



The California-Hawaii ELK

Elks Care
Elks Share



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www.chea-elks.org

March/April 2010

Clovis Elks Lodge No. 2599 sponsors 28th annual basketball tournament

The Clovis Elks Lodge No. 2599 recently sponsored their 28th annual "Christmas Classic Basketball Tournament." This year's tournament was attended by 14 high school teams with approximately 225 players, 64 coaches and referees participating. The players came from all over California. Over 5,000 spectators enjoyed watching the tournament. The Lodge prepared over 700 meals for the coaches and players. The event was widely covered by local television stations. The championship game, between the Clovis High School Cougars and the Gahr High School Gladiators (Cerritos, CA) was won by Gahr.



L to R: Thom Richardson, Don Pruett, Dave Davidson, Mike Heffernan, Lori East, Linda Richardson, Larry Adams, Harry Johnson, Warren Gatrill, and Steve Velasquez will present the trophies.

Los Banos Elks Lodge No. 2510 donates to "Kops for Kids"

On December 10th, ER Richard Frontella and Luise Parish, Lecturing Knight, from Los Banos Elks Lodge No. 2510 delivered \$400 worth of toys to the local Police Athletic League's Program "Kops for Kids."



L to R: ER Richard Frontella and Lecturing Knight Luise Parish deliver toys to Officer Noel Jones

Duarte Elks Lodge No. 1427 delivers dictionaries

For the fourth year, the Duarte Elks Lodge No. 1427 distributed dictionaries to each third grade student in Duarte, and this was the third year it was done in Monrovia as well as to the private schools in the area. Mr. Larry Von Den Bossche, who is the Duarte Elks Lodge's liaison to the schools, estimates that almost 800 dictionaries and "Say No to Drugs" bookmarks were delivered. This event will continue to be a yearly project for the Lodge.



Four excited children with their new dictionaries

Palo Alto Elks Lodge No. 1471 visits hospitalized vets

The Palo Alto Lodge Veterans Committee made their annual visit to the Palo Alto Veterans Hospital to hand out Christmas bags to the patients. Shown is Lodge Trustee Chairman Chet Hayes as Santa and Veteran Eric Smith, Spinal Cord Injury patient. The Committee also delivered Christmas bags to the hospital Chaplain's office to be given to the homeless and destitute Veterans.



President's Message

As Cindy and I have traveled throughout California and Hawaii visiting upwards of 65 lodges, I could not help noticing what appears to make a successful Elks Lodge.

The Elks originally began as a desire for folks to gather together in a comfortable place surrounded by their friends to enjoy simple fellowship. Their continued quest broadened our fraternal order to nearly one million members. A lodge's success boils down to several areas including activities, volunteerism, leadership, communication, and the lodge facility.



ACTIVITIES: Lodge events and fellowship activities continue to be the main reason why many join the Elks. Lodge activities are a focal point, the cornerstone, and the foundation of a successful Elks Lodge. The variety of activities and events scheduled in a lodge throughout the year are a large part of what makes lodge membership interesting. Lodge activities should be frequent and must be diverse. New ideas must be attempted in addition to the tried and proven. New members should be encouraged to share their thoughts in this vital part of Elkdom. Activities include regular dinners. Meals must be offered at a "bargain basement" price. The lodge should be able to compete with the quantity, quality, and price of any local senior's restaurant.

VOLUNTEERISM: For a lodge to be financially successful it must remain open during normal operating hours. It should become a social focal point for its members. Volunteerism allows for this. Volunteerism, however, extends well beyond just the bar and restaurant facility. It extends to the groundskeeper, upkeep of the building, watering of the plants, decorating for various lodge functions, as well as participating in and managing the local Elks Lodge programs such as Hoop Shoot, Youth Soccer, Scouting, aid to our Veterans, Major Project, and our many other Elk Programs.

LEADERSHIP: Hand in hand with volunteerism comes leadership. Leaders must be actively recruited and mentored. Officers, Past Exalted Rulers, and interested members must continuously examine participants of lodge events looking for the "take charge individual" or those whose intelligence or charisma sets them apart. Leaders must train their successors.

COMMUNICATION: Every lodge must have an effective monthly newsletter. The newsletter needs to be more than a "thank you gram." It must be informative. It should contain a monthly calendar of events, which will directly and indirectly encourage members' participation.

LOCATION/FACILITY: While the aforementioned can be controlled by the internal policies of the lodge and its members, often the location and style of the lodge facility cannot. However, whether it is a leased facility or an owned facility, it must be clean and modern. Preferably, it should be the social focal point of the community, wherein members want to attend Elks events and nonmembers realize they too could be part of the "Best People On Earth."

Thank you for giving Cindy and I the opportunity to visit your districts and your lodges to garner these insightful points demonstrating we can "Trust Elks To Achieve The Extraordinary."

Leon "Lee" Karjola
California-Hawaii Elks
Association President

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

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

President's Upcoming Visitation Schedule

March 5-8, 2010
Homecoming, Eureka

April 30-May 2, 2010
Utah Elks Association Convention

May 12-15, 2010
CHEA Convention, San Diego

Arcadia Elks Lodge No. 2025 Ladies Auxiliary donates to CHEMPI

The Arcadia Elks Lodge No. 2025 held their 15th annual Christmas Tree Lane fundraiser last December. They raised \$6,705 to donate to the Major Project. Since its inception in 1995, the Christmas Tree Lane event has raised a total of \$58,645 for the Purple Pig.

There are usually 12 to 14 fully decorated trees (including presents) for a total value of about \$250 per tree. Each tree has a theme: "Money Tree," "Movie Tree," "Cruise Tree," etc. The average attendance at the fund raiser event is 350 people.

In addition, through other miscellaneous fund raisers and activities, an additional \$26,928 has been raised over the years by the Elks Ladies Auxiliary, for a cumulative total of \$85,573 in donations to the Major Project.



Three South Central District Lodges hold Veterans Day BBQ at VA facility

The Whittier Elks Lodge No. 1258, Downey Elks Lodge No. 2020 and the San Pedro Elks Lodge No. 966 joined forces to hold one of the District's five yearly barbecues at the West Los Angeles Veterans Facility in honor of Veterans Day 2009.

More than 300 veterans, their families and hospital staff were treated to a barbecue lunch, consisting of 150 steak sandwiches, 120 hot dogs and 80 hamburgers.

Dozens of home baked cookies that were prepared by the Emblem Clubs from Whittier and San Pedro Lodges were enjoyed by all. In addition, several handmade lap robes for wheelchair patients were donated by the Whittier Emblem Club No. 67. Personal items were given to all hospital patients who attended.

Miscellaneous Elks “Factoids”

By Edward “Trill” Torrilhon, CHEA Historian

In the early days of Elkdom, when the Lodge of Sorrows ritual was newly written, part of the ritual included all members wearing white gloves which they would remove and toss into the grave following the service.

Until the early Fifties, the obligation of the Order included the line “I will never knowingly violate the chastity of any pure woman.”

The Flag of our country was used as the altar cloth during Lodge meetings until 1956 when it was ordered that an altar covering of purple cloth with the emblem of the Order on it be used instead. The Flag has stood to the right of the altar of Elkdom ever since.

“The Vacant Chair” was not a new song when it was adopted by the Elks. The song had been written during the Civil War and was well known to its veterans. Many of the early Elks had fought in the war and the emotional pull of “The Vacant Chair” was a powerful one.

We all know when the Exalted Ruler raps the gavel twice that the Officers of the Lodge are to stand, and when he gavels three times, all stand. It used to be that all stood after the ER gaveld four times. The gaveling of three raps signaled the removal of the blindfolds used in the old “hazing” ritual.

When the Elks first began in 1868, there were two levels of membership. The first phase used the “hazing” or “humorous” ritual. But it wasn't until a member was initiated through the more serious ritual that he became a “Devout Elder” and had the power to vote as an Elk.

Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 and Elroy the Elk donate dictionaries

The third graders at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School were all giggles and smiles when 'Elroy the Elk' joined them for the Elks dictionary giveaway. Elroy is the Elks National Drug Awareness Mascot and friend to all. Elroy and Richard Goldner, the Grand Lodge Public Relations Chairman, entertained the children with dictionary stories and trivia. Some of the children even won Elk soccer balls. Elroy and Richard were joined by Lodge member Tony Markarian, PDDGER and Exalted Ruler Hector Morales to give away a dictionary to each student and their teachers.



L to R: Elroy the Elk (Elks National Drug Awareness Mascot), Ruben Olmedo, Danielle Cashman, Sergio Lira, Riley White, Debora Palmer (Literacy Coach), Richard Goldner.

Membership Retention & Lapsation

By Bob Ostini, Membership Retention & Lapsation Chair



Recognition, Praise and “Thank You” – these actions are the base pay that every volunteer should receive. For every volunteer, a sense of Satisfaction, Pride and Self-esteem from a job well done is their bonus and benefits package. Every Lodge should pay its volunteers well and often.

If your Lodge is having trouble recruiting Officers and Committee Chairs, make sure the “Pay Package” for volunteering at your Lodge is attractive. (This includes minimizing the criticisms from the “clubroom critics”). When it comes to handing out certificates and awards – more is always better.

Volunteer recognition is just one of the important cornerstones of a successful Membership Retention Program. Good Public Relations within your Lodge is another one. While it is important to let our communities know about the great programs of the BPOE, and the work your Lodge is doing to promote them, it is equally important to let your members know. Give your members reasons to be proud of their Lodge and to take pride in their membership.

Finally, this is my last article for the “Lapsation Committee,” and it looks like I might be the last CHEA Lapsation Chairman as the CHEA Board of Trustees prepares to change this committee's name to “Membership Retention.”

I needed to leave a little extra room at the top as I was asked to supply a “Head Shot” – demonstrating that it is never too late to give your volunteers a “pay raise.”

I need to practice what I preach and thank a great group of District Chairs. A CHEA Chairman is only successful through the hard work of the 19 District Chairs that make up every committee. For the last two years I have been blessed with super support from the 19 District Lapsation Committee Chairs assigned to me. To each of you please accept my **THANK YOU** and **MAHALO** for a job well done!

Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538 honors students

Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538 has an active “Student of the Month” program. In January, Chairman Ray Torris escorted Rogelio Aguilar (Pioneer Valley High School) and Abigail Ramos (Santa Maria High School), accompanied by their parents and friends, out to dinner. After enjoying their meal, they proceeded to the Lodge and were introduced to Exalted Ruler John Mascarenas. ER Mascarenas then introduced them to the Lodge members who were gathered in preparation for the weekly Lodge meeting. Each student received a beautiful plaque, an American Flag and a voucher for \$250.00.

The Lodge also has a very active DARE program. In June, the Lodge hosts children from neighboring schools to attend the annual Rodeo. The kids receive lunch, enjoy the rodeo, and receive DARE program materials. Last year, over 6,000 students from up to 50 miles away participated. The Santa Maria Police Department joins the Lodge members in sponsoring a Family Day picnic. The children visit the DARE tent, listen to a special Drug Awareness Program message, and receive DARE materials. This past December, 600 students were invited to the Lodge for an awards program. Several students spoke on the impact that drugs have had on their family life – many students received gifts from Sergeant Al Torres, who is now retiring after 7 years of donating his time to the DARE program.

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	Sonoma	1970-71
*Walter Schween, Jr.	Salinas	1971-72
*C. Wallace Erickson	Glendale	1972-73
*Yubi G. Separovich, PGELK	Sacramento	1973-74
*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		

Redwood City Elks Lodge No. 1991 donates to Haiti relief effort

Just prior to dinner on Wednesday, January 13th, several spouses of members of the Redwood City Elks Lodge No. 1991 put a jar on the bar and asked for donations to go to the Red Cross for Haiti Relief. The response was immediate, heartfelt and appreciated. That Friday, a \$250 money order was sent to the Red Cross on behalf of the Lodge – earmarked for their Haiti relief effort. It is in times like these that we are reminded and reassured that our Lodge is truly a service organization.

March/April, 2010



B.L.T.

On the Web?

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

Piggy Bank

By Debbie Hosted, Piggy Bank Chair

The Major Project is celebrating its 60th year of service this year. As members of the California-Hawaii Elks Association, you should be so PROUD of what you have accomplished over the previous 60 years! You have funded a program that has provided therapy to THOUSANDS of disabled children, helping not only the children but the entire family. At no charge to the family, the children have had their independence enhanced and have developed the skills to cope in a positive way with their challenges. Their parents have learned how to help their children; the entire family has had help dealing with their situation – all because each and every one of you care enough to give the best gift – your donation of pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters and dollars.

Did you know that in addition to our occupational, physical and speech-language therapists, CHEMPI started the Preschool Vision Screening program in 1965? Since then, over 2 Million (yes Million) children have had their eyes screened. There are so many stories of children whose eyesight has been improved, and even lives saved because of our eye screening program.

Did you also know that 94 cents of every dollar that you donate goes to fund the Major Project? This means that only 6 cents goes for the administration overhead cost to run the program. Your dollar is stretching far in our program.

As we near the end of one Elk year and the beginning of new Elk year, I know that everyone is very busy. Please take the time to remember our Major Project. We will continue to collect monies for this year's Exalted Rulers March until our Association Convention in May. There is still time for you to increase your donations for the year. Please help our program continue for many years to come.

I have asked that each member give a dollar more than they gave last year. If everyone does that, we will reach our elusive goal of \$3 Million. We were so close last year – I have faith that our members will continue their generous giving again this year.

Feed Your Purple Pig!



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

Merced Elks Lodge No. 1240 hosts special needs bingo

For the last eight years, the Merced Elks Lodge No. 1240 has invited persons with special needs to play Bingo at the Lodge. This year was no different. Bingo Chairman Ken Wenrich and members of the Lodge were on hand to assist the players during the day and provide them with a super hot dog and hamburger lunch. By the end of the day everyone had received prizes for playing Bingo.

Lodge members and their families who volunteered that day consider this event as one of the most rewarding events held at the Lodge. ER Jack Kelly said "There is nothing like the laughter and joy expressed by the participants at this special event to warm your heart and spirit – it's the one event that I hope never to miss." At the end of the event all participants were presented with an Elks T-Shirt as they departed.

Vista Elks Lodge No. 1968 holds Christmas party for disabled kids

On December 18th, the Vista Elks Lodge No. 1968 held its annual Christmas Party for disabled children. Over 400 children were fed, entertained and given a stocking and gift from Santa. Bill Ijames, PGELK, has organized this event for the past 35 years.



Santa Claus (Tim Soboleski) with disabled kids

Oceano-Five Cities Lodge No. 2504 present awards to mother and son

Oceano-Five Cities Elks Lodge No. 2504 presented the September Student of the Month Award to Spencer Ponce. The amazing thing about this award presentation is that Spencer's mother, Pamela Ponce, received the same award from the Lodge 30 years earlier! Both attended Arroyo Grande High School. In attendance for the ceremony was PER Bill Jansen who presented Pamela with her award 30 years ago.



L to R: Pamela Ponce, Spencer Ponce, Barbara Kostowal (ER), Tony Ulibarri, (scholarship chairman), and Bill Jansen

Redding Elks Lodge No. 1073 hosts firefighter ceremony

On December 15, 2009 the Redding Elks Lodge No. 1073 sponsored the Annual Regional Occupational Program ("R.O.P.") Fire Fighter Training Badge Ceremony. 28 local area high school students had completed the rigorous training required to participate in the R.O.P. "Ride Along" Program. These students will be responding side by side with fire fighters to 911 calls for the remaining months of the school year.

Approximately 250 people were in attendance this evening to help these young men and women in the start of their careers. Fire Chiefs from the following agencies were present: City of Redding Fire Department, Shasta Trinity Cal Fire Unit, Anderson City Fire Department and Shasta Lake City Fire Department. Also in attendance: Redding Elks Lodge No. 1073 Exalted Ruler Mell Steiger and Trustee Jim Richardson.



San Luis Obispo Elks Lodge No. 322 donates items valued at \$10,318 to veterans

The San Luis Obispo Elks Lodge No. 322 remembered our local veterans during the Christmas Holidays, both locally and abroad.

50 goodie bags with a granola bar, Kleenex, assorted candy, floss picks, and hand wipes worth \$73.38 were sent to soldiers in Iraq. 52 goodie bags with a granola bar, 30 minute phone card, Elks pencil, and assorted candy worth \$201.12 were delivered to the veterans at the San Luis Obispo VA clinic. \$82.60 worth of coffee and snacks were donated for the snack cart at the Santa Maria VA clinic.

For six weeks members donated items for the veterans at the Fresno VA Hospital/Geriatric Extended Care Unit (GECU). Total value donated was \$9,961.25. Some of the items that were donated were phone cards, crocheted lap afghans/caps, crossword/word search puzzle books, warm clothing, reading glasses, tea, hot chocolate, coffee & supplies, and personal care hygienic items. Each patient at the Fresno VA GECU received a new sweat outfit, an Elks Christmas card, a "goodie bag" with personal care items and a pair of socks. A trailer full of donations was delivered by Gary Donovan, member and Vietnam veteran and his wife, Donna, Veterans Services Coordinator. The total dollar value of these items that were donated to our veterans in December amounted to \$10,318.32.

Visit your California-Hawaii Elks Association website. It's a site to see!
www.chea-elks.org

A message from the CHEA First Vice President

By: Hugh Scanlon, First Vice President

Hey, all of you incoming Exalted Rulers: it's time to make plans for your upcoming California-Hawaii Elks Association Convention! This year, the convention will be held in beautiful San Diego on May 12th through 15th.

And don't forget to bring your significant other, your officers - especially that new Esteemed Leading Knight - and any of your members who will want to enjoy what promises to be a banner convention.

You should plan to attend the meetings, functions and ceremonies that make our convention a standout. Enjoy the opening ceremony, with its beautiful memorial service and then attend the meetings and clinics that will help you plan a wonderful, prosperous and successful Elk year.

The culminating event is the Exalted Ruler's Piggy Bank March for our Major Project. This event gives you a chance to receive accolades for an important accomplishment of your year as the Leading Knight as you announce your lodge's contributions to the Purple Pig for the year.

The knowledge that you gain at this convention will be invaluable to share with your lodge and the convention experience will be another great memory for your year as Exalted Ruler.

In addition to the convention activities, the city of San Diego and especially the Town and Country Resort complex offers you the opportunity to enjoy some fun in the sun with plenty of activities for you and your lodge guests. Part of the fun will be the Great Metropolitan District Rally that takes place at the convention hall early Friday morning, just prior to installation of the incoming Association officers. Be there - I promise you a great time!

Your district has a convention/housing coordinator who will aid and assist you in making early and timely reservations.

My wife, Dale and I look forward to meeting you there. See you in San Diego!!!!

Hugh Scanlon, CHEA First Vice President

California-Hawaii Elks Association Board of Trustees Update

By: Floyd "Skip" Henke, CHEA Board of Trustees Chair

I would like to take this opportunity to update our members on the activities of the CHEA Board of Trustees. At this time of the year, the board is in the process of approving a budget for the California Hawaii Elks Association for the 2010-2011 Elk year.

Our initial budget recommendations were brought to the full board at our January meeting thanks to Committee Members David Williford and Art Echternacht and with the assistance of Executive Director Tim Martin.

The finalized budget will be reviewed and approved at the Trustees Meeting in March which will be held in Eureka, California.

It became necessary this year to increase the Association Per Capita by one dollar in order to offset the cost of providing the California-Hawaii Elk magazine which has been redesigned and greatly improved. The \$1.00 increase will be broken down as follows: sixty-five cents to the magazine and thirty-five cents to the general fund to stabilize our reserve funding.

This is the first increase in Association Per Capita since 2004 and it indicates that the Board of Trustees has been diligent in monitoring the annual budget and the expenses incurred against the budget for the previous six years.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Board of Trustees and their responsibilities, please feel free to contact me or any of the other Board Members.

Membership

By: David Harris, Membership Chair

We are winding down the current Lodge year, but we still have a couple of month's time to bring in new members. I encourage each Lodge to seek new candidates for initiation prior to the end of this fraternal year. Furthermore, if your Lodge has a large number of delinquent members, please make a concerted effort to bring them current prior to March 31.

In my last article, I requested suggestions for a 30 second "commercial" or "sales introduction" that would answer the question "What are the ELKS?" I want to thank the two individuals who responded. I will present a certificate to each of them for submitting their suggestion, and I will present their entries at the CHEA Convention in May.

I will post their responses on the membership section of the CHEA Elks website by the end of February. Please feel free to use them as is, or rewrite them to fit your personality. Better yet, write one of your own so that when someone asks "What are the Elks?" you can respond without going into a long dissertation. Take 30 seconds and make it so interesting that they will be intrigued enough to ask you some more questions. You can take more time at that point to go into greater detail. Remember, we are salespeople for the great works that we do in our communities.

Finally, Leading Knights, as you plan your year, schedule a couple of dedicated events to promote the Lodge and prospect for members. It can be as simple as a dinner and music, followed by an invitation to the prospective member to take a tour of your Lodge. Or, you could have a special speaker give a talk as the guests partake of a few appetizers. Invite prospective members to a Lodge dinner/dance. Have a special event to recognize an outstanding member of the community, or do a firefighter/law enforcement appreciation night. Just invite those prospective members to an event. You get the idea.

In my last article in April, I will outline ways to combine our charity programs with membership drives. We must let people know that we are still here and active. Promote the Lodge and its community involvement. Show that we are simply the "Best People on Earth."

Two Bay District Lodges sponsor the "Hoop Shoot"

For 37 years, the Alameda Elks Lodge No. 1015 has sponsored the Elks Hoop Shoot City Finals in the city of Alameda. This annual event is conducted by the Alameda Parks and Recreation Department. Each contestant takes 25 free throw attempts. The contestants are divided by gender and into three age groups: 8-9 years, 10-11 years and 12-13 years. Gage Beal, who won the 12-13 year old boy's contest (an amazing 25 out of 25 free throws) went on to place 2nd in the District level finals. He joined Stephanie Fong who also placed second in the District Level competition.

The Bay District Hoop Shoot finals were held on January 16, 2010. This contest was sponsored by San Mateo Elks Lodge No. 1112 and was held at Serra High School in San Mateo. 23 boys and girls participated. The first place winners (ages 8-9) are Indya Williams and Ryan Lassareschi (both from Fremont Lodge No. 2121). The second place winners (ages 8-9) are Lydia Manu and Neal Begovich (both from San Mateo Lodge). The first place winners (ages 10-11) are Tifani Lowe (San Francisco Lodge No. 3) and Cole Rewrett (Fremont Lodge). The second place winners (ages 10-11) are Stephanie Fong (Alameda Lodge) and Nabi Saad (San Francisco Lodge). The first place winners (ages 12-13) are Christine Yuen and Ryan Chan (both from the San Francisco Lodge). The second place winners (ages 12-13) are Kayla Brandi (South San Francisco Lodge No. 2091) and Gage Beal from (Alameda Lodge).

Many thanks go to Dave Wedeking, the Bay District "Hoop Shoot" Chairman and to Tim Goll, the San Mateo Elks Lodge Chairman. Many hours were spent by both Dave and Tim to organizing the event.

Ventura Elks Lodge No. 1430 donates to new VA hospital library

The Ventura Elks Lodge No. 1430 sponsored its second annual car/truck/motorcycle show benefiting the new VA Hospital recently dedicated in Saticoy, CA. A total of \$3,000 was presented to the director of the new facility for use in their book and video library. The 60-bed facility will offer 24 double-occupancy rooms and 12 private rooms for elderly veterans, and each resident will have their own flat-screen television, phone and laptop computer.

During the holiday season, the Lodge donated food and toys for approximately 60 families living at the Salvation Army's Transition House. The lodge also held its annual Children's Christmas party and toys and a Santa candy sock were presented to each child by Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus who were assisted by two of Santa's helpers, Nicole Merryman and Kaylie Matthews (granddaughters of Elks members). A luncheon was also provided and entertainment by a magician happily greeted all in attendance. The Ventura Elks have sponsored Cub Scout Troop 3179 for many years and they provided Christmas carol singing at the party. Children were represented by Elks members, Project Development, the Salvation Army, Apria and foster children from Ventura County.

In other news, the Lodge is very active in youth and community oriented service. The Lodge held a Halloween Open House to promote the DARE program. Over 700 dictionaries were distributed to various schools throughout Ventura County. A total of \$5,250 was awarded to Most Valuable Student scholarship winners and an additional \$900 was awarded to other applicants. The Lodge also gave \$450 to the winners of their Americanism Essay Contest.

Santa Ynez Valley Elks Lodge No. 2640 donates \$1,000 to senior center

On December 18, 2009, at their Santa Ynez Valley Elks' Lodge Christmas party, Judy Hinchcliffe (Lodge First Lady) presented the Buellton Senior Center Board President, Shirley Andberg and Rovi Butcher, Director of Solvang Senior Center with \$1,000 in gift certificates which will be disbursed to needy seniors to be used for the purchase of food. The gift cards, in increments of \$50.00 were purchased through the generous donations of Elks' Lodge members. At this writing, donations are continuing to come in. Four of the members' children decorated the envelopes enclosing the certificates.



L to R: Shirley Andberg, Judy Hinchcliffe, Rovi Butcher

Atascadero Elks Lodge No. 2733 blood drive breaks record

During a blood drive at their Lodge last December, the Atascadero Elks Lodge No. 2733 broke their previous record of 56 donors. A whopping 76 donors gave blood. The blood drive was sponsored by the Lodge in partnership with United Blood Services of the Central Coast. UBS had to bring two donor coaches to accommodate the record donor turnout.

"I really appreciate the Atascadero Elks Lodge spearheading the blood drive with the United Blood Services of the Central Coast," stated Atascadero resident Doug Rice. "It gives me the opportunity to give back to the community during these difficult times when money is really tight."

The Lodge provided electrical hookups for the UBS donor coach generators and bathrooms for clients and staff. They also provided "walkie-talkies" for communication between the bus and sign up areas and they set up the lobby of the lodge as a waiting area.

In other news, representatives from Marine Corps League Detachment 680 recently picked up donated toys and games for "Toys for Tots" from the Lodge. The overflowing donation bin set a new contribution record for the Lodge. This Lodge donation and another 3,000 toys at the Atascadero Armory were distributed to area children on Thursday, December 17, 2009.

The Central Coast Toys for Tots Program is sponsored by the Marine Corps League, Detachment 680 based in San Luis Obispo, CA under the leadership of Commandant Tim Haley, Director Lou Barnes, Executive Director Barbara Wolcott, Managing Directors Anita Pomerantz and John DuMong, and Deputy Director Debbie Mansfield who were assisted by over 600 community volunteers.



L to R: UBS representative Beth takes blood from Doug Rice

Buena Park Elks Lodge No. 2046 and Ty Cobb sponsor baseball team

The Buena Park Elks Lodge No. 2046 and Ty Cobb, nephew of the famous Baseball Hall of Fame legend, enjoyed a sit-down dinner recently at the Lodge. 175 players, coaches, cheerleaders, family and friends attended this event. The Lodge has sponsored the local Pop Warner "Cougars" baseball team for 8 years and Ty Cobb has coached the team for that entire time.

In other news, the Lodge is very active in supporting the CHEA Major Project. The lodge has scheduled a Purple Pig fund raiser in February – an "All Star Comedy and Dinner Show" – with all proceeds going to the Piggy Bank. They are very pleased that this event has completely sold out, thanks to the efforts of PERs Paul Pantages and Ed Shull. All of the entertainers for the event have donated their time.

March/April, 2010

Gilroy Elks Lodge No. 1567 feeds needy

The Gilroy Elks Lodge No. 1567 continued a long tradition at Betsy's Restaurant in Morgan Hill. On Christmas morning, 800 needy residents had a free meal and their children received gifts from Santa. The owners of Betsy's Restaurant, Jessie and Betsy Nazzal, who are members of Gilroy Lodge, hosted the event as they have been doing for almost 20 years. Members of the Gilroy Elks Lodge and other community members assisted during the event. All labor, food, and children's gifts were donated by the community.



Lodge members and owner Jessie Nazzal (on the right)

Merced Elks Lodge No. 1240 recognizes our veterans

As we know, the month of November was proclaimed to be "National Veterans Remembrance Month" by Grand Exalted Ruler Jim Nicholson. The Merced Elks Lodge No. 1240 implemented this proclamation under the leadership of Ernie Conner, the Lodge's National Veterans Service Chairman.

Ernie made this year's activities very special. The Lodge hosted a group of Nisei (Japanese-American) Veterans for dinner and honored their service. The Association's National Veterans Service Chairman, Frank Chicago, and the Central District's National Veterans Service Chairman, Ed Temple, were in attendance. Frank presented special certificates to each of the Nisei Veterans in attendance.

Later in the program, Frank presented certificates to the families of three soldiers of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, who gave their lives in service to our country.

A special thank you goes to Leading Knight, Verne Warnke, for providing a float so that a dozen Elk Veterans could participate in the Merced Veterans Day parade.



Santa Clara Elks Lodge No. 2347 remembers our veterans and our community

On November 11th, the Santa Clara Elks Lodge No. 2347 paid tribute to our veterans with a ceremony at the Lodge. Boy Scout Troop No. 394 presented the Flag to kick off the ceremony. The Honorable Patricia Mahan, Mayor of the City of Santa Clara, read Grand Exalted Ruler James Nicholson's Proclamation that declared the month of November as Veterans' Month. The Lodge's National Veterans Service Chair, Patrick Sisco, gave a very informative presentation that described the various ways in which the Lodge works to support our local veterans throughout the year.

Two special guests were present: Staff Sergeant Denny Weisgerber, a recipient of the Navy Cross and Purple Heart for his actions during the Korean War, and May Alm, now 93 years of age, who was a nurse serving under General Patton during World War II.

A special tribute and recognition was given to Max Henderson, a Pearl Harbor survivor, by his grandson, Charles Collins, a Lodge member. Jim Lee displayed the flags from each branch of service and gave a speech on the Veterans Memorial, recognizing all who were instrumental in creating this beautiful landmark by the Santa Clara Elks. Jack Lasserot gave a beautiful tribute to "The Soldier" and the evening ended with "God Bless America."

In other news: an Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held for Jacob Reintaler, with PER Al Soto presenting Jacob with a certificate of achievement from the Lodge. The Lodge recently distributed 1,248 dictionaries to every third grade student in the Santa Clara Unified School District. The funding for these dictionaries was supplemented by an ENF Gratitude Grant. The Lodge also provided some Christmas cheer by helping keep 40-50 youngsters a little warmer this winter, brought smiles with 525 toys for underprivileged children, 80 gifts to our seniors, and donated 110 food baskets to needy families. Thanks go to Chairperson Terri Allen, assisted by Annette Conroy, Jeanne Ontiveros, Sooke Adame, Patti DiRitis and many other Lodge members.



L to R: Patricia Mahan, May Alm

Alan Terwilliger Passes Away

Alan Terwilliger, Past District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler and Past District Leader of the Bay District passed away on February 2, 2010. Alan was the Association Lapsation Chair (00-01), Elks Training Chair (98-99), Lodge Activities Chair (94-95) and Float Fund Chair (93-94).

Hanford Elks Lodge No. 1259 tours with giant US flag

The Hanford Elks Lodge No. 1259 recently completed their 2009 Lodge Flag schedule. The 12 foot by 20 foot American Flag traveled 1250 miles in 2009. It was seen at 25 different locations throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

The entourage that accompanied the flag donated 555 man-hours and traveled 5,466 member-miles. The two highlights of the tour were when the flag was featured in the Independence Day Parade in Cayucos and the annual Veterans Day Parade in Porterville. The Flag Committee Chairman is Corky Tribble, PER.



Honolulu Elks Lodge No. 616 enjoys a visit by Grand Exalted Ruler Jim Nicholson

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Grand Exalted Ruler (also known as our Order's National President) recently visited the State of Hawaii. The Honorable James L. Nicholson, GER, was escorted by the Honorable Louis J. Grillo, PGER, and other dignitaries from the Honolulu Elks Lodge No. 616 on a tour of several famous local tourist attractions.

The group visited the Punchbowl National Cemetery of the Pacific where GER Nicholson placed an Elks floral wreath in the chapel. The group also visited the USS Arizona Memorial Museum where GER Nicholson spoke with several members of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association.



L to R: Wayne Howard, DL, Ron Mizuno, DDGER, Jim Nicholson, GER, Mary Carolyn Nicholson, Lucia Grillo, Jim Grillo, PGER

The California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. (CHEMPI)

By: Fred Hewins, CHEMPI Board of Trustees Chairman



While writing this article, the words of a song from the past came to mind: "Getting to know you, getting to learn all about you" - so here goes.

Who we are: We have a seven member board of trustees: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and three members-at-large. We have the support services of PGERs Donald Dapelo; Ken Moore and Jim Grillo, who serve as Ex-Officio members, and the advisory services of the CHEA Executive Director Tim Martin, PSP, and Wayne Howard.

In the "trenches" we have a professional staff made up of Physical Therapists and Speech-Language Pathologists. Last year, they traveled 263,821 miles while making 12,890 visits to 656 different families whose children received the appropriate therapy. Our Preschool Vision Screeners traveled 114,142 miles to screen 50,175 children of which 2,198 were referred to doctors for further remedial attention.

Some of the things we do: The following committees describe a portion of the work accomplished by the CHEMPI Board of Trustees during the four meetings we have each year.

Continuing Education Committee – The primary responsibility of this committee is to plan and carry out the annual conference which all professional employees are required to attend. These employees are a cut above the rest. Also in attendance each October, are the CHEMPI Chairman of the Board of Trustees, new CHEMPI Trustees and the Association President.

Undergraduate Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities – The function of this committee is to select undergraduate students with disabilities to receive scholarships. Each year, \$48,000.00 is budgeted for this program. In November, a new scholarship application is posted on the CHEA web site and a notice is mailed to every Lodge Secretary, Lodge Scholarship Chairman, District Scholarship Chairman, and to the CHEA Scholarship Chairman. The award can be \$1,000.00 or \$2,000.00 per year, for up to four years.

CHEMPI Insurance and Safety Committee – The committee meets in January each year at the CHEA office in Fresno. The committee reviews copies of insurance coverage cost proposals and listens to brokers discuss the merits of each proposed insurance offering. The full CHEMPI Board of Trustees is asked to approve the coverage that is selected and recommended by the committee chair.

Salary and Employee Benefits Committee – The committee meets in January each year at the CHEA office in Fresno. The committee reviews the cost of coverage for each of the areas of: Health, Dental, Vision, Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment, Long Term Disability, AIG Life and Travel Insurance, and to hear brokers discuss their recommendations. After due deliberation, the chairman of the committee seeks the approval of the full CHEMPI Board of Trustees.

As you get ready to prepare your tax return, remember that your donation to the Piggy Bank and the Bequests and Living Trusts (B.L.T.) are tax deductible since the Major Project is classified as a 501 (c) (3) by the IRS.

Santa Monica Elks Lodge No. 906 and the SCCD support their communities

At the Santa Monica Elks Lodge No. 906's 57th Annual Children's Christmas Party, Santa Claus made a special appearance for the kids. The Elks sponsored 300 kids at their Lodge for an afternoon of treats. The program included a clown, a reading of "The Night before Christmas" by Mrs. Claus, ice cream and then an appearance by Santa Claus. Santa gave each child a stocking filled with goodies and a present appropriate for the age. The toys were donated by the Lodge.

The Lodge's 10th annual "Santa Monica Elks Lodge No. 906 Boxers and Briefs" drive helped out several Veterans at the West LA VA. The Elks collected new packages of underwear for the local vets. This year, the Lodge collected 535 dozen men's and women's briefs, socks, t-shirts, hats and scarves.

The Lodge selected Warrant Officer Jason Walker, USMC, as their "Firefighter of the Year." Mr. Walker is a firefighter in the Santa Monica Fire Department.

The Santa Monica Lodge joined the other lodges in the South Central Coast District (SCCD) to donate to the Ted Hall and Arnie Quinones Firemen Fund. During a devastating fire in the San Bernardino Mountains, firefighters Hall and Quinones lost their lives while trying to save the lives of others. Under the direction of District Americanism Chairman R.A. Pickett, PER, the six lodges (Santa Monica No. 906, Westchester No. 2050, Torrance No. 1948, Gardena No. 1919, Culver City No. 1917 and Redondo Beach No. 1948) collected a total of \$1,500 in donations for the families of these fallen heroes.

The SCCD has a very active dictionary program. This year, Santa Monica distributed 2,424, Torrance delivered 3,000, Westchester delivered 2,600, Culver City distributed 1,800, Gardena gave out 1,200 and Redondo Beach gave away 1,500 to third graders in both public and private schools. In the past 4 years the SCCD has distributed well over 30,000 dictionaries to the community.



L to R: Jill Hawkins, Ozgood Hawkins, R. Todd Hawkins (a new member), Santa Claus (Grady Sain, PER) and Mrs. Claus (new member Shari Larkin)

La Habra Elks Lodge No. 2095 delivers toys and dictionaries

The La Habra Elks Lodge No. 2095 delivered over \$18,000 worth of toys to the children of the Marines stationed at Camp Pendleton. The toys were collected and money was donated to buy more toys by the members of the Lodge. The Lodge also participated in the dictionary program by delivering 1,300 dictionaries to third grade students in La Habra and Brea.

Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 helps community, watches Tournament of Roses

On Friday, December 18th, the Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 Kitchen Crew prepared a spaghetti dinner for over 200 members, their families and friends. After dinner they packed 193 Christmas baskets for selected families in need in the city of Orange. The baskets included everything for a wonderful Christmas dinner. Toys for the children were also included. The next day, 74 Lodge members, families, and friends met at the lodge and delivered the Christmas baskets. The Lodge had raised nearly \$5,000 to provide the baskets for this wonderful Christmas event for the holiday season. The Orange Elks Lodge Scout Troop 1475 is a big part of this program.

In other news, many Orange Elks Lodge members keenly watched the 121st Tournament of Roses Parade on January 1st. Not only had the Lodge donated \$285 to the El Dorado High School band to help fund their participation in the parade, but several Lodge members had family members marching in the event! PER Rich Reed's granddaughter Sarah Mountain, Club Manager Ken House's son Patrick, and member Gordie Foley's nephews Michael and Edmund marched with El Dorado Marching Band and Color Guard. The El Dorado Marching Band and Color Guard were invited to perform for the second time. What is remarkable about their participation is that only 15 bands from around the world are invited each year to participate. An estimated 1.5 billion people from around the world, including China, will be watching. This is why it is called the Super Bowl of Bands!



L to R: Larry Loustaunau, Scoutmaster Troop 1475 and his son Robert

El Cajon Elks Lodge No. 1812 holds Christmas party at Sevick School

The El Cajon Elks Lodge No. 1812 hosted a Christmas party at the Sevick School for disadvantaged children located in El Cajon. Chairman Bernie Griggs, Co-Chairman Paul Berg, Brian Jones (Santa Claus), Colleen Jones (Mrs. Claus) and a number of volunteer elves, distributed 272 gifts (that were donated by lodge members) to the students and their siblings. The children were also treated to cookies, ice cream and punch upon their return to the classroom.

Newport Harbor Elks Lodge No. 1767 delivers dictionaries

Newport Harbor Elks Lodge No. 1767 delivered 1,600 dictionaries to local third grade elementary school students.

Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 Pays Tribute to Those Who Served

The Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 installed a tribute to all of those who have served in one of the branches of the United States military. Members Roy George and Tom Brown were inspired to install this beautiful piece of art to honor our current and former veterans. It consists of four interlocking ceiling tiles which are emblazoned with the logos of the five branches of the United States military. This permanent tribute is in the in the Lodge's game room.



Mojave Elks Lodge No. 2059 helps Toys for Tots

The Mojave Elks Lodge No. 2059 presented a \$730 check to Sergeant Michael Ball (representing the "Toys for Tots" program) on Tuesday, December 12, 2009. The Lodge served lunch for all of the month of November. The Marines from Edwards Air Force Base MAG-41 Detachment "A" volunteered at the Lodge to serve lunch to our veterans on Veterans' Day. Over 40 veterans were served. In addition, the Lodge members baked over 950 cookies for the Marines.



L to R: Candis Snider (Inner Guard), Sergeant Michael Ball, Eddie Tomlin, E.R., Deborah Smoot, Esquire

Van Nuys-Reseda Elks Lodge No. 2790 hosts neighborhood children's Christmas party

Elroy the Elk helped the Van Nuys-Reseda Elks Lodge No. 2790 and the Antlers welcome our neighborhood children for their annual Christmas party. 75 children and 30 parents were treated to cookies and cocoa, participated in crafts and enjoyed a visit from Santa.



Elroy the Elk with the Antlers and Tiffany Lace, Loyal Knight

Chico Elks Lodge No. 423 assists Paradise Elks Lodge No. 2026 to fund veteran's memorial

Exemplifying the motto "Elks Care - Elks Share," Chico Elks Lodge No. 423 Veteran's Committee Chair John Schultz presented a \$500 check to Jan Keller, the Veteran's Committee Chair for Paradise Lodge No. 2026, to help complete two veteran's memorial projects in Paradise. John Schultz is also the North District National Veterans Service Chair.

Last school year, two Paradise High seniors had a project approved by the town council to build two memorials at the Paradise Community Park. One memorial would honor the Korean War Veterans. The other memorial would honor the veterans from WWII to the present day. However, these memorial projects needed funding to be completed. To date, \$1,700 has been raised.



Jan Keller, John Schultz, Jack Thorpe, PER

March/April, 2010

Lake Elsinore Elks Lodge No. 2591 and VFW Post No. 1508 bring Christmas cheer

The members of Lake Elsinore Elks Lodge No. 2591 and members of neighboring VFW Post No. 1508 visit the hospitalized veterans at the Jerry L. Pettis Veterans Hospital in Loma Linda on the first Thursday of each month throughout the year. These visits are coordinated by Maria Ohlandt, the Lodge's National Veterans Service Chair, and Bob Nickle, the VFW's V.A. Hospital Representative (and also a Lodge member).

The annual Christmas Party for the veterans is always scheduled for the first Saturday in December. Volunteers from the Lodge and VFW Post treated the veterans to a lunch consisting of turkey and roast beef sandwiches, macaroni salad, chocolate and vanilla pudding and sodas. The "Global Affairs" musical group entertained with holiday music. 100 bags containing lap robes, socks, toilet articles, writing tablets, pens and coupon books for purchasing items at the hospital canteen store were given out to the veterans. Harry Yanover, the first Exalted Ruler of the Lodge, always attends the event and presented baseball caps to the veterans. Gary Welsh, a lodge member, presented each veteran with a cap with the logo of his or her branch of service. A drawing was held with the winners receiving 4 radios and 3 watches. Those hospitalized veterans who were not able to join the party in the recreation room were visited in their hospital rooms.

Both the Elks and VFW members have vowed never to forget these veterans who have done so much to defend and preserve our country!

In other news, the Lodge raised \$13,695 for their scholarship program during their 11th annual Christmas Tree Lane fundraiser on December 5th. This event is one of the Lodge's major fund raising events for its scholarship program that supports local graduating seniors for technical-vocational education. The Lodge has raised over \$130,000 for scholarships in the past ten years.



Moreno Valley Elks Lodge No. 2697 hosts BSA "Court of Honor"

On December 5, 2009 the Moreno Valley Elks Lodge No. 2697 hosted an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Ryan Smith. ER Judy Smith presented Ryan with a framed flag and a certificate from the Lodge. As part of the qualifications for Eagle Scout, the candidate must earn a minimum of 21 merit badges. Ryan has earned 27 merit badges. Since meeting the Eagle Scout requirements, Ryan earned an additional 5 merit badges to qualify for the Eagle Scout "Bronze Palm" award. He plans to continue his active involvement with Troop No. 214.

The Lodge charts Scout Troop No. 214 which meets in the Lodge every Tuesday evening. The troop assists with Lodge ceremonies and other events, such as dinners and family nights. On December 15, 2009, Troop No. 214 held its annual Christmas Party at the Lodge. The Scouts and their families enjoyed food, playing the Lodge "Wii" and several other games. The Lodge is proud to sponsor this exceptional group of scouts!

14 THE CALIFORNIA-HAWAII ELK

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Century (\$100) Club Donors (November 21, 2009 through January 31, 2010)

Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge
Southeast District PER Alumni Assn. (2)	0	Laura Helgeson	1285	Mike & Sandy Hudson	1799	John Paulson	2038
Arlene Bennett	6	Monterey Lodge Line Dancers (3)	1285	Inland Builders	1799	Pomona Emblem Club No. 325	2038
Ronald Brusato	6	Gerald Neville	1285	Joey DeConnick Farms (2)	1799	Pomona Elks Bartenders	2038
Barbara Cherry	6	J. Scott Phillips (2)	1285	Johnson Refrigeration, Inc.	1799	J.T. Rentschler	2038
Stephen Clazie	6	Stephanie Pintar	1285	Jordan Implement	1799	James E. Rentschler	2038
Roberta Davies	6	Howard Tsuchiya (6)	1285	Larry Green Ford	1799	Jennifer Rentschler	2038
Joseph Elwell	6	Lon Croddy (2)	1289	Leafworks	1799	Joanna Rentschler	2038
Marilyn Facha (3)	6	Gallivanders	1289	Mallett & Sons	1799	Kathy Rentschler	2038
Richard Allen Hanson	6	Dick Hill (3)	1289	John Maltby	1799	Mike & Laura Rentschler	2038
Marilyn Hooton	6	Karl La Masa	1289	Palo Verde Hospital	1799	San Gabriel Valley PER Association	2038
Michael E. Johnson	6	Ken Lewis (2)	1289	Palo Verde Laundry	1799	Randy Smith	2038
Janelle Lathrop	6	Eileen Moore (2)	1289	Passmore Gas	1799	Claude Chanz	2059
Odean Loney	6	Dave Olson	1289	Wayne Pinkerton	1799	Jeff Simmons	2068
Ray Nielsen	6	Gary Paufl	1289	Play Kool	1799	Beverly Jahr	2095
Marietta Petersen (3)	6	Dale Scanlon	1289	Red Mule Ranch	1799	Edward Jahr (2)	2095
Anita Pugh	6	Hugh Scanlon	1289	Richard Hoover	1799	Earl Bouchard	2098
Ronald A. Roberts	6	Jerry Stephens (2)	1289	River Run	1799	Stanley Allard	2121
Lawrence Rotharmel	6	Don Vincent (2)	1289	Doctor Sahlobei (2)	1799	Robert Baker	2121
William John Sampino	6	Mid-Term Bartenders (2)	1299	Bradley Schwindt, CPA	1799	Bob Dringenberg (2)	2121
Alexis Thompson	6	Al Fredrickson (2)	1328	Rande Sederstrom (2)	1799	Michael Kovacich	2121
Rudy Toralez	6	Julie French	1328	John & Stacy Smith	1799	Carol Sue Moffitt	2121
Dorothy Trapanese	6	Charles Shaw	1328	Solar Distributors	1799	Mike Moffitt (2)	2121
Robert Wassum	6	Steve Oates	1378	State Farm Insurance - Robert Crain	1799	Gil Peters	2121
Wendy Weinzheimer (2)	6	William Woodall	1378	Wayne & Gloria Stroschein	1799	Mary Peters	2121
Dorothy Gore (2)	168	George Gibby, Jr.	1430	Steve Sutterfield	1799	Francis Rose	2121
Margaret Lockhart	218	Joe Henry, PER	1430	VanDyke Farms	1799	Manny Velez & MacDonald Bunch (3)	2121
Bill Bateman	423	Lynn Tidwell	1430	Yellow Mart	1799	Paul Whitman	2121
James Blanchard	423	John Smith	1475	Taco Belles of Walnut Creek Lodge	1811	Mark Wright	2121
Chico Elks Bowling League	423	Ray Delgado	1567	James Payne	1839	Jerry Shubb	2190
Chico Elks Travel League	423	Jerry Everman	1567	Pauline Meyer (3)	1900	Mike Warner	2243
Jim Fowler	423	Walter Gilstrap	1567	David Telles (2)	1900	M. Michael Metcalfe	2248
John Giordanengo	423	Harvey Hammer	1567	Bob O'Donnell	1905	Bare Ellis	2432
Fred Heath	423	June Hammer	1567	Yvonne "Shortie" Brode	1913	Dave Story	2432
Terry Horne	423	Roxanne Mayne	1567	Paul Homer	1913	Robert Jones	2477
Dick Hughes	423	John Peck	1567	Robert Preul	1913	Dorothy Murray	2477
Larry Lambert	423	Horrace Pitts	1567	Pete Romansk (3)	1913	Richard Andersen	2504
Ron Landini (2)	423	Anthony Rivellini	1567	Dutch Neubauer (2)	1920	Shirney Colwell	2504
Tom Marks	423	Skip Hoy	1587	L.V. Phillips	1920	Bill Hall (2)	2504
Hazel Mello	423	Needles Lodge No. 1608 (7)	1608	Blake Barregar	1952	Ken Nelson	2504
Cruz Reyna	423	William Warner	1608	Randy & Luann Barrows (3)	1952	Charles Roady	2504
John Schulz	423	Auburn Elks RV Club	1691	Arnold DeBoer	1952	James Storton	2504
Mike Staples	423	James Petruk (5)	1691	Duane Duncan	1952	Richard Wilson	2504
Norman Stump, Sr.	423	Dick Henderson	1712	Glenn Fuller (2)	1952	Neil White	2529
Gerry Veltrie	423	William Lindsey	1712	Irv Geller	1952	Larry Hannon	2591
Mac Wagner	423	Ture Roslund (2)	1712	Sue Hurst (2)	1952	James Williams	2599
Diana Lane	522	Orville Walker	1712	Myles Kowalczyk	1952	Art Phinney	2626
Christopher Hill	559	Joan Baker	1728	Dennis & Sara McComis	1952	Thomas Bennett (5)	2698
Don Razle	559	Robert "Bob" Burke	1728	John Miller, III	1952	Troy Montgomery	2698
George Dumas	613	Leading Knights Association	1740	Bill O'Hearn (2)	1952	Walter Neumann	2704
Kathryn Anglin	616	Ken Barber	1740	Joe Ryan	1952	Joe Coulter	2733
Mabel Burton	616	Sue Danneman	1740	John Ryan	1952	Carol Hadford	2733
Rodney Chang	616	Nel Nelson	1740	Shirley Ryan	1952	Sandy Jack	2733
Ruth Farmer (2)	616	Steven Nicholes	1740	Dayton Silver (5)	1952	Jim Lewis	2733
Ellen Fera	616	Sue Nicholes	1740	Bruce Swanson (3)	1952	Ray Sabersky	2733
Kendall Ford (3)	616	Richard Paine	1740	Ted & Sonia Trujillo (5)	1952	Robert Strickland	2733
Delorese Gregoire	616	Nuel Benson	1767	Ralph Vogel	1952	Harvey Stuart	2733
Mary Hammond	616	Sharon Dearborn (3)	1767	Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959	1959	David Tissue	2733
Dominick Lostumbo	616	Linda Iannelli	1767	John Baumdraher	1959	John Merry	2801
Ronald Mizuno	616	Roger Martin (2)	1767	Tom Brown	1959		
Francis Quinn	616	Gretchen Veleke	1767	George Conley	1959		
Judith Rubano	616	Jan Woodard (3)	1767	James Hobkirk	1959		
Dennis K.K. Wong	616	Willows Elks Lodge (2)	1786	David Seeley, III	1959		
George Yanai	616	Art Bailey (3)	1786	Bill Whitmore	1959		
Teru Yasuda	616	Alan Barceloux (2)	1786	Zack's	1959		
Gloria Yau	616	Dick Pence	1786	John Lopez	1996		
Maudine Carpenter	643	Harold White	1786	Laurie Ayala	2011	Donor	Lodge
Dave Petersen	643	Joan Kiehl	1787	Jerry Cale	2011	William "Bill" Darr	3
Frank Brzozowski	672	Jack Lower	1787	Dale Nelson	2011	Marilyn M. Facha	6
Ralph Heaney	794	Alex's Tire	1799	Paul Schauer	2011	Marietta Petersen	6
Justin McKindley	794	Barnes & Berger	1799	Rodney Weissenberger	2011	George Foster	168
David Zeller	824	Best Western Motel (Sahara)	1799	Christine Brown	2020	Pat Gandolfi	168
Zay C. Brand	888	Blythe Ambulance	1799	Jeff Rice	2026	Donald E. Snyder	168
Clifford Kohler	888	Brown Dust Control	1799	Mark Salyer	2026	Ruth S. Farmer	616
Kim White	966	Callan Oil/Lovekin Liquor	1799	Wendy Wicklund	2026	Ronald T. Mizuno	616
Michael & Ellen Browne (5)	1112	CB Plumbing	1799	Ernest Acuna	2038	Michael McAlpine	672
Harold Jacobson	1112	Chaffin Farms	1799	Ernia Acuna	2038	James Avila	1259
Richard Carstens (2)	1250	Barbara Colby	1799	Tom Brigante	2038	Hildegard Grill (2)	1285
Charles Darr	1282	Compton Ag Service (2)	1799	Delbert Crandall	2038	Stephanie Pintar	1285
Goodtimers/Pelican Point	1282	Desert Critical Care/Desert Air	1799	Tony Gumber	2038	Howard Tsuchiya	1285
David Lucero	1282	Dobbs	1799	Felix Herrera	2038	Lon Croddy	1289
Gail Bispo	1285	Fisher Wireless	1799	Pam Johnson	2038	David Kakita	1289
Venita Brazier	1285	Glenn Johnson Cooling & Heating	1799	John McEntire, Jr.	2038		
Bruce Gordon	1285	The Holt Group	1799	Jackie & Lou Orovecz	2038		

Latest Millennium (\$1,000) Club Members

Donor	Lodge
William "Bill" Darr	3
Marilyn M. Facha	6
Marietta Petersen	6
George Foster	168
Pat Gandolfi	168
Donald E. Snyder	168
Ruth S. Farmer	616
Ronald T. Mizuno	616
Michael McAlpine	672
James Avila	1259
Hildegard Grill (2)	1285
Stephanie Pintar	1285
Howard Tsuchiya	1285
Lon Croddy	1289
David Kakita	1289

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Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge
Sharron Dearborn	1767	Jesse Nighswonger	2026
Larry Woodard	1767	Charles Grant	2121
Art Bailey	1786	Michael Moffitt	2121
Thomas "Dutch" Neubauer	1920	Bill Hall	2504
Irv Geller	1952	Robert Ring	2577
Sue Hurst	1952	Joe D. Coulter	2733

Paradise Elks Lodge No. 2026 hosts children's Christmas party

Over 350 children took part in the Children's Christmas party at the Paradise Elks Lodge No. 2026 on December 5. Pictured is Joey Racca seriously talking to Santa (Jim Williamson) & Mrs. Claus (Kay Day) about what he wants for Christmas. Each child, 2-10 years of age, received a gift, a homemade stocking with goodies, refreshments and games.



Fremont Elks Lodge No. 2121 delivers 4,438 dictionaries

For the fourth year, the Fremont Elks Lodge No. 2121 distributed dictionaries to third grade students at 49 schools in 4 school districts: 25 schools in the Fremont Unified School District, 7 schools in the Newark Unified School District, 8 schools in the Castro Valley Unified School District, and 9 schools in the San Lorenzo Unified School District. In addition, the Lodge gave \$200 for the purchase of 138 books for Union City's New Haven Unified School District. The total number of books distributed came to 4,438.



Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801 awards \$5,500 in scholarships

The Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801 honored eight students and their families at a recent dinner. The lodge presented awards and certificates to the eight winners of the lodge competition for the ENF "Most Valuable Student" scholarship contest. Each winner received a scholarship from the Temecula Valley Elks Lodge to help with college expenses. Scholarship applications were judged on scholarship, leadership, and financial need. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place winners received \$900, \$750, \$600 and \$500 respectively. All recipients were entered into the District level MVS scholarship competition.



Seated (L to R): Allison Wolfe (1st), Alison Briones (2nd), Holly Schmidt (3rd), Karli Cox (4th)
Back Row (L to R): Bob Farrens, Scholarship Co-Chair, William Kim (4th), Chris Pike (1st), Kyle Green (3rd), Ryan Bilton (2nd), Diane Farrens, Scholarship Co-Chair

Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625 honors firefighters

On January 12th, the Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625 honored three outstanding firefighters from the City of Lancaster. Firefighter Specialist Leonard Guerra, Firefighter Specialist Gordon Buchan, and Firefighter Specialist Kirk Nelson, all from Station 129 in Lancaster were recognized. The Lodge awarded each individual a plaque and they also received scrolls from both the City of Lancaster and L. A. County.

On behalf of the City of Lancaster, Bob Hancock, ER, made the presentations since Mayor Parris was attending a City Council Meeting. Norm Hickling, representing County Supervisor Mike Antonovich presented the scrolls. Additional awards were presented to those deserving individuals by ER Bob Hancock, Lodge member Jerry Mundell, and Battalion Chiefs Cosey and Meredith.

Following a special presentation on Hazardous Materials by Captain Jim Swift, from Station 129, a moment of silence was observed in the memory of Captain Ted Hall and Firefighter Arnie Quinones, who perished while fighting a devastating fire in the San Bernardino Mountains last year.

In attendance were members of the Lancaster Elks Lodge, their spouses and many other deserving firefighters along with their families from throughout the Lancaster area. The Firefighters and their families were treated to dinner before the award presentations.

Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 holds appreciation night

The Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 conducted their 33rd Annual Law Enforcement and Firefighter Appreciation night honoring six recipients. Our area is served by peace officers of the Ventura County Sheriffs Department, the Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department, and the California Highway Patrol (Moorpark area office and West Valley area office). The fire fighters serving our area come from the Ventura County Fire Protection District and Los Angeles County Fire Department.

The colors were presented by Elks Lodge sponsored Boy Scout Troop 754 to start the evening. There were over 100 members and guests present and a dinner of Baby Back Ribs and Chicken was well received. Plaques were presented by the Lodge. Also presenting certificates of recognition were: Dennis Gillette, Mayor of Thousand Oaks, Linda Parks, Ventura County Supervisor and a representative for Elton Galleghy.

In other news, the Lodge donated dictionaries to all of the 3rd grade students at the El Descanso Elementary School, in Camarillo. Making the presentation was Richard Goldner, Grand Lodge Public Relations Chairman. This is the Elks way of taking one giant step toward encouraging literacy in children. In attendance was Pleasant Valley School Superintendent Luis Villegas, Jr., who was joined by Elroy the Elk who handed out Drug Awareness literature. There were 200 children from 4 classes in attendance.

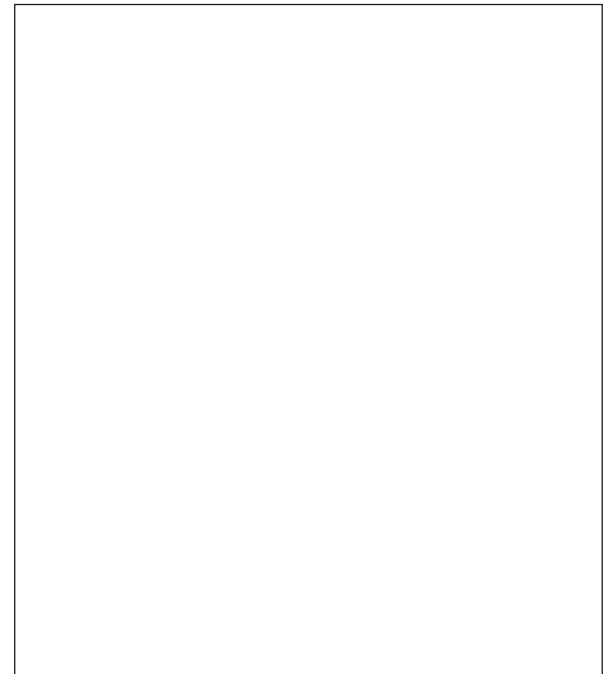
The Lodge also recently donated \$1,600 to various Elks charities – the monies coming from their Christmas Tree Committee activities. The Lodge also donated \$600 to the Palo Alto VA Hospital Spinal Cord Injury unit to help fund the expenses for patients to attend the 24th national disabled veterans Winter Sports Clinic. The Lodge also donated food and toys to 63 families. Over \$5,000 worth of food was distributed to provide enough food for these needy families for an entire week, plus enough toys for 167 children.



Front row (L to R): Shawn Green, Ventura County Sheriffs Department, Chris Jonston, Ventura County Fire Protection District, Dustin Wood, Moorpark area California Highway Patrol

Middle Row (L to R): Edward G. McDonald, Malibu/Lost Hills Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department, Cayton Brown, Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department, Joseph Nuccitecci, West Valley Area California Highway Patrol.

Top row (L to R): Member Dennis Gillette, Mayor, Thousand Oaks, Terry Gicking, ER, Scott Sool, Committee Chair.



Watsonville Elks Lodge No. 1300 helps needy children

The Watsonville Elks Lodge No. 1300 had a combination event in November and December to provide relief and fun for local needy children. The Lodge Coats for Kids program and the Lodge Christmas Party for Needy Children were successful. These two events allowed us an opportunity to help local families in need.

On November 13, 2009, a crew of Elks was able to provide 38 children with a warm winter coat of their choice. The fund used for the purchase of coats was a combination of lodge contributions and the ENF Gratitude Grant. On December 18, 2009 those same children were invited to attend a Holiday Party at the lodge. There were over 58 attendees including adults and over 40 children that came and enjoyed the food including sitting on Santa's lap. Santa gave the children bags of candy, panda bear toys and basketballs.

Lake Tahoe Elks Lodge No. 2094 supports community

On December 15, members of Lake Tahoe Elks Lodge No. 2094 hosted 12 local children of limited means to a Christmas gift purchase event at the local Kmart. This has been an annual event for our lodge. The lodge provided funding such that each of the 12 children was able to buy \$100 worth of gifts.

Subsequent to that, our lodge members met with representatives of 3 local charities which provide meals for the hungry: Bread and Broth, Christmas Cheer, and the South Lake Tahoe Women's Center. Each of these three organizations was given a \$1,500 credit at the local Grocery Outlet for purchase of food.

Finally, the lodge donated \$1,500 to the local Cancer League. The Cancer League provides transportation and support to local cancer patients.