



The California-Hawaii

Elk

"Elks Care ~ Elks Share"



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

Volume 56, Number 3

May/June 2009

Jerry Rucker's VPs ("Jerry's Broadcasters") Raise Over \$26K for the Purple Pig!

What a finish for Jerry Rucker's Homecoming celebration at the San Bernardino Elks Lodge No. 836 on March 7th! As you know, the "Broadcasters" staged a fundraiser drawing for a one-week stay in a condominium in Kona, HI (including airfare for 2 and an automobile). This fantastic prize was donated by PER Robert Schlesinger (Bellflower-Long Beach Lodge No. 888). Note that Robert was also the CHEMPI Poster Child from Long Beach in 1967.

The competition for ticket sales was fierce across the districts. All of the proceeds from the ticket sales were given to the Purple Pig. After all of the donations were finally collected and tallied, the total was \$26,270! The Broadcasters have set a new record, surpassing the \$17,000 mark that was set by Oren's "Sparks". It looks like the incoming team of VP's have a challenge on their hands!

The Top 3 Districts:

- 1st Place: \$3,650 - South (John Lieser, VP)
- 2nd Place: \$3,615 - Southeast (Manny Rodriguez, VP)
- 3rd Place: \$1,910 - West Central (David Coleman, VP)

The Top 3 Lodges:

- 1st Place: \$1,125 - Moreno Valley, No. 2697 (Southeast, Manny Rodriguez, VP)
- 2nd Place: \$615 - Needles, No. 1608 (South, John Lieser, VP)
- 3rd Place: \$545 - Santa Maria, No. 1538 (West Central, David Coleman, VP)



The winning ticket was drawn by Jerry and Bonnie's 4-year old granddaughter. You won't believe it, but the winner was the South District VP John Lieser! The ticket that won was from the first \$20 that John put in on his first visitation to help get the ball rolling for Blythe Lodge! Carol Lieser says the Broadcasters did a superb job, and "Aloha, and lots of hugs!"

San Jose Elks Lodge No. 522 Honors Law Enforcement and is Honored in Return!



Left to Right: Dennis Johnsen, ER Georgette Poole, Ken Kelly and Chuck Reed

On Thursday, January 29, the San Jose Elks Lodge No. 522 held a "Law Enforcement Appreciation Night." Approximately 30 peace officers and officials were guests of the lodge for dinner that evening. Exalted Ruler Georgette Poole presented a plaque to the three guest speakers to honor them for their part in law enforcement and community leadership. The guest speakers were: the Mayor of San Jose, the Honorable Chuck Reed; Crime Stoppers USA Western Region Director Ken Kelly, and Santa Clara County Chief Arson Investigator Dennis Johnsen and Rosie, a Labrador Retriever who is trained to recognize flammable liquids at the scene of a fire. The big surprise was when the Crime-Stoppers Board Members Ken Kelly, Bud LoMonaco and Dave Castro presented the San Jose Lodge with a plaque acknowledging its long-term continuous support of law enforcement and the crime stopper program.

Elks Care - Elks Share

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This month is the changing of the guard for the California-Hawaii Elks Association. Bonnie and I have spent this entire year doing what most Elks would be proud to do. We have visited all of the districts in our Association. During these visitations we have had the opportunity of a lifetime in seeing many of the Lodges in our Association. I am proud to tell you that our districts and their Lodges are being run by a fine group of Americans. They are dedicated to making the lives of our citizens a better place. There is no possible way that I can thank each of you individually for making this year such a success.



We had the opportunity to visit with American Veterans who will not let us forget those that have made the supreme sacrifice so that we may enjoy the freedoms with which we live. We visited with the Scouts and listened to the success of our work with young people. We visited with the Antlers and found this program being instituted in many of our lodges. We had the opportunity to visit with students that are receiving Elks scholarships. We visited with the students that are being recognized for their essays on Americanism. I could go on and on telling you of all of the programs and how they are being implemented by our Lodges. But I would rather thank all of the State Chairpersons and their supporters in the districts and Lodges. You have done an outstanding job this year.

As President of CHEA, I asked that two individuals be chosen at each Lodge to receive special recognition in the "Mouth of the South" association. You just had to be selected for your dedication to Elkdom. As we went to each district, I was impressed at how much the recipient of these pins felt rewarded for their efforts. They were wearing the pin proudly and wanted to share their gratitude with me. My "Thank you" goes to those that received the pin.

Even in this time of financial turmoil, I am pleased to announce that we are keeping up the financial support that our work requires. Our per capita for donations to the National Foundation again far exceeds the Grand Exalted Ruler's goal. Those of you that attend the CHEA Convention in Ontario will be there, hopefully, when we reach the goal of \$3,000,000 for our Major Project. I am overwhelmed when I think of the hard work that has gone into reaching these two goals. Thank you to everyone for your efforts.

A special "Thank you" must go to the Vice Presidents for their efforts in making this such a great year. I could not have asked for a finer group to carry the message of Elkdom to the Lodges and communities of our Association.

Bonnie and I want all of you to know that you have made this a truly memorable year for us. I guess it just goes to prove that:

ELKS MAKE DREAMS COME TRUE

Fraternally,

Jerry Rucker

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

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Jerry Rucker.....President
Lee Karjola.....First Vice President
Ronald Howell.....Secretary
Donald D. Schultz.....Treasurer
Robert Cones.....Sergeant-at-Arms
Catherine "Kitty" Tufford.....Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms
Donald Schafer.....Tiler
Arthur Echternacht.....Assistant Tiler
William "Bud" Morgan.....Chaplain
Fred P. Krinke.....Organist

ASSOCIATION VICE PRESIDENTS

Richard Gay – Bay; **Edward "Trill" Torrilhon** – Central;
Bob Couch – East Central; **Ronald Mizuno** – Hawaii;
Jeff Brown – Inland; **Kelvin Swanson** – Metropolitan;
George Waters – North; **Jerry Landreth** – North Central;
Bill Chelonis – Northeast; **Rich Simmons** – Northwest;
Ed Repic – Orange Coast; **David Delgado** – San Gabriel Valley; **John Lieser** – South; **David Morgan** – South Central; **Landon Strattan** – South Central Coast; **David Hosted** – South Coast; **Manny Rodriguez** – Southeast; **Steven Mayne** – West Central; **David Coleman** – West Central Coast

SUBMISSION AND COPY DEADLINES

1st Day of Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Dec

Copy: Microsoft Word preferred. Article should be sent as an attachment to the e-mail

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

Send electronic items to: cheamag@concoursecomm.com

Guidelines: www.chea-elks.org/MagazineGuidelines.pdf

Only if necessary, mail items to:

Concourse Communications

1175 Shaw Avenue 104, PMB#304

Clovis, CA 93612

www.concoursecomm.com

EDITOR

Ian Lanouette

PUBLISHER

Concourse Communications

1175 Shaw Avenue 104, PMB#304

Clovis, CA 93612

www.concoursecomm.com

Ph 559.322.2215

Fx 559.322.2219



ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES

Richard McDonald	Chairman
Floyd "Skip" Henke	Vice Chairman
Joe Cenoz	Member
James Nuse	Member
Dr. Eugene DeAngelis	Member
Norman "Mike" Pettigrew	Member
Eugene Beckel	Member
Robert "Bob" Burns	Member
David Williford	Member
Ronald Howell	Secretary
Donald D. Schultz	Treasurer

MAJOR PROJECT TRUSTEES

John G. Holt	Chairman
Fred Hewins	Vice Chairman
Vern Ungerecht	Secretary
Billy J. Skarles	Treasurer
E. F. "Gene" Pendergast	Member
Dwayne Hutson	Member
Wayne Howard	Advisor

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Gene Baxter	'09 Conv. Chairman
Charles "Chuck" Nolan	'10 Conv. Chairman
Ian Lanouette	Editor, "The CA-HI Elk"
Tim Martin	Executive Director
Bob Brennan	Blue Coat Chairman
Jerry Rucker	GL Convention Chairman
Edward "Trill" Torrilhon	Historian
Doug Larsen	Chairman Meetings Comm
Frank Keller	V. Chairman Meetings Comm
James Mason	V. Chairman Meetings Comm
Mell Steiger	'08 Mid-Term Chairman
Billy J. Skarles	'09 Mid-Term Chairman
C. R. Jim Beem	Pres. Achievement Award

ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Robert Cassetta	Americanism
Ron Berglund	Bequests & Living Trusts
Jack D. Jones	Business Practices
John "Jack" Dalton	Drug Awareness
Roy Long	Elks Training
Josh Serrano	Government Relations
Darrell "Dude" McMaster	Hoop Shoot
Edward M. Coffman	Insurance & Safety
Robert Ostini	Lapsation
Fred Whitnack	Lodge Activities
David Harris	Membership
Fred E. Reis	National Foundation
Frank Chicago	National Veterans Service
Debbie Hosted	Piggy Bank
Fred L. Bianchini	Public Relations
Phil Trujillo	Ritual Contest
Michael Mathers	Ritual Training
Jerry Taylor	Scholarship
James Warrick	Scouting
Marty Mello	Youth/Soccer Activities

DISTRICT LEADERS

John B. Damonte	Bay
Fred H. Hewins	Central
Lou Aguiar	Central
Dwayne Hutson	East Central
Dave Davidson	East Central
Wayne Howard	Hawaii
Vern Ungerecht	Hawaii
Donald D. Schultz	Inland
Richard J. Hickey, Sr.	Inland
John G. Holt	Metropolitan
Hugh H. Scanlon	Metropolitan
Sim Nathan	North
Dwight L. Roberts	North
John A. Parker	North Central
Billy J. Skarles	North Central
Stephen Haydn	Northeast
Robert D. Souza	Northeast
Russell L. Clarke	Northwest
John Holsapple	Northwest
Lee Northcutt	Orange Coast
Arthur Echternacht	Orange Coast
Rex E. Dondlinger	San Gabriel Valley
Patrick F. Koen	San Gabriel Valley
E. F. "Gene" Pendergast	South
Jimmy D. Lowe	South
Ralph P. Ortiz	South Central
William "Bill" Woodard	South Central
James W. Taylor	South Central Coast
Donald R. Checchi	South Central Coast
William Wiscovitch	South Coast
Chuck Nolan	South Coast
Manuel Gomez	Southeast
Jimmie Spezia	Southeast
Thomas S. Brazier	West Central
Catherine "Kitty" Tufford	West Central
William K. Lloyd	West Central Coast
Mac Clark	West Central Coast

CHEMPI

(California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc.)

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

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

William F. Young Passed Away

The Association office has been notified that William F. Young, member of the CHEMPI Board of Trustees and Bay District Leader, passed away Friday morning, March 27, 2009.

Fremont Elks Lodge No. 2121 Distributes Dictionaries

For the third year in a row, the Fremont Elks Lodge No. 2121 has provided dictionaries to third grade students. This past November, the Lodge distributed 4,008 dictionaries to third graders in 47 schools in four school districts: New Haven School District, Fremont Unified School District, San Lorenzo School District, and the Castro Valley School District.

Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 Honors the Community

The Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 has been very busy honoring the community since this New Year started! They recognized 7 local businesses with special Americanism Citations for flying the American flag outside their establishments. They donated \$18,047 to their community in 2008, supporting a wide variety of veterans groups, schools, scouts, disadvantaged individuals, seniors, needy families and other groups. They honored their fire and police organizations and presented 35 appreciation plaques to members of the police, Highway Patrol, Sheriff's and Fire Departments. Over 225 attended the awards and dinner event, including fire cadets and police explorers. They even handed out Drug Awareness bags to the youngsters present. Elroy the Elk was present at another special event to honor the local media. Four worthy students received scholarships at an awards dinner that was the venue for a Purple Pig redemption event.

President's Upcoming Visitation Schedule

May 7-10, 2009
Utah State Elks Association Convention

May 13-16, 2009
CHEA Convention - Ontario, CA

June 5-7, 2009
Santa Maria Elks Rodeo

June 19-21, 2009
Metropolitan District (Elks Luncheon Club)

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

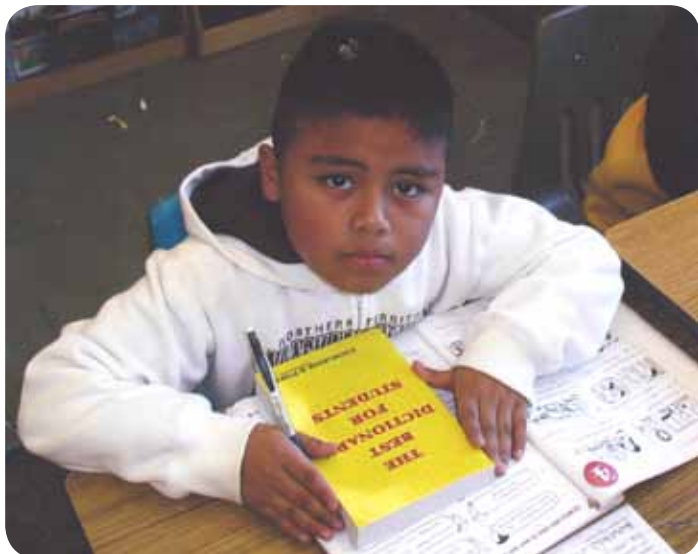
Locks of Love

Doug Timney, a member of Alameda Lodge No. 1015 recently donated his ponytail to the "Locks of Love". The Locks of Love returns a sense of self-confidence and normalcy to children suffering from hair loss by utilizing donated ponytails to provide the highest quality hair prosthetics to financially disadvantaged children. The Alameda Elks Lodge was proud to sponsor this event, along with "Locks of Love", which is a non-profit entity.



Salinas Elks Lodge No. 614 Continues Successful Dictionary Program

This is the second year in a row that the Salinas Elks Lodge No. 614 has participated in the Dictionary Project. Last year, 1,100 dictionaries were distributed to third grade students in the Alisal School District, the Santa Rita School District, the Spreckles School District and the Chualar School District. In mid-January of this year, over 1,500 additional dictionaries were delivered. In addition to the dictionary program, the Lodge supports other Elks programs, such as: home physical therapy treatment for disabled children, an annual essay contest for elementary and middle school students, a scholarship program for high school seniors and various anti-drug programs.



An appreciative third-grader in the Salinas School District

Alameda Lodge No. 1015 Hosts Civic Employee Appreciation Breakfast

Alameda Elks Lodge No. 1015 recently held a Civic Employee Appreciation Breakfast. Over 50 civic employees from the City of Alameda were treated to a full breakfast. Another 200 paying guests (lodge members and their guests) also attended the breakfast.

In other news from the Alameda Lodge, a member was recognized for his many years of service to the "Hoop Shoot" program. Lodge member Lil Arnerich has been participating for 35 years donating his time at the "free throw line" for the city-wide contest. In the recent contest, over 400 children participated. In recognition of his dedication to this program, the Bay District Hoop Shoot Chair, Dave Wedeking, from San Mateo Lodge No. 1112, presented a special plaque to Lil Arnerich (on the right in the photo).



Garden Grove Elks Lodge No. 1952 Honors Serviceman

The Garden Grove Elks Lodge No. 1952 was honored to host Staff Sgt. Chase Feener and his family for dinner and an evening of fun prior to his most recent deployment. Sgt. Feener has been deployed on several occasions and has received many honors including two Bronze Stars for his exemplary service during his deployment. Sgt. Feener was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for his service to our country as well as a US Flag that was flown over the Capital Building.



Exalted Ruler John Miller, Sgt. Feener and Veterans Chair & Treasurer Jim Faulkner

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

Advisory Committee cont. (Past Presidents)

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

Vista Elks Lodge No. 1968 Honors Law Enforcement

The Vista, Fallbrook and San Marcos Sheriff's department stations were honored at a special ceremony sponsored by the Vista Elks Lodge No. 1968. Special awards were given to the officers and volunteers, who were selected by their peers, for outstanding performance of their duties. Those receiving awards were Deputies James Smith, Byron Barrios, Dave Perkins, Michael Krugh, Pete Alvarado, Jay Pavlenko.



Deputy Jay Pavlenko and K-9 "Gonzo"

Canoga Park Elks Lodge No. 2190 Delivers Goodies to Vets

On March 13, the Canoga Park Elks Lodge No. 2190 delivered 33 tins of home-baked cookies and 33 handmade blankets to the Veterans at the Sepulveda Veterans Hospital. The Lodge Veterans Chair, Peter Marshall and his wife, Marlene, were joined by nine other Lodge members, including the Lodge photographer, Leo Gattenio, to make this delivery.



Left to Right: Woodie Childers, Inner Guard; Peter Marshall; Ingrid Childers, Chaplain; Ken Hamlyn, Trustee; Marlene Marshall, and Rosemary Blischke, Exalted Ruler, join two WWII veterans seated at the table.

San Mateo Elks Lodge No. 1112 Supports the Veterans Through Recycling

The Major Project of the San Mateo Elks National Veterans Service Committee, chaired by Ed Ball, PDDGER, is the television fund (General Post Fund 2262) for the VA Palo Alto Health Care System. In December 2008, the committee donated \$24,750. Since the start of the project, the committee has donated \$238,500. 95% of the money comes from the committee's recycling of aluminum cans, plastic (CRV) bottles, paper and cardboard.

For the veterans at the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in Menlo Park, we had 11 BBQ's and invited 49 veterans to dinner at the lodge on November 10, 2008. We donated \$1,200 in Blockbuster gift cards, \$400 in canteen books, clothes, 12 robes, shoes, 490 paperback books, 161 decks of playing cards, 19 table games, writing supplies, toiletries, 25 jigsaw puzzles, 280 golf balls, 59 CDs/DVDs, 20 music tapes, 14 crossword puzzles, 4 fishing poles and 3 fishing reels. Also, at the Menlo Park Domiciling Services (Homeless Veterans Rehabilitation Program) and Extended Care Unit, we donated clothes, shoes, paperback books, and playing cards.

To support our programs we have recycled 86,480 pounds of glass, 1,365 pounds of aluminum cans, 1,914 pounds of plastic bottles, and 98.4 tons of paper for a total of \$22,834. The committee received \$5,815 in gifts.

In 2008, the committee held 10 birthday parties and served the food for the St. Patrick's Day and Thanksgiving parties at the Palo Alto VA.

In 2008-2009, the ENF will return \$1.75 to CHEA for each \$1.00 you donated in 2007-2008. Please support the ENF!

Membership

**By David Harris
Membership Chair**

DON'T READ THIS!!!

Don't read this unless you are serious about keeping members in your Lodge. This year I have attempted to get your attention by challenging the members to bring in more members. Last month, I sent this newsletter to the District Chairmen and asked them to have it printed in the Lodge bulletins in their Districts. We have had a number of Lodges bring in large numbers. Unfortunately, we have large numbers leave the Lodges. Membership and retention (Lapsation) must work hand in hand in order to increase our ranks.

I encourage you to work to create an effective membership team in your Lodges. In order to help you, Bob Ostini and I will be holding a seminar at CHEA Convention to assist you in ways to improve your programs. I will only have room for 50 to 60 attendees so you will need to arrive early to ensure a seat. I strongly encourage all District Chairmen and Lodge Chairmen to attend. The seminar will be on Friday May 15, 2009 at 1:30 pm in the Keller Peak Room, Doubletree Hotel. First come, first seated.

What I need from all of you is this. . . . Send me any ideas that you have used that worked. Send me ideas that you haven't tried but you think would be a good addition to our arsenal. We have to continue to try new approaches to this problem. Send them to my email dharisgg@msn.com.

There were Lodges that improved their numbers this year and I want to thank you for all the hard work put forth this year. To the District Chairmen, I thank you for all your time chasing numbers for reports. I understand the frustration that goes along with that effort. I know how difficult it is to have people call you wanting information you don't have. This year will have a new system of reporting. While the Lodges report their numbers using CLMS, the District Chairmen will be developing results-oriented programs and procedures to increase membership. This will be some of the information given to you at our seminar in Ontario.

I look forward to working with new District Chairs as well as those returning one more year to launch this new and exciting approach to the membership program. Remember the only difference between an Elk and a great Elk is an Active Elk. Keep 'em active!

Westchester Elks Lodge No. 2050 Sponsors Students' Trip to Inauguration Ceremony

Due to a very generous contribution by the Westchester Elks Lodge No. 2050, 57 students from Rogers Middle School in Lawndale, CA were able to go to Washington, DC, to attend the inauguration of President Barack Obama. Leading Knight Harvey Huddleston was instrumental in gathering the donations from the Elks through the Lodge and the District.



Santa Clarita Lodge No. 2379 Supports the Sepulveda VA Hospital and Veterans

Santa Clarita Lodge No. 2379 supports the Sepulveda VA Hospital and the hospitalized veterans both in words, deeds, and through generous donations. The Lodge recently hosted 33 veterans for a BBQ lunch and entertainment. The Lodge's Boy Scout Troop was the honor guard while Air Force ROTC members were the color guard. Both groups served lunch. The veterans were entertained by a barber shop quartet and a girls dance troop. In the accompanying photograph, the three veterans in the wheel chairs are: on the left, Sammy Weiner, a WWII Army Air Corp veteran whose plane was shot down over Germany on his 30th mission; in the center is Theresa Cracchiola, a former Navy Nurse and the oldest female veteran at the luncheon, and on the right is Al Swelling, the oldest male veteran in attendance. The luncheon was also the occasion for the Lodge to present a \$1,000 check to the hospital for services not provided by the VA.



In the background, from left to right: PER Skip Henke, Patrick Gregorio, Hospital Recreation Chair, Exalted Ruler Rick Dalton, and Veterans Committee member Jim Johnson. The veterans in the foreground are mentioned in the article.

Jerry and Bonnie Receive a Puppy at their Homecoming

You may not know that Jerry and Bonnie had to have their beloved dog put to sleep shortly after Jerry began his term as Association President. Many of us have had a similar experience and know how heart-wrenching such an event can be. Well, the Broadcasters were well aware of their loss and surprised Jerry and Bonnie with a pure-bred Golden Retriever puppy (with AKC papers documenting his championship breeding)! Needless to say, Jerry and Bonnie were extremely moved by this thoughtful gift. It was a wonderful moment for all of us to witness their receipt of this amazing gift.



Bonnie and Jerry with the newest member of their family.

Van Nuys-Reseda Lodge No. 2790 and Lawrence Middle School Support Veterans

Van Nuys-Reseda Lodge No. 2790 supports our veterans in a multitude of ways. They participated in the "Adopt A Vet" program by "adopting" Army Specialist Sgt. Kevin Kelley and his crew of 32 men in May of last year. In February, Sgt. Kelley was on leave from Afghanistan and he stopped by to visit the Lodge. Many of the students at Lawrence Middle School also "adopted" Sgt. Kelley, who was treated to a luncheon and an assembly in his honor at the school. The students send birthday and holiday cards to Sgt. Kelley and his crew throughout the year.

In March, the Lodge treated 49 veterans from the Sepulveda VA Hospital to a wonderful dinner, gave them \$200 in vouchers that could be redeemed at the Hospital commissary, and donated several books from the member's library. Additional donations valued at \$400 were given to the Hospital in February. The Van Nuys-Reseda Antlers wrote Valentines Day and birthday cards to over 100 veterans at the Hospital. Ken and Linda Knight (Lodge Veterans Chairs) delivered the cards in person to the veterans. Jacqueline Brown, from the VA Hospital, presented Ken and Linda Knight with a certificate of appreciation.



Left to Right: Ken Knight, Kathy Rogers, Exalted Ruler, Sgt. Kevin Kelley, and Veterans Committee members Roberta Robles and Linda Knight

The Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 Donates \$3,300 to the Community

In February 2009, the Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 donated \$3,300 to various local charities: \$500 to the Hope Institute Scholarship programs; \$250 to the "Cop Bowl", a police football game that benefits the Orangewood Children's Home; \$100 to the Special Olympics Hoop Shoot; \$350 to the Huntington Beach American Legion Auxiliary to sponsor one candidate to Girls State; \$100 for an Elks National Home brick; \$500 each to the Shoreline Private School and the Tamara Public School for sports outreach programs, and \$1,000 to the Huntington Beach Annual "Duck-A-Thon" rubber duck race that supports many local charities, such as the local free clinic.

In other news, the Lodge sponsored a great evening of bingo at the Long Beach, CA VA Hospital. The Lodge volunteers, led by Exalted Ruler Walter Boskovich brought 10 pizzas, jackets, hats and shirts, which were given to each of the players. The lodge donated \$100 as bingo prize money and some clothes for the hospital, which is strictly for homeless veterans.

Santa Clarita Lodge No. 2379 Holds Community Awards Night

Santa Clarita Lodge No. 2379 recently held an awards night and dinner to recognize those who have given outstanding service to the community during the past year. This year's honorees are pictured holding plaques inscribed "For Outstanding Community Service" which were presented to them by their supervisors and the Lodge's Exalted Ruler.



Left to Right: Terry Bucknell (Henry Mayo Hospital), Sean Finday (LA County Fire Dept.), Mindy Burgess (Henry Mayo Hospital), Michael Burton (CHP), Donna Ferguson (Henry Mayo Hospital), Pat Armour (LA County Paramedic), Lucas Darland (Santa Clarita Sheriff Station), Tom Guzman (US Forestry Service), Russell Hardine (American Red Cross), and Rick Dalton, Exalted Ruler

Placerville Elks Lodge No. 1712 Holds Eagle Scout Court of Honor

The Placerville Elks Lodge No. 1712 held an Eagle Scout Court of Honor on March 8, 2009. Two brothers (twins), Dylan Doyle and Tyler Doyle were recognized for earning this highest honor within the Boy Scouts of America. The new Eagle Scouts were each presented with an American Flag and the Elks Eagle Scout certificate.



Back row (left to right): Tony Peterson, Scout Master; Ed Stigall, Assistant Scout Master; Mike Kelly and Steven Lee. Front row (left to right): Tom Caso, Director, Golden Empire Scout Council; Fred Delmer, Exalted Ruler; and Eagle Scouts Dylan Doyle and Tyler Doyle.

Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6 Dedicates Flag Pole and Memorial Garden

The Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6 officially dedicated their new "Elks No. 6" flag and its flag pole on Sunday, March 1, 2009. The flag pole is part of a new Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial Garden. The event was attended by the Hon. Louis J. "Jim" Grillo, PGER, who was the guest speaker. Jim told the Sacramento Elks, in part, that "...the Elks Flag and the Memorial Garden dedication ceremonies...was one of the nicest ceremonies that I have had the opportunity to participate in. Your Lodge can truly be proud of its Memorial Garden and new Elks No. 6 Flag. It is a constant reminder of the dedication that the Elks of Sacramento No. 6 Lodge have to our Order and to the men and women that serve in the Armed Forces." The Flag can be lowered in memory of departed brothers and sisters.

The Lodge is flying the Blue Star and Gold Star flags because of its commitment to veterans and respect for mothers. The Blue Star Flag honors mothers whose children are serving in our Armed Forces, and the Gold Star represents those mothers whose children were killed in action. This area was recently planted with four different kinds of roses. The three Mother's Roses are a coral and pink blend and pay tribute to all mothers. There are also three light yellow Welcome Home Roses, three lavender-pink Memorial Day Roses, and three dark red Veteran's Honor Roses in the new garden. They pay tribute to mothers and their children who have served in the United States Armed Forces. Without their sacrifices, we would not enjoy all of our cherished freedoms.

In the middle of the Memorial Garden is a white cast-iron arch. It is a symbol of support for our troops. The bright yellow ribbon tied to the arch lets everyone know that the Sacramento Elks Lodge proudly welcomes home those military personnel who serve our country.



Holding the flag on the left are Tom Rotharmel, Secretary, and Steve Clazie, ER. The other officers are (from left): Peggy Mello, Trustee; Richard Gilmore, Organist; John Endres, Assistant Esquire; Darnell Lawrence, Esquire; Barbara Cherry, 2009 Chaplain; Richard Cherry, Leading Knight; Lona Taggart, Lecturing Knight; Tony Muljat, Treasurer; DeAnna Marwin, 2008 Chaplain; Ron Brusato, Loyal Knight; Joe Ignoffo, Trustee; Arlene Bennett, Trustee, Doug Kelly, Trustee, and Roy Shannon, Trustee

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

- George Washington

Piggy Bank

By Debbie Hosted
Piggy Bank Chair

As I write this article we have not yet been to convention and had the Exalted Ruler's March. By the time you are reading this, you may have returned from convention. While I can't, at this moment, confirm that we made our goal of \$3 million for our Major Project, I CAN and DO thank each and every person who has contributed to the Piggy Bank.

Whether you bought a candy bar, key chain, used Goodsearch.com, saved Box Tops For Education, or joined the 52 Club, Century Club or Millennium Club, YOU have made this program possible for over 50 years. I know you will continue to contribute in the future. The members of the California-Hawaii Elks have a huge heart for this most precious project. Thank You.

If you get a chance, check out www.chea-elks.org and click on the Major Project link to find letters from the families of some of our children. They really make you feel good about the work that our therapists do and the part that you have in making it happen. The families are all so grateful that the Elks are there to help their children. Keep up the good work! And, remember that \$0.94 of every dollar that you donate goes directly to help the children.

As we enter the new fraternal year, and start down the road toward the 2010 Exalted Ruler's March, we know that the program faces the same increased expenses that our own families face. Be creative in your lodges for ways to increase your Piggy Bank contributions. Try a new fundraiser or activity. Don't forget that using Goodsearch.com for searching and shopping generates pennies for the pig that really add up.

One idea: give your children or grandchildren one of our purple piggy banks to fill – explain to them where the money goes. It will help them to learn to be givers, too. My 5-year old granddaughter was given her first pig by the Exalted Ruler of the San Jose Elks Lodge No. 522. The people at the table around her were giving her change to start her pig out right. She was very excited to put money in it for children that need help.

If you have other ideas, please contact your Lodge Piggy Bank Chairperson to discuss them. Get involved, help others, and have fun while doing it!

Drug Awareness

By Jack Dalton
Drug Awareness Chair

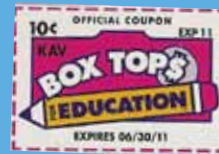
We have begun to embark on a new fiscal year in Elkdom. The newly installed Officers of each Lodge are committed to insuring a successful year during their tenure. Some of the Exalted Rulers of smaller Lodges have had some difficulty in appointing Committee Chairmen for the wonderful programs that are mandated by Grand Lodge Statutes.

Certainly, some programs are of a higher necessity than others. The Drug Awareness Program is one of the important programs that are often overlooked when committee assignments are made.

The Drug Awareness Program, like most other programs, provides a contact with your local community. It provides a reflection on the greatness of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. It allows our Children to participate in several facets of the Elks Drug Awareness Program – be it the Essay or Poster Contest, or involvement in Red Ribbon Week. It provides Drug Awareness Program literature to parents, teachers and children, thereby contributing to a better understanding of the consequences of experimentation or usage of illicit drugs or other mind altering substances.

It is for these reasons, and for the many other attributes of the Drug Awareness Program, that I trust that the Exalted Rulers have made good choices in appointing dedicated individuals who will make your Lodge and your community proud of its contributions towards encouraging a child to make good and proper decisions when he or she is tempted to experiment with mind altering drugs.

You can find a great deal of information about the Drug Awareness Program on the Grand Lodge web site at www.elks.org/dap. This web page allows you to view the current Marvel Comic Book, with Spider-Man and the Fantastic Four in "Hard Choices", in addition to many of its other publications. The comic book is no longer available and is being revised to be reissued sometime this summer.



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

Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625 Recognizes Antelope Valley Media

On February 24, 2009, the Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625 recently presented awards to 8 media representatives from the Antelope Valley. The honorees were: Stan Foster (Lodge 1625 web site manager), Jerry Mundell (Lodge 1625 Newsletter Editor/Publisher), Dennis Anderson (Antelope Valley Press, Editor), Charles Bostwick (Antelope Valley Press, Managing Editor), Liane Roth (Antelope Valley Press, Valley Life Section Editor), Kim Rawley (Antelope Valley Press, Valley Life Section Editor), Russ Williams (Time Warner Communications, Manager), and Naomi Huerta (News Producer).

The event chairman, John Brown, opened the evening and spoke on the importance of the media in promoting the programs and charitable works of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and in publicizing the activities of the Lancaster Elks Lodge. He mentioned that the term "mass media", which was coined in the 1920s, is the communications process which reaches the most people with the most information in the most effective manner. John further noted that, while the Elks depend on newspaper, radio and television to publicize the Elks and their programs, the Internet is the newest media method that is used to promote Elkdom. For many Lodge members, the monthly newsletter is a vital part of reaching out to them with news about their lodge.

The eight honorees received Certificates of Appreciation and plaques. All media methodologies were recognized: the Lodge bulletin (bulletin editor/publisher), the local newspaper (The Antelope Valley Press), cable Television (Time Warner Communications) and the Lodge's pres-

ence on the Internet (Lodge webmaster). All activities of interest to the Antelope Valley and the members of the Lodge are published by these media people in a timely manner, and we are pleased to recognize them for their dedication and professional support in the promotion of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and its works.



Left to Right: John Brown, Lodge Public Relations Chair; Russ Williams, Beverly Jaramillo, Exalted Ruler, Dennis Anderson

Century Club Donations- January 23, 2009 through March 27, 2009 (continued on next page)

DONOR	LODGE NO.	DONOR	LODGE NO.	DONOR	LODGE NO.
Will Presley	3	Sherie Bialous	652	Bruce Gordon	1285
Architectural Arts	6	Troy Combs	652	Robert Knox	1285
Jack Enlow	6	Eureka Emblem Club No. 298	652	John Mulcahey	1285
Marilyn Facha (3)	6	Fran Flewares	652	Richard Oksas	1285
Henry Leclerc	6	Ramon Herrera	652	Stephanie Pintar	1285
Onik Onik Purple Pig Club (3)	6	Barry Jacobsen	652	Evelyn Schutzler	1285
Sacramento Elks PER Assoc. (7)	6	Barbara Johnson	652	Howard Tsuchiya	1285
Charles Dale	168	George Laurendeau	652	Lon Croddy	1289
Frank Darling	168	Gerald McDowell	652	Karl La Masa	1289
Dorothy Gore (5)	168	Jim Olson	652	Ken Lewis	1289
Clara Vattuone	168	Gary Payne	652	Don Vincent	1289
Kurt & Cory Bush	218	Tom Quigley	652	Bob Sahlberg	1342
James E. Davis, Jr.	218	Mark Schaal	652	Vic Matulich	1378
Louis J. Grillo (2)	218	Michael Scroggins	652	Samuel Rockwood (2)	1378
Jim Heather	218	Don Ziegenfuss	652	Bobby Brock	1420
Margaret Lockhart	218	Ruth Ziegenfuss	652	Louis Maldonado	1474
Jim Lucas	218	Robert Beggs	672	Pittsburg PER Association	1474
Eberhard Schwierzke	218	James Brockman	672	Dale Flummerfelt	1539
Nancy Steinberg	218	Wendell Cabot, III	672	Jerry Grant	1539
Stockton Emblem Club No. 226	218	Ovie Cobb	672	Robert Chappell	1567
Paul Stolberg	218	Robert Fidler	672	Rowena Chappell	1567
Tuleburg Travel Club (2)	218	Jason Fields	672	Ray Delgado	1567
Tom Watson (2)	218	John Hall	672	Frank Filice	1567
Larry Bardin	322	Harvey McEwen	672	Art Gillespie	1567
Milton Grau	322	Bruce Morrison	672	Ermina Jacobsen	1567
Chico PER Association	423	Arthur Norris	672	Richard Mountz	1567
Fred Heath	423	The Recreation Room	672	Suzanne Foster	1570
Milt Jensen	423	Donald Short	672	Ellen Frank (2)	1570
Les Jones	423	Anthony J. Vecchio	672	Sherry Gadd	1570
Howard Lewis	423	Edwin Ziolkowski	672	Larry Nelson	1570
Hazel Mello	423	Ben DeLeon	794	Ron Reid	1570
Norm Stump, Sr.	423	Maury Grossman	794	Bill Woodard	1570
Bob Vanella	423	James O'Connor	794	Skip Hoy	1587
Gary Veltrie	423	Chris Young	794	Lemoine Kent	1587
Chico Elks Ladies	423	Ian Mackenzie	824	Nancy Bunch	1608
Richard Bartels	522	Mark Swanson	824	Gene Chambers	1608
Bob Gately	522	David Zeller	824	Patsy Chambers	1608
Jolly Corks Novelty Team	522	Faygie Colton	888	Sally Clemmer	1608
Peter Mandon	522	Clifford Hamilton	888	L.L. Johnson	1608
Alfred Pregliasco	522	Don & Kathy Checchi	906	Charlie Myers	1608
Lewis Glaeser	538	Ken Getzin	966	Marjorie Myers (2)	1608
Grass Valley Lady Elks (2)	538	Jack Massie	966	Adela Owensby (2)	1608
Pete McMullen	559	Loren McAnelly	966	Leonard Owensby	1608
Susan Smith	559	Jack D. Jones	1112	Richard Pyle	1608
Marian Wood	559	Richard Carstens (2)	1250	Dan Stoltzenberg	1608
Elmer Lanini	614	The Weekenders RV Group	1251	Tony Torres	1608
Roeine Lanini	614	James Avila	1259	Bruce Kelly (3)	1643
Doug Larsen	614	John Avila	1259	Sandra Reid (2)	1643
Mary Ilima Baker Aylett	616	Liz Avila	1259	Nadine Rhodabarger	1643
Richard Bennet	616	Raymond McCoy	1259	Janice Richardson	1643
Jack Briggs	616	Larry McDaniel	1259	John R. Wilson	1643
Timothy Brilliande	616	Tom Allen	1282	William Peepe	1689
Thomas Ching	616	Marsha Andreae	1282	Michael Abbott (2)	1691
Ronald Dreisbach (2)	616	Brandon Clark	1282	Auburn Elks RV Club	1691
Jody Ferchaud	616	Loren Hill	1282	Court Bradbury	1691
Judith Flanders	616	Don Lucas	1282	James Buford	1691
Peter Gaskell (2)	616	Ken Martin	1282	David Calfee	1691
Larry Hale	616	Gary McManus	1282	Jack Dubois	1691
Mary Hammond	616	Wallace Morrow	1282	Yvonne Edwards	1691
Julia Kalama-Cabral	616	Hugh Page	1282	Marv Fetzter	1691
Deborah Knight	616	Mary Sabean	1282	Gene Henggeler	1691
Dominick Lostumbo	616	Michael Short	1282	Roy Leyrer	1691
Mark Moore, Jr.	616	Michael Wagner	1282	Rudy Pelzman	1691
Michael Rudolph	616	Chuck Wendt (2)	1282	Dave Provan	1691
Stanley Stong	616	Venita Brazier	1285	Bill Rockefeller	1691
John Tokunaga	616	Roger Brown	1285	Eugene Scherer	1691
Richard Wallsgrove	616	Emilio Cal	1285	Rick Sutherland	1691
Elizabeth Winternitz-Russell	616	Herbert Coffey	1285	Darrell Hoffman	1728
Annette Zib	616	James Collins	1285	Richard L. Jones	1728
Rick Bailey	652	Tommy Dimaggio, Jr.	1285	Steve Nichols	1740

Continued from Pg. 10

DONOR LODGE NO.

Leonard Weber	1756
Richard Blake	1767
Sharron Dearborn	1767
Henry DeOlivera (5)	1767
Herb Martin	1767
Newport Harbor Yacht Club (2)	1767
Sandra Sallans	1767
Alan Barceloux	1786
Mike Butler	1786
George & Linda Corbin	1786
Bob & Kathryn Kennedy	1786
Bruce McLeod	1786
Karen Pence	1786
Dave Barker	1787
Ronald Griffin	1787
Gail White	1787
Barnes & Berger	1799
Blythe Ambulance	1799
Bo Jax Cattle	1799
Passmore Gas	1799
The Holt Group	1799
Lester Hay/Greenleaf Seed	1799
RDO Equipment	1799
Morgan McClellan	1811
Guy Sachs	1811
Taco Belles of Walnut	
Creek Lodge (2)	1811
George & Estelle Layton	1905
Harlen J. Monfort	1905
Carol Quan	1905
George R. Sutton	1905
A.C. "Skip" Bennett	1913
Anderson Plywood (6)	1917
Marianne Civello	1917
Peter Civello	1917
Mary Collim	1917
Ron Crowley (2)	1917
Michael Melton	1917
Warren Balfour	1959
Rudy Bayme	1959
Bill Collier	1959
Bill Conley	1959
Garrett Hamblin	1959
Clayton Heinz	1959
Howard Hull	1959
Jason Jones	1959
Ray Karr	1959
Alan Mitchell	1959
Dee Reynolds (2)	1959
Les Shelley	1959
Jim Ward (2)	1959
Darrell DiWell	1968
Wayne Moure	1968
Judy Carlock-Powell	1980
Bradley Edwards	1980
Gary Schmidt	1980
Yreka Elks Bingo Players (3)	1980
Yreka Elks Chuck Wagon (2)	1980
Doris Irving	2011
Cyndy Wise	2011
Michelle Cahill	2020
John Jewart	2026
Claudia Smith	2026
Don Smith	2026
The Wives Club of Paradise	2026
Manny & Rosa Rodriguez	2045
Lupe Aguirre	2095
Theron Collier	2095
Joann Haugen	2095
La Habra Elks PER Assoc.	2095

DONOR LODGE NO.

Phillip Bayard	2103
Paul Pennington (2)	2103
Larry Stitt	2103
Roy Wiechold	2103
Livermore/Pleasanton	
Emblem Club No. 413	2117
Stanley Allard	2121
Daryl Charles Black	2121
Nancy Carter	2121
Philip Cox	2121
Frank Drasby	2121
George Emmett	2121
George Horejsi	2121
Betty Johns	2121
Alan Kenney	2121
Robert & Sara Leinkram	2121
Rhonda Mello	2121
Raymond Norris	2121
Manny Velez & MacDonald Bunch	2121
D. Robert Bemis	2128
Frank Paetow	2128
Todd Styron	2128
Jimmie Duarte, III	2142
Susan De La Torre	2190
Peter DeSantis	2190
Vern Swenson	2190
Mel Borden	2248
Charles Braden	2248
James Carpenter	2248
David Deas	2248
Deborah Deas	2248
Jerry Faulkner	2248
Harry Hopton	2248
Don Ireton	2248
Sydney Jamison	2248
Richard Law	2248
Brian Lentsch	2248
Peter Lococo	2248
Bill Markham	2248
Douglas Mathews	2248
Kris McKim	2248
M. Michael Metcalfe	2248
James Ondrasek	2248
Ron Stewart	2248
Kirk Watkins	2248
Gordon Willett	2248
Charles Young	2248
Iris Monical	2274
Carrow's Restaurant	2314
Kevin Geresh	2379
Rose Jennings	2379
David O'Conner	2379
Grant & Memory Burkitt (2)	2393
Wes Burton	2393
Harold Cole	2393
Don Gerrits (2)	2393
Joe Glaviano (4)	2393
Hase & Associate Systems, Inc. (2)	2393
Dennis Kelly (2)	2393
Tanya Masters	2393
Cheri Preuitt	2393
Albert Richardson	2393
Dan Sanchez (2)	2393
Eric Preinitz	2432
O. Ken Anderson (2)	2484
Cindy Boyd	2484
Beverly Burns (5)	2484
Bob Burns (5)	2484
Kathleen Cobb	2484
David Ferguson	2484

DONOR LODGE NO.

Eileen Gray (2)	2484
Arlene Hermansen	2484
Hartley Hermansen	2484
Ronald Howell (2)	2484
Jacquelyn Reimer (2)	2484
Albert Russell	2484
Richard Anderson	2504
Richard Cowles	2504
Bill Hall	2504
William Smicenski	2504
Mike Fox	2510
Luise Parish	2510
Dennis Adams	2529
Timothy Grund	2529
Jim Flatley	2591
David Martin	2733
David Tissue	2733
Bob & Phyllis Koenig	2735
Kenneth Perez	2801
Dick Zajicek	2801
The Blues Brothers (2)	
Southeast District PER Association (3)	

**Millennium Club Donations-
January 23, 2009 through
March 27, 2009**

DONOR LODGE NO.

Marilyn M. Facha	6
Carol Gledhill	218
Roeine Lanini	614
Yvonne Bogdanovich	966
Venita Brazier	1285
Dennis Malone	1289
Joyce Taylor	1378
Maxine Elin	1567
David W. Calfee	1691
Ron Pryor	1913
Michael J. Malloy	2027
Robert G. "Bob" Burns	2484
Hartley Hermansen	2484
Ronald Howell	2484
Guy Way	2801

Grateful parents write: "The music therapy used by our occupational therapist was a major success for our son. Prior to this therapy he panicked in public regularly and held his hands over his ears most of the day, and bit his fingers raw. After a couple of months of this therapy Andy began to show improvements in all of these areas. Now he can go out in public without panicking, he doesn't chew on his fingers, and he gets into and out of the car on his own. (Mavis Johnson, Occupational Therapist)."

Lapsation

Bob Ostini
Lapsation Chair

Welcome to the Lapsation Committee Column. If you are the Exalted Ruler of your Lodge, you need to appoint a Lapsation Committee Chairman; if you are the Lodge Secretary, you need to ask the Exalted Ruler to appoint a Lapsation Committee Chairman to assist you; if you are the Lapsation Chairman of your Lodge, you came to the right place to start.

By the time this article gets published, you should have your first Membership/Lapsation Reports. These first numbers will indicate the work that needs to be done for your Lodge to have a successful Membership Retention Program. You may be looking for a silver bullet to solve this problem for your Lodge, but, unfortunately, there are no more silver bullets and you would probably just shoot yourself in the foot anyway.

The good news is that there is a great Membership Management Program manual available from the Grand Lodge. This "Silver Bullet" can be downloaded from www.elks.org or ask the Exalted Ruler or Lodge Secretary to order several from the Grand Lodge. It is the Membership Program and Planning manual (Code 510400 revised 08/2001).

It is a common misconception that Lapsation is only about reporting on delinquent and dropped members. While this is an important measurement of how well our Lodges are doing, it is not the solution to retaining members and keeping your Lodge healthy.

Believe it or not, the Lapsation Section of the Membership Program and Planning manual has a great outline of how to avoid dropping delinquent members and making them active again in "their" Lodge. It includes suggested letters and ways to contact members and get their dues and per-capita fees paid. Remember that their per-capita fees have already been advanced to Grand Lodge and CHEA. You should regard this as an investment in your Lodge's future and just as important as your Lodge's other invested funds.

Here is a quick start suggestion:

1. Sort your Lapsation list into three groups:
 - a. New members (1 - 5 years).
 - b. Habitually late payers (consult with the Lodge Secretary).
 - c. Long-term members (over 5 years).
2. If the numbers are large, get more help to make contact with listed members.
3. Make the first contact more social than business.
4. These are tough times for many. I know that some of our Lodges are in areas where the unemployment rates are higher than average and that these families are having tough times making ends meet.
 - a. Your Lodge may have to consider allowing more 6-month payers than it has in the past.
 - b. I may get in trouble here for suggesting this, but maybe it might be helpful to allow members to use the club facilities during a 15 or 30 day grace period, especially if financial need is indicated.
 - c. At least consider inviting delinquent members to a special social event.
5. Contact any newer members that are showing up on the list before they are lost. The first five to seven years of membership are critical to developing long term memberships.

Drop me an email at bobostini@comcast.net to let me know what is working in your Lodge. I would also like to know what is not working or what special challenges you are experiencing. Plan to attend the Membership/Lapsation seminar at the convention in Ontario. I'll see you there.

Dr. Eugene P. Weigand Passed Away

The Association office has been notified that Dr. Eugene P. Weigand, Past Grand Esteemed Loyal Knight 2002-2003 and Past Association President 1989-1990, passed away Sunday morning, March 22, 2009 at home.

Roseville Elks Lodge No. 2248 Honors Public Safety Officials

The Roseville Elks Lodge No. 2248 held an awards banquet on February 21, 2009. The banquet was attended by over 100 Lodge members who came to honor four local public safety officers from the Roseville Police and Fire Departments and the Placer County Sheriff's Department. The honorees were selected based upon nominations received from their respective agencies for outstanding achievement during this past year.

Placer County Sheriff's Deputies Robert Brodovsky and Paul Nicholas were recognized for their efforts in implementing a new traffic enforcement program to reduce both injury and non-injury accidents. During the one-year pilot program, injury accidents decreased by 70% and non-injury accidents decreased by 18%. Overall, their efforts greatly reduced property and injury accidents. This is an important achievement for the citizens of the South Placer County area in which they serve.

Roseville Police Officer David Alfonso was recognized both for his community outreach efforts and the upbeat, professional demeanor he brings to his assignments. He is one of the pioneering members of the Project Lifesaver program. This is a free service for Roseville residents who are caring for loved ones with Alzheimer's Disease, autism, or other conditions that make them likely to wander away from their caregivers. Project Lifesaver provides bracelets containing radio transmitters that help rescuers locate their loved ones.

Roseville Fire Department Captain Chris Baker was recognized for his efforts, both on-duty and off-duty, to improve emergency communications systems among emergency response agencies in the City of Roseville and South Placer County. He developed the emergency communications plan for the region and designed the mutual aid system to serve the region from Roseville. He assisted in the design and deployment of the US Department of Homeland Security Communications Unit Leader certification course, and represents Northern California cities on the communications specialists group of the California FIRESCOPE Program.

The awards were presented by Exalted Ruler Harry Hopton, who said, "The Roseville Elks Lodge is pleased to recognize these individuals for their service to the community. These officers epitomize the core values of the organizations they represent: Honor, Courage, Excellence and Teamwork. The Elks value the organizations they represent and appreciate the efforts of the members of these agencies to make Roseville a better place to live. Their commitment to public service makes a positive difference in our lives."



Left to Right: Chris Baker; David Alfonso; Harry Hopton; Kris McKim, Committee Chairman; Robert Brodovsky and Paul Nicholas

Association President Jerry Rucker and First Lady Bonnie Visit the Northwest District

The Petaluma Elks Lodge No. 901 was the host Lodge for CHEA President Jerry Rucker's official visit to the Northwest District. A contingent from the Lodge greeted Jerry and Bonnie with a "bang" to start off their four-day visitation. President Rucker and Bonnie were greeted by Vice President "Rich" Simmons and Exalted Ruler Gary Corda and an entourage from the Lodge in a "Woody" bus, which was their private transportation during their entire visit.

The itinerary included a lunch at a century old historic stagecoach stop, a winery tour, a tour through a world class internationally acclaimed sports car racing group and, finally, a tour through a local high school fish hatchery. On Friday night, a casual dinner was held in their honor, complete with music, dinner and dancing. Saturday night's formal affair was opened by the Pledge of Allegiance, which was recited by 4-year old Jake De Carli, the grandson of member Ed De Carli. During dinner, the Travis Air Force Base honor guard presented the audience with a most impressive and solemn U. S. Flag Ceremony. The evening was highlighted by the presentation of the District Protocol award which was presented by President Rucker and "Bud" Morgan to ER "Woody" Corda.

VP "Rich" Simmons acted as the emcee for the formal dinner on Saturday. President Rucker received a silver serving tray from VP "Rich" and his First Lady Carolyn Simmons. The Exalted Rulers from each of the Lodges in the District gave wine goblets that represented each Lodge. Carolyn gave Bonnie a memento from the "Great Northwest District" – a gold grape cluster charm.

A final farewell breakfast was held on Sunday morning to bid the honored couple farewell and to thank them for their visitation. This was the first time that the Association President has visited the Petaluma Lodge in nearly 40 years.



"The Three Amigos" – Left to Right: VP "Rich" Simmons, Jerry Rucker, ER "Woody" Corda admire the NWD Protocol Award

Drug Awareness Committee- Essay and Poster Contest Results

by Jack Dalton, Chairman

The California – Hawaii Elks Association, Drug Awareness Contest, First Place through Fourth Place State-level results are listed below. My heartfelt congratulations go to all of these children who are true winners.

The Lodge Chairpersons deserve a big "Thank You" for their work in encouraging all of these marvelous children to submit so many wonderful entries.

I am proud that this year's contest exceeded last year's in both the number of Lodges entered and the number of children participating. It was very difficult to decide the final placement of the entries and this task required much thought and consideration. I feel very privileged to have been afforded the opportunity to read all of the essays. Without a doubt, it is reassuring that we, as Elks, are making an impression on all these youngsters' minds to help them make good choices when confronted by the temptation to experiment with mind-altering drugs.

ESSAY CONTEST

<u>Name</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1st (Boy): Joshua Smith	Hawaii	Honolulu Lodge No. 616	\$500.00
1st (Girl): Emily LaGroue	Northeast	Lake Almanor No. 2626	\$500.00
2nd (Boy) Rhett Johnson	Southeast	Temecula Valley No. 2801	\$400.00
2nd (Girl) Kelly Trammell	Southeast	Temecula Valley No. 2801	\$400.00
3rd (Boy) Philip Fedor	San Gabriel Valley	Alhambra-San Gabriel No. 1328	\$300.00
3rd (Girl) Melissa Le	Hawaii	Honolulu Lodge No. 616	\$300.00
4th (Boy) Kevin Nye	North	Paradise Lodge No. 2026	\$200.00
4th (Girl) Allison Guzman	San Gabriel Valley	Alhambra-San Gabriel No. 1328	\$200.00

27 additional students were awarded \$100.00 for their essay entries

POSTER CONTEST

<u>Name</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1st (Boy) Brian Sidders	Southeast	Temecula Valley No. 2801	\$500.00
1st (Girl) Karen Thompson	Southeast	Temecula Valley No. 2801	\$500.00
2nd (Boy) Royce Ariola	Hawaii	Honolulu Lodge No. 616	\$400.00
2nd (Girl) Rachael Mcune	North	Redding Lodge No. 1073	\$400.00
3rd (Boy) Alex Karaniwan	South Coast	El Cajon No. 1812	\$300.00
3rd (Girl) Victoria-Kate Marquez	South Coast	El Cajon No. 1812	\$300.00
4th (Boy) Kobe Wilson	East Central	Clovis Lodge No. 2599	\$200.00
4th (Girl) Kaitlin Howard	North Central	Placerville No. 1712	\$200.00

10 additional students were awarded \$100.00 for their poster entries

Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 Helps Young Cancer Victims

The Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 has helped young cancer victims for the fourth year in a row. Their Cancer Kids Carnival for OCF-OCF (Orange County Foundation for Oncology Children and Families) is a day of fun and relaxation that helps support the families who are burdened with a child who is a cancer victim. The OCF-OCF is a non-profit, volunteer organization that provides year-round recreational and social activities to foster supportive relationships for pediatric cancer patients and their families.

The Carnival Day, scheduled for April 19th, provides games, food and loads of prizes. About 150 – 200 guests are expected to attend the event which is held in the Elks Lodge and picnic area. The children enjoy carnival games where everyone wins a prize every time they play. There's a bounce house, custom t-shirts, face painting, temporary tattoos and hair coloring, balloons, cotton candy, chicken fingers, french fries, corn dogs and snow cones. The zany antics of the Clown Alley Clowns from Laguna Woods are always a big hit with the children. The event includes most everything you might find at a regular carnival, only tailored to accommodate these very special children. When they leave the party, every child picks out a high end gift to take with them. Their parents have often said that, for the first time in a long while, they saw smiles return to their child's face on Elks Carnival Day. Lodge members have said that seeing those smiles is reward enough for all their hard work and effort.

Funding for the Carnival Day comes from a Cancer Charities Dinner Dance held by the Elks earlier in the year. It is also subsidized by the Bingo Committee under the direction of Elk Newt Seal. Both the Carnival and the Dinner Dance events are chaired by Elks Stephanie Bongartz and Pam Mackey with help from a dedicated crew of 35 or 40 Elks members. Once the Carnival is over, the Elks donate any remaining money to OCF-OCF's World's Greatest Camp. They also support their fund raisers and purchase Angel Tree gifts for their Christmas party. The Elks Bingo Committee has also provided monies, gift cards and gift baskets to individual families in need.

In other news from the Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge and the Orange Coast District: 8-year old Connor Haskell won the Elks Free Throw Competition at three levels of tournaments: first in the Orange District, first in Southern California, and second in the CHEA combined shoot-out, scoring near perfect rounds out of 25 free throws in each event. In addition, the ten lodges that make up the Orange Coast District have surpassed this year's goal by distributing over 27,000 dictionaries to third grade students in Orange County.



A young child gets his face painted (photo used with the permission of OCF-OCF).

Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 Honored by the Mayor

Orange Mayor Carolyn Cavech visited the Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 to deliver a Proclamation to Exalted Ruler Mark Walker and the Orange Lodge. The Proclamation recognizes the Lodge for service to the community, the scholarships they've given, their support to our veterans, their involvement in scouting, the Christmas Basket project and the donations given to the youth of the city. She made a special mention about our support to the Orange Police Department in donating three dogs to the K-9 Unit and the delivery of dictionaries to every third grader in the Orange Unified School District. The Mayor thanked the Lodge for being a cornerstone of the City and a pillar of the American ideals in the community.



ER Mark Walker accepts Proclamation from Orange Mayor Carolyn Cavech.

The Lodge also donated funds to support five of their favorite charities. The Lodge gave \$100 to the Santiago Middle School Graduation party, \$200 to Mary's Kitchen, \$500 to support the Orange High School boy's basketball team, \$375 to Ricardo Martinez's Eagle Scout Project and \$150 to the North Sunrise Little League Program.

The Lodge donated \$277 to Scott Pfeiffer, who has decided not to let his affliction with ALS get in the way of him going to Las Vegas. By the way, it is a 150 mile trip and Scott plans on traveling in his wheel chair. Scott was diagnosed in 2007 and certainly isn't letting the ALS get him down!

Orange member Peggy Basarab has a special place in her heart for the Ronald McDonald House. Last year, the Orange Ronald McDonald House helped over 2,500 families whose children were receiving life-saving treatments at hospitals throughout Orange County. Peggy has been collecting pull tabs from aluminum cans for many years. At one point, she had collected almost a million cans and donated them to the House. Recently, she donated 50 pounds of cans collected from Lodge members. In February, the Ronald McDonald House had a "Hearts for the House" campaign, where people could donate a dollar to receive a "heart". Peggy raised \$400 from the Orange Elks for this cause!

The Orange Elks raised \$500 to purchase cookies for our troops. The cookies were being sent to Afghanistan and Iraq. This is one of many programs sponsored by the Lodge on behalf of our veterans to show our appreciation to them for keeping our country safe.

Linda Borlaug has been donating to the Orange Elks lodge since 1996. She recently completed her pledge last September and became the 34th ENF Honorary Founder associated with our Lodge, having donated \$1,000.

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

Ontario Elks Lodge No. 1419 Reaches Milestone

On January 31, 2009, the Ontario Elks Lodge No. 1419 celebrated its 50th anniversary in the building on 4th Street. Congratulations to the Ontario Elks Lodge!

Alhambra-San Gabriel Elks Lodge No. 1328 Hosts Veterans

The Alhambra-San Gabriel Elks Lodge No. 1328 hosted over 70 veterans at the Los Angeles Ambulatory Care Center for the "Salute to Veterans Luncheon" on February 9th. Volunteers served lunch and provided goodie bags for all of the veterans in attendance.



Left to Right: Robert Vasquez, a veteran; Jim Shattuck, a Lodge member and veteran; Gilbert Parry, Veterans Service Chair; and Leonard Tohns, a veteran

Downey Elks Lodge No. 2020 Donates Dictionaries

The Downey Elks Lodge No. 2020 donated 1,700 dictionaries to local third grade school children as part of the Lodge's "Project Dictionary". The schools receiving the donated dictionaries are part of the Downey Unified School District.



Left to Right: Paula Barnes, Principal, Rio San Gabriel School; Toni LeVar, First Lady; Lance Buck, Exalted Ruler; Lee Ann Sears, Project Dictionary Chairperson, and Mary Walker, 3rd Grade Teacher

Yucca Valley Elks Lodge No. 2314 Hosts President Jerry and Bonnie to the South District

On behalf of the Lodges in the South District, Yucca Valley Elks Lodge No. 2314 was the host lodge for the official visit by Association President Jerry Rucker and First Lady Bonnie. VP John Lieser planned a busy schedule for the honored guests during the District's 41st Annual Jamboree in January. The ladies were treated to an afternoon of shopping, antiques and scavenger hunting, following a luncheon on Saturday. They were squired around town in a horse-drawn wagon accompanied by the Beefeaters from the Westminster Elks Lodge No. 2346. At the official dinner, VP John presented Association President Jerry with a quilted flag replica on behalf of all the lodges in the South District.

In other news from the Yucca Valley Elks Lodge, two youngsters, Rodell Laranangs and Victoria Duff were honored by the Lodge for their participation in the Drug Awareness Poster Contest. Their posters were chosen for submission to the District level of judging, whence they were chosen for submission to the State level of competition. Both entries were selected as runner-up. Rodell and Victoria received \$100 from the CHEA Drug Awareness Chair, Jack Dalton, PER, and \$50 from the Yucca Valley Elks Lodge's Drug Awareness Chair John Austin, and Exalted Ruler Gary Ward.



The horse-drawn wagon, with Bonnie Rucker and the wives of the visiting VPs, leaves the Yucca Valley Elks Lodge No. 2314 for an afternoon of shopping, antiques, scavenger hunt and lunch.

Lake Elsinore Lodge No. 2591 Aids Soccer Team

Recently, the Murrieta Valley High School soccer team, the "Nighthawks", received a \$200 donation from the Lake Elsinore Elks Lodge No. 2591. Megan Burns, a team member, presented Don Fitchner, the Lodge Bingo Chairman, with a plaque of appreciation on March 18.



Left to Right: Bob Vescardi, Bingo volunteer, Don Fitchner, Megan Burns and her mother, Terri Burns

El Cajon Elks Lodge No. 1812 Recognizes Eagle Scouts

The El Cajon Elks Lodge No. 1812 recognized 19 Eagle Scouts at a dinner held in their honor recently. Their Eagle Scout Gold Award Recognition Dinner was the venue to honor these 19 youth and to present them with a certificate and an American flag. Those receiving recognition were: Cody Magoffin, Kyle Budke, Johnathan Larson, Adam Locy, Jeremy Frischknecht, David Hall, Todd Graff, Richard Nichols III, Kenneth Saxer, Scott Saxer, Michael Stange, Malachi Briggs, Christopher Fielden, Nathaniel Bothwell, Sean Fennell, James Sadleir (absent), Joshua Heuft, David Overson and David Adkins. Cookie Chainsaw Randolph from the KGB Radio Station, also an Eagle Scout, was the keynote speaker. The presentations were given by Exalted Ruler Kathleen Monsees and Dinner Chairman John Shotwell.

In other news from the El Cajon Lodge, the "Antlers Program" is alive and well! This program is being offered for Elk's teens or grandchildren between the ages of 15 and 18 who are interested in community service and want to meet other teens. Elk's members can sponsor them into the new "Antlers Program". Community service hours count toward hours needed for both high school graduation and college entrance. Sammy Velazquez is the Lodge's first official member into the program.

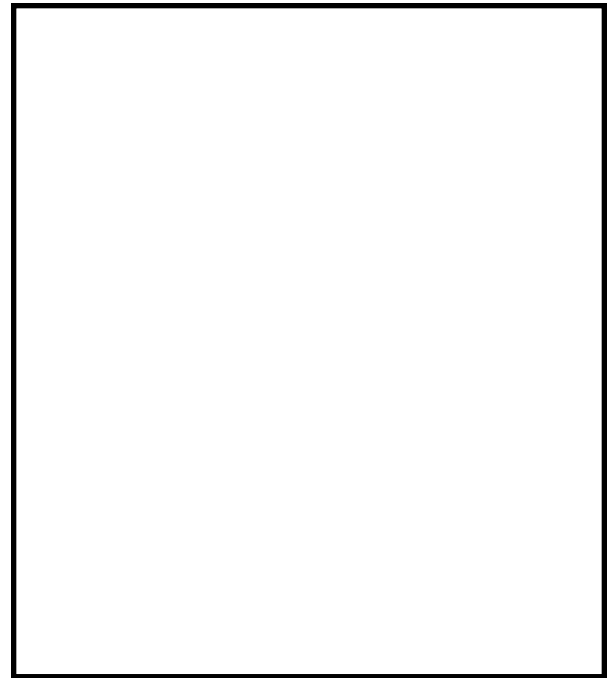


Watsonville Elks Lodge No. 1300 Commits to Sponsor Cub Scout Troop

This is the 3rd year of a 5 year commitment by the Watsonville Elks Lodge No. 1300 to sponsor Cub Scout Troop No. 515. The Lodge Esquire, Steve Nelms, PER, is the leader of the troop, which meets bi-weekly at the Lodge. Watsonville Lodge provides the space without charge to the troop in order to promote this very important part of community youth activities. Cub Scout troops promote character development, citizenship training and personal fitness and teach the Cubs the skills that they need to advance to the Boy Scouts of America.



Cub Scout Troop No. 515 with Cub Master Steve Nelms and Assistant Catina Coleman



Atascadero Elks Lodge No. 2733 Assists at Track Meet

For the 8th consecutive year, the Atascadero Elks Lodge No. 2733 has assisted at the Atascadero High School's track meet. This year's event was held on March 21st at the Memorial Stadium. Eight Lodge Members ran the discus event that day. Hundreds of student athletes from over a dozen area high schools, including Atascadero, San Luis Obispo, Templeton, Paso Robles, Nipomo, and Arroyo Grande competed in the event.

The Lodge also donated \$150 to help defray the cost of the medals and trophies awarded at the meet. Since its inception in 1987, the Atascadero Elks have contributed in excess of \$350,000 to various programs including: youth activities, local sports, programs for handicapped and needy children, patriotic programs, veterans programs and many other community activities. In addition, the Lodge participates in the Drug Awareness programs at our local schools and distributed dictionaries to all the third grade students in the area.



Left to Right: Art Bugg, Chuck Cooper, George Talbert, Jerry Taylor, Louie Silveria, Ed Chidlaw, Ed Meyer, and Greg Howe