laughs.

Restfully Submitted

Paul Stein, Wagon Master.









# 1<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENT & CASINO NIGHT

Elks

**JOIN US at the Lodge!**

## Texas Hold'em & Casino Night Dinner, Drinks & Prizes

**Saturday, September 30th**

Dinner: 5:00pm to 6:30pm

Poker/Casino starts @ 6:00pm

Admission: Poker \$100 / Casino \$35

includes dinner and one cocktail.

Poker admission includes Casino as well.

Sign up at:

[www.2477elks.com/poker](http://www.2477elks.com/poker)

or at the Lodge bar

Limited shirts will be available for sale!

Hats and Prizes for Hold'em Final Table!

Sponsors & Volunteers needed.



### Event Supports



Elks  
National  
Foundation, Inc.



AMERICA SUPPORTING AMERICANS  
GREATER CONEJO VALLEY CHAPTER