



# The California-Hawaii

# Elk

*"Elks Care ~ Elks Share"*



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

**Volume 56, Number 5**

**September/October 2009**

## **Association President Karjola Visits Santa Ana Lodge No. 794**

Association President Lee Karjola and First Lady Cindy honored the Santa Ana Elks Lodge No. 794 with a visit. The Lodge's "Elroy the Elk" just couldn't miss the opportunity to say "hello" and thank Lee and Cindy for "dropping by". While at the Lodge Lee and First Lady Cindy enjoyed a tour of the facility, and meeting many of the members.

In other news, Lodge veterans participated in the annual Tri-City Memorial Day Observance at the Santa Ana Cemetery, Santa Ana, CA. A wreath was placed at the Monument to the Unknown Dead of the Civil War, by the Veterans Program Chairman Frank Torres and Assistant Chairman Lionel Lopes. The group also visited the one of eight graves of Civil War soldiers whose graves were identified, marked with Civil War monuments, and dedicated during the service.

The Lodge continues to send "care packages" to our overseas servicemen and women. A total of 52 boxes were mailed to the troops during the last two months. Each box contains notes written by members of the Lodge, letting them know that we care and appreciate their dedication to this country. In return, many thank you notes have been received from the recipients, read on the floor of the lodge, and then posted in the lobby.

The Lodge sponsored the 28th annual Wally Dietrich Dinner and Awards Ceremony. 425 eighth-grade athletes, parents, coaches, teachers and school administrators watched as 167 trophies were presented. Two \$500.00 scholarships were presented to two outstanding graduating students. Both Allison Kapriellan and Edgar Zamora attended Beckman High School.

The Lodge sponsors the Santa Ana Girls Softball League 10U All Star

team. Two of the Lodge officers are the team Coaches. The team took 1st place in the All Star Tournament, the 10U Central "C" District Tournament and 1st place in the 2009 Southern California "C" State Championship. The Lodge is very proud of their accomplishments!



## **Grass Valley Elks Lodge No. 538 Hosts Court of Honor**



The Grass Valley Elks Lodge No. 538 recently hosted an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for two new Eagle Scouts, Bobby Bowden and James Coyle. Exalted Ruler Ed Bourne presented each Eagle Scout with a letter and certificate from our Grand Exalted Ruler and an American Flag.

The Grass Valley Elks Lodge charters Cub Scout Pack 21, Boy Scout Troop 21, and Venture Crew 21. All three scouting groups regularly meet at the scout lodge and also participate in lodge events, often serving dinner to guests. By hosting three scouting groups, we support scouting activities for scouts age 6 to 21, and we hope that some of these scouts will someday become Elks.

**Left to Right: Jim Bowman, Esquire and Scouting Chair, Eagle Scout Bobby Bowden, Eagle Scout James Coyle, Ed Bourne**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My fellow Elks members:

By the time you read this article, my visitations will be well under way. As of this writing, we have been to the Metropolitan District and Northeast District. In addition, Cindy and I have attended and represented California-Hawaii Elks Association at the Grand Lodge Convention held in Portland, Oregon. I have got to tell you, being the President of the California-Hawaii Elks Association is "one fine job."



Cindy and I could not be more proud of the tightness and cohesiveness of the seven Lodges of the Metropolitan District and the way they assist each other in accomplishing their Elks goals. The long narrow Northeast District, consisting of nine smaller Elks Lodges consistently meets or exceeds their per capita requirements. Each Elks Lodge we have visited has been special and all have been gracious and proud to show off their Lodge and all the programs and activities they are promoting to help their Lodge and our Association continue to grow.

We will continue to enjoy greeting all the wonderful Elks Members and their friends and families throughout California and visiting places that until now have only been names we have had to look up on a map.

Throughout our visitations, we cannot help but notice what each Lodge is doing to ensure the success of our many Elks programs, and we truly can "Trust Elks to Achieve the Extraordinary".

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

*Leon A. Karjola*

Leon A. Karjola, President  
California-Hawaii Elks Association

### Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 Celebrates Flag Day

On Sunday, June 14th, 2009, all B. P. O. Elks Lodges across the country celebrated Flag Day. The Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 was joined by 75 members and parents of various scouting groups that the Lodge sponsors to recognize and pay tribute to the flag of our country. Young Sami Straiman gave a beautiful rendition of our National Anthem to start our program. The scouts presented the colors and displayed replicas of the flags that have graced our nation from its inception until today. The MIA flag was also honored.

In order of their appearance: Andrew Clements BSA 754 (Pine Tree Flag); Lexie Seligman GSA 60060 (Snake Flag); Spencer Dietrich BSA 754 (Two Crosses); Chandler Meshwork GSA 60050 (13 Stars); Evan Coppersmith BSA 754 (15 Stars); Kevin Driscoll BSA 763 (48 Stars); Max Seligman BSA 754 (MIA-POW); Ryan Barbee BSA 754 (50 Stars).

After the Flag Day Ceremony, a Flag Retirement took place out doors. Terry Gicking, Exalted Ruler, retired a flag first, and anyone else who wanted to retire a flag was encouraged to do so. An ice cream social concluded the day's festivities.

(USPS 010-116)

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

Official Periodical of:

**The California-Hawaii Elks Association**

5450 E. Lamona Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93727-2224

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

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**Send electronic items to:** editor@cheamag.org

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

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

California-Hawaii Elks Association  
5450 E. Lamona Ave.  
Fresno, CA 93727-2224

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 James Mason...V. Chairman Meetings Comm  
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 Billy J. Skarles.....'09 Mid-Term Chairman  
 Jimmy Hancock.....'10 Mid-Term Chairman  
 James K. Olson.....Pres. Achievement Award  
 George Murray.....Ritual Coordinator

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 Jack D. Jones.....Business Practices  
 John "Jack" Dalton.....Drug Awareness  
 Roy Long.....Elks Training  
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 Robert Ostini.....Lapsation  
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 Fred Hewins.....Major Project  
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 Kathleen Monsees.....Scouting  
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(California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc.)

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

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

**Yucaipa Elks Lodge No. 2389 Raises Money for Veterans**

The Yucaipa Lodge No. 2389 Veterans Service Committee sponsored a dinner and game night in July, raising \$450 to provide needed personal items for the local veterans' hospital.

**Feed Your Purple Pig!**



**President's Upcoming Visitation Schedule**

**September 4-6, 2009**  
 South Coast District

**September 11-13, 2009**  
 Inland District (Jamboree)

**September 19-27, 2009**  
 Hawaii District

**October 2-4, 2009**  
 San Gabriel Valley District

**October 7-8, 2009**  
 CHEMPI Professional Institute, Bass Lake

**October 9-11, 2009**  
 East Central District

**October 16-18, 2009**  
 Arizona Elks Association Mid-Year Mtng

**October 23-24, 2009**  
 North District

**November 6-7, 2009**  
 CHEA Mid-Term Conference, Woodland/Sacramento

**November 13-16, 2009**  
 Bay District

**November 20-21, 2009**  
 West Central District

**December 4-6, 2009**  
 North Central District

**December 30-31, 2009**  
 New Year's Celebration – Pasadena

**January 1, 2010**  
 New Year's Celebration – Pasadena

**Piggy Bank***Debbie Hosted, Piggy Bank Chair*

Summer is winding down and fall is almost upon us. Soon we will be seeing Holiday items in the stores and in commercials which means more demands on your time and money. And the economy is still causing difficulties for many of us.

Despite all of that, I am going to continue to ask you for your donations as well. I believe our Major Project is the best among the many State and Association Major Projects throughout the United States. For almost 60 years our members have provided the funds to help thousands and thousands of children and their families. You each should be proud of the part you have played in this accomplishment.

As you gather together over the fall and holiday seasons, please remember our project. Here are some suggestions to increase your giving.

1. Keep your Purple Pig Bank within reach and fill it with your loose change. Have an event at your lodge and place Piggy Banks on the tables for donations.

2. When you receive labels and Christmas cards from the Fresno office, please send a donation – large or small. Your lodge gets credit for the amount of money donated.

3. Make a gift to the Major Project in honor or memory of a loved one.

4. Finish that 52 Club or Century Club and start working on another one.

5. Save the “Box Tops for Education” coupons from the household products that you use. Contact your Lodge for information on sending them in to be donated to the Purple Pig.

6. Use Goodsearch.com for internet searches. Fill in California-Hawaii Elks Major Project in the Charity to Search for box and give a penny with each search.

7. Shop on line through Goodsearch.com at many of your favorite stores. All stores featured make a donation to the Major Project.

8. Donate ONLINE at [www.chea-elks.org](http://www.chea-elks.org). There is a Purple box on the left hand column of the home page. You can do a one time or recurring donation – it is a simple page to complete and you are set up for regular donations.

I am asking for \$1 more per member than was donated last year. If we all help with that one dollar more, we will reach our goal of \$3 Million at the State Convention next May in San Diego. I know that we can reach this goal if we all work together!

**Richmond Elks Lodge No. 1251 Presents its First GSA Gold Award**

Richmond Elks Lodge No. 1251 awarded its first ever Girl Scout Gold Award to Robin Kearsley-Luke (Troop 33993) at a special ceremony held at the Lodges' Youth Night July 21, 2009. Ms. Kearsley-Luke's proud Scoutmaster Barbara Vanek stated that the Gold Award is equivalent to the Boy Scout Eagle Award. It is the highest award a Girl Scout can earn. Scoutmaster Vanek and Lodge Scouting Chairman Mark Malgaliati gave an American Flag and a framed Gold Award Certificate to Ms. Kearsley-Luke. Ms. Kearsley-Luke graduated from high school in June and will be attending Sonoma State.

In other scouting news, the Lodge recognized seven Eagle Scouts at its annual Youth Night. Five of these El Sobrante BSA Troop 146 Eagle Scouts had already received their Eagle Scout Award Certificates and American Flags, but were specially honored at the Lodge's youth night. These five honorees were: Herwin Hernandez, Sean Barney, Travis Poehnelt, Kyle Armstrong and Mathew Fowler. The other two Scouts that were recognized were Herald Hernandez and Chris Rudy. These Scouts have completed the requirements for Eagle Scout and will receive their Eagle Scout Award Certificates and American Flags at their Courts of Honor to be held later this year.

In addition, retiring Scout Master Kevin Rudy was recognized as one of four recipients of the Elks' prestigious Marvin M. Lewis Awards. A special ceremony is planned for Kevin after his commemorative medalion, knot and certificate are received from Grand Lodge.

**Lompoc Elks Lodge No. 2274 DARE Program Helps Youth**

The Lompoc Elks Lodge No. 2274 donated over 200 “2KOOL4DRUGS” stickers to children at the Fourth of July pre-fireworks activities at Huyck Stadium. The Drug Awareness stickers, coloring books and bookmarks were given to children standing in line to climb the Lompoc Valley Police Activity League (PAL) “Rock Wall”. PER Vicki Duerr said that it was quite a sight to see all the children sporting their stickers during the celebration. Several children asked if they could have coloring books and bookmarks for their friends who were not at the event.

In other news, the Lodge participated in the Unified Blood Drive on 7/2/09. According to Phil Hagar, Trustee and event organizer, “Our Lodge collected 35 units of needed blood for the Blood Bank”.

**San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 322 awards 8th & 9th Medals of Valor**

Two B. P. O. Elks “Medals of Valor” were presented to two local families of soldiers who gave the ultimate sacrifice serving our country for Iraqi/Enduring Freedom. The two soldiers who were honored and remembered at the San Luis Obispo Memorial Day Service were Army 1st Lt. Osbaldo Orozco, age 26, C Company, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, who served in Iraq, and Marine LCpl Jacob Toves, age 27, 3rd Combat Engineer, who served in Afghanistan. Approximately 250 people were in attendance. The ceremony was reported by the local TV station and newspaper. The San Luis Obispo Elks Lodge has presented a total of nine “Medals of Valor” since 2007.

**San Mateo Elks Lodge No. 1112's Band Plays at Yountville Veterans Home**

The San Mateo Elks Lodge No. 1112 Band traveled to the California Veterans Home in Yountville, CA on June 13th. Each year, the Home celebrates Flag Day and the Elks are a significant presence at those ceremonies. The band has made this trip to the Home for Flag Day for many years, accompanied by several Lodge members. After the ceremony, all attendees joined the residents for a luncheon of hot dogs, hamburgers, salads and beverages. The day was enjoyed by all who attended.

**Madera Elks Lodge No. 1918 Presents Scholarships**

The Madera Elks Lodge No. 1918 held their annual Flag Ceremony and Scholarship Awards night at the lodge Thursday evening. The ceremony is in honor of Flag Day.

Boy Scouts from Troop 117 and Girl Scouts in the Elks' sponsored Troop 1918 took part in the ceremony. The Boy Scout Color Guard presented the history of the United States flags, from “Betsy Ross”, “Don't Tread On Me” and others concluding with the presentation of the current flag with 50 stars. As each Scout presented a historical flag Scout Mark Hasler gave a brief history of the banner.

The night was also special for two scholarship award winners. Students Allison Couch and Robert Holt were presented scholarships that will total \$1000 each by Elks member and event coordinator Adam Thomas.

Many Elks members, family and friends were present for the ceremony. Elks Exalted Ruler Harold Johnson was appreciative of the turnout, and flag presentation, stating “Patriotism in the American tradition cannot be shown in a better manner as tonight by the Elks, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts”.

After the ceremonies, those in attendance enjoyed a steak dinner with mashed potatoes and salad that was prepared and served by the lodge members.

### Advisory Committee (Past Presidents)

*L.E. Chenoweth	Bakersfield	1913-14
*Hilliard E. Welch	Stockton	1914-15
*Dr. Ralph Hagan	Los Angeles	1915-16
*William M. Abbott, PGER	San Francisco	1916-17
*Harry M. Ticknor	Pasadena	1917-19
*James M. Shanley	Oakland	1919-20
*Charles Donlon	Santa Barbara	1920-21
*John D. Saxe	San Rafael	1921-22
*Richard C. Benbough	San Diego	1922-23
*Howard B. Kirtland	San Luis Obispo	1923-24
*Edgar F. Davis	Long Beach	1924-25
*John J. Lermen	San Francisco	1925-26
*Mifflin G. Potts	Pasadena	1926-27
*William E. Simpson	Fresno	1927-28
*John J. Doyle	Los Angeles	1928-29
*Fred B. Mellmann	Oakland	1929-30
*Horace S. Williamson	Redlands	1930-31
*F.E. Dayton	Salinas	1931-32
*Horace H. Quinby	Alhambra	1932-33
*J. Thomas Crowe	Tulare	1933-34
*Milton R. Standish	San Bernardino	1934-35
*George M. Smith	San Jose	1935-36
*L.A. "Fay" Lewis, PGER	Anaheim	1936-37
*C. Fenton Nichols	San Francisco	1937-38
*C.P. Hebenstreit	Huntington Park	1938-39
*Elmer B. Maze	Merced	1939-40
*Robert S. Redington	Los Angeles	1940-41
*Donald K. Quayle	Alameda	1941-42
*Newton M. Todd	Long Beach	1942-43
*Clifford C. Anglin	Richmond	1943-44
*Stephen A. Compas	Huntington Park	1944-45
*Horace R. Wisely, PGER	Salinas	1945-46
*R. Leonard Bush, PGER	Westchester	1946-47
*Earl J. Williams	Oakland	1947-48
*Morley H. Golden	San Diego	1948-49
*Robert J. Craine	Hanford	1949-50
*Ben W. Osterman	Santa Ana	1950-51
*John B. Morey, PGELK	Palo Alto	1951-52
*Vincent H. Grocott	Santa Barbara	1952-53
*Edward E. Keller	San Mateo	1953-54
*Robert P. Mohrbacker	Long Beach	1954-55
*Jim B. Nielsen, PGELK	Watsonville	1955-56
*Owen O. Keown	Santa Monica	1956-57
*John A. Raffetto	Auburn	1957-58
*Frank M. Linnell	Newport Harbor	1958-59
*Charles T. Reynolds	Vallejo	1959-60
*Guy A. Daniels	Redlands	1960-61
*Paul T. Wemple	Susanville	1961-63
*Vern R. Huck	Los Angeles	1963-64
*Henry J. Budde	San Francisco	1964-65
*Edgar Dale	Vallejo	Honorary
*Bruce H. Marsh	Inglewood	1965-66
*Gerald Strohm, PGER	Fresno	1966-67
*Marvin M. Lewis, PGER	Brawley	1967-68
*Norman S. Lien	Watsonville	1968-69
*Paul E. Haines	Pasadena	1969-70
*Ernest Olivieri	Sonora	1970-71
*Walter Schween, Jr.	Salinas	1971-72
*C. Wallace Erickson	Glendale	1972-73
*Yubi G. Separovich, PGELK	Sacramento	1973-74

### Advisory Committee cont.

*Dan Davis	Van Nuys	1974-75
*Rev. Msgr. George Scott	San Pedro	Honorary
*James E. Spence, Jr.	Oakland	1975-76
*Marvin M. Pike, PGELK	Torrance	1976-77
*Donald W. Luce, PGELK	Richmond	1977-78
*Dr. Robert G. Robb	Garden Grove	1978-79
Donald D. Dapelo, PGER	Coalinga	1979-80
*William D. Brunner	Redondo Beach	1980-81
*Leland J. "Butch" Simas	Santa Maria	1981-82
Kenneth L. Moore, PGER	Corona	1982-83
Elmer L. Lanini, PGT	Salinas	1983-84
Robert J. McLain, PGELK	Pasadena	1984-85
Clifford E. Beatty	Chico	1985-86
Richard L. "Dick" Alves, PGEsq.	San Jose	1986-87
*Bernard E. McCune	Long Beach	1987-88
*Oscar W. Stutheit	Orange	Honorary
*R.E. "Bud" Cenis, PGELK	Bakersfield	1988-89
*Dr. Eugene P. Weigand, PGELK	Pasadena	1989-90
*Lynn Wood	Modesto	1990-91
William C. "Bill" Ijames, PGELK	Vista	1991-92
Richard E. Owen, PGELK	Santa Maria	1992-93
John A. Parker, PGT	Marysville	1993-94
Rex E. Dondlinger	Arcadia	1994-95
Anthony J. Mauro	Hollister	1995-96
Timothy C. Martin	San Bernardino	1996-97
Sim Nathan	Redding	1997-98
Frank G. Keller	Corona	1998-99
Louis J. "Jim" Grillo, PGER	Stockton	1999-00
John G. Holt	Burbank	2000-01
John M. Carvalho, Sr.	Sacramento	2001-02
H. Eugene Chambers	Needles	2002-03
Doug Larsen	Salinas	2003-04
Lee Northcutt, PGE	La Habra	2004-05
Roy R. Newman	Marysville	2005-06
James S. Mason	Gardena	2006-07
Oren Richardson	Coalinga	2007-08
Jerry Rucker	San Bernardino	2008-09
*Deceased		

### New Bequest and Living Trust Benefactors

We are pleased to report that the Bequest and Living Trust program is alive and well! Recently, we received new BLT donations from two members of the Thousand Oaks Lodge No. 2477: Greg H. & Barbara Metzgas and Richard & Elaine Goldner. Their generous donations will continue to help us achieve a positive outcome in the lives of the children we serve. We, as well as the children in our program, greatly appreciate their thoughtfulness!

Thank you,  
The California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc.

### Editor's Note: New Email Address

This issue is the fifth and final issue of The California-Hawaii Elk for the 2009 Calendar Year. In the 2010 Calendar Year, we plan to make some changes to the magazine. We are planning a new look to the magazine and we are also changing publishers. We thank Concourse Communications for their work as our publisher since January, 2008.

One immediate change that I must announce in this issue is that the email address for submitting articles will now be [editor@cheamag.org](mailto:editor@cheamag.org). Please begin using this new email address immediately for your submissions for the January/February 2010 issue. For guidelines on submitting articles to the magazine, please go to [www.chea-elks.org/MagazineGuidelines.pdf](http://www.chea-elks.org/MagazineGuidelines.pdf).

**Drug Awareness**

*By Jack Dalton, Drug Awareness Chair*

Marijuana is a word used to describe the dried flowers, seeds and leaves of the Indian hemp plant. Hashish is made from the plant's gummy sap (resin) and is six times stronger than marijuana.

Many people say that pot is harmless because it's natural. But tobacco, poison ivy and anthrax grow naturally and they have some nasty effects. Tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, is the chemical that causes some smokers to develop a tolerance to its effects and then crave more of the drug, leading to addiction. Today's marijuana is twice as powerful, on average, as it was 20 years ago.

Our brains are wired to ensure that we will repeat life-sustaining activities (eating, drinking, sleeping, joyous events, sex) by associating those activities with pleasure. Drugs of abuse stimulate the same circuits. Dopamine is a chemical messenger that is similar to adrenaline. Dopamine affects the brain processes that control movement, emotional response, and the ability to experience pleasure and pain. When some drugs of abuse are taken, they can release 2 to 20 times the amount of dopamine, and the effect lasts much longer. The effect of such a powerful reward strongly motivates a person to take drugs again and again (addiction).

Marijuana use often causes drowsiness, red eyes, increased appetite, a loss of coordination, distorted vision, hearing and time senses, an increased heart rate and poor memory. The long term effects are psychotic symptoms, growth disorders, lung and heart damage, reduced ability to learn and retain information, reduction of male sex hormones, and a reduced ability to fight lung infections and illness. It is also a gateway drug to stronger and more powerful drugs.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Drug Awareness Program is dedicated to preventing the use of alcohol, tobacco, or other illicit drugs by youth of our country. The Elks, with the assistance of our committed partners, proactively educate students and adults by providing our schools with science-based prevention programs and drug awareness information.

**Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 Rides For Guide Dogs**

Approximately 40 members of the Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 joined 288 other motorcycle riders in a ride for Guide Dogs of America. It was a clear sunny day and the riders, spectators and even the puppies were ready for fun. The Guide Dogs of America offers blind and visually impaired people independence, confidence and companionship in the form of a furry best friend for free.

The Elks motorcycle riders were anxious to be a part of this important event. The riders met a different pup at each stop. At the end of the ride, everyone enjoyed a BBQ at the Guide Dogs of America facility in Sylmar.



**California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. 2009 Theme Child – Mia Burton**

Mia made her debut into the world in Redding, California two months before her mom, Christina's due date. Mia weighed four pounds, 15 ounces at birth. Complications were initially few. She required a feeding tube for a few days until she was able to coordinate her sucking and swallowing. She stayed in the Newborn Intensive Care Unit for one week and then was discharged to go home.

Initially, all appeared well. After several months it was obvious that there was a problem with Mia's left arm and leg. Her left hand remained tightly fistled. When she kicked, her left leg remained stiff. Despite these differences, Mia was very active. She encountered challenges with some motor skills and when she began walking, she was up on her toes and tripping frequently.

Mia's doctor informed her parents that most likely, Mia suffered a stroke before she was born. The doctor ordered physical and occupational therapy funded by a state agency. This helped Mia until services were abruptly discontinued when she turned three years of age. Her family was at a loss until Mia was referred to the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project for help. Grandpa, who is a member of the Redding Elks Lodge, called Denise Wilson, Physical Therapist, who has been providing services ever since. Mia and her family are an outstanding example of how the members of the California-Hawaii Elks continue to support their Major Project Piggy Bank fund and help children with disabilities, such as Mia.

Mia was very surprised at the Association Convention last May when she received a "Grand Walk-In Kitchen", a gift from the North District!



**Hanford Elks Lodge No. 1259 Holds Youth Night**

The Hanford Elks Lodge No. 1259 held their annual Youth Night to recognize local youths in the community. Chairman Quinton McEl-yea, PER, assisted by Exalted Ruler Steve Morrison presented \$17,700 in scholarships to five area high school seniors. The Lodge-sponsored Little League and Girl Scout Troup members and their coaches/leaders were also recognized. Preceding the presentations, honorees, family members and Lodge members were served a spaghetti dinner prepared by the Lodge's Past Exalted Rulers.

*In 2009-2010, the ENF will return \$1.843 to CHEA for each \$1.00 you donated in 2008-2009. Please support the ENF!*

## Membership Retention & Lapsation

By Robert Ostini, Retention and Lapsation Chair

There are many reasons why the Elks are set apart from other organizations. Two of these are our Elks Home and our great selection of Special Rituals. Both of these assets should be key parts of your Lodge's membership retention program.

My counterpart, CHEA Membership Chairman David Harris, likes to propose that one solution to the problem of dwindling membership is to not allow members to die. However, when a member does pass away, your Lodge has a great opportunity to show that member's family and friends how special and valued that member was to your Lodge.

Upon receiving a notification that a member has passed away, the Exalted Ruler and/or the Lodge Secretary should contact the family and offer to perform the Elks Funeral Ritual. In addition to the Funeral Ritual, there is a Grave Side Ritual and a Memorial Service Ritual. These Special Ritual books are available from the Grand Lodge. All of these Special Rituals can be solemn and impressive tributes to the memory of your departed member.

Next, your Lodge should be made available to the family for memorials or other remembrance receptions. There is no better way to demonstrate that a member's Elks Home is an extension of their own home and is readily available for use by their family.

Consider also that Elks Lodges are an invaluable asset to the communities that they serve. Consider allowing your Lodge to become the "Social Hub" of your community by hosting community meetings, i.e. "meet the candidate" nights or "public safety" nights. These are great ways to introduce your Lodge to potential new members as well as to instill a source of pride in your Lodge's current members.

The reports that I am receiving indicate that many Lodges are doing a great job with "keeping the back door closed." Others still have a long way to go. This is a critical time for membership retention. The invoices for the six-month dues payers should be going out and their paid responses will improve the lapsation rate for your Lodge. I encourage all Lodge Secretaries to get their Lodge's dues notices out early.

It should be clear by now that any member who has not yet paid his or her dues is a member who did not visit the Lodge very often during the past few months or even during the past year. Please form a group of active, caring members who can give these reluctant members a call. Invite them to an event that is happening soon. Hopefully, the subject of unpaid dues can be casually mentioned and the member will agree to attend the event and pay their dues.

Who knows - you just might accomplish something extraordinary.

## Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625 Honors Fallen WWII Veteran

On July 4th, the Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625 honored a fallen World War II veteran by dedicating a special plaque in his honor at the Lancaster Cemetery Veterans Memorial Garden. Russell H. Godde, was a WWII veteran and an Elk. He was a bombardier on a B-24 Liberator and was shot down in the August 1, 1943 great Ploesti Raid with over 1,700 airmen on 178 bombers. The raid was also known by code name "Tidal Wave" and the targets were the seven oil refineries around Ploesti, Romania. His B-24 Liberator, known as "Yen Tse", flew in from North Africa in the 5th wave of attacks. Only 3 survivors returned from his aircraft after the war, when they were repatriated from Romanian prison camps.

The dedication ceremony was presided over by Exalted Ruler Bob Lee Hancock. In attendance were the Godde family, several members of the lodge, several city council members and many citizens of Lancaster and the surrounding area. The event was part of an annual 4th of July celebration observed by the city of Lancaster and the surrounding area.

Also honored and in attendance during the event were several World War II survivors from all theaters and services and many active duty and retired military members. Many of the active duty attendees had served in Iraq and Afghanistan and some are scheduled to return overseas.



## San Gabriel Valley District DDGER Coordinates Donation to Homeless Veterans



Left to Right: Ernie Acuna, ER, James Rentschler, John Desoto, Donna McIntyre, Cathy Rentschler, Anita Dunlap, Emblem President, Jackie Orovecz, Ann Wagner, Maria Acuna, First Lady, (these 6 ladies are Emblem members) and David Delgado, '08-'09 VP, and wife Rosie

San Gabriel Valley '08-'09 DDGER, James E. Rentschler (from Pomona Elks Lodge No. 2038) coordinated a project whose goal was to collect 1,000 pairs of underwear for homeless veterans. On June 14th, he presented John DeSoto, the LAAC Voluntary Service Site Manager for the Veterans Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, Ambulatory Care Center with 750 pairs of underwear. Rentschler's Lodge, Pomona Elks Lodge No. 2038, and their Emblem Club No. 325, were major contributors along with the other lodges in the San Gabriel Valley District.

In other news, the Pomona Elks Lodge, assisted by Cub Scout Troop 462 (from Roynon Elementary School, La Verne, CA) sponsored a festive and colorful Flag Day celebration at the Lodge. The ceremony followed a BBQ luncheon and was attended by the Mayor of the city of Pomona, Elliott Rothman and John DeSoto (who is mentioned in the above paragraph).

**Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 Honors Troop 754's 50th Eagle Scout**

On Sunday, August 2, 2009, an Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held for Kevin Ryan at the Teledyne Scientific Center in Thousand Oaks. Kevin is a member of BSA Troop 754, which is sponsored by the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477. Kevin is the 50th Eagle Scout to spread his wings from this Troop and to have his name inscribed on the Honor Roll housed at the Lodge.

Terry Gicking, Exalted Ruler, and three Marvin A. Lewis Scouting Award recipients (Greg Metzgus, DDGER, Bill Sternberg, Grand Lodge Elks & Scouting West Regional Chairman and Bill Miller, Committee Chair) were present to honor Kevin at the Court of Honor. A plaque and an American Flag were presented to Kevin.

Kevin is the son of Mike and Sheila Ryan. He is a graduate of Crespi Carmalite High School. Kevin participated in cross country track 3 years in a row. He is now attending the University of San Diego and is majoring in business.

Kevin started in scouting as a Cub in Pack 3730 and then joined BSA Troop 754. His Eagle Scout Project was building a storage facility for the outdoor play equipment of St. Pascal Baylon Grade School. After 193 volunteer hours, a 3 foot by 8 foot by 11 foot shed was completed on the school's property. Special thanks go to Home Depot of Camarillo who generously supplied all the building supplies for the structure. A thank you to Frank Pagano, Kevin's grandfather, whose engineering skills helped Kevin draft the plans for the structure. Special thanks to Brian Bayne for the use of his wood shop. Special thanks for the family and friends for their help.

The Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge recently recognized two other Eagle Scouts at Courts of Honor. On Sunday June 28, 2009 an Eagle Court of Honor was held for Tom Woolley. There were 100 family and friends present to honor Tom. Tom is the son of Diane and Michael Woolley and is the second brother of three that has attained the rank of Eagle Scout. Tom attended Newbury Park High School and is now attending Moorpark College. He participated in Newbury Park Basketball and Soccer. For his Eagle Scout Project, Tom organized the building and construction of flower boxes and trellises for the Banyon Elementary school. A special thanks to Lister Rents for donating the roto-tiller

and to Principal Martha Tureen of Banyon Elementary for encouraging this project.

On June 7, 2009 an Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held for Kevin Staley at his home because of family illness. There were 75 family and friends in attendance. Kevin started in scouting as a Cub Scout in 1997 and achieved Eagle Scout status with Troop 754 on October 23, 2008. He held leadership positions as Patrol Leader; Asst. Patrol Leader; Den Chief, and Troop Guide. He earned 27 Merit Badges and Special Award Merit-Achievements for BSA Lifeguard Award and a total of 54.5 Total Service Hours. Kevin's Eagle Project benefited Newbury Park High School's Visual Arts Department, as their storage room needed a complete makeover. The project consisted of removing 30 years of clutter, painting walls and installing eight free standing shelving units. With the outstanding help of his fellow scouts, friends and family, the project was completed in two days and 154 volunteer hours. Kevin plans to further his education by majoring in Kinesiology.



**Left to Right: Mike and Sheila Ryan, Terry Gicking, Greg Metzgus, Bill Sternberg and Bill Miller**

**Alhambra-San Gabriel Lodge No. 1328 Donates Dictionaries**

The Alhambra-San Gabriel Lodge No. 1328 recently completed the distribution of 5,492 dictionaries to private schools and 7 school districts. The lodge has had fund raisers and other donations from its membership that allowed it to provide these dictionaries to so many 3rd graders.



**Left to Right: Coolidge school Principal Martin Hranek, PER Ralph Garcia, PR Chairperson Char Parry, and PER Al Fredrickson, Dictionary Program Chairman**

**Vista Elks Lodge No. 1968 Treats Kids to a BBQ**

The Vista Elks Lodge No. 1968, under the direction of Bill Ijames, Past Grand Esteemed Loyal Knight, held a BBQ picnic for the students of Sierra Vista High School, a school for children with special needs. Bill Ijames led the students in the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of God Bless America.





**Moreno Valley Elks Lodge No. 2697 Has a New Home**

On June 6, 2009, the Moreno Valley Elks Lodge No. 2697 had a ribbon-cutting ceremony that preceded the celebration of the Grand Opening of their new Lodge home in the Canyon Springs Shopping Center off of Day Street in Moreno Valley.

Letters of congratulations were received from Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Moreno Valley City Manager Robert G. Gutierrez. Over 300 people were in attendance, including local community dignitaries and Elks from the Southeast District. At least 12 local businesses contributed the food and water for the event. Entertainment was provided by the Judith Paxton band from Sky Forest Elks Lodge No. 2393.



**Moreno Valley Elks Lodge Exalted Ruler Judy Smith (with scissors) is joined by Lodge members, local dignitaries and other Elks from the Southeast District.**

**Watsonville Elks Lodge No. 1300 Honors Servicemen**

On Saturday, May 30, 2009, several members of our Armed Forces were recognized for their service to their country at a dinner given in their honor. The Elks Medal of Valor was awarded to the family of SPC Morgen Jacobs, who was killed in action on October 7, 2004 near Tikrit, Iraq. He was serving with the 1st Infantry Division and was 20 years old when he died.

The medal was accepted by Morgen's grandmother and cousin. She accepted the award for the family and addressed the audience, saying that she was grateful to the Elks for honoring his memory and that his parents are still struggling to accept his death and could not attend the event themselves.

The Mayor of Watsonville, Antonio Rivas, presented the family with a City Proclamation that noted all of SPC Jacobs's deeds and accomplishments prior to his death. The Watsonville Police Cadets provided the Honor Guard that posted and retrieved the Flag at the opening and closing of the dinner.

Other servicemen who were invited to the event as honored guests were U.S. Army SSG Nick Camarillo and SSG Alan Beckwith and Marine Lance Corporal David Castillo. All three were honored for their years of service to their country and they received Certificates of Appreciation and wood carved replicas of a Humvee and Stryker vehicles.

Over 70 people enjoyed the evening and dinner.

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

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

**Indio Elks Lodge No. 1643 Awards \$16,000 in Scholarships**

The Indio Elks Lodge No. 1643 proudly awarded \$16,000 in scholarships to 5 deserving local high school students. The Lodge sponsored a dinner to honor the students and their parents. Many lodge members attended the dinner to recognize these students for their accomplishments.

**Palo Alto Elks Lodge No. 1471 Donates CDs to VA Hospital Digital Books Library**

The Palo Alto Elks Lodge No. 1471 Veterans Service Committee donated over 290 CDs to the Palo Alto VA Hospital's Digital Books library. In addition to the Books on CDs, they donated 4 CD player boom boxes that the veterans could use for reading the books. Previously, the committee had donated 100 Books on Tapes and CDs to the Western Rehabilitation Blind Center. These new library CDs will be available to veterans from the Spinal Cord Injury Unit, the Hospice ward, the Polytrauma ward as well as the Blind Center or to any other hospital patient. As the library grows, the committee will donate more CD players. Four years ago, the committee did a similar project with DVD movies and Portable DVD players. That project has since grown 10 times larger.

The committee also donated a new electric razor to Navy veteran Steve Spellman, who is a veteran of the Iraq war effort. Steve is a patient at the Palo Alto Veterans hospital Spinal Cord Injury unit. The committee Co-Chairman, Loren Dowell, made the presentation.

In other news, the Lodge held two events in July for our veterans. The first event was to run a series of bingo games at the Palo Alto Veterans hospital. 27 veterans and their families attended and played. Hospital canteen scrip was given to the winners, while a personal CD player, music CD's, Elks T-shirts and many other small items were handed out as door prizes to all the players.

The following day, the Lodge held a Veterans Appreciation Dinner at the Palo Alto Cabana Hotel. Three hospital buses and vans transported the veterans from the Spinal Cord Injury ward, the Poly-trauma ward, the Blind Rehabilitation center, the PTSD unit and the Hospice ward. 60 dinners were served to the veterans and their families on the hotel patio. A blue grass band provided entertainment for the diners. Next year, the committee plans to hold the Veterans dinners and BBQs on the patio of our new Lodge.



**Front row, left to right: veterans Adam Wietrick, Kim Yee and Steve Spellman. Back row, left to right: Loren Dowell, Veterans Committee Co-Chairman, Dom Garofano Veterans Committee Chairman and Tom McCarthy Chief VA Recreation Therapy section Palo Alto Hospital**

<b>DONOR</b>	<b>LODGE NO.</b>
PER Assoc. of the Great Northwest District	
Roy's Hackers & Ladies	
San Gabriel Valley PER Association	
Richard Ambriz	6
Ronald Brusato	6
R. Michael Burbridge	6
Kelly Byam	6
Elinor DeZeeuw	6
Emblem Club No. 539 (2)	6
Jack Enlow	6
Marilyn Facha (3)	6
Marvin Freedman	6
Clifford Haskell	6
Kenneth Horst	6
Michael Johnson	6
John Kearney	6
Douglas W. Kelly	6
Jerry Landreth (4)	6
Hank Peralta	6
Jerrell Seay	6
Fred Strayhorn	6
Amy Tanaka	6
Bernadine Watkins	6
Chad Wohlford	6
Jack Curry	168
Dorothy Gore (4)	168
George Knapp (2)	168
Dorothy Koehler	168
Chuck & Ginger Nolan	168
Eberhard Schwierzke	218
Butte County R.C. Club (4)	423
Chico Elks Ladies	423
Dona Garrison	423
Gerald Hardesty	423
Fred Heath	423
Terry Horne	423
Howard Lewis	423
Joe Lusher	423
Hazel Mello	423
Gerald Morelock	423
Al & Mimi Moser	423
Northern Elks Travel League (5)	423
John Schulz	423
Norman Stump	423
Kim Thorpe	423
Wade Thorpe (4)	423
Bob Vanella	423
Fred Altstadt	522
Bill Dobbins	538
Lewis Glaeser	538
Edie Cavett	559
Peter McMullen	559
Vallejo Emblem Club No. 371	559
Ron Zampa (2)	559
Roger Desjardins	614
Ghar Gardner (2)	614
Carlos Mariscal	614
Elisa Mariscal	614
Gary Ranzenberger	614
Ingeborg Tate	614
Richard Butts	616
Michelle Tuzon	616
Teru Yasuda	616
Bertram Yasui	616
Anonymous Members	643
Jerry Adamson	643
C.R. "Jim" Beem	643
Nick Beers	643
Peggy Brauner	643
Bonnie Collins	643

<b>DONOR</b>	<b>LODGE NO.</b>
Dennis DeSanti	643
Ross Guy	643
Martha Hall	643
George Kyriakakos	643
Jim Lenon, III	643
Gerry Troxel	643
Cliff Wadley	643
Jack White	643
Susan White	643
Lee Karjola	652
Frank Brzozowski (3)	672
Robert Scott (2)	672
Dora Tindall Scott (2)	672
John A. "Jack" & Jo Parker	783
Edward Repic	794
Beth Alexander	836
Frank Almazan (2)	836
John Branton	836
Robert Cones	836
Gene Cranford	836
Doug Eaton	836
Ken Gunn	836
Delbert Kerber, Sr.	836
Elliott Livingstson	836
Eva Mino	836
Carl Morrow	836
Paul Ohlms	836
Rob Pettengill	836
San Bernardino Emblem Club No. 178 (2)	836
Oakley Smith	836
Jerry Vanadestine	836
Diana Walker (3)	836
Denny Young	836
Zay Brand	888
John David Buezis	888
Faygie Colton	888
Dr. Eugene DeAngelis	966
Virgil Magday	966
Tom VanTassel	966
Morris & Rosalba Warschaw	966
Lynn Glick (3)	1015
Jeff Glick (2)	1015
Dr. Donald Gumm	1240
Richard Carstens (5)	1250
Mike McNeill	1250
Tom Ramsey	1250
Arnold & Kelly Avila	1259
Wanda Borges (2)	1259
Marty & Christine Dutra	1259
Cheryl Leal	1259
Vernon Lohse	1259
Marsha Andrae (2)	1282
Rudy Berbena	1282
Raelene Brown	1282
Goodtimers Plymouth Campout	1282
Goodtimers RV Club	1282
Harold Hackett	1282
Sheri Hackett	1282
Margaret Hale	1282
Paul Kaminsky	1282
Sylvia Reinitz	1282
Leah Robinson	1282
Michael Short	1282
Allan Walker	1282
Keith Zabel	1282
Garry Ackerman	1289
Keith Anderson	1289
Rick Barnes	1289
Robert Bowers	1289


<b>DONOR</b>	<b>LODGE NO.</b>
Joe Callian	1289
Larry Christensen	1289
Walter Colburn	1289
Don & Nancy Colyar (2)	1289
Nancy Shepard Colyar (3)	1289
Lon Croddy	1289
Charles Follett	1289
Curt Grieder	1289
Ralph Harmon	1289
Dennis Hayes	1289
Richard Hill	1289
David Kakita	1289
Albert Kepler	1289
James Martin	1289
Eilene Moore	1289
Ed Morris	1289
Joe Myers	1289
Hugh Scanlon	1289
Dewayne Sease	1289
Jerry Stephens	1289
Dan Svetich	1289
Don Vincent	1289
Ernie Wiley	1289
Marty Mello (7)	1299
Al Fredrickson	1328
Ralph Garcia	1328
Gordon Johnson (6)	1328
Mick Mistretta	1328
Lewis Wilson	1328
Ruth Wilson	1328
Alvin Aiken	1378
Joel Baldwin	1419
Eugene Baxter	1419
David Blakeney	1419
Richard Bushman	1419
Jim Bustamante	1419
Ken Carnes	1419
Arthur Carrillo	1419
Robert Casaletti	1419
Oliver Christiansen	1419
Carline Cogbill	1419
Philip Davey	1419
Larry Emchick	1419
Jean Gooding	1419
Greg Hirst	1419
Richard Johnson	1419
Mike McKenzie	1419
Frank Robertson (2)	1419
John Ross	1419
William Sackman	1419
Betty Schwartz	1419
Ken Smith	1419
Michael Tharp	1419
Ray Walker, Jr.	1419
Robert Walker	1419
Glen Huber (5)	1420
Leon Stegall	1427
Ernie Chambers (7)	1436
Mike Juvet	1436
Anthony Mauro	1436
Angela Moore	1436
Fred Hewins	1474
Fred & Laura Hewins	1474
Richard McDonald	1474
Donald Leininger (2)	1538
Dwayne Baarstad (2)	1539
Harold Constantine (2)	1539
Alex Kelly (2)	1539
Calvin Landreth	1539
Bob Medellin	1539

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<b>DONOR</b>	<b>LODGE NO.</b>	<b>DONOR</b>	<b>LODGE NO.</b>	<b>DONOR</b>	<b>LODGE NO.</b>
Lawrence Tarizzo (2)	1539	Quita Dondlinger	2025	Tom Edgar	2646
Austin Thornton (2)	1539	Rex Dondlinger	2025	Fredrick Gilbert	2646
Irene Gilmore	1561	Henri Brachais	2026	Art O'Connor	2646
Richard Rasmussen	1570	Al Keller	2026	Virginia O'Connor	2646
Carol Kent (2)	1587	Steve Lobdell	2026	David Fenzl (3)	2655
Lemoine Kent	1587	Richard Marada	2026	Jolee Burdette	2697
Sally Clemmer	1608	Steve Marada	2026	LaVonna Kearby	2697
Barbara Earle	1608	Jay Smith	2026	Carolyn Ksiazek	2697
David Holmes (2)	1608	Tom Eytalis	2031	Dean Phelps	2697
William Warner	1608	Aubrey Halford	2031	Judy Smith	2697
Larry & Betsy Torres	1613	Ali Brant	2045	Richard Smith	2697
Friends & Family of		Bob Brant	2045	Barbara Spezia	2697
Robert Huntling	1625	Joe Jordan	2045	Jimmie Spezia (2)	2697
Benjamin McCue	1625	Marjorie Kane	2045	Bernard Timm	2697
Keith Timmons (2)	1625	Diane Keller	2045	Joan Timm	2697
Sandra Reid	1643	Frank Keller	2045	Charles White	2697
Pete Malone	1689	Kenneth L. Moore	2045	C.W. Brunswick	2699
Allen Ward (2)	1689	Joyce Nohavec	2045	Lee Adelbach	2724
George Grant	1691	Larry Nohavec	2045	Charles Clark	2724
Harlan Moore	1691	Barbara Sturm	2045	Joe Coulter	2733
Ture Roslund	1712	Jim Vecchio (2)	2095	Lance Erickson (2)	2733
Don Weick	1712	Mary Calhoun	2117	Roy Hill	2733
Chuck Wilson	1712	Robert Terhune	2117	Don Price	2733
Fred Keplinger (2)	1728	Trill Torrilhon (3)	2117	Nita Scruggs	2733
Bud & Gloria Altmann	1740	Frank Graziani	2128	Don Smith	2733
Don Atwood	1740	Ken Hughes (2)	2128	Jerry Taylor	2733
Dean Cochran	1740	Sunnyvale Emblem Club No. 435	2128	Maggie Vandergon	2733
Walt & Dorinne Hampton	1740	Gerald DellaValle	2142	Kathy Rogers	2790
Don Hubble	1740	Charles Eaton	2190	Susan Alpern	2801
Virginia Lowe	1740	William Talunas	2190	Jim Anderson	2801
Jeannie & Ray Lowe (2)	1740	Rex Berglund	2230	Martha Barraza	2801
Cindy O'Brien (3)	1740	Lawrence DePaul	2243	Jim Beall	2801
Melvin West	1740	Clair M. Beck, III	2274	Renate Beall	2801
Sharron Dearborn (3)	1767	Barry Johnson	2299	Opal Bendikson	2801
Stanley & Frankie Malkin	1767	Richard Lewis (3)	2299	Ken Bodenhoefer	2801
Art Bailey	1786	Yucca Valley Elks Lodge No. 2314	2314	Chuck Broddie	2801
George Bailey	1786	JoAnn Acero	2347	Marilyn Broddie	2801
Arta Davis (2)	1786	Jack Lasserot	2347	Lloyd Clough	2801
Bernice Hiller (2)	1786	Frank Francioni	2364	Barbara Conner	2801
Ed Owens	1786	Joan Francioni	2364	Diane Farrens (2)	2801
Karen Pence	1786	Skip Henke	2379	Robert Farrens	2801
Dan Schuller	1786	Rose Jennings	2379	Laurie Gonzalez	2801
Ralph Smith	1786	Stephen Arbelbide	2389	Paul Gonzalez	2801
Walt & Dottie Smith	1786	Gerald Babinski	2389	Judy Hernandez	2801
Ron Vickery	1786	David Byard	2389	Jerlyn Herrera	2801
Paul Overbeck	1787	Glenda Dutched	2389	Robert Herrera	2801
John Holthaus	1812	Joseph Dutched	2389	Tom Jensen	2801
Bob Coyne	1905	Marilyn Gower	2389	Linda Jones (2)	2801
Lorana Enroth	1905	Jackie Meyer	2389	Stephen Jones (3)	2801
Neil Herman	1905	Patricia Trask	2389	Betty Loomis	2801
Chuck & Barb Knox	1905	Robert Trask	2389	Ron Loomis	2801
Arthur Studebaker	1905	Bob Walker	2389	Carlton Lunn	2801
Betty Zeismer	1905	Michael Perigo	2432	Keith Meyer	2801
Melvin McCubbin (5)	1913	Robert Vieira	2432	Barbara Mitchell	2801
James S. Mason	1919	Robert Arbetman	2477	David Mitchell	2801
Sharon Mason	1919	Anita Gorino (3)	2477	Ken Nordstrom	2801
Steve Swigart	1919	Rubye Metzgas	2477	Ken Nordstrom	2801
George Weber	1919	John Quinn	2477	Olga Ochoa	2801
T "Dutch" Neubauer	1920	Tom Roach	2504	Vicki Puterbaugh	2801
Terry Woodard	1952	Raymond Gomes	2510	Peter Recatto	2801
Rick & Kate Bruce	1959	Bill James	2543	Hallie Sebanc	2801
Tom Lemm (3)	1959	Myron Davis	2591	Margie Souza	2801
Mike & Carlene Mathers	1993	Carmen DePasquale	2591	Ralph Souza	2801
John McCue	1993	Louis DePasquale	2591	Angela Stevanus	2801
Lynn McCue	1993	Jim Flatley	2591	James "Craig" Stevanus (2)	2801
Bernie Jimenez	2011	Larry Hannon	2591	Jerry Throckmorton	2801
Frank Montanez, Sr.	2011	Mary Ann Hannon	2591	Robert Walker (7)	2801
Joe Vigo	2011	Tom Hinsch	2599	James "Skip" Wilkinson (2)	2801
George Murray	2013	Thom & Linda Richardson	2599	Walt Wilson	2801
Kathleen Murray	2013	Vern Ungerecht	2616	Terry Zimmerman	2801

**Millennium Club Donations-  
May 16, 2009 through July  
29, 2009**

<b>DONOR</b>	<b>LODGE NO.</b>
Jerry Landreth	6
Doti Gore	168
Chuck & Ginger Nolan	168
Charles Wood, Sr.	559
Richard Carstens	1250
Robert "Bob" Phillips	1259
Brad Smith	1282
Edward C. Morris	1289
Marty Mello	1299
Gordon Johnson	1328
Jim Farrand	1419
Debbie Stillman (2)	1420
Dr. Ronald C. Stillman (2)	1420
Ernie Chambers	1436
Joe Cenoz	1538
Allen Ward	1689
Thomas E. Lemm	1959
Kenneth L. Moore	2045
Barbara J. Sturm	2045
Bob & Char Brennan	2190
Rex R. Berglund	2230
Floyd "Skip" Henke	2379
Michael R. Maynard	2419
Charles Broddie	2801
Diane Farrens	2801
Stephen Jones	2801
Craig Stevanus	2801



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COMMITMENT TRUST**

**Moreno Valley Elks Lodge No. 2697 Drug Awareness and Veterans Outreach**

The Moreno Valley Elks Lodge No. 2697 continues to promote programs for the youth, disabled children and veterans in their community. In the Fourth of July parade, Lodge members drove a red 1959 Cadillac that was decorated in red, white and blue, and carried a Drug Awareness Program message. Moreno Valley Scout Troop 214 flanked the car as it rolled down the parade route. The car was donated by Harold Veum, a prominent citizen in Moreno Valley. The car was definitely an eye-catcher that brought the Drug Awareness message to light for the parade viewers. The Drug Awareness message was also publicized during the Morrison Park Fun Fest when the Lodge sponsored a booth that provided educational materials on the B. P. O. Elks organization and its Drug Awareness Program. Children received prizes from a "grab bag" and a "Say No to Drugs" coloring book. The Lodge members who worked the booth passed out hundreds of flyers and other materials.

On July 11th, the Lodge sponsored a dinner for veterans from the Veterans in Progress (VIP) program at March Air Force Base in Moreno Valley. Half of the proceeds from the dinner went to these veterans. In addition, articles of clothing were donated. Everyone enjoyed the salad, stir-fry and dessert. Those representing the VIP program included Hollis Kelly and Michael Young. Art Rivas represented the veterans as Outreach Coordinator for the VIP program. Sue Austin, Moreno Valley Lodge Officer, chaired the dinner. Unemployment is one of the first issues that a veteran must address in order to transition to independence in civilian life. The VIP program is a comprehensive 90-day program that assists veterans to prepare for, obtain and maintain employment. The Lodge continues to work with the VIP program and hopes to expand their services to include transportation and social programs.



**El Cajon Elks Lodge No. 1812 Antler Program Members Raise Money for Charity**

Members of the El Cajon Lodge No. 1812's Antler Program volunteered and supported the annual Burn Run Breakfast that raised funds to help finance sending children who are burn victims to Camp Reach for the Scars, a camp specifically designed for burn victims. A donation of \$1,000 was presented to James A. Floros, Executive Director of the Burn Institute.

In other news, approximately 160 members and guests attended the Flag Day ceremony at an open lodge meeting. Boy Scouts and leaders from Troop 363 presented the Colors and Uncle Sam, portrayed by member Don Erwin, led the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Men's Chorus sang several patriotic songs, Lodge Esquire Shane Monsees gave the history of the American flag and guest speaker Steve Hamann presented a program explaining the initial design of the flag, how to display it and the proper way to dispose of it once it is beyond repair. The Lodge's annual Junior Golf Program, chaired by PER Ben Brown got underway at the Sycuan Golf Course. Seven aspiring golfers signed up for their free lessons. The Lodge's annual "Christmas in July" fund raiser benefits the Wounded Warrior Project. Proceeds from their bake sale and raffle drawing were approximately \$700 after expenses. An estimated 160 members and guests were in attendance.



**All are Antler Program members. Back Row (L to R): Michelle Rees, Christin Clemons, Chairperson Jo Dains, Monique Marin and Shane Ciaccio. Middle Row (L to R): Briana Buhl, Katie Owens, Michelle Perry, Karina Jepson and Courtney Brady. Front Row: Deborah Holthaus, 2008 Mother Goose Parade Princess**

**Ontario Elks Lodge No. 1419 Wins Community Service Trophy**

The Ontario Elks Lodge No. 1419 won the “Community Service Trophy” at the 4th of July Parade in Ontario, CA. Using a Fire Truck 40 years old, volunteers decorated it with red, white and blue. The fire truck was loaned to Ken Karnes, a retired fireman from the Rancho Cucamonga, Firemen’s Union.

The Lodge celebrated Flag Day on June 14th with two honored guests. Two young Marines, on leave from Iraq, were guests of the Lodge during its Flag Day Ceremonies. Aaron Copas (from Ontario, CA) and Shaun Aguinaldo (from Honolulu, HI) are stationed at Camp Pendleton and were scheduled to return from Iraq in July. The Lodge was proud to have them as its guests for its first “Corn Feed”. Boy Scout Troop 300 from Ontario, CA participated in the Elks Flag Day Service.



**Bottom Row (L to R): Jon, June, George, Jim, Wendy, Joe, Greg, Carlina, Jack, Sandy and Roxanne**  
**Top Row (L to R): Stephanie, Bob, Pat, Jean, Betty and Bill**

**Lodi Elks Lodge No. 1900 Honors Students**

The Lodi Elks Lodge No. 1900 recognized the accomplishments of area students with a ceremony at the Lodge on Mothers Day, May 10, 2009. The awards, totaling \$15,100, were presented by Lee Taylor, Lodi Lodge Scholarship Chairman, and his committee, Bill Mintun, Nancy Politano and Suzanne Henderson. The high school senior scholarship winners from left to right are Brian Campbell, Tokay High, \$4,000; Crystal Murdock, Lodi High, \$1,300; Amanda Baxter, Lodi High, \$1,200; Tianna Munoz, Lodi High, \$2,000; Christina Goethel, Galt High; \$4,000; Hannah Wiesner, Lodi High, \$2,000; and Christopher Anslinger, Galt High, \$600.



**Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801 Celebrates Flag Day, Honors Youth**

The Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801 and American Legion Post No. 852 joined together to honor the United States Flag in a special ceremony sanctioned by the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. The Flag Ceremony was held at the Veteran’s Memorial at the Temecula Duck Pond under the guidance of Ken Patric, the Flag Day Committee Chairman. The Elks Flag Day Ceremony gives the history of our flag through its proud evolution. The ceremony was attended by a crowd of almost 40 people, who watched as the flags flew in the breeze and listened to patriotic songs performed by Ken Hedrick, a member of the American Legion Post and a 27 year Navy Retiree.

In other news, the Temecula Valley Elks had a float in the Temecula 4th of July Parade featuring winners from its youth competitions, which include Most Valuable Student Scholarship Contest; Hoop Shoot; Americanism Essay Contest; Drug Awareness Essay Contest; and Middle School Student of the Year. The students, from Murrieta and Temecula schools, dressed in red, white, and blue and waved American flags. The students were joined on the float by the Scholarship Co-chairmen, Bob and Diane Farrens.

The Lodge recently held their annual fundraiser to support the Elks Major Project. In addition to the Temecula Elks and guests in attendance, there were Elks from 12 other Lodges in the California Southeast District who enjoyed a dinner and auction to raise money. CHEA Vice President, Bob Walker, and his wife, Diana, Temecula residents, were present to kick off this annual fundraising event. This year, through the generosity of those present, more than \$7,000.00 was raised.

At the California/Hawaii Elks Association Convention held in Ontario in May, Taia Strachan received a First Place Plaque and a \$500 US Savings Bond for her Americanism Essay in Division 2, 5th & 6th Grade Contest and read it to approximately one thousand attendees. The title of her essay was “What Freedom Means to Me.” Taia is a 6th grade student at Linfield Christian School. Her essay was one of the top essays at the Temecula Valley Elks competition out of over 350 entries.



**Quincy Elks Lodge No. 1884 Drug Awareness Program**

On May 29th 2009, the Quincy Elks with SWEET and the Quincy Cheerleaders hosted “Starlight Night”. 25 youths, along with the 14 older youths listened to speakers from the Plumas County Sheriffs Office, the California Highway Patrol, Dr Van Pelt, a local dentist, on the effects of Drug and Alcohol abuse in your life. The children were served dinner and then stayed overnight at the Lodge. The next morning, a healthy breakfast was served. Drug Awareness Chairperson, Karen Mareina organized this event.

**Susanville Elks Lodge No. 1487 Celebrates Memorial Day with Veterans Groups**

Members of the Susanville Elks Lodge No. 1487 participated in the annual Memorial Day Program along with members of the local American Legion, Ladies Auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Marine Corps League.

The program, attended by approximately 200 people, included an Avenue of Flags display. More than 250 flags, donated by family members of deceased veterans, added a special touch to the program.

PER Larry Rogers, National Veterans Service Northeast District Chairman was the keynote speaker and emphasized Elks programs which support veterans.



**Lake Tahoe Elks Lodge No. 2094 Supports Cub Scout Troop**

Lake Tahoe Elks Lodge No. 2094 responded to a request for assistance from Cub Master Dr. Patrick Martin. Cub Scout Troop No. 592 is in need of funds to purchase uniforms and pay for other expenses. The Lodge was proud to present a check for \$1,500 to the Troop at their meeting on Tuesday, June 9.



*Cub Scout Troop No. 592 with Cub Master Dr. Patrick Martin, right, and Lake Tahoe Elks Lodge members in rear.*

**Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 Retires Giant Flag**

Some flags are not as easy to handle in the proper and respectful manner they deserve. Such was the case with the huge flag previously flown over Phillips Motors in Laguna Hills. Laying it out on the driveway was just too big. It was being readied for collection by the Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks for their Flag Retirement Ceremony which will be held later this year at the Elks Lodge in Santa Ana. As members of the local Lodge made plans for their annual June 14th Flag Day program, they announced that thousands of worn and tattered flags are being collected by Elks Lodges all over Orange County. The annual flag retirement ritual in November is attended by hundreds of Elk members and guests and is a solemn and moving tribute to our country's Flag.

In other news, the Lodge hosted over 200 guests from various group homes for its annual Sock Hop for the Developmentally Challenged. If there was a common denominator at the party, it wasn't the ages of the guests which ranged from teenagers to seniors. It had to be the smiles on everyone's face. Even the wheel chairs didn't deter some who were danced around the floor by caring Elks hosts. The Elks served lunch and the wonderful musical group High Hopes furnished the entertainment. The event was a resounding success as the Elks Lodge was filled with wall to wall smiles on that sunny July afternoon.

Chairman Elks Loyal Knight Gloria LeCouvre said of the event, "It takes dozens of helpers to put on a party like this. Not only do we have 200 guests to feed and entertain, but we must be mindful of the individual needs of these special people. There are some in wheel chairs and some with walkers. All are eager to have a good time and be part of the festivities. It calls for a great deal of vigilance on the part of the Elks who are present." LeCouvre added, "When the day is ended, we have a bunch of very tired Elks, but they all have smiles on their faces. They have the satisfaction of knowing they did something that has brought so much happiness to so many people."



**Kern River Valley Elks Lodge No. 2358 Take Kids Fishing**

As part of their Drug Awareness Program, the Kern River Valley Elks Lodge No. 2358 sponsored a Kid's Fishing Derby at Lake Isabella. Over 60 children participated, winning trophies, fishing rods and tackle boxes.

A Drug Awareness Program table was set up and information pamphlets were given to adults and children.



*Left to Right: Beckie Scott, Youth Activities Chairman, Jake Whitman, winner of the Drug Awareness Basket, and Karen Ferry, Drug Awareness Chairman.*

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

**Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 Hosts Pearl Harbor Survivors**

The Huntington Beach Elks Lodge 1959 had the singular honor to host the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association at the Lodge for lunch on July 4th. The Association rode as guests of honor in the annual Huntington Beach July 4th parade. Exalted Ruler Garrett Hamblin thanked the veterans for their service and honoring the Lodge with their presence.

The Lodge sponsored a fishing trip for veterans from the Long Beach Veterans Hospital. The trip was to Santa Ana River Lakes in Orange County, CA, "Home of the Big Fish". Twelve veterans, some in wheelchairs, boarded three pontoon-fishing barges for the one-day excursion. The Huntington Beach Elks Veteran Services committee, chaired by Harvey Langham, organized the event. Lunch was served aboard the barges and "the fishing was good".

In other charitable news, the Lodge donated \$500 to Boy Scout Troop 274 to send a boy to Emerald Bay on Catalina Island. The Lodge also donated \$250 to the Special Olympics to be held in Anaheim, CA in November and \$500 to Project Self Sufficiency, which supports various Huntington Beach programs. On May 31st, the Lodge hosted an International Chili Society Sanctioned Chili Cook-off. This event was a fundraiser for the Elks Relay for Life team, benefiting the American Cancer Society. Open to the public, the cook-off was attended by 250 members and residents. Public donations to American Cancer Society Relay for Life were over \$2,500.00.



**Sitting (L to R): Archie Gregory, John Iantorno, Tony Iantorno, Richard Gallup, Neal Jones, Dick Troxcil**  
**Standing (L to R): Bill Hewitt, Art Herriford, Gery Porter, Bill Anderson, Mal Middlesworth**

**Napa Elks Lodge No. 832 Awards \$16,000 in Additional Scholarships**

The Napa Elks Lodge No. 832 hosted a dinner for 16 high school scholarship recipients and their families. The scholarship awards totaled \$16,000.00. The students who received these scholarships were graduating seniors Conor Fitzpatrick, Aaron Reich, Taylor Smith, Rylee McGill, Paige Tsai, Marco Delaroché, Spencer May, Alexandra Pearson, Craig Cybulski, Zachary Potter, Laura White, Zachary Wagner, Taylor Tildley, Angelica Mewhorter, Sierra Smith and Melissa Smith.

In addition, Alex Mantor was awarded a total of \$4,400.00 as a national winner of the ENF Foundation Most Valuable Student and District 2 scholarships. Each student introduced themselves and spoke of their academic achievements and the college/university they would be attending.

The Napa Elks Lodge is proud to grant these awards to these well-deserving students. In the past 13 years, the Lodge's Larison Scholarship Fund has awarded \$253,950 to 223 graduating students of Napa County public and private high schools.



**Left to Right: Wagner, Mewhorter, Mantor, T. Smith, Fitzpatrick, Tsai, M. Smith, Cybulski, Pearson, Potter, Tildley, Reich, S. Smith, and May**

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

**Atascadero Elks Lodge No. 2733 Celebrates Flag Day**

The Atascadero Elks Lodge No. 2733 and Boy Scout Troop 150 recently celebrated Flag Day with a ceremonial flag retirement and several other family activities, including Joe's Little Train, carnival games, face painting and a bounce house. The Flag Day Ceremony and flag retirement is an annual event held by the Atascadero Elks Lodge in conjunction with Scout Troop 150. The event this year had a family focus that included free hot dogs, chips, watermelon, sodas and popcorn.

The Atascadero Elks Lodge was established on September 26th, 1987. Since then, they have contributed in excess of \$350,000 to various programs including: youth activities; local sports; programs for the handicapped or needy children; patriotic programs; veterans programs, and many other community activities. In addition, the Elks participate in drug awareness programs at our local schools and distribute dictionaries to all 3rd graders in the Area.



**Elks Care - Elks Share**

**Elk Grove Elks Lodge No. 2577 Donates for Speech Therapist Training**

The Elk Grove Elks Lodge No. 2577 raised funds for new graduates of CSUS to further their education. The fund raising effort was completed with the help of Phil Benedum (not pictured) who is a Lodge member and laryngectomee.

Graduates from the CSUS Speech Therapist program are receiving funds to attend the Laryngectomee Voice Institute in San Mateo in July. They will learn special techniques for working with people who have had their voice boxes removed. This is a neglected, but much needed service that will benefit our Community.

In the photo, Jennifer Veercamp is shown receiving a check from this fund, accompanied by the Elks who so generously donated.



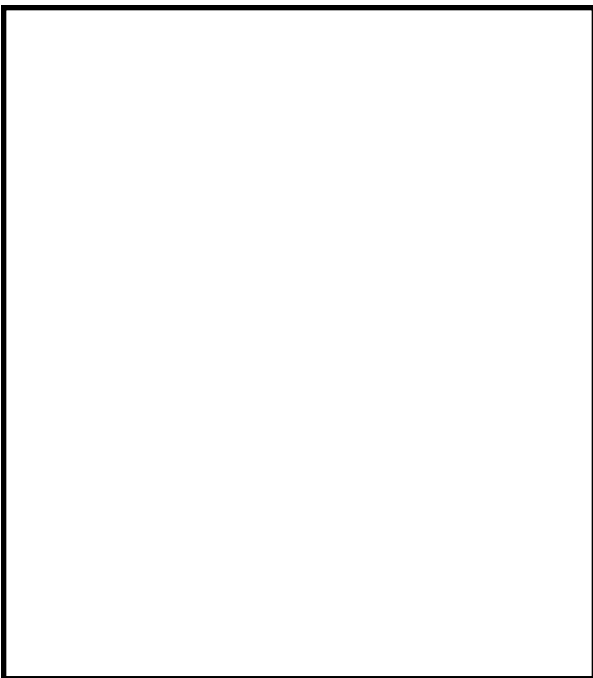
**Back row (L to R): Warren Holmes, Angelo Sannino, Steve Ouellette, PDDGER, Bill Tomlin, ER, Mike Sabo and Don Kammerer  
Front row (L to R): Linda Fuentes, Jennifer Veercamp and Marcel Tomlin.**

**Los Banos Elks Lodge No. 2510 Presents Medal of Valor**

On June 25th, at their semi-annual Veteran's Luncheon, the Los Banos Elks Lodge No. 2510 presented a Medal of Valor award to the parents of Army Corporal Tony "TJ" Gonzales. Tony and Marlynn Gonzales, from Newman, CA, accepted the award from Exalted Ruler Richard Frontella. TJ made the ultimate sacrifice and gave his life on December 28, 2008 in Iraq.

In attendance at the luncheon were 100 veterans, wives and widows. All branches of the US Armed Services were represented (except the Coast Guard). Bev Brown played the keyboard and all sang songs from each branch of service. Local Pastor Hammond gave the invocation and his wife sang the Star Spangled Banner. Terry Brown ended the afternoon playing the guitar and singing "I'm Proud to be an American". The host for the day was Exalted Ruler Richard Frontella, who stood in for Leading Knight Raul Gutierrez (due to sickness).

In other news, on June 10th, the Los Banos Elks Lodge celebrated Flag Day at the Los Banos City Hall. The Lodge was assisted by Boy Scout Troop 58; Los Banos VFW Post No. 2487 and the American Legion Post No. 166 in the presentation of the flags. Lodge officers read poems and selections about the flag. Councilman Tom Fariea played the guitar and sang "I'm Proud to be an American" and Mayor Tommy Jones gave the Lodge a proclamation recognizing Flay Day. Merced County Supervisor Jerry O'Banion thanked the veterans for their sacrifice and the scouts for learning about the flag. The Lodge also performed the Flag Day Ceremony at the Fresno Veterans Hospital at their Loyalty Day celebration.



**Merced Lodge No. 1240 Serves Lunch to 800 Special Needs Kids and Adults**

On July 24, 2009, the Merced Elks Lodge No. 1240 joined the Merced 4H Club to serve lunch to 800 special needs children and adults who were attending the 2009 Merced County Fair – a "Friends Helping Friends Day" hosted by the Merced County Fair and the 4H. The Lodge has been preparing and serving lunch to the special needs individuals attending the fair for the past 20 years.

Members of the Merced Lodge arrived at the Lodge as early as 6:30 AM and joined committee chairman John Burk to begin preparing lunch. For some 20 years the Merced 4H Club has provided assistance to the community's special needs individuals while they attend the Fair. The special guests begin to arrive at the fair grounds around 9 AM and are greeted by their 4H hosts who share the fair experience with them throughout the day.

The Merced Lodge starts feeding the special guests and their escorts a cheese burger lunch with all the trimmings around 11 AM. Lunch included chips, fruit juice, milk, water, and fruit and was topped off with an ice cream sandwich.

Contributing to the Lodge project were Richwood Meats (hamburgers), Hilmar cheese (cheese), the Merced County Deputy Sheriff's Association (buns), Berna Lucas and Franky Spiva (tomatoes), Paul Evarra (lettuce), Sheriff Mark Pazin (bottled water), Joe Machado Dairy (milk and ice cream), Merced Elks Bingo and Ralph Fagundes provided the cash donations for incidentals.

