



The California-Hawaii ELK



Elks Care
Elks Share



Official Periodical of the California-Hawaii Elks Association • 5450 E. Lamona Ave. • Fresno, CA 93727-2224

Volume 60, No. 1

www.chea-elks.org

January/February 2013



President Art and Shirley, his VPs and other officers, with their spouses.



President Art Echternacht and Shirley

Happy New Year!

PSP Roy Newman, PGT John "Jack" Parker and Jo Parker. Jack is the 2012 CHEA recipient of the Honorary ENF Founders Certificate.



President Echternacht with CHEA ENF Chair Debbie Hosted and Bob Brotherton, Jim Smitley and John Sutton, winners of the ENF District Leadership pin.



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Porterville Elks Lodge No. 1342 sponsors a "Veterans Stand Down"

The Porterville Elks Lodge No. 1342 sponsored a "Veterans Stand Down" on October 24, 2012. The Veterans Administration Central California Health Care System (in Fresno, CA) and the Tulare Veterans Administration's Community Based Outpatient Clinic brought more than 200 veterans to the Porterville Elks Lodge.

While the veterans were inside, the Lodge's Stand Down Committee members were unloading lots of clothing, backpacks, gloves, hygiene kits, sweat pants, boots and other items that were given to any veteran who wanted them.

The Tulare County Health Department had a motor home there to do health screening at no charge. Also, free haircuts and flu shots were available. Inside the Elks Lodge, many other services were available to the veterans. Some of the available resources were: VA Healthcare, VA Claims Assistance, representatives from other veteran's service organizations, elder care, resources and benefits for veteran's family members, health screening, specialty programs, information and assistance on locally available resources, mortgages and housing information, low income subsidy programs, education assistance, and much more. Ed Zepeda, from the Veterans Administration Central Healthcare System, remarked, "This is one of the best."



L to R: Pierre Davin, RN Quinn from Medical Services, Joe Strand (Porterville Elks Lodge Committee Stand Down Chairman), Dale Huckaby (Exalted Ruler) and Curtis Johnson (Veteran's Coordinator)

Nevada City Elks Lodge No. 518 holds Hoop Shoot

The Nevada City Elks Lodge No. 518 held its annual Hoop Shoot on October 27, 2012 at the local high school, Nevada Union. Lou Janakos, Hoop Shoot Chairman and Cathy Sharp, Co-Chairman planned a great event with all the participants receiving a certificate. The winners were 1st place: Corey Ellis and Avery Delhez, 2nd place: Douglas Hockinson and Kendahl Landreth and 3rd place: Zachary Grande and Sherry Guzman. Exalted Ruler Kathy Madeiros gave the non-winning participants pins and presented the winners with medals. All participants and volunteers enjoyed a free hot dog lunch, BBQed by member John Abas. The winners and their families were also treated to Spaghetti Night at the Lodge.

In other news, the Lodge recently hosted a fundraising luau in support of the California-Hawaii Elks Association Major Project. Seventy-five members and guests attended the luau and enjoyed a kahlua pork dinner with pineapple upside down cake for dessert. Lodge members also filled their Purple Pigs with change. This year just over \$1,500 was raised to support the Major Project.

Honolulu Elks Lodge No. 616 Helps Commemorate Hawaii's Civil War Veterans

A memorial was dedicated at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific recognizing, for the first time, the sacrifice and contribution of individuals from Hawaii who fought in the American Civil War, even though the Kingdom declared neutrality.

The Honolulu Elks Lodge No. 616 and other individual Elks joined over 40 individual and institutional donors to fund a bronze plaque, which was installed along the Memorial Walk located at the Punchbowl National Cemetery, a well-trafficked walkway.

The impressive ceremony included a U.S. Marine Corps color guard, a 21-gun salute by Civil War re-enactors, the Royal Hawaiian Band, and U.S. Navy Pacific Fleet Bugler, Dr. Justin Vance, Hawaii Civil War Round Table President, and Hawaii Pacific University Assistant Professor, discussed the service of several hundred individuals who served in the Union or Confederate Army or Navy.

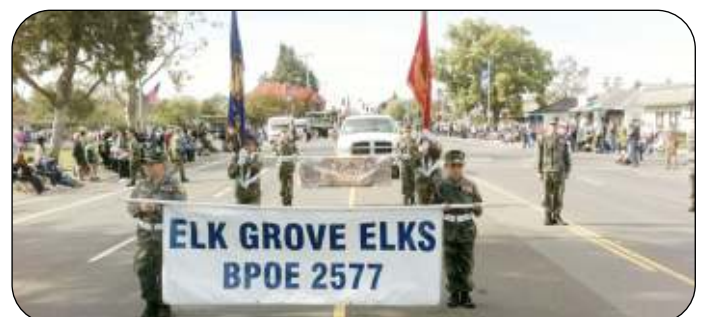
Elk and Emblem Club member Edna Ellis, whose great-uncle James W. Bush, served in the Union Navy was the powerhouse behind recognition for those who served. Lodge Historian, Anita Manning, Dr. Vance, and Nanette Napoleon, historian of Hawaii's cemeteries joined in researching the names and adventures of Hawaii's civil war veterans. Elks Don Clegg, John Scheleski, and Donna Miller joined the members of the Hawaii Civil War Round Table in the planning committee.



Elk Grove Elks Lodge No. 2577 joins Veterans Day Parade

The Elk Grove Elks Lodge No. 2577 participated in the Elk Grove Veterans Day Parade. Our float contained many Elk veterans and we were escorted by the Young Marine Cobra's whom we support. During the parade we passed out 250 Drug Awareness Comic Books with anti-drug fliers and book markers.

After the parade, the Lodge hosted a free pasta dinner to all veterans, past and current, and their families. We fed over 60 veterans and their families. It was a long but very enjoyable day in which countless Elks participated.



President's Message



Hello and Aloha to everyone in the California-Hawaii Elks Association. When you read this, the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's holidays are over and everyone is back to the daily task of running their Lodges and Districts. Shirley and I hope that each of you had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We have had the opportunity to see first hand some of your hard work in over half of the Districts in the Association, including the

District of Hawaii. I have been very impressed with the Lodges' relationships with their communities and veterans. Many of our Lodges have received Elks National Foundation Grants that are being used to promote their community and veterans projects, thereby making a real and lasting difference in the lives of those who need their help the most. For the last seven months, we have traveled throughout California, Hawaii, Arizona, and Nevada and have observed some amazing programs that the local Lodges support - such as the St. Madeline's Center in El Cajon. The Center has a fantastic facility and it works with mentally challenged men and women to teach them the necessary work and social skills that are needed to assimilate into society.

There are many such programs throughout the reaches of our Association and they all do great work. However, the best by far is our own Major Project. Shirley and I were fortunate enough to spend five days with the Major Project therapists and vision screeners at their annual professional training session at Bass Lake in early October last year. They are an amazing team of dedicated professionals who work with children with disabilities on a daily basis. The therapists and vision screeners make our Major Project the crown jewel of Elkdom. What a hard working group of professionals! I have received several very positive reports from Lodges who have invited a therapist to come to their Lodge and talk about their work - sometimes accompanied by a child and his/her parents. In each and every case, the members are very impressed and this increases their interest in and donations to the Major Project. I encourage each Lodge to invite a therapist as they are always happy to get an invitation.

The year seems to fly by as each Past Association President before me knows very well. Shirley and I have only six months to go, and you can rest assured that we will be promoting all of my special emphasis programs. We are looking forward to visiting your area if we have not done so already. As I have said in my prior articles, we look forward to meeting the members of the Lodges we visit and making new friends, for you are the backbone of all we do and stand for in Elkdom.

Don't forget our Homecoming visitation to the Orange Coast District (February 28 - March 3, 2013) at the Doubletree Suites in Anaheim. Then, plan to join us at the Association Convention (May 15 - 18, 2013) at the Marriott Hotel in Anaheim. We have many sessions and functions planned for your enjoyment. You can take a few days before or after those dates (at the same rate) to relax and see Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, the beach - or just enjoy everything that our area has to offer.

Fraternally,

Art Echternacht, President

Kern River Valley Elks Lodge No. 2358 recognizes an Eagle Scout

On October 21, 2012, the Kern River Valley Elks Lodge recognized a new Eagle Scout, Alexander Crawford. The Lodge's Scouting Chair, Pat Terrell, presented him with Certificates of Achievement from the Grand Lodge and from the California-Hawaii Elks Association.

(USPS 010-116)

Periodical postage paid at Fresno, CA and additional mailing offices. **Postmaster:** Send address changes to The California-Hawaii Elks Association 5450 East Lamona Ave., Fresno, CA 93727-2224

Official Periodical of:

The California-Hawaii Elks Association

5450 E. Lamona Avenue

Fresno, CA 93727-2224

Published 5 times per annum in the interest of California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc.

Distribution:

CHEA Lodges and All Paid-Up Members

For change of address, contact your lodge secretary.

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Guidelines: www.chea-elks.org/aboutelks/magazine

Only if necessary, mail items to:

California-Hawaii Elks Association, 5450 E. Lamona Avenue, Fresno, CA 93727-2224, ATTN: Magazine Editor

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Fresno, CA 93703

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CHEMPI

(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 so they can
 walk, talk, see and play."*

President's

Upcoming Visitation Schedule

January 1, 2013
*New Year's Celebration
 Pasadena*

January 11-13, 2013
Central District

January 18-20, 2013
South District Jamboree

January 25-27, 2013
Southeast District

February 1-3, 2013
Northwest District

February 9-10, 2013
Southeast Bowling Tournament

February 15-17, 2013
South Central Coast District

Gardena Elks Lodge No. 1919 generously donates for orphaned children

The Gardena Elks Lodge No. 1919 is stepping up to help the extended family of our Lodge members. On August 13, 2012 the Avila family was on their vacation in Colorado when there was a terrible accident. Both Gerardo and Czarina Avila were killed, but, thanks to God, their two daughters, eight year old Abby and her sister, six month old Ellie survived. Gerardo was a Marine and had served three tours in Iraq while his wife, Czarina was raising the girls, finished college and received her degree. Gerardo was planning on joining our Lodge until the accident happened. But, at 28, you would never think that there will not be a tomorrow.

The Lodge held a fund raising dinner and karaoke night for the girls. Our members graciously donated every time they stood up to sing a song. The DJ, an Elk, was the first to donate \$100. The support from our Lodge for Abby and Ellie was incredible. At the event, Leading Knight Reyne Rocha presented the girls' grandmother and family with our promise to donate \$5,000 to the Abby and Ellie trust fund as soon as it is established. It was a true demonstration of "Elks Care, Elks Share."

In other news, the Lodge donated \$15,000 to the Gardena Senior Citizens Center during the city's "Food, Wine and Cigar Festival" and \$8,000 to Girl Scout Troop No. 3135.

President Echternacht visits the Hawaii District

Art Echternacht, President of the California-Hawaii Elks Association, and his wife, Shirley, visited several Elks Lodges in the Hawaii District. They visited the Hilo Elks Lodge No. 759 on Saturday, September 22nd. On Monday, September 24th, they were the guests of honor at a cocktail party at the Kailua-Kona Elks Lodge No. 2616. On Thursday, September 27th, they departed the Big Island of Hawaii to visit other Elks Lodges located on the island of Oahu.



President Art Echternacht and First Lady Shirley toured the Big Island of Hawaii with VP Miles Nakatsu and his wife Janice. Joining them were Wayne Howard, PSP, and an entourage from California.

Why wasn't my photograph included?

A note from the Editor

Sometimes a photograph isn't included because there isn't room. Generally, there are other reasons not to include a photo. **The biggest factor is the quality of the picture.** Pictures taken with a cell phone are often of poor quality – perhaps good enough to email to someone or post on a web site, but often these are not good enough to be considered for publication. Please refer to my editorial guidelines at <http://www.ches-elks.org/MagazineGuidelines.pdf>. There are some other helpful hints on “The Elks Magazine” web site as well at <http://www.elks.org/elksmag/FraternalGuidelines.pdf>.

Sometimes the photo is just too blurry, is poorly composed (subjects are too far away), the lighting is poor (too dark, too light), or the camera has put a date stamp in the picture. Also, it is important that the photo helps illustrate the story that your article is describing. There is an excellent article on page 36 in the February 2011 issue of “The Elks Magazine” that gives tips for taking great photographs.

Photos taken with a digital camera (or cell phone) need to have the settings adjusted so that the photo is of the highest quality. The camera should have at least a 4 megapixel capacity (the more, the better). Check your camera settings – look for a setting that will give the greatest number of pixels (must be greater than 1,500 x 900 pixels, or dots per inch, but the more, the better). PLEASE do not embed your photograph inside the word document attachment, but have it as a separate attachment to the email.

If I publish a photo with an article, I will only publish ONE photo. I'd rather YOU choose that photo, not me. So, please just send me the ONE photo that you feel best illustrates your story. If you send me half a dozen pictures of your event and expect me to choose one, it may not be the one that you'd have chosen.

2012 Holiday Greeting Donors



In lieu of sending personal greeting cards to all members of the California-Hawaii Elks Association, the following Elks opted to use this magazine to convey their wishes plus donate \$25.00 or more to the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc.

Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge
Ron & Jerry Landreth Brusato	6	Curt & Carole Robbins	1804
John & Sandy Carvalho	6	Edward Johnson	1811
Anthony & Anne Muljat	6	Barbara Knox	1905
Billey & Delina Skarles	6	Jackie McCune	1905
Pat & Flo Gandolfi	168	Jan & Skip Bennett	1913
Chuck & Ginger Nolan	168	Fred Whitnack	1913
Jim & Lucia Grillo	218	Bob & Beth Duitsman	1917
Jackie Beatty	423	Jim & Sharon Mason	1919
Dick & Kay Alves	522	Norma Robb	1952
Gene & Audrey Beckel	559	Bill & Dottie Ijames	1968
Peter & Julie McMullen	559	John & Diane Knitter	1980
Bob & Aggie Gauthier	613	Dwight & Daisy Roberts	1980
Tony & Doris Jimenez	613	Robert & Margaret Cassetta	1991
Doug & Jo Larsen	614	Mike & Carlene Mathers	1993
Leon Karjola	652	Kathleen Murray	2013
Aron & Cheryl Andersen	672	Quita Dondlinger	2025
Roy Newman	783	Steve & Kristin Marada	2026
John & Jo Parker	783	Dick & Marion Wallace	2027
Art & Shirley Echternacht	794	Frank & Diane Keller	2045
Jerry & Bonnie Rucker	836	Ken & Rosemary Moore	2045
Don & Kathy Checchi	906	David Bakke	2046
Sim & Marian Nathan	1073	Mr. & Mrs. Joe Namnam	2050
Bob & Ellen Phillips	1259	George C. Vernon, Sr.	2050
Mary Ann Wood	1282	Ian & Wanda Lanouette	2121
Bud & Mary Hall	1285	Berneice Spence	2121
Ed & Pat Morris	1289	C.M. "Chuck" Christensen	2134
James Taylor	1378	Leila Pendergast	2134
John D. Adams	1427	Char Brennan	2190
Robert Hollis-Brau	1427	Rex & Amy Berglund	2230
Anthony & Carol Mauro	1436	Frank & Joan Francioni	2364
John & Kath-leen Behne	1443	Skip & Karen Henke	2379
Fred & Laura Hewins	1474	Stephen & Josephine Haydn	2432
Dick & Claudette McDonald	1474	Richard & Elaine Goldner	2477
Joe & Liz Cenoz	1538	Greg & Barbara Metzger	2477
Mac & Mary Lou Clark	1538	Bob & Bev Burns	2484
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H. Eugene & Patsy Chambers	1608	John & Jerilyn Holsapple	2638
Dino Uribe	1613	Lance & Karen Erickson	2733
Rick & Kathy Blake	1767	Diane & Robert Farrens	2801
Stan & Frankie Malkin	1767		

San Diego Elks Lodge No. 168 gave red ribbons

The San Diego Elks Lodge No. 168 Drug Awareness Committee sponsored a demonstration of the United States Customs and Border Patrol Canine Unit to students at Vista Grande Elementary during Red Ribbon Week in October. In addition, 8,000 Red Ribbons were presented to the San Diego Unified School District for distribution to the students in celebration of Red Ribbon Week.

In other news, Lodge members gave dictionaries to third graders at fourteen schools in the San Diego Unified School District during October. Over 1,300 dictionaries and 400 thesauruses were purchased using donations from Lodge members.

Glendale Elks Lodge No. 1289 donates dictionaries

The Glendale Elks Lodge No. 1289 has been donating dictionaries for eight years running. This year, the Lodge donated nearly 2,500 dictionaries to all public and private third grade students in the Glendale Unified School District. More than fifteen Lodge members teamed up to distribute the books. Funding for the Dictionary Program was generated by the Lodge's annual Car Show that is held on the third Sunday of March.



Lodge officers Al Kepler (left) and George McCullough (right) with one of their 18 classes

Hollister Elks Lodge No. 1436 held a Veterans Day dinner

On November 13, 2012, the Hollister Elks Lodge No. 1436 held its Veterans Day recognition dinner. All veterans from the area were invited to an all you can eat spaghetti feed. During the evening, ER Bill Pedrazzi gave a brief idea of what the Elks have done for the military and our veterans. In addition, the local American Legion Post gave an enlightening and somber rendition of their missing man table ceremony. The attendees also donated \$186 for the Lodge's National Veterans Service charity. It was a great evening for all.

In other news, during the latter part of October, the Lodge distributed over 850 dictionaries to all third grade classes within the Hollister School District. In addition, drug awareness material, such as tobacco and alcohol abuse literature and the drug awareness coloring book were distributed. Lodge Officers and interested volunteers helped with the distribution of the drug awareness material.



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California-Hawaii Elks Association website.
Awarded 5 stars by the Grand Lodge BPOE.
It's a site to see! Go to www.chea-elks.org**

Mid-Term 2012 was a success! Thank you!

Thomas Gravink and Billey Skarles and their Mid-Term Conference Committee did a great job on the 2012 Mid-Term Conference. It takes a year of planning to put together such an event: to make the hotel arrangements for all the District representatives, Association Officers and guests; to plan the ENF dinner with the hotel staff; to organize the speakers for the business meetings; and to coordinate the planning of the weekend's events with the host Lodges. Then, after the conference begins, there's "running the show."

Thanks, too, go to the Woodland Elks Lodge No. 1299, whose members and spouses put in many long hours handling the conference registration, golf tournament and the Friday night Western BBQ dinner. In addition, the golf tournament on Thursday was a success. They were very helpful and graciously provided assistance to all of the conference attendees all weekend and participated in a myriad of other ways to help make the business sessions flow smoothly.

The Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6 planned two events: the Mexican Fiesta Dinner on Thursday evening and the Champagne Breakfast on Sunday morning. Both events were well attended and very enjoyable. Their members and spouses also worked behind the scenes to help make the conference a success.

Thank you, too, to the Conference presenters – whose sessions were very informative and will help the Lodge members of the California-Hawaii Elks Association have a successful Lodge Year.

Reno Elks Lodge No. 597 ER visits hospitalized Ridgecrest Elks Lodge No. 1913 member

Ken Dalpiaz, ER of Ridgecrest Elks Lodge No. 1913, learned that their Lodge Treasurer, Mike Moore had been taken to a hospital while visiting Reno. It is quite a lengthy trip from Ridgecrest to Reno, and Ken wanted a fellow Elk to visit Mike while he was hospitalized. Ken had previously met Frank Reynolds III, the ER of the Reno Elks Lodge No. 597, during the recent Grand Lodge Convention in Austin, TX. Another member of the Ridgecrest Lodge, Beth Holtermans, and her daughter, Monika (of Reno) did some detective work and located the hospital where Mike was recovering without tipping off Mike's wife, Robyn. Ken's sister, Patty, contacted Frank's wife Marie. Frank then visited Mike and Robyn in the hospital – surprising both of them! What a demonstration of brotherly love! This truly made my day as Exalted Ruler, as well as for Mike Moore. We are all hoping and praying for Mike's speedy recovery. Mike Moore is a US Navy veteran (Korea/Vietnam), and we hope that this example of Brotherly Love gave him a much needed lift to help him recover from his illness as soon as possible.

In other news, the Ridgecrest Lodge donated \$1,000 to the Ridgecrest Humane Society and \$300 to Billy Reynolds, the Founder/CEO of "Teaching Kids to Fish." The funds were collected through the Lodge's Bingo program, which regularly donates money to many non-profit entities in the community. The "Teaching Kids to Fish" program helps kids do something that is safe, fun and educational during their free time, other than hanging out in the streets where they could end up in some kind of trouble. The fishing trips are chaperoned by the Reynolds to nearby Lake Isabella.

Redding Elks Lodge No. 1073 receives donated sculpture

Local artist Doug Laird donated a metal wall sculpture to the Redding Elks Lodge No. 1073. The eighteen by six foot sculpture is a collage of famous northern California landmarks done in chrome and other materials. Mr. Laird is a longtime wood and metal artist. The mural is the culmination of a revitalization of the lounge area at the Elks facility. The mural was scheduled to be unveiled by ER Jeff Carr on October 20th during CHEA President Art Echternacht's visit to the North District.

Drug Awareness

By Tim Jaeger, CHEA Drug Awareness Chairman



I like to think of the Drug Awareness Program much like O-Negative blood – we are the universal donor to other Elk programs. It is always quite easy to incorporate some phase of the DAP program into other programs by including DAP literature, coloring books, or by putting an anti-drug theme on soccer balls, basketballs, etc.

As I announced at the Mid-Term Conference, the Association's Drug Awareness Program no longer requires quarterly reporting from the Districts – all the information needed is recorded in CLMS. What does that mean to you as an ER or Lodge Drug Awareness chair? First, check with your District Chair to confirm that they do not want reports from you. MOST IMPORTANTLY – you need to record your activity in the Charity Book at your Lodge or on whatever form your Lodge Secretary requires in order to enter items in CLMS. It is OK to enter time for multiple committees – i.e., if you have a Hoop Shoot and use Drug Awareness themed basketballs, then the time and the number of contacted children can count towards BOTH program statistics.

One of the focus areas of the Drug Awareness program this year is our Elks Image. When the Elks were originally formed, we were primarily a men's club that, in many ways, was a “getaway” spot for the men, and only on rare occasions were their spouses and children welcome in the club.

That is not the Elks of today, as an increasing percentage of our active members are women, and more and more of our activities are designed to support the youth of our communities. We, as Elks, should all be ambassadors spreading the word of what the Elks of today are all about.

In today's busy world, time is at a premium, and your commitment to our Order means a lot. Now, if you are like me, you will hear comments about the Elks being “an old man's drinking club,” or something like that. Most people are shocked to hear about the good things that Elks do. Do you know what an “elevator pitch” is? It is a story that you would tell if you only had the time that it takes to ride three floors in an elevator, and you wanted to convince another passenger to hire you, or buy your product, etc. When someone asks me about the Elks, I have my elevator pitch ready – especially if they just said something about it being an “old man's drinking club.”

I usually lead with something like: “Well my Elks Lodge does have a bar and dining room and it is a friendly place (kind of like the Cheers sitcom) where everybody knows my name. I have made many new lifelong friends through my Elks Lodge. If I go to another Lodge anywhere in the country, I am welcomed just like I am in my home Lodge. But, even better than the social club, if you think that our veterans, our youth, honoring the flag and showing that you are a patriotic American is important, then the Elks programs are something that you would really enjoy. The Elks are: the second largest provider of scholarships in the US only behind the US Government. The Elks donated the first Veterans hospital ever established during WWI and have made a pledge that as long as there are veterans in need, the Elks will not forget them. The Elks honor our law enforcement officers, firemen and other community groups. The Elks established Flag Day and worked with the government to make this a recognized holiday. So, while it is true that we have a good time at our social club, it is our shared vision that truly makes the Elks unique and an organization you or anyone would be proud to be a part of.”

Now, the next time you hear someone talking about the Elks as an old man's drinking club, pull out your “elevator pitch” and help improve the image of Elkdom. You just may be surprised when the person stops before they get off the elevator and asks how they can be part of the Elks.

To learn more about the variety of programs that are supported by the Drug Awareness Program, visit either the CHEA or National websites, both have good information and are great resources. Go to <http://www.chea-elks.org/youth-activities/drug-awareness> or

<http://www.elks.org/dap>.

Remember - the DAP (Drug Awareness Program) is not an annual event, but rather a continual opportunity to improve your community and your Lodge. If you can make a difference in the life of even one child in your community, then we have succeeded.

San Pedro Elks Lodge No. 966 honors first responders

The San Pedro Elks Lodge No. 966 held a Firefighter and Police Recognition Night on Monday, October 8, 2012. The evening began as Los Angeles City Councilman, Joe Buscaino, addressed the assembly. He thanked the honored guests for their outstanding service and for always being there to protect and serve us.

Then Congresswoman Janice Hahn gave a short speech in which she also thanked the recipients and their fellow first responders for their dedication and outstanding service. She presented Congressional certificates of appreciation to each of the honorees.

Congresswoman Hahn also reported that an American Flag had been flown over the Congress in Washington, D.C., on behalf of the San Pedro Elks Lodge No. 966. This flag was to honor the Lodge for sponsoring the recognition ceremony for these Firefighters, Policemen, CHP officers and Sheriff Deputies. Exalted Ruler Jose Chavez (PER) received the Flag and a certificate that attested that it had been flown over the Capitol building.



E. F. “Gene” Pendergast passed away

The Association office was notified that E. F. “Gene” Pendergast, who served as a member of the CHEMPI Board of Trustees from 2001-2008 and was Chairman from 2006-2008 as well as a past South District Leader from 1989-2008, passed away on Tuesday, November 6, 2012. Condolences may be sent to Gene's wife, Leila, at: Mrs. Leila Pendergast, P.O. Box 1124, Twentynine Palms, CA 92277-0970. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Gene's name to: California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc., 5450 E. Lamona Avenue, Fresno, CA 93727-2224.

A Memorial Service will be held on February 2, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. The service will be held at Twentynine Palms Lodge with a luncheon to follow.

Twentynine Palms Lodge No. 2134
6501 Elk Trail
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277

Elks Care
Elks Share

Piggy Bank

By Bill Williford, CHEA Piggy Bank Chairman



Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and is ready to resume building the Piggy Bank for another \$3 Million Dollar Exalted Ruler's March. Thanks to all of you who participated in the drawing at the Mid-Term Conference or otherwise supported our table in the lobby of the Red Lion at Woodlake in Sacramento. We generated over \$2,000 for the Purple Pig! My sincere thanks to those who stepped in and helped man the table while Diane, Bob

and I were off doing what we had to do.

The number of recurring donors has climbed to 35 as of press time. This is an easy way to make your annual donation to the Piggy Bank in convenient installments – simply go to www.chea-elks.org to start the enrollment procedure.

During the ENF dinner at the Mid-Term Conference, it was a pleasant surprise for the North Central District to see our District Leader and Past Grand Trustee John A. "Jack" Parker be recognized as the recipient of the Honorary ENF Founder's Certificate and to see him honored with a \$1,000 donation in his name to the Elks National Foundation. It is a very well-deserved honor.

The Leading Knight's Challenge will be offered again in 2013. This contest challenges each Leading Knight to raise as much in new donations (not the ones you get every year from groups in the lodge) between March 1 and the Thursday of the Convention as possible. There will be trophies for the leading Lodge and for the leading District. The contest details will be mailed to all Leading Knights and Secretaries shortly after the New Year (calendar, not Lodge).

The internet search engine Goodsearch.com has launched another feature. Arrangements have been made with several dining establishments to donate a percentage of meal proceeds to your selected charity (California-Hawaii Elks Major Project) when you dine out. See www.goodsearch.com website for more details.

Have you been to the CHEA website (www.chea-elks.org) lately? It's been greatly improved and is more user-friendly. It's now easier to make your 52 Club or Century Club contribution. Remember, the Millennium Club now recognizes multiple levels of membership.

"A coin a day and they will walk, talk, see and play."

CHEA Drug Awareness Chair receives award

Tim Jaeger, CHEA Drug Awareness Chairman, received the Elks National Drug Awareness Program's "Rookie of the Year" award at the July 2012 Grand Lodge session. Each year the National Drug Awareness Program selects one of the many first-year Drug Awareness Chairmen in each state who made the most significant contribution to the improvement of the Elks Drug Awareness Program in their state.

Would you like to have a little "summer" vacation in the middle of winter? Why not visit our Associate Lodges on the islands of Agana, Guam, Marianas Islands and Manila, Philippines?

Here's their email and phone:

Agana, Guam, Marianas Islands No. 1281
(671) 472-6355
elks1281@yahoo.com

Manila, Philippines No. 761
011 (632) 811-3213
elkslodge.mla761@gmail.com

Roseville Elks Lodge No. 2248 serves Yountville, CA veterans

The Roseville Elks Lodge No. 2248 served BBQ steaks to residents of the Veterans Home in Yountville CA. This is the third time this year that they have served the veterans. The next trip down to the home will be for a special Christmas Dinner and show featuring the "Tap-n-Hats" dance group.

In other news, the Lodge donated over 1,200 dictionaries to third grade students throughout Placer County. The Dictionary Program Chairman, Dick Law, was assisted by ER Harry Hopton and Lodge members Jean Denison and Leroy Perry in distributing the texts.



Lake Almanor Elks Lodge No. 2626 sponsors hand cycle challenge

The Lake Almanor Elks Lodge No. 2626 held their fifteenth annual Wheel Around Lake Almanor (WALA) Hand Cycle Endurance Challenge, a 34 mile ride around Lake Almanor. Hand cyclists face challenges every day of their lives, whether they are paraplegic, quadriplegic, have spina bifida, cerebral palsy or have lost use of both legs.

One day a year in September they rise to meet the challenge of riding a hand cycle or wheelchair around Lake Almanor. WALA was created by Dave Henise, the Lodge Secretary, challenging Randy Fossum, another member, who became a paraplegic due to a motorcycle accident, to ride around the lake. Dave Henise would donate a \$1.00 per mile to the Elks Scholarship fund. Suzie Henise, Dave's wife, rode along with Randy to give him support.

That was the genesis of this annual event. Over the ensuing fifteen years, the Lodge has collected more than \$70,000 through donations. WALA provides support for various Lodge charities, including the Purple Pig, and local scholarships. It also provides wheelchairs, home modifications, automobile adaptations, K-9 companion dogs and provides funding for families' transportation during hospitalizations. For more detailed information about this event you can visit www.lakealmanorwala.com.



Lapsation

By James Warrick, CHEA Lapsation Chairman

Your success in retaining members can be enhanced by reminding delinquent members of the intangible rewards that they receive by helping veterans, promoting scholarships, and helping disabled children. Furthermore, reminding them of the camaraderie that comes with the enjoyment of Lodge events, the fellowship offered by other members and the blessings of sharing a common belief in God and our country can aid your effort to retain that delinquent Elk.

Those Lodges that post a net gain in membership maintain an allegiance to our basic virtues as Elks and also offer a variety of new opportunities for all members to remain involved. Lodges successfully reinstate lapsed members through creative monthly reminder billings, personal phone calls, and encouraging e-mails. Can't find where a member has moved? Try Facebook, a Google search, or another online method of locating people.

Prior to dropping a member for non-payment, some Lodges publish the names of delinquent members in their Lodge bulletins or newsletters. Sometimes another member can gently encourage a delinquent member to become current in their dues payments. A diligent effort to contact lapsed members may pay membership retention dividends. Active or inactive, at one time every Elk took a solemn oath supporting the principles of our Order. We must ensure that the Order of Elks, the good things that we do and the virtues we cherish prosper and grow.

Carmichael Elks Lodge No. 2103 held student of the month luncheon

On September 25th, 2012 the Carmichael Elks Lodge No. 2103 hosted a "Student of the Month" luncheon. Ten high school students were selected by their teachers for this honor. They received a free lunch and a "Certificate of Recognition" from the Lodge. Teachers and administrators from their respective schools joined them at the luncheon. Two school districts were represented: the San Juan Unified School District and the Twin Rivers School District. Ten different high schools were represented: El Camino, Mira Loma, Rio Linda, Casa Robles, Rio American, Del Campo, Bella Vista and San Juan. Also present were ten high school exchange students from China. They were here for three weeks and living with host families in the nearby area. Lodge members in attendance were: ER Barbara Thiemann, Secretary and Chairperson Jim Warrick, Chaplain Diana Peel, Lecturing Knight Robert Murray, Veterans Service Chairperson George Blount and Dictionary Program Chairpersons Bob and Rita Lowe.

The guest speakers were Glynn Thompson, Superintendent of Schools for the SJUSD and Richard Launey, Board of Education President for the SJUSD. There were approximately 55 people in attendance and everyone had a good time.

In other news, it's now "Toast for breakfast!" The veterans committee donated a toaster to the Sacramento Valley Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 500 to use for their monthly breakfast.



Oceano-Five Cities Elks Lodge No. 2504 honors students

Twelve Most Valuable Students were honored for their academic achievement. The students and their families attended a dinner hosted by the Oceano Five-Cities Elks Lodge No. 2504. The students, who are seniors from Nipomo High School and Arroyo Grande High School, were recognized for their achievement and will be considered along with other Most Valuable Students for a \$2,000 Teenager of the Year scholarship award. Only Most Valuable Students are considered for this award. Honorees from Nipomo High School were: Michael Blanchard, Alicia Cruz, Cinthya Ortiz, Courtney Cuzick, Brett Bey and Gabriel King. Honorees from Arroyo Grande High School were: Kyle Berlin, Michael White, Elizabeth Wilson, Beth Lebens, Nickolas Valente, and Joanne Crandall.

In other news, the Lodge provided lunch for thirteen American and eleven British wounded warriors on September 25th at Avila Beach, CA. Supporting the event were Margaret Walker, PER, Jody Hamstrom, Larry Cooper and Manuel Diaz. Other members volunteering daily were Jim Storton, photographer and John Carter, surf volunteer. The American soldiers are part of Operation Comfort, a non-profit organization that provides support to our Service Members who have been wounded in Afghanistan or Iraq and are in recovery at the Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio Texas. The British soldiers joined Operation Comfort stating "we fight together, we can heal together." Amazing Surf Adventure partners with Operation Comfort in providing a surf clinic that helps our nation's wounded warriors overcome challenges and develop new and positive perspectives towards discovering their abilities. The week long event is supported by local residents and businesses and provides an opportunity to directly show their appreciation for some of America's true heroes. The clinic began September 25 and ended with the soldiers leaving on October 2, 2012.



La Habra Elks Lodge No. 2095 gives dictionaries to students

The La Habra Elks Lodge No. 2095 recently participated in the "Dictionary Project." La Habra Lodge, under the guidance of PER JoAnne Haugen, presented 1,320 dictionaries over the course of six days to third graders in fourteen schools in La Habra and neighboring Brea, California. PER Haugen utilized the help of other Elks in labeling the dictionaries with the message "Donated by La Habra Elks No. 2095". They then presented the dictionaries to the third graders in their classrooms. This is the seventh successive year that PER Haugen has headed up this worthwhile project, during which time over 8,500 dictionaries have been presented.

**Elks Care
Elks Share**

In Memoriam to the CHEA Past Presidents in honor of their service to the Association

L.E. Chenoweth (1913-14)	Bakersfield	Robert S. Redington (1940-41)	Los Angeles	Henry J. Budde (1964-65)	San Francisco
Hilliard E. Welch (1914-15)	Stockton	Donald K. Quayle (1941-42)	Alameda	Edgar Dale (Honorary)	Vallejo
Dr. Ralph Hagan (1915-16)	Los Angeles	Newton M. Todd (1942-43)	Long Beach	Bruce H. Marsh (1965-66)	Inglewood
William M. Abbott (1916-17)	San Francisco	Clifford C. Anglim (1943-44)	Richmond	Gerald Strohm (1966-67)	Fresno
Harry M. Ticknor (1917-19)	Pasadena	Stephen A. Compas (1944-45)	Huntington Park	Marvin M. Lewis (1967-68)	Brawley
James M. Shanly (1919-20)	Oakland	Horace R. Wisely (1945-46)	Salinas	Norman S. Lien (1968-69)	Watsonville
Charles Donlon (1920-21)	Santa Barbara	R. Leonard Bush (1946-47)	Westchester	Paul E. Haines (1969-70)	Pasadena
John D. Saxe (1921-22)	San Rafael	Thomas S. Abbott (Honorary)	Los Angeles	Ernest Olivieri (1970-71)	Sonora
Richard C. Benbough (1922-23)	San Diego	Raymond Benjamin (Honorary)	Napa	Walter Schween, Jr. (1971-72)	Salinas
Howard B. Kirtland (1923-24)	San Luis Obispo	Michael F. Shannon (Honorary)	Los Angeles	C. Wallace Erickson (1972-73)	Glendale
Edgar F. Davis (1924-25)	Long Beach	Earl J. Williams (1947-48)	Oakland	Yubi G. Separovich (1973-74)	Sacramento
John J. Lermen (1925-26)	San Francisco	Morley H. Golden (1948-49)	San Diego	Dan Davis (1974-75)	Van Nuys
Miffilin G. Potts (1926-27)	Pasadena	Robert J. Craine (1949-50)	Hanford	Rt. Rev. Msgr. George Scott (Honorary)	San Pedro
William E. Simpson (1927-28)	Fresno	Ben W. Osterman (1950-51)	Santa Ana	James E. Spence, Jr. (1975-76)	Oakland
John J. Doyle (1928-29)	Los Angeles	John B. Morey (1951-52)	Palo Alto	Marvin R. Pike (1976-77)	Torrance
Fred B. Mellmann (1929-30)	Oakland	Vincent H. Grocott (1952-53)	Santa Barbara	Donald W. Luce (1977-78)	Richmond
Horace S. Williamson (1930-31)	Redlands	Edward E. Keller (1953-54)	San Mateo	Dr. Robert G. Robb (1978-79)	Garden Grove
F.E. Dayton (1931-32)	Salinas	Robert P. Mohrbacker (1954-55)	Long Beach	William D. Brunner (1980-81)	Redondo Beach
Horace H. Quinby (1932-33)	Alhambra	Jim B. Nielsen (1955-56) (Marilyn)	Watsonville	Leland "Butch" Simas (1981-82)	Santa Maria
J. Thomas Crowe (1933-34)	Tulare	Owen O. Keown (1956-57)	Santa Monica	Clifford E. Beatty (1985-86)	Chico
Milton R. Standish (1934-35)	San Bernardino	John A. Raffetto (1957-58)	Auburn	Bernard E. Mc Cune (1987-88)	Long Beach
George M. Smith (1935-36)	San Jose	Frank M. Linnell (1958-59)	Newport Harbor	Oscar W. Stutheit (Honorary)	Orange
L.A. Lewis (1936-37)	Anaheim	Charles T. Reynolds (1959-60)	Vallejo	R.E. "Bud" Cenis (1988-89)	Bakersfield
C. Fenton Nichols (1937-38)	San Francisco	Guy A. Daniels (1960-61)	Redlands	Dr. Eugene P. Weigand (1989-90)	Pasadena
C.P. Hebenstreit (1938-39)	Huntington Park	Paul T. Wemple (1961-63)	Susanville	Lynn Wood (1990-91)	Modesto
Elmer B. Maze (1939-40)	Merced	Vern R. Huck (1963-64)	Los Angeles	Rex E. Dondlinger (1994-95)	Arcadia

CHEA Advisory Committee (Past Presidents)

Donald D. Dapelo (1979-80)	Coalinga	Timothy C. Martin (1996-97)	Clovis	Roy R. Newman (2005-06)	Marysville
Kenneth L. Moore (1982-83)	Corona	Sim Nathan (1997-98)	Redding	James S. Mason (2006-07)	Gardena
Elmer L. Lanini (1983-84)	Salinas	Frank G. Keller (1998-99)	Corona	Oren Richardson (2007-08)	Coalinga
Robert J. Mc Lain (1984-85)	Pasadena	Louis J. Grillo (1999-00)	Stockton	Jerry Rucker (2008-09)	San Bernardino
Richard L. "Dick" Alves (1986-87)	San Jose	John G. Holt (2000-01)	Burbank	Lee Karjola (2009-2010)	Eureka
William C. James (1991-92)	Vista	John M. Carvalho, Sr. (2001-02)	Sacramento	Hugh H. Scanlon (2010-2011)	Glendale
Richard E. Owen (1992-93)	Santa Maria	H. Eugene Chambers (2002-03)	Needles	Thomas S. Brazier (Honorary)	Santa Cruz
John A. "Jack" Parker (1993-94)	Marysville	Doug Larsen (2003-04)	Salinas	Wayne Howard (2011-2012)	Honolulu
Anthony J. Mauro (1995-96)	Hollister	Lee Northcutt (2004-05)	La Habra		

Stockton Elks Lodge No. 218 participates in "Stand Down"

The BPO Elks made a promise that "as long as there are Veterans, the Elks will never forget them." This commitment was practiced by a group of Stockton Elks Lodge No. 218 members, many of whom are veterans themselves. These Elks participated in the San Joaquin County's "Homeless Veterans Stand Down," which provided assistance and other services to over 200 homeless veterans who had enrolled in the program.

The goal of the event was to provide access to services that could help homeless veterans find housing or which might help improve the lives of struggling veterans who are at risk of becoming homeless themselves. Over 200 back packs, each filled with items such as sleeping bags, clothing, socks, and reading glasses were distributed.

Community volunteers were available to provide legal advice, medical screening, and social security or housing assistance. Dental services were provided and veterans who wished could receive haircuts, take hot showers and enjoy some good food. Flu shots were given to those who wanted them.

The Lodge had received a \$2,000 Elks National Foundation Grant which was donated to the "Stand Down" committee and was utilized to purchase many of the items that were handed out to the Veterans. This grant money would not have been available if our Lodge had not achieved the Grand Exalted Ruler's goal of a \$4.50 per member donation to the ENF. Our membership can be proud of this achievement.

Mission Viejo/Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge raises \$4,000 for cancer patients

The Mission Viejo/Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 hosted a costume party and silent auction charity event to generate over \$4,000 for the Orange County Foundation for Oncology Children and Families ("OCF-OCF"). One hundred people attended the event.

Dancing to the Music of Alter Ego were guests in costume as a horse, a show girl, a mummy with Cleopatra, Little Red Riding Hood with the Big Bad Wolf and other assorted fantasy characters. The band joined in the fun dressed as a Biker, Phantom of the Opera, a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle, a Pirate and a Rock Star.

Donated items for the auction included: a wine country gift basket, a Yosemite getaway, a Seattle Marriott Getaway, a USC tailgating basket and many more items. The dinner was hosted (donated) by Outback Steakhouse of Laguna Hills. Eddie, from Alter Ego, donated his time and the other four band members performed at a reduced rate. The Lodge's Bingo charity fund paid for event expenses so that OCF-OCF would receive a larger charity donation from the Lodge.

Commenting on the event, Stephanie Bongartz said, "The research doctors continue to make miraculous progress in discovering new cures and treatments for pediatric oncology patients. The funds raised by this charity event will be used next spring to augment pediatric oncology medical care with a spirit lifting and fun carnival for pediatric oncology patients and their families."

Membership

By Lance Erickson, CHEA Membership Chairman



Happy New Year to all our members and their families! As we start the New Year, we can look forward to nominations for new Officers and the final months in which we can continue to increase our membership numbers and accomplish the goals we have set for this Elk year. At the time of this report, we have increased our membership by 2.1% or 1,804 new members. Delinquents have been reduced to 7.4% or a total of 6,515 delinquent members. By now, all November

Membership Reports should have been sent to Grand Lodge via CLMS.

At our Mid-Term Conference, we had the opportunity to attend meetings and gain valuable information which we can implement in our Lodges when we return home. I talked about Lodges forming teams and working together to gain membership and bringing those that have not paid their dues back into the Lodge. I also talked about the fact that, we as Elks, must continue to be conscious of our membership numbers in our various Lodges. If we continue to lose members we will continue to lose Lodges, something that none of us want to see happen. Membership is still the lifeblood of our organization.

We have several opportunities to increase our membership, including, but not limited to, inviting friends and neighbors to check out what Elks do and encourage them to become Elks. Our presence in the community is of prime importance. At a recent mixer with various members of the community several applications were given to prospective members. The more we work with the various entities throughout the community, the more our membership will grow. This can be accomplished by using the various Grants that are available through the Elks National Foundation. Thousands of dollars are available for us to use in our communities to help those with various needs. Perhaps it is time for your Lodge to hold an "open house for the community" to promote your Lodge's ability to provide assistance to the youth, veterans and less fortunate individuals living in your communities. With good planning and a focus on the needs of our community, we will attract more members and attain our membership goals for this Elk year.

Lodge Activities is another area that Lodges can use to gain and retain members. Some event ideas are: Monday Night Football rib nights, Saturday sports at the Lodge, NASCAR day at the Lodge or a Wii Bowling tournament for families. Let's not forget the children – invite them to attend movie nights, Halloween parties and Christmas parties. All of these activities generate interest and can lead to bringing in a new member. A strong Lodge Activities Committee is priceless.

Another new feature that has been made available to all Elk members is the online membership feature. Elks can now send Membership Invitations on-line to friends and families throughout the country. Secretaries can import applications into CLMS with a click of a button. You can find this on Elks.org under Membership.

We are doing a good job this year and we need to finish strong at the end of this Elk year. Think about whom you can recruit as a worthy member, or, better yet, call an Elk friend that has not paid his/her dues and get them back before they get dropped. Help make your Lodge a "+1 Lodge."

Bob Brennan, GL Blue Coat Chairman, passed away

Bob Brennan, the Grand Lodge Blue Coat Chairman (2002-2012) for the California-Hawaii Elks Association, passed away on November 12, 2012. In addition, Bob was a District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler (2000-2001) from the Canoga Park Elks Lodge No. 2190 in the Metropolitan District. Services will be held on January 5, 2013 at the Canoga Park Lodge and will be conducted by the PDDGERS from the Metropolitan District.

Northeast District serves Reno VA hospital veterans

Forty Elks and guests served lunch and shared fellowship during their annual visit with 150 veterans and staff at the Ioannis A. Lougaris VA Medical Center in Reno, Nevada. The Elks and their helpers decorated the dining area, cooked, served and then cleaned up, working seamlessly as a group. Lunch was served to long term residents in the Community Living Center. Elks went with staff to serve those veterans who could not leave their rooms. Lodge members from the Susanville Lodge No. 1487, Quincy Lodge No. 1884, Auburn Lodge No. 1691, Calpine Lodge No. 2432, Grass Valley Lodge No. 538, and Nevada City Lodge No. 518, comprised the largest group in years and allowed them to spend time talking with the veterans. Everyone enjoyed hearing about the experiences the veterans had during military service.

The Medical Center Voluntary Service Coordinator, John Howard, summed up the event this way, "Besides the food your organization donated, the gift of your time in visiting with patients is just as valuable. Being able to chat with caring members does a lot to brighten the day of long term residents." Everyone from the Northeast District agreed it is one of their most fun and rewarding events of the year.



L to R: David Farmer (Army veteran 1944-1956), Tom Tinnel (Susanville Lodge No. 1487 Exalted Ruler), John Madeiros (Nevada City Lodge No. 518, Trustee), Jerene Tinnel (Susanville Lodge No. 1487, First Lady) and Reginald Crowell (Air Force veteran 1967-1971)

San Luis Obispo Elks Lodge No. 322 hosts international contingent of vets

Recently, the San Luis Obispo Elks Lodge No. 322 was honored to host an "Operation Surf" tri tip and chicken dinner for seventeen soldiers (nine British, eight Americans) who sustained amputation injuries and thank them for their service in Afghanistan. Total attendance was 180, of which 98 were comp'ed, which included the staff and volunteers from "Amazing Surf Adventures." All monies received from ticket sales were donated to this group to help cover the costs of the surfing clinic. Each soldier received a "goody bag" and a beautiful quilt made by local ladies in the county.

Operation Surf is a recreational and rehabilitative surf clinic for wounded active duty service personnel. This highly successful clinic has helped our nation's wounded warriors overcome challenges, and develop new and positive perspectives towards discovering their abilities. Operation Surf is a community supported event that gives our local residents and businesses a unique opportunity to directly show their appreciation for some of America's true heroes.

Insurance and Safety

By Steven G. Mayne, Sr., CHEA Insurance and Safety



It is still a great time in Elkdom, but life must go on - and that means that, as the Officers of your Lodge, you have to be vigilant for the things that can creep up on you and cost your Lodge money that it may not be able to afford.

It was not long after I was appointed as Chairman of the Insurance and Safety Committee last year that I started receiving calls concerning the renewal of Workers Compensation Policies. Some folks had let it slide by and now had to choose to either stay with their current provider, or pay a large penalty if they wanted to change providers. If you do not at least review or shop your current policies two months in advance of your renewal you are not doing your Lodge a service, and in some cases, may not even be doing your job. SORRY—but the fact remains that a lot of us have volunteered to do a job and may not be doing it. Savings of up to 25% or even \$2,500 have been realized. The bottom line is if you suspect that your policy is coming due, then shop it around. You might be surprised! But, if you are happy with what you have, then keep it. Here is a contact name for a person who may be able to help you should you choose to shop your policy around: Servicing our Major Projects, DiBuduo & DeFendis Insurance Brokers, LLC. Ask for Jim Wood at 1-800-284-8247.

Now, let's go on to the next subject: Directors and Officers Insurance (aka D&O insurance). I get asked all the time if Grand Lodge provides D&O and the answer is still the same – NO. What they will do is to refer you to CHUBB Insurance who is familiar with our organization and they will gladly give you a quote. Keep in mind that D&O is based on your "Gross Income," so have those figures available. Your next question might be: "Do I have to go with CHUBB?" The answer is NO. You can shop any of your local insurance providers and, if you need a reference, start with the ones that advertise Liability Insurance. Each year, in the annual reports received by the District Deputies and the Area Seven Auditors, it seems that there are sixteen to eighteen Lodges in the Association that report that they DO NOT have D&O insurance. California is still a very litigious state, and even if you have never had a problem in the past, it is one of those areas that beg the question "Not will it happen, but when will it happen." It is sad that we have to live that way but, as stated above, "Life Goes On."

Some last words of wisdom: Safety" is the job of all members. Let's protect ourselves and our guests, as sometimes we are our own worst enemies.

Pittsburg Elks Lodge No. 1474 BBQs for charity

On August 18th, some members of the Pittsburg Elks Lodge No. 1474 traveled over 100 miles to the small community of West Point, which is located in Calaveras County, CA. They went there to support the local VFW and to prepare a BBQ feast that would not only help the VFW with their community activity, but would generate some income for the Major Project. This is an annual event for the Pittsburg Lodge and they raised \$576 for the Major Project through the BBQ this year.

Mt. Shasta Elks Lodge No. 2333 receives Purple Pig donation from HS student

A Mt. Shasta High School graduate, Danielle Bridwell presented Wes Anderson, a Lodge member, with a donation for the Elks Major Project. Danielle raised the money as her high school senior project. She made a quilt and sold raffle tickets throughout the community. She presented her donation during a Lodge dinner that was attended by many other visiting Elks. The funds were forwarded to CHEMPI.

Palo Alto Elks Lodge No. 1471 never forgets our hospitalized veterans

The Palo Alto Elks Lodge No. 1471 never forgets our hospitalized veterans. This article mentions a few of the activities that were sponsored by the Lodge since last summer. The Lodge provides services for the veterans several times each year. These events take place at the Lodge facility or at the Veterans Administration hospital facility in Palo Alto.

Late last summer, the Lodge entertained over 45 patients from the Palo Alto Veterans Administration Hospital at a barbecue at the Lodge. They arrived in three VA Hospital buses. The veterans were from the Spinal Cord Injury unit, the Traumatic Brain Injury ward, the Poly-trauma Ward, the Western Blind Center and the PTSD group. They were seated with a view of the Lodge swimming pool and watched the lodge members and their families enjoying the pool and sunny weather. All the veterans ate heartily and enjoyed their time away from the hospital grounds. Some took "doggy bags" of food for their bedridden friends back at the hospital. This was the second barbeque of the summer and another one is planned before fall weather arrives.

In other news, the Lodge conducted a bingo game at the hospital. Twenty-nine veterans and their families played. The veterans were from the Spinal Cord Injury unit, the Poly-trauma ward, the Traumatic Brain injury ward and the Fisher house. Bedridden veterans had committee members playing as surrogates for them. Winners received canteen scrip books. Door prizes included watches, clocks, T-shirts and other small items. The Lodge's Veterans Committee holds a bingo game at the VA hospital every month except December when they give out Christmas bags to the Veterans.

In other news, the Lodge donates paperback books to the hospital every month. The books are publicly displayed in a kiosk at the hospital. The veterans and their families can select whatever books they want from the kiosk at no charge. Over a thousand books and magazines are donated by the Lodge each year. All of them are labeled with a note stating that the book is from the Palo Alto Elks Lodge Veterans Committee.



Van Nuys-Reseda Elks Lodge No. 2790 treats veterans to a fish-fry

The Van Nuys-Reseda Elks Lodge No. 2790 welcomed 54 veterans from the Sepulveda Veterans Administration Hospital to their Lodge to enjoy dinner at the Lodge's monthly fish-fry. Some outpatients came by city bus or used their own transportation. A number of Lodge members joined them for the meal. Our Junior Antlers were on hand to serve, attend to their needs and bring them coffee, water and dessert. The menu consisted of a generous portion of fried fish, BBQ'd chicken, french fries, cole slaw, garlic bread and pudding and cookies for dessert. Mike Gaglio, Loyal Knight, and Gus Stevenson, a veteran who brought his own harmonica, entertained the diners throughout the event. This is the third such dinner at our Lodge for the Sepulveda VA Vets this year. They thoroughly enjoyed the food and entertainment and appreciated the opportunity to take some time away from the hospital environment.

Elks National Foundation

By Debbie Hosted

CHEA Elks National Foundation Chairman



How proud I am to be an Elk in the California-Hawaii Elks Association! Every year, YOU, the members of our Association, stay true to our commitment to donate to our charitable programs and help the members of our communities to grow and prosper.

I encouraged my District Chairmen, your Vice Presidents and DDGER's to push for additional ENF donations from each of the Lodges, with a goal to surpass last year's total that was collected up to and including the Mid-Term Conference. In November 2011, by the Saturday night ENF dinner, the money recorded was \$466,742.05, for an Association per-capita donation of \$5.36.

In November 2012, with your help and your additional donations, the total money recorded was \$473,430.12, for an Association per-capita donation of \$5.493. This is an increase of \$11,204 and a \$0.133 per member increase in per-capita. You continue to amaze me with your generosity! Don't stop now – we have until the end of March to beat last year's overall total. I know we can accomplish that goal.

The top three Districts and Lodges (dollars):

- 1st Place District: West Central Coast (\$63,573.54)
- 2nd Place District: North Central (\$45,215.61)
- 3rd Place District: Orange Coast (\$39,262.01)
- 1st Place Lodge: Placerville No. 1712 (\$24,387.10)
- 2nd Place Lodge: Honolulu No. 616 (\$18,795.98)
- 3rd Place Lodge: Santa Maria No. 1538 (\$16,682.56)

The top three Districts and Lodges (per-capita):

- 1st Place District: San Gabriel Valley (\$8.718)
- 2nd Place District: North Central (\$8.707)
- 3rd Place District: Metropolitan District (\$7.498)
- 1st Place Lodge: Placerville No. 1712 (\$43.24)
- 2nd Place Lodge: Oxnard No. 1443 (\$22.45)
- 3rd Place Lodge: Poway No. 2543 (\$20.66)

Remember - as soon as your Lodge meets the Grand Exalted Ruler's goal of \$4.50 per capita, you can apply for your \$2,000 Gratitude Grant to use for projects in your communities.

I issued a challenge at the Conference – the District that signs up the highest number of NEW recurring donors for the ENF will receive a donation from me for their District up to \$100. It's easy to do – go online at www.elks.org/ENF under "Ways to give" – follow the prompts and become a recurring donor. You will receive an acknowledgement letter from the ENF that has a Fidelity Club sticker for your membership card at the bottom of the page. Currently, out of our 86,186 members, there are 127 recurring donors. I'd like to see a lot more members sign up for this easy way to donate.

If each of our members donates \$1 more than we did last year, we would have DOUBLE the per capita requested by the Grand Exalted Ruler – who is also a California-Hawaii Elks Association member. LET'S GO FOR IT!

Coalinga Elks Lodge No. 1613 helps youth baseball team

The Coalinga Elks Lodge No. 1613 learned that the Coalinga Middle School baseball team needed to raise money for equipment and supplies. The Lodge jumped right up and decided to help the team raise some money. The Lodge members sponsored a fish-fry dinner event that was dedicated to the collection of funds for the school. The Lodge members cooked and served 140 fish dinners at the event. It was a great success as it generated \$800 to help the team!

Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625 sponsors children's Halloween Party

On October 31st, the Lancaster Elks Lodge sponsored their annual Children's Halloween Party. A large festive community turn-out of parents and children enjoyed the various activities. This annual party welcomed assorted ghosts, cartoon characters, princesses and parents who were thrilled by a "life-like" haunted house with live performers and "creepy" sound effects.

Elk members, the ladies of Emblem Club No. 76, the Young Antlers and other volunteers, many in costume, delighted in assisting the children who were playing various games of skill and amusement. Hot dogs, hamburgers and refreshments were served as many families enjoyed the meal and break from "trick-or-treat" duties. The Lodge has enjoyed hosting this fun-filled event for over 40 years, thanks to great community enthusiasm and so many Elks, youth and other volunteers.



Salinas Elks Lodge No. 614 and the WCD supports "Wounded Warriors"

On September 7, 2012 the Salinas Elks Lodge No. 614 had the honor and pleasure to host Scott King, president and founder of "Remember the Wounded Ride, Inc.." This is a non-profit organization dedicated to assisting wounded American combat veterans and their families. Scott was a Corporal in the United States Marine Corps. His passion is helping our nation's wounded veterans. Two years ago, he embarked on a cross-country bicycle trip to raise awareness for wounded veterans. Scott visited over 46 states and logged over 14,000 miles. Many of you met Scott during his ride because he visited a lot of Elks Lodges. His trip added over \$40,000 to his fund. Scott said that 98% of the money came from caring, sharing Elks!

He happened to arrive in Salinas on the day of our monthly "Rib Night." We provided him with dinner and a hotel room for that night. Several of our generous Elks donated money directly to Scott that evening. The next day, Scott rode to the San Jose Elks Lodge No. 522, where a motel room was provided. He was also treated to dinner that day at nearby Santa Clara Elks Lodge No. 2347. All three Lodges are part of the West Central District.

On September 27, 2012 at approximately 3:15 p.m. Scott completed his bike ride in Salem, Oregon. He was greeted by the Oregon Secretary of Veterans Affairs and received an American Flag on behalf of the Governor of Oregon.

Scott's home Lodge is the Portland Elks Lodge No. 142. You can read about his experiences and conversations with other veterans in "America's Heroes: Untold Stories of Honor, Courage, and Sacrifice."

14 THE CALIFORNIA-HAWAII ELK

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Millennium Plus (\$10,000) Silver Pig Level Donors (August 1, 2012 - November 30, 2012)

Donor	Lodge
Joe & Liz Cenoz	1538

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Millennium Plus (\$2,000) Purple Pig Level Donors (August 1, 2012 - November 30, 2012)

Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge
Art Echternacht	794	James W. "Jim" Taylor	1378	Billy Watson	1643	Kathleen Murray	2013
Greg Brittner	1289	Mike Tharp	1419	Gerry Gouveia	1811	James Rutherford	2095

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Millennium Club (\$1,000) Donors (August 1, 2012 - November 30, 2012)

Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge
Pat Gandolfi	168	Don Checchi	906	Joe & Liz Cenoz (3)	1538	Richard Green	1993
Helen Montanye	439	Earl Conro	1259	Sandra Brown-Rotell	1625	Jeffie Moffet	2103
Marjorie Walsh	559	James Collins	1285	Stanley B. Malkin	1767	Fred Altstadt	2347
James "Jim" Mayne	614	Dr. Carroll "Bud" Hall	1285	Ronald F. Hirzel	1787	Mike Parsons	2599
Eva E. Mino	836	Joe Mendicina	1289	Gerry Gouveia (3)	1811	Philip Otterbeck	2655
Faygie Colton	888	Albert D. Fredrickson	1328	Benjamin Verde	1905	Pete Recatto	2801

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Century Club (\$100) Donors (August 1, 2012 - November 30, 2012)

Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge
Tina Shakour	3	Gary Eisenbeisz	836	Gary Fishell	1289	Ralph Garcia	1613
Gary Marinelli	168	Kenneth Gunn	836	Charles Follett	1289	Hollis Green	1613
Carol Carson	218	Earl Hively	836	Dick Hill	1289	Gary Kerr	1613
Jack Guthrie (2)	218	Elliott Livingston	836	Karl & Maria La Masa	1289	Pam Pica	1613
Ed Haffner	218	Eva Mino	836	Ken Lewis (2)	1289	Oren Richardson (2)	1613
Margaret Lockhart	218	Carl Morrow	836	Jimmy Martin	1289	Ken Smith	1613
Juanita McDaniel	266	Paul Ohlms	836	Joe Mendicina (7)	1289	Sandy Brown-Rotell	1625
Debbie Irish	322	Richard Rios	836	Norman Berry	1298	Brothers & Sisters of Indio Elks Lodge	1643
Al Mestressat (3)	522	Jerry Rucker	836	Julie Burger	1298	Glenn Miller	1643
Marian Wood	559	San Bernardino Emblem Club	836	Dale Fugate	1298	Tuesday Lunch Group	1643
Bob & Kathy Adams	583	Jerry Vanadestine	836	Paul Gorley	1298	Billy & Gwynn Watson	1643
James Brinker	583	Faygie Colton	888	Richard Humphrey	1298	Bob Gonzales	1691
Dennis & Teresa DeSanti	583	Tom Mathers	901	Dennis Lipson (2)	1298	Sandy Hoffman-Prior	1691
Dennis DeSanti (3)	583	Debbie Smith	901	Rusty Nelson	1298	John R. Nelson	1691
Rick Dombrowski	583	Raymond Volker	901	Scott Reeder	1298	Janice Sutherland	1691
Hennings Quality Service	583	Bingo Buddies (3)	1015	Fred Scott	1298	Rick Sutherland	1691
Redlands Rovers (2)	583	Norma Carey	1015	Jim Campbell	1328	Tom Alexander	1712
David & Cladie Williford	583	Red Solo Bus Group	1015	Al Fredrickson (2)	1328	Glen Croft	1712
Robert Spinner	613	James Saulovich	1015	Nancy Monreal (5)	1328	Fred Degregory	1712
Ben Hanly	614	Marilyn Zecher	1015	Howard McDonell	1342	William Eisen	1712
Jean Long	614	Susan Albertoni	1240	Dennis Shaffer	1342	Tom Goettsch	1712
Carlos Rios	614	Randy Brower	1240	Ron Shiers	1342	Dick Henderson	1712
Mary Jane Rogers	614	Dave Wells	1240	John Green	1378	Deni Morgan	1712
Dave Selvy	614	Richard Carstens (4)	1250	Jim Taylor	1378	Frank Perez	1712
John Treyford	614	Irving Duffaut	1250	Joyce Taylor (2)	1378	David Smythe	1712
Barry Wilson	614	Tom Ramsey	1250	Eugene Baxter (3)	1419	James Saulnier	1740
L. Wayne Bennett	616	Mike McGee	1258	Dick Bushman	1419	Mel West	1740
Nancy Emerson	616	Beverly Felipe	1259	Robert Casaletti	1419	Marc Mejia	1761
Matthew Goodman (2)	616	Stan Felipe	1259	Ontario Lodge No. 1419	1419	Louis Pandol	1761
Lawrence Grasse (2)	616	Norman VanBeek	1259	Robert Sorrells	1419	Dick Pence	1786
Robert Kauhane	616	John Wheeler	1259	Michael Tharp	1419	Jean Bruechle	1787
Norman Kauwe	616	Alvin Baudour	1285	Robert Hollis-Brau	1427	Jan Carrere	1787
Robert J. Lee (4)	616	Emilio Cal, Jr.	1285	Bill Sproul	1436	Ronald F. Hirzel	1787
Paul Lewis	616	Angela Cardinali	1285	Dr. Clark Atkinson (2)	1471	Blythe Golf Scramble Players (4)	1799
David Oberheu	616	Herbert Coffey	1285	Ann Morey	1471	Robin Wellman & Rande Sederstrom (2)	1799
Troy Pennington	616	James Collins	1285	Les Edelman	1474	Ruth Reeves (3)	1811
Francis Quinn	616	Louise Cutino	1285	Richard Enea	1474	Walnut Creek Cruisers	1811
Keith Williams	616	Bruce Gordon	1285	Neal Essary	1474	Darrell Webb	1811
Peggy Brauner	643	Melvin Loop	1285	Sandra Gargas	1474	Robert Wilson	1811
Carole Fajardo	643	June Michel	1285	Newton King	1474	Gerald Buckner	1812
Martha Hall (2)	643	Joan Michele	1285	Joe & Liz Cenoz (4)	1538	Bill Brotherton	1839
Berkley Kaufhold	643	Joanne Millard	1285	Jerry Grant	1539	Tom Hargreaves	1839
James Lenon III	643	Doris Milligan	1285	Cal Landreth	1539	Brian Morrissey	1839
Gerald Troxel	643	Monterey Line Dancers	1285	Robert Brandow (2)	1561	James Payne	1839
Bonnie Wadley (2)	643	Jacqueline Phillips	1285	Charles Coco, Jr.	1561	Bob Coyne	1905
Cliff Wadley	643	Marguerite Salomone	1285	Lynn DePaul	1561	Barbara Knox	1905
Priscilla Wardlow	672	Peter Seward	1285	Warren Downs	1561	Estelle Layton (2)	1905
Robert Arthurs	759	Sydney Tabler	1285	Emma Muir	1561	George & Estelle Layton	1905
Art Echternacht (3)	794	Rose Marie Tantillo	1285	Michael Bernal	1567	Joseph Lyman	1905
Margaret Dow (4)	824	Howard Tsuchiya	1285	Norman Bracco (2)	1567	Jack McSweeney	1905
Ken Murphy (5)	824	Anthony Vierra	1285	Reggie Bravo	1567	Donald Rice	1905
Leslie Yeffa	824	Robert Wekerle	1285	Joyce Hertl	1567	Carol Richardson	1905
Beth Alexander	836	Rick Adams	1289	Steven Mayne	1567	George Rowan	1905
John Branton	836	Bob Beggs	1289	Pam Rhoten	1567	George Sutton	1905
Robert Cones	836	Greg Brittner (4)	1289	Wayne Rhoten	1567		
Peggy Cranford	836	Roseann Dalton	1289	Johnny Bonilla	1613		

Continued on Page 15

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Century Club (\$100) Donors (Continued from Page 14)

Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge
Melvin McCubbin	1913	Larry Smith	2121	Ed Grapespacher	2504	Chris Seifert	2599
Nelson Burke	1952	Frank Gippetti	2128	Jody Hamstrom	2504	Johnnie Skinner	2599
Bernard Caughlin	1952	Richard Anderson	2230	Ladies of The Elks (2)	2504	Mitchell Cohen	2638
Nancy Caughlin	1952	Joyce Cekada Dietz	2230	Ken Nelson	2504	Jerome Glodowski	2638
Joe Delaluz	1952	Matthew Dinic	2230	James Owen	2504	El Rancho Market (2)	2640
Robert Griffith (2)	1952	Richard Dow	2230	Glen Werling, Jr.	2504	Joseph Nau	2646
Roy Hartzell	1952	Vic Freeland	2230	A.J. Yates	2504	Joel Hill	2655
Ed Irvin	1952	Ed Humphrey	2230	Richard Barcellos	2510	Philip Otterbeck	2655
Antoine Randall	1952	Betty Kemp	2230	Ray Gomes (2)	2510	Otto Rossi	2655
Mike Seely	1952	William "Bill" Lee	2230	Cookie Rendon	2510	Binney Carter	2698
David Skelton	1952	Paul Lubomirski	2230	Richard Brown	2543	Frank Darling	2698
Ralph Vogel	1952	Dominic Meditz	2230	Erika DeSantis	2543	Leah Gergal	2698
Zaven Kulajian	1959	Ray Monmaney	2230	Bernard Duddy	2543	Michael Jackson	2698
Bill Whitmore	1959	Carl Romero	2230	Kevin Farrell	2543	Robert Mehring	2698
Vista Lodge Social Quarters	1968	John Steslow	2230	Joan Haugen (3)	2543	Santee-Lakeside Elks Lodge No. 2698	2698
Richard Green (5)	1993	Michael Sullivan	2230	Bill James	2543	Suzie Mercadante	2698
Sunday Brunch Bunch	1993	Wallace Teves	2230	Paul Kassel	2543	Troy Montgomery (2)	2698
John Lopez	1996	Herb Weatherwax	2230	Al Larson	2543	Jeri White	2698
Patrick O'Keefe	2013	Laurie Duncan	2274	Marty Moore	2543	Theresa Wild	2698
Ron LeVar (2)	2020	Robert Schrum (2)	2274	Moon Rash	2543	Michael Asher	2704
Henri Brachais	2026	Anthony Davis	2314	Dennis Rasmussen	2543	Debbe Blake (2)	2704
Tom Drake	2026	John Lieser	2314	Gene Saffell	2543	Arnold "Buzz" Bussard	2704
Major Price	2026	Helen Ward	2314	Rick Sanchez	2543	Carl Dandy	2704
Robert Wallen	2026	Darel Barham	2333	Michele Thomas (2)	2543	Barry Johnson	2704
Suzanne Masciana	2027	Ronald Kern & Janice Trombetta	2333	Ann Tidwell	2543	Lakeport Elks Lodge No. 2704	2704
Melba VanPelt	2027	Michael Fitzpatrick	2346	Ron Warner	2543	Walter Neumann (2)	2704
Bud Halford	2031	Fred Altstadt	2347	Angela Welsh (2)	2543	Charlie Pikas	2704
Maureen Nerio	2045	Don Sirena	2347	Phil Morrison	2577	Patricia Powell	2704
David Bakke	2046	Margaret Sirena	2347	Dee Hetland	2591	Robert Radke	2704
Sylvia Thoma	2050	Kern River Valley Elks Lodge No. 2358	2358	Lake Elsinore Lodge Social Quarters	2591	Arda Sundstrom (2)	2704
William "Bill" Ray (2)	2068	Robert Adkins	2389	Oren's Sparks	2591	Beverly Bowlus	2724
Robert Corazza	2095	Ladies & Lads of the Elks (2)	2389	Joe Penwell (2)	2591	Greg Mueller	2724
La Habra Elks Past Exalted Rulers Assn.	2095	Robert Yoast	2389	Joe & Gayle Penwell	2591	Bruce Troe	2790
James Rutherford	2095	Reino Hilden	2477	Larry Adams	2599	Thomas Jay Coyne	2801
Jeffie Moffet (10)	2103	David Naccarato	2477	David Cross	2599	Diane Farrens (3)	2801
Lawrence Pequet	2103	Thousand Oaks Lodge No. 2477	2477	Jim East (2)	2599	Robert Farrens (3)	2801
Helena Scherrer	2103	Lou Dulay, Sr.	2484	Lori East (2)	2599	Peter Fiori (2)	2801
William Burtle	2117	Helen Biery (2)	2504	Bill Hall (3)	2599	Tom Jensen	2801
Al Rizotto	2121	Shirmey Colwell	2504	Lee Melton	2599	Robert Johnson	2801
Debbie Rizotto	2121	Barbara Cooper	2504	Keith Nilmeier (6)	2599	Peter Recatto	2801
Jolene Smith	2121	Melvin Fitzhenry	2504	Gary Pitts	2599	James Thomas (2)	2801

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Recurring Donors

Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge
Marilyn Hooton	6	Jerome Paul	672	William "Bill" O'Hearn	1952	Cynthia "Cindy" Wise	2011
Pat Gandolfi	168	Jerry Hansen	901	Laurie Ayala	2011	William G. Williford	2103
Kathleen Kuttler	168	Donald Checchi	906	Martin Barros	2011	Terry Gicking	2477
Karen Lake	168	James Ferris	1378	Janet L. Byrd	2011	Cynthia Kassel	2543
Gary Marinelli	168	Dennis Linsley	1474	Phillip W. Byrd	2011	Paul Kassel	2543
Margaret "Peg" McDonald	168	Kathleen Linsley	1474	Debbie Hosted	2011	Neal D. Wagerle	2591
Glenn Montague	168	Amanda Smith	1475	Ashley Munoz	2011	Dave Hosted	2698
Chuck Nolan	168	Edward C. Johnson	1811	Rebecca Munoz	2011	Lance Erickson	2733
Hugh Van Doren	168	Drew Evans	1877	David Plotke	2011		

Mission Viejo/Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 hosts senior charity dance

The Mission Viejo/Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 subsidized and hosted their Fall Dinner Dance for 128 seniors. The seniors filled the dance floor to the music of Wayne Pulcini - rock, swing, waltz and line dancing. The \$7.00 per-person event fee proceeds were donated to the Norman P. Murray Community Center.

Senior guests were greeted by Community Center Recreation Coordinator Linda Teichmann and Lodge volunteers George and Ruth Cleaver and Gloria LeCouvre (Past Exalted Ruler) who also sold raffle tickets. The raffle proceeds were also donated to the Community Center. The Elks members who decorated the tables in fall-colored flower arrangements of black toppers with gold napkins were: Laura Lumley, Phyllis Booze, Carol and Jim Glover, Sandy and Jack Jacobs, Walter Root and Bob Schmidt. The dinner of Chicken Kiev, Garlic Mashed

Potatoes, and Broccoli with Hollandaise Sauce, Orange Sesame Salad and Halloween decorated cakes for dessert was created by Lodge volunteers Clint McDonald (crew chief), John Dulles, Bonnie Hinea, Herb Kalkosh and Ron Basolino. Girls from the Laguna Hills High School Lacrosse Soccer team, and their coach, Rick Hart, served the dinner and received a \$150 donation from the Lodge.

The event Chairperson was Lecturing Knight Camacho Alvarez, who said, "The Elks Lodge members are pleased to hold these events that serve our Saddleback Valley communities. It was great to see so many seniors enjoy themselves amongst their friends. Having fun at the Elks Lodge has no age limit."

Santa Clara Elks Lodge No. 2347 donates school supplies

Last year, the Santa Clara Elks Lodge No. 2347 visited Scott Lane Elementary School. Scott Lane is in the Lodge's neighborhood and has a large number of socio-economically disadvantaged students. The Lodge donated supplies valued at over \$300 to the school. The supplies included photocopier paper, pencils, and post-it notes. A mini-presentation ceremony was held in the school library, attended by the Santa Clara School Superintendent, the Principal of Scott Lane Elementary, and eight students. The Lodge used part of their 2011-2012 ENF Promise Grant to purchase these supplies.

In other news, last year the Lodge hosted a 25th anniversary reunion event for Companion Animal Rescue Effort (C.A.R.E.) of San Jose (see www.carepets.org). This rescue organization is a well-known, all-volunteer, non-profit animal rescue organization that is funded solely by generous donations from those who adopt dogs from them, community members and local businesses. The organization accepts unwanted or otherwise abandoned dogs of all ages from San Francisco Bay Area humane societies, animal shelters, and the general public. These dogs are taken into their foster home care program where they receive quality nutrition, veterinary care and love and attention until they're adopted out into loving homes. Their current set of foster parents saved over 3,300 dogs during their years of volunteering. At the reunion, there were 120 former adopters, foster care givers, other volunteers, C.A.R.E. vendors and friends. Also in attendance were 58 lucky dogs that had been adopted. As Elks, we felt proud to have had this event at our Lodge.



L to R (back row): Dr. Bobbie Plough (School District Superintendent), Melissa Alatorre Alnas (Scott Lane Principal), Stuart Sampson (Lodge member), Jeanne Ontiveros (Lodge Office Assistant), and students.

Oceanside Elks Lodge No. 1561 visits hospitalized veterans

On September 24th, the Oceanside Elks Lodge No. 1561 conducted a visitation at the Veterans Administration Hospital in La Jolla, CA. We played Bingo with the hospitalized veterans, gave out various goodie bags, and an assortment of clothes and toiletries. Thank you to our veterans who served us!

Fullerton Elks Lodge No. 1993 delivers dinners to firemen

On 9/11/12, a group of thirteen men and women from the Fullerton Elks Lodge assembled and delivered cooked dinners to 63 fire fighters on duty at the Fullerton Fire Station. The dinner visitation required covering the fire stations in three cities: six in Fullerton, four in Brea and two in Placentia. The firemen were most grateful to receive the prepared dinners. There was time to talk about the cohesion of crews and how well prepared they are in each of the cities. From the visiting Elks there was much to say about how all the firemen are adored by the community, and how these public servants of safety are ready and prompt to face danger. We citizens owe a great thanks to our firemen, both men and women, who are at the front daily helping us to be safe. This is the fourth successive occasion of our Lodge bringing dinner to the fire fighters on 9/11.



(L-R) Jeff Silver (Eng.), Erick Bennett (FF), Captain. Ben Garrett, Dan Casey (PER), Ismael Maturino (FF)

Petaluma Elks Lodge No. 901 assists veterans with ENF Freedom Grant

The Petaluma Elks Lodge No. 901 is using an Elks National Foundation "Freedom Grant" to purchase a new refrigerator for the "Rocca House" which is located on Rocca Way in Petaluma. This home is a transitional home for local veterans. It is managed by the North Bay Veterans Resource Center. The Center places qualified veterans in a two-year program that helps them get their lives back on track. The veterans are provided with food, housing, job training and job placement. The home is set up to house eight veterans who are at different stages in the program. The Lodge also purchased and installed an American Flag on the property.

Another portion of our Freedom Grant was sponsoring a packaging distribution center for the Moms of Military Service on their project called "Comforts from Home." The event was held at the Lodge on November 5th. Working together with the group, the Lodge floor was set up to accept donations that were collected from all over Sonoma County which were destined for our active military personnel overseas. Thirty-nine "Moms" and 34 Elk volunteers packed the donated items into boxes and labeled them for shipment overseas. Also on hand to assist were members from our own Boy Scout Troop 2. Dictionaries purchased by the Dictionary Project and Drug Awareness Program materials were also put on display as information to the project members. To help make the time go by, musical entertainment was provided at no cost by a true patriot, and close friend of the Lodge, Charley Baker. When the last box was packed, the Lodge held a dinner for each and every project member.

Scholarship

By Jan Bennett, CHEA Scholarship Vice Chairman



Scholarships – We Still Have Money to Award!

This is the busiest season for your Lodge's Scholarship Committee. The Most Valuable Student applications have already been turned in and are in the judging process, but we still have more scholarship opportunities!!

Vocational Grants are Still Available!

Do you know a person who needs help to attend occupational or technical training? It could be anyone trying to get into the job market – an older person who needs retraining or a young person just getting started. This year, the California – Hawaii Elks Association can award up to 56 Vocational Grants of \$1,000. The grants are for one year, with an option to renew for one additional year. Applicants must be planning to attend an eligible vocational or technical course above the high school level. The purpose of the grant is to enable students to become employable with two years (or less) of study. A high school diploma or GED is not required. These grants are available to any American citizen who requires training or retraining to compete in the workplace. The grant, which is paid to the school, may be used for tuition and fees, room and board, if living on campus, and books and supplies. The Vocational Grant applications and specific information may be downloaded at www.chea-elks.org (click on "Youth Activities" at the top of the screen, select "Scholarships" and arrow down to "Vocational Grants"). Your Lodge can accept these applications all year long.

It's Not Too Late for Legacy Awards!

The children and grandchildren of Elk members are eligible to apply for ENF Legacy Awards. The deadline is Feb. 1, 2013, and applications are online at www.elks.org/enf/scholars. These scholarships are \$1,000 per year for 4 years and students compete against the other applicants from their state.

Using these programs is a good way to let other people know about Elkdom and our many youth and community oriented programs. Let's make sure that we have enough applicants to use the funds that have been so generously raised and contributed by our Elk members.

Twentynine Palms Elks Lodge No. 2134 donates to Youth Athletic Federation

Kathy Clark, Secretary of Twentynine Palms Elks Lodge No. 2134, presented Sheriff's Service Specialist, Anita Baker, a check for \$150 for use by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Youth Athletic Federation.

The SBC YAF organization has supported the following programs for over 23 years: a Child Safety/Crime Prevention yearbook to support Challenged Athletes Foundation, Option House Crisis Intervention Shelter, San Bernardino Sexual Assault Crisis and Prevention Services, Lighthouse for the Blind and SBC's Gift of Love Program and more. "What you do really does make a difference," says the Project Coordinator, Mike Taylor.

Monterey Elks Lodge No. 1285 hosted homeless veterans on Veterans Day

The Monterey Elks Lodge No. 1285 hosted a Veterans Day lunch for 120 people, half of which were veterans, including 35 homeless veterans from the Monterey Veterans Transition Center. The Lodge's National Veterans Service Committee coordinated the colorful event that included an apple pie baking contest with a \$50 prize and keynote speaker Monterey County District Attorney Dean Flippo. The event was also a fund-raiser. All funds which were generated will be used to purchase Christmas presents for the children of homeless veterans.

Lodi Elks Lodge No. 1900 helps girls basketball team

The Lodi Elks Lodge No. 1900 donated the use of their Lodge facilities on Nov. 10th to help raise funds for uniforms for the Lodi High School Girl's Basketball team. Billy Bird, a Lodge member, helped organize the event. Other Lodge members who volunteered to cook and set up were: Norman Gaskell, Nuel and Suzanne Henderson, Mike Dugan, Nancy Politano and Mel Mayer. The students did a wonderful job acquiring and organizing the raffle items that were donated from various businesses and family members.

In other news, the Lodge sponsored a Drug Awareness booth at the Lodi Street Fair on October 7th. The Elk volunteers were able to get over 180 children's signatures to commit to remain drug free. They also passed out 200 bags full of goodies with coloring books, all tied with a "Drugs don't fly with Elks" logo balloon. The Lodge also held an ENF fundraising event "Oktoberfest" on October 13th. Dick Griffith, PER, and his wife Marsha, were the chairpersons of the event, and they did a great job. The delicious German dinner was prepared by Ken and Gaby Libhart, Bob and Irmgard Owen, Don and Carol DelaRiva and Peter Hecker. A hard core group of dancers put the music of Dallas Knapp, volunteer member, to good use. The event generated \$2,000 for the Elks National Foundation.



Kneeling (L to R): Taylor Brooks, Dezy Garza and Morgan Walding

Center (L to R): Taylor Barjs, Macy Barajs, Taylor Brand, Grace Kuehne, Kendall Richardson, Katie Koinzon, Kelley O'Connor and coach Jim Stahl

Back row (L to R): Connie Marion, Jordon Heath, coach Cal Krienke, Sydnea Sousa, Gianna Matgigliano and Jillian McDaniel

Modesto Elks Lodge No. 1282's young Antlers help youth

The Modesto Elks Lodge's "Antlers" youth group recently used the Lodge's ENF Gratitude Grant to purchase and deliver supplies and dictionaries to approximately 670 students (K-6) at Modesto's Burbank Elementary School, and backpacks to the Stanislaus County Office of Education's "Operation Backpack" which collects backpacks and supplies for homeless students throughout the county.

In other news, the Lodge sponsors and supports Girl Scout Troop 9534. On August 31, 2012 the Lodge held a Bridging Ceremony for the parents and families of the Troop, and presented a check for \$180 collected from a fundraiser earlier this year. We offer many thanks to our partners at Pampered Chef and the American Cancer Society for promoting this event and sharing in their interest of supporting our local youth.

Public Relations

By David L. Harris, CHEA Public Relations Chairman



TEBOW! TEBOW! TEBOW! For the last two years, this has been the chant that has captured the headlines of sports – and not only during the football season. There are Tebow sightings at the market, on the town, on the field, and at church. What makes this amazing is the fact everyone has an opinion about who he is, how he plays the game, his lack of sex life, and every other part of his life. You can say that you don't care, but, like a car wreck, we have to look.

This is Public Relations at its finest. He is a second year, back-up quarterback who is still not proven, yet he gets more attention than the majority of first-string quarterbacks, heck, even more than some teams in total. How did this happen? What is so special about Tebow?

When creating a good public relations piece or story, we must create a product that causes people to have an opinion. Tim puts everything on the table. He is a Christian and he takes a stand. He has decided to remain celibate until marriage. He, by all accounts, is a genuinely likeable individual. He built solid football credentials through high school and college. AND his PR person has made sure that everyone knows about it. He could run for the Senate and probably win (although I believe that there may be an age limit to qualify). The point is we all know who he is and what he does.

For us to develop a successful campaign for our Lodges, Districts, or Grand Lodge we must create a program that lets those outside of the choir know who we are. We have been successful within the Order, but many still do not know what we do as a charity organization. To many people, we are just a club – because members always start conversations about the benefits of belonging: i.e. cheap prices and the other amenities of their Lodge. We don't usually talk about the various community outreaches that we perform.

I have been talking with a few folks that are much more knowledgeable about the new tech formats that are available for us to “get the word out.” Those include writing a blog or using the other social media. Blogging is like this magazine you are reading, but much more widely accessible than just to our own members. I intend, by Mid-Term to be able to show you a format or a sample of a Blog. My goal is to create a State-wide blog to reach not only our members, but also those that see us on the internet. The blog will be about who we are, what we do, and why people should consider membership.

Instead of hearing “TEBOW! TEBOW!” maybe we will hear, “ELKS! ELKS!” I would like to hear your suggestions. My email is davidharris.elks@gmail.com.

Grass Valley Elks Lodge No. 538 honors a new Eagle Scout

Warren Zangara became the 12th Eagle Scout from Grass Valley Elks Lodge No. 538's sponsored Boy Scout Troop No. 21. Warren holds 26 Merit Badges. He has been involved with: Scout Expo 2010, Eskimo Run 2009 and 2010, Scout Sunday 2011 and Scouting for Food 2009, 2010, and 2011.

Warren's Eagle Scout Project was removing and replacing the roof on a very large storage shed at a local church. The church can now use their storage area as it no longer leaks.

In other news, the Lodge hosted 55 veterans and 65 others for a prime rib dinner at the Lodge on Veteran's Day. Most of the veterans were from the WWII and Korean eras. Representatives from all branches of the US military were present, including members of the United States Army Air Corps and the Navy Sea Bees. In addition, there were ten Lodge officers and members in attendance. The meal was prepared by the Lodge's Lady Elks.

San Mateo Elks Lodge No. 1112 Junior Antlers perform community service

In February, 2012 the San Mateo Elks Lodge No. 1112 initiated its first class of Junior Antlers. The Junior Antlers program offers the opportunity for local youth to engage with the Lodge as Junior Members with the goal of teaching leadership, organizational skills and patriotism. It is open to youth who are ten to twenty years of age. One key objective of the Junior Antlers program is for them to serve the local community. With that in mind, the Antlers chose to coordinate with the CHEA Major Project Preschool Vision Screening program to offer free professional vision testing to children.

On Saturday, September 29th, the Junior Antlers coordinated their first major community project – to offer free professional vision screening to children ages three to eight years old. Earlier, in their planning session, the Vision Screener had advised them that another Lodge was only able to deliver a total of 15 children for testing during her appointment window, but that she had the ability to screen up to 40 children within that time frame. The Antlers took up the challenge.

Through weeks of planning, which included garnering donations of treats for the kids from local businesses, including Powell's Candy Shoppe and Teacake Bakery, securing support from the San Mateo Police Cadets to offer fingerprinting to children, engaging the Police Action League to invite their families to participate, and contacting key local schools and organizations, the project was a complete success. The program provided the free vision testing service to 46 children during that day, provided fingerprinting to dozens of children and exposed over 50 families to the Lodge facility. Leeanne Cadwallader, the Certified Pediatric Vision Screener, was so impressed with the turnout that she is using the San Mateo Antlers' initiative as a model for other Lodges.

The kids ended the day with a tremendous sense of accomplishment and gratification that their effort had provided such a wonderful service to so many families. Great job Antlers!

Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 holds Flag retirement and veteran's appreciation

The Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 held a veteran appreciation and Flag Retirement event on November 4th. The veterans enjoyed a luncheon before the ceremonies began. PER Bill Sternberg conducted the ceremony. There were about 100 people attending the event, including 20 veterans from the Sepulveda Veterans and over 30 Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts from the Ventura County Council BSA.

The ceremony started with the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts presenting the American Flag and the MIA/POW flag. The Scouts also presented service flags for the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines, accompanied by an organist who played music for each branch of service.

The Lodge performed the Elks' Flag Retirement Ceremony, and, at the end of the ceremony, the veterans in attendance were given the privilege of retiring an American Flag. After the veterans had taken their turn, the Scouts were given the privilege of retiring a Flag. During the ceremony, a total of 47 service-worn Flags were retired. The day ended with an ice cream social for all.



On the Web?

The website is www.chea-elks.org
Then hit: Major Project/Bequests and Living Trusts.
Become a Benefactor for the
BLT Commitment Trust.

Richmond Elks Lodge No. 1251 hosts President Echternacht in community parade

Association President Art Echternacht and his First Lady Shirley concluded their Bay District visitation by joining the members of the Richmond Elks Lodge No. 1251 to participate in the annual "El Sobrante Stroll." Earlier that morning, the Lodge permitted members of the Boy Scouts of America to use their facility to host a "pancake breakfast" that generated money for their scouting activities. Several Elks from the Bay District came to the Lodge that Sunday morning to enjoy the breakfast, visit once more with Art and Shirley, and then watch them as they rode in the annual "El Sobrante Stroll" parade and community street fair. President Art and Shirley rode in a yellow Ford Mustang Mach driven by owners and Richmond Lodge members John and Barbara Vanek. Joining President Echternacht in the parade was CHEA Preschool Vision Screener Gina Murphy and Bay District VP Josh Hachadourian and his wife, Kristine.



Art and Shirley preparing to enter the parade route from the entrance to the Richmond Elks Lodge.

Fremont Elks Lodge No. 2121 makes a difference

The Fremont Elks Lodge No. 2121 had a busy October with community service events and projects. The Lodge invited area first responders as guests for the first Lodge brunch of the season. Almost 30 responders were able to participate. The group was comprised of EMTs and local police and fire departments.

On Halloween, several members prepared dinner for residents of Abode's Sunrise Village Emergency Shelter. The meal of ham with all the sides, and dessert of ice cream and homemade cookies was enjoyed by adults and families alike.

However, the biggest project that Lodge members undertook was on Saturday, October 27th, when we participated in the national "Make-A-Difference Day." The team included thirteen Lodge members and Elk friends who cleaned up a large yard for a Fremont resident who is in her 90's and is living in a 100-year-old family-built home. The team cleared a large backyard of brush, cut down or trimmed trees, removed ivy and cleaned flower beds. When the project was complete, a large dumpster had been filled with yard debris. Community service is major component of the Elks' commitment to the community.

Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 helps members, police and vets

The Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 held a pancake breakfast for a Lodge member's daughter and son-in-law, Mark Erkelens, who has bladder cancer and is struggling. The Lodge donated the food, facilities and volunteers for a three hour breakfast which netted \$3,030 for the family.

In other news, the Lodge had the opportunity to BBQ at the Simi Valley Police Station for the new Police Chief Mitch McCann. It was a meet and greet luncheon for approximately 177 people, sponsored by the Simi Valley Police Foundation that was held to introduce the new Chief to the Officers, their families and civilian employees of the Police Department. Tri-tip, chicken and chili beans pleased their palates. The Simi Valley Elks traveling BBQ crew did a great job and again showed that "Elks Care—Elks Share."

Simi Valley Elks hosted a dinner for Scott King (see the Salinas Elks Lodge article elsewhere in this issue). He is peddling his bicycle to the capitals of the lower 48 states to raise awareness and support for our combat wounded veterans and their families. Scott will travel 14,000 miles on his journey. Among the dinner guests were the ER, Lodge Officers, PERs, Lodge members and visiting veterans. A collection was made to Scott for his Wounded Warrior fund.



L to R: Lodge veterans Lee Giovanini, John D'Amico, Bob Paul, Scott King, Bill Mason and Mike Sugg

Escondido Elks Lodge No. 1687 hosts DAV seminar

The Escondido Elks Lodge No. 1687 recently hosted a seminar that was sponsored by the San Diego County Disabled American Veterans (DAV) organization. Over 100 veterans attended the event at the Lodge. The educational seminar ("Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents and Survivors") was conducted by National Service Officer Guy Anastasia. The seminar was two hours long, providing plenty of time for the attendees to ask questions, get informational pamphlets, and otherwise educate themselves about the benefits that are available to them from the Federal Government.

In other news, the "Blue Star Mothers of America," held their annual meeting at the Escondido Elks Lodge. The decorations were very patriotic and beautiful. There were many nice prizes to be won by the 100 people attending the event. The organization supports the mothers and families of the sons and daughters who are serving in our military. The Moms also support families who have lost a loved one while protecting our country. They also visit Wounded Warriors. Each year they hold their annual meeting at the Lodge.

Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672 honors Red Ribbon week poster contest winners

On October 24, 2012, the Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672 honored the Red Ribbon Week Poster winners from Pasadena Unified School District at a banquet. Each student from the third through fifth grade who placed 1st, 2nd, 3rd or Honorable Mention were given Visa gift cards for \$75, \$50, \$35 and \$25 respectively. The Lodge has worked with the School District for 25 years on this event and this year reached 7,000 students in the Elementary schools and another 17,000 students in High Schools through the poster contest and the distribution of pencils. Brochures were provided for all grade levels.

In other news, on November 6, 2012, the Lodge presented a \$2,000 check to Brenton Vamm of the Soldiers' Angels program. The funds were provided through an Elks National Foundation grant and were presented by PER Ken Jury. Soldiers' Angels provides various services to active servicemen and their families to assist them in many different areas of their lives.



Back row (L to R): Grace Borodovsky (Chairman and Lodge Chaplain), Thomas Lang (Exalted Ruler), Ann Rector, (Director of Health Services at Pasadena Unified School District)

Front row (L to R): Celeste Edell (3rd grade winner), Jonathan Perez (4th grade winner), Devon Andal (5th grade winner)

Hemet Elks Lodge No. 1740 gives school supplies to needy kids

Hemet Elks Lodge No. 1740 filled 85 backpacks with school supplies that were donated to "KinCare" kids. KinCare is a division of the California Family Life Center (CFLC) whose goal is to keep kids, whose lives have been disrupted (due to drugs, alcohol, crime, violence and abuse), in the family. More than five million children in the United States are being raised by their grandparents and many more are being cared for by extended family members. KinCare has helped almost 1,400 children and relatives in Riverside County this past year. Last year, we collected 35 backpacks, and were proud to give out another 85 this year. In addition to the back to school backpack program, the Lodge hosts an annual Christmas party, complete with Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus and lots of presents.

Merced Elks Lodge No. 1240 commences Dictionary Project

The Merced Elks Lodge No. 1240 is proud to announce that the Snelling Elementary School was the first school in the Merced County area to receive dictionaries as part of their Elks Youth programs. ER John Cale stated that Snelling is one of the most remote schools in the area and that it was a pleasure to provide them with the dictionaries. This project was a combined effort of PER Susan Burk and Association Vice President Dr. Donald Gumm. PER Burk stated that the vast amount of additional information contained in the dictionaries is outstanding. Zack Burrows, the third grade teacher agreed, the dictionaries are perfect and the children are happy to have a dictionary that they can call their own.



L to R: John Cale, Zack Burrows

Lake Elsinore/Wildomar Elks Lodge No. 2591 walks for CHEMPI

Lake Elsinore/Wildomar Elks Lodge No. 2591 held its annual Walkathon to raise funds for CHEMPI. Walkers, runners and bikers followed a two and a half mile route where various amounts of money were pledged for distances covered. The Lodge Camper Club had two RV's stationed along the route to provide water and sanitary facilities for participants. A total of \$1,200 was raised for the Major Project.