



# The California-Hawaii Elks

*"Elks Care ~ Elks Share"*

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

Volume 55, Number 2

March/April 2008

## Walnut Creek Lodge Hosts Huge "Hoop Shoot" Contingent



Walnut Creek Elks Lodge No. 1811 provided 1,507 boys and girls an opportunity to compete for the Lodge championship in the 36th annual Elks National Free Throw Contest. The Lodge Hoop Shoot Committee participated in the "Excel In Basketball" free throw competitions at De La Salle High School this past summer. The winners from the summer camp were invited to the lodge championships held on December 9, 2007. Twenty Elk volunteers skillfully directed the flawless event. Tie-breaker shoot-offs and an awards ceremony were conducted before nearly 100 parents, siblings and friends of the divisional winners. Beautiful trophies and t-shirts were presented to the finalists of this year's lodge championships.

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

[www.chea-elks.org](http://www.chea-elks.org)

## Elks Support Scout Troop

On each first Sunday in December, since 1988, the Arcadia Lodge No. 2025 has hosted the Tournament of Roses Scout Troop. This special troop is given breakfast and financial support. The troop also prepares to march in the Rose Parade. The troop consists of Eagle and Gold Award scouts from throughout the San Gabriel Valley. They can be seen on national television as they carry the banners in front of the award winning floats.



## Feed Your Purple Pig!



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

## President's Message

As Charlene and I visit the Elks lodges in California and Hawaii, we are witnessing occurrences and happenings that are outstanding and required many hours to plan and execute. It is a rewarding experience to see the enthusiasm displayed by the volunteers, Officers and members at every District visitation.




Our military personnel, children with disabilities and community service are always the topics of conversation. Our veterans programs are designed for the communities in which they live. The preparation and coordination needed to deliver these individual services is phenomenal. Items are donated, packaged and sent to our veterans who are serving abroad. Their families receive amenities and their children receive gifts at Christmas time. Our Armed Services personnel are the reason why we can enjoy our freedoms as citizens of the United States of America.

We have the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. which cares for children with disabilities. We have about 96,900 members in the Association. Our Major Project requires \$4.4 million each year to aid children with disabilities. We are trying to surpass \$3 million in donations this fraternal year at the Exalted Rulers March on May 17, 2008. With your assistance, and the grant from the Elks National Foundation, we will achieve that goal and once again we will be able to help children with disabilities to "Walk, Talk, See and Play". I was fortunate to be a member of the CHEMPI Board of Trustees for six years. One of the most amazing events that I witnessed was a Poster Child taking his first steps in a walker.

Membership depends a great deal on how communities view our activities. Public Relations are an important key to our image as Elks. The ENF provides funding for many of our Elks' programs such as: the Hoop Shoot, Scholarships, CHEMPI, Inc, the Boy and Girl Scouts, Veterans Program, the Drug Awareness program, Community Awards, Americanism and a host of other worthwhile programs. Pictures and articles of all our Lodge Activities should be exploited by putting them into your bulletin, local newspaper and local cable TV. Use radio spots and television whenever possible.

The 93rd California-Hawaii Elks Association Convention will be held in San Diego, California on May 14-17, 2008. We have workshops designed to enlighten members and the meeting sessions will be interesting. Plan to attend with your Elk friends.

**"ENERGIZE ELKDOM" Be the Spark of Your Lodge**

Fraternally,  
  
 Oren Richardson  
 President, California-Hawaii Elks Association

(USPS 010-116)  
 Periodical postage paid at Fresno, CA and additional mailing offices. Post-Master: Send address changes to: The California-Hawaii Elks Association, 5450 East Lamona Ave, Fresno, CA 93727-2224

Official Periodical of:

### The California-Hawaii Elks Association

5450 E. Lamona Avenue  
 Fresno, CA 93727-2224

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

Distribution:

CHEA Lodges & All Paid-Up Members

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**Photos:** Digital (\*.jpg format, using a 4 megapixel (or higher) camera.

**Send electronic items to:** cheamag@concoursecomm.com

Only **if necessary, mail items to:**

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

### PUBLISHER:



Concourse Communications  
 1175 Shaw Avenue 104, PMB#304  
 Clovis, CA 93612  
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 Samuel J. Brown.....National Veterans Service  
 James "Jim" Olson.....Piggy Bank  
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## President's Upcoming Visitation Schedule

**March 1, 2008**  
 Regional Hoop Shoot, Las Vegas, NV

**March 6-9, 2008**  
 East Central District Homecoming, Fresno

**April 24-27, 2008**  
 National Hoop Shoot, Springfield, MA

**May 1-4, 2008**  
 Utah State Convention

**May 14-17, 2008**  
 CHEA Convention, San Diego

## "Suspender Man" to Retire

At the close of the upcoming Association Convention in San Diego in May, PDDGER John M. Behne of Oxnard Lodge No. 1443 will conclude 20 years of raising money for Elk's charities by selling Elks suspenders, flag motif ties and flashing patriotic pins. During those 40 consecutive conventions, John, with the help of his wife Katie, raised and donated close to \$35,000.00. The Major Project received \$23,000.00, E.N.F. received about \$10,000.00 and several Lodges in his District received small donations when and where it was needed. John is giving whatever is left of his inventory as well as all of his records to the Association office as he ends this endeavor.

## Veterans Update

By Sam Brown  
 CHEA National Veterans Service Chair

Approximately 1,500 veterans from the Iran and Afghanistan wars have been identified as homeless by the Department of Veterans Affairs (Army Times, 2/4/08). California leads the nation - 2.26% of its veterans are homeless (49,724 individuals).

As I review the Veterans Remembrance Reports that were submitted from the Lodges in our Association, I see that some Lodges are involved with helping homeless veterans. We do a very good job in taking care of our service men and women who are currently serving overseas by sending them "Care Packages" and cards or letters. However, we need to do more to help the VA take care of those service men and women who have returned home from the fight - to see that they do not become homeless.

A veteran is a proud person who is not accustomed to asking for help. We must be the "SPARK" for our Veterans! We need to partner with other organizations to identify homeless Veterans in our area, and help them at a veterans "Stand Down". Please contact your Veterans Affairs Volunteer Service (VAVS) Representative to volunteer, or contact the VA hospital in your community to see how you and your Lodges can help our veterans.



### New Editor for The California-Hawaii Elk - Ian Lanouette

Although he was born in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, Ian has been a U. S. citizen residing in California for most of his life. After graduating from Santa Cruz High School, he attended the University of California, Berkeley. He dropped out in the middle of his sophomore year to join the U. S. Navy. Ian chose to be involved in electronics, became a Data Systems Technician, and worked with computers and similar digital equipment during his four years on active duty. While serving on the USS Arlington AGMR-2, Ian became a Vietnam Veteran as the ship took multiple rotations on station in the Gulf of Tonkin and a month off of Korea during the USS Pueblo incident. Ian was discharged from active duty in June, 1968.



Following his release from active duty, and with the help of the GI Bill, Ian returned to Berkeley, changed his major to Electrical Engineering (Computer Science), and graduated with honors four years later.

Ian worked for 30 years in private industry, joining Amdahl Corporation in 1972. Over the course of his employment, Ian was part of a computer design engineering team, several field service teams in the USA and Canada, headquarters technical support, field service management, regional budget manager, corporate customer relations, and finished his career doing support services offering development. He volunteered to be part of a corporate reduction-in-force in 2002, has never looked back, and has enjoyed "retirement" ever since.

Ian joined the Elks in January, 1990. He was the Exalted Ruler of Fremont Lodge in 1994-1995. Ian has served his Lodge and the Bay District in numerous capacities since 1995. He has been the House Committee Chairman; the Scholarship Chairman at the Lodge and District level; the Public Relations Chairman at the Lodge and District level; the District Government Relations Chairman; the District Ritual Calculator Committee Chairman for many years; the Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and then President of the Lodge and District PER Associations; a Lodge Trustee for 2-1/2 years; the auditor to DDGER Don Schafer; and the Lodge Bulletin Editor for several years. He recently completed a term as the Bay District Vice President (2006-2007) and is the District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Designate for the Bay District.

Ian and Wanda were married on July 4th, 1971, and have lived in Fremont since 1979. Wanda will be retiring this year from her position as a second-grade school teacher in Fremont. They are enjoying life with their cats and look forward to Ian's year serving as the DDGER for the Bay District in 2008-2009.

### Christmas Party For All

Palmdale Lodge No. 2027 held a Christmas Party for the children of deployed military men and women from Edwards AFB.

More than 125 children were in attendance. The children and their parents were fed hamburgers and hotdogs. Special guests Mr. & Mrs. Santa, Mr. & Mrs. Grinch and their helpers distributed gifts and entertained. A great time was had by all.



The Grinches are event chairperson Phyllis Gonda, Dave Gonda and their granddaughter

### Veterans Remembered During the Holidays

The San Luis Obispo Elks Lodge No. 322 and the Morro Bay Seniors remembered the Veterans during the holidays. A trailer full of donated items worth \$7, 577 was delivered to the Fresno VA Hospital and GECU patients on December 20, 2007 by Gary and Donna Donovan

All 60 patients at the GECU received a new sweat outfit and a goody bag filled with a pair of white socks, comb, tissue, shampoo, razor, toothbrush, toothpaste, and a Christmas card.

Other items donated were 74 crocheted lap afghans, 43 knitted caps, coffee, phone cards, wheelchair bags, reading glasses, personal care items, clothes, crossword puzzle books, and a deck of playing cards.

### Phone Cards for the Troops

Members of the Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 Emblem purchased \$1,800 worth of telephone cards that they gift wrapped and sent to our troops overseas.

*Elks Care - Elks Share*

### 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	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" Ceniz, 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, GELK	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, GESq.	La Habra	2004-05
Roy R. Newman	Marysville	2005-06
James S. Mason	Irvine	2006-07

### Huntington Beach Lodge No. 1959 Annual Christmas Party



Children await the arrival of Santa Claus.



Lady Betty Rich assists in face painting.

Make a Bequests and Living Trust Commitment  
The "BLT" is the "Toast of the Town"!



## Mojave Elks Lodge Hosts Annual Hoop Shoot

The Mojave Elks Lodge No. 2059 held their annual Hoop Shoot Free Throw contest on December 15, 2007 at Mojave High School. This year's contest also included participants from California City.



## Eagle Scout Recognized

During a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 16, 2008 Chula Vista Elks Lodge No. 2011 recognized the latest Eagle Scout from Troop 895, Ryan James Gleason. Leading Knight Larry Schultheis II (acting ER), himself an Eagle Scout, presented Ryan with an American Flag, Elks Eagle Scout Certificate, and a congratulatory letter from the Grand Exalted Ruler. Ryan's parents Gary and Susanne Gleason were also in attendance.



Left to Right: Leading Knight Larry Schultheis II (acting ER), Eagle Scout Ryan James Gleason, Lodge Scouting Chairman Gary Gleason, and Susanne Gleason.

Learn how to donate more money to CHEMPI at no additional cost to you - just visit: [www.chea-elks.org/SHARES.pdf](http://www.chea-elks.org/SHARES.pdf).

## Elks Help Tessoro High School-Student Who Needs New Liver

The Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 bingo players were thanked by Elks Exalted Ruler Hal Mattson for their support. The lodge presented a \$1,000 check to Eileen Baynes, mother of Diane Baynes, the fourteen year old Tessoro High student, who so desperately needs a new liver. Mattson told the players that it was because of them that the Elks were able to make such a contribution. Eileen thanked the Elks and the bingo players, saying that the money would be put in a special bank account to help defray the high cost of Diane's medical bills. She said she was overwhelmed at the outpouring of love she and Diane were receiving from the community, and by the number of people who offered to be tested for a liver match. Anyone wishing to make a donation, or to be tested for a liver match, can contact the Baynes family directly or through the Elks at 949 830-ELKS.

In 2007-2008, the ENF returned \$1.418 to CHEA for each \$1.00 you donated in 2006-2007. Please support the ENF!

## Piggy Bank *By Jim Olson, PDDGER*

As the 2007-08 Elk Year is winding down, I would like to thank all of you for your help and to let you know that we aren't quite finished.

You know that we've talked about the value of a penny for the last couple of years. As we near the end of this fraternal year, each of us could save one penny a day to hand in during the Exalted Rulers' March at State Convention.

One person saving one cent a day, from February 1st to May 14th, could save 105 cents (or \$1.05). Multiply that by our CA-Hawaii Elks membership of approximately 90,000 and that would come to 9,450,000 cents (or \$94,500). That's a big payback for a penny a day - and what a wonderful contribution that would make for our kids.

I would also like to mention, that through our efforts so far with the GoodSearch engine, the CA-Hawaii Elks received a check for \$56.72. This might not seem like much, but it's a big step to a lot more - as more and more of us use the GoodSearch engine when we go online.

You can get information about the GoodSearch engine at the CA-Hawaii Elks website ([www.chea-elks.org](http://www.chea-elks.org)) or from your District Piggy Bank Chairs.

And just a reminder for all our golfers: the Mesquite Golf Tournament is coming up June 10th & 11th. There is limited entry, so you'll want to get registered soon. Contact Bill Terry, the Golf Chair (702-345-2380) or the Mesquite Lodge (702-345-2811).

Remember: We are striving to reach our goal of \$3 million this year. If we all pull together, save, and give, we'll make it - and our kids will be the winners. So support your upcoming Piggy Bank lodge events, get your Purple Pigs turned in, and save a penny a day.

## Donations Made in the Spirit of Christmas

On Wednesday, December 19, Santa's favorite helpers, the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 Ladies and members wrapped gifts and packed baskets for around 50 families in their community. Every child in each family received a gift, approximately 65 children in all.

On Saturday, December 22, the lodge delivered to less fortunate families over \$5,000 worth of turkeys, milk, eggs, vegetables and other staples- enough food to last a family for a week - and also included toys for all of their children.

Funding for the project was generated by a Charity Event, a Sock Hop, Christmas tree sales, a donation from Carlson's Building Center and several Saturday Barbecues. In addition, the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 Ladies donated \$1,000 as did the El Konejo Kamper Klub. Individual donations from caring members like Jack Malone were accepted. The Charity Basket program is chaired by Leading Knight George Meehan and his sidekick Cornelia. One of our retired navy veterans arranged for the purchase of four pallets of food from the Navy Commissary in Oxnard.

The families in need are selected by Manna, Catholic Charities and Senior Concerns. Innumerable volunteer hours go into this project and they wish to thank the community and sponsors for their support.

This is a major charity event in their community and they hope that it will not be overlooked during the busy holiday season.

## Vista Lodge

The Vista Elks Lodge No. 1968 hosted their largest Christmas party in 2007 and recently played Santa to over 400 disabled children. The children arrived by bus, vans and cars that were provided by the Vista Unified School District. The children were entertained with lots of food and special presents to all.

The children met Santa Claus. Past Association President Mr. Bill Ijames has directed the event for the last 25 years. A big "Thank You" is extended to Bill for his dedication to this event.



Left to Right: Janet Holthaus, Dottie Ijames, Santa (Bill Jones) Bill Ijames and Sharon Olson. The children are Louis Juarez, Antonio Tovar and Jasmin Little.

## "As long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."

Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 visited the Veterans Hospital in Long Beach on January 16th, and delivered six large boxes of clothing, magazines and sundry goods. The much needed items, valued at over \$900, were donated by Saddleback Valley residents and lodge members. The gift boxes were received by Hospital Psychiatric Ward Administrator John Henderson.

The local Elks pay monthly visits to the hospital, providing entertainment and holding Bingo games. They also bring homemade cookies and gifts for the very appreciative veterans. The Elks Veteran's Committee Chairman Leo Hazel said, "Folks are surprised to learn that these hospitalized veterans do not have everything they need. Some lack even the basic clothing that we all take for granted, such as underwear, T-shirts and toiletries." Anyone wishing to make donations for the VA Hospital may do so by contacting the Elks at 949 830-3557.



Elks Veterans Committee Chairman Leo Hazel, Vets Hospital Administrator John Henderson, and Elizabeth Hazel

## Chula Vista Elks Lodge No. 2011 Volunteer Program

Faced with a large number of social events (dinners) in December 2007, the Chula Vista Elks Lodge No. 2011 launched a Community Service program for area high school teenagers. California schools require that students perform a minimum of 30 semester hours of community service as a requirement for graduation. Our lodge had fifteen events that required volunteers to assist in performing as waiters and waitresses; therefore we enlisted students from 14 high schools in and around our lodge. Seventy-seven students performed 207 volunteer hours in December.



### Spreading Cheer

On Saturday, December 22, 2007, members of the Canoga Park Lodge No. 2190 distributed food baskets with a turkey or ham to 57 needy families in the Canoga park area.

The local fire department joined the Elks by donating toys for the children of the 57 families.



Left to Right: First Lady Jo Lamoreaux, Mary Anne Farquharson, and Treasurer Frank Farquharson, PSVP, load the truck with toys and food.

### Eagle Scout Honored



Susanville Elks Lodge No. 1487 members attended a Court of Honor ceremony for Eagle Scout Daniel Pudlicki, of lodge-sponsored Boy Scout Troop No. 159. For his Eagle Scout Project, Pudlicki led other scouts in rebuilding the sign in front of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, which had been destroyed by an out-of-control automobile. Exalted Ruler Larry Rogers congratulated Pudlicki on his achievement following the ceremony.

### Elks Help to Make Holidays Brighter

On December 5, 2007 Santa Clara Lodge No. 2347 served the traditional turkey dinner at their lodge to 54 developmentally disabled patients from Agnews (an institution for the developmentally impaired), 15 from other group homes, and 21 aides. Each person received a gift from Santa. One of Santa's elves was there to offer assistance to those needing help. This has been a tradition at the Santa Clara Lodge for the past 22 years.

They also donated food and gifts to 265 less fortunate families (approximately 1060 individuals), as well as gifts for the seniors at the Santa Clara Senior Center. They also delivered chickens to the St. Justin's Church and His Way Recovery House.

Pat Sisco, the Lodge National Veterans Service Chairman, and his volunteers cooked and served a traditional turkey dinner for 200 at the Menlo Park VA Hospital on December 9, 2007.

### Elks hold Law Enforcement and Firefighter Appreciation Night

On Wednesday, January 23, 2008, the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 held a public meeting for its 31st Annual Law Enforcement And Firefighter Appreciation program.

The jurisdiction of the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge includes Agoura Hills, Oak Park, Westlake, Hidden Valley, Thousand Oaks and Newbury Park. This area is served by the California Highway Patrol, the Ventura County Sheriff's Department, and the Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department. The Elks Lodge, the Mayor of Thousand Oaks and the Ventura County Supervisors presented plaques to honor the outstanding law enforcement officers and firefighters from each of these agencies.



### Christmas Baskets for Needy

On Friday evening, December 14th, families, friends and members of the Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 packed 200 Christmas Baskets for selected needy families in the city of Orange. The kitchen crew prepared a spaghetti dinner for everyone who helped. The baskets were delivered to the families the next day. Each basket contained a turkey and all the trimmings for a wonderful Christmas dinner. United Parcel Service donated the 200 turkeys.



Left to Right: Steve Redding UPS Manager, ER JackieLynn DeFries and Jerry Pierce

### Making Christmas Brighter

The members of the Salinas Elks Lodge No. 614 made Christmas a little better for hundreds of families in the Salinas Area.

First, they delivered 118 dozen cookies to our veterans in the Palo Alto Veterans Hospital. Most were home baked by Elk's wives or Elks themselves. The delivery was made by National Veterans Service Chairman John Holliday and Trustee Chairman Mike Franscioni. Next, the annual Angel Tree provided presents for over 200 children. The Angel Tree is a Christmas tree decorated with the names of needy children on colorful paper cutouts. Each participating Elk picks a name from the tree and provides one or two presents for the child. This year, a special donation of Raggedy Ann dolls were auctioned off to purchase an additional 80 gifts.

Then, on December 7th, a Christmas party was held for children from the A. B. Ingham School for Handicapped Children, the San Benancio Middle School for the Hearing Impaired, and lodge members' children. Santa Claus arrived with candy and presents. Beneath the beard was the jolly old Lodge Exalted Ruler. A hot dog lunch with cookies and brownies was served. Growers Ice, Inc. of Salinas provided a snow slide that proved to be a big hit with the children and several adults.

The Salinas Elks showed that they care and are willing to share their Christmas blessings!

### Jerry G. Rucker For President, California Hawaii Elks Association

Whereas, Brother Jerry G. Rucker was initiated into the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks in 1964 and has been an active participant in the leadership of his lodge as a committee-man, appointed and elected officer, serving as Exalted Ruler in 1984 and subsequently as chairman of the House Committee and Board of Trustees, and was unanimously elected to Honorary Life Membership for his outstanding service to his Lodge and District; and

Whereas, He has diligently served the California Hawaii Elks Association as Vice Chairman of the Piggy Bank Committee and Restoration Trust Committee, and has also served as the Grand Lodge Convention Coordinator. In addition, he has served as a member of the California Hawaii Elks Association Major Project Board of Trustees and was chairman for one year. He also served as Vice President of the California-Hawaii Elks Association representing the Southeast District in 1989 and is currently serving as First Vice President of the California Hawaii Elks Association; and

Whereas, He has served the Grand Lodge with distinction, as District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for the Southeast District of California in 1990; and

Whereas, He was employed with the Rialto Unified School District for 31 years and retired as a principal. During his employment he received many awards for excellence; and

Whereas, He served his country with distinction as a member of the 82nd Airborne Division, U.S. Army where he received many awards recognizing his achievements; and

Whereas, His father, (a PDDGER), his father-in-law, (an Elk of the Year), and his brother-in-law (an Elk of the Year and PER) all supported his endeavors as an Elk, and he has the support and encouragement of his family; now therefore

Be it resolved, That the officers and members of San Bernardino Elks Lodge No. 836 are honored and proud to present to the 2008 California-Hawaii Elks Association Convention in San Diego, California, their most distinguished member, Jerry G. Rucker as a candidate for the office of President of the California Hawaii Elks Association of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America.

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

- Occupational Therapy
- Speech-Language Therapy
- Preschool Vision Screening
- Physical Therapy
- Disabled Student Scholarships
- The Eye Bank
- 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."



## Latest Members to Join the Century Club

(November 21, 2007 through January 28, 2008)

DONOR	LODGE
Bob Adams	San Bernardino Lodge No. 836
Debbie Allen	Brawley Lodge No. 1420
Ken Allen	Quincy Lodge No. 1884
Thomas Andrews	Redding Lodge No. 1073
Lee Ashenfelter	Redondo Beach Lodge No. 1378
James Babb	Roseville Lodge No. 2248
Larry Bakken	Big Bear Lake Lodge No. 1787
Lu Baldwin	Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474
Catherine Barone	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Rick Barone, Jr.	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Blake Barregar	Garden Grove Lodge No. 1952
Daniel Bassi	Salinas Lodge No. 614
Rudy Bayme	Huntington Beach No. 1959
Hy Behar	Garden Grove Lodge No. 1952
Wayne Bellows	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Jan Bennett	Ridgecrest Lodge No. 1913
Skip Bennett	Ridgecrest Lodge No. 1913
Fred Bianchini	Stockton Lodge No. 218
Charles Black	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Charles Blake	Eureka Lodge No. 652
Jacklyn Boor	Crescent City Lodge No. 1689
Nancy Braunstein	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Mervin Brown	Modesto Lodge No. 1282
Tom Brown	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Ronald Brusato	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Karen Buchanan	Redondo Beach Lodge No. 1378
Karen Bueler	Chico Lodge No. 423
Warren Bullis	Eureka Lodge No. 652
Chet Burgess	Quincy Lodge No. 1884
David Burns	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Kelly Byam	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Maudine Carpenter (2)	Riverside Lodge No. 643
Donald Checchi	Santa Monica Lodge No. 906
Barbara Cherry	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Chico Elks Bowlers (8)	Chico Lodge No. 423
Chico Elks Bridge Comm. (3)	Chico Lodge No. 423
Chico Elks Ladies	Chico Lodge No. 423
Calvin J. H. Chun	Honolulu Lodge No. 616
Robert Coffey	Placerville Lodge No. 1712
Marie Colacchio	Huntington Beach No. 1959
Margo Cole	La Habra Lodge No. 2095
Craig Coleman, PER	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Don Collier	Atascadero Lodge No. 2733
Byron Concannon	Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474
Dominic Confetti	Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474
Kevin Correira	Quincy Lodge No. 1884
Phillip Cox	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Ray Crabtree	Willows Lodge No. 1786
Gene Cranford	San Bernardino Lodge No. 836
Darlene Culligan	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Stan Dame	Eureka Lodge No. 652

DONOR	LODGE
Thomas Dauterman (3)	Chico Lodge No. 423
Don Davidson	Redding Lodge No. 1073
Ralph Davis	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Herman DeJong (4)	Lake Elsinore Lodge No. 2591
George Dempsey	Atascadero Lodge No. 2733
Christopher Despol	Oakhurst Lodge No. 2724
Elizabeth Despol	Oakhurst Lodge No. 2724
Walt Dixon	Temecula Valley No. 2801
Gary Doda	Salinas Lodge No. 614
James Dominguez	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Fred Dominski (4)	Indio Lodge No. 1643
Frank Drasby (2)	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Theresa Drasby (2)	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Robert Dringenberg (2)	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Jim Duncan	Honolulu Lodge No. 616
Elks Golf Club of Oahu (5)	Quincy Lodge No. 1884
Rick Ely	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Emblem Club No. 418	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Encore Group	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Donna Etheridge	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Joe Etrick	Brawley Lodge No. 1420
Mason Ettinger	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Marilyn Facha (2)	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Dale Fairchild	Big Bear Lake Lodge No. 1787
George Felber	Honolulu Lodge No. 616
Jody Ferchaud	Redding Lodge No. 1073
Brian Fitzmaurice	Indio Lodge No. 1643
Michele Flood	Indio Lodge No. 1643
Willis Flood	Chico Lodge No. 423
Stanley Fortier	Redding Lodge No. 1073
Norval Foss	Honolulu Lodge No. 616
Thomas Francis, III	Santa Monica Lodge No. 906
Frank Frazier	Garden Grove Lodge No. 1952
Glenn Fuller	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Dominick Gaudio	Garden Grove Lodge No. 1952
Irv Geller, PER (2)	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Bob Genelle, VP (2)	Stockton Lodge No. 218
Gerry Gerrard	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Frank Giarmona, Sr.	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Tim Gillespie, PER	Thousand Oaks No. 2477
Richard Goldner	Palmdale Lodge No. 2027
David Gonda	Willows Lodge No. 1786
Paul & Marlene Goodman	Modesto Lodge No. 1282
Goodtimer Purkeys	Big Bear Lake Lodge No. 1787
George L. Grabe	Temecula Valley No. 2801
Jo Ann Grant	Oceanside Lodge No. 1561
Maxine Guest	San Bernardino Lodge No. 836
Ken Gunn	Modesto Lodge No. 1282
Harold Hackett	San Jose Lodge No. 522
Doug Hagdohl	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Judy Hall	

## Dinner for Disabled Veterans

Palmdale Elks Lodge No. 2027 recently held a dinner for Disabled Veterans at our lodge. Veterans were bused from Sepulveda Hospital to the lodge where they were entertained and fed roast pork loin dinner. The veterans were then given personal toiletry items and each one received a Lap Robe knitted by our member Margret Hernandez. Approximately 250 dinners were served to veterans and Elk members and volunteers. Boy Scout Troop 599, which our lodge sponsors, and the Color Guard from Edwards Air Force Base presented the Colors. We had talks from WWII survivors, the City Mayor, Jim Ledford, and active military members. The veterans committee has spent many long hours having events such as dinners, yard sales and BBQ's to raise money for this event. Approximately \$8,000 in cash was raised to purchase the various items and items worth \$1,000 were donated. This is an annual event their lodge has been doing for many years.



Left to Right: ER Carlos Bracamontes, National Veterans Service Chair Phyllis Gonda, and Mayor Jim Ledford, who is a member of their Lodge.



Left to Right: Committee member Joan Foor, two VA Hospital representatives, committee chair Phyllis Gonda, committee member Joan Guyer, and ER Carlos Bracamontes

## Canines for K-9s

The Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 has donated \$10,000 to the City of Orange Police Department in the last two years to help purchase two new Belgian Shepherd dogs who were born in Slovakia. Orange Elks Trustee Mike Duff has been the person behind the fund raising effort.



Left to Right: K-9 Officer Trevor Cullen, Argo, Trustee Mike Duff, ER JackieLynn DeFries, K-9 Officer Ryan Johnson and Hondo.

## Long Beach Veterans Day Parade

Bellflower-Long Beach Lodge No. 888 recently joined 160 other participants in the Long Beach Veterans Day parade. The Lodge rode on a double decker bus with 40 Veterans from "The Villages at Cabrillo", a project by the Veterans Administration in Long Beach that provides housing, job training, and clothing, etc, for homeless Veterans who are having a hard time getting back on their feet. After the parade, the Lodge served a lunch to the veterans at the Lodge, then held a "get acquainted" session, where each veteran and Elk announced the branch of service in which they had served. Many of the Veterans were so impressed that they asked for Lodge membership applications.

## Elks Make Charitable Contributions

The Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 made the following charitable contributions for January 2008:

- \$5,000 to support the Lodge's 6th grade Americanism Essay Contest. The funds will be used for Savings Bonds awards to winners and to underwrite the awards dinner.
- \$329 to Huntington Beach High School for their spring sports.
- \$250 to the Ocean View High School soccer team.



**Latest Members to Join the Century Club cont. from pg. 10**  
 (November 21, 2007 through January 28, 2008)

<u>DONOR</u>	<u>LODGE</u>
Martha Hall	San Bernardino Lodge No. 836
Terry Hall (3)	Eureka Lodge No. 652
Bob Hanna	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Gerald Hardesty	Chico Lodge No. 423
Rose Harmon	South San Francisco No. 2091
Danny Harris	Sonora Lodge No. 1587
Marge Harris	Palm Springs Lodge No. 1905
Scott Heron	Huntington Beach No. 1959
Jack Hewitt	Roseville Lodge No. 2248
Luella Hewitt	Roseville Lodge No. 2248
Ed Higdon	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Robert High	Modesto Lodge No. 1282
Loren Hill	Modesto Lodge No. 1282
Schylar Hilts	Redlands Lodge No. 583
Clifton Holcomb	Tracy Lodge No. 2031
Marilyn Hooton	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Terry Horne	Chico Lodge No. 423
Kenneth Horst	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Angelique Horton	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Sue Hurst	Garden Grove Lodge No. 1952
Brian Iverson	Simi Valley Lodge No. 2492
Wray Jacobs	Ridgecrest Lodge No. 1913
Harold & Leslie Jacobson	San Mateo Lodge No. 1112
Bill James	Poway Lodge No. 2543
Larry & Judy Jenkins	Placerville Lodge No. 1712
Barbara Johnson	Eureka Lodge No. 652
Donald Johnson	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Jim Johnson	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Laura Johnson	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Renee Kam	Honolulu Lodge No. 616
Staci Karasaki (2)	Honolulu Lodge No. 616
Geraldine King	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Myles Kowalczyk, PER (2)	Garden Grove Lodge No. 1952
George Kraul	Salinas Lodge No. 614
David Krebs	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Kim Kromas	San Pedro Lodge No. 966
Alecia Kuhn	Westchester Lodge No. 2050
Angie Lakin	Huntington Beach No. 1959
Jerry Landreth	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Jan Marie Lankford	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Ian Lanouette	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Fred Leavitt	Salinas Lodge No. 614
Henry Leclerc	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Robert Leinkram	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Howard Lewis	Chico Lodge No. 423
Dennis Linsley	Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474
Kathleen Linsley	Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474
John Lopez	West Covina Lodge No. 1996
David Lucero	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Curt Lumley (3)	Ridgecrest Lodge No. 1913
Ernest Mandere	Redding Lodge No. 1073

<u>DONOR</u>	<u>LODGE</u>
Peter Mandon (2)	San Jose Lodge No. 522
Carl Maple	Indio Lodge No. 1643
Carlos Mariscal	Salinas Lodge No. 614
Marionette Mason	Roseville Lodge No. 2248
Ken McElroy	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Hal McGee	Chico Lodge No. 423
Richard McGrorty	Garden Grove Lodge No. 1952
Bill Mendel	Santee-Lakeside No. 2698
Wes Merritt (2)	Brawley Lodge No. 1420
E. Michael Metcalfe	Roseville Lodge No. 2248
John Miller, III, PER	Garden Grove Lodge No. 1952
Alan Mitchell	Huntington Beach No. 1959
Ronald Mizuno	Honolulu Lodge No. 616
Virginia Morrow	Alhambra-San Gabriel No. 1328
David Mowat	Auburn Lodge No. 1691
Timothy Mullins	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
C. Murphy-Gremz	Riverside Lodge No. 643
Arthur Naylor	Roseville Lodge No. 2248
Northern Elks Travel League (4)	Chico Lodge No. 423
Gerald Nunes	San Jose Lodge No. 522
Oakmont Retirement Home	Chico Lodge No. 423
Dorothy Odsen (2)	Ridgecrest Lodge No. 1913
Bill O'hearn	Garden Grove Lodge No. 1952
Paul Ohlms	San Bernardino Lodge No. 836
Richard Oksas	Monterey Lodge No. 1285
Jackie Orovecz	Pomona Lodge No. 2038
Paul Overbeck	Big Bear Lake Lodge No. 1787
Hugh Page, Jr.	Modesto Lodge No. 1282
Ron & Kris Paino	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Jake Parsons	Sonora Lodge No. 1587
Danny Paulsen	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Karen Pence	Willows Lodge No. 1786
John Peterson	Chico Lodge No. 423
Marietta Petersen (3)	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Patti Peterson (2)	Garden Grove Lodge No. 1952
Anita Pugh	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Donald Puliz (5)	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
John Purdy	Hemet Lodge No. 1740
Lee Purdy	Hemet Lodge No. 1740
Tom Quigley	Eureka Lodge No. 652
Darrell Ramey	Brawley Lodge No. 1420
Sylvia Reinitz	Modesto Lodge No. 1282
Ed Resnick	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Oren Richardson (3)	Coalinga Lodge No. 1613
CarolSue Rigano	Redlands Lodge No. 583
Neil Riordan	Palm Springs Lodge No. 1905
Al Rizotto	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Samuel Rockwood	Redondo Beach Lodge No. 1378
Barney Rodriguez	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Rolling Hills Casino	Chico Lodge No. 423
Richard D. Rose, P.E.R.	Bellflower/Long Beach No. 888

**Latest Members to Join the Century Club cont. from pg. 12**  
 (November 21, 2007 through January 28, 2008)

<u>DONOR</u>	<u>LODGE</u>
Ture & Ina Roslund (4)	Placerville Lodge No. 1712
Lawrence Rotharmel	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
William Sampino	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Bill Sassie	Brawley Lodge No. 1420
Dave Satel	Quincy Lodge No. 1884
Ann Saunter	Indio Lodge No. 1643
Donald Schafer	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Mel Schatz	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Roberta Schrader	Simi Valley Lodge No. 2492
John Schulz	Chico Lodge No. 423
Zena Schwartz	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Allen & Emma Scott	Hemet Lodge No. 1740
Kimberlee Scott	Walnut Creek Lodge No. 1811
Mike Scroggins	Eureka Lodge No. 652
Jerrell Seay	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
David Seeley, III	Huntington Beach No. 1959
David Shideler	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
David Shiflet (2)	Poway Lodge No. 2543
SV Region Classic Chevy (5)	Chico Lodge No. 423
Dayton Silver	Garden Grove Lodge No. 1952
Patti Simpson	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Louis Siracusa, Jr.	Honolulu Lodge No. 616
William Smicenski	Oceano-Five Cities No. 2504
Bill Smith	Atascadero Lodge No. 2733
Canaro Smith, Jr.	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Jolene Smith	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Ken Smith	Brawley Lodge No. 1420
Larry Smith	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Oakley Smith	San Bernardino Lodge No. 836
Social Quarters	Santee-Lakeside No. 2698
Waldemar Spalding	Lake Elsinore Lodge No. 2591
Sheila Spangler	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Donald Stanton	Ukiah Lodge No. 1728
Boomer Steeman	Huntington Beach No. 1959
Keith Storm	Redondo Beach No. 1378
Robert & Viccki Stratton	Redlands Lodge No. 583
Fred Strayhorn	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Ryan (Junior) Svensson	Quincy Lodge No. 1884
Jon Swanson	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Vern Swenson	Canoga Park Lodge No. 2190
Taco Belles of Walnut Creek	Walnut Creek Lodge No. 1811
Raymond Thielen, II (3)	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Joanne Tiffany	Ridgecrest Lodge No. 1913
Wayne Tilley	Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474
The Tooters (2)	Walnut Creek Lodge No. 1811
Jean Topley	Big Bear Lake Lodge No. 1787
Jesse Torres	Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474
Dorothy Trapanese	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Loretta Tuan	Honolulu Lodge No. 616
Roger Tumbaga	Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474
W.R. Turner	Hemet Lodge No. 1740

<u>DONOR</u>	<u>LODGE</u>
VFW Post 7245	Orange Lodge No. 1475
George Van de Langeryt	Orange Lodge No. 1475
Sharon Van Horne	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Jim Vandenberg	Simi Valley Lodge No. 2492
Ryan Vanella	Chico Lodge No. 423
Clyde Vaughn	Indio Lodge No. 1643
Manuel Velez	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Gerry Veltrie (2)	Chico Lodge No. 423
George Waters	Willows Lodge No. 1786
Scott Watson (2)	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Tom Watson	Chico Lodge No. 423
Gail White	Big Bear Lake Lodge No. 1787
Joe & Muriel White (4)	Hemet Lodge No. 1740
Rudy Whitmer	Placerville Lodge No. 1712
James Wilder	Salinas Lodge No. 614
Jeanne LaVelle Wilder	Honolulu Lodge No. 616
Charles Williams (2)	Redlands Lodge No. 583
Charles Wilson	Placerville Lodge No. 1712
Charles Wilson	Redding Lodge No. 1073
Chris Wilson	Quincy Lodge No. 1884
Charles Wolosz	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Dennis K.K. Wong	Honolulu Lodge No. 616
Steve Worthington	Big Bear Lake Lodge No. 1787
Teru Yasuda	Honolulu Lodge No. 616
Gloria Yau	Honolulu Lodge No. 616
Serena Zanussi	Sacramento Lodge No. 6

**Public Safety Night**

On January 16, 2008 the Salinas Elks Lodge No. 614 hosted their annual Public Safety Night honoring local police and fire fighters. There were about 170 members and guests present for a dinner of Chef Carved Roast Beef Au Jus, Mashed Potatoes and all the fixings. Guest Speaker Commander Trever Lida of the Salinas Police Department spoke about the Salinas Community Safety Alliance Program. One of their goals is to help children become good citizens, an objective that complements our Dictionary Program. The event generated \$596.00 in proceeds for the Lodge's Dictionary Program.

Public Safety awards were presented to several officers of the Salinas Police Department, the Monterey County Sheriffs Department, and the Gonzales Police Department. Monterey County Sheriff, Mike Kanalakis, Salinas Police Chief, Daniel Ortega, and Gonzales Police Chief, Paul Miller presented the awards.

**"Let your heart feel the afflictions and distress of everyone, and let your hand give in proportion to your purse."**  
*- George Washington*



**Latest Millennium (\$1,000.00) Club Donors**

*(As of January 28, 2008)*

DONOR	LODGE
James & Liz Avila	Hanford Lodge No. 1259
Herman DeJong	Lake Elsinore Lodge No. 2591
Robert Dringenberg	Fremont Lodge No. 2121
Maxine Elin	Gilroy Lodge No. 1567
Marilyn M. Facha	Sacramento Lodge No. 6
Glenn Fuller	Garden Grove Lodge No. 1952
Richard Goldner	Thousand Oaks No. 2477
Ray Harrod (5)	Salinas Lodge No. 614
Timothy Heiser	Santa Clara Lodge No. 2347
Michael McAlpine	Pasadena Lodge No. 672
Wes Merritt	Brawley Lodge No. 1420
Jesse Nighswonger	Paradise Lodge No. 2026
Mike Parsons	Clovis Lodge No. 2599
E.F. "Gene" Pendergast	Twentynine Palms No. 2134
Doris Pollard	Lancaster Lodge No. 1625
Oren Richardson (4)	Coalinga Lodge No. 1613
Ture & Ina Roslund	Placerville Lodge No. 1712
Charles M. Shelton	Alturas Lodge No. 1756
David Shiftlet	Poway Lodge No. 2543
Joyce Taylor	Redondo Beach Lodge No. 1378

**Clovis Elks Host Classic Basketball Tournament**

Clovis Elks Lodge No. 2599 members and their wives: Mike Heffernan, Thom Richardson, (PER), Linda Richardson, Don Pruett, Harry Johnson, Judy Johnson and Gail Pruett proudly wait to present trophies to the winning teams of the 26th Annual Clovis Elks Christmas Classic Basketball tournament. This year's tournament was attended by 14 high school teams with 268 players and 64 coaches and referees from California, Arizona and Nevada.

Nearly 6,000 spectators enjoyed the tournament. Clovis Elks Lodge No. 2599 prepared over 1,000 meals for the coaches and players. The event received wide local TV coverage. The championship game between McClymonds High School in Oakland and Estrella Hills High School in Phoenix went into overtime. McClymonds had enough strength left to power through for an 82-79 victory.



**Santa Maria Lodge Holds Annual Firefighters Appreciation Night**

The 31st annual Firefighters Appreciation Night, sponsored by the Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538, was designed to honor all the men and women who serve their community as firefighters.

Santa Maria Mayor Larry Lavagnino and Exalted Ruler Kim Newman presented awards to the following firefighters: Santa Maria Fire Engineer William Good, Santa Barbara County Fire Capt. Dave Ortega, Guadalupe Fire Capt. Auston Lara, the late Fire Chief Ron Bennett, former Orcutt Fire Chief, Vandenburg Air Force Base Fire Captain Joe De Hoyos, US Fire Service Prevention Technician Hubert F. Lagharn, Hancock College Fire Academy Director of Environmental Training Robert A. Peterson.

This year, the fire agencies honored the Elks for all the years that they have held this dinner and gave the Elks a plaque bearing patches from all departments.

**Elks Keep Giving**



*Yolo Wayfarer Center Executive Director Leona Jull, center, accepts \$1000 from Woodland Elks Lodge 1299 Exalted Ruler Brian Flemmer, right, and Bingo Chairman Jim Fuller*

**Dictionaries Bring Smiles to Third Graders' Faces**

Gardena Elks Lodge No. 1919 ER Martin Almaraz and Sam Sweeney delivered dictionaries to a 3rd grade classroom of students at Denker Ave. School in Gardena, CA. The students were so surprised that each of them received their own personal dictionary and the looks on their faces were priceless. So many thanks, hugs, and smiles were well worth the chilly weather that they endured that day.



**Christmas Celebrations**

The Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 was full of the Christmas spirit as they hosted 210 developmentally challenged men, women and children. Many have been attending for years, and never miss an opportunity to sit on Santa's lap and tell him their Christmas wish list. The Elks have held this Christmas party for over 30 years, and it is one of the largest parties of its kind in Orange County. Each guest enjoyed a personal visit with Santa (AKA Elk Ed Mackey) who arrived in a stretch limo. Hours and hours of love went into preparing over two hundred gift packages that really delighted the guests. Each received a bag full of goodies, which included a hi-tech lap-computer game an Art Kit and other gifts. Each also received a photo of themselves with Santa Claus.



**Elks Honor Fire Fighters**

The members of Lancaster Lodge No. 1625 had the honor and privilege to have four local Lancaster firefighters and their spouses join other firefighters as dinner guests at the Lodge.

After the dinner in the Lodge Room, Battalion 11 Chief Gerald Cosey showed a slide presentation that described the services provided to the Antelope Valley by their Air Support Team.

Upon conclusion, Jerry Mundell, Lodge Firefighters Chairman, introduced Battalion 11 Chief Ray Blackburn, who introduced the four recipients, Fire Fighters Robert Garcia - Station 33, Brian Redela - Station 33, and James Taylor - Station 117, all recent Veterans of the Iraq war. Captain Bill Monahan - Station 130 Urban Search and Rescue(USR), could not be present due to his teaching USR methods out of Country.

On behalf of the Lodge members, Mundell presented plaques to each of the recipients, and to Battalion Chief Cosey, on behalf of Captain Bill Monahan.



*Left to Right: Brian Redela, James Taylor, Robert Garcia, and Jerry Mundell. Background: ER A. "Hamp" Hampton, P.E.R.*

**Dictionary Fundraiser**

Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625 Dictionary Chairmen Ray Pompey PER, and Jerry Mundell invited all Elks and their friends to the Lodge for a dinner.. Pompey prepared a fantastic dinner for 84 members and guests. The event generated \$1,537.00 for the Lodge Dictionary Program. Many local businesses and lodge members donated prizes or money to the event. The Lodge donated breakfast and dinner tickets to raise funds at the event as well.

Since the inception of this program, more than 6,000 dictionaries and Elk Anti-Drug materials have been given to the third-graders at the Antelope Valley Elementary School.

This year, our goal is to distribute 6,000 to 7,000 dictionaries and Elks anti-drug material to approximately 42 Elementary Schools or more in our area.

**CHEA Helps Students**

Every year, CHEA helps students through its scholarships for children with disabilities and vocational grant programs. Visit [www.chea-elks.org/scholarshipmenu.html](http://www.chea-elks.org/scholarshipmenu.html).



### Elks Major Project

By Gene Pendergast- Board Chairman

I would like to continue to speak about 'COMMITMENT'. We are now in the last quarter of the Elk year. The figures in the Piggy Bank look real promising toward meeting the \$3 million mark in May. I would like to commend all of the Elks, ladies auxiliaries, families, and friends who have given of their time and money to make this possible. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Do you remember the saying, "No Elk stands so tall as when he stoops to help a child"? If we, as Elks, will 'stoop' to make the COMMITMENT to CHEMPI, more services will be provided to our children and more smiles will be seen on their faces. Being able to watch children take their first steps after working with our physical therapists. Being able to hear children speak after sessions with our speech language pathologists. Watching our children transfer objects from one hand to the other after working with our occupational therapists. Saving children's eyesight as potentially serious eye problems are detected by our preschool vision screeners. None of this can be accomplished without your COMMITMENT.

We have some very dedicated CHEMPI staff working for us throughout California and Hawaii. They continue to strive to keep themselves abreast of the changes in their fields. They want to do their best for the children they serve. If you happen to see one of our cars with the CHEMPI decal on it, take time to say 'hello' and thank the person for all the work being done. At the Association Convention, stop by the Major Project Booth and say 'hello' to the staff working it. Any one of them would love to tell you how much they appreciate working for CHEMPI.

The staff in Fresno has done a lot of work to make it easier to make donations to CHEMPI. If you are computer savvy, check out the CHEA website. See the various ways in which you can help. There are articles on the website that you can use in your lodge bulletins to let your members know what's going on with CHEMPI. There is information about the Camper Rally, Bowling, and the Area 7 Charity Golf Tournament. These are ways in which Elks raise money for CHEMPI, have fun doing it, and meet other Elks.

As a reminder, there are several ways you can help that do not require a monetary donation: continue to save the "Box Tops for Education"; begin using GoodSearch as your search engine to generate one cent for CHEMPI for every valid search you make (type in California-Hawaii Elks Major Project not BPOE); and sign up for a S.H.A.R.E.S. Card for Save Mart Supermarkets (regular shopping will generate money to CHEMPI). Other ways that you can help are: making purchases using Bug in a Rug (a portion of your purchase goes to CHEMPI); becoming a member of the 52, Century or Millennium Clubs; continuing to turn in your Purple Pigs; becoming a BLT Commitment Trust Member; and contributing to CHEMPI in remembrance or special honor of a friend. And remember, all monetary donations to CHEMPI are tax deductible. If you are unfamiliar with any of the above, contact your Lodge Piggy Bank Chairman, Lodge BLT Chairman or the Fresno Office.

### New BLT Commitment Trust Honorees

Porterville Lodge No. 1342 held their annual Piggy Bank night on February 8, 2008. They raised funds to assist children with disabilities and to help the Major Project be able to fund the therapists needed to serve the association. A caring couple, Ken and Laurie Hampton, have served the Porterville Elks Lodge No. 1342 and Emblem Club No. 82 for many years. They became a member of the BLT family of giving and caring people by establishing a charitable Commitment Trust which will help fund the future of the Major Project. As the BLT Vice Chairman North, it was my privilege to present a plaque honoring our friends Ken and Laurie Hampton for this very generous gift.

Ken Hampton is a Past Exalted Ruler of the Porterville Lodge No. 1342, he is the East Central District Americanism Chairman, Vice President of the East Central District PER Association and a member of the Porterville Emblem Club No. 82. Ken and Laurie Hampton, the Porterville Lodge salutes you and your gracious gift. For information about the BLT programs, visit our web site at [www.chea-elks.org](http://www.chea-elks.org).

