



The California-Hawaii ELK



Elks Care
Elks Share



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

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www.chea-elks.org

May/June 2012

Serving Children with Disabilities Since 1950



Meet our Theme Child,
Evelynn, in San Diego,
May 16-19, 2012



*A Coin a Day so they can
Walk, Talk, See and Play!*



Carmichael Elks Lodge No. 2103 donates to Veterans Resource Center

On February 6, 2012, the Carmichael Elks Lodge No. 2103 Veterans Committee presented the Sacramento Veterans Resource Center (SVRC) with a donation of \$500.00.

The SVRC is a multi-function campus with the most comprehensive mix of services for veterans in northern California.



Front row (L to R): Dale Wiest (Veterans Committee Vice-Chairman), SVRC Members: Mike Gainey, Robert Scott, Patrick Husman, Pat Williamson
Back row: Woody Woodard (Veterans Committee Member)

Grass Valley Elks Lodge No. 538 hosts a law enforcement appreciation dinner

The Grass Valley Elks Lodge No. 538 hosted 100 Nevada County law enforcement personnel from ten agencies for a Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner. Patrol Officers and administration personnel from the Nevada County Sheriff's Office, Grass Valley Police Department and Nevada City Police Department were joined by Superior Court Judges, and members of the District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, Probation Department and Parole Department.

All of the attendees enjoyed a steak dinner. This is an annual Lodge event. The meal was prepared by the Lodge Officers and served by members of the Boy Scouts Venture Crew. Many Lodge members were also in attendance.



Members of the Ophir Hill Fire Department with then Exalted Ruler Jay Nau

Bakersfield Elks Lodge No. 266 at the Bakersfield National Veterans Cemetery

Members of Bakersfield Elks Lodge No. 266 performed a graveside memorial service at the Bakersfield National Veterans Cemetery for Elk member Louis Beck (Canoga Park Elks Lodge No. 2190). They were assisted by Larry McDaniel, the Exalted Ruler of Hanford Elks Lodge No. 1259.



L to R: Larry McDaniel, John Doolittle (Loyal Knight), Patty Wilson, Bill Wilson (Chaplain), Juanita Ream (ER)

Livermore-Pleasanton Elks Lodge No. 2117 uses "Impact Grant" for the troops

The Livermore-Pleasanton Elks Lodge No. 2117 is excited to announce that it is the recipient of an Elks National Foundation (ENF) "Impact Grant." Funds from this Grant will be used over the next ten months to send "Comforts of Home" kits to our men and women serving overseas.

The members of the Lodge will be assembling 18 care boxes filled with Home Comfort items every six weeks. These boxes contain personal comfort items, books, games, and snacks. We are excited to be able to support our service personnel with the funds supplied through the Impact Grant.

While the Lodge members were preparing the first set of boxes, they were assisted by Chris Manzo, who is a retired US Army veteran of WWII. Chris lent a helping hand to put our first set of boxes together.



L to R: Bill Biehl, PER, and Chris Manzo

President's Message

"Elks Live Aloha"

The Elk year is coming to a close and I would like you to know that it has been an honor serving as your President representing the members of the California-Hawaii Elks Association during this past year.



When the 2011 year began in Fresno, my goal was to bring Aloha to as many Elks and friends as I could. We visited many Lodges to demonstrate that "Elks Live Aloha" could bring all of us together as an Ohana. I believe that my goal was accomplished. My Vice Presidents are a perfect example of an Ohana. You should be proud of them. They became part of my family and did an outstanding job spreading Aloha throughout the Association. We all have built friendships that will last forever.

I made 19 District visitations and 17 other visits traveling a total of 28,234 miles by car and by air. Along the way we visited 78 Lodges. We were joined by an average of 9 Vice Presidents, many Past Presidents, District Leaders and other Association and Grand Lodge Committee Chairmen. Coleen and I found that "Elks Live Aloha" was alive and well at all of the Lodges we visited. The Lodges made us feel welcome and were gracious hosts.

As Coleen and I traveled, we saw some of the great work that the members of the California-Hawaii Elks Association do for our veterans. I know that all of the Lodges in California and Hawaii are working to help our veterans. I saw this demonstrated in every Lodge that we visited.

Volunteerism is an important ingredient in any successful Lodge. Every new member joins the Elks for a reason, and most will tell you that it was to get more involved in the community demonstrating that "Elks Live Aloha."

We have witnessed the Elks Lodges' many great accomplishments, and can see that the Order will remain strong into the future.

As the Elk year ends for us, my Vice Presidents and I want you to know that we will be there for you when the need arises, just ask.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank my wife and your First Lady, Coleen, for her dedication and support this year. Without her this year would not have been as successful as it was.

Coleen and I look forward to the future as this outstanding year is coming to a close for us. Seeing old friends and making new friends throughout California and Hawaii while spreading Aloha has been a joy for us.

Faternally,

Wayne Howard, President

Marysville Elks Lodge No. 783 donates dictionaries

Jennifer Thompson, a new member of the Marysville Elks Lodge No. 783, worked with the Lodge's Dictionary Project Coordinator, Roy Newman, PSP, to distribute 586 dictionaries to 3rd grade elementary school students in twelve schools located throughout Yuba and Sutter Counties. A note of appreciation was sent to Roy from a 3rd grade teacher at Robbins Elementary School.

In other news, the Lodge held a fund-raising dinner for the Robbins Elementary School students' "Field-Trip Fund." They collected \$313 which will help to replenish the money that was stolen from the school safe in December.

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

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

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

President's Upcoming Visitation Schedule

April 19-22, 2012
Hoop Shoot Finals
(Springfield, MA)

April 26-29, 2012
Utah Elks Association Convention

May 16-19, 2012
California-Hawaii Elks Convention
(San Diego)

Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801 visits hospitalized WWII veterans

The Temecula Valley Elks Veterans Committee regularly visits their sponsored 1-S and 1-SE wards at the Jerry Pettis Memorial Veterans Hospital in Loma Linda, California. At their March 10, 2012 visit they were honored to meet and visit with three WWII Veterans. Two of them were also Prisoners of War (POW) in their respective campaigns.

The Temecula Elks Veterans Committee is made up of California Army National Guard First Sergeant, Steve Nunez, who is the Committee Chairman. Co-chairs are Laurie Gonzalez, Paul Gonzalez, PER, and Steve Zeeb, USAF Master Sergeant (Retired). The Gonzalez's two granddaughters, Emily and Erin Nunez, are also part of the Committee, and are often heard saying "Thank you for your service" to the bed and wheelchair bound patients.

The Elks had the honor of meeting 92 year old Byron Cunningham, an Air Force B17 Bomber Captain who piloted a number of missions over Germany, where he was shot down and captured as a POW. Byron recounts that his bombers were often guarded by the famous Tuskegee Airmen / Red Tail fighter escorts and that the infamous German Luftwaffe often flew away and were intimidated by these heroic American fighters.

In other news, the Lodge continues participating in the Dictionary Project, delivering dictionaries to 3rd grade elementary school students. At the beginning of the year, they had delivered dictionaries to seven elementary schools in the Temecula Valley School District: Abbe Reinke Elementary, Helen Hunt Jackson Elementary, Nicholas Valley Elementary, Pauba Valley Elementary, Rancho Elementary, Temecula Elementary and Ysabel Barnett Elementary. A total of 948 dictionaries have been presented to date. In February, the Elks planned to continue the project to include at least five additional elementary schools - which will double the number of schools served over the previous year.

Willows Elks Lodge No. 1786 holds annual Pinewood Derby

Cub Scout Pack 68, sponsored by the Willows Lodge No. 1786, held its annual Pinewood Derby on Saturday, January, 28, 2012. The event was attended by 100 family members and Cub Scouts. Approximately 24 Scouts and nine non-Scouts competed in the contest. The Scouts designed and built their cars from wood to exacting specifications. Participants in the Derby chose the "Best in Show" winner.

The overall winners were: 1st place: Manuel Lederer (Weebelos), 2nd place: Dakota Roach (Weebelos), 3rd place: Dawson Roach (Tiger), 4th place: Bobby Spears (Weebelos) and "Best in Show": Jaydon Okumbe (Tiger).



Back Row (L to R): Jesse Roach (Scout Master), Brian Otterson (Assistant Scout Master)
Front Row (L to R): Dawson Roach, Manuel Lederer, Bobby Spears, Jaydon Okumbe, Dakota Roach

Fullerton Elks Lodge No. 1993 fetes local "Special Children"

The Fullerton Elks Lodge No. 1993 has a monthly "Special Child Program" where they bring a "Special Child" to the Lodge with his/her family members. During the visit, the family is treated to a dinner and the child receives gifts from the Lodge.

February's "Special Child" was Zachary Cannon. Zachary visited the Lodge with his mother, Tricia Cannon, grandmother, great grandparents, an aunt and uncle, and family friends. He was born on June 12, 2006 with multiple medical conditions: a cleft palate and heart problems that required extensive surgeries. His immune system is compromised and he is a high-functioning autistic child. He recently developed some blood sugar issues. Yet with all these health and developmental problems, Zachary is happy and loves to be hugged and touched. He loves music and has a high energy level. He is a whiz playing games on his mother's telephone. His mother, Tricia Cannon, home schools Zachary. Even with all of his issues, Zachary is now learning to read and count. You will find he is a happy child and a real little charmer.

The Lodge treated the family to dinner and then presented Zachary with an Android Super pad to help with his schoolwork and to enable him to play games and puzzles. In addition, he received some Disney Pixar 2 cars and a launch pad racetrack. The Elks presented Tricia with a dozen roses, a plaque and a Special Child Pin. A commemorative group photograph was taken. The members really enjoyed meeting Zachary.

A letter from a grateful parent

(Excerpted from www.chea-elks.org/blog/March2012)

Dear Elks,

I am writing to express our gratitude for the tremendous benefit we have received from the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. We have seen a remarkable transformation in the feeding of our 17 month old little girl, Olivia, since working with the very talented Occupational Therapist, Paula.

At a young age Olivia showed signs of poor growth; checkups at the pediatrician's office were often discouraging as we learned her weight percentiles declined at each visit. Mealtimes were challenging and frustrating. Olivia did not want to sit in her highchair, had little interest in eating and would not drink. Trying to coax food into her was time-consuming and stressful; meals often lasted an hour, with little food actually consumed. We followed doctor's advice to bulk her up with extra butter and olive oil. But it wasn't enough, something was wrong. Consultations from the Gastrointestinal Department at Children's Hospital offered limited help; this was not a medical problem. Thankfully, our pediatrician recognized the need for OT intervention and referred us to Paula.

Over the course of three months, Paula's professional expertise, patience, guidance and keen sense of how to reach a child have made all the difference in helping Olivia. Paula offered insightful recommendations on how we could best help our daughter. With Paula's help, we constructed a positive home program to practice between meetings. Over the course of our weekly lunch sessions, Olivia learned that through experiencing her food's texture, smell, and color, eating could actually be enjoyable and relaxing!

What does mealtime look like now for Olivia? The once frustrated little girl who would reject nearly every food offered and would cry through a feeding is now happy to partake in the family meal. She will sit willingly, she will try countless new foods, she will eat independently, she will drink her milk (even request it excitedly) - in short, it is almost like watching a different child in the highchair. Ordinarily, these may seem like simple milestones. For us, they mean so much.

I am glad I don't have to imagine where we would be today without the expert guidance of Paula and your program. Sincere thanks and heartfelt appreciation to the Elks for their support of this much needed and valuable program!

Best regards,

Sarah, Proud Mother of Olivia



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

Public Relations

By Andy Costello, CHEA Public Relations Chairman



This has been another great year for Public Relations. Congratulations to all of the CHEA Lodges for their excellent job of promoting Elkdom throughout California and Hawaii. Thanks to the efforts of our outstanding Lodge PR Chairmen and the cooperation of all our officers and members, we enjoyed substantial increases this past year in all our Public Relations activities. The number of published newspaper and online articles surpassed the previous year's record numbers by 19%. We increased our TV and radio spots significantly and our Internet activity has skyrocketed. Other public relations activities such as the distribution of dictionaries and drug awareness literature, participation in community events, and letters sent to service members also greatly increased over the previous year. All this excellent Public Relations activity has played a mighty role in increasing membership and improving retention in many CHEA Lodges.

THE 2011-2012 CONTEST RESULTS ARE IN. Congratulations to the winners of the Association Best Bulletin and Best Brochures contests and thanks to all the Lodges that participated.

BEST SINGLE EVENT BROCHURE

- Div. 1: 1st - Moreno Valley No. 2697 - Hoop Shoot
- Div. 2: 1st - Walnut Creek No. 1811 - Patriots Day
2nd - Nevada City No. 518 - Mothers Day Brunch
- Div. 3: 1st - Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley No. 2444 - Special Kids Christmas Party
- Div. 4: 1st - Lake Elsinore No. 2591 - Bingo Fundraising
2nd - San Francisco No. 3 - Honoring Our Veterans
- Div. 5: 1st - Santa Barbara No. 613 - Veteran's Luncheon
2nd - Carmichael No. 2103 - USO Show
- Div. 6: 1st - Santa Maria No. 1538 - Rodeo and Parade
2nd - Honolulu No. 616 - Veteran's Day Stand Down

COMMUNITY SERVICE & IMAGE BROCHURE

- Div. 1: 1st - Temecula Valley No. 2801
- Div. 3: 1st - Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley No. 2444
2nd - Fullerton No. 1993
- Div. 4: 1st - Lake Elsinore No. 2591
- Div. 5: 1st - Santa Barbara No. 613
- Div. 6: 1st - Santa Maria No. 1538

BEST BULLETIN

- Div. 1: 1st - Temecula Valley No. 2801
2nd - Novato No. 2655
3rd - Calpine No. 2432
- Div. 2: 1st - Riverside No. 643
2nd - Fremont No. 2121
3rd - Nevada City No. 518
- Div. 3: 1st - Santa Clarita No. 2379
2nd - Fullerton No. 1993
3rd - Canoga Park No. 2190
- Div. 4: 1st - San Francisco No. 3
2nd - Lompoc No. 2274
3rd - San Diego No. 168
- Div. 5: 1st - San Mateo No. 1112
2nd - Oceano-Five Cities No. 2504
3rd - Petaluma No. 901

Div. 6: 1st - Santa Maria No. 1538

2nd - El Cajon No. 1812

Note: All Award Certificates may be picked up at the Public Relations booth at the Association Convention in San Diego. The top winning brochures have been forwarded to Grand Lodge for the National competition. To assure your Lodge's participation in next year's CHEA and Grand Lodge Best Bulletin and Brochures competitions, please refer to contest rules in the CHEA Web Site under Committees/Public Relations/Contests (www.cha-elks.org/committees/publicrelations).

Finally, as of this writing, I have completed my two-year term of office as the CHEA Public Relations Chairman. It has been a wonderful experience and I am ever so grateful to President Wayne Howard, Past Association President Hugh Scanlon and my Orange Coast District Leaders, Past Grand Esquire Lee Northcutt and First Vice President Art Echternacht for allowing me the opportunity to serve the Association as its PR Chairman. I would also like to acknowledge my team of nineteen dedicated District PR Chairmen and Chairwomen who have done an outstanding job of guiding their District PR programs and faithfully reporting the publicity activity in their Districts. More than anything, my very special thanks goes to each and every member who has, in these past two years, contributed in some way to promoting Elkdom, thus doing their share in making the California-Hawaii Elks Association the number one Association in all of Elkdom. I ask you to continue your good public relations work by practicing the motto given us by our Past Grand Exalted Ruler Michael Smith to "Be Proud, Be Loud and Be Visible in Promoting Elkdom with Passion."

See you around, and always remember to

"KEEP COMMUNICATING."

Needles Elks Lodge No. 1608 presents Americanism Essay Contest awards

The Needles Elks Lodge No. 1608 held an Americanism Essay Contest open to all 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. The essay theme was "Why I am Proud to Pledge Allegiance to Our Flag." The winning essays came from Mr. Chuck Stahl's 8th grade class. Rebecca Zoss won first place and Paige Boda came in second, each winning a monetary award. The winning essays will go on to the South District Essay Contest competing against 10 other Elk Lodges. Congratulations to Rebecca and Paige.



L to R: Adela Owensby (Lodge Americanism Chairman), Chuck Stahl, Bill Warner (ER), Rebecca Zoss and Paige Boda

Membership

By Noe Saenz, CHEA Membership Chairman



It has been both a privilege and an honor to have served under two great administrations: the Hugh Scanlon Administration, "Elks-America's Pot of Gold" and the Wayne Howard Administration, "Elks Live Aloha." It was a pleasure to have worked with a wonderful team of District Chairmen and Vice Presidents. Moreover, I extend my sincere appreciation for their continued cooperation throughout the year. As the 2011-2012

Lodge year comes to a close and I pass on the duties of this office, I do so with confidence knowing that other hands will carry on and do so with an increasing degree of success.

For me, one of my most rewarding experiences was researching membership manuals and statistics and revising and creating manuals. This knowledge gave me the ability to write inspirational, educational, and motivational articles and to share personalized success stories with members of the Association, their families and friends. It was indeed a challenge and a privilege to deliver inspirational presentations to the new Vice Presidents, Leading Knights, Exalted Rulers, Officers and Committeemen at the Association Conventions and Mid-Term Conferences.

Without question, I am grateful to have had the support and backing of a great CHEA administrative office management team. I also thank Nina Lilienthal-Murphy, author of the Second Step Program, and her husband, Pat Murphy, for their assistance at the Conventions and Conferences.

I offer my "Congratulations" to First Vice President Art Echternacht's incoming Administration, his new District Chairmen and his new Vice Presidents on their assignments. To the new Association Membership Chairman, I offer my utmost congratulations. It is my hope that your year will be as gratifying for you as it was for me serving on this committee, and may you always be blessed under the new administration.

Congratulations are in order to Brothers James D. Warrick (Fair Oaks, CA) and Bob Svedeen, PER (Redding, CA). They each received an Elks Watch from the Grand Lodge for recruiting 11 new members, and their efforts have earned them a chance to win a trip to the Grand Lodge session in Austin, Texas in July, 2012.

In closing, I am pleased to report that, as of the end of February, our membership change percentages range from a negative 0.49% to a plus 8.60% - an average percentage gain of 2.94%. In terms of total membership gains and losses, we have 18 districts showing net gains and only 1 district showing a net loss of less than 0.50%. The membership percentage gain rankings of the top three districts are as follows: San Gabriel Valley 8.60%, South Central Coast 7.76%, and Hawaii 7.39%. Keep in mind that this is the February report. We still have the month of March for the completion of the 2011-2012 Lodge Year.

Vallejo Elks Lodge No. 559 awards \$5,000 in scholarships

The Vallejo Elks Lodge No. 559 awarded scholarships to eight local area graduating seniors. Lodge members presented the seniors with scholarships sponsored by memorials to deceased members of the Lodge. The new Shallenberger Family Memorial Scholarship was the brainchild of the late Charles Shallenberger, PER, PDDGER (1987-1988), Past District Leader (1991-2004) and Past CHEA Trustee (1990-1993).

Divya Erram was awarded the Frank Hanns Scholarship. LeAnza Tupfer received the Lewis and Isabel Gray Scholarship. Saniya Kishnani and Caleb Parker received the Dante Pezzotti Scholarship. Saniya Kishnani, Rose Anne Fabillar and Shari Smith received the Thomas Walsh Scholarship. Vincent Lee and Natalie Laconsay received the Shallenberger Family Scholarship. The total value of the scholarships was more than \$5,000.

Oakhurst Elks Lodge No 2724 and Madera Elks Lodge No. 1918 help wounded warrior

The Oakhurst Elks Lodge No. 2724, the Madera Elks Lodge No. 1918, the VFW Post No. 8743 and the Marine Corps League Griswold Mountain Detachment No. 1121 teamed together and held a fund-raiser for Marine Corporal Toran "Chance" Gaal, who had lost both legs in Afghanistan. It was held on Saturday, February 4, 2012 at the Oakhurst Elks Lodge. The funds that were collected from that event were presented to Chance's grandparents. They raised \$11,345, which was given to the Semper Fi Delis fund in the name of Chance Gaal. Chance will use this money for his and his family's expenses, as he is currently in San Diego being fitted for his prosthetics. He wants to run, not walk.

Chance had reenlisted for another four years so he could deploy to Afghanistan in March 2011, after having served previously in the Presidential Guard under President George Bush. In Afghanistan, Corporal Gaal was an infantry rifleman in 15 Charlie Company with the 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division based out of Camp Pendleton in San Diego. He was injured during an attack in Afghanistan's Sangin District of the Helmand Province, one of the country's most dangerous regions. Chance was critically injured from an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) on June 26, 2011. His wounds included the loss of both legs and some of his right hip. On August 11, 2011, the Yosemite High School basketball star and 2005 graduate received the Purple Heart medal from General Joe Dunford. The first thing Chance told that General was, "Don't kick me out." That's a part of how they train these guys. That's part of being a Marine. They never want to quit. That's why they say, "Once a Marine, always a Marine." Chance still wants to remain in the Marine Corps following his recuperation.

At the fund-raiser, Supervisor Tom Wheeler, representing the County of Madera Board of Supervisors, awarded Corporal Gaal a Certificate of Appreciation for his service to our country. The Yosemite High School Cadet Corps, the Marine Corps League and the Veterans of Foreign Wars all participated in making the event a success. The Cadets presented the colors and the Marine Corps League Chaplain gave the benediction. The American Legion of Merced bikers, and a group of bikers from Clovis, did a Parade of Colors. It was quite a patriotic site to see.

In addition, since Chance's 25th birthday was on February 17th, the Oakhurst Lodge sent him a birthday card signed by numerous Lodge members, and a 2,000 piece jigsaw puzzle of El Capitan in Yosemite, which is located near his alma-mater.



L to R: Jim Winney (Commandant, Marine Corps League), Clair Roy (Officer at Large, Oakhurst Elks Lodge), Bud Russell (Commander, VFW), Jim Gaal (Grandfather), Barbara Gaal (Grandmother), Harold Johnson, PER (Madera Elks Lodge), Wayne Klinger, PER (ER, Oakhurst Elks Lodge)

Piggy Bank

By Bill Williford, CHEA Piggy Bank Chairman



We are in the new Lodge year with new officers, new Lodge events and new social activities. Please take a moment to thank last year's officers for the job they did. It's not always an easy job, but it can be very rewarding. Let them know that you, as members, appreciate their efforts.

Our Project does not finish at the same time as the Lodge year does. At the time of preparation of this article, the Piggy Bank has nearly two months to go.

Please don't slow down on your donations, thinking that the year is over. Your District and Lodge Piggy Bank Chairs will be asking you for that little bit more (or a lot more if you are so inclined) for this year. The Leading Knights of each District have been given a Challenge, and they should be asking you for money as well. If you are able to help, please know that the Piggy Bank Committee and the children that we support thank you from the bottom of our hearts. By the time you are reading this we will be in the home stretch in our attempt to once again hit the \$3 million mark in donations received since the last Association Convention.

If you haven't looked at the CHEA website lately, take a few moments to check it out at www.chea-elks.org. Click on Major Project, then "Donate." This page has suggestions for using articles found there to help raise donations and your member's awareness of the program. Articles by the month are also available by going to "blog" then "News From your Elks Major Project." Many of these articles are thank you notes from parents about our programs and the therapists who are working with the family. They are heartwarming and informative snapshots of how we are helping them.

After you have read some of the articles, go back to the Major Project page and click on "Donate." There is a simple form to fill out to make an online donation. You and your Lodge will receive credit for each donation made. If you decide you wish to make a recurring donation each month, instructions are on the page to enable you to help the Piggy Bank in that way.

I have been appointed to continue as your Association Piggy Bank Chair for another year. I hope to meet many of you during the upcoming year.

Santa Clara Elks Lodge No. 2347 holds Court of Honor

On February 4, 2012, an Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held at the Santa Clara Elks Lodge No. 2347 for James and Jeff Riehl, sons of Derek and Janet Riehl. Both brothers were awarded the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank possible in Scouting. We all know the dedication and hard work involved when any young man receives this award. The Santa Clara Mayor, Jamie Matthews, presented them with a City Proclamation stating that this day was set aside in their honor. The Santa Clara Elks Lodge and the California-Hawaii Elks Association also presented Certificates of Recognition and American Flags to these young gentlemen. This may be the first time in our Lodge history for two brothers to receive this award on the same day.

At the Santa Clara Convention Center on February 3, 2012, Mr. Bruce Lee was awarded the prestigious Silver Beaver Award for the many hours of volunteer work he has done for the Boy Scouts. Bruce is not only a member of our Lodge, but, for the last 15 years, he has been the Scoutmaster for Troop No. 394 (which has been chartered by our Lodge for the last 15 years). Bruce Lee is an Eagle Scout, and he has been giving back to Scouting for over 35 years. Bruce was accompanied on stage by his wife of 30 years, his two daughters and his son (also an Eagle Scout in Troop No. 394). We see Bruce and "his boys" helping with many Lodge events. On behalf of the Santa Clara Lodge, we extend our congratulations to you!

San Mateo Elks Lodge No. 1112 forms "Antlers" youth group

The Elks have always been about serving the community and supporting strong family values. The San Mateo Elks Lodge No. 1112 is proving this with the recent launch of their "Junior Antlers" program. The Junior Antlers offers youth the opportunity to take advantage of the facilities at the Lodge, to collectively participate in our community service activities and to have an opportunity to do a lot more.

In February 2012, the first class of a dozen youth was initiated as Antlers and the program is growing rapidly. The Antlers have a regular tennis program in place, have started bowling and handball and have big plans to form competitive teams in these and other sports. Beyond great fitness activities, the Antlers are coordinating community services with elder care facilities while exploring other opportunities to remain actively contributing to the community.

The newly installed Exalted Ruler, Gene Condon, has been instrumental in launching the program. The Antlers have garnered tremendous support from the active members, with six Lodge members showing the kids how to bowl on their first day of bowling. The connections being made through this program are spectacular, bringing youth, families and active members closer together through Lodge activities and the demonstration of our values.

One of the most exciting features of the Antlers program is the development of a speaker series which will bring various professionals in to talk about what they do and what inspired them to pursue their profession. The series is entitled "Do what you love" and will feature business people, politicians, inventors, entrepreneurs, politicians, entertainers and more. The program kicks off this month with a director of video game development from Electronic Arts talking about what inspired him and how he developed that inspiration into a career. We have also invited California Assemblyman Jerry Hill to talk to the youth about his journey in politics. The Antlers are a motivated group of young people who are excited to participate in our Lodge activities and who are also inspiring new members to join. Look for a lot more to come as the future of the Elks is advanced by our newest members.



Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 entertains seniors

The Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 entertained 130 senior citizens at its semi-annual senior dinner/dance. The Lodge subsidized the ticket fee of \$7.00 to make it more affordable for the seniors that attended. The Laguna Hills Girls Lacrosse team served the dinner, to which the Elks Lodge donated \$150. Many of the seniors looked like they were reliving some of their youthful dance moments.

Insurance and Safety

By Steven G. Mayne, CHEA Insurance and Safety Chairman



Fellow Elks, we have entered a new Elks year with many of the same issues that we closed with last year. The great part has been that, from an insurance and safety point of view, we (the California-Hawaii Elks Association) have had minimal insurance issues. Since we are the largest of the Order's State Associations in the United States, this means that CHEA has played a large part in helping to keep the Order's insurance programs affordable.

I still feel the need to make a few reminders so that we may continue to maintain our safety and insurance standards:

1. Every Lodge must have an Accident Prevention Manager appointed from the Board of Trustees. This is required under Grand Lodge Statute 12.070. This person should be familiar with the Accident/Claim Prevention Manual and the Liability Insurance Booklet. This knowledge, along with good old fashioned common sense, will help keep your Lodge safe for your Members and their guests, and will help to protect the Lodge's physical assets if an accident should occur.
2. A reminder to the Lodge Secretaries and Board of Trustees – you should have your budgets in place by now. But, did you remember that all Grand Lodge Insurance programs are now effective on April 1st?
3. Questions remain concerning the \$5,000 no-fault clause that has been eliminated from the Liability policy. As of 4/4/11 the “no-fault medical payment” NO LONGER EXISTS. Yes - we will no longer pay claims on a NO-Fault basis, so if you have a medical claim that you would have previously just paid off - SUBMIT YOUR CLAIM to Gallagher Basset (no matter how small), and - DOCUMENT – DOCUMENT – DOCUMENT. Review your Claims Manual for details.
4. Worker's Compensation Insurance: This will always be a thorn in the side of business, but it is a necessity. The smallest claim can mushroom into a nightmare costing thousands of dollars if it is not properly handled or if there is no insurance in place. A claim can bankrupt a Lodge. Contact me or your District Chairperson if you require more information or if you are renewing your insurance and need a reference.

When we talk of Insurance and Safety we always have to take into consideration the legal issues. If you, as a Lodge Secretary or Member of the Board of Trustees, are considering construction work (no matter how small or large), or are entering into any contractual agreement, even with the local Chamber, Bingo group, cell tower company or caterer - before signing on the dotted line, consult with your local or Lodge's legal counsel. It is cheaper and easier up front than fighting the nasty battle later over an issue that might have seemed small at the time.

Let it be a Great and Safe Elk Year.

“Elks Care, Elks Share” and continue to be “Reaching New Heights by Soaring with Elkdom.”

Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 honors law enforcement and firefighters

The Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 hosted a ribs and chicken dinner for the members of Firehouses 30, 31 and 37. Thirty guests attended this event which was conducted by David Naccarato, PER and Secretary.

The Firefighter of the Year was Gifford Sears, who received his award from Retiring Chief Bob Roper, Retired Captain and Lodge member Paul Stine and Captain Frank O'Hanlon. Corey Nickolas, Sheriff of the Year, had responded to a domestic violence call. The housewife, while being beaten by her former husband, shot her attacker in the chest. The assailant was rushed to the hospital, survived, and is now doing time in prison.

Moreno Valley Elks Lodge No. 2697 holds Court of Honor

The Moreno Valley Elks Lodge No. 2697 recently held a Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony. Billy Amaya, a member of the BSA Troop No. 214 (which is sponsored by the Moreno Valley Elks Lodge), was promoted to the rank of Eagle Scout at his Eagle Court of Honor on Feb. 12th. For his Eagle Project, Billy, assisted by other troop members, installed playground equipment in a city park. Billy worked with the Moreno Valley City Parks Department to develop the installation plans and then he directed other Scouts during the installation activity. Billy, 17, is the son of Arnold and Paula Amaya of Moreno Valley.

Moreno Valley Mayor Richard Stewart spoke at the Court of Honor. The ceremony also featured presentations by Troop 214 Scoutmaster Steve Browers, Assistant Scoutmasters Matt Simpson and Phil Wojtalewicz, and Leading Knight John Bender (the troop committee chairman). Bender presented Billy with an American Flag and an Elks Eagle Scout certificate.

The Flag Salute was presented by the Scout Honor Guard, which included Michael Bender, William Israel, Dalton and Austin Benson, David Carey, Jack Wojtalewicz, Jacob Palau and Sammy Amaya. Other Elks in attendance included Judy and Richard Smith (both PERS), Digger Phelps (Trustee), Bernie Timm (Secretary), and Cindy Minich (Loyal Knight).



L to R: Arnold Amaya; Richard Stewart, Moreno Valley, CA Mayor; Steve Browers, Scout Master; Billy Amaya, Eagle Scout; John Bender, Moreno Valley Elks Leading Knight and Troop Committee Chairman

Sunnyvale Elks Lodge No. 2128 donates to community services, gives dictionaries

On December 15, 2011, the Sunnyvale Elks Lodge No. 2128 presented a Christmas donation of \$5,449.96 to Marie Bernard, Executive Director of Sunnyvale Community Services. Sunnyvale Community Services, founded in 1970, is an independent, nonprofit emergency assistance agency. Their mission is to prevent homelessness and hunger for low-income families and seniors that reside in the city of Sunnyvale, CA by providing financial aid, food, and other support to families and individuals that are facing temporary crises.

In other news, for the third year, the Lodge has provided over 800 student dictionaries to the 3rd grade students of eight public schools and four parochial schools in Sunnyvale, California. The response to Lodge representatives Don Koester, Pat Sargent and Marv Pinard was greatly appreciated by the numerous letters of thanks from the schools' teachers and individual students.

Advisory Committee (Past Presidents)

*L. E. Chenoweth	Bakersfield	1913-14	*Bruce H. Marsh	Inglewood	1965-66
*Hilliard E. Welch	Stockton	1914-15	*Gerald Stroh, PGER	Fresno	1966-67
*Dr. Ralph Hagan	Los Angeles	1915-16	*Marvin M. Lewis, PGER	Brawley	1967-68
*William M. Abbott, PGER	San Francisco	1916-17	*Norman S. Lien	Watsonville	1968-69
*Harry M. Ticknor	Pasadena	1917-19	*Paul E. Haines	Pasadena	1969-70
*James M. Shanley	Oakland	1919-20	*Ernest Olivieri	Sonora	1970-71
*Charles Donlon	Santa Barbara	1920-21	*Walter Schween, Jr.	Salinas	1971-72
*John D. Saxe	San Rafael	1921-22	*C. Wallace Erickson	Glendale	1972-73
*Richard C. Benbough	San Diego	1922-23	*Yubi G. Separovich, PGELK	Sacramento	1973-74
*Howard B. Kirtland	San Luis Obispo	1923-24	*Dan Davis	Van Nuys	1974-75
*Edgar F. Davis	Long Beach	1924-25	*Rev. Msgr. George Scott	San Pedro	Honorary
*John J. Lermen	San Francisco	1925-26	*James E. Spence, Jr.	Oakland	1975-76
*Mifflin G. Potts	Pasadena	1926-27	*Marvin M. Pike, PGELK	Torrance	1976-77
*William E. Simpson	Fresno	1927-28	*Donald W. Luce, PGELK	Richmond	1977-78
*John J. Doyle	Los Angeles	1928-29	*Dr. Robert G. Robb	Garden Grove	1978-79
*Fred B. Mellmann	Oakland	1929-30	Donald D. Dapelo, PGER	Coalinga	1979-80
*Horace S. Williamson	Redlands	1930-31	*William D. Brunner	Redondo Beach	1980-81
*F. E. Dayton	Salinas	1931-32	*Leland J. "Butch" Simas	Santa Maria	1981-82
*Horace H. Quinby	Alhambra	1932-33	Kenneth L. Moore, PGER	Corona	1982-83
*J. Thomas Crowe	Tulare	1933-34	Elmer L. Lanini, PGT	Salinas	1983-84
*Milton R. Standish	San Bernardino	1934-35	Robert J. McLain, PGELK	Pasadena	1984-85
*George M. Smith	San Jose	1935-36	*Clifford E. Beatty	Chico	1985-86
*L. A. "Fay" Lewis, PGER	Anaheim	1936-37	Richard L. "Dick" Alves, PGEsq.	San Jose	1986-87
*C. Fenton Nichols	San Francisco	1937-38	*Bernard E. McCune	Long Beach	1987-88
*C. P. Hebenstreit	Huntington Park	1938-39	*Oscar W. Stutheit	Orange	Honorary
*Elmer B. Maze	Merced	1939-40	*R. E. "Bud" Cenis, PGELK	Bakersfield	1988-89
*Robert S. Redington	Los Angeles	1940-41	*Dr. Eugene P. Weigand, PGELK	Pasadena	1989-90
*Donald K. Quayle	Alameda	1941-42	*Lynn Wood	Modesto	1990-91
*Newton M. Todd	Long Beach	1942-43	William C. "Bill" Ijames, PGELK	Vista	1991-92
*Clifford C. Anglin	Richmond	1943-44	Richard E. Owen, PGELK	Santa Maria	1992-93
*Stephen A. Compas	Huntington Park	1944-45	John A. Parker, PGT	Marysville	1993-94
*Horace R. Wisely, PGER	Salinas	1945-46	*Rex E. Dondlinger, PGELK	Arcadia	1994-95
*R. Leonard Bush, PGER	Westchester	1946-47	Anthony J. Mauro, GT	Hollister	1995-96
*Earl J. Williams	Oakland	1947-48	Timothy C. Martin, PGELK	San Bernardino	1996-97
*Morley H. Golden	San Diego	1948-49	Sim Nathan	Redding	1997-98
*Robert J. Craine	Hanford	1949-50	Frank G. Keller	Corona	1998-99
*Ben W. Osterman	Santa Ana	1950-51	Louis J. "Jim" Grillo, PGER	Stockton	1999-00
*John B. Morey, PGT	Palo Alto	1951-52	John G. Holt	Burbank	2000-01
*Vincent H. Grocott	Santa Barbara	1952-53	John M. Carvalho, Sr.	Sacramento	2001-02
*Edward E. Keller	San Mateo	1953-54	H. Eugene Chambers	Needles	2002-03
*Robert P. Mohrbacker	Long Beach	1954-55	Doug Larsen	Salinas	2003-04
*Jim B. Nielsen, PGELK	Watsonville	1955-56	Lee Northcutt, PGEsq.	La Habra	2004-05
*Owen O. Keown	Santa Monica	1956-57	Roy R. Newman	Marysville	2005-06
*John A. Raffetto	Auburn	1957-58	James S. Mason	Gardena	2006-07
*Frank M. Linnell	Newport Harbor	1958-59	Oren Richardson	Coalinga	2007-08
*Charles T. Reynolds	Vallejo	1959-60	Jerry Rucker	San Bernardino	2008-09
*Guy A. Daniels	Redlands	1960-61	Lee Karjola	Eureka	2009-10
*Paul T. Wemple	Susanville	1961-63	Hugh H. Scanlon	Glendale	2010-11
*Vern R. Huck	Los Angeles	1963-64	Thomas S. Brazier	Santa Cruz	Honorary
*Henry J. Budde	San Francisco	1964-65	*Deceased		
*Edgar Dale	Vallejo	Honorary			

Leon "Lee" Jacobian passed away

The Association office has been informed that Leon "Lee" Jacobian passed away on March 21, 2012 in Germantown, TN. Lee was the Editor of the California-Hawaii Elk magazine for 25 years and was a very proud Elk. Services with military honors were held in Tennessee on March 27, 2012. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc., 5450 East Lamona Avenue, Fresno, CA 93727-2224. Lee's obituary is online at www.colliervillefuneral.com.



B.L.T.

On the Web?

The website is www.ches-elks.org
Then hit: Major Project/Bequests and
Living Trusts.

Become a Benefactor for the
BLT Commitment Trust.

Santa Ana Elks Lodge No. 794 recognizes Hoop Shoot winners and awards scholarships

After a dinner with their families at the Santa Ana Elks Lodge No. 794, which was held on Tuesday, March 6, 2012, the winners of the Hoop Shoot contest were awarded a plaque and a basketball in recognition for their achievement. The contest winners were from the Santa Ana and Tustin Unified School Districts.

In other news, at the same awards night, the Lodge recognized its Americanism Essay Contest winners. The Lodge received approximately 450 essays from 6th grade students attending local schools in the Irvine, Santa Ana, and Tustin School Districts. Three essays were submitted to the District for judging, and one of these was advanced into the CHEA judging. The essays that were judged at the District level were: Bryan Ho (UTT Middle School), Jordan Smith (UTT Middle School) and Cecilia Bain (Hewes Middle School). Bryan's essay was entered into the CHEA judging.

In addition, the Lodge awarded \$17,500 in scholarships that evening. Students from the Santa Ana, Tustin and Irvine School Districts received scholarship awards. Six high school seniors were chosen to receive Most Valuable Student (MVS) awards by the Lodge Scholarship Committee. There were 36 applications (11 boys and 25 girls) submitted from eleven high schools. The female winners were: Catherine Dong (Northwood - \$1,500), Micaela Rodgers (Foothill - \$1,250) and Sonal Chaudhari (University - \$1,000). The male winners were: Kevin Park (Arnold Beckman - \$1,500), Felix Hong (Irvine High - \$1,259), and Edward Baek (Arnold Beckman - \$1,000).

Recipients of the Lenz Scholarship were: Marissa Yeandle (\$2,500), Tyler Walker (\$2,000), Alicia Paleno (\$1,500) and Griffin Rider (\$1,000). The Lenz Scholarship Fund was established and funded in 2007 by a generous donation from Herman Lenz, a 62 year Elk Life Member and his wife, Muriel. Though Mr. Lenz and his wife have passed away, his daughters have honored his wishes to help young people achieve an education. The Scholarship Committee also selected recipients of the newly established Santa Ana Elks Lodge No. 794 Scholarship. Recipients of this award were: David J. Mendoza (\$1,500) and Cassandra Weaver-Titus (\$1,500).



Larry Arason (Hoop Shoot Chairman) and Dan Fernandez (Exalted Ruler) with some of the Hoop Shoot contestants

Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672 awards scholarships

The Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672 awarded MVS scholarships to six local high school seniors. The top awards were given to Ariel R. Wood (Marshall Fundamental) and Thomas S. Han (La Canada High School). The second place winners were Taylor Lichfield (Marshall) and Daniel I. Morales (Alhambra High School). Third place honors were given to Marilyn R. Travis and Preston A. Mills (both from Marshall).

Vacaville Elks Lodge No. 2638 uses ENF Impact Grant to help seniors

The Vacaville Elks Lodge No. 2638 put a \$10,000 ENF Impact Grant to work helping their community. The Lodge will support local seniors and their families with their program "Saving Our Seniors - the Golden Heart Challenge." Lodge members will provide meals several days a week at the Fairfield Senior Center for their "Senior Day" (an adult day care program) and their "Brain Boosters" (a program for seniors experiencing early memory loss). The Elks will also provide supplies for recreation activities and help manage the Center's transportation program so that seniors may attend senior luncheons, use the bus for transportation to medical appointments and to pick up prescriptions.

In other news, the Vacaville Elks Lodge held a fund-raiser at the Lodge's Chinese New Year dinner, celebrating the "Year of the Dragon." These proceeds will help fund an upcoming Hawaiian Luau dinner at the Senior Center.



L to R: Kristin Einberger (Brain Boosters Program Coordinator, Fairfield Senior Center), Sandra Reece-Marten (Community Services Director, Fairfield Senior Center), Louanna Curley (Lodge member and Impact Grant Manager)

Kona Elks Lodge No. 2616 raises money for CHEMPI

On February 25, 2012 the Kona Elks Lodge No. 2616 sponsored a fund-raising Hawaiian luau in support of the CHEA Major Project. The luau included Hawaiian food prepared by local Hawaiian chefs and a special dish, chicken long rice, prepared by Lodge Treasurer Muriel Boot. The "Ladies of Aloha," Colette Aoki and Mia Virchinsky (members of the Kona Lodge), "Kumu" (teacher) Piilani Kealakai, PER (from the Honolulu Elks Lodge No. 616) joined Elk members Margaret Chin and Young Oshiro in performing the hula.

The "Ladies of Aloha" performed the hula to "God Bless America" before over 90 teary eyed attendees. The fundraising luau raised over \$3,500 for the California-Hawaii Elks Association Major Project, Inc. (CHEMPI). The Major Project funds therapy services for children with disabilities.



Drug Awareness

By Tim Jaeger, CHEA Drug Awareness Chairman



A new Lodge year is upon us and the Association's Annual Convention is fast approaching. I know that this is a very busy time of year for everyone. As you set your Lodge Calendars for the next year, try to find the time to add one more Drug Awareness activity to your busy schedules.

It is never too early to start talking to your local schools in an attempt to get on their schedule. If your community still has a DARE or similar program, reach

out to the coordinator and see if there is a way to work together on a project or to provide literature to help their program.

We will be holding a breakout session at the Convention in San Diego on Thursday, May 17th for anyone who is interested, including the District and Lodge Chairpersons. New ER's and members should stop in as well to learn about the various programs. The session will be in Royal Palm Salon Four at 2:30 p.m.

We will have a table set up at the Convention where you can browse the current Drug Awareness literature, get questions answered, or just stop by to say hello.

The Drug Awareness Program (DAP) includes a variety of ways to participate – if your Lodge is already participating in all of these methods – congratulations! If not, think about adding at least one new activity during the next year. The Drug Awareness Program activities include:

- Poster Contest (3rd – 5th)
- Essay Contest (6th– 8th)
- Red Ribbon Week (October 23 – 31)
- Enrique Camarena Award
- Prescription Drug Take back days
- Soccer Shoot-out and Hoop Shoot
- President's Volunteer Service Award
- Comic Book Program
- Annual Lodge Expense Matching
- Elroy the Elk Costumes
- Drug Awareness Trailer Program
- Literature (free within program limits)

To learn more about the variety of programs that are supported by the Drug Awareness Program, visit either the Association (www.chea-elks.org/drugawareness.html) or National websites (www.elks.org/dap), both have good information and are great resources.

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

Westchester Elks Lodge No. 2050 helps schools

The Westchester Elks Lodge No. 2050 donated \$350 and 125 dictionaries to South Park Elementary School. The donation helped obtain four Nook Color Readers, which will help 24 students get access to unlimited resources, take accelerated reading tests and play many educational games. The Lodge also gave \$100 to Hunter Jones for a South African trip with his church, The Bridge, in El Segundo.

Paso Robles Elks Lodge No. 2364 donates for veterans' transportation

The Paso Robles Elks Lodge No. 2364 donated \$500 to the Paso Robles American Legion Post 50. The money will be used for the Post's North County Veteran Van Program. This program provides the transportation needed for those veterans who have no other way to travel to their medical appointments in the communities of San Luis Obispo, Fresno, Santa Maria and Palo Alto. They travel over 3,000 miles a year in service to the veterans.



L to R: Ed Tedeski, Gordon Mutter and Linda Allen (Veterans Chairman)

Quincy Elks Lodge No. 1884 holds law enforcement recognition dinner

On February 11, 2012, the Quincy Elks Lodge No. 1884 hosted an appreciation dinner for law enforcement. There were 32 officers and their spouses representing the Sheriff's Office, California Highway Patrol and Probation Department. Bill LaMar was the chairman of the event. The dinner was tri-tip and chicken, prepared by Kent and Adrian of "Southern Accents." The after dinner music was provided by Patty.

Four awards were presented: Zoe Stancer (Dispatcher of the Year), Tom Frogatt (Deputy of the Year), Kasandra Tucker (CHP Officer of the Year), and Consuelo Cisneros (Correctional Officer of the Year). The Lodge would like to thank all law enforcement representatives who attended, as well as those who could not be there, for the work that they perform to make us feel safe and protected in our communities.



Back row (L to R): Tom Frogatt, Bill LaMar (Leading Knight), Dave Saltel (Exalted Ruler) and Kevin Correia (Northeast District Vice-President)
Front row (L to R): Consuelo Cisneros, Kasandra Tucker and Zoe Stancer

Scholarship

By Greg Metzgas, CHEA Scholarship Chairman



This time of year is very rewarding for the CHEA Scholarship Chairman. It is the time of year that I receive thank you notes from students that were awarded scholarships in the 2012-2013 Most Valuable Student Contest. These students are very appreciative and the MVS Scholarship program reaffirms the Elks commitment to support our youth.

There is another program offered to students in California-Hawaii – one that is available all year long. It is the Vocational Grant Program. This \$1,000 grant (renewable for a second year) is available to anyone, of any age, that is a Citizen of the United States. The applicant doesn't even need to have a high school diploma. Last year, we created a budget for 81 Vocational Grants – but we only awarded about 30% of that budgeted amount. There was money left on the table at the end of that year that could have been awarded to students in your area to help with their education.

Some Lodges complain that there is a shortage of students in their area that can qualify for the MVS contest. The Vocational Grant program is a program that has very few requirements beyond the need to be a U.S. citizen. It is designed to help an individual learn a trade. The information about this grant is on the California-Hawaii Elks Association website (www.chea-elks.org/youthactivities/scholarships).

I am looking forward to working with all of you this upcoming year. If you are at the Association Convention in San Diego in May, please stop by the Scholarship booth with any questions you may have. I will also share what information I have that may help you promote the Scholarship Program. Promoting all of the CHEA Scholarship Programs promotes Elkdom.

Paradise Elks Lodge No. 2026's leprechaun delivers drug awareness literature

The Paradise Elks Lodge No. 2026 has its very own leprechaun! Jay Smith, PER, the North District and Paradise Elks Lodge No. 2026's Drug Awareness Chairman, dressed as an Irish Leprechaun, passes out "Hugs not Drugs" ribbons and other Elks Drug Awareness Program literature each year. Jay visits many schools and attends other events in October and March, giving out hundreds of ribbons and other Drug Awareness information. He has made a difference in our community.



Kailua Elks Lodge No. 2230 uses ENF Gratitude Grant for women's shelter

The Kailua Elks Lodge No. 2230 on Oahu, Hawaii recently awarded their \$2,000 Elks National Foundation (ENF) Gratitude Grant to the Windward Spouse Abuse Shelter in Kailua. The funds will be used for food, clothing, bedding, transportation costs and other necessities in support of the Shelter's mission to provide a safe haven for women and children involved in domestic abuse. Accepting the Grant, at their annual awards banquet, was Avis Alokeke Kalama, co-founder and Executive Director of the Shelter, along with Tamber Miller-Garcia, a recent resident of the Shelter who is now studying psychology and hopes to counsel abused children. Past Exalted Ruler John Nagy made the presentation.

In other news, the Lodge recently recognized two of Windward Oahu's finest with awards for "Police Officer of the Year" and "Fire Fighter of the Year." Honolulu Police Department Sgt. Duane Samson has been a Honolulu Police Officer for 24 years, earning many commendations. He is currently assigned to a Windward district team that uses non-traditional policing methods, including neighborhood watches, traffic awareness partnerships, and "Project C.L.E.A.N." - which brings community leaders and residents together to fight graffiti. He also counsels students to play safely and to avoid drugs and bullying.

Honolulu Fire Department Captain Wayne Masuda is assigned to the Aikahi Fire Station in Kailua. A firefighter for 21 years, he is responsible for acquiring a number of Federal Grants, his most recent being a \$1.3 million grant for communication equipment that will enable all firefighters, fire response apparatuses and fire stations to have new interoperable radios.

Greg Sylvester, PER, Tom Kemp, Lodge Secretary, and Avis Alokeke Kalama presented the awards. The Lodge also presented each officer with a 5 ft. by 9 ft. American Flag, which had been flown over the U.S. Capitol in 2006, and which has been authenticated by U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye.



L to R: Tamber Miller-Garcia, Avis Alokeke Kalama, John Nagy, PER

Vista Elks Lodge No. 1968 BBQs for Marines

The Vista Elks Lodge No. 1968 honored their adopted Marine unit, Echo Company, 1st AMTRAC, Camp Pendleton, CA, on March 24th by hosting the Marines and their families to a pre-deployment BBQ picnic. The Lodge adopted Echo Company in ceremonies held on July 9, 2010. The unit is scheduled for deployment to Afghanistan on April 1st. Their mission is to recover U.S. materials and equipment that were used in combat operations over the last several years. Sixty plus Marines and their families were in attendance along with 50 Elks and other guests.

14 THE CALIFORNIA-HAWAII ELK

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Millennium Plus (\$5,000) Copper Pig Level Donors (February 1, 2012 - March 28, 2012)

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>
Richard "Doc" Carstens	1250
Ture Roslund	1712

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Millennium Plus (\$2,000) Purple Pig Level Donors (February 1, 2012 - March 28, 2012)

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>
Mengo Darr	3
Walter Neumann	2704

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Millennium Club (\$1,000) Donors (February 1, 2012 - March 28, 2012)

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>
Marilyn M. Facha	6	Oren Richardson	1613	James Baum	1877	Kirk Watkins	2248
Jane Scott McCrorie Butler	616	Sharon Bettencourt	1691	Robert L. Duitsman	1917	Shirmey A. Colwell	2504
William I. Samaritano	616	David Provan	1691	Don Betzold	2046	David Price	2626
Bob Hanna	1475	Barbara K. Thompson	1691	Lawrence DePaul	2243	Dick Williams	2697
Robert Medellin	1539	Ture Roslund	1712	Charles Braden	2248		

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Century Club (\$100) Donors (February 1, 2012 - March 28, 2012)

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>
Southeast District PER Alumni Assn. (2)		Norman Hashimoto	616	Mike Payne (2)	1073	Oleta Mathews	1691
Edward Cooke	3	Ronald Hino	616	Mary Ragland	1073	Harlan Moore	1691
Josh Hachadourian	3	Kimie Hirabayashi	616	Larry Reef	1073	William Peters	1691
Marilyn Facha (3)	6	Charles Hunt	616	Jerry Sanchez	1073	David Provan	1691
Matthew Brodie	218	Robert Kawai	616	Steve Sherman	1073	Dick Robart	1691
Jerry Castro (2)	218	Patrick Keliinui	616	Jim Stephens	1073	William Rockefeller	1691
Steve Clements	218	Dominick Lostumbo	616	Cary Velmond, Jr.	1073	John Ross	1691
Tuleburg R.V. Club (2)	218	Ronald Mizuno	616	Ed Wyse	1073	Richard San Miguel	1691
James Fisk	218	Donald Orton	616	Kenneth Roberts	1240	Wayne Senini	1691
Dennis Giulieri	218	Carol Owens	616	Richard "Doc" Carstens (3)	1250	Rodney Stollenburg	1691
Louis J. Grillo	218	George Quillin	616	Jim English (4)	1259	Richard Sutherland	1691
James Hairrell	218	Judith Rubano	616	Larry McDaniel	1259	Wilfred Thomas	1691
Bill Keller	218	William Samaritano	616	Norman VanBeek	1259	Barbara Thompson (2)	1691
Erin Kester	218	Paul Sasaki	616	Mike Wilson	1259	Larry Yungblut	1691
Margaret Lockhart	218	Linda Sebald	616	Karl La Masa, Jr.	1289	Judy Jenkins	1712
Eberhard Schwierzke	218	Nelson Secretario	616	Marion Bailey	1298	David Kreps	1712
Ray Touchstone (2)	218	Debra Shimabuku	616	Arlen Lynn	1298	Xavier Lerch	1712
David Tudor	218	Nicholas Teves, Jr. (2)	616	Tim Mathos	1298	Paul McKinney	1712
Tom Watson	218	Michelle Tuzon	616	Larry Nelson	1298	Edwin Nelson	1712
Dan Connors	322	Carl Vaicek, Jr.	616	Donald Nelson	1298	Ture Roslund (2)	1712
Jack Geiger (2)	439	Karen Whitehead	616	Jim Pyle	1298	Orville Walker	1712
Helen Montanye	439	Kona Woolsey	616	Brawley P.E.R. Association (2)	1420	Darrell Hoffman	1728
Marian Wood	559	Annette Zib	616	Richie Windsor	1420	Janet Tipton	1728
Sylvia Becker	583	Henry Speak	672	Byron Cannon	1474	Jeff Cobb	1786
Richard Dombrowski	583	Eric Aasen	824	Dominic Confetti	1474	George Corbin	1786
Lesa Hamilton	583	Margaret Dow	824	Les Edleman	1474	George Waters	1786
Russ Hamilton, Sr.	583	Allyson Holden	824	Richard Enea (4)	1474	Barnes & Berger	1799
Maxine Hitchings	583	Rich Kleinert	824	Victor "Gizzy" Galli	1474	Jim & Missy Carney	1799
Stephen Melms	583	Norman Lund	824	Rick Gromacki	1474	Jim & Missy Carne La Casita	1799
Redlands Elks Rovers	583	Ian MacKenzie	824	Joe Roman	1474	Chaffin Farms	1799
Paul Rigano	583	Chuck Perston	824	Dale Flummerfelt	1539	Duffers Fore Children	1799
Carlton & Clea Riggs	583	Karl Philipovitch	824	Robert Medellin	1539	Cyle Johnson Electric, Inc.	1799
Wilma Rowe	583	Elio Rodoni	824	David Miller	1539	Empire Machinery	1799
Phoebe Rude	583	Robert Rudolph	824	Nadine Miller	1539	Fisher Wireless	1799
Larry Taylor	583	Mark Swanson	824	L.L. Johnson	1608	Glenn Johnson Cooling & Heating	1799
Sam Trad	583	Tom Webster	824	Dennis Larkin	1608	Hayday Farms	1799
Diana Walker	583	John Buezis	888	Nancy Larkin	1608	Butch & Dean Hull	1799
Robert Walker	583	Faygie Colton (2)	888	Richard Pyle	1608	Inland Builders Supply	1799
David Williford	583	Thomas Mathers	901	John Albrecht	1613	Johnson Refrigeration, Inc.	1799
Pat Beattie	613	James Murray	901	Ron Eastman	1613	Lovekin Liquor	1799
Minika Draggoo	613	James Knigge	966	George Pryor	1613	Mallett & Sons Trucking	1799
William Muncaster	613	Virgil Magday	966	Oren Richardson (6)	1613	The Players Sales Inc.	1799
Elizabeth Neal	613	James Bogue	1073	Sandra Brown	1625	RDO Equipment/Hudsons	1799
Joey Neal	613	Scott Brown	1073	Ronald Hinman	1643	Red Mule Farm	1799
Debra Petlow	613	Dale Burt	1073	Sandra Reid (3)	1643	River Pawn	1799
Gary Petlow	613	John Chandler	1073	W. Clyde Vaughn	1643	Standage Tire & Automotive, Inc.	1799
Carolyn Shupe	613	Bud Davis	1073	Billy Watson	1643	Todd Glass/Tumbleweed	1799
Bob Wignot	613	John Fecher	1073	Denny Bacon	1691	Vandyke Farms	1799
Norman Riggs	614	Thomas Gaura	1073	Rodney Borba	1691	Veterans of Foreign Wars	1799
Bruce Wissler	614	John Hunt (2)	1073	David Calfee	1691	Ruth Reeves	1811
Carolyn Annerud (2)	616	Dennis Kavert	1073	Duane Causie	1691	John Story	1811
Loretta Baptist	616	Ed Knight	1073	William Chelonis	1691	Michael Welch	1811
Sandra Barzilay	616	Pete Leadbetter	1073	Charles Cooper	1691	Los Gatos Elks PER Association	1857
Richard Bennet	616	Ray Lenk	1073	Yvonne Edwards	1691	Don Erickson	1857
Jane Scott McCrorie-Butler (2)	616	Frank Little (2)	1073	Patricia Evans	1691	Mary Goodman	1857
Robert Dusendschon	616	Duane Mason	1073	Marvin Fetzter	1691	Brian Avery	1905
Judith Flanders	616	Lon McCasland	1073	Warren Haase	1691	Marge Pecore	1905
Charles Garner	616	Eric McClelland	1073	Eugene Henggeler	1691		
Larry Hale	616	Edward Morrison	1073	Sandy Kasitz	1691		

Continued on Page 15

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

Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge
Alice Phillips	1905	Roy Weichold	2103	John Green	2248	Richard Goldner (5)	2477
Dale Vinson	1905	Patricia Youghdahl	2103	Ken Green	2248	Eugene Letourneau	2477
Quentin Lightbourn (5)	1913	Stanley Allard (2)	2121	Charlie Halter	2248	Thousand Oaks PER Association (4)	2477
William Schaffer	1913	Robert Baker	2121	James Hocutt	2248	Hartley Hermansen	2484
Robert Duitsman (3)	1917	Frank Haas (2)	2121	Harry Hopton	2248	Dick Anderson	2504
Jay Aguilar	1919	Bob Hendricks	2121	Don Ireton	2248	Thomas Cameron	2504
Larry Cosby	1968	Jerry Janke	2121	Sergay Ivazian	2248	Shirney Colwell	2504
Lee Shultz (3)	1968	Michael Kovacich	2121	Herschell Johnson	2248	Jay Dupler	2504
Lyle & Eve Personette (2)	1991	Cathy Ledbetter	2121	Dick Law	2248	Forrest Frost	2504
Richard Wallace	1991	Joseph Ledbetter	2121	John Mahan	2248	Charles Roady	2504
Scott Stephens	1993	Al Rizotto	2121	Marionette Mason	2248	Marjorie Samaniego	2577
Don Barte	2013	Lillie Simmons	2121	Cindy McKim	2248	Thomas Cates	2591
Patrick O'Keefe	2013	Cindy Spickler	2121	Kris McKim	2248	William Reymann	2591
Todd Gareau	2020	Richard Spickler	2121	Mickey Metcalfe	2248	David Price (2)	2626
Cathy Johnson	2020	Charles Wolosz	2121	Jimmy Ondrasek	2248	Marge Coronado	2655
Greg Johnson	2020	Mark Wright	2121	Gary Platz	2248	Vicky Nguyen (2)	2655
Jay Smith	2026	Alfonso Martinez (2)	2142	Charles Purcell	2248	Pearl City Lodge	2669
Steve Johanson	2031	Robert Baker	2190	Elaine Purcell	2248	Ardean Bates	2669
Don Betzsold	2046	Charles Eaton	2190	Gary Sharp	2248	Robert Kent	2669
Craig Bromberger	2050	Ronald Williams	2190	Ben Sliger	2248	Richard Taltavall (4)	2669
Maria Rossi	2050	Troy Asher	2248	James Valk	2248	Suzie Mercadante	2698
Edward Baker	2095	Mel Borden	2248	Carl Vining	2248	Walter Neumann	2704
Geraldine Endicott	2095	Charles Braden	2248	Kirk Watkins	2248	Charles Pikas	2704
Beverly Jahr	2095	James Carpenter	2248	Bill Wester	2248	Stan Campbell	2733
Jane Holzmann	2103	Vince Catalano	2248	Jerry Hopkins	2274	Joe Coulter	2733
Michael Matz (5)	2103	Mitch Cropper	2248	Walt Pike	2333	Sandy Jack	2733
Paul Pennington	2103	Steven Dale	2248	Donna Melson	2358	Boris Paspalof	2733
J.D. Prather	2103	David Deas	2248	Joan Nadel	2358	Ardean Werner	2733
Donald Ruthrauff	2103	Jean Denison	2248	Bare Ellis	2432	Thomas Jay Coyne	2801
Richard Scherrer	2103	Mike Dreiling	2248	Eric Preinitz	2432	Peter Fiori	2801
Edward Schlesinger	2103	William Faubel	2248	Trent Saxton	2432	Carlton Lunn	2801
James Sekelsky	2103	Dale Filbert	2248	Robert Vieira	2432	Kenneth Nordstrom	2801

Kern River Valley Elks Lodge No. 2358 honors local students

On February 25, 2012, the Kern River Valley Elks Lodge held a luncheon to honor four local students. Jenna Criswell, a senior at Kern Valley High School, was selected to receive a \$500 recurring scholarship from the KRV Elks Lodge. Lindsay Miller, a student at Woodrow Wallace Middle School, wrote the winning paper in the Grand Lodge Americanism Essay Contest. She received a \$50.00 gift card. Kassy Opferman and Trevor Hurley (not shown) won local honors in the Grand Lodge Drug Awareness Poster Contest. They each received \$25 gift cards from the KRV Elks Lodge. Trevor Hurley's poster rated a 1st place finish in the Inland District judging and rated a 4th place finish in the California-Hawaii Elks Association contest.



Front (L-R): Pat Terrell (Americanism Chair), Kassy Opferman, Lindsay Miller
Back (L-R): Jenna Criswell, ER, Jadeen Schroeder, Kathy Kappl, League of Women (LOW) President

Santa Ynez Valley Elks Lodge No. 2640 served hot dogs to girls' softball teams

On Sunday February 26th the Santa Ynez Valley Elks Lodge No. 2640 served almost 300 hot dogs for opening ceremonies of the Santa Ynez Valley Girls Softball Association. The event was held at Oak Valley Elementary School in Buellton. The Elks Lodge also set up their Drug Awareness table to distribute age appropriate materials for the girls and their parents. Watching the girls' teams being introduced in their team colors and cool socks made the BBQ fun for the Lodge members, too!



Elks National Foundation

By Debbie Hosted, CHEA ENF Chairman



California-Hawaii Elks—the Best People On Earth

I don't have the final end of the year numbers for our Association's donations to the ENF since the donations are still being processed in Chicago. But, as of March 22nd, the Association was at \$7.768 per capita. That is an increase of \$0.448 over last year. My goal was \$1 more per member than last year and, as of right now, we are close to half of that.

With life's challenges facing so many of us, I find this generosity incredible. It could only come from our Elk members who truly believe in our great Order and what it represents. District Chairs, Lodge Chairs and even Vice Presidents worked diligently through this year to increase the members' awareness of the ENF and to encourage their continued donation to this Foundation. In my next article, I will be able to share with you what the ENF gives back to our Association and describe how that money is used for our programs.

Through the years, the phrase “the ENF gives money to the Lodges to give back to their communities” has been used to describe what the Foundation does. I feel that this is too abstract; therefore the ENF isn't understood well. I introduced a new concept at the Mid Term Conference this year – “Elks Nurturing Families through the Elks National Foundation”. We need to remember when explaining the ENF that OUR families make up OUR communities. It could be your child that participates in the Hoop Shoot, your neighbor's child that wrote a winning Drug Awareness Essay or your niece or nephew that qualified for a Most Valuable Student Scholarship. We all hear about the Major Project Theme Child and the wonderful work that our Therapists do for the children that our Piggy Bank program supports. The ENF helps fund these programs in California and Hawaii by returning more money to the Association than was donated in the prior year.

I am returning as the Chair for the 2012-2013 Elk year – please keep those donations coming in. Let's see if we can beat our total again next year!

San Fernando Elks Lodge No. 1539 donates Christmas baskets

The San Fernando Elks Lodge No. 1539 donated a truck load of turkeys, hams and bags full of other food items for the San Fernando Police Department's annual Christmas Baskets for the needy program. This is the 12th year that the Lodge has supported their local Police Department's community outreach programs and it is the 80th year that the Lodge has been doing charitable work in the city of San Fernando.



Lodge member Dale Flumerfelt (front right) with his pal, “Lucky,” and members of the San Fernando Police Department Explorers

Lompoc Elks Lodge No. 2274 purchases scooter for veteran

The Lompoc Elks Lodge No. 2274 recently purchased a new GC-541 Golden Avenger scooter for William “Speedy” Walton. Mr. Walton is an amputee who lost both of his legs to diabetes. He is a Vietnam Veteran who is currently being evaluated for Agent Orange Syndrome. The scooter will enable Speedy to travel about town more freely to conduct his personal business. He is shown just after receiving the keys to the scooter from James C. Braithwaite, PER.

The scooter was purchased by the Lodge's Aid to Local Handicapped Committee. PDDGER George P. George was the chief fund-raiser and the main donor for this Lodge project.



L to R: Jim Braithwaite, PER (Committee Chairman), William Walton, George P. George, PDDGER

Fontana Elks Lodge No. 2013 sends care package to our troops

The Fontana Elks Lodge No. 2013 collected items and was able to send a box overseas to our troops.

In other news, on February 28th, the Lodge donated the use of their hall to Cub Scout Pack No. 555 for their Blue and Gold Dinner. It was done in a Cave Man Theme and was attended by 48 Scouts.

Charles F. Shallenberger passed away

The Association office was notified that Charles F. Shallenberger passed away on March 12, 2012. Charles was a Past Exalted Ruler, a Past District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, a Past District Leader and a Past CHEA Trustee from the Northwest District. Services were held on March 16th and he was interred at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon, CA on March 20th.

Sunland-Tujunga Elks Lodge No. 2098 VAVS representative receives an award

Earl Bouchard, the Metropolitan District VAVS Representative, and two members of the Sunland-Tujunga Elks Lodge No. 2098 (Jan Dappen and Bill Andrew) attended the "Valentine for Veterans" concert on February 13th as volunteers. This concert is sponsored by the Greater Los Angeles Area Veterans Administration. About 800 people attended the event to listen to the "Grass Roots" band perform. The Grass Roots were very popular during the Vietnam War era, and it was heartwarming to see many Vietnam Veterans in the audience with their sweethearts. The emcee, James Reynolds, a TV star and past VA National Salute Chairman, is a Vietnam Veteran who was wounded in combat. The Vietnam "vibe" was strong that night and it was great to feel the "Welcome Home" that our Veterans so need and deserve to hear.

These concerts were started by "Help Hospitalized Vets", who provide thousands of craft kits to our hospitalized Veterans, and who continue to be a major contributor to the VA along with our own National Veterans Service Commission. Veterans and their sweethearts attended free as a result of these donations. As the VA West Los Angeles facility has many veterans in hospital beds, they were also able to broadcast the concert to the hospital tower, domiciliary and the nursing homes on closed circuit TV. The primary purpose of the concert was to provide a wonderful experience for our Veterans and to expose possible volunteers to the great work that Veterans Service groups do, and, therefore, increase their ability to do even more. By each measure, they were extremely successful.

Earl, Jan and Bill were greeted by the VA staff as VIP's, whisked into the VIP Lounge and introduced to the top leadership of VA GLA and the VA Network Office. Earl was also presented with a beautiful crystal award as a token of the VA's appreciation for the continued support provided by the Elks as well as the support he spearheads from the Metropolitan District. After the presentation, they were escorted to a special seating area to enjoy the concert.



Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 supports girls' softball

The Simi Valley Girls Softball opening day ceremony took place on Sunday, February 26, 2012 at the Big Sky Park on Lost Canyon Drive in Simi Valley. It was the perfect California day with approximately 1,500 in attendance. Among the attendees were the Simi Valley Mayor Bob Huber, Mayor Pro-Tem Barbara Williamson, City Council member Michael Judge and Lodge members: Shawn Devine, John and Carolyn Lawson, Ray Day, Dennis Wavra, Bill Mason, Exalted Ruler Elect Marissa Mason and photographer Adelaide Wavra.

The Elks were present to support the team they sponsor, the 12U California Girlz and to acknowledge the team pitcher Alexis Vazquez who was assigned the honor of singing the National Anthem at the Opening Ceremony. Alexis Vazquez has been in softball for six years with her mom Andrea, the team Mom, and Dad Michael as Coach and member of the Elks. She also has two uncles and a grandfather, all members of the Lodge. Alexis has been volunteering with the Elks in charitable events such as Thanksgiving Dinner, Parades, Western Weekend, decorating and the Annual Car Show. She'll be working the car show at the Simi Valley Elks Lodge on August 5, 2012 again this year. Today's Youth—Tomorrow's Leaders!

Salinas Elks Lodge No. 614 sponsors a youth to national "Hoop Shoot"

The Elks National "Hoop Shoot" contest begins with free throw competitions in the local communities and continues through district, state, region, and national levels. Salinas is blessed with an outstanding athlete that recently won the CHEA contest and the Las Vegas Regional contest, and will advance to the national finals in Springfield, MA in April.

Ricardo Orozco, Jr., an 11 year old resident of Salinas, enjoys reading and competitive sports. Specifically he enjoys basketball which he's been playing since the age of 5. Most recently Ricardo has been playing for his traveling AAU team representing the city of Salinas in the highly competitive Pacific District. Last season Ricky's average was 20 points per game and he made a game winning shot against NBA star Drew Gooden of the Oakland Soldiers team. Last year Ricky placed third in the Northern California "Hoop Shoot" contest.

Ricky easily won the Salinas contest and West Central District contest in Hollister. The Northern California and State championships were a little tense! Ricky's first 3 shots rolled around the rim and popped out. He sunk the next 7 shots. After 10 shots he was in third place with two contestants at 9 for 10 and one at 8 for 10. Then each contestant took another 15 free throws. Ricky made all 15 shots for 22 out of 25 winning the Northern California championship. The Southern California contest had already completed. The winning score from that contest matched Ricky's score. Each contestant was given an additional 5 shots to break the tie. The Southern California winner made 4 of the 5 shots. When Ricky was handed the ball, he was told he needed to make all 5 shots to win. Ricky did just that, finishing with a score of 27 out of 30. He had made 27 baskets in a row. Ricky went on to make 25 out of 25 shots in the Las Vegas regional contest and will compete in Springfield, MA in April.

Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 donates \$500 to Orange H. S. baseball program

The members of the Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 are big fans of Orange High School Baseball! Today was no exception. The Lodge donated \$500 to their baseball program. However, the big treat was the unveiling of the new baseball field at Orange High School. Every year, the Major League Baseball Groundskeepers and the Baseball Tomorrow Fund select a baseball field for a renovation service project.

The project this year was spearheaded by Barney Lopas, Director of Field Operations for the California Angels, with assistance from nine members of his grounds crew and grounds keepers from approximately 25 Major League Baseball Clubs. The baseball field is the home field of the Orange High School baseball teams and will also be used by the Orange Little League and the Parks and Recreation Department. If you are a baseball fan, stop by and watch a game on a major league field! We can hear the umpire yelling, "Play Ball!"



L to R: Lodge member Bob Bradley, Mike Jing, Bill French (Orange High School Assistant Varsity Coach), Alex Vicaro (Orange High School Head Coach) and Lodge member Bart Durham

Stockton Elks Lodge No. 218 and Lodi Elks Lodge No. 1900 present Americanism Essay awards

The Stockton Elks Lodge No. 218 joined the Lodi Elks Lodge No. 1900 to present the awards to their Americanism Essay Contest winners in a combined ceremony. The event took place on the evening of January 27th, at the Stockton Elks Lodge. Pizzas, sodas and ice cream were served to the Americanism Essay contest winners and their families. The Essay Contest theme was "Why I am proud to pledge allegiance to the Flag." The first place winners from the 6th and 8th grades read their essays to the audience. Officers and volunteers from both Lodges helped with the presentation.



L to R: Nuel Henderson (DDGER), Marissa Sadek (1st place, 8th grade, Lodi), Emmy De Lucca, Eileen Dugan (Americanism Chairman, Lodi), Michael Sundahl, Ryan Ruffoni (1st place, 6th grade, Stockton), David Cornish, Nancy Steinberg (Americanism Chairman, Stockton), Gregorio Magarelli (1st place, 8th grade, Stockton), Auston Buell, Sydney Spurgeon, Elizabeth Traverso and Diamond Tennis

Yucca Valley Elks Lodge No. 2314 delivers 416 dictionaries

Molly Allred and Carl Angdahl of the Yucca Valley Elks Lodge No. 2314 delivered 416 dictionaries to seven of the elementary schools in the Morongo Basin.



Yucca Mesa Elementary School children enjoy their new dictionaries

Napa Elks Lodge No. 832 donates to veterans home

The Napa Elks Lodge No. 832 donated \$682 to The Pathway Home at the Veterans Home, Yountville, CA. The money was collected during a Wednesday night dinner. Incredibly, this amount was matched by the Tim McGraw Foundation and Community Projects. The Lodge's small effort, because of big hearted members, netted The Pathway Home \$2,046.

"The Pathway Program" is a residential treatment program specifically created for, and dedicated to serve, our Nation's "New Warriors" – those of any age who have served in our nation's global war on terror. It is the only residential program solely dedicated to serving their mental health needs - i.e. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). Launched in 2008, this non-profit program has served more than 300 veterans.

Kristy Wallstrum, ER, and Richard Page, Chaplain, delivered the check to The Pathway Home. They met Fred Gusman, Executive Director, and Mike Horak, Development Director, to discuss The Pathway Home's new marketing video and the national press the organization is receiving. They are also developing an updated website that will interface with all of the "social media". We were pleased that Josh P., a Veteran who recently graduated from The Pathway Home, agreed to have a photo taken with us. Their website is <http://www.thepathwayhome.org>. The program is supported solely by private donations and grants.

In other news, the Lodge hosted an evening for 125 Veterans from the Yountville Veterans Home on January 10th. George "Bus" Langdon, National Veterans Service Chairman, made transportation arrangements for all of the men and women, and hosted the evening. In addition to the Veterans and "Bus", our emcee, Gene Beckel, District Leader, Rich Simmons, DDGER, and Chuck Noble, Association Vice President were in attendance. Our volunteer chefs cooked an extraordinary meal and Boy Scout Troop 832 attended the tables. In all, we had nearly 200 guests and several hours of camaraderie.



L to R: Fred Gusman, Kristy Wallstrum, Josh P., Richard Page

San Luis Obispo Elks Lodge No. 322 BBQ's for troops

On January 29th, a group of volunteers from the San Luis Obispo Elks Lodge No. 322 prepared a deployment tri-tip BBQ at Camp San Luis for the 649th MP Co. and their families. A total of 82 were fed. The cost of the food was donated by the Cambria American Legion, the Paso Robles American Legion, the Paso Robles American Legion Auxiliary and Riders, Camp San Luis Obispo, Joe and Lori Brown and Ashley White. It was a pleasure to partner with these donors to thank our veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice for our country and provide them with a great meal!!

National Veterans Service

By Sam Brown, CHEA National Veterans Service Chairman



As the past Elk year rolls out, the new Elk year rolls in with new ideas, hopes and a fresh outlook. The National Veterans Service Committee has had the same goals and aims for many, many years - that is to AID and Support our Veterans.

Our programs have expanded over the years to meet the needs of our Veterans – one example being the “Army of Hope” program – and, more recently, by forming a partnership with the USO. During these times of crisis, as some of our Veterans are getting older and as we see younger and newer Veterans returning home and needing our services, our Veteran Volunteers (VAVS) play an increasingly important role in taking care of Vets.

Our Lodges support the VAVS in the hospitals by going on visitations and by providing both inside and outside activities at the Lodges. So, as the old year Elk year ends, and the new Elk year rolls in with new Officers and new ideas – “Thank you” all for stepping up to carry on with our motto: “So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them.”

Honolulu Elks Lodge No. 616 welcomes President Howard

Association President Wayne and First Lady Coleen Howard's Homecoming Visit to the Hawaii District included a visit to the USS Arizona Memorial, which is erected above the sunken battleship's wreckage. The photo shows Chuck Minnich, the Hawaii District Vice President, with Coleen and Wayne inside the USS Arizona Memorial Shrine, in front of a wall that lists the names of the sailors who perished on board the battleship during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

Wayne and Coleen joined 25 Elks in paying their respects to our nation's fallen heroes. The 11 O'clock Toast was offered after remembering two members of the Honolulu Elks Lodge - Ensign Eugene Thomas Sanders and Chief Water Tender Norman Bragg Woolf - who lost their lives aboard the USS Arizona. Other activities during the visitation weekend found approximately 64 Californians enjoying various activities, including the renewal of marriage vows, a Hawaiian Luau and President Howard's Homecoming Dinner.



L to R: Chuck Minnich (Hawaii District VP), Coleen and Wayne Howard

Lodi Elks Lodge No. 1900 sponsors softball team

The Lodi Elks Lodge No. 1900 sponsored the Lodi High School Girls Softball team by holding their fund raising event at the Lodge, on February 25th. The girls and Elk members did a wonderful job working this event. Proceeds raised will go towards their uniforms and equipment.

In other news, the Lodge sponsored the 2012 Northern District Pinewood Derby for the Boy Scouts at their Lodge. It was attended by the 49er District Boy Scout Packs 50, 84, 198 199, 295 and 498. The top 10 finishers will go on to the Council Jamborall Pinewood Derby event in April. James Serface, Scoutmaster of Troop 316, and Mary Avanti, Elks Boy Scout Chairman, were the coordinators for this event and did a wonderful job. This annual event is held to promote positive competition in our youth.

Yet more news, the Lodge raised \$1,200 towards the Major Project from their annual Crab Feed event. The event's Chairman, Eileen Dugan, was thankful to the many Elk members who stepped up to volunteer for this worthwhile endeavor, as well as other members who supported the event by attending and enjoying a wonderful dinner. Also many local businesses as well as members donated raffle items.



Back row (L-R): Taylor Barsi, Zoe Merideth, Macey Austin, Bill Byrd (Elks Youth Chairman) and Dalaney Lopez

Middle row (L-R): Taylor Guthrie, Jaz Barba, Carly Banks, Cortny Woltkamp, Aja Secheslingloff, Ariel Alden, Alyssa Alden, Samantha Street, Rikki Valdez and Katie Bentz
Kneeling (L-R): Kourtney Solis, Kelsey Connolly, Ashley Tassano, Madison Litton, Kaitlin Sain and Coach Connie Marion

Palo Alto Elks Lodge No. 1471 participates in Purple Heart Ceremony

The Palo Alto Lodge Elks Lodge No. 1471's Veterans Service Committee participated in a Purple Heart award ceremony at the Palo Alto Veterans hospital. The Purple Hearts were awarded to two Veterans of the Afghanistan war. Army PFC Semisi Tokailagi and Pvt. Geoffrey Quevedo were wounded and are being treated in the Palo Alto Veterans Hospital Poly-Trauma unit. Army Major General Robert Ostenberg presented the awards.

The Veterans Committee co-chairman Dominick Garofano presented a \$300 contribution from the Veteran's Committee to the South Bay Chapter of the Blue Star Mothers who arranged and sponsored the ceremony.

CHEA Annual Convention May 16-19, 2012

(For the complete schedule, go to www.chea-elks.org)

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Registration
CHEA and CHEMPI Board of Trustee Meetings
Ritual Practice
First Vice President's Meeting
DDGER Designate Meeting
Opening Session - Visitors Welcome
Introduction of Guests
Introduction of Grand Exalted Ruler

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Registration
Ritual Contest
First Business Session - Visitors Welcome
Introduction of CHEA Officers & CHEA Vice Presidents
Nomination and Election of Officers
Grand Lodge Committee Reports
First Lady's Social Hour & Luncheon
Secretaries, Trustees and Club Managers Luncheon
Exalted Rulers, Leading Knights and other Officers and Members Luncheon
DDGER, PDDGER and Lodge Advisors Luncheon
Bequests & Living Trusts (BLT) Seminar
Drug Awareness Seminar
Association President's Dinner

Friday, May 18, 2012

Registration
Ritual Contest Finals
Second Business Session - Visitors Welcome
Rally and Installation of Officers
Seminar Workshops
CHEA and CHEMPI Board of Trustee Meetings
CHEMPI Piggy Bank Seminar
Membership & Lapsation Seminar

Saturday, May 19, 2012

Past Association President's Breakfast
Final Business Session - Visitors Welcome
Theme Child Presentation and Exalted Rulers March
Ritual Contest Report and Awards



**Benevolent and Protective
Order of Elks of the U.S.A**

A Fraternal Organization

Mission Statement

To inculcate the principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity; to recognize a belief in God; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its Members; to quicken the spirit of American patriotism; to cultivate good fellowship; to perpetuate itself as a fraternal organization, and to provide for its government, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America will serve the people and communities through benevolent programs, demonstrating that

Elks Care Elks Share