



CALIFORNIA-HAWAII ELKS ASSOCIATION

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks

5450 East Lamona Avenue
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March 1, 2014

LODGE MEMBER

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks

Reference: 150th Grand Lodge Convention – New Orleans - July 13 - 17, 2014

Please respond by filling out the order blank for *room reservations* and *Pacific Southwest Reception* tickets, and **returning the form immediately** with the full payment required. Please note that **all major credit cards may be used to charge room deposits**. This year the *Pacific Southwest Reception* tickets may be charged to **Discover, MasterCard or VISA only**. You can pay all items by check. **Please note:** We have been given a limited number of rooms and we are giving you this information early in order to ensure that we have a room for you.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT GRAND LODGE CONVENTION IN NEW ORLEANS

Where are we staying and how much will it cost?

We are staying at the New Orleans Marriott, 555 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130. The room rate is **\$112** per night plus tax currently at 13% (\$14.56) and a \$3 per night occupancy fee for a total of **\$129.56**.

You will need to send a one night deposit or credit card. If you have any problems, let me know. **Be sure to put an e-mail address on the registration form. This is the only way that we will send out a confirmation notice for your room.** If your arrival date changes let me know right away. If you fail to arrive on the listed arrival date, you will be charged for one night and lose your room.

What about travel arrangements?

If you fly:

You can book through the internet. There are cabs to get you to and from the airport to the hotel for about \$30.

Car Rental?

Again I suggest that you get on the internet and find the best deal. Normally Dollar or Budget have good rates. It seems that there is little competition between companies.

When should you arrive?

We suggest that you plan to arrive on Saturday, July 12th. This will give you an opportunity to get settled in and see the town. The Opening Ceremonies are on Sunday afternoon, July 13th and checking in on that day may present a problem. We also suggest that you plan on staying over on Thursday, July 17th in order to avoid the rush. If you must leave on Thursday, be sure to book your flight late enough so that you stay through the closing ceremonies. You can store your luggage with the Bell Desk or arrange for a late checkout. We will also have a place designated in the lobby (still in negotiations) to leave your luggage until you leave for the airport. I have found over the years that you will be quite busy at the convention and Thursday afternoon will be a great time to see the sites and relax before going home.

How close are we to the Convention Center and Headquarters Hotel?

Convention Center is about a 20 minute walk and we are staying in the headquarters hotel. The headquarters hotel is the Sheraton located across the street.

What functions are planned for the convention and how much will they cost?

1. *Sunday Opening Ceremony (3:00 p.m.) at the convention center in Hall F*
2. *Registration and exhibits will be set up at the convention center in Hall E*
3. *Ritual Contest will be set up at the convention center*
4. *District Deputies Designate Seminar will be held at the convention center on Tuesday, July 15th*
5. *Exalted Ruler's Ball will be held on Wednesday evening, July 16th, at the Sheraton*
6. *Transportation will be provided to all Grand Lodge functions from hotels in the Grand Lodge Block.*

These events are subject to change and the times may be a little off. Be sure to check the Elks Magazine June issue for exact information. This will give you some idea of what to expect if this is your first convention. You will also be receiving a program of events when you register. The badge(s) you receive at registration, which is \$50 (including spouse), is your ticket for admission to all events and meetings with the exception of the *Pacific Southwest Reception*.

Is there anything else to do while we are in New Orleans?

Don't mention shopping to Bonnie. There is lots of sightseeing. You might want to try the trolley; \$3 gets you a pass that is good for the entire day. Other things you might want can be found with the concierge desk. They are very helpful and prices that they arrange for you are the cheapest.

What do I do if I need assistance due to disability?

If you need assistance due to disability, please submit a letter describing the type of assistance that is needed. This letter should be attached to your room reservation. I will pass this information along to the Grand Lodge National Convention Office. This information will assist in making appropriate transportation and wheelchair availability arrangements. We will also be able to arrange for appropriate housing for you at the hotel.

What about hospitality needs?

There is a COSTCO located three miles from the hotel and a supermarket is also close by. The prices seem to be about the same as California.

What to do if there is a problem?

We will have people available in the main lobby of the New Orleans Marriott on Monday, July 14th from 10:00 to 2:00. You can pick up your *Pacific Southwest Reception* tickets at that time. If you fail to pick them up, don't panic. We will have them for you at the door. If you need to contact me at any other time, call my room. I will be in the New Orleans Marriott beginning on Tuesday, July 8th if you need to reach me. The concierge desk is located in the lobby of the hotel and is very able in assisting guests of the hotel. There is a charge that is waived for Elks.

What are the Special Events?

Tuesday July 15th – Pacific Southwest Reception/Grand Lodge Reception ~ 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Grand Ballroom, New Orleans Marriott

This is a don't miss party for the members of the California-Hawaii Elks Association. The cost for this event is \$50 per person and includes buffet dinner and two drinks per person. We will be experiencing the food of New Orleans. Remember, you can put the cost of this event on your Discover, MasterCard or VISA. This event will be held at the New Orleans Marriott in the Grand Ballroom. This year we will be honoring the state presidents of California-Hawaii, Arizona, Nevada, and Utah along with the sponsors of Area 7, PGER Ken Moore and Rosemary, PGER Jim Grillo and Lucia, and PGER Tom Brazier and Venita.

Anything else I should know?

All rooms have hair dryers, irons and coffee pots. There are mini refrigerators available for a small charge. These may be requested from the hotel upon your arrival. The food in the hotel is excellent, but a little pricy. There are many good and cheap restaurants very close to the hotel.

It is very important that you have the opportunity to attend the functions.

If you have other Elks that wish to attend the convention, registration forms are available on the CHEA website (chea-elks.org). We try to get all of the Elks from each district located on the same floor. Reservations received after June 13, 2014 will be accepted based on availability at the convention rate

This is going to be a great convention that you will not soon forget. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Fraternally,



Jerry Rucker
Grand Lodge Convention Coordinator

JR/cw

Enclosures

Reservation Form

Tentative Program

Map of New Orleans Area

150th GRAND LODGE CONVENTION
JULY 13-17, 2014 ~ NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA



Name Title

Home Address

City, State Zip

Res. Phone Bus. Phone E-mail: _____

Lodge Name & Number District

ROOM RESERVATION ~ NEW ORLEANS MARRIOTT
(THIS HOTEL HAS A NONSMOKING POLICY)

_____ **Regular Room \$129.56**

Number of People: _____ Arrival Date: _____
Number of Beds (1 or 2): _____ Departure Date: _____

Special Requirements: Disabled _____
Other: _____

RESERVATION CONFIRMATIONS WILL BE EMAILED ONLY.

ROOM PAYMENT ~

ROOM DEPOSIT OF _____ **\$129.56** ***ROOM TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:** \$ _____
Check ___ or Credit Card – American Express ___ Discover ___ MasterCard ___ VISA ___
Card Number: _____ Expires: _____
Card Billing Address: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____
Signature: _____

TICKETS ~ PACIFIC SOUTHWEST RECEPTION

Number of Tickets: _____ @ \$50/each ***TICKET TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:** _____

PSW TICKET PAYMENT

Check ___ or Credit Card - Discover ___ MasterCard ___ VISA ___
Card Number: _____ Expires: _____
Card Billing Address: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____
Signature: _____

* You may make one check payable to CHEA for the total amount for the room deposit and Reception Tickets.

PLEASE RETURN NO LATER THAN APRIL 30TH

1. THIS FORM
2. YOUR CHECK

TO: *California-Hawaii Elks*
5450 E. Lamona Avenue
Fresno, CA 93727-2224

TENTATIVE CONVENTION PROGRAM
150th GRAND LODGE SESSION
New Orleans, LA ~ July 13-17, 2014

REGISTRATION (there is no pre-registration)

Registration begins Saturday, July 12th, at 8:00 a.m. The first obligation of all representatives is to register and get your badge. All Grand Lodge members, Exalted Rulers, visiting *Elks* and their guests can register at the *New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, 900 Convention Center Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70130.*

Informational pamphlets are provided at the registration area to tell you about the Grand Lodge Convention and about events going on during the Convention. ***The New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center should be considered your information center.***

The registration fee is **\$50** for *Elks* members only. *Elks* and *Elk* spouses must both register. There is no fee for non-*Elks* spouses registering with an *Elks* member. Everyone must be registered; your badge must be displayed for admission into many Convention events.

Registration Hours	Saturday 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.	Tuesday 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
	Sunday 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.	Wednesday 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
	Monday 7:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.	

EXHIBITS

Exhibit hours are the same as registration hours. Displays of activities by Grand Lodge committees and programs, Association Major Projects and trademark licensees will be located in the registration area.

GRAND LODGE SESSIONS

All daily sessions will be held at the *New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.*

SUNDAY, JULY 13

3:00 p.m. Official Grand Lodge opening ceremonies. Members and accompanied guests are invited to attend.

MONDAY, JULY 14

8:00 a.m. Opening Grand Lodge business session.
9:10 a.m. All registered attendees are invited to attend the business session. Election of Grand Lodge Officers for 2014-2015.
10:25 a.m. Celebration and Grand Exalted Ruler Elect Acceptance Speech.
1:00 p.m. Conference for all current Exalted Rulers, District Deputies, Special Deputies, State Presidents and State Secretaries at the *New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.* Admission controlled by ticket and badge. Grand Exalted Ruler Elect will outline and discuss the Grand Lodge program for the coming year.

TUESDAY, JULY 15

- 8:00 a.m. Grand Lodge business session.
- 1:00-3:00 p.m. District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler-Designate indoctrination at the *place to be determined*.
- 2:30 p.m. Association President photo session.
- 3:00 p.m. District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Designate photo session.
- 5:00-7:00 p.m. Pacific Southwest Reception – *New Orleans Marriott*, 555 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA (summer formals and white dinner jackets). Pick up tickets in the lobby of the *New Orleans Marriott* (Monday from 10:00-2:00 p.m.) Tickets are \$50 each.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16

- 8:00 a.m. Open session of the Grand Lodge.
- 11:00 a.m. **MEMORIAL SERVICE.** All registered attendees are invited to attend.
- 1:00 p.m. Ritualistic finals.
- 8:00 p.m. Exalted Rulers Ball honoring all Exalted Rulers and their families at the *Sheraton Hotel*. All Elks and their spouses are invited to attend. Admission by badge. Dress is business casual, jacket required. Refreshments available.

THURSDAY, JULY 17

- 8:00 a.m. Final Grand Lodge business and legislative session. All Exalted Rulers, Delegates and District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Designates are required to attend.
- 9:55 a.m. Installation of Grand Lodge Officers and District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Designates. Members and registered guests are invited.
- 11:15 a.m. **Grand Lodge session should conclude by 11:15 a.m.** Departure plans should be made accordingly. Late checkouts should be arranged with each individual hotel.

**Transportation needs for the disabled will be provided for. Check the Convention Program when you register at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.*

Items you will not want to forget to take to Grand Lodge:

- Current Membership Card
- Summer formal/white jacket
- CHEA Blue Coat and tie for Exalted Rulers

Check the June issue of the *Elks* Magazine for the FINAL Grand Lodge Convention Program. Information pamphlets are provided at the Grand Lodge Registration area to tell you about the convention and events going on during the convention.



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February 21, 2014

BLUE COAT ORDER DEADLINE MARCH 21, 2014

2014-2015 EXALTED RULER-ELECT
California-Hawaii Elks Association

At the Mid-Term Conference in Modesto, you were advised that the blue coat will be the official delegates' uniform for the Grand Lodge session in New Orleans, LA July 13-17, 2014. The Blue Coats will be worn to all Grand Lodge business sessions. In addition your Blue Coat will be the accepted attire at the Annual Convention in Palm Springs, May 14-17, 2014 as well as the designated apparel for the Association President's dinner. The **Blue Coat Ensemble** consists of the coat, a tie or scarf, pins and badge, and shall be picked up at the Association Convention in the *Business Center & Planner Office of the Westin Mission Hills Golf Resort & Spa*. Signs will be posted at various sites at the hotel to direct you to our location. **Failure to pick up your order may result in additional freight charges for special handling.**

I cannot over stress the importance of correct size information to insure that a proper fit can be obtained.

Please remember these are "off the rack" coats and while we will make every effort to accommodate you with a proper fit, slight alterations may be required. If alterations are necessary they will be the responsibility of the recipient. If you have any questions about your blue coat, please do not hesitate to contact me at (818) 787-3347. There is no "western" style coat available this year.

Full payment is required in advance to guarantee delivery. Please complete the order form below and fax to 559-456-2659 or return in the enclosed envelope along with your Discover, MasterCard, VISA information, or a check made payable to **CHEA**.

Order your badge by completing the attached form and return it in the envelope provided, along with a check made payable to Ray Uebner. Ordered badges will be available for pick up in the Blue Coat Room.

Fraternally,

FRANK FARQUHARSON
CHEA Blue Coat Chairman

**BLUE COAT ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED
BY MARCH 21, 2014**

ORDER FORM IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT
[chea-elks.org/Committees/Blue Coat](http://chea-elks.org/Committees/Blue%20Coat)

Enclosures: Return Envelope to CHEA, Badge Letter with return envelope to R & D Engraving and Map

Cut here and return to the CHEA Office at 5450 E. Lamona Avenue, Fresno, CA 93727-2224 or fax to 559-456-2659.

BLUE COAT ORDER FORM – PLEASE FILL OUT ALL SPACES

Name _____ Title _____
Address _____ Phone _____
City _____ ZIP _____ E-mail: _____
Lodge Name & Number _____ District _____

***** WAIST HEIGHT WEIGHT *** Orders will not be processed unless size, waist, height & weight are filled in!**
Special Instructions _____

MEN'S SIZE	30	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	58	60
Check One:	Short			Regular			Long			*Extra Long						
Other:	_____															
Cost:	Men Up to Size 50 \$185						Men Size Over 50 \$190									
*NOTICE: All coats requiring EXTRA LONG sleeves, regardless of coat size = \$190																

LADIES SIZE									
6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
Other Size: _____									

Ladies Regular Tie or Ladies Scarf
Cost: Ladies Coat & Tie or Scarf **\$185**

ORDERS AND PAYMENT FOR COATS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 21, 2014

PAYMENT METHOD: CHECK DISCOVER MASTERCARD VISA

Name _____ (as it appears on your card) **Card No.** _____
Billing Address _____ **City** _____ **Zip** _____ **Expires** _____
Month/Year

Return Order Card and Check to: or fax to (559) 456-2659 if using a credit card

California-Hawaii Elks Association
5450 E. Lamona Avenue
Fresno, CA 93727-2224

REMEMBER – MEASURE TWICE, WE CUT ONLY ONCE!

Revised 12/12/2013

