



The California-Hawaii

Elk

"Elks Care ~ Elks Share"



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

Volume 56, Number 4

July/August 2009

The 94th Annual Association Convention is a Resounding Success

The contemporary architecture of the Ontario Convention Center with its vaulted walls of glass was the venue for the recent California-Hawaii Elks Association convention. The throngs of Elks, spouses and their guests enjoyed an array of activities during the four day convention. From a golf tournament, the traditional Piggy Bank Walk-A-Thon, shopping trips, fine local dining, the chance to reacquaint ourselves with fellow Elks from the far reaches of California and the Hawaiian tropics, the delightful entertainment of Hawaiian hula dancers, to the First Ladies Luncheon, all had a very enjoyable time!

Jerry and Bonnie Rucker gazed wistfully over the crowd on Saturday as the rally began to celebrate Lee Karjola's entrance into the convention hall. While their year was coming to a close, they marveled over the accomplishments of our Association, and their hearts swelled with pride as they recalled their travels to each district in the Association joining "Jerry's Broadcasters" in the promotion of the activities of the Order.

The convention attendees celebrated the accomplishments of their lodges and districts over the previous twelve months, recognizing the efforts of their fellow Elks in promoting the Grand Lodge and CHEA programs which support our communities, our veterans, our youth and our membership.

The convention presented numerous opportunities for members to learn more about the business practices of Elkdom: suggestions on how to improve the management of a lodge and its club operations; discussions on a lodge's auditing, accounting and tax responsibilities; comments on the Grand Lodge Statutes; seminars on Bequests & Living Trusts, growing your Piggy Bank, and effectively managing membership growth and controlling lapsation.

It was a perfect blend of business and social activities. One highlight was the installation of the new Association Officers; other highlights were the remarks from the Grand Exalted Ruler, Paul Helsen, and the comments from PGERs Donald Dapelo, Ken Moore and Jim Grillo. The Presidents of the Arizona, Nevada and Utah Elks Associations made some brief remarks as well. We also listened to the Americanism Es-

say Contest winners, Tara Strachan and Kelli Griffith read their award-winning essays on "What Freedom Means To Me".

Of course, the Exalted Rulers March was the key event on Saturday morning. Debbie Hosted was so proud to give her report which was followed by the Piggy Bank March. The nineteen districts raised almost \$3M dollars for the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project! Lastly, but not least, was the presentation of the award to the Ritual Contest Champion Lodge, Garden Grove Elks Lodge No. 1952. In conclusion, please mark your calendars to plan on attending the 95th annual Association convention on May 12-15, 2010, in San Diego, CA. We look forward to seeing you there!



Jerry and Bonnie Rucker, outgoing Association President and First Lady

Gilroy Elks Lodge No. 1567 Awards Scholarships

On Wednesday May 6, 2009 Gilroy Elks Lodge No. 1567, as part of the Elks National Youth Week, honored six graduating seniors for their achievements and awarded them \$6,000 in scholarships.

Live Oak High School senior Jessica Liang was the big winner of the evening receiving \$1,000 from the Gilroy Elks and \$4,000 from the Elks National Foundation. Other recipients included: Live Oak High School seniors Travis Parsons, Aaron Persing, Marissa Campi and Morgan Coleman who all received a \$1,000 Scholarship from the Gilroy Elks and \$800

from the California-Hawaii Elks Association. Valley Christian High School senior Daniel Huffman from Morgan Hill also received a \$1,000 Gilroy Elks Scholarship as well as \$800 from the California-Hawaii Elks Association.

These students, their families and the Live Oak High School Scholarship Coordinator enjoyed dinner and the awards presentation as guests of the Gilroy Elks.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My fellow Elks Members:

It is indeed a great honor and singular privilege to be elected to serve you as President of the California-Hawaii Elks Association.



Sometimes, maybe once in a lifetime, we are lucky enough to know that our lives have been changed, and to discard the old and embrace a new immutable course. That course has become the Elks for my wife, Cindy, and me. The people we have met, the places we have seen, the opportunities we have been presented, cannot compare, or equal, the faith and confidence that you have bestowed upon Cindy and me as we continue our journey in Elkdom.

My first duty, as the California-Hawaii Elks Association President, is to express my thanks and sincere appreciation to all of you for the faith, trust, and confidence bestowed upon Cindy and me to serve and represent you in Elkdom. I pledge to you to fulfill the trust placed in me.

My motto this year is "Trust Elks To Achieve the Extraordinary". When one looks around at the extraordinary achievements we, as Elks, have obtained by caring and sharing with those less fortunate, you cannot help but conclude that Elks do achieve the extraordinary. The benefits received by those in need result from the trust that they have placed upon us, as Elks, to assist them in achieving their extraordinary goals.

As Cindy and I travel throughout California and Hawaii, we will have the opportunity to see what each Lodge is doing to ensure the success of our many Elks Programs. This year, I challenge you, as I challenge myself, to strive to be a better Elk in practicing the principals of Elkdom, promoting our charitable programs, maintaining our proud heritage of patriotism, supporting our Elks Major Project, and maintaining your Lodge's totality of Lodge Activities that will make your Lodge successful, resulting in and allowing the entire California-Hawaii Elks Association membership to reap the benefits of your success.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Leon A. Karjola

Leon A. Karjola, President
California-Hawaii Elks Association

Feed Your Purple Pig!



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

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Concourse Communications
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Clovis, CA 93612
www.concoursecomm.com

EDITOR

Ian Lanouette

PUBLISHER



Concourse Communications
1175 Shaw Avenue 104, PMB#304
Clovis, CA 93612
www.concoursecomm.com
Ph 559.322.2215
Fx 559.322.2219

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 Josh Serrano.....National Foundation
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 Debbie Hosted.....Piggy Bank
 Fred Bianchini.....Public Relations
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(California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc.)

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

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

Pomona Elks Lodge No. 2038 Supports Law Day

On May 1, 2009, six members of the Pomona Elks Lodge No. 2038 joined 25 Superior Court personnel in serving lunch to 100 5th graders following a mock trial performed by the students. The Superior Court personnel mentored these students who filled three courtrooms of Angeles Superior Court for "Law Day". The students heard testimony and then deliberated in the mock homicide trial of Roy L. Kingman, accused in the fatal fall of Humpty Dumpty. The trial followed a script that the students had rehearsed for several days. The trial ended with a hung jury.

After the trial, the students were taken on a tour which included the Judge's chambers and the juvenile lockup. After arriving at the (now unused) cafeteria, Judge Daniel Lopez quizzed the students on law issues and handed out stickers until 22 large pizzas, fruit juice and cookies arrived. The lunch was provided by the Elks. The students were very polite and well behaved - a marvelous group of youngsters who had an enriching "Law Day" experience!

Quincy Elks Lodge No. 1884 Celebrates Memorial Day

The Quincy Elks Lodge No. 1884 took part in the Memorial Day Weekend Ceremonies. Flags were placed in the two local cemeteries on Friday and struck on Monday evening. The Fourth Annual Plumas County Veteran's Memorial Ceremony was dedicated to Specialist Jeremiah McCleery. He was the first Plumas County casualty of Operation Iraqi Freedom. PER Kevin Correia, lead the Lodge Officers in the Elks Flag Ceremony. There were approximately 150 in attendance.

President's Upcoming Visitation Schedule

July 5-9, 2009
Grand Lodge Convention, Portland, OR

July 24-26, 2009
Northeast District

July 31-August 2, 2009
Orange Coast District

August 7-9, 2009
West Central Coast District

August 21-23, 2009
South Central District

Merced Elks Lodge No. 1240 Feeds “Relay for Life” Walkers

On Saturday, April 25, 2009, the members and families of the Merced Elks Lodge No. 1240 joined their “Young Elks” at Merced College to feed hundreds of individuals from the Merced area who were participating in the American Cancer Society’s “Relay for Life” program. This is the second year that the lodge has participated in this program by feeding the participants. The event takes place over a 24-hour period. Teams of walkers camp out at local high schools, parks, fairgrounds and the Merced College campus to walk/run around a track or path. Each team member takes turns so that there is a member of their team on the track at all times during the event. This event symbolizes the hope that people lost to cancer will never be forgotten, that those who face the disease have support, and to raise money for the American Cancer Society’s fight against cancer.

19 walkers from the Elks lodge participated, while other lodge members prepared salads, chicken, cookies and fruit for all 800+ participants. The Young Elks at the Merced College served the meals. The Merced Lodge’s team completed their relay along with 61 other teams. Well over \$160,000 was raised by this event for the American Cancer Society. The lodge is very proud of the large number of volunteers who donated their time, equipment and food to support this worthy cause that benefits the community and cancer victims everywhere.



Front – Left to Right: Gary Brady – Danny Banks. Back – Left to Right: Jim Gann – Jack Michelle – Joe Machado

Riverside Elks Lodge No. 643 Recognizes JROTC and Police Explorers

On April 30th, the Riverside Elks Lodge held its third annual Youth Awards Presentation. This annual event recognizes all Riverside Youth that participated in Lodge activities during the past year. Several groups were recognized for their participation – two of which are discussed here. Eight members of the Riverside Police Explorers were presented with certificates and a plaque in gratitude for their participation in the lodge’s Youth Fest Drug Awareness event for the past 2 years. Without their assistance in setting up and taking down “tons of equipment” the Youth Fests would not have gone off as smoothly as they did. The lodge thanks the RPD Explorers for all their hard work.

Six Junior ROTC cadet units in the greater Riverside area high schools were acknowledged. One senior and one freshman representing each of the six units were presented a plaque for his/her unit which read as follows: “FOR YOUR UNITS CONTINUING EFFORTS IN MOLDING OUR YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN INTO RESPONSIBLE AND HONORABLE LEADERS OF OUR NATION.” The Lodge Veterans Committee Chairperson, Nick Beers, presented the plaques.

Modesto Elks Lodge No. 1282 Donates Dictionaries

The Modesto Elks Lodge No. 1282 distributed 350 dictionaries to the local schools during the Youth Activities week in May. The dictionaries will be paid for by using an ENF Grant that will also subsidize the purchase of an additional 38 books for grades K-2. These additional books will be distributed during the “Read-In” at the end of May.



Exalted Ruler RaeLene Brown and Youth Activities Chair Lynn Johnson with excited students at Chrysler Elementary School in the Stanislaus Union School District.

Los Banos Elks Lodge No. 2510 Honors Students

On May 4th, 2009, Luise Parish (Lecturing Knight and Scholarship Chair) joined Exalted Ruler Richard Frontella (Americanism Chair) to hold a dinner in honor of the lodge’s Most Valuable Student Scholarship Contest winners, the “Frank Toscano Scholarship” winner and the Lodge’s Americanism Essay Contest winner. Ashley Souza won the 2nd Place Americanism Essay Contest award. The lodge’s MVS female winners were: Monica Silva (1st), Christy Bennett (2nd) and Ashley Valle-Arevalo (3rd). The lodge’s 3rd place male MVS winner was Joseph Maldonado. Jack Creighton and Steven Silva were each awarded the Lodge’s \$500.00 “Frank Toscano” Scholarship.



Front row, left to right: Luise Parish, Ashley Souza, Monica Silva, Christy Bennett, Ashley Valle-Arevalo, Joseph Maldonado, Richard Frontella. Back row, left to right: Jack Creighton, Steven Silva

Advisory Committee (Past Presidents)

*L.E. Chenoweth	Bakersfield	1913-14
*Hilliard E. Welch	Stockton	1914-15
*Dr. Ralph Hagan	Los Angeles	1915-16
*William M. Abbott, PGER	San Francisco	1916-17
*Harry M. Ticknor	Pasadena	1917-19
*James M. Shanley	Oakland	1919-20
*Charles Donlon	Santa Barbara	1920-21
*John D. Saxe	San Rafael	1921-22
*Richard C. Benbough	San Diego	1922-23
*Howard B. Kirtland	San Luis Obispo	1923-24
*Edgar F. Davis	Long Beach	1924-25
*John J. Lermen	San Francisco	1925-26
*Mifflin G. Potts	Pasadena	1926-27
*William E. Simpson	Fresno	1927-28
*John J. Doyle	Los Angeles	1928-29
*Fred B. Mellmann	Oakland	1929-30
*Horace S. Williamson	Redlands	1930-31
*F.E. Dayton	Salinas	1931-32
*Horace H. Quinby	Alhambra	1932-33
*J. Thomas Crowe	Tulare	1933-34
*Milton R. Standish	San Bernardino	1934-35
*George M. Smith	San Jose	1935-36
*L.A. "Fay" Lewis, PGER	Anaheim	1936-37
*C. Fenton Nichols	San Francisco	1937-38
*C.P. Hebenstreit	Huntington Park	1938-39
*Elmer B. Maze	Merced	1939-40
*Robert S. Redington	Los Angeles	1940-41
*Donald K. Quayle	Alameda	1941-42
*Newton M. Todd	Long Beach	1942-43
*Clifford C. Anglin	Richmond	1943-44
*Stephen A. Compas	Huntington Park	1944-45
*Horace R. Wisely, PGER	Salinas	1945-46
*R. Leonard Bush, PGER	Westchester	1946-47
*Earl J. Williams	Oakland	1947-48
*Morley H. Golden	San Diego	1948-49
*Robert J. Craine	Hanford	1949-50
*Ben W. Osterman	Santa Ana	1950-51
*John B. Morey, PGELK	Palo Alto	1951-52
*Vincent H. Grocott	Santa Barbara	1952-53
*Edward E. Keller	San Mateo	1953-54
*Robert P. Mohrbacker	Long Beach	1954-55
*Jim B. Nielsen, PGELK	Watsonville	1955-56
*Owen O. Keown	Santa Monica	1956-57
*John A. Raffetto	Auburn	1957-58
*Frank M. Linnell	Newport Harbor	1958-59
*Charles T. Reynolds	Vallejo	1959-60
*Guy A. Daniels	Redlands	1960-61
*Paul T. Wemple	Susanville	1961-63
*Vern R. Huck	Los Angeles	1963-64
*Henry J. Budde	San Francisco	1964-65
*Edgar Dale	Vallejo	Honorary
*Bruce H. Marsh	Inglewood	1965-66
*Gerald Strohm, PGER	Fresno	1966-67
*Marvin M. Lewis, PGER	Brawley	1967-68
*Norman S. Lien	Watsonville	1968-69
*Paul E. Haines	Pasadena	1969-70
*Ernest Olivieri	Sonora	1970-71
*Walter Schween, Jr.	Salinas	1971-72
*C. Wallace Erickson	Glendale	1972-73
*Yubi G. Separovich, PGELK	Sacramento	1973-74

Advisory Committee cont. (Past Presidents)

*Dan Davis	Van Nuys	1974-75
*Rev. Msgr. George Scott	San Pedro	Honorary
*James E. Spence, Jr.	Oakland	1975-76
*Marvin M. Pike, PGELK	Torrance	1976-77
*Donald W. Luce, PGELK	Richmond	1977-78
*Dr. Robert G. Robb	Garden Grove	1978-79
Donald D. Dapelo, PGER	Coalinga	1979-80
*William D. Brunner	Redondo Beach	1980-81
*Leland J. "Butch" Simas	Santa Maria	1981-82
Kenneth L. Moore, PGER	Corona	1982-83
Elmer L. Lanini, PGT	Salinas	1983-84
Robert J. McLain, PGELK	Pasadena	1984-85
Clifford E. Beatty	Chico	1985-86
Richard L. "Dick" Alves, PGEsq.	San Jose	1986-87
*Bernard E. McCune	Long Beach	1987-88
*Oscar W. Stutheit	Orange	Honorary
*R.E. "Bud" Cenis, PGELK	Bakersfield	1988-89
*Dr. Eugene P. Weigand, PGELK	Pasadena	1989-90
*Lynn Wood	Modesto	1990-91
William C. "Bill" Ijames, PGELK	Vista	1991-92
Richard E. Owen, PGELK	Santa Maria	1992-93
John A. Parker, PGT	Marysville	1993-94
Rex E. Dondlinger	Arcadia	1994-95
Anthony J. Mauro	Hollister	1995-96
Timothy C. Martin	San Bernardino	1996-97
Sim Nathan	Redding	1997-98
Frank G. Keller	Corona	1998-99
Louis J. "Jim" Grillo, PGER	Stockton	1999-00
John G. Holt	Burbank	2000-01
John M. Carvalho, Sr.	Sacramento	2001-02
H. Eugene Chambers	Needles	2002-03
Doug Larsen	Salinas	2003-04
Lee Northcutt, PGE	La Habra	2004-05
Roy R. Newman	Marysville	2005-06
James S. Mason	Gardena	2006-07
Oren Richardson	Coalinga	2007-08
Jerry Rucker	San Bernardino	2008-09
*Deceased		

Carmichael Elks Lodge No. 2103 Takes Kids to Ballgame

Carmichael Elks Lodge No. 2103 provided the tickets and transportation for 40 Garfield Elementary School 3rd graders and their teachers, as well as 8 Lodge members, to attend the Sacramento Monarchs-Phoenix Mercury WNBA basketball game on May 27, 2009.

Willows Elks Lodge No. 1786 Holds Piggy Bank Dinner

On May 1st, 2009, the Willows Elks Lodge No. 1786 held their annual Major Project fundraiser dinner. It was a very successful event! The ham dinner was prepared by their House Committee and they also had an auction and a drawing. 71 people attended the event, each of whom received purple pig banks. Several members made donations for Century Club certificates. A tad over \$3,000.00 was raised that evening. The lodge Major Project chair, Norman "Bud" Bernard thanked all of the members, guests and friends who made this event successful. Though we are a small lodge, we are very generous when it comes to the Major Project!

2009 Convention Piggy Bank Results
Debbie Hosted, Piggy Bank Chair

Thank You! Thank you to each and every member that donated to the Purple Pig this last year! Our Exalted Ruler's March resulted in donations of \$2,947,853.36. We came very close to making our \$3 million goal. Even with the troubled economy we had an increase of \$29,016.19. How incredible! Elks truly ARE the Best People On Earth!

Here are some key statistics for those of you that love them:

5 Highest Lodges per Capita

- 1. Temecula Valley \$65.43
- 2. Glendale \$60.31
- 3. Wasco \$60.29
- 4. Santa Monica \$59.93
- 5. Lake Tahoe \$57.89

5 Highest Districts per Capita

- 1. South Central Coast \$35.68
- 2. Hawaii \$35.23
- 3. Metropolitan \$34.50
- 4. San Gabriel Valley \$29.74
- 5. South \$29.09

5 Highest Lodges In Dollars

- 1. Honolulu \$109,265.48
- 2. San Pedro \$50,197.50
- 3. Pasadena \$39,504.84
- 4. Chula Vista \$38,624.66
- 5. San Mateo \$36,709.20

5 Highest Districts In Dollars

- 1. W. Central Coast \$182,719.39
- 2. Orange Coast \$174,719.42
- 3. Southeast \$156,250.71
- 4. West Central \$143,584.05
- 5. Hawaii \$135,377.26

What a great way to end a year AND what an incentive to keep the momentum going for the coming year! We have the greatest program in the country - helping thousands of children and their families by providing therapy at no cost to those families that so desperately need our help. We truly help these children walk, talk, see and play because of the donations that YOU - our members - GIVE.

As prices rise everywhere, the cost to run our wonderful program continues to escalate, just as your household expenses do. So we still need your help and generosity. As a reminder, there are a couple of "painless" options to help you donate to the Piggy Bank. We have the "Boxtops for Education" program. Many of the household products you currently use have that symbol. Cut those off the package and mail them in to help the Major Project. For details, go to <http://www.cha-elks.org/BoxTops4Education.pdf>.

Another program is the www.Goodsearch.com internet search engine with a wonderful benefit. When you sign on to their website there is a place for you to enter in the Charity you are "searching" for. Fill in "California-Hawaii Elks Major Project" and click verify. Then do your online searching. Every new search you do puts a penny into the Major Project. You can also shop through the GoodSearch website and the vendors will donate back to the Major Project. Just click on the Shopping Logo and check it out. As always, we welcome your donations to Piggy Bank- large or small. Keep those coins and bills coming in!

In 2009-2010, the ENF will return \$1.843 to CHEA for each \$1.00 you donated in 2008-2009. Please support the ENF!

Honolulu Elks Lodge No. 616 Donates for Mothers' Milk

The Honolulu Elks Lodge No. 616 donated \$1,000.00 to the Hawaii Mothers' Milk, Inc., a non-profit organization. They provide Health Education and Counseling for nursing mothers by offering classes and educational materials. The donation was presented at their Mother's Day Benefit Luncheon Buffet and Silent Auction fundraiser on April 26, 2009.



Trustee Bud Lush presents the check to Executive Director Patricia Ane

Alameda Elks Lodge No. 1015 Honors Veterans

On May 26, the Elks Veterans Committee gathered at the Memorial Flagpole on Harbor Bay in order to pay respect to those who made the ultimate sacrifice. The wreath was laid by Phil Young accompanied by PERs Roy Stout and Diane Pryor, Leading Knight Larry Lulofs, Loyal Knight Greg Carlson, and other members of our Lodge. The committee laid a wreath in memory of its fallen members. The event was well attended by the City Council, by local military officers and men, and by Alameda Lodge No. 1015 and its members. Our own Gene Maurice lent a solemn moment to the proceedings with his rendition of Taps. Those who attended will long remember the moving notes of this song.



*Top row, left to right: Phil Young, Bill Macnamara, John Lathbury, Nick Pierra, Roy Stout, Greg Carlson, Larry Lulofs
 Bottom row, left to right: Tom Chase, Jim Saulovich, Diane Pryor*

Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625 Hosts Jr. Olympics

On May 9, 2009, at the Quartz Hill High School athletic field, the 61st Annual Invitational Junior Youth Olympics was hosted by the Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625. This is a one-day event that is open to all of the schools in the Antelope Valley. Eight schools chose to send teams this year.

The event, which was chaired by Loyal Knight Sandy Brown, is sponsored, hosted and operated by Elk volunteers, with the assistance of other local organizations, such as the Sea Scouts and the local ambulance service. This year, 54 Elk volunteers and friends donated about 340 hours and drove approximately 1,433 miles to participate.

The Emblem Club No. 76 kicked off the event with a flag ceremony. The Lodge's US Naval Sea Cadets joined PVT Michael "Mike" Grubbs, USMC, from 29 Palms, CA, to raise and lower the flag.

As in years past, the stands were crowded with the friends and relatives of the participants and they cheered them on until all the events had been completed. This event gives the middle school 7th and 8th grade boys and girls a chance to compete in inter-mural track and field events. The ten track events also included racing, long jumps, high jumps and the shot-put. Both boys and girls continued to break records from previous years.

Hillview Middle School took 44 medals this year, which again ranked them 1st overall in the Antelope Valley. Cole Middle School followed with 23 medals, and Joe Walker Middle School ranked third with 21 medals. Seven out of the eight schools who participated took home two or more medals. There were 348 competitors taking part. Vanessa Lopez, an 8th grader from Endeavor Middle School, broke all past school records in the 800 meter run. All of the competitors, schools and volunteers should be proud of this event!



Victorville Elks Lodge No. 1877 Visits Veterans

The Victorville Elks Lodge No. 1877 National Veterans Service Committee made their quarterly visit to the Barstow Veteran's Home to support their "Salute to Women Veterans" program. The speaker for the occasion was Katy Mears, who is a Lodge member, a Veteran, and a member of the Veterans Service Committee. The lodge also donated Wal-Mart gift cards worth \$175.00 to the Home for their use as Bingo prizes.

Lake Tahoe Elks Lodge No. 2094 Donates Easter Baskets

Lake Tahoe Lodge No. 2094 donated 50 Easter baskets to the South Lake Tahoe Women's Center for distribution to their youngest and neediest clients, who may not otherwise have received a visit from the Easter Bunny.

Canoga Park Elks Lodge No. 2190 Visits Vets

On April 9, 2009, the Canoga Park Elks Lodge No. 2190 visited the veterans at the Sepulveda Veterans Hospital. They donated Easter goodies to approximately 80 ambulatory veterans, some of whom had recently returned from a tour of duty in Iraq.

Peter Marshall, the lodge's Veterans Service chair, with his wife, Marlene, joined Exalted Ruler Dave Swoger, Trustee Ken Hamlyn and Loyal Knight Ingrid Childers to deliver Easter-decorated tins filled with homemade cupcakes and candies. Dave, and his wife, Midge, donated 2 huge baskets of cookies and candies.



Left to Right: Ken Hamlyn, Ingrid Childers, Marlene Marshall, veteran Fanny Paul, Peter Marshall and Dave Swoger

Red Bluff Elks Lodge No. 1250 at Special Olympics

On May 12, 2009 the Red Bluff Elks Lodge participated at the Tehama County Special Olympics. As Olympians from across the county arrived at Red Bluff High School, the lodge set up a Hoop Shoot and a Soccer Shoot. Using a Hawaiian theme, they handed out colorful leis to all the athletes. This was the 3rd consecutive year for our lodge to take part in this fun event and the booth gets bigger each year.



Pictured are PER Kevin Figgs and his daughter, Olympian Amanda Figgs along with PERs Chris Sharp and Jim Alford.

Nevada City Elks Lodge No. 518 Sends Cooler Scarves to Iraq

Nevada City Elks Lodge No. 518 member, Emily Wheeler, made a 36 inch Raggedy Ann and Andy doll and a Travel Quilt with a bag and pillow. These items were prizes in a drawing which raised money for the Lodge's Veteran's Fund. The Veteran's Fund provides the monies needed for Emily to make cooler scarves to send to the troops in Iraq. To date she has sent over 1,000 cooler scarves and goodie bags to the troops.



Seated is Emily Wheeler. Chuck Peer, a member of the Lodge, is also pictured.

Calpine Elks Lodge No. 2432 Serves Meals

On May 4, 2009, the Calpine Lodge No. 2432 hosted 38 adults from the Portola and Loyalton California Long Term Care Centers. In the photo, ER Bob Vieira, PDDGER, is serving a guest. The lunch consisted of a lime Jell-O salad, roast beef, potatoes, gravy, and carrots. A number of the guests were overheard saying that this was one of the best meals that they have had in a long time. They all seemed very happy at being able to get out and visit the lodge. This was the third such gathering hosted by the Lodge. Chairman Mike Perigo, PER, believes it will now become a permanent Lodge function.



Visit your California-Hawaii Elks Association website, it's a site to see!

www.chea-elks.org

Garden Grove Elks Lodge No. 1952 Helps Youth and Senior Citizens

The Garden Grove Elks Lodge No. 1952 sponsored a Safe and Sober Graduation Night at three local high schools. The lodge donated \$250.00 to each school to help fund an evening free of alcohol for the graduating classes. The parents and lodge members have joined forces to provide a fun, safe and sober night of celebration for these seniors.

In other news, the Lodge was a sponsor of the H. Louis Lake Senior Center's Strawberry Ball. This annual event recognizes and celebrates those Senior Citizens who volunteer in the local community. The Ball runs in conjunction with Garden Grove's annual Strawberry Festival each Memorial Day weekend.

Auburn Elks Lodge No. 1691 Continues 30 Years of Hunter Safety Courses

The Auburn Elks Lodge has provided free hunter education courses for thirty years in an effort to provide respect for firearms, wildlife, the law, and hunting ethics. Course instructor Walt Drysdale led the ten-hour, two day course. The April 2009 class was attended by 108 prospective hunters of all ages including a large number of boys and girls. After a student has successfully completed the State endorsed Elk's course of instruction and passed the final examination, they are awarded a Certificate of Completion. California requires hunter education training for all persons who have not formerly held a hunting license from California or a valid hunting license from another state. Utilizing PowerPoint software and the Lodge's state of the art audio/visual system, the assistant instructors Bob Oles, Larry Rolufs, Ray Uebner, Doug Young, Mark Capik, and Wilburn Johnson provided all pertinent course information necessary for the final exam.



Ontario Elks Lodge No. 1419 Sends Cookies to the Troops

The Ontario Elks Lodge No. 1419 Social & Community Welfare Committee, headed by Ken Schreckengost, purchased \$500 of Girl Scout cookies from troop No. 593 to send to our deployed military personnel. The scout troop took care of the shipping and distribution. The money used for this project comes from the profits gathered on the Lodge's Wednesday night Bingo.

Novato Elks Lodge No. 2655 Lays Memorial Wreath

On Monday May 25, 2009, Novato Elks Lodge No. 2655 Exalted Ruler Dave Nilsen and Trustee Kitty Victorino laid a wreath in memory of the over 700 veterans buried in the Valley Memorial Park.



Left to right: Dave Nilsen, Kitty Victorino

Lapsation/ Membership Retention Committee

Bob Ostini, Chairman

What a great convention in Ontario! CHEA Membership Chairman David Harris and I were both blown away with the attendance and participation at the two Membership and Lapsation sessions that were held.

Lapsation / Membership Retention Kits were handed out to all that attended the afternoon seminar. Complete sets have also been sent to every District Chairman with the request that copies be issued to every Lodge. These materials can also be downloaded from www.chea-elks.org. I have a few left and I can send them to you while supplies last if you e-mail me your name and address to bobostini@comcast.net.

There is this idea out there that today's "young people" aren't joiners; and that all fraternal organizations and service clubs are having the same experience of declining memberships and dwindling resources. What promotes this idea is that officers and members get together at the hospitality rooms and dinners and share with each other that their Lodges are all in the same boat. These facts are only true for your Lodge if you choose to accept them.

Individuals and families of all ages are interested in supporting and promoting patriotism and charity in their lives and in their communities. As an organization, the Elks are still the best at giving these individuals and families an opportunity to practice patriotism and charity within their communities. It brings with it the added bonus of having access to affordable entertainment at the lodge. Lodges that pursue these practices are largely successful.

Learn how your Lodge measures up by asking the following question: "IS MY LODGE STILL DELIVERING ON THE PROMISES IT MADE WHEN I ATTENDED INDOCTRINATION AND JOINED THE ELKS?"

If the answer is no, then find out what your Lodge is doing wrong and quit doing it. Then remember what your Lodge was doing right and do more of it. Success is very attractive. Good public relations begin at home. Make every effort to keep your members informed of all of the good deeds your Lodge does. Nobody quits on a winner. Spread the word. Elks are not only the "Best People On Earth"; they are the biggest winners when it comes to Patriotism and Charity.

Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 Hosts Military Moms, Veterans and their Families

The Memorial Day weekend was a busy one for the Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 as they hosted a baby shower for military moms and a BBQ for patients at the Long Beach Veterans Hospital. On Memorial Day Saturday, the Lodge, in concert with Operation Showers of Appreciation hosted 15 United States Marine Corp families from Camp Pendleton with a baby shower for their new-born children. Each family received numerous gifts to ease their parenting. A buffet lunch was served and various games were played such as "Name That Baby Food" and a race to see which father could change a diaper on a baby doll the fastest. On Memorial Day the Lodge hosted a BBQ for 150 patients and their families at the Long Beach Veterans Hospital. Hamburgers, hot dogs, sandwiches, salads and cake were served. This is the third annual BBQ hosted by the Huntington Beach Elks Lodge.



Sgt. Nathan Filip USMC and his wife Catherine hold their newborn son, Gunner, in front of shower gifts presented by former Lodge Trustee Angie Lakin and former First Lady Barbara Boskovich.

Scouting

By Kathleen Monsees, Scouting Chair

During the summer months, some of the Scouting units don't have weekly meetings. Make sure you have their adult contact information so you can invite your Scouts and their families to Lodge activities that are appropriate for them. This will encourage the Scouts to be more comfortable with your facility and you will have an opportunity to engage the parents in positive conversations about Elkdom.

This is also the time when your Scouting unit will be attending Summer Camp. What a great time to make lifelong memories! I'm sure you have some to share from your youth! If you have time and the trip isn't too far, go make a visit to the camp and bring a snack for your "boys" or "girls". They'll never forget your generosity or how special you made them feel!

When the summer activities are over for Scouting, they will be scheduling a Court of Honor to recognize the accomplishments of the youth during the summer months and at Camp. Make sure you attend this ceremony and ask to speak and tell the Scouts and parents how proud of them you are and how proud the Lodge is to sponsor their Unit. Contact the Leaders and offer to have this ceremony at your Lodge if you don't usually hold them. You will be amazed and glad you invited your Scouts and their families to your Lodge.

Our whole attitude towards the youth needs to include the idea of "future Elk member". These children are the Elks of tomorrow. They already know we're the Best People on Earth!

Box Tops for Education
 Clip coupons to aid CHEMPI
 Go to <http://www.chea-elks.org/BoxTops4Education.pdf>

Century Club Donations- March 28, 2009 through May 15, 2009 (continued on next page)

DONOR	LODGE NO.	DONOR	LODGE NO.	DONOR	LODGE NO.
Wayne Bellows	6	Virgil Magday	966	Robert Hartwick	1608
Lisa Ward Dillier (2)	6	Edward Pluemer	966	Jim Miller	1608
PERL Association of Elks Lodge No. 6 (5)	6	Morris Warschaw	966	Adela Owensby	1608
Dorothy Gore (2)	168	Brent Collins	1073	Leonard Owensby	1608
Ladies of the Elks	168	Charley Wilson	1073	Raymond McDougal	1643
Leonard Bohlke	218	Edwin W. Ball	1112	Ray Uebner	1691
Chich Hein	218	Richard Carstens	1250	Bill White	1691
Homer Lewis	218	Lee's Navigators	1250	Dick Henderson	1712
Susan Sanchez	218	Red Bluff Emblem Club No. 408	1250	Danny Minter	1712
Stockton Iris Club	218	Pam Fulgham	1258	Joseph Paulson	1712
Edward Tempel	218	Chuck Darr	1282	David Smythe	1712
Milton Grau	322	Leland Gruetzmacher	1282	Darel Walker (2)	1712
Jesse Jolly	322	Cleo Luke	1282	Don Hubble	1740
Richard Bartels	522	Louise McCoskey	1282	Suzanne Nichols	1740
William Cassidy	522	Ken Pierson	1282	Vi Roberts	1740
Howard Kaeding	522	William Binder	1289	Tony & Melba Rodriguez	1740
Lou Glaeser	538	Saro Koumashian (2)	1289	Richard Blake	1767
Larry Eberly (3)	583	Al Fredrickson (2)	1328	Roy E. Carlson, Jr.	1767
David Knight (2)	583	Virginia Morrow	1328	Mary Ray	1767
Past Exalted Rulers of No. 583	583	Nick Maevsky	1378	Sandra Sallans	1767
Lloyd Patterson	583	Samuel Rockwood	1378	Daryle Boheman	1786
Larry Taylor	583	Wallace Knutson	1420	Rich Warren	1786
Sam Trad	583	Dr. Ronald Stillman	1420	Kerri Warren	1786
Eleanor Bolton	614	Tunney Williams	1420	Ronald Hirzel	1787
Floyd Bolton	614	John Adams	1427	Dekens Implement Company	1799
Genio Bonifacino	614	Michael Baker	1427	Edward C.A. Johnson	1811
Dean Callender	614	Clancy Hawkins	1427	Mike Goodman	1857
Alex Camany	614	Donna Leiby	1427	Glenn Hinsz	1900
William Ireland	614	Gideon Leiby	1427	Bert Clendenon	1905
Edward Kelly	614	James Alexander	1474	Doug & Lori Enroth	1905
Harry Ligon	614	Gloria Martin	1474	Ronald Lee Hinman	1905
Elisa Mariscal	614	Peggy Basarab	1475	Jerry Hirschman	1905
Carlos Mariscal	614	Tom Brown	1475	Estelle Layton	1905
Bill Perry	614	Craig Coleman	1475	George Layton	1905
Norman Riggs	614	James Duncan	1475	Alice Phillips	1905
George Sallay	614	Dale Fairchild	1475	Charles Hawthorne	1913
Russell Taylor	614	Timbo Gillespie	1475	Paul Lewis	1913
James Wilder	614	Bob Hanna (2)	1475	Don Winter	1913
Bruce Wissler	614	Ed Higdon	1475	Culver City Emblem Club No. 254 (2)	1917
Fran Aylett	616	Bonnie Luther	1475	Delbert Jones	1952
Ruth Farmer	616	Jim McAnena	1475	Len Serbak	1959
Euclid D.Y. Lee	616	Ken McElroy	1475	William Leahy	1991
Pearl Miyasaki	616	Ron & Kris Paino	1475	Richard Aviles	1994
Dori K. Rybacki-Smith	616	Danny & Lori Paulsen	1475	Carlos Bracamontes	2027
Antje Shelton	616	Mike Rowan	1475	Richard Dodd	2027
Maudine Carpenter (2)	643	John Ryan	1475	June Drake	2027
Lola Nelson	643	Zena Schwartz	1475	Keith Hoyt	2027
Martin Petersen	643	Kathy Walker	1475	Michael Molloy	2027
Martin Picazzo	643	Brian Allison	1538	Julio Nieves	2027
Jerry Wilkins	643	Alan Bishop	1538	Barbara Turchek	2027
Kurt Bialous	652	Robert Casady	1538	Steve Turchek	2027
Troy Combs	652	Charles Finn (3)	1538	Tom Brigante	2038
Barry Jacobsen	652	Brian Galbraith (2)	1538	Nancy Hannah	2038
Dale Follas	783	David Gale (2)	1538	Albert Pacelli (2)	2038
Kathy Vrablick	783	Jeffrey Garza	1538	Robert Bessett	2046
Claire Heaney	794	Chris McLaughlin	1538	Donald Betzsold	2046
Frank Malignaggi	794	Frances Murphy (2)	1538	Ronald Costello	2046
David Schuster	794	T. Kim Newman	1538	Philip Covey	2046
Paul Harvey	888	Raeleen Silva	1538	Leo Drummond	2046
Don Checchi	906	William Stanford (2)	1538	William MacFarlane	2046
Kathy Checchi	906	Leroy Stanford (2)	1538	Joseph Wicker	2046
Sue Hasson	906	James Stueck	1538	Stephen Roger Lewis	2050
Ken Lady	906	Pete Thornton	1538	Robert Mayo	2068
David Aguilar	966	Ralph Ujano	1538	Mission Viejo Chevron (2)	2068
Robert Boudreau	966	Carol Kent (2)	1587	Earl Bouchard	2098
John Flemons	966	Lemoine Kent	1587	Margaret Bouchard	2098
Maurice Keller	966	Jake Parsons	1587	Harry "Bud" Fales	2098
James Knigge	966	St. Charles Saloon	1587	Mark Flint	2098
Don Kuehnle	966	Gene Chambers	1608	Micki Hollien	2098
		Patsy Chambers	1608		

Continued from Pg. 10

DONOR	LODGE NO.
Ann McMahan	2098
Jan Otis	2098
Emblem Club No. 355 (3)	2103
Judith Usher	2103
Ronald Yates	2103
Lee Kiplinger	2117
Jacob Reid	2117
Tom Takahashi	2117
Carol Moffitt	2121
Mike Moffitt	2121
Gil Peters	2121
Mary Peters	2121
Gene Pendergast	2134
John Cowan	2142
Ladies Auxiliary	2274
James Garber	2333
Jacob Scott	2333
Bruce Taschner	2393
Betty Rice	2419
Bare Ellis	2432
Stephen Finnerty	2477
William "Max" Maxwell	2477
Leslie A. Smith	2477
Cheryl Templeton	2477
O. Ken Anderson (2)	2484
Earl Boyd	2484
Brud Dufficy (4)	2484
Emblem Club No. 479	2484
Jean Walker	2484
R. Neil Zinn	2484
Terry Bennett	2504
Shirmey Colwell	2504
Forrest Frost	2504
Bill Hall	2504
Robert Newman	2504
Neil White	2529
Alyssa Glauum	2599
Richard McHaley	2599
Al Meier (2)	2599
Sonny Pineda	2599
Dorothy Schwabenland	2599
Gene Schwabenland	2599
Clay Seals (2)	2599
Dennis Mason	2626
Ted Newton	2626
Estella Gutierrez	2646
Rosario McAuley	2646
Barbara Moore	2646
Sadie Velci	2646
Mancil Wright	2646
Sharon Wright	2646
Birney Carter	2698
Leah Gergal	2698
Deborah Murguia	2698
Timothy Sparks	2698
West Air Gases & Equipment- Market St.	2698
Ray Banta	2704
Debbe Blake (2)	2704
Arnold "Buzz" Bussard	2704
Walter Neumann	2704
Charles Pikas	2704
Margaret Slankard	2704
Lonny Teter	2704
Wayne Klinger	2724
Larry Bryant	2733
Ed Chidlaw	2733
Joe Coulter (3)	2733
Doug Cunningham	2733
Michael Larson	2733

DONOR	LODGE NO.
Dan Martinez	2733
Bob Nagle	2733
Frank Petroni	2733
Frank Platz (5)	2733
Richard Shelby	2733
Jack Beckner	2735
Erma Olivas	2735
Errol Bratley	2801
Jay Coyne	2801
Bobbie Gutshall	2801
Henry Heim	2801
Dick Tracy	2801

**Millennium Club Donations-
March 28, 2009 through May
15, 2009**

DONOR	LODGE NO.
Larry Eberly	583
William Flory	614
Don & Kathy Checchi	906
Virginia Morrow	1328
Mary R. Gesquiere	1378
Charles Finn	1538
David Gale	1538
Gene Chambers	1608
Patsy Chambers	1608
Joan Kiehl	1787
Stephen Worthington	1787
Vernon E. Tinsley	2050
Beverly C. Burns	2484
Mancil E. Wright	2646
Berneice Spence	6000



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B.L.T. BECOME A (BLT) BENEFACTOR
COMMITMENT TRUST**

Riverside Elks Lodge No. 643 Recognizes Students and an Elementary School

Riverside Elks Lodge No. 643 recently presented Americanism Essay Awards to three 6th Grade students from Woodcrest Elementary School. Each student received a certificate and a \$20.00 Gift Certificate to Barnes & Noble Bookstore. One award winner, Jonah Fraiser, had his essay entered into the CHEA competition.

The lodge recognized Our Lady of Perpetual Help Elementary School for their support of our Military veterans. The students made Christmas cards and Valentine cards to go into the lodge's care packages. The student members of "Drumline" also provided musical performances at various Elk sponsored functions. The school received a check for \$200 to support of their music program.

The Lodge presented Scholarship Awards totaling \$10,000 to 6 Riverside area high school seniors. Scholarship Chairperson Berkley Kaufhold along with Barbara Colacino, PER Peggy Brauner and Bill West presented the awards.



Scholarship winners (front row): Berkley Kaufhold, Asael Flores (North H.S.), Rebecca Habeeb-Silva (Ramona H.S.) and PER Peggy Brauner. Back row: Julie Lutz (King H.S.), Fernando Cerda (Ramona H.S.), Paula Lucson (North H.S.), Jeremias Asis (Norte Vista H.S.)

La Habra Elks Lodge No. 2095 Welcomes Home Iraq War Veteran

La Habra Elks Lodge No. 2095 welcomed home Iraq war veteran, Marine Cpl. Leland Vaughan. The Lodge had been sending "We Care" boxes to Cpl. Vaughan and his squadron in Iraq. Cpl. Vaughan and his family were treated to dinner at the Lodge. The La Habra Elks Lodge members promised continued support to Cpl. Vaughan and his squadron when he re-deploys to Afghanistan later this year.



Left to Right: Tim Aragon, Lecturing Knight, Shelley Fajardo, Loyal Knight, Cpl. Vaughan, Geri Endicott, "We Care" Coordinator, and Dave Coffin, Leading Knight

Drug Awareness

By Jack Dalton,
Chairman, CHEA Drug Awareness Program

Good news! Recent trends show a growing anti-marijuana attitude toward the usage of the drug among teens. Teens today are becoming more aware of the hazards associated with the more powerful effects of today's marijuana.

On the other hand, one of the fastest and newest growing fads occurring nation-wide that has attracted youngsters (mostly in the 12-17 year age group) is the abuse of prescription drugs. The unauthorized use of pharmaceutical drugs by teens has increased significantly. Surveys have indicated that abuse of prescription drugs is now a greater emerging threat than other, more commonly used drugs, such as marijuana and methamphetamine.

Parents are less likely to be aware of the child's experimentation with such drugs as Vicodin (Hydrocodone) or OxyContin (oxycodone). These prescription drugs are often easily obtained from their parent's or grandparent's medicine cabinets. Other methods are "Doctor Shopping", altering or forging prescriptions, stealing, street drug dealers and computer online sources. San Diego is a prime source, since so many pharmaceutical sources exist in nearby Mexican border towns, such as Tijuana, which has 10 times the number of pharmacies needed to support its population.

A popular trend is called "pharm parties". It is now growing among teenagers. At these events, teenagers bring a variety of drugs from home and consolidate them for arbitrary use at youth gatherings. Once someone begins abusing pharmaceuticals on a regular basis, addictions and drug dependency soon follows.

The illegal use of pharmaceuticals is second in popularity, after marijuana, as the preferred method of inducing a mind altered state.

Please use every method to educate yourself on the hazards of this fast growing trend. Advise everyone who has teenage children, or youngsters who will soon to be teenagers, to secure their prescription drugs and educate their children about the harmful and potentially fatal consequences of the misuse of pharmaceutical drugs.

Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801 Recognizes Peace Officers

Temecula Valley Elks recently held their annual Peace Officer Appreciation Night. Five officers were honored for their efforts to provide a safe environment for the residents of their community, in addition to protecting private and public property. Each department in the area was asked to nominate one of their outstanding individuals for service above and beyond their duty to the community.



Left to right: Officer Daniel Decker, Temecula Police Department, Bob Walker, Peace Officer Recognition Committee Chairman, Senior Scott Pinckney, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, Officer Carlos Salgado, Temecula California Highway Patrol, Detective Phil Gomez, Murrieta Police Department, Officer Brian Keene, California Highway Patrol Rainbow Inspection Facility and Keith Meyer, PER, Exalted Ruler

Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 Helps its Community and our Veterans

Nine members of the Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 showed up at 6:30 a.m. and cooked sixteen turkeys for Mary's Kitchen. Mary's Kitchen feeds the homeless and those in need. The dinners, with all the trimmings, fed 179 people. According to Orange Elks member and Mary's Kitchen volunteer Sue Siegal, in the last four months Mary's Kitchen has seen a 400 % increase in meals served.

The Lodge's Pool Chairman, Tom Brown, hosted the lodge's Annual Pool Tournament and Potluck. This year, 24 players and supporters helped raise \$450 for various Elk charities, while having a lot of fun doing it. As for the tournament, Hank P. took it all by placing 1st, Dave Sturm came in 2nd, and Eddie Braun finished 3rd. Tom thanked everyone who helped and attended the event. The Pool Tournament donated \$150 each to the Piggy Bank, the ENF and the lodge's Dictionary Program.

In other news: three years ago, lodge members Brian and Stephanie Fitzpatrick started an Omelet Bar. The idea was to give something back to our veterans. Brian is a Vietnam era veteran who has received treatment at the Long Beach VA Hospital. The lodge visits that hospital four times a year to give them money for bingo cash prizes and to deliver cookies, drinks, toiletry items, back packs, books and magazines. All of these gifts are the result of this very successful omelet bar. On the third anniversary of the Omelet Bar, over \$10,000 has been raised.

El Cajon Elks Lodge No. 1812 Sponsors History Day Competitors

El Cajon Elks Lodge No. 1812 recently enjoyed a performance by students from Steele Canyon High School who were finalists in the San Diego County National History Day competition. Their presentation was "Truth-Tainted Fiction: The Transformation of Jesse James from Rebel Outlaw to an Iconic Hero of the Wild West." A free will contribution of \$200 was collected to send the students to the state competition in Sacramento which they won. The team is now heading to the national competition in Washington, D.C.

In other news, the lodge recently hosted the East County Youth Symphony who dedicated its free performance to deceased Elk member, Bill Kloor. Approximately 210 members, families and guests were in attendance. The program accepts musicians from ages 8 to 25 and requires no fees or tuition to join. It operates on donations and sponsorships.



Left to right: The "National History Day" competitors Lucas Van Winkle, Ben Wagner and Daniel Wagner with ER John Jenkins

Elks Care - Elks Share

Membership

by David Harris – CHEA Membership Chair

NEWSFLASH! ELKS LODGES IN CALIFORNIA AND HAWAII CLOSE!!!!

Is this far-fetched? Not at the rate we keep losing members to lapsation. Each year we bring new members but many of them leave within a couple of years. Why? They don't feel like they are included, or they can't find a reason to stay. They are not involved in the many activities or committees we have to offer. We have let them wander without making them feel that the Lodge is now part of them.

At the seminar held in Ontario, Bob Ostini and I discussed many options to reverse the loss of members. ALL OF THE IDEAS DISCUSSED CAME DOWN TO A LACK OF INVOLVEMENT BY THE NEW MEMBERS!! How do we change that? Start with their sponsor – ask them why they brought the new member in. They must have had a skill or a quality about them that the sponsor thought: "Hey, Bill would be a great addition to the Boy Scout committee; I should get them in the Lodge". The investigating committee surely discovered that Bill wanted to be

a member of the Boy Scout committee. The indoctrination meeting surely gave the Scout committee chairman an opportunity to get them on board. During their initiation, the Exalted Ruler reiterated the importance of becoming involved. And finally, the new member attended lodge meetings and committee meetings. If all this happening, why are we losing members?

This year we will be working on the RETENTION of members. Of course, we will continue to bring in new members, but our focus will be to get our members involved and active. Committee chairmen please remember: you can't have too many volunteers. If we have too many volunteers, we can do more activities within the community. This is a win, win situation for us. If you have ideas that you have used in your Lodge or District that are working, send them to me so that we can share. "NO ELK IS ALLOWED TO STRAY FROM THE HERD" should be our mantra this year and every year.

Mojave Elks Lodge No. 2059 Holds Piggy Bank Dinner

On April 18, 2009, the Mojave Elks Lodge No. 2059 held a Purple Pig fund raiser dinner. All the food was donated by lodge members. They cooked and served tri-tip, roast chicken and several delicious side dishes. The dinner raised approximately \$600.00 for the Piggy Bank. The Exalted Ruler, Eddie Tomlin, cooked the tri-tip and Leading Knight Hank Parker roasted the chicken. Eric Lieshman, another lodge member, provided karaoke entertainment for the attendees. Everyone, from the youngest (5yrs) to the oldest (??) sang along to the karaoke music. Approximately 80 people enjoyed the evening.

In other lodge news, the Mojave Elementary School and the Board of Directors of the Mojave School District honored the lodge on May 15, 2009. They recognized the lodge for donating dictionaries to the school and for providing US Flags to the kindergarten classrooms. The school children read poems and gave "Thank-You" cards to the lodge. The school also served lunch to the volunteers.

Santa Ana Elks Lodge No. 794 Recognizes and Helps Veterans, Youth and Community

The Santa Ana Elks Lodge No. 794 held "A Salute to the Armed Forces" on Armed Forces Day, May 16, 2009. The Lodge recognized the two oldest veterans, SSgt. Bill Hartloff, USA (Retired), and Lt. Col. Harvey Ross, USA (Retired), both 91 years of age. Two other veterans, Cmdr. Ken Carter, USN (Retired), and Sgt. Major Gene Hawkins, USMC (Retired), were recognized for their 25 years of service. Also recognized was the highest ranking veteran present, Col. George Ennis, USAF (Retired). The guests for the evening were active members of the military, who received a standing ovation for their service to our country. A drawing was held for a special prize: an American Flag in a presentation case, which had been flown over the U.S. Capital building. The Lodge continues to send 30 to 40 care packages to the troops monthly. These packages now include "Thank You" letters written at the Armed Forces event. Thank you letters from the recipients are displayed in the lobby. The lodge also visited the Long Beach Veterans Hospital recently. The visit brought joy to many of the residents, as they enjoyed playing bingo, eating cookies, and choosing from a large array of clothing, lap blankets, books and accessories that were delivered by the Elks.

In scholarship news, Faith Blake received a \$1,500 MVS award plus an additional \$400 from the Orange Coast District. She placed fourth in the MVS national scholarship contest rankings, receiving \$16,000 over 4 years. Faith will be attending Tufts University. Avery Reger, grandson of member Dick Reger, received an ENF Legacy Award of \$1,000 per year for four years. He will be attending Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. Anirudh Venkatash received additional funds from the District and ENF. He will receive \$4,000 over four years. He will be attending Stanford University. Sophia Lopez will also receive \$4,000 over four years. Ruben Topete received a CHEA Undergraduate Scholarship for Students with Disabilities. His award is \$1,000 to \$2,000, depending on his choice of college and need.

The lodge has been very active aiding community charitable organizations. A total of \$24,758 was distributed to various local groups during the past fraternal year. During this time of extreme financial difficulties for many, the Lodge is proud to continue to provide support to these agencies, proving that "Elks Care, Elks Share." The lodge fishing club provided an exciting day of fishing and fun for seven boys residing at the Joplin Youth Center. They each received their own fishing pole, reel, and line as well as a medal for their participation. The day ended with a hosted BBQ. In addition, the Santa Ana Elks Guys and Dolls Bowling League donated \$6.00 per bowler, for a total of \$506.00 to the Major Project.



Mr. Baker, Mojave Elementary School Principal; Sherry Otto, School Board Member; Candis Snider, Lodge Inner Guard (Youth Activities Chair); Deborah Smoot, Lodge Esquire (Youth Activities Co-Chair), Amy L. Cook, PER, Dayna Marshall, Lodge Member; Ted Hodgkinson, School Board of Directors

"BLT - it's not just a sandwich anymore."

Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672 Honors Youth

The Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672 Scholarship Chair, Dr. Bill Cole, dispersed a total of \$15,000.00 in scholarship awards to six high school and college winners. The Elk members are proud to be able to assist these future community leaders with their education. The lodge MVS winners were: Caireesa L. Barry (Maranathan High School), Maia L. Goguen (John Marshall Fundamental School), Lauren C. Gokey (La Canada High School), and Gregory J. Zmrukkhtyan (John Marshall Fundamental School). Two additional scholarship awards were presented: the Emer Bates Award in Journalism to Jeremy Balan (Pasadena City College, and the Brownie Spanovich Award in Career and Technical Education to Jasmine Session (Pasadena City College).

In other news, the lodge entertained over 90 children and their families at the annual Children's Easter Party, which was organized and hosted by George Camilton, the Lodge Chaplain. The children, as well as a few adults, sat on the knee of the "Big" Easter Bunny, Mike Jepsen, PER, for a photo op. The children, of all ages, enjoyed the games, gifts, lunch/refreshments and the various age-appropriate Easter egg hunts. Later, the Easter Bunny and helpers delivered goodies, gifts and joy to the patients in the children's ward at The Huntington Memorial Hospital. A long and tiring day ending with the priceless rewards of smiles on the faces of children, proving that Elks Care, Elks Share!

The lodge also honored the eight Americanism Essay Contest finalists, the 40 semi-finalists, and their families at a dinner and award ceremony. The Americanism Chairperson, Lynne Lang, stated that this year's entries were outstanding and that she was impressed by the way their feelings were expressed. The six finalists received \$50 each, and the forty semi-finalists received \$20 each. Two special \$50 awards were also given. Each participant received a special certificate.



Back Row - Left to Right: Thomas Lang, Esteemed Leading Knight; George Camilton, Chaplain; Virginia Quintero, Exalted Ruler; Denise J. Ryan, Esteemed Loyal Knight; Clara Miller, Esteemed Leading Knight; Alex Coventry, Inner Guard; Elizabeth Hill, Tiler. Seated: The Easter Bunny, Mike Jepsen, PER

Santa Clara Elks Lodge No. 2347 Honors ENF 2005 MVS National 2nd Place Winner

Participating in the ENF Scholar Speaker Program, Scholar Stan Tran, who placed second in the 2005 Most Valuable Student Scholarship Contest national competition, delivered a talk to the Santa Clara Lodge No. 2347. He spoke to 62 members and guests at the Weekly Family Night dinner. The Lodge was particularly pleased to have Stan return, since it had originally sponsored him for the MVS Contest in 2005. He will be graduating from Stanford University this June.

Montebello Elks Lodge No. 2051 Joins Relay for Life

The Montebello Elks Lodge No. 2051 accompanied their charter Boy Scout Troop No. 330 to join in the American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life". This was a truly rewarding effort by the lodge members. The "Relay for Life" is a fun-filled, overnight event that empowers everyone to help fight cancer by raising money and awareness to support the American Cancer Society's lifesaving mission. The Boy Scout Troop No. 330 was the color guard for the opening ceremonies of this community fundraising event. Seventeen teams from in and around the Montebello area raised over \$30,000. The Lodge raised over \$3,000 in additional donations. Why is this event held over 24 hours? Cancer never sleeps.



Back row, Left to Right: Richard Romo, Tiler; Boy Scouts Clayton Sanchez and Raul Enciso; Richard Mayer, lodge member; Fred Martel, ER; Vince Martinez, Leading Knight, and Cindy Farber, Scoutmaster. Front Row, Left to Right: Boy Scouts Christian Argueta, Jacob Fascio, Jacob Espinoza, Carl Argueta; Eddie Herrera, lodge member

Vista Elks Lodge No. 1968 Honors Mothers

The Vista Elks Lodge No. 1968 honored mothers on May 10th with a special brunch. Mothers were greeted by Lodge Chaplain Richard Bundy and given a carnation. 125 mothers were served. Total servings were about 300. Volunteers supplied 160 man hours of work in support of the event.



Norwalk Elks Lodge No. 2142 Holds Youth Appreciation Day

On Saturday, May 9, 2009, the Norwalk Elks Lodge No. 2142 recognized several young members of their community during their annual Youth Recognition Day. Among those recognized were: the Norwalk Department of Public Safety Cadets; the Teen Alliance Program (TAP); the LA County Fire Explorers; the LA County Sheriff's Cadets; Boy Scout Troop No. 394; the Norwalk High School Varsity Football Team; the Suburban Football Team (made up of Norwalk High & John Glenn High players); several individuals from John Glenn High School, and the Elks Lodge's "Above & Beyond Youth". In addition, the lodge recognized several children who collected pop tops for the Ronald McDonald House - gathering 33 pounds of them - about 41,811 pop tops! They are pictured below.



Back row, left to right: Mayor Cheri Kelley; Gilbert Flores Jr.; David Morgan, South Central District Vice President; Richard Rasmussen, DDGER; Lupe Flores, Youth Activities Chairman; Briley Gurley, and Exalted Ruler Randy Alanis
Front row, left to right: Benjamin Flores, Victoria Ludwick, Julianna Flores, and Jimmie Duarte III

Gardena Elks Lodge No. 1919 Awards Scholarships and Savings Bonds

On May 6, 2006, the Gardena Elks Lodge No. 1919 awarded eleven scholarships in amounts ranging from \$500 to \$2500. It was a very difficult decision for the Scholarship Committee to select the recipients as there were 31 applicants. Six scholarships were awarded to students in our community and five were awarded to students who are related to members of our lodge. In the photo, standing with the students, are Exalted Ruler Judy Ramirez Sutton and Woods Woolwine, Scholarship Committee Chairman. Two students were not able to attend the ceremony.

In addition to the above awards, the lodge also gave six students a \$100 Savings Bond for their Americanism Essay on "What Freedom Means to Me". All six of the students are from St. Anthony of Padua school from the 5th to 8th grades. Our lodge had a large number of essay entries, demonstrating that the children of our community are very interested in "WHAT FREEDOM MEANS."

That same evening, Gardena Elks Lodge Emblem Club presented a check for the Elks Major Project. The Emblem Club and the Lodge have long worked together to make our community a better place to live.



Oceanside Elks Lodge No. 1561 Hugs from Elks

In October, 2008, Sandee Murphy founded the Oceanside Elks Lodge No. 1561 "Hugs from Elks 1561" program and has since continued as its chairman. Because of the dedication and hard work of the lodge members, their friends, and the members of the community, the lodge is proud to say that it has become a very special and most successful program. The program provides special services and support to our military men and women serving overseas. It is a group of dedicated Elks and friends of Elks volunteers. Material items and monetary donations are solicited from businesses and other organizations in our surrounding communities. We fill 12x12x12 boxes with food items, sundries, toiletries, medical supplies, cosmetics, socks, portable showers, games, fly swatters, bug spray, electrical tape, duct tape, safety pins, and many other useful items. We then send these boxes overseas to our servicemen and women who are stationed overseas in remote mountains and desert areas. Each box also contains letters from us...it's their touch with home...to show them that we do care. The troops find a use for each and every item we send. No matter how small or large, conventional or strange, they'll find a use for it and greatly appreciate it. They then send us 'Hugs' back through their thank you notes and pictures. Here is one example of their 'Hugs to Us':

"Hello all, this is Branden Mucia. We have received your packages here in Iraq and can use everything inside them. All the guys appreciate all the goodies you sent us. Trust me; some of the guys needed the soap, if you know what I mean. I know that everyone here loves getting packages from the lodge since they hound me if I had received any more. It's good to know that even with

the country in a great deal of economic turmoil that there are still people out there that support what we do and are willing to take the time to let us know. We couldn't thank you enough, from the Marines of the 2nd BLT, 1st Marines, Golf Co. 4th PLT and your fellow Elk. Thank you, stay safe and healthy, have a drink for me, we will be home soon. Branden S. Mucia, 2/1 Golf Co 4th Platoon, "Machine Guns!", 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Division."

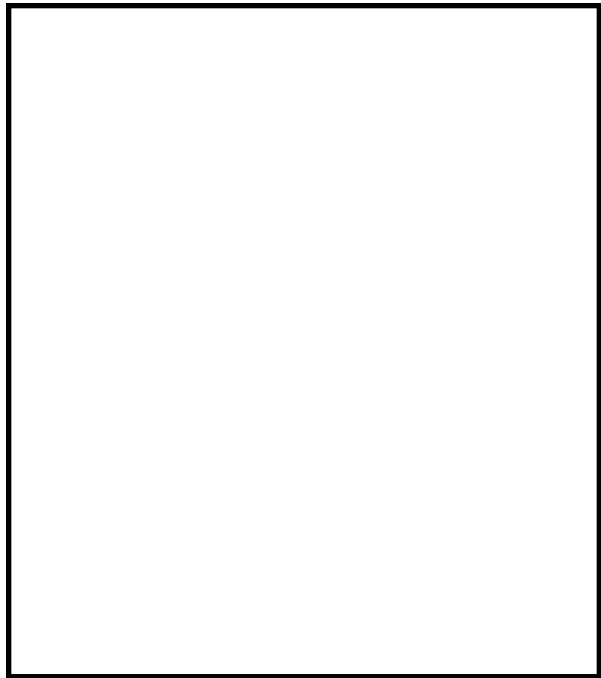
Meanwhile, on the home front, our 'Hugs from Elks 1561' program provides support services for the spouses and children of these deployed troops by hosting holiday parties and get-togethers and making monetary donations to them while their husbands, wives and fathers are fighting the fight for us. Our VA Hospital and veterans are also recipients of our good will program, 'Hugs from Elks 1561'. We sincerely hope and pray that they will all return home safely and, maybe, just maybe, become an Elk one day!



Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 Helps Homeless Children

Representatives of the Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks were present at the Town Hall Meeting & Prayer Vigil for StandUp for Kids, a nationally acclaimed organization committed to the rescue of homeless and street kids. The event was hosted by St. Kilian Catholic Church. The lodge Treasurer Newt Seal and lodge officers Andy Costello and Gerry Schiphorst represented the Lodge and presented a \$500 check to Justine Madison, the executive director of StandUp for Kids. The donation was made possible by the Elks Bingo Charity Committee.

Newt Seal, organizer and long time Bingo committee chairman, said of the event, "It was very enlightening and heart wrenching to hear the statistics regarding the number of children right here in Orange County that are homeless. When we think of the homeless, few people realize that one in three is under the age of 18." Lodge spokesman Andy Costello added, "Of all the charities supported by the Elks, children's charities are always at the top of the list. We are pleased that we could add our support in a small way to this worthwhile effort."



Left to Right: Newt Seal, Justine Madison, Andy Costello

Yucaipa Elks Lodge No. 2389 Helps Needy Families

The Yucaipa Elks Lodge No. 2389 recently donated \$250 to "Family Assistance" – a non-government group that provides food and household items to needy families. Corina Cross, Executive Director, said that Family Assistance is blessed to have folks like the Elks helping them. "Donations are



Corina Cross and Sally Trawick

steady, but not like before", she said, adding that "The only thing growing is our client list." Chairman Sally Trawick noted that this is the latest in the charitable donation program which is funded by the Monday Night Bingo activity at the lodge. Previous donations have gone to organizations such as Pregnancy Counseling and Guide Dogs of the Desert.

Chula Vista Elks Lodge No. 2011 Honors MVS Winners and Teenagers of the Year

On May 7, 2009, the Chula Vista Elks Lodge No. 2011 held its Annual Youth Appreciation Banquet. Deserving high school students from the Sweetwater Unified High School District were honored with scholarships and recognition. The event was part of the Elks National Foundation program which provides more than \$3.64 million nationally in college scholarships each year through its three scholarship programs. The members of the Chula Vista Elks are very proud of its local scholarship program and the students who are the recipients of the good works of Elks volunteers and donors. A total of \$4,200 in scholarships were awarded (\$1,400 from the lodge, \$400 from the district and \$2,400 from CHEA). The student winners were: Franco Sandoval (CVHS), Tiffany Lee (ORHS), Renee Sandoval (CVHS), Shaun Hartman (SUHS), Andrew Bidwell (CVHS), and Jennifer Langston (JMS).

At the same banquet, the Chula Vista Elks Lodge's "Teenagers of the Year" were named. Jason Rosarion (Olympian High School) and Renee Sandoval (Chula Vista High School) were honored with a \$500.00 scholarship, and each of their high schools is honored to display for one year the Chula Vista Elks Lodge's Perpetual "Teenager of the Year" trophy. The trophy has the winners names inscribed on it.



Teenagers of the Year Jason Rosarion and Renee Sandoval