



The California-Hawaii ELK

Elks Care
Elks Share



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January/February 2010

Mid-Term Conference a huge success

By Billy Skarles, Mid-Term Conference Co-Chair

WOW Another Great Mid-Term!

The California-Hawaii Elks Association (CHEA) Mid-Term Conference was held in Sacramento on November 6-7, 2009. It was hosted by the Woodland Elks Lodge No. 1299, chaired by PDDGER Billy Skarles (Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6) and PDDGER Thomas Gravink (Woodland Lodge) and the North Central District.

It was another outstanding conference with 877 members and 302 guests attending. The golf tournament had 57 participants. 249 members and guests attended the dinner on Thursday evening. The "Legends on Tour" dinner and show on Friday evening, hosted by the Woodland Lodge, was a sell-out with 500 attendees. The Elks National Foundation Dinner (ENF) on Saturday night was a huge success with 830 diners enjoying a delicious meal. The Sunday morning Champagne Breakfast drew a crowd of 267 folks.

Of course, in addition to the opportunities to enjoy the camaraderie of Elks from around the Association enjoying the "fun" events over those four days, the Mid-Term Conference also has a serious side. Lodge Officers, VPs, DDGERs and Committee Chairs join other members in attending multiple business sessions and seminars on Friday and Saturday. District Leaders have a chance to meet and discuss Association business. DDGERs attend a special luncheon with the Past Grand Exalted Rulers (our Association Sponsors) for guidance and advice. The CHEMPI Board of Trustees and the CHEA Board of Trustees have their business sessions to plan and manage the work of the Association and the Major Project. These sessions are a vital part of the ongoing communications between the Association officers, committee chairs, and other leaders within Elksdom, to the Lodge Officers, members and their spouses from across the states of California and Hawaii.

All of the business sessions were well attended with standing room only at the Exalted Rulers Conference, chaired by President Lee Karjola. The speakers at the various sessions were well prepared and enthusiastic about their subjects - topics ranging from Americanism to Youth Activities. Debbie Hosted, Piggy Bank Chair is looking forward to breaking the \$3,000,000 mark this year. Dale Scanlon, the wife of First Vice President Hugh Scanlon, and her guest speakers impressed the Leading Knight's spouses on how important their support is to the success of their spouse.

During the ENF dinner on Saturday evening, Association President Lee Karjola presented PSP and District Leader for the Metropolitan District, John Holt, with special awards to recognize his service to the Association and Elksdom. John has served the Grand Lodge (GL) and CHEA for many years, recently completing his term as the Chairman of the CHEMPI Board of Trustees and continuing as the current GL Area 7 Lodge Activities/State Associations Committeeman.

Furthermore, the Honorable Louis J. Grillo, PGER and CHEA Sponsor, surprised District Leader Gene Pendergast (South District) with a special award that recognized his many years of service to the Major Project. Gene has served the Association in many ways, but is best known for his steadfast dedication in service to the Major Project. Gene served for many years on the CHEMPI Board of Trustees in a variety of positions,

retiring from the Board at the end of this past year. CHEA donated \$1,000 to the ENF in Gene's name and presented him with a donation certificate as a way of thanking him for his service.

As you know, the successful outcome of an event is directly related to the talents and enthusiasm of the people in the trenches - those folks that do the work. This Mid-Term Conference would not have been successful without the hard work of the various committees chaired by: Marilyn Hooton (Sacramento Lodge) and PER Richard Law (Roseville Elks Lodge No. 2248) who handled Registration; PER Jeffie Moffit, (Carmichael Elks Lodge No. 2103) who coordinated the Sessions Monitors; PSVP Jerry Landreth (Sacramento Lodge) who chaired the Golfing Tournament and the Thursday Night Dinner; SVP Marty Mello (Woodland Lodge) who chaired the "Legends on Tour" dinner and show; Billy Skarles and Thomas Gravink who chaired the ENF dinner; Peggy Mello (Sacramento Lodge) who chaired the Sunday Breakfast; Jack Lewis (Sacramento Lodge) who chaired the Official Hospitality, and Bill Oder (Carmichael Lodge) who was the Flag Marshal.



ENF Dinner

Van Nuys-Reseda Elks Lodge No. 2790 and Lawrence Middle School entertain veterans

Nine Elks from the Van Nuys-Reseda Lodge No. 2790 attended the yearly ceremony for Veterans Day at Lawrence Middle School. 150 veterans joined 750 school children and faculty members at the ceremony. They were treated to a guest speaker and viewed several presentations and skits. In addition, a generous lunch was served along with a musical performance, slide show and patriotic program.

The Lodge's Antler Program youth assisted at a fish fry dinner held at the Lodge for 34 veterans. Students from Lawrence Middle School prepared the decorations which depicted the various branches of the military and thanked the veterans for their service. Guest speaker Lt. Col. Clyde East described his exploits during WWII. He was one of the war's most decorated pilots - first to down a German plane at Normandy and the recipient of several medals and awards. The veterans went home with magazines, books and movies.

In other news, the veterans also received donations valued at \$6,266.00 this week (8,136 items of hygiene and 377 items of clothing).

President's Message

My fellow Elks members:

As of this writing, your First Lady Cindy and I will have completed one-half of our required California-Hawaii Elks Association District Visitations and will have visited over 45 of our Association Lodges.

Throughout our travels, we have witnessed the common thread of a successful, vibrant, and fun Lodge to be its variety of activities and the consequential involvement of its members.

By activities, I am not only referring to an open "club," but also the Lodge's member's participation in one of our many national, state, or local Elk programs.

In the near future, each of our Lodges will have an opportunity to participate in several Grand Lodge Programs such as the Hoop Shoot, Elks Memorial Service, or Veterans Day Observance.

At the local level, we continue to look for assistance with participation and support for our Association's Major Project as reflected through our "Purple Pig" program.

As the holidays approach, many of a Lodge's activities take on the air of a service club, with many local activities being dedicated to the assistance of local citizens less fortunate than you and I.

We all belong to an organization wherein we can donate our time to support an Elk activity and with your dedication, positive thinking, and sometimes "plain old hard work," we can "Trust Elks to Achieve the Extraordinary."

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Leon A. Karjola

Leon A. Karjola, President
California-Hawaii Elks Association





On the Web?
The website is www.chea-elks.org
Then hit: Bequests/Living Trusts.
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Billy J. Skarles	'09 Mid-Term Chairman
Jimmy Hancock	'10 Mid-Term Chairman
James K. Olson.....	Pres. Achievement Award
George Murray	Ritual Coordinator

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John "Jack" Dalton.....	Drug Awareness
Roy Long	Elks Training
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Rex E. Dondlinger.....	Investments
Robert Ostini.....	Lapsation
Fred Whitnack.....	Lodge Activities
Fred Hewins.....	Major Project
David Harris.....	Membership
Josh Serrano.....	National Foundation
Frank Chicago	National Veterans Service
Debbie Hosted	Piggy Bank
Fred Bianchini	Public Relations
Mike Thomas	Ritual Contest
Bill Turner	Ritual Training
Jerry Taylor.....	Scholarship
Kathleen Monsees	Scouting
Joe Nebelsky	Youth/Soccer Activities

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John B. Damonte	Bay
Donald E. Schafer.....	Bay
Fred H. Hewins.....	Central
Steve Smith	Central
Dave Davidson	East Central
Thom Richardson.....	East Central
Wayne Howard	Hawaii
Vern Ungerecht	Hawaii
Donald D. Schultz.....	Inland
Richard J. Hickey, Sr.	Inland
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Hugh H. Scanlon	Metropolitan
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Billy J. Skarles	North Central
Stephen Haydn.....	Northeast
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E. F. "Gene" Pendergast.....	South
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(California-Hawaii Elks
Major Project, Inc.)

- ✓Occupational Therapy
- ✓Speech-Language Therapy
- ✓Preschool Vision Screening
- ✓Physical Therapy
- ✓Disabled Student Scholarships
- ✓The Eye Care Fund
- ✓Bequests and Living Trusts
- ✓The Piggy Bank Program

*Give to your Major Project.
"A coin a day and they'll
walk, talk, see and play."*

President's

Upcoming Visitation Schedule

January 1, 2010

New Year's Celebration – Pasadena

January 8-9, 2010

*CHEA and CHEMPI BOT Meetings,
Fresno*

January 15-18, 2010

South District (Jamboree)

January 22-25, 2010

Southeast District

January 29-February 1, 2010

Central District

February 12-15, 2010

South Central Coast District

March 5-8, 2010

Homecoming, Eureka

April 30-May 2, 2010

Utah Elks Association Convention

May 12-15, 2010

CHEA Convention, San Diego

**Elks Care
Elks Share**

Mojave Elks Lodge No. 2059 delivers dictionaries and helps community

Over a period of three days last September, the Mojave Elks Lodge No. 2059 made 1,032 dictionary deliveries to third grade students at: Robert P. Ulrich Elementary School in California City; Mojave Elementary School in Mojave; Rosamond Elementary and West Park Elementary Schools in Rosamond; Golden Hills Elementary, Tomkins Elementary and Cummings Valley Elementary Schools in Tehachapi.

On October 3rd, the lodge held a fund raiser for the Mojave High School Robotics Club. The students and their advisor cooked and served the meal, raising \$150 towards their next project. Another fund raiser generated \$960 to help pay for the funeral service for a young man, Kenny Osborne, who passed away at 19 years of age.

Membership Retention & Lapsation

By Bob Ostini, Membership Retention & Lapsation Chair

Are you willing to change? Are you willing to make a difference? Apparently the CHEA Board of Trustees is. At the 2009 CHEA Mid-Term Convention, a proposal was made to change the name of the Lapsation Committee to Membership Retention. The name change will be considered at the annual CHEA Convention this May in San Diego.

Every Elks Lodge should promote and practice the following membership retention message offered by PGER Paul D. Helsel: "Members need to feel that they are WELCOMED, WANTED and NEEDED!"

Start your Lodge's lapsation control program at the new member's indoctrination session. Members and officers should attend this session to welcome and meet the new members and their families. Make it your responsibility to get the new member's e-mail address and best contact number.

Later, use that e-mail address and phone number to invite them to join you and your family at a Lodge event. New members should be introduced whenever practical at Lodge events. If they are willing to get involved, have them work as greeters, ticket sellers or another activity that will maximize the number of other members that will meet them.

When your Lodge begins its preparations for the upcoming Lodge year, contact all of the new members from the previous year or two and let them know that their involvement is needed. Action, not numbers, is the most effective way to resolve our lapsed member problem. And finally:

RESOLUTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR:

1. I will attend more Lodge meetings.
2. I will attend an Indoctrination session.
3. I will invite a new member to sit with me and my family.
4. I will do something extraordinary.

Bay District Welcomes Association President

Lynn Glick, Bay District Vice President and husband Jeff escorted CHEA President Lee Karjola and his wife Cindy and a group of his Vice Presidents and spouses to the USS Hornet Aircraft Carrier on November 14, 2009. The group enjoyed a private two-hour tour of the Hornet and then a very special lunch aboard the ship. Later that evening, President Karjola challenged Bay District Elks "To Achieve the Extraordinary," in a Banquet held at Alameda Lodge No. 1015.



Left to Right: Lee Karjola, Cindy Karjola, Lynn Glick, Jeff Glick

Alameda Elks Lodge No. 1015 joins Scouts in food drive

For the last few years, the Alameda Elks Lodge No. 1015 has been instrumental in helping provide food to needy families within the city of Alameda. We provide this in conjunction with the Alameda Food Bank and Alameda Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The food collected from this drive sustains the food bank for about four months and is a major part of the providing of services. To emphasize the importance of this program, approximately 3% of the families in Alameda receive service from the Food Bank.



Front Row (L to R): Larry Lulofs, Leading Knight; Tom Mickelic, Exalted Ruler; Micki Milheisesr, a new member; Jim Ferris, Tiler. Back Row (L to R): Diane Pryor, PER, the obscured face of an unknown person, and Ted Wilson, a new member

Area 7 Charity Invitational Golf

The 2009 Mesquite Elks Charity Invitational Golf Tournament was held in Mesquite, Nevada on June 9-10, 2009. The Tournament was open to Elk members and guests. There were a total of 128 golfers from Area 7 (which includes the Arizona, Nevada, Utah and California-Hawaii Elks Associations). Many, many "Thanks" go to all the Elk members and guests who participated in the tournament. Because of YOU, \$2,205.00 was raised for the Major Project. Because of YOU, more children will be able to "walk, talk, see, and play."

So if you're looking for a fun time, want to play golf, meet new friends, and raise money for the Purple Pig all at the same time, then mark your calendars now to play in the 2010 Mesquite Elks Charity Invitational.

The 2010 Mesquite Elks Charity Invitational will be held on June 8 - 9, 2010 in Mesquite, Nevada. The entry fee is \$170.00 per player, with a portion going to charity to be divided among the states represented for their major projects. Please add \$30.00 for your spouse or non-golfing companion. The fee includes a welcome party, steak dinner and luncheon buffet. The deadline for entries is June 1, 2010.

Hotel accommodations will be at the Eureka for \$54.00 (includes tax), double occupancy. Make your reservations directly with the Eureka Hotel (1-800-346-4611). Refer to account number 737771, Mesquite Elks Golf Tourney for the special room rate.

For more information, contact Bill Terry, Golf Chairman (702-345-2380, or Lodge 702-345-2811, or email him at cterry@rconnects.com). If you have access to the internet, you can go to the CHEA website (www.chea-elks.org) to view the tournament information and obtain a copy of the entry form.

Advisory Committee (Past Presidents)

*L. E. Chenoweth	Bakersfield	1913-14	*Henry J. Budde	San Francisco	1964-65
*Hilliard E. Welch	Stockton	1914-15	*Edgar Dale	Vallejo	Honorary
*Dr. Ralph Hagan	Los Angeles	1915-16	*Bruce H. Marsh	Inglewood	1965-66
*William M. Abbott, PGER	San Francisco	1916-17	*Gerald Strohm, PGER	Fresno	1966-67
*Harry M. Ticknor	Pasadena	1917-19	*Marvin M. Lewis, PGER	Brawley	1967-68
*James M. Shanley	Oakland	1919-20	*Norman S. Lien	Watsonville	1968-69
*Charles Donlon	Santa Barbara	1920-21	*Paul E. Haines	Pasadena	1969-70
*John D. Saxe	San Rafael	1921-22	*Ernest Olivieri	Sonora	1970-71
*Richard C. Benbough	San Diego	1922-23	*Walter Schween, Jr.	Salinas	1971-72
*Howard B. Kirtland	San Luis Obispo	1923-24	*C. Wallace Erickson	Glendale	1972-73
*Edgar F. Davis	Long Beach	1924-25	*Yubi G. Separovich, PGELK	Sacramento	1973-74
*John J. Lermen	San Francisco	1925-26	*Dan Davis	Van Nuys	1974-75
*Mifflin G. Potts	Pasadena	1926-27	*Rev. Msgr. George Scott	San Pedro	Honorary
*William E. Simpson	Fresno	1927-28	*James E. Spence, Jr.	Oakland	1975-76
*John J. Doyle	Los Angeles	1928-29	*Marvin M. Pike, PGELK	Torrance	1976-77
*Fred B. Mellmann	Oakland	1929-30	*Donald W. Luce, PGELK	Richmond	1977-78
*Horace S. Williamson	Redlands	1930-31	*Dr. Robert G. Robb	Garden Grove	1978-79
*F. E. Dayton	Salinas	1931-32	Donald D. Dapelo, PGER	Coalinga	1979-80
*Horace H. Quinby	Alhambra	1932-33	*William D. Brunner	Redondo Beach	1980-81
*J. Thomas Crowe	Tulare	1933-34	*Leland J. "Butch" Simas	Santa Maria	1981-82
*Milton R. Standish	San Bernardino	1934-35	Kenneth L. Moore, PGER	Corona	1982-83
*George M. Smith	San Jose	1935-36	Elmer L. Lanini, PGT	Salinas	1983-84
*L. A. "Fay" Lewis, PGER	Anaheim	1936-37	Robert J. McLain, PGELK	Pasadena	1984-85
*C. Fenton Nichols	San Francisco	1937-38	Clifford E. Beatty	Chico	1985-86
*C. P. Hebenstreit	Huntington Park	1938-39	Richard L. "Dick" Alves, PGESq.	San Jose	1986-87
*Elmer B. Maze	Merced	1939-40	*Bernard E. McCune	Long Beach	1987-88
*Robert S. Redington	Los Angeles	1940-41	*Oscar W. Stutheit	Orange	Honorary
*Donald K. Quayle	Alameda	1941-42	*R. E. "Bud" Cenis, PGELK	Bakersfield	1988-89
*Newton M. Todd	Long Beach	1942-43	*Dr. Eugene P. Weigand, PGELK	Pasadena	1989-90
*Clifford C. Anglin	Richmond	1943-44	*Lynn Wood	Modesto	1990-91
*Stephen A. Compas	Huntington Park	1944-45	William C. "Bill" Ijames, PGELK	Vista	1991-92
*Horace R. Wisely, PGER	Salinas	1945-46	Richard E. Owen, PGELK	Santa Maria	1992-93
*R. Leonard Bush, PGER	Westchester	1946-47	John A. Parker, PGT	Marysville	1993-94
*Earl J. Williams	Oakland	1947-48	Rex E. Dondlinger	Arcadia	1994-95
*Morley H. Golden	San Diego	1948-49	Anthony J. Mauro	Hollister	1995-96
*Robert J. Craine	Hanford	1949-50	Timothy C. Martin	San Bernardino	1996-97
*Ben W. Osterman	Santa Ana	1950-51	Sim Nathan	Redding	1997-98
*John B. Morey, PGELK	Palo Alto	1951-52	Frank G. Keller	Corona	1998-99
*Vincent H. Grocott	Santa Barbara	1952-53	Louis J. "Jim" Grillo, PGER	Stockton	1999-00
*Edward E. Keller	San Mateo	1953-54	John G. Holt	Burbank	2000-01
*Robert P. Mohrbacker	Long Beach	1954-55	John M. Carvalho, Sr.	Sacramento	2001-02
*Jim B. Nielsen, PGELK	Watsonville	1955-56	H. Eugene Chambers	Needles	2002-03
*Owen O. Keown	Santa Monica	1956-57	Doug Larsen	Salinas	2003-04
*John A. Raffetto	Auburn	1957-58	Lee Northcutt, PGE	La Habra	2004-05
*Frank M. Linnell	Newport Harbor	1958-59	Roy R. Newman	Marysville	2005-06
*Charles T. Reynolds	Vallejo	1959-60	James S. Mason	Gardena	2006-07
*Guy A. Daniels	Redlands	1960-61	Oren Richardson	Coalinga	2007-08
*Paul T. Wemple	Susanville	1961-63	Jerry Rucker	San Bernardino	2008-09
*Vern R. Huck	Los Angeles	1963-64	*Deceased		

Porterville Elks Lodge No. 1342 holds soccer shoot

Porterville Lodge No. 1342 held its annual soccer shoot on October 17th with 93 local youth participating. The award ceremony was held on October 26th, and the winners of each division were given trophies. The Lodge provided a free spaghetti dinner for all the winners and their families. Lodge chairman Art Duran and the City Parks and Leisure Services Coordinator Donnie More worked together to make this a successful event. They hope to expand the event next year.

January/February, 2010

San Mateo Elks Lodge No. 1112 hosts veterans and service dogs

The San Mateo Elks Lodge No. 1112 hosted 39 veterans and four service dogs from the Menlo Park VA Hospital in Menlo Park on November 11th (Veteran's Day). The veterans were treated to New York steaks and apple pie ala mode. Our Elks Band, conducted by James Langdell, played a medley of patriotic music and songs. It was a very special evening for all who attended.

Piggy Bank

By Debbie Hosted, Piggy Bank Chair

Holiday Greetings to all. We finally had some rain in San Diego so it seems winterier now. I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season.

We had a good time at the Mid-Term Conference. The drawing ticket sales brought in just over \$1,000 and product sales grossed an additional \$1,000 so we can add that to our total so far. We received a very generous donation during the Mid-Term as well for the Piggy Bank.

It is always fun to see everyone again as well and exchange ideas on how to make more money for our Piggy Bank children.

We are running behind last year's total at this time, so I am again asking for your extra contributions. One way you can help is to send in a donation for the labels and Christmas cards you receive from the Fresno office. With over 90,000 members, if each member sent in \$5 we would have over \$450,000 towards our \$3 Million goal this year. Please take a moment to return the donation card you received with your labels or cards (or both if you can) - just put the amount you can afford to send on the "Other" line and return it to CHEMPI with your check. ALL of your donations - small or large - help our children.

Please continue to turn in your Piggy Banks at your lodges so that money can be turned in to add to our total - and if you have an idea for an event at your lodge, contact your lodge Piggy Bank Chair or Exalted Ruler to get started.

Remember: our goal this year is to increase our per-capita donation by ONE DOLLAR more per member than last year.

Feed Your Purple Pig!



A coin a day so they can walk, talk, see and play!

The Origin of "Hello Bill"

By Edward "Trill" Torrilhon, CHEA Historian

All Elks are "Bills" and the name continues today. Why? Well, Bro. William Goddard of Minneapolis, MN Lodge No. 44, is the original "Hello Bill!" of Elkdom, and this cheerful salutation which has found its way around the world, originated in Minneapolis during the Elks National Reunion in that city in 1897.

Brother Goddard was the junior partner of the Minneapolis firm of Barnaby and Company. He was for a great many years the Treasurer of Minneapolis Lodge No. 44, the Chairman of the Finance Committee and a member of a great many other committees that were in charge of the arrangements for the Elks Reunion. He spent a great deal of time at the committee headquarters. When visiting Elks came to the headquarters to inquire about matters they wanted to know about, if they happened to meet anybody who was not fully posted, they were usually told to "Go over there and ask Billy Goddard," and it was a constant strain of "Billy can tell you." "See Billy, he knows," etc., etc.

This was repeated so incessantly that stranger Elks, when approaching Brother Goddard, greeted him with the expression, "Hello Bill, I was told to see you," etc. The custom spread to the street, with Elks from all parts of the country passing each other calling out "Hello Bill!" They carried the greeting back to their home lodges, and so it has spread around the ends of the earth.

Richmond Elks Lodge No. 1251 presents the Marvin M. Lewis Scouting Award

A large dinner crowd filled Richmond Elks Lodge No. 1251 on Friday night, November 20, 2009, to witness DDGER William Darr, Jr. present the Bay District's newest Marvin M. Lewis Scouting Award recipient and honoree Kevin Rudy with his Marvin M. Lewis medallion, certificate and double knot. The Bay District's previous Marvin M. Lewis Award recipient, PER William Coleman from Fremont Lodge No. 2121, Kevin's wife Pam and their two Eagle Scout sons, Adam and Chris were also in attendance.

The Boy Scouts of America established the Marvin M. Lewis Award to recognize those B. P. O. Elks members who have contributed significantly to the youth of their communities by volunteering in the programs of the Boy Scouts of America. The award winners are Elks who have brought Scouting to more youth, have assisted local Elks lodges in forming Scouting units, are fully trained in the skills of Scouting and are outstanding role models. These winners have also worked to bring Scouting and the Elks together to serve the community and have been instrumental in organizing Scouting. The award is named for the Honorable Marvin M. Lewis, PGER, who strongly supported Scouting for many years. Only four Marvin M. Lewis Scouting Awards are issued each year.



Left to Right: Bob Ostini, Bill Coleman, Adam Rudy, Kevin Rudy, Pam Rudy, Chris Rudy, Bill Darr, Jr.

Kailua Elks Lodge No. 2230 delivers dictionaries

For the third consecutive year, the Kailua Elks Lodge No. 2230 donated dictionaries to third grade elementary students at the Kainalu and Aikahi elementary schools.



Back row (left to right): Dictionary Program Chair Lehua Weatherwax (with blue blouse), ER John Nagy, Youth Activities Chair Greg Sylvester, PER, and teacher (not identified). Not pictured is PDDGER John Brown who helped with the deliveries.

Mid-Term Conference ENF report

By Joshua Serrano, ENF Chair

The "Vice Presidents' ENF March" took place on Saturday, November 7, 2009 at the Mid-Term Conference in Sacramento. It was a very successful event. The VPs reported on the totals that had been raised and the per-capita standings as of October 25, 2009. All the hard work reported here is appreciated. Keep up the good work!

The District winners for the highest donations were: 1st place: Orange Coast with a total of \$36,725.90; 2nd place: North Central with a total of \$33,589.76, and 3rd place: West Central Coast with a total of \$13,672.70.

The District winners for per-capita (\$4.50 is the goal) were: 1st place: South Central Coast with a per-capita of \$8.79; 2nd place: San Gabriel Valley with a per-capita of \$7.87, and 3rd place: Hawaii with a per-capita of \$6.40.

The Lodge winners for the highest donations (not announced at the ENF dinner) were: 1st place: Carmichael No. 2103 with a total of \$13,917.74; 2nd place: Mission Viejo/Saddleback Valley No. 2444 with a total of \$13,672.70, and 3rd place: Westchester No. 2050 with a total of \$8,351.00.

The Lodge winners for the highest per-capita donations (not announced at the ENF dinner) were: 1st place: Westchester No. 2050 with a per-capita of \$27.20; 2nd place: Pomona No. 2038 with a per-capita of \$26.58, and 3rd place: Mission Viejo/Saddleback Valley No. 2444 with a per-capita of \$17.35.

The ENF Office in Chicago reported that the total for CHEA, up to October 25, 2009, was \$327,659.60 with a per-capita of \$3.59. Added to this amount was \$34,654.71 which was collected at the conference for a grand total of \$362,314.31 which resulted in a per-capita of \$3.96.

The Gratitude Grant provides up to \$500.00 to Lodges for Community programs. There is still time to apply, but Lodges must attain the \$4.50 per-capita to apply.

We are in the middle part of the Elk year and the amounts reported here are not the final totals. Fund raising efforts must continue until March 31, 2010. We must not become complacent. In order for the ENF programs to continue, we must all participate in supporting the Foundation. Everyone from every level of Elkdom must become involved.

There is no fraternal organization that offers, through its charitable programs, so much for its members, to its youth, to its local communities and to our country. To a large extent, this is so because of the National Foundation. It is truly "The Great Heart of Elkdom."

San Luis Obispo Elks Lodge No. 322 holds Veterans Day dinner

The San Luis Obispo Elks Lodge No. 322 held a Veterans Day dinner on November 11, 2009. The event was covered live on TV. The event honored the members of the National Guard serving at Camp San Luis Obispo. The men and women were presented with a plaque. Nine local soldiers who died in Iraq/Afghanistan were honored and remembered. Their rank/names were engraved on specially designed B.P.O. Elk "Medals of Valor," which were donated in memory of Lodge member and Navy Veteran Alexander John MacDonald.

There were 125 attendees who enjoyed a turkey dinner and listened to two guest speakers: the mayor of San Luis Obispo and Colonel Kelly Fisher, former Camp Commander. \$271.40 in tips was donated to support the Veterans Van.

The ER reported that several attendees expressed a desire to join the Lodge as they were really impressed with the event. The room was decorated with red, white, & blue tablecloths/napkins. The centerpieces were white mums in red, white and blue painted pots. Patriotic music was by Richard Jess, PER. The "Medals of Valor" plaque is prominently displayed in the Lodge's entry hall, just outside the Lodge anteroom and banquet room.

January/February, 2010

Walnut Creek Elks Lodge No. 1811 hosts Red, White and Blue Ball

This dinner event hosted the Army's 357th Military Police unit, which drills in Concord, CA. The soldiers and their families and guests totaled 115 people. Some members of the unit had just returned from Iraq and Afghanistan, while other members were preparing to be deployed to those areas. It was a great event in honor of this group who serves our country and protects our freedom.



Left to Right: Jerry Smith, 3rd Year Trustee, Nancy Courtney, Exalted Ruler, SSGT Jerome Donikowski, Alexandria Carvalho, and Guy Sachs, Lecturing Knight.

San Francisco Elks Lodge No. 3 welcomes home adopted U. S. Army unit

In October, San Francisco Elks Lodge No.3 sponsored the "Welcome Home Dinner" for their adopted Army Unit which had recently returned from Iraq.

A presentation was made by the Army Unit's First Sergeant, who is also a member of the Lodge. The First Sergeant presented the Lodge with a U.S. Flag which had been flown over the Headquarters of the Multi-National Corps-Iraq. This presentation was made to honor the Lodge for its support of the Army Unit during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Accompanying the Flag was a certificate that explains its significance, where it was raised, and gave thanks to the Lodge for its support during the unit's deployment.



Left to right: the Army Unit's First Sergeant (who is not identified for security reasons); Johanna Abate, Lodge National Veterans Service Chair; VAVS Representative Patrick J. Murphy, PER; and Fred J. Schmidt (both of whom are veterans).

Placerville Elks Lodge No. 1712's MVS Scholarship winner Jennie Le remembered

Giving to Elks National Foundation charities can make you feel good - it rewards the Psyche.

But there are devastating occasions beyond the control of either the giver or the charity. Recently, one of these occasions made the front page of newspapers throughout the nation, and it concerned Placerville Elks Lodge No. 1712. It also impacted our Elks MVS Student Scholarship program - a major component of the Elks National Foundation philanthropic youth programs.

Placerville Lodge lost a winner of the Most Valuable Student Scholarship, Jennie Le, a top student at Union Mine High School in El Dorado County and a 2003 recipient of an ENF Most Valuable Student scholarship. She was killed while attending graduate school at Yale University. Describing how much Jennie will be missed is impossible - Jennie accomplished so much and showed such promise for a lifetime of achievement.

Aided by her MVS Scholarship, Jennie attended and graduated from Yale, a top achievement for any young adult. She then extended the benefits from her Most Valuable Student scholarship by continuing her education at the Yale Graduate School. While her death ends her personal accomplishments, her achievements will continue to inspire many students at Union Mine High School in the years to come. The members of Placerville Elks Lodge were also inspired by Jennie, and chose to invest \$13,000 in her education. That was money well invested in a youth's undergraduate studies. Jennie's accomplishments are an inspiration for the Lodge's Scholarship Committee to find another great student like her and help fulfill that student's educational dreams.

Our task, as Elks of the North Central District, is to make Jennie's efforts and accomplishments count. We do that with our support of the Elks scholarship program and other ENF programs that strengthen our communities. We need to actively help students acquire a good academic grounding so that today's students, as adults, will fulfill America's promise. Furthermore, we can strengthen our scholarship programs, meet the unfulfilled needs of our communities through volunteer efforts and funding, and improve our support for our youths and America's veterans.

Drug Awareness

By Jack Dalton, Drug Awareness Chair

One of the newer fad drugs is ECSTASY (also known as MDMA or XTC). It is often associated with the popular dance events referred to as Raves. MDMA is a chemical that is usually taken orally as a capsule or tablet. It is a drug that causes the excessive release of the important neurotransmitter serotonin, which controls mood, sleep, pain, appetite, and other behaviors. It is a man-made drug that is chemically similar to both stimulants and hallucinogens. It distorts the perception of time and the sense of touch. Taking Ecstasy causes chemical changes in the brain that affect your mood, appetite and sleep.

Ecstasy can cause you to become dehydrated or to drink too much water without realizing it. This can also be deadly because it upsets the salt balance in your body.

Ecstasy can cause a marked increase in body temperature (hyperthermia). Hyperthermia can lead to muscle breakdown, which can in turn result in kidney failure. In addition, dehydration, hypertension, and heart failure may occur in susceptible individuals. Repeated use over a short interval of time can lead to high levels of the drug in the body - increasing the risk of harm. MDMA (Ecstasy) can have many of the same physical effects as other stimulants such as cocaine and amphetamines.

There is a MYTH that doing Ecstasy once in a while will not hurt you. Besides, there are many FAKE Ecstasy pills being sold, which are even more dangerous and can be fatal.

Getting high on Ecstasy can lead you to do things that you normally

wouldn't do, such as engaging in risky unprotected sex or taking other unwise chances. People will build a tolerance to Ecstasy, and soon begin taking more than one pill just to get the same effect as before. Ecstasy is also psychologically addicting.

Just doing one pill can cause a minor burnout. Many Ecstasy users commonly report a "burnout" for one-two days afterward, characterized by tiredness, soreness, and dullness of the senses and mental processes. It is possible that this is a result of temporary depletion of certain neurotransmitters in the brain, and that the brain needs time to replenish them.

The use of Ecstasy has been linked with a wide range of abnormalities such as: impaired memory, chronic depression, anxiety, panic attacks, sleeplessness, "de-personalization," "de-realization," reduced cognitive ability, flashbacks, hallucinations, and paranoid delusions. People bingeing on large quantities of Ecstasy are at risk. Heavy users might develop depression and anxiety in the future. A user becomes a veritable neurological time-bomb. It can be addictive and there is no known specific and effective treatment.

Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538 hosts family picnic day

The Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538 hosted a family picnic day that was a very popular event for the parents, children and guests who were present. The Lodge provided free hot dogs, snow cones, ice cream, hamburgers and sodas to all of the children. The adults were free to purchase the same items for themselves.

After everyone had a chance to enjoy their picnic lunch, everyone enjoyed a variety of games for the rest of the afternoon. There was a "money hunt" in a hay bale, a water balloon toss, musical chairs, and a tug of war between the girls and boys. The Lodge's famous "mule skinnners" and their mules proffered a hay ride to all brave enough to hop on. This same mule team pulls a coach in every local parade, winning a bunch of blue ribbons doing so.

Sergeant Alfred Torres, President of the California Dare Program, attended the picnic and gave a wonderful speech on drug awareness. Each child received a plastic police badge from Sergeant Torres.

The Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts retired a number of worn out American flags. The Scout leaders cut each stripe and told about the history of each as it was burned.



Lodge Officers: ER John Mascarenas, Leading Knight Bruce Carmitchel, Loyal Knight Reg Ginter; Organist Don Leininger; Chaplain Cel Licoscos; Inner Guard Phil Harwick; Esquire George Barnes; and Lecturing Knight Bryan Feldpouch, all holding the last section of a flag to be burned.

Santa Clara Lodge No. 2347 held "9/11 remembrance dinner"

The Santa Clara Elks Lodge No. 2347 held a special dinner to remember and honor the heroes and victims of the 9/11 attack on our country. During their regular Friday night dinner, on 9/11/2009, the lodge had 57 guests and members present. Joseph Huber, Thomas Huber and Ben Holenstein of Boy Scout Troop 394 assisted in the presentation of the Flag. Mike Magierski paid tribute to all Americans and everyone sang "God Bless America." It was truly an emotional yet rewarding evening.

Kailua Elks Lodge No. 2230 holds 4th Major Project Luau fund raiser

On Saturday, August 8th, the Kailua Elks Lodge No. 2230 held its 4th annual Major Project Luau at the Kokokahi YWCA overlooking Kaneohe Bay. Over 180 members and guests attended, raising nearly \$3,000 for the Purple Pig. The attendees were entertained by the Sweethearts of Kailua Lodge (formerly the Does) who performed the hula. Music was provided by the Li Hing Mui group, who donated their time, thanks to PER Piilani Kealakai of Honolulu Lodge No. 616. There was also a demonstration of poi pounding.

Jocelyn Agra, Hawaii Major Project therapist attended with one of her clients, Kaleo Ahlo (3 ½ years old) and his parents, Ainsley and Nan Ahlo.



Jocelyn Agra, Colette Aoki, Lodge Major Project Chair, Ainsley and Nan Ahlo with their son, Kaleo

Santa Ynez Valley Elks Lodge No. 2640 BBQs for veterans

On October 8, 2009, Santa Ynez Valley Elks Lodge No. 2640, in conjunction with the local American Legion Post, provided a tri-tip barbeque for the "Ride 2 Recovery" participants. This bicycling program is designed for the enjoyment of injured and disabled veterans.

The participants cycled from San Francisco to Los Angeles. One of their overnight stays was in the Santa Ynez Valley.

In addition to enjoying a delicious meal, the veterans were entertained by a well-known comedian, Dennis Miller, who is also a supporter of the "Ride 2 Recovery" program.

January/February, 2010

Grass Valley Elks Lodge No. 538 donates scooter

The Grass Valley Elks Lodge No. 538 presented a motorized scooter to Kat Regan. She has been battling Multiple Sclerosis for 18 years. In the past two years, she has suffered debilitating movement and cannot walk unassisted. Kat is the daughter of a 40-year Army veteran, and she served from 1970-1980 as an Army Nurse in Germany. She's also a member of the "Soldier's Angels."

The scooter was presented during a veterans dinner for 160 veterans and guests that were hosted by the Lodge on November 14th. During the dinner, Pearl Harbor Survivor and Lodge Veterans Service Chair, Bill Dobbins (Chief, USN, Retired) recalled his experiences on December 7th, 1941. He was on board the USS West Virginia, which had just loaned several of his buddies to the USS Lexington, which was subsequently sunk during the Japanese attack. Bill retired from the Navy in 1970, is currently 89 years old, and remains a very active Elk member.

Bill has an ongoing project within the Lodge - renovating motorized scooters for needy members of the community - especially for veterans. Bill presented the scooter to Kat Regan during the event, and even provided her with a little "driver's education" training on its use.



Membership

By David Harris, Membership Chair

MEMBERSHIP AND THE SELLING EQUATION

At Mid-Term we proposed that membership and retention is sales related. Recruiting new members is very much like selling in that we face a number of competitive options for new possible members. Today, we are more transient with companies relocating, time and money is a concern to everyone, and there are many organizations competing for new members. We must be able to give prospective members reasons why they should belong to the local Lodge.

Can you give a brief 30 second overview of the benefits of belonging to your Lodge? We all should have a 30 second "Sales Presentation" that will give a prospective member an overview of what the Elks stands for and what we contribute to our communities.

One of the members at the Mid-Term Conference suggested that we have a contest for the best 30 second presentation. So let's have a contest of "The Best 30 Second Presentation." Prepare your entry by writing a brief statement that you feel describes what your Lodge does in the community and CHEA and how you would ask someone to join the Lodge. Send all entries to my email: dharrisgg@msn.com. You have until February 1, 2010 to send in your entry. I will select the top entry and announce it in the next issue of the CHEA Magazine. I will make the presentation in San Diego at the Convention.

We will print the winning entry so everyone can use it when they are introducing potential members to their Lodges. I haven't selected an award as of yet but it will be more than a certificate. I look forward to your responses. **KEEP ASKING POTENTIAL MEMBERS.**

Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538 assists during the "La Brea Fire"

The community of Santa Maria is located just a few miles west of the "La Brea Fire" that blazed late last summer in Southern California. Cal Fire contacted the Elks Lodge to see if the Lodge could assist since they were unable to maintain their La Brea Fire Camp operations. The fire had burned some 90,000 acres.

The Santa Maria Elks Lodge has 107 acres that are used to stage their annual "Santa Maria Rodeo". This acreage was perfect for Cal Fire to use as another fire camp. They quickly moved in, setting up a small city that provided sleeping and dining facilities, as well as showers and laundry operations. What a difference from putting on a rodeo! At the peak of the fire fighting activities, there were 2,200 firefighters working the fire lines.

The rodeo grounds are only 1.5 miles from the local airport. Thus, it was easy to fly in firemen from all across the USA. During the annual rodeo, there are horses and cattle in large and small corrals. Now, all you could see in those corrals were pup tents. The parking lot was full of bulldozers, fire trucks and water tankers. Our small landing strip for radio-controlled model airplanes became a heliport to refuel and reload fire retardant materials. There were 6 fixed wing airplanes reloading at the airport, flying in and out every 8 minutes. Since the rodeo grounds were nearby, the plane crews had a nice resting place.

In other September news, the Santa Maria Elks Lodge hosted their 38th annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Night. There were 352 dinner guests at the BBQ Steak dinner. After the dinner, seven awards were given to the following individuals: Kelley Santiago, Jennifer Glimp, Rosanne Tesoro, Daniel Cohn, John McCarthy, Dave Hall and Jaysin Burby. Special guests present were: Congresswoman Lois Capps, State Senator Able Maldonado, Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee, Supervisors Joe Centeno and Joni Gray, the Mayor of Santa Maria, Larry Lavagnino and Lupe Alvarez, the Mayor of the city of Guadalupe.

All this goes to prove that "Elks Care, Elks Share."

Kern River Valley Elks Lodge No. 2358 encourages Drug Awareness

On Friday, October 30th, Kern River Valley Elks Lodge No. 2358 members Beckie Scott, Youth Activities Chairman (pictured right) and Karen Templin, Drug Awareness Chairman (pictured center) participated in the Kernville Elementary Halloween Fun Day.

All 160 kids came to the Kernville Chamber to pick up their Elks Drug Awareness Trick or Treat Bags along with a Drug Awareness bookmark before starting through town for more trick or treating.

This is a yearly event that the Lodge participates in. Also attending, but not pictured, was ER Tom Scott and Chaplain Smitty Glass.



Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672 has active Drug Awareness Program

The Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672 has a very active Drug Awareness Program. They are working with the Pasadena Unified School District to promote a "Red Ribbon Week" and Drug Awareness Program to the youth of their community.

At a recent ceremony, three youth were recognized for their Drug Awareness Poster Contest entries: Madison Graves (6th grade), Ian Taylor (6th grade) and Godwin Vazquez (4th grade) received awards. They were joined by Ann Rector, the Coordinator of Health Programs for the Pasadena Unified School District, who received a "Starfish Award." The event was coordinated by Angel Corral, the Drug Awareness Committee Chair for the Lodge.



Left to Right: Ann Rector, Madison Graves, Ian Taylor, Godwin Vazquez, Angel Corral

Fremont Elks Lodge No. 2121 awards "Medals of Valor"

On December 4, 2009, the Fremont Elks Lodge No. 2121 awarded the B.P.O. Elks "Medal of Valor" to representatives from three families who had sons killed in the war in Iraq. The Lodge's National Veterans Service Co-chair, Ethel Gilmore, stated that she believed that this presentation was the first time that these awards have been given in the Bay District.

Lance Corporal Travis L. Layfield, 19 years old, was killed on April 6, 2004 in Al Anbar province in Iraq. First Lieutenant Kenneth M. Ballard, 26 years old, was killed on May 30, 2004 in Najafi, Iraq. Private First Class Michael C. Balsey, 23 years old, was killed on January 25, 2007 in Baghdad, Iraq.

Almost 100 people attended the Friday night dinner that evening to honor these family members. Although brief, it was a very moving ceremony that was well appreciated by the family members and their guests.



Left to Right: Bill Coleman, ER; Dianne Layfield; Beverley Balsley; Tom Ballard and Ethel Gilmore

Ridgecrest Elks Lodge No. 1913 awards scholarships

The Ridgecrest Elks Lodge No. 1913 honored their 2009 Most Valuable Student Scholarship winners. One of their female applicants, Soo Yi, received \$40,000 from the Elks National Foundation as the second-place national award winner. Her scholarship awards totaled \$42,800 (including her \$600 Lodge award and \$1,500 CHEA award).

The other scholarship recipients were: Amanda McWhorter (\$350 Lodge), Kelley Zdeba (\$100 Lodge), Brian Lee (\$600 Lodge, \$200 Dist., \$800 Assoc.), Josie Olsen (\$300 Lodge) and Molly Nazeck (\$250 Lodge).

The Lodge is proud of each and every scholarship winner and gives thanks to the District and Lodge Scholarship Chairperson, Jan Bennett, ER, PER, for her hard work.

In other news, the Ridgecrest Elks Lodge was visited by CHEA Association President Lee Karjola and First Lady Cindy during their official visitation to the Inland District on September 11, 2009. The host Lodge for the visit was Kern River Valley Elks Lodge No. 2358. Among the 185 attendees at the official dinner were several dignitaries: First Vice President Hugh Scanlon, CHEA Trustee Art Echternacht and Lady Shirley, CHEA Treasurer Don Schultz and Lady Shirley, CHEA Lodge Activities Chairman Fred Whitnack and Lady Vickie, CHEA Piggy Bank Chairman Debbie Hosted and her Man Dave. Association Vice Presidents from eight districts were in attendance, joined by Inland District DDGER Dominic Rotell and Lady Christy. Several PDDGERs, both District Leaders and a PSVP from the Inland District also attended.

Following an inspirational speech by President Leon Karjola, the Inland District presented him with a plaque that included a hand carved Elks head. Lady Cindy was presented a Waterford Crystal Wine Decanter. Special recognition goes to PDDGER Robert Costa, Jamboree Chairman, his Lady Sherry, and ER Tom Scott and Lady Beckie.



Seated (L-R): Amanda McWhorter, Kelley Zdeba, Brian Lee, Soo Yi, Josie Olsen and Molly Nazeck
Standing (L-R): Loyal Knight Ev Long, Trustee Mike Moore, Tiler Dottie Odsen, Trustee Bob Noland, Lecturing Knight Don Holeman, Trustee Gerald Flagg, Leading Knight Pete Romanski, and Inner Guard Charlie Williams

Bishop Elks Lodge No. 1603 helps disabled veterans

On October 1, the Bishop Elks Lodge No. 1603 joined the Bishop Police and Fire Departments and the California Highway Patrol to sponsor a fly fishing expedition for nine disabled veterans. With the help of Project Healing Waters, the veterans were treated to fly fishing and boat fishing at several lakes in the Eastern Sierra.

The Veterans were surprised and amazed as the Bishop Police Department and CHP escorted them into town. Then, they were surprised again by the Bishop Fire Department escort to the Elks Bullpit Park.

According to Floyd Redmon, "A good time was had by all at the Elks Park. The facilities worked very well for us and our volunteers were superb. The management philosophy "Surround yourself with good people and they will make you look good" worked for me. Kathleen Sheehan reigned supreme at the BBQ pit. We were overwhelmed with the quantity and quality of donated food."

On Friday, the veterans had a fine day fishing at Intake 2 and Benton Crossing. Although vehicle problems on Saturday prevented the whole group from fishing, there were "car guys" in the group, so they enjoyed a car show. Their visit to the Mountain Light Gallery was also a "treat." The Lodge plans another trip for the veterans in April, 2010.

In other news, on Saturday August 22, 2009 the Bishop Elks Lodge hosted a Court of Honor Ceremony for two new Eagle Scouts Daniel Ward Johnson and Benjamin Ono of Boy Scout Troop 86 and gave each an American Flag and certificate. For his Eagle Scout Project Daniel re-established the trail at Lake Sabrina, and Benjamin worked with the City of Bishop to place two informational signs in the City Park informing the public of where things are located in the park.



Great America Theme Park in Santa Clara hosts "Elks Fun Day"

On August 15, 2009, "Elks Fun Day" was held at California Great America Theme park in Santa Clara, California. This event was under the leadership of Michael Viverito, PER, San Jose Elks Lodge No. 522 who also organized the event. Mike, who has been an employee of California Great America for seven years, has seen many organizations hold events. He asked himself "Why not the Elks?", so he went for it, and not only organized Elk's Fun Day, but made it a fund raiser for the Major Project. Parking, lunch and the admission price, were all discounted and also included \$1.00 back to the Elks Major Project for each ticket sold. 204 Elks and families attended.

Two signs, with the Elk Logo ("California Great America Welcomes B.P.O. Elks and families") were on display in the park for 12 hours. 15,574 members of the general public saw these signs - a great public relations benefit.

Canoga Park Elks Lodge No. 2190 demonstrate "Elks Care, Elks Share"

The Canoga Park Elks Lodge No. 2190 hosted their first annual car show on August 8th. The event raised \$500.00 for the ENF. Ken Jackson, the event chairman, was assisted by 40 Lodge members. There were 40 cars at the event which was attended by 500 people who enjoyed a breakfast in the morning and a luncheon later in the day. Twenty-five trophies were awarded.

Fred Small, Dictionary Program Chair, and his 14 volunteers delivered dictionaries to the Balbo Magnet School third grader classrooms. To date, the Lodge has donated 2,600 dictionaries to 26 schools in the Canoga Park area.

The Lodge also has an active Drug Awareness Program. Early in October, the Lodge had a booth at the "West Hills Fest." Chairman Bill Chew, Secretary Vern Swenson and PR Chair Peter De Santis passed out drug awareness literature to the attendees.

Their veterans outreach program has been running with a full head of steam. Chairman Peter Marshall and his wife, Marlene, have gathered new and used clothing donations from the Lodge to give to the veterans at the Sepulveda Veterans Hospital - with an estimated value of \$4,279. They have also hosted several other events for the veterans.

Lastly, the Lodge hosted a police and firefighter appreciation night that was also attended by various civic dignitaries, Elks and guests. All enjoyed a brisket of beef dinner. Fourteen local police and fire department members were honored, five of whom are pictured.



Back Row (L to R): Firefighter Engineer Robert Besch, CHP Officer Joseph Herzer, LAPD Officer Robert Norman
Front Row (L to R): Firefighter Specialist Ronda Apodaca, ER Dave Swoger, LAPD Detective Vinh Do, LAPD Detective Peggie Mosely

Rancho Cordova Elks Lodge No. 2484 delivers 770 turkeys to veterans

The Rancho Cordova Elks Lodge No. 2484's "Catch The Spirit" Project, with the help of the California National Guard, provided 770 Thanksgiving Turkeys to veterans and military families of National Guard units locally and throughout the State.

Locally, turkeys went to several Veterans and the following military units: 79th IBCT at Mather Field, Mather 40th CAB, Mather ATF, Mather 102nd TC, Beale AFB 222 Intelligence Support, National Guard Headquarters, 168th Med Evac, 68TH, 185 Military Police Unit, 2632nd Meadowview Unit, 297th, 749th, 340th BSB. A C-130 was also used to deliver turkeys to various units located at Los Alamitos, Fresno, and Moffet Field.

The Lodge's "Catch The Spirit" Project is a tax exempt (IRS Tax Code 501 c. 3) non-profit organization that provides year-round assistance to veterans and military families in the Northern California area. It also provides turkeys and food baskets for these families during the Christmas Holiday season. The project received a \$10,000 ENF Impact Grant for the third consecutive year.

West Central District inspired by Wounded Warrior Project veteran

The wife of WCD DDGER Bud Jobe, Joann, was inspired to do a First Lady project for the Veterans Hospital in Palo Alto, California after she saw Neil Duncan, a bilateral amputee, at the Grand Lodge convention in Portland, Ore.

Neil was there, on behalf of the Wounded Warrior Project, to receive a \$50,000 donation from the B.P.O. Elks. Seeing Neil, who had lost both legs to a roadside bomb in 2005 while on assignment in Afghanistan, and remembering the problems Joann's brother had incurred after his return from Vietnam, prompted her to begin her special project for the Veterans. Joann is pictured here presenting an envelope containing a donation for \$1,605 to Mr. Bill Ball, Director of Veterans Services, at the Palo Alto Veterans Hospital. Each person who donated money to her quest, received a patriotic pin from Joann in appreciation for their support. Bill stated the money would be used to purchase additional materials for the veterans who are housed in the hospital.

The blankets were made by 13 year old Heather Pierra and were donated to Joann's Veterans Project by Angela Moore and Rick Flores of Hollister Lodge No. 1436.



Left to right: John Berger, (PDDGER, Gilroy Lodge No. 1567), Carlos Mariscal, (ER, Salinas Lodge No. 614), Don Peglow, (PER, Santa Clara Lodge No. 2347), Bud Jobe, Joann Jobe, Bill Ball, (Director of Veterans Services at the Palo Alto Veterans Hospital), Al Mestressat, (PER, San Jose Lodge No. 522), Art Gillespie, (ER, Gilroy Lodge No. 1567), Julian Garcia, (ER, Watsonville Lodge No. 1300), and Angela Moore, (ER, Hollister Lodge No. 1436).

Fullerton Elks Lodge No. 1993 feeds firemen on 9/11

On September 11th, the Fullerton Elks Lodge No. 1993 prepared and delivered dinner to all six fire stations of the Fullerton Fire Department. Dinner consisted of two large roasted chickens with gravy and stuffing, green beans, yams, mashed potatoes and apple pie for desert.



The group picture shows PER Dan Casey, ER Dick Moore, PER Scott Stephens and PER Mike Mathers with five of the fire fighters from Fullerton Fire Station No. 1

Gilroy Elks Lodge No. 1567 hosts soccer shoot and BBQs for veterans

The Gilroy Elks Lodge No. 1567 sponsored the 2nd Annual "It's a Kick Soccer Shoot" held on October 10th at a local area school. We had over 76 boys and girls in the 10 and under age group participate in the soccer shoot this year. All participants received a special certificate of participation and each of the 3 highest scoring boys and girls and their families enjoyed dinner and award presentation as guests of the Gilroy Elks.



Quincy Elks Lodge No. 1884 joins Veterans Day parade

The Quincy Elks 1884 joined with the American Legion Post 568 in Greenville, CA, for their annual Veterans Day Parade. This is the only parade in the county. After the parade, a flag retirement ceremony was held at the Elks Lodge. A total of twenty flags were destined for disposal.

In other news, the Quincy Elks 1884 hosted their 8th annual Thanksgiving Dinner. PER Bill Whitcher and his Lady Carol furnished the food and Esteemed Leading Knight Pat Mealy and his crew prepared and served the meal. They served over 75 meals. There were 17 Veterans and 7 widows along with Elks, friends, and families. The donations collected are the basis for the Elks Christmas Food Baskets. Last year, the Lodge gave ten Baskets and is looking to give more this year.

The Quincy Elks Lodge also donated dictionaries last year. Past Exalted Ruler Bill Whitcher donated and delivered 34 Dictionaries for the Quincy Elks Lodge 1884. They were given to the Plumas Charter School, Greenville Elementary School, and the Taylorsville Elementary School. This is the fourth year the Lodge has participated in this program.



Left to Right: ER George Courtemanche, PER Kevin Correia, DDGER Ron Barker, Leading Knight Pat Mealy, and Allen Smith

Watsonville Elks Lodge No. 1300 provides lunch at VA Palo Alto Hospital

On October 18th, the Watsonville Elks Lodge No. 1300 provided lunch for the patients and staff in the Spinal Injury and Hospice wards of the Veterans Hospital in Palo Alto. Every Elk that has participated in this activity knows what a rewarding experience it is to meet and serve these veterans, who have given so much to our Country.



Elk volunteer Nita Gonzales with a spinal injury veteran

Lompoc Elks Lodge No. 2274 take disabled kids fishing

Lompoc Elks Lodge No. 2274 held their annual "Happy Happenings" at River Park. This is the 22nd year that the disabled children and their families have been invited to fish in a well stocked pond.

This year, there were 700 pounds of stocked fish donated by the Lompoc Elks "Local Aid to Handicap" committee headed up by PER James (Boomer) Braithwaite.

Over 100 pounds of hot dogs and hamburgers were served by Elk officers and members to the 66 hungry fisherman and their families. Beverages were also provided to keep everyone well hydrated while fishing.

"Everyone is having a great time just being out and enjoying this beautiful day," said PER Braithwaite with a huge grin. Fishing poles, bait, BBQs and fish cleaning were all donated by Lodge members. All fishermen received a medal for their participation.

This year was dedicated to Absent Member Roy Glave who started the event 22 years ago with Bill Beattie, Neil McBratney and PER Braithwaite.



14 THE CALIFORNIA-HAWAII ELK

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Century (\$100) Club Donors (July 29, 2009 through November 20, 2009)

Donor	Lodge No.	Donor	Lodge No.	Donor	Lodge No.	Donor	Lodge No.
Wild Card PER Association	0	Ray Beers	906	John Stone	1475	Daisy Roberts	1980
Boy Scouts of America Troop #259	6	Don Checchi	906	Greg Peters	1538	Dwight Roberts	1980
Elinor DeZeeuw	6	Mark Hasson	906	Cal Landreth	1539	Ladies of the Elks Lodge No. 1991	1991
Encore Group	6	John Larkin	906	Gary Rowe	1539	Irene Brunson	2013
Marilyn Facha (4)	6	R.A. Pickett	906	Mary Jane Blakley	1567	George Castellanos	2013
Paul Frye	6	Doug Randall	906	W.R. Blakley	1567	Karen Emery	2013
Elisa Immoos	6	Gordon Arconi	1073	Robert Chappell	1567	Dan Friberg	2013
Donald Johnson	6	Ron Asher	1073	Rowena Chappell	1567	Dan Hirtz	2013
Geraldine King	6	Peter McMullen	1073	David Coffman	1567	Raul Morales (2)	2013
Anton Leneis	6	Charles Myers	1073	Christopher Crowe	1567	Patrick O'Keefe	2013
Timothy Mullins	6	Trail Dusters RV Club	1073	Sue Dibble	1567	S. Butch Thomas	2013
Thomas Rotharmel	6	Jae Eitel	1108	Frances DiSalvo	1567	Diana Walker	2013
Bernadine Watkins (3)	6	Richard Carstens (6)	1250	Rosemary Dix	1567	Leslie Johnson	2026
Wendy Weinzheimer	6	Fred Casey	1250	Frank Filice	1567	Jan Keller	2026
Serena Zanussi	6	Tom Allen	1282	Art Gillespie	1567	Elaine Brown	2027
Donal Frigerio	168	Goodtimers/Jackson Campout	1282	Steve Levy	1567	Richard Dodd (2)	2027
Dorothy Gore (2)	168	R. Wally Eaton	1282	Charles Luke	1567	Keith Hoyt	2027
John Ohi (2)	168	Goodtimers RV Club, June	1282	Phil Quast	1567	Julio Nieves	2027
Mike Dugan	218	Goodtimers/Emilee Shirey, August	1282	Wayne Weller	1567	Steven Nelson	2031
Homer Lewis	218	Goodtimers, Sugar Barge	1282	Carol Kent (4)	1587	John Fontanella	2050
Mary Fonseca (3)	322	Goodtimers RV Club	1282	K. Charles Anderson	1608	George C. Vernon, Sr.	2050
Milton Grau (2)	322	Gary Johnson	1282	Nancy Bunch	1608	Mary Vernon	2050
Scott Thorshov	322	Jim & Lynn Johnson	1282	Barbara Earle	1608	Todd Thompson	2068
Jack Geiger	439	Robert & Kimberly Morante	1282	Steve Hastings	1608	Lupe Aguirre	2095
James Montanye (2)	439	Les & Emilee Shirey	1282	David Holmes	1608	El Cholo Fundraiser (4)	2095
Bill Campbell	522	Herb & Margaret Wilkerson	1282	Ed Horst	1608	Geraldine Endicott	2095
Manny Lema	522	Venita Brazier	1285	Richard Pyle	1608	Joann Haugen	2095
Edie Cavett	559	Turie Cavaliere	1285	Randy Williams	1608	La Habra Elks Fashion Show	2095
Floyd Miller	559	James Collins	1285	Mary Ann Amorose	1643	Harold Maxwell	2095
Marian Wood	559	Louise Cutino	1285	Albert Isaacson	1643	Judy Maxwell	2095
Sam Dickey	583	Beau Finklang	1285	Roy McGowan	1643	Jim Rutherford	2095
Richard Dombrowski	583	Bruce Gordon	1285	Clyde Vaughn (2)	1643	James Vecchio	2095
Craig Forsell	583	Leonard Green (2)	1285	William Watson	1643	John Bristow	2103
Wes Hayden	583	Dr. Carroll "Bud" Hall	1285	Auburn Elks PER Association	1691	Nancy Chase	2103
Macy Family Trust	583	Robert Knox	1285	Jerry Blommer (2)	1691	Sylvester Davison	2103
Redlands Elks Rovers	583	John LaSala	1285	David Smythe	1712	Debbie Fox	2103
Paul Rigano	583	Liam McCurry	1285	Warren Bilstein	1728	Sam Fuchs	2103
Larry Taylor	583	Donald Miller	1285	Marie Linda Bolstad	1728	Manny Hernandez	2103
Dave Williford	583	Stephen Millich	1285	Donald Fox	1728	Lawrence Pequet	2103
Raymond Moralez	613	Monterey Yellow Cab	1285	William Hendrickson	1728	Barbara Thiemann	2103
Louise Sagady	613	Monterey Lodge Line Dancers	1285	Richard Jones	1728	Walter Wlaslul	2103
Elisa Mariscal	614	John Mulcahey	1285	Fred Keplinger	1728	Mary Calhoun	2117
Salinas Elks Rodeo Crew	614	Jacqueline Phillips (2)	1285	Thelma Maddox (3)	1728	William Diebner	2117
Ingeborg Tate (2)	614	Marguerite Salomone	1285	Kenneth Olsen	1728	Jolene Smith	2121
Dan Beach	616	Sydney Tabler	1285	Adolph Parducci	1728	Larry Smith	2121
L. Wayne Bennett	616	Rose Marie Tantillo (2)	1285	Bradley K. Smith	1728	Robert Maes, Sr.	2128
Loren Butler	616	Howard Tsuchiya	1285	Adolph Wagner	1728	Al Tagami	2128
Jane Scott McCrorie-Butler (2)	616	Robert Wekerle	1285	Don Hubble (5)	1740	Knitting Guild	2142
Kendall Ford	616	Charlie Wilkins	1285	Leonard Weber	1756	Autumn Hensel	2230
James Gomard	616	Robert Beggs	1289	Louis Pandol	1761	Gene Miner	2230
Delorese Gregoire	616	William Binder	1289	Steve Bailey	1786	Lawrence DePaul	2243
Kimie Hirabayashi	616	Kevin Christensen	1289	Ray Funke	1786	Carl Vining	2248
Christina Hom	616	Don & Nancy Colyar	1289	Robert Kennedy	1786	Carl Plath	2299
Alden Kajioka	616	Lon Croddy (2)	1289	Karen Pence	1786	Vance Spencer	2299
Francis McCormack (2)	616	John Encinas	1289	Walt Smith	1786	Jimmy Hancock	2347
Karl Miyamoto	616	Dick Hill	1289	George Waters	1786	Tim Heiser	2347
Mark Moore, Jr.	616	Ken Lewis	1289	Willows Elks Auxilliary	1786	Richard Kratt (3)	2347
George "Red" Morris	616	Eilene Moore	1289	George Felber	1787	Joe Glaviano	2393
Edward Murley	616	Thoralf Sandaker	1289	Christy Rotell	1787	Hase & Associates Systems, Inc. (2)	2393
Thomas Pires, Jr.	616	Don Vincent	1289	Chuck Teague	1787	Angie Hyman	2393
Luana Sala	616	Lance Higa	1328	Gail White (2)	1787	Dennis Kelly	2393
Ernest Suemoto	616	Alvin Aiken	1378	Wayne Pinkerton	1799	Doris Paxton	2393
Maria Tirry (2)	616	Joseph Straight	1378	Bad Seed Softball Club	1811	Stan Phillips, Sr.	2393
Eugene Wakai	616	Jim Taylor	1378	Edward C.A. Johnson	1811	Dan Sanchez (3)	2393
Lyndell "Woody" Wood (3)	616	Ken Smith	1419	Taco Belles of Walnut Creek Lodge (2)	1811	Linda Sparks-Millette	2393
Glenn Yasui	616	Amanda Barraza	1420	John Lusti (5)	1812	Michael Perigo, Jr.	2432
Anthony Young (2)	616	George Mallory	1420	David Capella	1857	Richard Goldner	2477
Maudine Carpenter	643	Loretta Garvin	1430	Mary Goodman	1857	Greg Metzgas (3)	2477
William Dutra	643	Sam Garvin	1430	Art Thompson	1857	Al Benson	2504
Carole Fajardo	643	Rose Goss	1430	Ron Barker	1884	Paul Bixler	2504
Riverside Emblem Club No. 399 (6)	643	Howard La Pierre	1430	Kevin Correira	1884	Bill Hall	2504
Lee Karjola, CHEA President	652	Bobby Marquez	1430	Allen Smith	1884	Allen Schofield	2504
Gerald McDowell	652	Greg Shomaker	1430	George Layton	1905	Tony Aviano	2543
Jim Olson	652	Tonny Storm	1430	Bert Liebersbach	1905	Bruce Davis	2543
Andrew Bisset	759	Mike Borg	1436	Harvey Marlin	1905	Joan Haugen	2543
Marlem Mason	794	Rick Flores	1436	Ronald & Marilyn Palfrey	1905	Bill James	2543
David Whitesell	824	Thomas Luseuskas	1436	John Rogers	1905	Bob Milot	2543
Diana Walker	836	Floyd DeBat	1443	George Rowan	1905	Joanne Moore	2543
Robert W. Clayton	888	Trudy Ebaugh (3)	1471	Benjamin Verde	1905	Emma Peralta	2543
Faygie Colton	888	Dominic Confetti	1474	David Skelton	1952	Paul Rash	2543
Dottie Jensen	888	Lester Edleman	1474	John Bergman	1968	David Shiffet	2543
Betty Woodson	888	Frank Furtado	1474	Tommy N. Taylor (4)	1968	Jerry Stark	2543
Dennis Woodson	888	Ed Resnick	1475	John McCarthy (2)	1980	Angie Welsh	2543

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Donor	Lodge No.
Tom Hinsch	2599
Virginia Conrad	2639
Donald Miller	2639
Palm Springs Desert Road Runners Club	2639
Tom Warren	2639
David Fenzl (3)	2655
Nina Lilienthal-Murphy	2655
Philip Otterbeck (2)	2655
Michael Jackson	2698
Max Purkiser	2698
Walter Neumann	2704
Charles Clark	2724
Clyde Berry	2733
Don Collier	2733
Chuck Cooper	2733
Joe Coulter	2733
Lance Erickson (4)	2733
Carol Harter	2733
Gerry Harter	2733
Lowell King	2733
Glen Lynch	2733
Robert Strickland	2733
Joe Thompson	2733
Vicki Tovar	2733
John Vance	2733
Maggie Vandergon	2733
Ardean Werner	2733
Thomas Jay Coyne	2801
Peter Fiori	2801
Gary Gunn	2801
Bobbie Gutshall	2801
Douglas Stuhr	2801
Bob Walker (3)	2801

Latest Millennium (\$1,000) Club Members (July 29, 2009 through November 20, 2009)

Donor	Lodge No.
John Ohl	168
Michael C. Dugan	218
Tom Watson	218
Manny W. Lema	522
Maudine Carpenter	643
James "Jim" Olson	652
Faygie Colton	888
Richard Carstens	1250
Jackie Phillips	1285
Gerald M. Shaw	1285
Carol Kent	1587
W. Clyde Vaughn	1643
Ture Roslund	1712
Don Hubble	1740
Rick Blake	1767
Karen Pence	1786
Gail White	1787
Hazel Claire Jacobsen	1905
Tommy N. Taylor	1968
Patrick O'Keefe	2013
Albert B. Keller, Jr.	2026
Herman Bruce Froelich	2031
Betty Rice	2419
Steve Rice	2419
Francene R. Taylor	2510
Bill James	2543
Tom Hinsch	2599
David Fenzl	2655
Charles Clark	2724
Opal Bendikson	2801
Robert Walker	2801



Donor	Lodge No.
John & Sandy Carvalho	6
Anthony "Tony" & Ann Muljat	6
Billey & Delina Skarles	6
Pat & Flo Gandolfi	168
Chuck & Ginger Nolan	168
Jim & Lucia Grillo	218
Dick & Kay Alves	522
Gene & Audrey Beckel	559
Chuck & Phyllis Shallenberger	559
David & Gladie Williford	583
Bob & Aggie Gauthier	613
Elmer & Roeline Lanini	614
Doug & Jo Larsen	614
Lee & Cindy Karjola	652
Roy Newman	783
John A. & Jo Parker	783
Art Echternacht	794
Timothy & Lazell Martin	836
Jerry & Bonnie Rucker	836
Don & Kathy Checchi	906
Ken & Donna Lady	906
Dr. & Mrs. Eugene DeAngelis	966
Lynn Glick	1015
Sim & Marian Nathan	1073
John & Cleone Damonte	1112
Jack D. & Dorothy Jones	1112
Mario & Juanita Canepa	1251
Fran & Mary Lou Godfrey	1258
James & Liz Avila	1259
Mary Ann Wood	1282
Catherine "Kitty" Tufford	1285
Edward C. Morris	1289
Hugh & Dale Scanlon	1289
Marty Mello	1299
James Taylor	1378
Anthony & Carol Mauro	1436
John & Kath-Jeen Behne	1443
Fred & Laura Hewins	1474
Richard & Claudette McDonald	1474
Joe & Liz Cenoz	1538
Mac & Mary Lou Clark	1538
Richard E. Owen	1538
William M. Stanford	1538
Steve & Debbie Smith	1587
Gene & Patsy Chambers	1608
Don & Nancy Dapelo	1613
Oren & Charlene Richardson	1613
James & Mary Batt	1625
Tom & Laraine Hopper	1689
William R. Beckett	1712
Josh & Rose Marie Serrano	1761
Stan & Frankie Malkin	1767
Curt & Carole Robbins	1804
Edward C.A. & Kathryn Johnson	1811
Robert & Nancy VanRyzin	1812
Harry E. Evans	1877
Chuck & Barbara Knox	1905
Jackie Mc Cune	1905
Mel & Ann McCubbin	1913
Fred & Vickie Whitnack	1913
Jim & Sharon Mason	1919
Marge Pike	1948
Norma Robb	1952
Bill & Dottie Ijames	1968
John & Diane Knitter	1980
Dwight & Daisy Roberts	1980
Robert Cassetta	1991
John & Lynn McCue	1993
George & Kathleen Murray	2013
Rex & Quita Dondlinger	2025
Frank & Diane Keller	2045
Ken & Rosemary Moore	2045
Joe & Rose Marie Namnam	2050

Santa Barbara Elks Lodge No. 613 honors veterans and first responders

The Santa Barbara Elks Lodge No. 613 honored veterans and first responders from the community with a dinner and patriotic ceremony at the Lodge. The event, called "America the Beautiful," was held on Saturday, September 19, 2009. 350 community members and dignitaries attended, including 134 war veterans who were sponsored to the event by the Lodge. Many of these veterans wore their uniforms. One special honoree was Bill Muncaster, who served in World War II in the Battle of the Bulge. He read from his personal diary, written during the war, and received a Certificate of Congressional Recognition from Congresswoman Lois Capps for his accomplishments and duties.

The Santa Barbara Elks Lodge also received a Congressional Recognition award from Congresswoman Capps, in recognition of the Lodge's weekly work at the VA Clinic. She added, "The Elks chose a special day to honor our veterans and first responders - a day just for this community, not a holiday, but a day for us to thank them, to be with them and to show our appreciation for their service."



Left to right: Sergeant Major Bob Fortes, US Army; PFC Peterson, US Army, 101st Air Borne Division, who fought in the Battle of the Bulge and the Normandy Invasion, and ER Jim Smitley

Los Banos Elks Lodge No. 2510 delivers dictionaries to 11 schools

The Los Banos Elks Lodge No. 2510 began delivering dictionaries to third grade students five years ago. This year, the Lodge delivered 1,007 dictionaries to all of Los Banos (nine schools) and Dos Palos (two schools). The Lodge supplemented their funding for the dictionary program with a Grant from the Elks National Foundation. The students and teachers were extremely pleased to receive the dictionaries, and the teachers commented that they thought that the dictionary quality was superb.

Donor	Lodge No.	Donor	Lodge No.
Vernon E. & Aleta Tinsley	2050	Frank & Joan Francioni	2364
George C., Sr. & Mary Vernon	2050	Steve & Josephine Haydn	2432
James A. Vecchio	2095	Richard & Elaine Goldner	2477
Patricia Morris	2098	Greg & Barbara Metzgas	2477
William G. Williford	2103	Tom & Kathy Ryder	2477
Ian & Wanda Lanouette	2121	Bob & Bev Burns	2484
Don & Nancy Schaffer	2121	John & Jerilyn Holsapple	2638
C.M. "Chuck" Christensen	2134	Dave & Jean Davidson	2724
Gene Pendergast	2134	Lance Erickson	2733
Bob & Char Brennan	2190	Bob & Diana Walker	2801
Frank & Mary Ann Farquharson	2190	Berneice Spence	6000
L. "Butch" & Lynn DePaul	2243		

Elks Care
Elks Share

Lake Elsinore Elks Lodge No. 2591 joins community parade

Each year during the month of November, the Lake Elsinore Elks Lodge No. 2591 hosts a Walk-A-Thon to raise funds for Major Project. Walkers pledge various sums to complete a route set up for the event. In the past, it was only a lodge activity, but several years ago the lodge joined "The Put Unity in the Community Parade" in Lake Elsinore.

This year is the 13th such parade. It was held in Lake Elsinore on Saturday, November 21, 2009. The annual parade included Boy and Girl Scout Troops, bands from local high schools, civic and social clubs, business groups and churches, etc. The lodge joined the parade not only to continue raising funds for Major Project, but also to advertise the lodge's involvement in the community.

The theme of this year's parade was "Celebrate Families" and Kevin Jeffries, California Assembly Member served as the Grand Marshall.

Lodge members, under Ginny Mulhern, Lodge Major Projects Chairperson, joined the parade with a float bearing members of Wildomar Boy Scout Troop 322 and lodge members. Other members walked while Mary Ann Kuk was noted for pulling a large Purple Pig in a wagon festooned with the Major Project logo. She collected \$325 while the walkers contributed \$450 to the Major Project.

The former lodge, which was destroyed by fire in November 2007, is about three quarters rebuilt and it is anticipated that there will be more participation in projects like the Walk-A-Thon when it is completed and open for business and member participation.



Mary Ann Kuk, a Lodge member, stands beside a wagon containing the Lodge's Purple Pig. The caption on the wagon says "I was purple and then I lived through two fires. Now, I'm back and I'm black. November 7, 2007 - the spirit of Elkdom lives."

Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492's Elroy T. Elk takes 1st place

The Simi Valley Elks Lodge 2492 participated in the Simi Valley Days Parade 2009, September 12th. Elroy waved and 50 scouts sponsored by the Simi Valley Elks passed out 2,000 drug awareness coloring books and information pamphlets to the spectators. Since the Simi Valley Police Department was forced to cut their drug program, the Elks are trying to assist their community in keeping the information on drug awareness available. The Elks parade entry took 1st place for their division.

Carmichael Elks Lodge No. 2130 delivers 900 dictionaries

In early September each 3rd-grade student in Carmichael elementary schools was given a free copy of "Webster's Dictionary for Students" by Carmichael Elks Lodge No. 2103. Receiving a gift of a dictionary has been called receiving "The Gift of Knowledge." Carmichael Elks Exalted Ruler Bob Lowe reports that Lodge members distributed over 900 dictionaries to third-graders at Mary Deterding, Garfield, Mission, Thomas Kelly, Charles Peck, Albert Schweitzer, Starr King, Cameron Ranch, Carmichael and Coyle Avenue elementary schools. The excitement and enthusiasm the students displayed upon receiving their own personal dictionary indicates this gift of knowledge will motivate their learning of dictionary skills. Latino children whose parents are not bilingual were also given Spanish-English dictionaries.

A possible auxiliary benefit was apparent at one of the schools. After several students said their favorite word was "dictionary" and they were told the definition of dictionary is on page 111, many students had no clue as to how to find page 111. Thus, learning dictionary skills may also help the students to better grasp the concept of numerical order. This is just one example of the many benefits that will accrue from studying how to use their dictionaries.

Atascadero Elks Lodge No. 2733 serves 5,000 dinners

The Atascadero Elks Lodge No. 2733 recently completed the eleventh and final "Tuesday in the Park Barbeque" of 2009. Lodge members donated nearly 1,400 man hours preparing nearly 5,000 chicken and tri-tip dinners that were sold to benefit local charities. 1,287 lbs of tri-tip, 5,145 lbs of chicken, 1,635 lbs of beans, 667 lbs of salad and 111 lbs of salsa were prepared by these volunteers, many of whom put in ten hour days to prepare the barbeque meals. The proceeds from these events were donated to local charities. A partial list of the local charities that benefited from the "Tuesday in the Park Barbeques," which are coordinated and sponsored by the Atascadero Chamber of Commerce include: the Atascadero Historical Society, the Atascadero Education Foundation, Quota International, the Kiwanis, the Heilmann Dog Park and the Atascadero Christian Home.