



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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May / June 2014

Our 2014 Theme Child

MEET

Ethan
and his family

May 14-17, 2014
in Palm Springs

California-Hawaii Elks
Major Project

64TH
ANNIVERSARY



San Diego Elks Lodge No. 168 initiates Mrs. Enrique Camarena

On Thursday, February 27th, Mrs. Enrique (Geneva) Camarena was initiated into our Order at the San Diego Elks Lodge No. 168. The Lodge PERs performed the initiation ritual. PER Kathleen Kuttler, CHEA Drug Awareness Chairman, sponsored Mrs. Camarena. The 2013-2014 CHEA Drug Awareness Chairman and current Northwest District DDGER, Tim Jaeger, traveled to San Diego to witness the initiation.

Mrs. Camarena is the widow of Enrique S. "Kiki" Camarena, for whom the B. P. O. Elks "Enrique S. Camarena Award" is named. This award is given by Lodges, Districts, State Associations, and at the national B.P.O.E. level.

The award details are online at www.chea-elks.org/DACamarenaCriteria.pdf. Here is a partial quote: "He was an 11-year veteran agent of the DEA who was kidnapped, brutally tortured and then murdered in Mexico in 1985. Prior to serving with the DEA, Agent Camarena was a firefighter, a criminal investigator and a narcotics officer. He was a loving husband and a father of three children. His death has inspired millions of Americans to lead a drug-free life and the Elks to celebrate his commitment to this effort with an annual award."



L to R: Northwest District DDGER Tim Jaeger, Mrs. Camarena, and PER Kathleen Kuttler

Lake Almanor Elks Lodge No. 2626 donates for a new computer

On May 27th, the Lake Almanor Elks Lodge No. 2626 presented Debbie Lundquist, the Assistant Director of the Plumas County Literacy Program at the Chester Library, with a check for \$590.00 to be used for the purchase of a new computer. The donation was drawn from The Elks Lodge's annual "Wheel Around the Lake Handcycle Challenge," an event that has done much to support the disabled and medically challenged residents of Plumas County.



L to R: Steve Trotter (Lodge Treasurer), Debbie Lundquist, Mark Murray and ER Bill Mahaffey

Victorville Elks Lodge No. 1877 helps youth

The Victorville Elks Lodge No. 1877 is proud to participate in the Dictionary Program that is promoted by the national Elks organization. Our lodge joins many other lodges throughout the nation that are distributing dictionaries to 3rd grade students at the elementary schools in their areas. During the past year, our lodge has donated 624 dictionaries to four local schools.

In other news, lodge members helped the Victorville Parks and Recreation department serve approximately 100 pancake breakfasts to local area youth last Christmas.



L to R: Diana Piazza-Ramsey, Principal of Del Ray School, William Whitney, Lodge Drug Awareness Chairman, and Corey Kale, Del Ray School Secretary

Ridgecrest Elks Lodge No. 1913 visits WWII veteran

The Ridgecrest Elks Lodge No. 1913's National Veterans Service Chairman, PER Sam Brown, was very involved in the local community's Veterans Stand Down last September. Sam knew one veteran (WWII veteran Jack Kirkpatrick, who is living in a nearby assisted living facility) who was unable to attend the Stand Down.

With much appreciation, Jack was overwhelmed by a surprise visit from two members of the local Ridgecrest Elks Lodge who spent some time visiting him and gave him a Veteran's hat and T-shirt. Jack was reminded that the Elks always stay true to their pledge, *"So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."*



L to R: Sam Brown, Jack Kirkpatrick, Ken Dalpiaz

President's Message



Hello and Aloha,

As this year comes to a close, let me take this opportunity to say "Thank You" to the members of the California-Hawaii Elks Association for letting me be your President for this past year. It has been an honor and a privilege that I will never forget.

During the past year, Claudette and I traveled to all nineteen Districts in the California-Hawaii Elks Association, Arizona, Nevada, Utah and

Massachusetts in our visits to over 80 local Elks Lodges. We were greeted with a warm welcome everywhere we went. The friendships that we have made will last a lifetime. Our Vice Presidents are outstanding - each one has lived up to my slogan "ELKDOM, PASS IT ON" by Passing Elkdom On in their own Districts. It was an honor to have served with each of them. They have become family to Claudette and me, and they will be in our hearts forever.

It will be with a sense of pride when I look back on this year, for the Lodges in this great Association accomplished so much during the year. They slowed the loss of membership almost to a stop. They created new activities for their members and continue to support our youth. Every Lodge in our Association continues to remember and serve our veterans. Each Lodge, through their words and deeds, demonstrates that the Elks continue to abide by the Cardinal Principals of our Order - Charity, Justice and Brotherly Love - and, in so doing, help all mankind.

No President can do this job alone. There are so many people behind the scenes that help make it possible to have a successful year, and I would be remiss if I didn't say thanks to them: the Grand Lodge Sponsors of Area 7 (PGERs Ken Moore, Jim Grillo, Tom Brazier and the late Don Dapelo); PGELK Tim Martin, our Executive Director, and the CHEA staff in the Fresno office; the Pittsburg Elks Lodge No. 1474 and the Central District; Ed and Kay Johnson, who were there to help every step of the way, and, of course, to my First Lady, my wife, Claudette, for without her support and encouragement none of this would have been possible.

As this new year begins, I know that our great Association will be in the capable hands of your new President, Floyd "Skip" Henke and his First Lady, Karen. Once again, I say, "THANK YOU, THANK YOU," for allowing me to be your President. It has been an honor that I will cherish for the rest of my Life.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Richard L. McDonald, President

California-Hawaii Elks Association

Vallejo Elks Lodge No. 559 honors scholars

The Vallejo Elks Lodge No. 559 recently held its annual Scholarship Awards dinner. In the presence of a large number of family, friends and teachers, eleven area high school students received an American Flag and a Certificate of Recognition in addition to their scholarships. Scholarship Chairman John Stevens and Exalted Ruler Don Waterbury presented the Shallenberger, Pezzotti, Walsh, and Hanns/Gray Scholarships, all named after Past Exalted Ruler's families who created the scholarships to honor the PERs of the Vallejo Lodge. The scholarship recipients are: Jessica Reyes, Kenneth Jones, Grachelle To, Anjuli Peters, Maria Bala, Karis Wright, James Mone, Sabrina Corley, Aaron Barrell, Alexandria Dean and Giuditta Traver.

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

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

President's Upcoming Visitation Schedule

May 1-5, 2014
*Utah Elks Association
Convention - UT*

May 14-17, 2014
*CHEA Convention
Palm Springs*

Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 honors police and firemen

The Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 held its 37th Annual Police and Firefighter Appreciation Dinner on February 6, 2014. The lodge honored the following public servants: Senior Deputy Michelle Kristol of the Ventura County Sheriff's Department, Captain Daniel Preston of the Ventura County Fire Department, Detective Steven Coletti of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, and Firefighter/Paramedic Mikael Amador of the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

These four individuals also received recognition in honor of their service to the community from: City of Thousand Oaks Mayor Andy Fox, Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks, Justin Rosa, representing Congresswoman Julia Brownley, Thousand Oaks Councilman Joel Price, Ernie Villegas, representing Assemblyman Jeff Gorell, and Marie Larkin, representing Senator Fran Pavley.

In other news, the officers and members of the lodge were instrumental in getting a streetlight installed at the lodge's intersection. The installation of the light occurred at the same time as the Conejo Elementary School, located across the street, was celebrating their 135th anniversary at the lodge. PER Harold Constantine, a recent transfer from the San Fernando Elks Lodge No. 1539, was able to convince a Thousand Oaks City Council member that the intersection has been a danger to the community for too long because of the lack of lighting. The lodge also hosts Easter, Halloween and Christmas parties for the children from the elementary school, and the intersection needs to have proper illumination for these children and lodge members to cross the street in the evening.

Elks Care - Elks Share

Membership

By Lance Erickson, CHEA Membership/Lapsation Chairman



As this is my last report to the membership and I move on to other duties, I would like to thank all of the District Membership Chairmen that have worked so hard these past two years. As of April 1, 2014, we are very close to a "plus one" year. All the statistics are not in, but as of April 1, 2014, we were only 156 members short (or -0.2 %) from a "plus one" year. As Lodges complete their final reports for the year, these results will become clearer by the end of April.

No matter what the outcome, the Lodges have worked very hard this past year. Over the last two years, the Membership Management Team concept has been encouraged throughout California and Hawaii. Looking at the overall picture, the results of many Lodges adopting the MMT approach has helped start a path to plus membership.

We did not attain our goal of a 10% gain in membership, but we have made progress and demonstrated that aggressive Team Management works. It is with great optimism that we will continue to have more Lodges focus on their membership and lapsation and attain a plus membership in the near future. I believe that we must continue to strive to increase our recruitment and bring in worthy candidates as well as keeping the members we currently have. The goals we have set are within our reach. Focused management and aggressive recruitment combined with support and accountability from all our members will lead us to our goals. I am encouraged that this next year will lead us to a "plus one year." Thank you.

Bakersfield Elks Lodge No. 266 enjoys a new mural

Members of the Bakersfield Elks Lodge No. 266 can now enjoy a new mural at the entrance to their lodge. Patti Doolittle, the lodge's First Lady, just completed painting the 10-foot by 10-foot mural. The mural depicts the city's clock tower, Father Garces and an oil well, which are all well known symbols of the city.



Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538 honors Americanism Essay contest winners

The Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538 honored twelve students at a Monday Night Family Dinner, along with their parents, teachers and principals. They had won the Americanism Essay Contest for the 6th and 8th grades in the Santa Maria area schools that the lodge sponsored. 250 people were in attendance at the dinner to see these boys and girls receive their certificates and checks that they were awarded for their outstanding essays titled "What Does Veterans Day Mean to Me?" Approximately 500 students participated in this contest.

The 6th grade winners were: Abelardo Garcia (Ontiveros Elementary School), Danny Morales (Taylor Elementary School), Naomi Mau (Taylor Elementary School), Issac Nuno (Pacific Christian School), Jocelyn Enriquez (Battles Elementary School), and Analyssa Hoyos (Valley Christian Academy).

The 8th grade winners were: Victor Foster (Orcutt Academy Charter School), Jakob Willis (Orcutt Jr. High School), Kenny Won, Micaela Freebourn, Jacqui Huebner, and Jessica Traugher.

Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 fixes a St. Patrick's Day dinner for the homeless

Every Monday, members from the Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 go to Mary's Kitchen and cook meals for the homeless. Mary's Kitchen feeds the homeless and helps those in need. At the Orange Elks Lodge on Monday and Tuesday Nights, there are meal deals, and the proceeds help to fund Mary's Kitchen. This week, \$325 was raised to purchase corned beef, carrots, potatoes and cabbage for an "all the fixins" St. Patrick's Day dinner at Mary's Kitchen.

San Luis Obispo Elks Lodge No. 322 honored Americanism Essay contest winners

The San Luis Obispo Elks Lodge No. 322 held their Annual Americanism Essay Contest Awards dinner on February 17, 2014. Sixteen Students from San Luis Obispo and Los Osos Schools were awarded Cash Prizes and Certificates of Achievement for their essays on "What Does Veterans Day Mean to Me". The contest was open to all students from fifth through eighth grades.

The Lodge received 131 essays from eight schools that were judged by Elk members Al Amaral, Patrick Munroe, Jeff Dalley and Kathryn Devaney. Assisting in the presentations was Master of Ceremonies, Cathryn Helprin, Americanism Chair Gloria Smith and Exalted Ruler George Barnes, Jr.

Pat Gandolfi passes away

Pat Gandolfi, CHEA Secretary, passed away on Friday, April 11, 2014 from a brief illness. Pat would have completed his three year term as CHEA Secretary at the Palm Springs Convention in May. In his 44 years of being an Elk, Pat served as CHEA Tiler in 2007-2008, CHEMPI Piggy Bank Chairman and Vice Chairman from 2002-2006, DDGER in 2001-2002, Vice President in 2000-2001 as well as many other positions as District Chairman of various CHEA Committees. Condolences may be sent to his widow, Mrs. Pat Gandolfi, 1119 Loring Street, San Diego, CA 92109-1825. Pat had requested that donations be made to the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project in lieu of flowers.

Elks Care - Elks Share

Piggy Bank

By Bob Farrens, CHEA Piggy Bank Chairman



Just a reminder -- the Piggy Bank fund raising year does not end March 31st, it ends on Friday, May 16th at the Association Convention. The California-Hawaii Elks Association will have an office open at the convention to accept your donations. Please turn in your Klamath River raffle tickets and Leading Knights Challenge funds at the Piggy Bank Booth as soon as you arrive at the convention.

Saturday, May 17th, is the start of our new fund raising year. This is when we introduce this year's Major Project Theme Child and family, which is definitely the highlight of the convention. This is when we have the opportunity to see why we donate, to hear from the family about what we are doing to help them, and to learn what a difference that our help has made in their lives.

Saturday morning is also the Exalted Rulers' March, when our Exalted Rulers tell us what their Lodges have donated throughout the past year. The ER March reminds us that fund raising is more than the little Purple Pigs; it is a yearlong effort by the members of the Lodges working together in the fraternal spirit of the Elks. Thank you for your donations.

One easy consistent way to donate is to go to the California-Hawaii Elks web site (www.chea-elks.org/recurring-donations) and sign up for the recurring donation program. If every Elk in the California-Hawaii Elks Association signed up to donate \$5.00 a month, we would raise over \$5,000,000.00 in a year. If only 10% of our members would sign up to donate, that would be an additional \$500,000.00 each year.

Please continue to turn in your Piggy Banks. All your donations, large or small, help our children to walk, talk, see, and play! Have fun raising funds!

Napa Elks Lodge No. 832 sends Girl Scout cookies to the troops

On Wednesday evening, February 19, 2014, during the Napa Elks Lodge No. 832's dinner, new member installation and business meeting night, the Lodge invited the local Girl Scouts Troop #20026 to present their cookie sales event to the Lodge members and guests. Over 140 boxes at \$5 per box were purchased. Over 50 of those boxes were donated by the members for shipment to our military servicemen and women who are deployed to Afghanistan.



L to R: Scout Pyper Dado, Exalted Ruler Len Fisher, and Scout sisters Vanassa and Myra Wright

Lodi Elks Lodge No. 1900 has "fun"draising events

On January 25th, the Lodi Elks Lodge No. 1900 held a Crab Feed to raise funds for the Major Project. With help from many local businesses who donated their services or gifts, and from Elk volunteers, the event raised over \$1,650. John Rochon, chairman of the event, spent a lot of hours in the kitchen with fellow cooks Dave Binning, ER, Marion Tindle and Carolyn Greeson. The food was delicious!

In other news, on February 9th, the lodge held their annual Gin Fizz Brunch under the guidance of John Rochon, Major Project Chairman. \$483 was raised for the Major Project, thanks to the many local businesses and Elk volunteers who contributed their time, gifts and services.

In more news, on March 1st, the lodge held their 2nd annual Mardi Gras fundraiser. Thanks to Charlene Johnson, Chairman of this event, and many other Elk volunteers, \$826 was raised for local youth activities. Everyone who attended had a great time.

Finally, on March 13th, the lodge held their yearly St. Patrick's Corned Beef Dinner fundraiser that was put on by our PER's to help raise funds for our scholarship program, which helps high school students with their college expenses. The food was great, thanks to cooks Jim Miller and Mike Dugan. Dessert was fantastic thanks to Sandy Telles. Eileen Dugan and Suzanne Henderson did the decorations and raffle setup. All the PER's served the food. \$200 was raised towards our scholarship fund.



L to R: Larry Elliott, Janet Thomason, Mary Etta Sheridan, Charlene Johnson (event Chairperson), Sue Sandeen and Nancy Politano having fun at the Mardi Gras event

Salinas Elks Lodge No. 614 hosted a Pinewood Derby

The Salinas Elks Lodge No. 614 proudly sponsored a Pinewood Derby for Monterey County Cub Scouts on Sunday, February 23, 2014. We provided the location and the awards while the Scouts provided the fun. The track was assembled in our Townsend Room parking lot and the race began at 10:00 AM. About 25 Cub Scouts participated along with scout leaders, family members, and several Elk members. The crowd grew to well over 100. Three classic cars and a midget racecar were on display to add to the racetrack theme. The pinewood cars from each scout raced down the track four times. The top four raced several more times to determine the winners. Every participant received a ribbon and there were trophies for the first, second, and third place winners. PER Carlos Mariscal of the Salinas Elks Lodge (also the West Central District DDGER designate) was the starter for several of the races along with Rene Forrest, the Council Scout Executive for the area.

Elks National Foundation

By Tom Conlon, CHEA Elks National Foundation Chairman



We have just concluded another Elk year by "doing just a little bit more," surpassing last year's Elks National Foundation donation level for the Big Heart of Elkdom. The California-Hawaii Elks Association continues to be the most benevolent of all the State Associations, contributing more to the Elks National Foundation than any other State Association. We will benefit, as the ENF continues to give back to the State Associations. This year we will receive more than ever.

The Elks National Foundation Board of Trustees increased the benefits available to the various State Association programs to a record \$26.5 million. Two areas of special interest are the ENF's State Grants Program and the Community Investment Program (CIP), which account for nearly 65% of the ENF's total disbursements. These two areas directly benefit our California-Hawaii Elks Association. The ENF's State Grants Program contributes substantially to the California-Hawaii Elks Association's Major Project, and the CIP provides free money to our Lodges to assist the needy in our communities.

The ENF's Most Valuable Student (MVS) Scholarship program has been allocated additional funding and has been restructured to provide assistance to a greater number of students. We will continue to support youth activities and veterans programs as vigorously as in the past. It should also be noted that, unlike other charitable organizations, the ENF's operating costs remain among the lowest at 7.7% this year.

As in the past, I reach out to our members for support. We have a growing number of members who now contribute as "Fidelity Club" members. This is a safe way to make monthly contributions to the ENF through automatic withdrawals from a checking account or by charges to a credit card. Your contribution can be as little as \$5.00 per month. Please consider the benefits of "Fidelity Club" membership (your donations are 100% tax deductible) and they are used for the benefit of the needy among us. All of the information is available on line at www.elks.org/enf/. Your generosity never goes unnoticed!

Chico Elks Lodge No. 423 donates to Girl Scouts

On Friday, February 21, 2014, the Ladies of the Chico Elks Lodge No. 423, headed by Jen Goddard, sponsored a fundraising Spaghetti Dinner. The dinner was held to help nine Girl Scouts from Senior Troop #242 earn money towards a European Trip planned for 2015. Each girl needs to raise \$3,700 in order to participate. Our very own Elk, John Strattard, graciously donated his expertise and time to prepare the meal, which was then served by the Girl Scouts. They even had a "drive thru" service for those who came by and picked up meals to take home. A local retirement home, Sycamore Glen, donated the food and paper goods. Thank you to all the volunteers; Jen and Matt Goddard, John Strattard, Ron Landini, Jennifer Arntzen, Andrea Leis, Jen White, Donna Ramey, Memoree Glander, and Connie Wright. With everyone's help, Jen Goddard presented Troop Leader, Amy Spanfelner, with a check for \$1,869, on Monday, March 17th at the Elks Ladies Luncheon. Way to go Ladies!!!

Honolulu Elks Lodge No. 616 donates play set for school playground

The Honolulu Elks Lodge No. 616 donated \$1,000 to the Waikiki Elementary School for the restoration of the school's playground. The funds were used to purchase and install a "Custom Revolution" modular play set system for the students.

Canoga Park Elks Lodge No. 2190 awards hoop shoot winners

Seventy-four students participated in the Canoga Park Elks Lodge No. 2190's 5th Annual Hoop Shoot Contest. First and second place winners received trophies and third place winners received a plaque/certificate. Two of our winners placed second in the Metropolitan District shoot off.

In other news, using a \$2,000 Gratitude Grant, our lodge members distributed 1,500 dictionaries with drug awareness bookmarks to third grade students in sixteen local schools in Canoga Park and Winnetka.



Back row (L to R): John Overton (lodge Youth Activities Chairman), Breanna, Nathaly, Gabrela, George, Christian, and PER Dave Swoger

Front row (L to R): Emanuel, Said, and Hector

Walnut Creek Elks Lodge 1811 supports police K-9 unit

The Walnut Creek Elks Lodge No. 1811 has had a long-standing relationship with the Walnut Creek Police Department, especially in assisting in the PD's efforts to build their K-9 police unit. The unit has grown from a single dog, Orfas (now retired), to the three that are now serving: Sheyna, Rex, and Danny.

Last February, the lodge had a Friday night dinner event that was attended by the WCPD K-9 handler officers, the dogs, and several other PD officers. At the event, Alush Nushi, Exalted Ruler, and Nancy Courtney, PER, the K-9 Chairman, donated over \$3,200 to the Walnut Creek PD's K-9 unit. The money will be used to provide the fencing for the new training facility for the dogs. Two members of the Lodge, Scott Achelis and Andy Coffin, donated their services to help the police department with the grading of the property.

Three separate fundraisers generated the money: a demonstration of the dogs at work, an evening with the "Rat Pack" tribute performance, and a raffle. Additional donations came from various lodge members, and the raffle winner, PER Floyd Burror, donated his entire winnings of \$300 to the "dogs." An additional event (a dog show) is planned for later this year. The lodge also sold T-shirts for the K-9 unit, and earned \$700 to assist the Walnut Creek Police Department's fundraising effort.

Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6 visits veterans

On February 12, 2014, the Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6's volunteers took the party to the Yountville Veterans home. After almost 3 weeks of being quarantined due to a stomach virus, the Yountville veterans were ready to party! The lodge volunteers took DVDs, CDs, Sees Candy, T-shirts, prizes and an authentic Mexican meal to these very appreciative Veterans.

Mission Viejo / Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 member donates \$1,000 royalty check to the Purple Pig

Laguna Hills resident and member of the Mission Viejo / Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444, Andy Costello, presented his first check for \$1,000 to Elks Lodge Major Project Chairwoman Diana Wilson. The money was raised through the sale of his new book, "The Mount Clare Murders." The donation will go to the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project ("CHEMPI") for its Disabled Children's Fund. The Major Project provides funds to support therapists engaged in helping hundreds of children with disabilities throughout California and Hawaii to Walk, Talk, See and Play!

When asked if he intends to continue donating book sale proceeds to the fund, Costello said, "I've seen firsthand the wonderful work being done for disabled children by dedicated therapists, so as long as folks are buying the book I will continue supporting that worthy charity with the proceeds." The 284 page paperback thriller can be purchased from Amazon or Barnes and Noble, or it can be purchased directly from the Elks Lodge for a special fundraiser price. All proceeds from the book sales go to the CHEMPI Disabled Children's Fund.



Andy Costello and Diana Wilson

Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538 hosts a Firefighter's Appreciation Night

The Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538 honored their local fire agencies with a BBQ dinner for about 250 people. The following were awarded plaques from the Lodge by their department: John Acosta (Fire Engineer, Santa Maria Fire Department), Scott Jopes (Fire Captain, County of Santa Barbara Fire Dept.), Ryan D. Mack (Firefighter, Guadalupe Fire Dept.), Tim Sandstorm (Assistant Fire Chief, Vandenberg Air Force Base), Jonathan Nunez (Fire Engineer, U.S. Forest Service), Mike Cottam (Public Safety Equipment Support), and John Moore (Public Safety Equipment Support, Allan Hancock College Fire Academy).

Certificates were also presented to each individual by the following Offices: Congresswoman Lois Capps, State Senator Hannah Beth Jackson, 35th District Assemblyman Kattcho Achadjian, Santa Barbara County 4th District Supervisor Peter Adam, and 5th District Supervisor Steve Lavagnino, City of Santa Maria Mayor Alice Patino, and City of Guadalupe Mayor Frances Romero.

Santa Barbara Elks Lodge No. 613 presents an ENF Permanent Benefactor award

The Chairman of the Santa Barbara Elks Lodge No. 613's Board of Trustees, Michael Mahneke, reached the Elks National Foundation's Permanent Benefactor cumulative giving level (\$2,000 or more). Carolyn Shupe, the lodge's ENF Chair, presented the certificate on Friday night March 7, at the Friday night dinner and dance. Michael gave the donation in memory of his brother, William Edward Mahneke, who was a Vietnam Veteran. His donation was designated for the ENF Veterans Fund.

In other news, the lodge held a "Bring a Vet to Lunch" event recently. We had a finalist from the Teen Star Competition sing and play music (a guitar and then a piano) for the 60 veterans in attendance prior to the program by Marilyn Berman, Eldercare Consultant from LivHOME. Our Impact Grant is called Peace for Veterans and the "Bring a Vet to Lunch" is the main event. We meet every month and have a speaker from the community at the program. Every vet attending gets a complimentary lunch.



Michael Mahneke and Carolyn Shupe

Torrance Elks Lodge No. 1948 donates dictionaries

The Torrance Elks Lodge No. 1948 recently completed delivering student dictionaries in the Torrance and Carson areas for the year. We delivered 3,300 books to 35 schools again this year, bringing our 6-year total to over 18,000 books. We are now planning our annual fundraiser so that we can continue to provide dictionaries to students again next year.

PGER Donald D. Dapelo passes away

The Association Office has been notified that Donald D. Dapelo, Past Grand Exalted Ruler 1989-1990, passed away at home on Sunday, March 9, 2014. A private service for his family only was held. A public service will be held at a later date yet to be determined.

Condolences may be sent to PGER Dapelo's wife, Nancy, at: Mrs. Nancy Dapelo, P.O. Box 1356, Cambria, CA 93428-1356. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in PGER Dapelo's name to the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc., 5450 E. Lamona Ave., Fresno, CA 93727-2224, or to the Elks National Foundation, 2750 N. Lakeview Ave., Chicago, IL 60614-1889.

Americanism

By Jerry Landreth-Brusato, CHEA Americanism Chairman



GOD BLESS AMERICA

The great patriotic song "God Bless America" was written by Irving Berlin, a dedicated Elk from the New York Elks Lodge No. 1. Kate Smith had asked Mr. Berlin if he had an uplifting song, for, at that time in our history, America's morale was very low. Irving Berlin had written the song years before, but it had never been performed. Kate Smith sang it on the radio and it became the bright light of its time.

Kate and Irving agreed that any proceeds or royalties from the song would be donated to the Boy Scouts of America. That arrangement continues to this day.

With that marvelous song, that wonderful Elk demonstrated not only a sense of patriotism, but also that "Elks care and Elks share." As the words of his song continue to be sung and heard across our great land, let us, as Elks, sing it at the close of our Lodge meetings - even if you only sing the shorter version. This will help to reinforce the spirit of Americanism within our Lodges.

"What Does Veterans Day Mean to Me?" That was the topic addressed by the 5th-6th graders and 7th-8th graders in the B. P. O. Elks Americanism Essay Contest. I was overwhelmed by the quality and quantity of essays received and the Americanism Essay Contest judges had a very difficult time choosing the best of the best. The Division I (5th-6th grades) 1st place winner is Travis Mooney, who was sponsored by the San Clemente Elks Lodge No. 2068, the Lodge Chairman, Ruie Treptow, and the South Coast District Chairman, Gary Marinelli. The Division II (7th-8th grades) 1st place winner is Anna Holman, who was sponsored by the Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801, the Lodge Chairman, Marti Barrazo, and the Southeast District Chairman, Michael Fredrickson. If you are in attendance at the 2014 Association Convention in Palm Springs, be sure to attend the morning session on Friday, May 16th, to hear these young people read their winning essays. It will make you proud that our Americanism program fosters such patriotic youth.

Since this is my last column as your California-Hawaii Elks Association Americanism Chairman, I would be very remiss if I did not thank your very dedicated District and Lodge Americanism Chairmen. These Chairmen made 100% reporting the norm. I also thank the CHEA staff in the Fresno office - especially Charisce - for their work and support for the Americanism Committee. It has been my very deep honor to represent you on this Committee, which is so near and dear to my heart. Patriotism is not just a word, but it is the spirit of our great country and it lives in the hearts and minds of dedicated and loyal Elks everywhere. God Bless America! Sing it, think it, and pray for it!

Fremont Elks Lodge No. 2121 donated to veterans and schools

In late January, the Fremont Elks Lodge No. 2121 donated 132 books, over 50 magazines and several puzzles to the Voluntary Services Department at the Palo Alto Veterans Administration Medical Center. Lodge members donate their 'gently used' books, magazines and puzzles for this purpose. The lodge also donated almost 300 dictionaries to four local elementary schools. The dictionaries are purchased from special charity funds and distributed to the schools by the lodge's Youth Activities group.

In other news, the lodge participated in the January Bay District Hoop Shoot. Four contestants that were sponsored by our lodge went on to the state level of competition. In that round of competition, we had a 2nd place, 3rd place and 4th place finish.

Community service and paying it forward are commitments that the Fremont Elks Lodge has made in keeping with the motto "Elks Care, Elks Share."

Petaluma Elks Lodge No. 901 honors youth winners in the Americanism and DAP contests

On March 13, 2014, the Petaluma Elks Lodge No. 901 honored the eighteen students from various schools who were winners in the lodge's Drug Awareness Program (DAP) and Americanism Program contests. The DAP theme this year was "Down with Drugs, Up with Awareness," and the Americanism Essay Contest theme was "What Does Veterans Day Mean to Me."

The students were honored during a dinner awards ceremony. The evening was filled with the excitement emanating from all these young people who were being acknowledged for their achievements. Approximately 125 people were in attendance. The winners, their families, grandparents, family friends, teachers, school principals, administrators, lodge members and officers watched as each winner received their gift check. Over 45 fifth graders entered the Drug Awareness Poster Contest. 30 seventh and eighth graders entered the Drug Awareness Essay Contest and 101 students entered the Americanism Essay contest.

The first place boy and girl winners in both the Drug Awareness Poster and Essay contests placed first in the Association level of judging. To have one winner at that level is wonderful, but to have four winners is remarkable for any lodge.



Red Bluff Elks Lodge No. 1250 and the ND lodges give a gift to the 2013 Major Project Theme Child

The 2013 Major Project Theme Child, Andrew Bowring, accompanied by his parents, recently received the money needed to purchase a jungle gym from the Red Bluff Elks Lodge No. 1250 and the other lodges of the North District. Pat Craig, the lodge's 2014-2015 Exalted Ruler, had a conversation with Andrew's Major Project Therapist, and a jungle gym was the recommended gift suggestion. Pat then went to work with the other lodges in the North District to raise the money. In no time, Pat raised the needed funds and gave a check to the Bowring family so that they could purchase the equipment.

Ventura Elks Lodge No. 1430 awards scholarships

The Ventura Elks Lodge No. 1430 recently organized and participated in the St. Patrick's Day parade and awarded \$5,000 in scholarships to local high school students. Civic and national leaders and organizations have recognized the members' dedication to Ventura and the national projects.

CHEA Advisory Committee (Past Presidents)

Kenneth L. Moore (1982-83)
Robert J. Mc Lain (1984-85)
Richard L. "Dick" Alves (1986-87)
Richard E. Owen (1992-93)
John A. "Jack" Parker (1993-94)
Anthony J. Mauro (1995-96)
Timothy C. Martin (1996-97)
Sim Nathan (1997-98)

Corona
Pasadena
San Jose
Santa Maria
Marysville
Hollister
Clovis
Redding

Frank G. Keller (1998-99)
Louis J. Grillo (1999-00)
John G. Holt (2000-01)
John M. Carvalho, Sr. (2001-02)
H. Eugene Chambers (2002-03)
Doug Larsen (2003-04)
Lee Northcutt (2004-05)
Roy R. Newman (2005-06)

Corona
Stockton
Burbank
Sacramento
Needles
Salinas
La Habra
Marysville

James S. Mason (2006-07)
Oren Richardson (2007-08)
Jerry Rucker (2008-09)
Lee Karjola (2009-2010)
Hugh H. Scanlon (2010-2011)
Thomas S. Brazier (Honorary)
Wayne Howard (2011-2012)
Art Echternacht (2012-2013)

Gardena
Coalinga
San Bernardino
Eureka
Glendale
Santa Cruz
Honolulu
Santa Ana

Elk Grove Elks Lodge No. 2577 sends coffee and cookies to our troops

The Elk Grove Elks Lodge No. 2577's Elks National Foundation Chairman Don Kammerer used a \$2,000 ENF Gratitude Grant to purchase Starbucks Coffee and Girl Scout Cookies for our Troops. Jennifer Villalpardo is the Troop Leader of Girl Scout Troop #3841, and Allison Villalpardo is a Girl Scout. Jennifer and Allison were given \$1,000 for the purchase of Girl Scout Cookies. They added to the collection by selling an additional 51 boxes of cookies at several Elks functions, which were then donated back to the cause. The total cookie value was \$1,204.

Natalie Potthoff represented the Starbucks Coffee Shop at Elk Grove Blvd. and Waterman Rd. Starbucks was given \$1,000 for the purchase of coffee for the troops. The coffee was purchased at a cut-rate price and the store advertised the event in their store to collect an additional \$250. The total coffee value was \$1,490. The combined value for both the coffee and cookie purchases was \$2,694.

The coffee and cookies were given to the "Rolling Hills Blue Star Mothers #27" for shipment to Iraq and Afghanistan. Jan Rusk is the President, and Teresa Laine is a Board Member of that organization. Jan Rusk stated that the most desired things in the war zone are Starbucks Coffee and Girl Scout Cookies.



L to R: Jennifer Villalpardo, Allison Villalpardo, Teresa Laine, Don Kammerer, Jan Rusk and Natalie Potthoff

Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 donated \$23,500 to local charities in 2013 - 2014

Each year, the Trustees of the Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 make a budget for the coming year and a line item in that budget is Lodge Charities. In the 2013-2014 calendar year, the budget was \$23,500. Each month, the Lodge trustees reviewed and approved requests to fund local charities and organizations.

Here are a few of the 48 benefactors this year: NTAF Southwest Spinal Cord (in the name of Zack Collie), McPherson Magnet School (to help improve its kindergarten playground), HomeAid (whose mission is ending homelessness for children in Orange County), Mary's Kitchen and Mary's Purse (that feed and assist the local homeless), Threads of Love (a sewing ministry that meets the needs of newborns and tiny premature infants (NICU)), the Ronald McDonald House (that helps children and supports their families), CHOC (NICU) (which provides newborns needing critical care, most often premature babies suffering from respiratory and circulatory problems), the police dog fund for veterinary bills for retired police dogs that the lodge purchased for Orange Police Department, the Eli House, the Orange H. S. Choir, Walk for Wishes (whose Mission is to "Grant Wishes for Children with Life Threatening Medical Conditions to Enrich the Human Experience with Hope, Strength and Joy").

Editors Note: For the story about Zack Collie, please read the article on page 6 of the March/April 2012 issue of the California-Hawaii Elk Magazine (go to www.cha-elks.org, and click on "CHEA magazine" at the top to find links to prior issues).



L to R: Al, John, Bill, Terrie, Doug, Marilyn and John with Zack

Feed Your Purple Pig!



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

Lake Elsinore/Wildomar Elks Lodge No. 2591 hosted veterans for dinner

On Tuesday, April 1st, Nick Nemiccola, Lodge National Service Chairman at the Lake Elsinore/Wildomar Elks Lodge No. 2591, chaired the First Veterans Dinner at the lodge. Ten veterans from the Jerry L. Pettis Medical Center in Loma Linda arrived at the lodge with Aaron Hunt, the Medical Center Lead Recreational Director. Dixie Bracombe escorted them to specially decorated tables in the social quarters. Nick welcomed the veterans to the dinner and led everyone in a Salute to the Flag. Ginny Mulhern, the Lodge's Leading Knight, served as the lodge photographer for the event. The veterans enjoyed a dinner of salad, roasted chicken breast with capers, mashed potatoes, and mixed vegetables with Sols' special bread. Coffee, punch and iced tea were served, along with a cake for dessert.

The Lodge members in attendance donated \$150 for the veterans, along with fees from special caps for \$10 and pins for \$3. Jim Winget, of Hemet Lodge No. 1740, joined us for the event. Jim is the Southeast District National Veterans Volunteer Service Chairman and is the VA Volunteer Service Chairman. He announced what items could be donated to the veterans at the medical center. He also requested that all Southeast District Lodges help at a BBQ scheduled for 11:00 am at the Medical Center. Ronnie Armstrong, from the Newport Elks Lodge No. 1767 also attended. Ronnie attends all veteran events, and he was a Sergeant Major of 17th Airborne, U.S. Army, and a prisoner of war during World War II.



Far left in green shirt, Aaron Hunt; fourth from left in red shirt, Nick Nemiccola and third from right in black shirt with white hair, Jim Bustamante, Exalted Ruler of Lodge

Mission Viejo/Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 honors public safety servants

The Mission Viejo/Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 hosted its 44th annual South Orange County First Responders Appreciation Awards Dinner for over 150 firefighters, law enforcement personnel, leaders of their respective organizations and family members of the personnel being recognized for their outstanding work over the past year. Several Saddleback Valley city mayors were also in attendance at the event. These first responders are responsible for protecting nineteen South Orange County communities.

The event organizer, Association Vice President and retired Laguna Beach Fire Captain Harvey Boelts greeted the guests. The program opened with inspiring music played by the Orange County Fire Authority Pipes & Drums, followed by Presentation of the Colors by the Sheriff's Department Color Guard. Master of Ceremonies, PER Dennis Keffer, introduced the first responders department heads seated at the dais. Leading Knight Derek Randles made the trophy award presentations.

Event guests enjoyed a lavish steak dinner prepared by Elks Lodge volunteers Betty, Dennis, Michael and Laura Boelts, and served by student volunteers from the Laguna Hills High School Athletics Program. A donation of \$150 was given to the Laguna Hills High School Athletics Program.

Walnut Creek Elks Lodge No. 1811 awards physical therapy scholarships

On March 14, 2014, the Elks of the Year Association of the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge No. 1811 made their annual presentation of scholarships to two Physical/Occupational Therapy students from Samuel Merritt University in Oakland, CA.

Each scholarship recipient gets a \$2,500 check the first year, and if they stay in the program and continue to do well, they receive another \$2,500 check the second year. The Elks of the Year Association raises the scholarship funds primarily through donations made by Lodge members each year as they pay their dues. Students in this particular field were chosen because the Major Project for California-Hawaii supplies physical and occupational therapists to children whose families otherwise might not have the necessary access or resources.

This year's recipients were Catherine Cooper, back for her second year, and Rebecca Brotslaw, the first-year recipient. Rebecca's parents Laura and Dan Brotslaw also attended, as did Merritt University Advisors, Tanya Grigg and Tari Witherspoon.

Catherine is a second-year Occupational Therapy student scheduled to graduate this year. Catherine spent time shadowing an Occupational Therapist during 2011. This is where she developed her desire to work with children. After beginning her Master's program at Samuel Merritt University, Catherine discovered that she would also like to experience working with veterans and the mentally ill.

Rebecca is an Occupational Therapy student and is scheduled to graduate in December 2015. She has volunteered with the UC Davis Medical Center, Shriners' Children's Hospital, and with Camp Adventure as a camp counselor. Her plans include working as an Occupational Therapist in the Navy, which will give her the opportunity to work with a population she is passionate about - military families and their children. She hopes eventually to transition to pediatrics.



L to R: ER Alush Nushi, Catherine Cooper, PER Gerry Gouveia, 2013-2014 Elks of the Year Association President



B.L.T.

On the Web?

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

Become a Benefactor for the
BLT Commitment Trust.

Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625 donates dictionaries

On a recent morning, just after the start of the new semester, Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625 fellow members Ray Pompey (PAVP, PER) and Gerald Willis were enroute to visit Eastside Elementary School in Lancaster. The beautiful weather foretold the warm greetings that awaited them, led by school principal Ms. Margo Deal. This stop was just one of more than 50 scheduled for this school year in the Antelope Valley and beyond, to advance Ray's passion of sharing knowledge with the children. This effort is accomplished through the distribution of dictionaries expressly for third graders in both public and private school. Ms. Deal, very aware of the Elks past visits to the school, led Ray and Gerald, who were joined by fellow lodge members Jay Jenkins and Stan Foster, into the school cafeteria. With the entry of 125 third graders and their five teachers, Ray immediately knew he had probably no more than twenty minutes to hold their attention so he worked briskly. Holding up a copy of the dictionary and touching on the information within: multiplication tables, U.S. Flags, Civics, U.S. Presidents, Astronomy, U.S. Constitution and more. Ray drew a few chuckles with his genuine folksy style, self-deprecating humor and not to mention his Sponge Bob tie(s). Ray also includes a drug and alcohol awareness bookmark with his presentation to the kids. After about twenty minutes, the "restless" seemed truly grateful for individually receiving their dictionaries and a few "high fives" were thrown Ray's way upon their exiting. One visit finished, and 49 more to go. Ray has always thought himself as being a "kids guy." When asked the origin of his involvement with the distribution of the dictionaries, Ray and Lodge member Jerry Mundell mentioned that nine years ago the Lodge wanted to expand its community activities. They picked up the ball and ran with it after seeing the joy and gratitude displayed by these young recipients. Another "Rayism" is "this dictionary program is like fishing; do it once and you are hooked." This must be true in that Ray has a rotating legion of Elk volunteers assisting him on his visits, as well as Lodge and family support of his delicious "Monday Noodle Night Dinners," which helps fund this rewarding effort at no cost to the Elks Lodge.

Grass Valley Elks Lodge No. 538 honors a new Eagle Scout

Lincoln Zimmerman is a member of Boy Scout Troop 21, which is sponsored by the Grass Valley Elks Lodge No. 538. Lincoln recently became an Eagle Scout at an Eagle Scout Court of Honor that was held at the lodge. He is the 16th Eagle Scout receiving such an honor from Troop 21 in seven years. Lincoln received a certificate and an American Flag from the Grass Valley Elks Lodge.

Lincoln's Eagle Scout project was the construction of a sidewalk and steps from the Administrative Building to the classrooms at Magnolia Elementary School. Prior to the construction of the sidewalk, there was a dirt path that turned into mud in the winter. Lincoln also received a certificate of appreciation from the Placer County Board of Supervisors for the work done at the school.

Indio Elks Lodge No. 1643 has a vibrant scholarship program

The Indio Elks Lodge No. 1643 hosted their annual Super Bowl Party with 130 members and guests in attendance. \$1,000 was raised for the lodge's scholarship program. Even though the score was not close, the majority of the members and guests stayed until the game was over. The lodge's camping group, "The Drifters", added an additional \$500 thereby raising a total of \$1,500 for the scholarship fund. Last year, the lodge gave out eight \$2,000 scholarships, and is actively working to reach that goal again in 2014.

Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 brings "love" to vets on Valentines Day

This was a very special Valentines Day for several members of the Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475. It did not involve candy, flowers, jewelry or a romantic dinner with "that special person". It did involve serving lunches to some very special people. On this 2014 Valentines Day, nineteen members of the Orange Elks Lodge went to Camp Pendleton and served lunch to over 300 Wounded Warriors and their families.

These are servicemen and women who have incurred a service-related injury or illness on or after 9/11. The Orange Lodge members who support our veterans programs have played bingo with the veterans at the Long Beach Veterans Hospital, served lunches to our blind veterans at the Long Beach VA hospital, supported the Broadway and Manor Houses in Santa Ana, given scholarships to our local veterans from Orange, sent packages to the deployed veterans, supported Patriots and Paws, and helped at three Stand Downs. Today, we all agreed that, of the many things we have done with the Elks over the years, this was by far the most rewarding.

The Firehouse BBQ crew prepared chicken, pulled pork and beef brisket. The lunch included baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, corn bread and drinks. Pete's crew started cooking the night before and came from Bakersfield, Ventura, San Diego and Temecula.

Each of the tables had hand written Valentines Day cards and "Thank you" notes from a local elementary school class, and each of the ladies were given a red rose when they arrived.



Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801 honors scholarship winners

The Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801 honored six students and their families at a recent dinner. The lodge presented awards and certificates of achievement to the six winners of the lodge competition for the "Most Valuable Student" Scholarship contest. Each winner received a scholarship from the Temecula Valley Elks Lodge to help with college expenses. The first place winners received \$1,000, second place winners received \$750, and the third place winners received \$500. Scholarship applications were judged on scholarship, leadership, and financial need.

The three top young women were: Rachel Budd (Chaparral High School, First Place), Kezia Cunalata (Murrieta Mesa High School, Second place), and Savannah Pham (Vista Murrieta High School, Third place).

The top three young men were: Andrew Tran (Chaparral High School, First place), Richard Lee (Great Oak High School, Second place), and William Campbell (Linfield Christian High School, Third place).

In addition to the awards from the lodge, all six of the Lodge winners were forwarded on to the District for additional judging. At the District Level, again all six of the winners were in the top twenty-four winners for the District and were forwarded on to CHEA for the next level of judging.

Sunnyvale Elks Lodge No. 2128 promotes future science careers

The Sunnyvale Elks Lodge No. 2128 presented 300 text books, titled "Mission: Mars", to the 4th, 5th, and 6th graders at Vargas Elementary here in Sunnyvale, CA. The school held an assembly with Dr. Pascal Lee, the book's author and local NASA scientist. Dr. Lee gave an enthusiastic presentation about future planned missions to Mars and what is needed to get there. The books were purchased through the ENF Gratitude Grant. Who knows how many future astronauts and planetary scientists were among the students at this exciting presentation?

In other news, the lodge awarded six students with the ENF "Most Valuable Student" (MVS) scholarships ranging from \$250 to \$500. Steven Zheng of Lynbrook has advanced to the state level and is guaranteed a \$1,000 per year scholarship. Steven is hoping to be one of twenty to be invited to Chicago for a "MVS Leadership Week". These twenty students will be awarded scholarships ranging from \$20,000 to \$60,000 for their four years. This will be the second time in three years that Sunnyvale has a student continue to the national level. Good luck Steven! The scholarship recipients are: Tianye He (Wilcox High School), Kohsheen Sharma (Cupertino High School), Steven Zheng (Lynbrook High School), Eoin Bonner (Bellarmine Prep), Marissa Moffett (Wilcox High School), and Faith Ibok (Wilcox High School).



L to R: Jim Bonk (Lodge Treasurer), Dr. Pascal Lee, PER Mike Bucini, Pat Sargent (Project Chair and Lodge Secretary), Alan Aana (Loyal Knight), and Carmela Castagnolo (Volunteer)

Moreno Valley Elks Lodge No. 2697 honors student

The Moreno Valley Elks Lodge No. 2697 recognized the 2014 "Most Improved Student" from March Mountain High School, David Henry, who had turned his life around when he became motivated to do it to improve himself.

This amazing student, a senior, won many awards at the March 5, 2014 March Mountain High School Awards Ceremony. David's High School Counselor, Dan Singer, stated that David was not always motivated until he realized he needed to do it for himself. He went from a 1.8 Grade Point Average to a 4.0. He is a leader rather than a follower and is currently the Student Body Vice President. He has proven his leadership ability by serving as the Master of Ceremonies in several school events and he is always willing to lend a hand where there is a need. Life has not been easy for David, but he always comes to school ready and willing to put his best foot forward!

David received a Proclamation from the City Mayor, a special gold Elks pin and an application for a Vocational Education Scholarship. Others in attendance included several March Mountain High School Students, Teachers and Administrators. Also attending from the Moreno Valley Elks Lodge were Judy Smith, Board of Trustees Chair, Bernie Timm, Secretary, and his wife, Joan Timm.

Vallejo Elks Lodge No. 559 honors Eagle Scouts

The Vallejo Elks Lodge No. 559 recently held an Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner to honor three new Eagle Scouts and their families. Each Eagle was presented a patch and pin and certificate of recognition for their achievement.

Eagle Alvarez landscaped the Donaldson Way Elementary School, Eagle Whiteaker beautified the Northgate Christian Church roadside sign and Eagle Peck built planter boxes for Joe Henderson Elementary school garden as their Eagle Scout projects.

In other news the lodge recently held an "Old Timers Night" with over 80 members who had 30 or more years of membership attending. An honored guest was 99-year-old Percy Klimisch, with 62 years of membership in the Order. Klimisch still drives and is an active member of the lodge.



L to R: Jonnie Hagan, District Scouting Chairperson, Marc Slater, District Scouting Executive, Eagles Neftali Alvarez, Reed Whiteaker and Jefferey Peck, and lodge member and Council Commissioner for the Mt. Diablo/Silverado Scout Council, Ken Lambert

Sunnyvale Elks No. 2128 serves dinner at JW House

On February 17, 2014, the Sunnyvale Elks Lodge No. 2128 prepared and served a dinner of lasagna, garlic bread, green salad, and dessert for 25 guests and staff at JW House. Funding from an Elks National Foundation Gratitude Grant was used to purchase the dinner.

JW House is a guesthouse on the campus of the Kaiser Permanente Hospital in Santa Clara, CA. The facilities provide patients' families with overnight or daytime respite accommodations while their family member is undergoing treatment. Their mission is to keep the families together during a medical crisis by offering a welcoming home just a step away from the hospital, providing a caring and compassionate environment that inspires hope. For more information, please visit www.jwhouse.org.



L to R: Alan Aana (Loyal Knight), April Bignell (JW House Manager), Pat Sargent (Lodge Secretary), Sarge Sargent (Lodge member), Steve Gollob (PDDGER), Carmela Castagnolo (Volunteer)

14 THE CALIFORNIA-HAWAII ELK

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Millennium Plus (\$5,000) Copper Pig Level Donors (February 1, 2014 - March 31, 2014)

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>
Richard L. McDonald	1474

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Millennium Plus (\$2,000) Purple Pig Level Donors February 1, 2014 - March 31, 2014)

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>
Richard Dombrowski	583	Philip Quast	1567
Pepper Westerman	613	Greg Metzgas	2477
John D. Adams	1427	Janet Rasmussen	2543

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Millennium Club (\$1,000) Donors February 1, 2014 - March 31, 2014)

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>
Gary J. Marinelli	168	Richard L. McDonald	1474	Dayton Silver	1952	Roy Lovejoy	2389
Louis J. Grillo	218	Dawn E. Campbell	1475	James L. Walters	1991	Andy Costello	2444
Pepper Westerman	613	Ron & Kris Paino	1475	John Skehan	1993	Paul Kassel	2543
Peter Gaskell	616	Jake Parsons	1587	Glenn Zumwalt	1994	Dennis Rasmussen	2543
Raymond Beers	906	Sharon Kinsey	1625	Steven Nelson	2031	Charlie Pikas	2704
Don Checchi	906	Sharon Dearborn	1767	John "Jack" Stangel	2091	Bob Watkins	2724
Frank Frazier	906	Kurt Thayer	1767	Karen Viera	2091		
Karl La Masa, Jr.	1289	Shawn Thayer	1767	George Horejsi	2121		
Zdzislaw "Gigi" Isham	1378	Don Rice	1905	Leila Pendergast	2134		

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Century Club (\$100) Donors February 1, 2014 - March 31, 2014)

<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 Dist. PER Alumni Association (2)		Paul Sato	616	Cheryl Loring	1073	Harry Bank	1436
Bill Darr (2)	3	Tony Schmidt	616	Jon Maestri	1073	Frank Bonura	1436
Mengo Darr	3	Neill Schoening	616	Ernie Mandere	1073	John Johnson	1436
Josh Hachadourian	3	Paul S. Schultz	616	John Mathena	1073	Mel Judnich	1436
Jerry Landreth-Brusato	6	William Shea	616	Lon McCasland	1073	Glen Koehl	1436
Louis J. Grillo	218	Debra Shimabuku	616	Judy Osgood	1073	John Legge	1436
Rick Dombrowski	583	Roy Stocks	616	Tim Pool	1073	Rick Monighetti	1436
Carolyn Shupe	613	Nicholas Teves, Jr.	616	Archer Pugh	1073	Bill Padrazzi	1436
Bob Wignot	613	Carl Vaicek, Jr.	616	Jerry Sanchez	1073	Peter Ciardella	1471
Russell Chambers	614	George West	616	Don Schroeder	1073	Les Edelman	1474
Tom Lavagnino	614	John White	616	David Shye	1073	Neal Essary	1474
Lawrence Mosher	614	Francis Young	616	James Stephens	1073	Frank Furtado	1474
William Scruggs	614	Annette Zib	616	Robert Vanderhyde	1073	Colby La Place	1474
James Smithy	614	John Brokaw	824	Ed Will	1073	Archie McFaul	1474
Gli VonWinning	614	Edward Lake	824	Edwin Ball	1112	Barbara Berger	1475
616 Honolulu Singers	616	William Lynch, Jr.	824	Richard Carstens (2)	1250	William Brogan	1475
Lane Akiona	616	Ian Mackenzie	824	Jason Spencer (2)	1250	Tom "Mr. Poof" Brown	1475
Raymond Antone	616	Robert Murphy	824	Ed Percy	1251	Jay Broyles	1475
Joyal Stone Arnold	616	Elio Rodoni	824	Richmond Elks Lodge No. 1251	1251	Dawn Campbell (2)	1475
Loretta Baptist	616	Robert Rudolph	824	Tito Caldera	1259	Pat Cearley	1475
Jane Scott McCrorie-Butler (2)	616	Arthur Weeks	824	James English (4)	1259	Steve Cearley	1475
Simmonds Camacho	616	Dave Zeller	824	Stan Felipe (2)	1259	Chris Christensen	1475
Gary Catlin	616	Elizabeth Beers	906	Andrew Martin	1259	Craig Coleman	1475
Rodney Chang	616	Ray Beers (2)	906	Norm VanBeek	1259	James Duncan	1475
Paul Ching	616	Joseph Checchi	906	Suzette Wheeler (2)	1259	Patsy Edmundson	1475
James Cremins	616	Max Feinberg (2)	906	Bruce Gordon	1285	Lynda Einstein	1475
Robert Dusendschon	616	Frank Frazier (3)	906	John Mulchaey	1285	Dale & Anna Fairchild	1475
Louise Fleming	616	R. Todd Hawkins	906	Larry Ross	1285	Mathew Ferrero	1475
Charles Garner	616	Marian Johnston	906	Greg Brittner (3)	1289	Lee Fischbach	1475
Peter Gaskell	616	Ken Lady (2)	906	Dan Cole	1289	Oscar Garza	1475
Richard Goodman	616	John Larkin (3)	906	Pat Evans	1289	Bob Hanna	1475
Mary Hammond	616	Shari Larkin (2)	906	The Gallivanter	1289	Mary Higdon	1475
Robert Hannan	616	Abrey Myers	906	Michael Gardner	1289	Ken House	1475
Norman Hashimoto	616	Cindy Osborne	906	Bonnie Harmon (3)	1289	Steve Lefferdink	1475
Charles Hunt	616	Margy Pickett (3)	906	Karl La Masa (2)	1289	Jim McAnea	1475
Patrick Keliinui	616	R.A. Pickett (3)	906	Karl & Maria La Masa	1289	Walt McBride	1475
Michael Kelly, Sr.	616	Doug Randall	906	Dennis Malone	1289	R. Ken McElroy	1475
Euclid Lee	616	Irma Santiago	906	Michael Wargin	1289	Don & Barbara Noble (2)	1475
Ronald H. Lee	616	Les Villiados	906	Virginia Brown	1378	The Orange Elks "Ginsters"	1475
Genevieve Ley (2)	616	Jason Walker (3)	906	Gigi Isham (5)	1378	Orange Emblem Club No. 418 (2)	1475
Albert Loo, Sr.	616	Ron Asher	1073	Francis Frye (3)	1420	Orange Roamin' Elks	1475
Lorraine Manayan	616	Ron Carn	1073	Frances Abraham (3)	1427	Ron & Kris Paino	1475
Mauro Martinez	616	Joseph Case	1073	John Adams (2)	1427	Thomas Ruff	1475
Clayton Masuda	616	John Chandler	1073	Sally Emerson	1427	John Ryan	1475
Daniel Miyamoto	616	Richard Cunningham	1073	Steven Kayahara	1427	Frank Sellers	1475
Ernest Moo	616	Howard Dahl	1073	Donna Leiby	1427	Margaret Stephens	1475
Thomas Namiki	616	Conny Ericsson	1073	John McEntire	1427	James Swindell	1475
Stanley Nishimura	616	Steven Flader	1073	Randy Smith	1427	Adam Thomasson	1475
Richard Ornellas	616	James Goble	1073	Edward Stegman	1427	VFW Post 7245	1475
Carol Lee Owens	616	Robert Goetz	1073	Marc Trummel	1427	Douglas Wells	1475
David Randell	616	William Hale	1073	George Van Hove	1427		
Paul Sasaki	616	James Jensen	1073	Dwight Ward	1427		

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
Mike Williams	1475	John Douthit (2)	1952	Joyce Hightower	2103	James Edwards	2444
John Berger	1567	Arthur Eng	1952	Tom Mc Guire	2103	Karen Stuetz-Garland	2444
George Hall	1567	Jim Faulkner	1952	Lawrence McHenry	2103	Ronald Nerio	2444
David Marano	1567	Ron Galletti	1952	Paul Pennington	2103	Terry Baker	2477
Phil Quast	1567	Martha Jimenez	1952	Marjorie Samaniego	2103	Gregory Bolin	2477
Wayne Weller	1567	Chester Krajzynski (2)	1952	Michael Smith	2103	Dainis Eglitis	2477
Richard Bacon	1587	Walter Mahler	1952	Nancy & Lou Braunstein	2121	Samuel Frankl	2477
Catherine Maxam	1587	Raul Martinez	1952	Gini Gustafson	2121	Patti Harrod	2477
Jake Parsons	1587	Bill O'Hearn	1952	Zoilita Hedlund	2121	Joseph Kilrain	2477
Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625 (7)	1625	Eric Rasmussen	1952	Philip Heinemann (2)	2121	Eugene Letourneau	2477
Robert Cassidy	1643	Rick Ross	1952	Joe Ledbetter	2121	Richard Lucariello (2)	2477
Ron Hinman (2)	1643	Robert Russell (2)	1952	Pat Polehla	2121	Coleen Morris (2)	2477
Shirley Isaacson	1643	John Ryan	1952	Margie Remelman	2121	Dorothy Murray	2477
Bob Pitts	1643	Shirley Ryan	1952	Al Rizotto	2121	Peter Nolan	2477
Sandra Reid (2)	1643	Dayton Silver	1952	Cynthia Spickler	2121	Bill Smail (4)	2477
Jan Richardson	1643	Ron Smith	1952	Charles Eaton	2190	Steve Smith	2477
Geo & Jackie Walker	1643	Robert Underwood	1952	Ted Hane	2190	Steve & Mary Woodlief	2477
Dennis Bacon	1691	Dominick Antenucci	1959	Byron McKibben	2190	Richard Anderson	2504
Diane Beggs	1691	George Conley	1959	Jerry Shubb	2190	Shirney Colwell	2504
David Calfee	1691	Tom Rybolt	1959	Morris Summey	2190	John Fischer, Sr.	2504
Bob Carlyle	1691	Steven Hicks	1968	Gene Wallis	2190	Ken Nelson	2504
Jack Dubois	1691	William Jones	1968	Ed Meixsell	2230	James Owen	2504
Yvonne Edwards	1691	Jo Ann Murray	1968	Paul Scheffel (2)	2230	Barry Shortz	2504
Robert Flores	1691	Frank Muzzy	1968	Leilani Woessner-Brillande	2230	Doug Wilson	2504
Stuart Foster	1691	John Walz	1968	Charles Braden	2248	Rob Fischer	2510
Gene Henggeler	1691	Robert Cassetta (2)	1991	Elbert "Mitch" Cropper	2248	Mike Fox (2)	2510
William Peters	1691	Frank Giugliano	1991	Lesley Dale	2248	Chris Bousquet	2543
Dave Provan	1691	Gary Larson	1991	Steve Dale	2248	Rik Brown	2543
Rhonda Rogers	1691	Robert & Kathleen Nicolopolos	1991	RoseMarie "Rosie" Dreiling (2)	2248	Joe Cataldo	2543
John Ross	1691	Smart Circle International LLC	1991	Marcie Faubel	2248	Susan Chipman (5)	2543
Wayne Senini	1691	Dan Casey	1993	William Faubel	2248	Bernie Duddy	2543
Scott Swanson	1691	Manuel Castillo	1993	Jerry Faulkner	2248	Marilyn Fink (5)	2543
Wil Thomas	1691	Richard Darwicki	1993	Harrison Fountain	2248	Kate Glenn	2543
Larry Yungblut	1691	Thelma Darwicki	1993	Sean Goetzger	2248	Cindy Haggerty	2543
Deni Morgan	1712	Karen Edmonds	1993	John Green	2248	Joanie Haugen	2543
Ed Nelson	1712	Walter Edmonds	1993	William Green	2248	Bill James (3)	2543
Ture Roslund (6)	1712	Richard Green (5)	1993	Ken Hocutt	2248	Alisha Kassel	2543
Danny Ronk (6)	1761	Phillip Marquez	1993	Sergay Ivazian	2248	Paul Kassel (2)	2543
Barry Bostwick	1767	Michael Mathers	1993	Herschell Johnson	2248	Norm Kaufman (2)	2543
Sharron Dearborn (5)	1767	Martin McAllister	1993	Dick Law	2248	Barbara Kincade	2543
Gene DePriest (3)	1767	Robert McComber	1993	Marionette Mason	2248	Emma Peralta	2543
Glover Hardy	1767	Don McDaniel	1993	Mickey Metclafe	2248	Moon Rash	2543
Anthony Messina	1767	Gene Shumski	1993	James Ondrasek	2248	Paul Rash	2543
Concetta Randall	1767	Gene Smith (5)	1993	Walter Pierson	2248	Dennis Rasmussen	2543
Lori Riem	1767	Michael Spratt (5)	1993	Gary Sharp	2248	Janet Rasmussen (2)	2543
Shawn Thayer (6)	1767	Scott Stephens	1993	Jane Sharp	2248	Gene Saffell	2543
Norma Watson	1767	Dominic Trapasso	1993	Frank Vanacore	2248	Rick Sanchez (2)	2543
Judith Wilson	1767	Robert Ziebell	1993	Carl Vining	2248	Jerry Stark	2543
Nancy Witherspoon	1767	John Jewart	2026	Kirk Watkins	2248	Angie Welsh	2543
Bruce McLeod	1786	Gerald Butchko	2031	Ronald Bock	2274	Bob Samaniego	2577
Richard Pence	1786	Steve Nelson (2)	2031	Molly Allred	2314	Sandy Davidowski	2638
Willows Elks Auxiliary	1786	Marlene Reeves (2)	2031	Neil Eskuri	2314	Jessie Leppert	2638
Gail White	1787	Candy Soares	2031	Bob & Nancy Simendich	2314	Ardean Bates	2669
Ed Kucera	1811	Ronald Lyon	2045	Ted Tunnecliffe	2314	Leah Gergal	2698
Ruth Reeves	1811	Cindy Murphy	2045	Leroy Bostick	2358	Michael Jackson	2698
Guy Sachs	1811	Daniel Baccelliere	2050	Richie Brock	2358	Jim Leezy	2698
John Story	1811	Tracy Bagdon	2050	Sherry Costa	2358	Sharon Leezy	2698
Hugh Watkins	1811	Scott Eubanks	2050	Martha Evans	2358	Robert Mehrling	2698
Fred Cannon	1812	Sherri Muro	2050	Joan Hermansen	2358	Troy Montgomery	2698
Michael "MJ" Jimenez	1812	Bartenders of South San Francisco Lodge (3)	2091	Cheri Keller	2358	Bernard Merchen	2704
Tom Kilpela	1812	Michael Caruso (4)	2091	Laurie Ashley Patterrell	2358	Walter Neumann	2704
Wallace Willoughby	1812	Gary Coenders	2091	Karen Templin	2358	Charles Pikas	2704
Norma Jean Clark	1905	Harold Dilsaver	2091	Pat Terrell	2358	Michael Alonzo	2724
Chuck D'Anca (2)	1905	Gil Estrada (5)	2091	John Prian	2364	Charles Clark	2724
Dr. John Impagliazzo (3)	1905	Richard Garcia (5)	2091	Donald Weber	2364	Anne Despol	2724
Eugene Mitchell (2)	1905	Fred Guerrero	2091	Bob Crim (3)	2389	Chris Despol	2724
Barbara Nichols	1905	Steven Hawthorne	2091	Francis Parent (3)	2389	Larry Bryant	2733
Donald Rice	1905	Mark Loorya	2091	Patricia Trask	2389	Ricky Cliffe	2733
George Rowan	1905	Katherine MacKay-Nelson	2091	Robert Williams	2389	Don Collier	2733
Edward Ward (2)	1905	Keido, Larry & Jim Matsuo (2)	2091	Charles "Mike" Wood (2)	2389	Lawrence Easterday (2)	2733
Haskell Dean Clark	1918	Joseph Nano	2091	Bobby Yoast	2389	Michael Larsen	2733
Larry Faust	1918	Marty Novello	2091	Nancy Allen	2444	James Oates	2733
Christopher Guillen	1918	Robert Pitocchi	2091				
Harold Johnson	1918	Andy Reid	2091				
Robert Padilla	1918	Frank & Diane Rivers	2091				
Rebecca Spence	1918	Paul Schlotfeldt	2091				
Theodore Yamada	1919	John "Jack" Stangel (7)	2091				
India Allen	1952	Cliff Viera	2091				
Robert H. "Bob" Burks	1952	Dennis Tavernelli	2095				
Winfred Cobb	1952	Mike Whitmarsh	2095				
Henry Dalton	1952	Diane Bristow	2103				
Joe Delaluz	1952	Don Dixon	2103				

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

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Recurring Donors

Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge
David Podger	3	Joseph Tato	1108	Drew Evans	1877	James Thacker	2011
Marilyn Hooton	6	Robert Ostini	1251	William "Bill" O'Hearn	1952	William G. Williford	2103
Pat Gandolfi	168	James Ferris	1378	Karen Lewin	1952	Janice L. Brown	2117
Kathleen Kuttler	168	Dennis Linsley	1474	Lance Slimmer	1952	Terry Gicking	2477
Karen Lake	168	Kathleen Linsley	1474	Richard Tanguy	1959	Steve L. Smith	2477
Gary Marinelli	168	Amanda Smith	1475	Laurie Ayala	2011	Cynthia Kassel	2543
Margaret "Peg" McDonald	168	Matthew Ferrero	1475	Martin Barros	2011	Paul Kassel	2543
Glenn Montague	168	Philip Moore	1475	Janet L. Byrd	2011	Janet Rasmussen	2543
Chuck Nolan	168	Colin Smith	1475	Phillip W. Byrd	2011	Linda Tucker	2543
Hugh Van Doren	168	Karen Feldpouch	1538	Debbie Hosted	2011	Neal D. Wagerle	2591
Jerome Paul	672	Steven Wagstaff	1687	Ashley Munoz	2011	Sonny Pineda	2599
Lisa Fleury	759	Edward C. Johnson	1811	David Plotke	2011	Dave Hosted	2698
Jerry Hansen	901	Chuck Jackson	1811	Cynthia "Cindy" Wise	2011	Lance Erickson	2733
Donald Checchi	906	Michael Silva	1811	Christine Nelson	2011		
Frank Frazier	906	Kevin Wroble	1811	Hector Cazares	2011		

Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 gets "spruced up" by Scouts

The Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 had help from Boy Scout Troop #642 and Cub Scout Packs #3642 and #3643 as they participated in a lodge cleanup day doing brush clearance and a general grounds cleanup. They not only cleaned the surrounding grounds but their work included the RV area.

The boys and their adult leaders arrived at 9:00 am with shovels, rakes, gloves and wheelbarrows to tackle the overgrown brush as well as the many leaves on the ground from the fall and winter seasons. The twenty-five boys and their leaders hit the ground running to prepare the Lodge for the installation of incoming officers. Working together the scouts filled a large trash bin.

Following a morning of hard work, the scouts and their leaders were treated to a barbeque hot dog lunch complete with chips and a cool drink. The hard working scouts managed to polish off four-dozen hot dogs with all the fixings.



L to R: Kaden Gilliland, Korey Gilliland, Eric Yocum, Marcus Rosen, Jill Hall, Hunter Hall, Scouting Chair Rodger Monson, Evan Costley, David Costley, Joey Alfred, Jeremiah Crown, Robert Ota, Julianne Ota

Mission Viejo/Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 receives the Red Cross "Silver Award"

The American Red Cross recognized individuals, businesses, and service organizations at the annual Red Cross Awards Breakfast held at the Irvine Marriott Hotel. The Mission Viejo / Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 was honored to receive the Red Cross Silver Award for donating over 200 units of blood for the year.

PER Gloria LeCouvre accepted the award on behalf of the Lodge from the Red Cross Associate Director Amy Bailey. LeCouvre said of the award, "This honor belongs to all of the Elks Lodge members who generously gave blood this past year, and to the Lodge Blood Drive Coordinator, Kathy Griffin, and her volunteers, Eileen Feitz and Sissy Hargy."



L to R: PER Gloria LeCouvre, Amy Bailey

Lake Almanor Elks Lodge No. 2626 helps family

The Lake Almanor Elks Lodge No. 2626 held a Breakfast on April 6th at the lodge to raise funds for Calvin Powers, a 17 year old young man from Westwood, CA. Calvin has been diagnosed with compression of the brain (a Chari malformation) and needs surgery to relieve his pain.

The breakfast made \$743.00 and was coordinated by PER Dave and Kay Alcorn and PER Dennis and Mo Clark. The Lodge added \$1,000 from their "Wheel Around the Lake" fund, giving Calvin's family \$1,743 towards the expenses for his surgery that will help to relieve his pain.

Carson City Charity Golf Tournament for Area 7

By Gerry Gouveia, CHEA Purple Pig Vice Chairman

The Major Projects of California, Hawaii, Arizona, Nevada and Utah are proud to announce the first B.P.O.E. Area 7 Major Project Golf Tournament to be held in Carson City, NV, on September 18-21, 2014. This includes three nights lodging; golf on Friday and Saturday with green fees, range balls, water and cart; an awards banquet with one-hour open bar on Saturday; a casino coupon book (\$50.00) with free play, food credits, keno credits and gift shop discounts; and a tournament hat. The Friday night dinner at the Carson City Elks Lodge is an extra charge. Tee prizes for each golfer plus a chance at a \$25,000 Car Hole-in-One Contest.

Golf will be at Eagle Valley West on Friday and at Eagle Valley East on Saturday, plus you can play a practice round on Thursday at Eagle Valley West (optional). The cost for this weekend of fun is: double occupancy (\$360 per golfer, \$315 per 2nd golfer; \$200 per non-golfer), or, single occupancy (\$415 per golfer). Additional informational flyers will be available at the Association Convention's Purple Pig Booth, or coming to your Lodge soon. Sign up early, as this is limited to 144 golfers. The net proceeds will be divided between the Area 7 State Associations, dependent on per-player participation. The event is open to all Elks, family, friends and guests.

Sponsorships and prize donations are needed. For additional information, please contact Gerry Gouveia at (925) 822-3288 or at g2gopher@hotmail.com.

Garden Grove Elks Lodge No. 1952's "Ride the Dirt for the Major Project"

The Garden Grove Elks Lodge No. 1952 held their 17th semi-annual "Do It In The Dirt" classic fun outing with an approximate 12 ½ mile long poker run that afforded families from young to old with a lot of fun and an opportunity to support their Major Project, the "Purple Pig" and, at the same time, to win prizes for themselves. This event was held at California City, located just north of Edwards Air Force Base. The event was recently re-named "The Nicole Hoffman Memorial Poker Run" after Nicole Hoffman, granddaughter of Garden Grove Elk Larry Hoffman, who was killed while driving her car to attend the November 2013 outing. Nicole had never missed this event in the past.

Wagon Masters Mark Mahoney and Joe Spychaj held a pre-race meeting on Saturday, then the Poker run began at noon with 44 participant riders in (or on) Jeeps, 4-wheel drive cars, dune buggies, golf carts, motorcycles and quads. During the run, each participant drew a card at different checkpoints and the last card at the finish. For the very first time, there were identical winning hands for 1st place. The winning hand was 4 sixes and an ace. It was a High-Low game and the winning low hand was 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 (known as a wheel - there are no straights in low-ball). All in all, there were 26 RVs attending, some coming from as far away as Las Vegas, and quite a few truck loads of toys and boys (yes girls too!) that came for the Saturday event only. Mark and Joe presented the prize awards after the race, and then there was a toast to the memory of Nicole Hoffman, who had won this event many times in the past.



Going to the starting line

Hemet Elks Lodge No. 1740 participates in "Read Across America"

The Hemet Elks Lodge No. 1740's Veterans Chairman, Jim Winget, brought six military veterans to Romona Elementary School in Hemet to read Dr. Seuss books to the students. The veterans were there to help celebrate the National Education Association's "Read Across America" program celebrated in March every year. The veterans met in Mrs. Dee Phillips fifth grade class to pick up their assignments and were then escorted by Student Council members to the classrooms. Mrs. Phillips has been having the Elks bring veterans to the school as a part of her on-going teaching of patriotism. Many of the students brought paper and pen to collect the veterans' signatures. "These students treat the veterans like 'rock stars'," she said.



L to R: 65-year old John Gibson, who served in the Army during Viet Nam, 87-year old Don Scholten, a WWII Army veteran, Jim Winget, Hemet Elks Veterans Chairman; 66-year old Richard Morris, Viet Nam Army veteran; 76-year old Saint St. Jean, Korean Army veteran; Bill Harrison, 93-year old WWII Navy veteran; and 73-year old Camille Marchand, who served in the Air Force during Viet Nam

Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 hosted its annual Pinewood Derby for Pack 3643

The Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 hosted over 30 Scouts and their families who participated in the pinewood derby race festivities. Pack 3643 is one of the largest Cub Scout Packs in their district, and has been helping young boys along their Scouting path for over 40 years. They recently had all nine of their Webelos Scouts bridge over to Boy Scout Troops, and their current Webelos den is on pace for 100% continuation as well.



L to R: Blake Boucher, Landon Hartley, Aiden Johnson, Lucas Reiker, Carson Miner, Hayden Miner, Corey Gilliland, Todd Johnson, Robert Miner, Albert Reiker, Mary Gray, Laura Miner, and Bill Hole

Mission Viejo/Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444's ladies strut the runway for charity

The sounds of Dixieland music emanated from the Mission Viejo / Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 recently. The lodge's main hall was decorated in a "Mardi Gras" theme with plenty of boas, beads, and bright table covers of green, gold and purple. The colorful trappings provided the atmosphere for the Elks Ladies Club's 39th annual fashion show starring fourteen ladies modeling beautiful clothing from local merchants. Featured in this year's show were the latest fashions from Damon's & Drapers, Cache, Spring, Chico's, and Bella Terra Woman. The stars of the show were models: Carol Bryan, Judy Longi, Brenda Rhenke, Debbie Lamb, Basia Bills, Linda Marquis, Sandy Jacobs, Laura Lumley, Gloria LeCouvre, Nadine Wardwell, Barbara King, Georgine Pickering, Fran Ponto and Kyra Ytzen from the communities of Lake Forest, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita and Laguna Woods.

The Ladies' Club President, Mary Ann Alvarez, chaired the sold-out event. It raised over \$4,200 for Elks charities. Rosemary Miller and Laura Lumley organized the raffles. Andy Costello, the Lodge's organist, played New Orleans style jazz and blues style runway music. One hundred eighty guests enjoyed a luncheon cooked by volunteer chefs, Dennis Boelts, Gregg Morgan and Howard Sargent. The Lacrosse team from Laguna Hills high school served lunch, and received a \$150 donation from the Elks Lodge. Tuxedo clad PERs served as waiters and escorted the models to and from the runway. President Alvarez thanked all for attending and said of the event, "Our ladies run four major events for the Elks Lodge every year, but the fashion show is our biggest fundraising effort. The money we raise helps the Lodge programs for veterans, handicapped children, scouting, and numerous other Elks supported charities."

Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 donates to youth shelter

The Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 presented a Gratitude Grant of \$1,000 to the Huntington Beach Youth Shelter. The Youth Shelter is a Huntington Beach non-profit run by the Community Services Program. The shelter is run entirely on donations and serves up to twelve 11 to 17 year-olds for a period of up to one month. It has as its goal family unification.

The Shelter has a 90% success rate for family unification and the remaining youths are placed in safe placement. The Shelter uses counseling among other activities to help its guests. Since it opened in 2006, the Shelter has had 810 guests.



L to R: Greg Neneman (ER), Elsa Greenfield (Youth Shelter Director), and Tammy Butler (PER) who is holding a "Thank You" card from the shelter guests.

Petaluma Elks Lodge No. 901 hosted a Law Enforcement Appreciation night

The Petaluma Elks Lodge No. 901 hosted a Law Enforcement Appreciation Night. This was a very auspicious occasion for two important reasons. The Lodge was honoring all Law Enforcement Officers and it was also presenting the Enrique Camarena Award. In addition to the estimated 160 in attendance, there were also two very prominent city officials in attendance to present awards: Mayor David Glass and County Supervisor David Rabbit.

All the nominees were outstanding in their jobs and exemplified the qualities and principles for which Agent Camarena gave his life. All are involved in their respective communities in efforts to make them drug-free and, most importantly, they have the support of their agency and respect of their community.

Ultimately the decision was made, and the Enrique Camarena Award was presented to Detective Rick Cox of the Petaluma Police Department. To further honor this Detective, Mayor David Glass presented him with a City Proclamation. Supervisor David Rabbit also presented him a gold certificate.

This year, we also honored another law enforcement official, Sergeant Steve Gossett of the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office. Supervisor Rabbit presented the honorary certificate to Lt. Carlos Basurto for Steve's outstanding work in drug enforcement, since Steve had been called back in to work before the award presentation.



L to R: Patrick Williams (Chief of Police), Pamela Tarango (Drug Awareness Chair), Detective Rick Cox, and David Glass (Mayor of Petaluma)

Calpine Elks Lodge No. 2432 hosts a dinner for veterans

On March 12, 2014 the Calpine Elks Lodge No. 2432 invited all veterans within the communities of Portola, Loyalton, Quincy, and Greenville, to a dinner. It was a "Thank you" for their service to our country and to acknowledge the sacrifices that they and their families have made to preserve our freedom. Pot roast, potatoes, carrots, salad and dessert were served to the 50 in attendance.

Lodge National Service Chairman Tom Mareina said that there is another dinner planned for May 20, 2014. This dinner will also honor our vets with a Memorial Day tribute of rib eye steaks and all the trimmings. The Lodge is thankful for the assistance provided by Grand Lodge through the Elks National Foundation Beacon Grant program. It is through that program that the Lodge is able, in part, to expand the mission of Elks Care, Elks Share. To date, our dinners have been very much appreciated by our local veterans community.

Yucaipa Elks Lodge No. 2389 visits veterans

On three Fridays a month, members of the Yucaipa Elks Lodge No. 2389 take karaoke to the Jerry L. Pettis Veterans Hospital in Loma Linda, CA. Working with B. J. Blast, volunteer organizer, Ted Brusueles and Tony Pensiero set up their equipment and entertain the veterans. Usually some 30 to 40 veterans attend and many of those participate in the karaoke activity. On some days, the lodge furnishes ice cream and other treats to the delight of the veterans.



L to R: Tony Pensiero, Ray Delamase, and Ted Brusueles

Lake Elsinore/Wildomar Elks Lodge No. 2591 awards scholarships

The Lake Elsinore/Wildomar Elks Lodge No. 2591 hosted its annual Scholarship Awards Dinner at the lodge on Sunday, March 23. Two types of scholarships were awarded: those from the Ladies Auxiliary, and those from the Lodge. All the scholarship recipients received Certificates of Achievement from the Cities of Lake Elsinore and Wildomar in addition to their scholarship awards.

Soozi Greene, the Elks Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Chairperson, introduced the scholarship presenters, who awarded \$500 grants to the following nine students: Jessica Arizmendi De La Torre, Kira Girard and Celeste Tucker (all from Elsinore High School), Catheryne Anguiano and Jamie Cardola (both from Lakeside High School), Mercedes Moreno (Ortega High School), and Vivian Ada Anigbogu, Mayra Camacho and Megan Rodriguez (all from Temescal Canyon High School).

Patricia Quick, the Lodge Scholarship Chairperson, introduced the scholarship presenters who awarded varying amounts of scholarship grants. They were as follows: Hailey Price from Elsinore High School (\$2,500, and she also received \$800 from CHEA), Tracy Tran from Lakeside High School (\$1,500), Jeremiah Anderson from Lakeside High School (\$1,750), and the following students from Temescal Canyon High School: Kyle Stevens (\$1,500), Ricky Chae (\$2,500, who also received \$700 from the district and \$800 from CHEA), and Kelly Halderman (\$1,750).

Kern River Valley Elks Lodge No. 2358 sends Scouts to summer camp

The members of the Kern River Valley Elks Lodge No. 2358 raised \$1,580 to send four Boy Scouts to summer camp. Exalted Ruler Glen Cashwheeler presented the check to Eagle Scout Jim Ash, the advisor to Troop #690, in a small ceremony in the Lodge room.



L to R: ER Glen Cashwheeler, Jim Ash, Patricia Terrell, Scout Committee Chair, and Laurie Ashley

Westchester Elks Lodge No. 2050 distributes DAP literature

The Westchester Elks Lodge No. 2050 participated in a Westchester Community Expo at the Covenant Presbyterian Church on January 26, 2014. Members passed out approximately 30 Elks Drug Awareness Program (DAP) drug awareness coloring books to kids, spoke with numerous members of the Westchester community about Elkdom, and passed out brochures, pens, pins and membership applications.



The "Clippendales" of Lake Elsinore Elks Lodge No. 2591

The Elks Ladies of Lake Elsinore/Wildomar Elks Lodge No. 2591 formed a group to send coupons to service bases and have done so for the past few years. Last year, the base in Germany to which they had sent coupons was closed and they needed to find a new base. They selected a United States Air Force Base in Okinawa, and, as of February this year, have sent them \$12,241 worth of coupons. The Elks Ladies group meets on the second Monday of each month at the Lodge. They average between \$6,000 to \$10,000 worth of coupons each month. All lodge members are urged to collect coupons for the group.

CHEA Annual Convention May 13-17, 2014

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

Tuesday, May 13, 2014

Registration

Wednesday, May 14, 2014

Registration

CHEA and CHEMPI Board of Trustee Meetings

Ritual Practice

DDGER Designate Meeting

First Vice President's Meeting

Past Association President's meeting

Opening Session – Visitor's Welcome

Introduction of Guests

Introduction of Grand Exalted Ruler

Memorial Service

Thursday, May 15, 2014

Registration

Ritual Contest

First Business Session – Visitors Welcome

Introductions 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

Grand Lodge Judiciary Available to Answer Questions

Association President's Dinner

Friday, May 16, 2014

Registration

Ritual Contest Finals

Second Business Session – Visitors Welcome

Rally and Installation of Officers

Theme Child Photo Opportunity – 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Seminar Workshops

CHEA and CHEMPI Board of Trustee Meetings

CHEMPI Piggy Bank and Bequests and Living Trusts (BLT)

Seminar

Membership & Lapsation Seminar

Drug Awareness Seminar

National Veterans Service Seminar

Theme Child Photo Opportunity – 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 17, 2014

Final Business Session – Visitors Welcome

Theme Child Presentation and Exalted Rulers March

Theme Child Photo Opportunity – 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Ritual Contest Report and Awards

ATTENTION - LODGES & MEMBERS

Don't miss out on the opportunity to take your photos with this year's Major Project Theme Child - Ethan Kempton. Ethan, his family and his Occupational Therapist Mavis Johnson will be available to take photos with you on Friday, May 16, 2014 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 17, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Homecoming

President Dick McDonald and First Lady Claudette were welcomed back by the Central District during their Homecoming visitation. They were feted to a wonderful homecoming dinner on Saturday evening, March 1, 2014. The three-day event, Friday, February 28, through Sunday, March 2, 2014 took place in Modesto.

The Modesto Elks Lodge No. 1282 held a Friday Night dinner that was followed by their rollicking "50's Show." A delicious Swiss steak or grilled chicken dinner was served to the attendees who enjoyed traveling down memory lane as they were entertained by performances of fabulous 50's music.

The Sportsmen of Stanislaus Club (S.O.S. Club) was the venue for the official Homecoming dinner on Saturday night. Steak or Baked Salmon were the entrees for the event. It was well attended by Elks and their guests from many Districts in the Association, including PGERS Ken Moore, Jim and Lucia Grillo, and Tom and Venita Brazier.

