



March/April 2016
Volume 63, No. 2



Linda Pinnell

Celebrating 40 Years as a Preschool Vision Screener

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Grand Exalted Ruler Ron Hicks and First Lady Nancy Hicks Visit Hawaii

The Elks Grand Exalted Ruler Ron Hicks and First Lady Nancy made their official visit to Hawaii on January 2 – 5, 2016. During their visit, Hawaii DDGER Tom Bentkowski and PSP Wayne Howard took them on sightseeing tours around Oahu, including the USS Arizona Memorial and the Pacific Aviation Museum in Pearl Harbor. GER Ron Hicks and First Lady Nancy enjoyed their first-ever Hawaiian luau at the Hale Koa Hotel.

The GER also visited the three Oahu Elks Lodges: Honolulu No. 616, Kailua No. 2230 and Pearl City No. 2669. The GER's Official Dinner was held at the Pearl City Lodge on Sunday, January 3rd, where over 75 Elks members and guests welcomed the GER and the First Lady. The Hawaii District Lodges presented the GER and First Lady with gifts from the Hawaii Elks Lodges.



Back row (L to R): Hawaii DDGER Tom Bentkowski, CHEA PSP/DL Wayne Howard, GER Ron Hicks, Hawaii AVP Gregory Sylvester, CHEA Sponsor PGER Tom Brazier
Front row (L to R): Ruby Bentkowski, First Lady Nancy Hicks, Lisa Sylvester, and Venita Brazier

Susanville Elks Lodge No. 1487 Honors Eagle Scout

The Susanville Elks Lodge No. 1487, sponsors of Boy Scout Troop 159, recently participated in an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Hunter F. ER David French and the CHEA Northeast District Vice President Larry Rogers took part in the ceremony. Troop 159 Scout Master Eugene Chittock conducted the program with the help of the Master of Ceremonies, Assistant Scout Master Bob Wilburn.



L to R: Eugene Chittock, Larry Rogers, Hunter F., David French and Bob Wilburn

Carmichael Elks Lodge No. 2103 Donates to Quilts of Honor

The Carmichael Elks Lodge No. 2103's Veterans Service Committee donated \$500.00 to Quilts of Honor. The money was raised from a breakfast fundraiser in November of 2015. The mission of Quilts of Honor is to bestow a universal symbol and token of thanks, solace, and remembrance to those who have served in harm's way protecting and defending our lives and freedoms. The loving hands of countless volunteers make Quilts of Honor as a way to thank those who have served so that they know that their sacrifices are appreciated.



Gail Belmont (Quilts of Honor Representative) and Dale Wiest, Veterans Committee Chairman

Alturas Elks Lodge No. 1756 Helps Purchase Athletic Equipment for Modoc HS

The Alturas Elks Lodge No. 1756, in collaboration with Modoc High School Athletics, were happy to present the MHS Braves Football Team with their new Blocking Sled for the 2015 season. The Alturas Elks Lodge and MHS raised funds through a fundraising dinner held last fall. Lodge volunteers, team players and coaches worked hard to prepare and serve a drive-thru dinner headed up by PER Brian Harden and PER Joe Moreo. The players, coaches and staff gave a big thank you to the Elks for their donation towards the new sleds.



President's Message



Greetings members all,

Homecoming - what a wonderful feeling! We've completed nine months of travel, logging approximately 24,000 miles, visited all nineteen Districts in our Association, and met and greeted members in 142 Lodges. The phrase "Proud to be an Elk" does not fully express what Shirley and I have witnessed at every stop. The gratitude demonstrated by the members and

their expressed appreciation for our visit to their Lodge shall live with us forever.

An average of twelve Vice Presidents accompanied us to every District and Lodge. They, too, gained a remarkable insight into the workings of Lodges that have many varieties of programs and facilities. We are all in agreement that one size will never fit all. I am convinced that these Vice Presidents are better prepared to assume greater responsibilities within our Association and the Grand Lodge.

Each Vice President selected an outstanding Elk from their District to receive my Presidential Citation as the Success Story for that District. Having awarded nineteen of these Citations, I now have the emotional task of selecting one Elk for my Presidential Success Story Award, which will be given at the coming CHEA Convention in Anaheim. My Awards Chairman is being put to the task.

I hope, after stressing new member involvement at my major address at each District's visitation dinner and during the minor speeches at all of the Lodges that we visited, coupled with each Vice President's increased involvement and leadership development at all Association levels, that our combined efforts will resonate with the future Officers of our great Order. Remember that we still have time to meet our Association's goals for membership growth, and for generating monies for the Major Project and Elks National Foundation. Our Association Chairmen are the backbone in achieving that success.

Shirley and I will finish our year by traveling to Nevada for the Southeast Bowling Tournament, to Utah for their Convention, and to Chicago for the Hoop Shoot Finals. Our finale is at the 101st California-Hawaii Elks Association Convention on May 18-21, 2016 in Anaheim, California.

Santa Clara Elks Lodge No. 2347 Hosts Eagle Scout Court of Honor

The Santa Clara Elks Lodge No. 2347 once again witnessed two young men, Cole B. and Ryan H., members of Troop 394, receive their Eagle Scout Award on Sunday December 6, 2015. Ryan is the son of our Esteemed Lecturing Knight, Penny Hubbard. Ryan, under the direction of Pat and Vern Deto, did some badly needed wood replacement, sanding, and staining of our stage at the Lodge. He also restained and recarpeted the stairs. Cole repaired the benches at the train station, which were badly in need of refinishing.

To achieve the title of Eagle Scout takes time, dedication, and diligence, plus the support of the Scout's parents and friends and with the guidance of Bruce Lee, Scout Master of Troop No. 394. The Santa Clara Elks Lodge has sponsored this Troop for many years. The Scouts are always willing to give a helping hand at our special events such as Flag Day, Veterans Day, and at many dinners served here at the Lodge. We appreciate all that they do! They received certificates of achievement from the Lodge and the California-Hawaii Elks Association, American Flags and gift cards for Subway.

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Hard copies of texts and photos are no longer accepted.

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CHEMPI

(California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc.)

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

**Please give generously
to your Major Project!**

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

President's

Upcoming Visitation Schedule

March 5-7, 2016

*Utah Elks Association
Spring Meeting*

May 18-21, 2016

CHEA Convention - Anaheim

Petaluma Elks Lodge No. 901 Acknowledges Police Volunteers

A breakfast was held at the Petaluma Elks Lodge No. 901 in tribute to the Petaluma Police Volunteer Program. There are over 60 Petaluma Police Department members/volunteers (from 15 to 93 years of age) who donate over 4,700 hours a year to increase the health and safety of the citizens of Petaluma. The volunteers and their families were treated to a great breakfast during which different members of the volunteer program were acknowledged for their service. Members of the Petaluma Elks Lodge prepared and served 170 breakfasts to these volunteers and families.

There are three categories: Volunteers, Chaplains and Interns who perform duties that do not require sworn police officers. Some examples of these duties are: delivering papers/reports to the County Court House or Petaluma City Hall, driving vehicles for maintenance or update of equipment, taking cars to the car wash, and performing traffic control at events. The volunteers receive no compensation for their time spent except that their uniforms are provided by the Police Department.

PDD members have created task force teams that provide year round support inside and outside of the department. In addition to receiving volunteers from the local high schools, Santa Rosa Junior College, and the greater community (Elks are volunteers too), they have Interns from Sonoma State University who are studying Criminal Justice and Chaplains. The PPD offers Junior Police Camps, an Explorer's Program and a Community Academy.

Elks Care and Elks Share



Elks National Foundation

By Tom Conlon, CHEA ENF Chairman



Members, as the Elk year comes to a close, it would appear that our Association will once again show its benevolence toward the Elks National Foundation as we continue to give generously to the endowment fund. On behalf of the "Great Heart of Elksdom," I thank you for all that you have done.

As the ENF Endowment Fund continues to grow, its contribution to our communities continues to grow at an even faster rate. All of the ENF sponsored programs:

Scholarship, Hoop Shoot, Drug Awareness, Veterans and Community Investments Programs have been revamped to receive more funding.

Our three ENF scholarships, the Most Valuable Student, Legacy Awards and Emergency Educational Grants, help more than 3,100 scholars attend college annually. The Community Investment Program grants \$9,300,000 a year to Elks Lodges to enable Elks to better serve their communities. ENF youth programs, Hoop Shoot and Drug Awareness encourage competitive healthy lifestyles. The Elks National Veterans Service Commission provides aid and comfort to our nation's veterans.

This year, the ENF will spend \$28.95 million on our programs, building stronger communities nationwide. This is a return of \$3.38 for every dollar donated by Lodge members to the ENF last year. Our California-Hawaii Elks Association Major Project will receive substantial support, as over 30% of the national ENF budget is awarded as grants for State Association Projects.

As always, I ask you to consider contributing through the Fidelity Club - the easiest way to support the ENF year-round. The Elks National Foundation Fidelity Club, a monthly giving program, recognizes giving via automatic, regularly scheduled payments. Eligible donors have a monthly minimum or quarterly minimum payment deducted by credit or debit cards. Or, they can donate regularly through their employer via payroll deduction or the Combined Federal Campaign.

Thank You!

San Bernardino Elks Lodge No. 836's RV Club Donates Toys

The "Stag Ring 836" RV Club of the San Bernardino Elks Lodge No. 836 donated over fifty unwrapped toys to the Option House of San Bernardino, a shelter for abused women with children. This is the fifth year that the Stag Ring has collected and donated to this cause.



Taylor Skane, Leslie Bautista, and Maureen Ryan from Option House and South East DDGER Bob Cones from Stag Ring 836

Chula Vista Elks Lodge No. 2011 Donates Facility for a Christmas Event for the Military

Children of military families got together at the Chula Vista Elks Lodge No. 2011 for a special holiday giving event that was hosted by Amazon's "Operation Home Front." The event's purpose was to recognize the sacrifices made by military families, especially during the holiday season. The Lodge donated the use of its Lodge room and dining area and provided food and drinks for all. Amazon was so impressed with our Lodge that they want to come back next year.

More than 200 San Diego children who have a parent deployed overseas received some holiday cheer when Amazon delivered surprise Christmas gifts during this festive gathering for military families. The children, smiling from ear-to-ear, opened new toys donated by Amazon from their wish list site.

Assisting in the delivery were: Sailors stationed at San Diego's 32nd Street Navy Base, Bank of America personnel, and several Amazon Prime Now volunteers. Chula Vista Councilmember John McCann and ER Genie Jenness attended.

Several local television stations filmed the event: channels 5, 7, 8, and 10 news, Latino San Diego TV, and KPBS. The San Diego Union Tribune paper also attended. The Lodge caterer, Past Elk of the Year Ralph Ford, prepared goodies and drinks for all to enjoy. The event brought lots of joy, happy smiles, and giggles to these families.



L to R: Matt Taylor (Amazon representative), John McCann (Chula Vista City Council member), Santa Claus (Gary Kunkle), Ashley Robinson (Amazon Spokesperson), Jack Chirrick (Operation Home Front representative) and Genie Jenness (Exalted Ruler Chula Vista Lodge)

West Covina Elks Lodge No. 1996 Helps Wounded Warriors and Families

For the past three years, the West Covina Elks Lodge No. 1996's Chair members Steve and Susie Martin, the Monday Night Football Crew, and many other supportive Lodge members "adopted" several wounded soldiers.

Sgt. Dawn and her two-year old daughter, Rosie, were our last recipients. Sgt. Dawn was wounded serving two tours in Afghanistan. The Lodge was able to provide gifts and a little bit of relief from the stress that the holiday season brings. Other recipients are families of American veterans that have also been injured protecting our country.

The soldiers were extremely grateful for the gifts provided to their families and asked for very little for themselves. It was an honor to meet these families and to be able to help them. The West Covina Elks Lodge expressed their gratitude for their sacrifice to our country.

Youth Activities

By Debbie Hosted, CHEA Youth Activities Chairman



I hope you had an enjoyable Valentine's Day activity with the children – perhaps cookie decorating or making Valentine's Day cards for their parents or grandparents.

A big “Hello” to all of you who are looking forward to Spring! Remember to set your clocks forward an hour on Sunday, March 13th. At 10:30 P.M. on March 19th, the vernal equinox occurs, according to astronomers. So, our first day of Spring is on March 20th.

This changing of the season brings new opportunities to interact with the Youth of our communities. Coming up on March 17th is St. Patrick's Day – an opportunity to decorate Shamrock's or color pictures of Leprechauns. You may choose to do something else that many children enjoy – coloring Easter eggs in preparation for Easter Sunday on March 27th. March can be a busy month for youth activities!

This Elk year is drawing to a close. Incoming Exalted Rulers – please use consideration and care in choosing your Youth Activities Chairmen for the new fraternal year. Look for someone who is creative and willing to try new ideas. The result could be a renewed interest by other members to interact with the youth in your community.

In an earlier article I mentioned seeking participants for the Essay and Poster contests from the YMCA and Boys and Girls Clubs in your areas. Maybe you could consider going to those same places to invite the children to attend your Lodge's other youth activities. If you have other youth centers or clubs in your area, invite them too.

If you plan a membership drive, an open house, or even a new member orientation, plan to have activities for the children and let the parents know that their children are welcome to attend as well. This practice could encourage younger couples to become Elk members. The activity doesn't have to be fancy or extensive – coloring, reading, board games or card games – just something to show that we care about the children of our members and prospective members.

Thank you to the Lodge Chairs and District Chairs that have served this year, working with the Youth and, of course, tracking your youth activities and filing your reports!

San Luis Obispo Elks Lodge No. 322 Provides Holiday Cheer to Veterans

Three families from Camp San Luis Obispo received holiday support from the San Luis Obispo Elks Lodge No. 322. Seven children received toys on their wish lists marked “From Santa”, a “goodie bag” filled with candy and an ornament engraved with their names. Each couple received a \$30 Sears gift card, a \$15 Vons card, and a box of food. The total value of these items was \$513.34.

Gary and Donna Donovan collected and delivered donated items valued at \$14,000 to the veterans at the Fresno VA Hospital and the Fresno VA Community Living Center/Rehab (CLC). Each veteran at the CLC received a sweat outfit, a “goodie bag”, and a Christmas card. Some other items that were donated included hand-knitted lap afghans and hats, coffee and supplies, playing cards, reading glasses, puzzle books, socks, and assorted toiletries.

Coffee, creamers, and sugar/sugar substitutes valued at \$95.83 were donated to the SLO VA. Gloves, body wash, toothbrushes/paste, socks and knitted caps were also donated to the SLO VA clinic for 100 homeless veterans. For the hypoglycemic fasting diabetic patients, snacks of orange juice cans, assorted crackers, and peanuts were donated. Also coffee and supplies and candy canes were donated for their coffee/snack cart (valued at \$1,516.46). A box of goodies was mailed to the Lodge Inner Guard stationed in Kuwait (\$64.94).

Why wasn't my photograph included?

A note from the Editor

Sometimes a photograph isn't included because there isn't room. Generally, there are other reasons not to include a photo. **The biggest factor is the quality of the picture.** Pictures taken with a cell phone are often of poor quality – perhaps good enough to email to someone or post on a web site, but often these are not good enough to be considered for publication. Please refer to my editorial guidelines at <http://www.chea-elks.org> (click on “CHEA Magazine” at the top). Please note that I want electronic photographs, not hard copy prints.

Sometimes the photo is just too blurry, is poorly composed (subjects are too far away), the lighting is poor (too dark, too light), or the camera has put a date stamp in the picture. Also, it is important that the photo illustrates the story that your article is describing.

Photos taken with a digital camera (or cell phone) need to have the settings adjusted so that the photo is of the highest quality. The camera should have at least a 4 megapixel capacity (the more, the better). Check your camera settings – look for a setting that will give the greatest number of pixels (must be greater than 1,500 x 900 pixels, or dots per inch, but the more, the better). Good quality digital cameras can be found for well under \$100 these days.

If I publish a photo with an article, I will only publish ONE photo. I'd rather YOU choose that photo, not me. So, please just send me the ONE photo that you feel best illustrates your story. If you send me half a dozen pictures of your event and expect me to choose one, it may not be the one that you'd have chosen.

Kern River Valley Elks Lodge No. 2358 Helped a Sailor Surprise His Son

The “moment” of the season goes to T. J. Lehman and his son, Geordon. They hadn't seen each other in person for two years. With the help of Santa and family members, T. J. was able to pull off an epic surprise appearance at the Annual Kids Christmas Party held at the Lodge on December 20, 2015. T. J. Lehman, who originally enlisted in the US Navy in 2009, is stationed in Connecticut where he serves as an electronics technician. Last year he reenlisted for an additional six years.

In other news, by using an ENF Gratitude Grant, along with donations from Lodge Members, the Kern River Valley Elks provided Christmas cheer to 76 families in the form of food baskets and clothing and toys for the children.



Paramount Elks Lodge No. 1804 Donates Gifts to Hospitalized Veterans

The members and families of the Paramount Elks Lodge No. 1804 shared holiday cheer and gifts with the veterans currently being treated at the Long Beach Veterans Hospital. They also included a number of homeless veterans that were gathered outside of the facility.

Many Lodge members prepared approximately two hundred gift bags the week before. This was done in the spirit of "Elks Caring and Sharing". This was all done to show the Lodge's appreciation to our veterans for their proud and unselfish service to our country. This is was an emotional, but "feel good" experience for those that helped in the gift-giving endeavor.



Back row (L to R): back are: Lonnie Andrews (Veteran), Julie Bonnell Joel
Middle row (L to R): Billie Bonnell, an unnamed minor, John Bonnell (Veteran), Ken Evink (Veteran)
Front row (L to R): Don Champagne (Vet and Veteran's Chairman), ER Carmen Gomez, Len Garrett (Veteran and photographer)

Fullerton Elks Lodge No. 1993 Donates to a Special Child Fund

The Fullerton Elks Lodge No. 1993 joined other Lodges in the Orange District to support a fundraising event, "Cruise for Special Child". Missy McCarty (our Tiler's First Lady) arranged with Carnival Cruise Lines for this three-day cruise to Mexico. It was a wonderful event with approximately 30 Elks and family members having a great time on board. Irene Imhoff and Marie Nunez, who organize the Lodge's Special Child events, received \$1,000 from Tiler Mac McCarty for the Lodge's Special Child fund. The Lodge hopes to make this an annual fundraising event for our Special Child efforts.

In other news, last December, Officer A. Martinez, from the Placentia Police Department, and his K-9, "Ace", visited the Lodge to express the Department's appreciation for the Lodge's donation of an ENF Grant towards the purchase of this new canine for the Department. Ace replaces a dog that retired from duty earlier in 2015. Ace recently graduated from training and is cross-trained to detect a variety of substances. Also, in November, the Lodge held an event for veterans that had approximately 170 people in attendance. There was a slide presentation and a lunch provided for the veterans and their family members. Certificates of Appreciation were given at a Lodge meeting for those who organized the function.

Monterey Elks Lodge No. 1285 Honors Veterans for a Christmas Dinner

Veterans' smiles were as big as the kids when the Monterey Elks Lodge No. 1285 honored the Veterans Transition Center of Monterey County at a Christmas dinner and gifts event on December 17th at the Marina American Legion.

Coastal Cuisine, the Elks' caterer, served prime rib from a carving station to 177 formerly-homeless veterans and their families, many of them either living in the VTC transitional housing units on historic Fort Ord, or who were an "alumni" of the program and now living on their own as productive citizens. Eighteen Elk volunteers donated their time and baking skills. "It gave us great pleasure to serve those that served us so selflessly," said Elks caterer Caron De Seguirant.

In other news, the Lodge received applications this year from 25 Monterey High School seniors for the Elks National Foundation's Most Valuable Student scholarship competition. "It is the largest number ever, I believe," said Rick Ringler, Lecturing Knight and Lodge scholarship chair. Four students were chosen to receive \$500 scholarships and their applications have been sent to the Elks West Central District for further consideration. "Thanks to our Lodge committee members who spent hours judging the best of the best," Ringler said.



A veteran talks to Santa

Santa Clarita Elks Lodge No. 2379 Raises \$5,000 for CHEMPI

On Friday, December 4, the Annual Silent Auction was held at our Lodge and, once again, was a very successful fundraiser for the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project. This year, we were overwhelmed with the generosity of our members, who donated 275 gift baskets and a variety of other items for the Auction. When all of the numbers were totaled, we had raised \$5,012.00.

In other news, the Santa Clarita Elks held their annual Children's Christmas with Santa. More than 100 children from the community came by the Lodge for a photo with and a gift from Santa. Among the most excited visiting Santa annually are residents of LARC Ranch, a home for developmentally disabled adults. Many of these developmentally challenged adults visit Santa year after year, never losing their enthusiasm.

Public Relations

By Andy Costello, CHEA Public Relations Chairman



EXCITING NEWS FROM GRAND LODGE

The Grand Lodge Public Relations and Membership Manager, Rick Gathen, wrote in his message to Elk leaders that the Order is within reach of a plus in membership nationally for the first time in thirty-six (36) years. Not since 1979-80 have we enjoyed a national gain in membership. That is certainly good news.

Since this is March, there is hardly much we can do that will count towards closing out the 2015-16 Elk year. However, there is an opportunity for every member to still do something that will count for Elkdome. We can get an early start for the 2016-17 year. Why not commit now to becoming a public relations spokesperson? Every member can be on the Elks public relations / membership team without signing-up for a committee or getting someone's okay to do so. You can even do it if you don't visit your Lodge regularly. You can be a good will ambassador for membership just by talking about Elkdome. Word of mouth is still one of the most effective forms of communication.

As we embark on a new year of giving, why not make the promise to spread the good news of Elkdome at every opportunity. After you have read your "California-Hawaii Elks Association Magazine" and the national "Elks Magazine," remove your address label and leave a copy at your dentist's office lobby, hospital waiting room, or some other public place. Good publicity increases public awareness. Greater public awareness adds up to increased membership. Increased membership means stronger Lodges enabling us to accomplish greater works of charity.

In other news, the ENF First place 2015/16 MVS scholarship winner Mark Ansell and his identical twin brother Andrew, also an ENF winner, joined the CHEA Scholarship judging committee assembled recently in Fresno. They were invited by CHEA Scholarship Committee Chairman Jan Bennett to attend the last day of the three-day judging session. They were promptly put to work assisting the committee with the 390 applications received. At day's end, 72 California and Hawaii applications were sent on for judging at the national level. A total of 500 finalists from all State Associations go the Grand Lodge for judging. In late April, the twenty top finalists will interview with the national judges. These twenty finalists will be vying for two first-place awards of \$50,000, two second-place awards of \$40,000, and two third-place awards of \$30,000. The remaining fourteen finalists will each receive awards of \$20,000. The 480 runners-up will receive fifth-place scholarships of \$4,000 each. Chairman Bennett thanked the 35 members of the CHEA judging committee and said, "In addition to the 72 going to National, we will be sending letters of congratulations to about 276 students who, though they did not go on to National, will receive an award of \$800 from CHEA and also 114 awards for placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in their District."

Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 Donates Money to a Local Food Bank

The El Konejo Kampers, an Elks Recreational Vehicle club with the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477, donated money and foodstuffs to Manna, a local food bank, in early December. The money and foodstuffs were collected at the El Konejo Kamper's annual holiday brunch. Manna is one of several charities supported by the El Konejo Kampers. Beverly Erickson, El Konejo Kamper Vice President, delivered the money and foodstuffs to Manna Executive Director, Jennifer Schwabauer.

Yucaipa Elks Lodge No. 2389 Honors its Veterans

In November, members of the Yucaipa Elks Lodge No. 2389 honored its veterans with dinner and a ceremony. Twelve veterans attended. Among them was Bill Harrison, of Hemet, CA, who served in WWII, including surviving six days on a raft, and the granddaughter of a Lodge member, Sgt. Melanie Crim, US Army Reserves, who served two tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan, and who received a purple heart.



Harrison and Crim

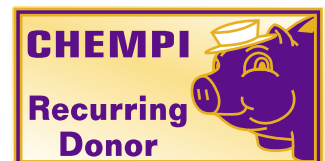
Santa Ynez Valley Elks Lodge No. 2640 Uses a Promise Grant to Help Needy Families

The Santa Ynez Valley Elks Lodge No. 2640 hosted their annual Christmas party for three children who were recently diagnosed with cancer and their families. This year was a very special year. The Lodge received a Promise Grant for \$2,500 from the Elks National Foundation Grant for this event. The three families hosted by the Lodge have two children who were recently diagnosed with cancer and one child that they helped last year who is now in hospice (Nathan).

Our Lodge members and their families welcomed these three families. They shared a wonderful warm meal together as the laughter and holiday spirit filled the room. The families received gifts and gift cards from Santa while Lodge members' teenage children led everyone in Christmas songs and told Christmas stories by the glistening tree.

It didn't end there. With funding from the Grand Lodge's Elks National Foundation Promise Grant, the Lodge was able to create their version of "Make a Wish," and provided the money for Nathan and his family to plan a trip to Knott's Berry Farm to visit Charlie Brown and Snoopy. "Elks Care ~ Elks Share."

Become a
Major Project



Drug Awareness

By Kathleen Kuttler, CHEA Drug Awareness Chairman



According to research conducted by The Partnership for Drug-Free Kids, as many as one in five teens say that they have taken a prescription drug that is not their own. This behavior cuts across geographic, racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic boundaries.

Teen drug abuse occurs for a variety of reasons. Stimulants such as Ritalin or Adderall are abused to obtain additional energy or increase the ability to focus. Pain relievers such as OxyContin and Hydrocodone are

abused to cope with social or emotional stress. Abuse occurs with amphetamines and steroids to lose weight or to "bulk up."

The majority of teens abusing prescription drugs are getting them from the medicine cabinets of friends and family. Some teens "traffic" the drugs among themselves by handing out or selling their own prescriptions or medications that they have obtained illegally over the internet.

How can we help?

- Educate yourselves and your family members.
- Communicate the risks of prescription drug abuse to your children and grandchildren.
- Safeguard your own medications – Remember that any medication can cause harmful side effects when used by someone other than who it has been prescribed for.
- Be sure to lock up or place out of reach all medications if you have small children who may be spending time in your home.
- Know what is in your purse or pockets. Many pills look like candy and may be accidentally ingested by children. Children are curious!

The Elks Drug Awareness Program has information on Prescription Drug Abuse and how to start conversations with your children and grandchildren. Check with your Lodge Drug Awareness Chairperson. All of our pamphlets and informational materials are free to any individual or groups who request them.

A big "Thank You" to all the Districts and Lodges who participated in the Poster, Essay, and Video Contests this year. District entries are coming in and I will announce the winners as soon as the judging is complete!

Santa Ynez Valley Elks Lodge No. 2640 and Oceano-Five Cities Elks Lodge No. 2504 Co-host a Special Event for Deployed Airmen's Children

The Santa Ynez Valley Elks Lodge No. 2640 was among the approximately 200 Elks Lodges nationally that received a \$2,000 Elks National Foundation (ENF) "Freedom Grant." The Lodge used this grant to fund a special evening for the children of deployed Airmen from the Vandenberg Air Force Base.

Georgia Daughton, the Lodge's Chairman of the Board, partnered with the Global Hearts Group of Santa Ynez and the Holiday for Heroes group from Lompoc that sponsor Vandenberg Air Force Base's deployed Airmen children. Georgia also reached out to Oceano-Five Cities Elks Lodge No. 2504, who also received an ENF Freedom Grant of \$2,000, to do the Christmas dinner at the Pacific Coast Club at Vandenberg.

With the help of Sgt. Brittany Spoutz 22 families and 50 children were treated to an evening of fun. The children had craft tables, games, music, dinner and gifts. Holiday for Heroes purchased gifts for all the children up to 5-years of age. The Santa Ynez Valley Elks Lodge purchased seven-inch tablets for all the children from six years through sixteen years of age. Each child was called up individually by name to receive a tablet.

Lakeport Elks Lodge No. 2704 Supports the Community and Veterans

Members of the Lakeport Elks Lodge No. 2704 have contributed 2,600 pounds of food for distribution to local food cupboards. The Lodge donated \$500 from an ENF grant to "Operation Tango Mike." In addition, the Lodge donated the remaining \$1,500 from the ENF grant check to "Vet Connect" to support their annual Stand Down event.

In other news, Lodge No. 2704 held a fundraiser dinner on January 23, 2016. Over 80 dinners were served. The Lake County Honor Guard will receive \$750 to support their mission. The Honor Guard has provided military honor services for over 1,100 Veterans in Lake County. Local businesses were very generous with their donations for the dinner which contributed to the success of the event.



Leading Knight Gerald Mohl presenting the check to Frank Parker of Vet Connect

West Covina Elks Lodge No. 1996 Hosts Hoop Shoot Free Throw Competition

West Covina Elks Lodge No. 1996 had their Hoop Shoot Free Throw Competition in November. They had a variety of participants this year. Some participants were repeat contestants and some were very young 8 and 9-year old foster children who won their very first trophy! We were able to put many SMILES on all these young basketball players' faces. Julie Gomez chaired this event. Some awesome and generous Lodge members assisted: Keith Kelley, Mike Salazar, Ray and Sylvia Roldan. We look forward to seeing these players at the next level!



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)
Frank G. Keller (1998-99)

Corona
Pasadena
San Jose
Santa Maria
Marysville
Hollister
Clovis
Redding
Corona

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)
James S. Mason (2006-07)
Oren Richardson (2007-08)

Stockton
Burbank
Sacramento
Needles
Salinas
La Habra
Marysville
Gardena
Coalinga

Jerry Rucker (2008-09)
Lee Karjala (2009-2010)
Hugh H. Scanlon (2010-2011)
Thomas S. Brazier (Honorary)
Wayne Howard (2011-2012)
Art Echternacht (2012-2013)
Richard L. McDonald (2013-2014)
Floyd "Skip" Henke (2014-2015)

San Bernardino
Eureka
Glendale
Santa Cruz
Honolulu
Santa Ana
Pittsburg
Santa Clarita

Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 Helps Military Families and Needy Students

The Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 delivered over \$4,000 in purchase cards to Huntington Beach High School and \$4,000 in purchase cards to Edison High School for distribution to students who are in distressed economic circumstances. The amount distributed to each school was determined by identified needs. The cards can be used in retail organizations for clothes and personal items. This activity, along with the distribution of food baskets to needy families and military families, is a major effort on the part of the Lodge's annual charity efforts.

In other news, the Lodge donated over 6,000 pounds of food and toys in 100 boxes for the military and needy in the community. This was the 60th consecutive year that the Lodge was able to provide assistance. The Lodge's Christmas Basket program also provides monetary support to homeless and at-risk high school students and the Huntington Beach Youth Shelter.



L to R: Edison High School Administrator Jason Ross, member Greg Neneman, Administrator Jill Beideman, Principal Dr. D'Liese Melendrez, member Ron Courreges, member Scott Herron, Administrator Sue Herron, First Lady Kate Bruce, ER Rick Bruce

Los Banos Elks Lodge No. 2510 Hosted a Veterans Luncheon

On November 12th, the Los Banos Elks Lodge No. 2510 hosted its Bi-Annual Veterans Luncheon to honor Veterans Day and to show our appreciation for all that the veterans have done for our country. 115 veterans and guests attended this event and dined on ribs, beans and coleslaw.

Salinas Elks Lodge No. 614 Helps Needy Community Families

Every Elks Lodge has a great Christmas story that supports the B. P. O. Elks motto, "Elks Care ~ Elks Share." Here is one from the Salinas Elks Lodge No. 614.

Every year the Lodge donates Christmas gifts to needy children and families. It begins with selecting a charity organization and decorating our Angel Tree. The tree is covered with angel cutouts with the name, gender, and age of the person in need. Elk members select a name or two and buy gifts. Our selected charity this year was Community Homeless Solutions/Shelter Outreach Plus. They provide support to homeless people and families who are dealing with domestic abuse.

The Lodge provided over 130 gifts worth nearly \$2,000. The Elks Lodge provided the venue for the dinner, the charity provided the food, and Lodge members prepared and served a turkey and ham dinner to over 100 people. Santa Claus came to the dinner and provided candy for each child. The Shelter Outreach took the gifts for distribution since all the recipients were unable to attend. The children participated in a drawing for two bicycles that were donated by Native Sons for this event.



L to R: Fred Forgnone, Tari and Wayne Johnson

Hemet Elks Lodge No. 1740 Hosts a Fishing Trip for Veterans

The Hemet Elks Lodge No. 1740 hosted a fishing trip for 29 veterans from the Loma Linda Veterans Medical Center. The Southeast District's National Veterans Service Chairman, Bill Daley, who is also a PER from Yucaipa Lodge No. 2389 and a veteran, joined two Hemet Lodge members, who are veterans, and a veteran's wife. They had hoped to fish in the open ocean, but, due to the inclement weather, had to fish in the San Diego Bay. They did catch some fish and they all had a good time.

Garden Grove Elks Lodge No. 1952 Donates Food to Needy Families

Last December, 200 families in and around the City of Garden Grove were the happy recipients of three large cartons of food containing an entire holiday meal. Toys were also included for their children. This is an annual holiday event sponsored by the Garden Grove Lodge. Joining in this effort were members of the Emblem Club No. 279, local Boy Scout Troup 111, Daisy Troup 3635, and students from Crosby Elementary and Garden Grove High Schools. Karen Lewin, Leading Knight, Joe De La Luz, Exalted Ruler, David Skelton, Past Exalted Ruler and Lodge member Claudia Ritchie organized and implemented the event.

The Elks were given a reduced rate from Wal-Mart so that they could purchase the hams and potatoes to include in the boxes. Over 200 pies were donated by Bonerts Pies to complete the meal. The Elks also gave out five bicycles.

One of the more heart warming moments occurred when a local man with his two young children heard about the Elks food drive and came to the Lodge hoping to get food to feed his children. With tears in his eyes he asked if they could help him. Within minutes of his asking he was given cartons of food and bicycles for his daughter and son.



Elk member Sharon Violano with bike winner

San Bernardino Elks Lodge No. 836 Donates to LLUCH

The San Bernardino Elks Lodge No. 836 recently presented a check to the Loma Linda University Children's Hospital (LLUCH). The Lodge's "Make-a-Difference" Chairman, John Branton, raised \$5,155.00 from members, families and friends for the cancer/tumor ward at the hospital. It is a wonderful way to show, once again, that Elks Care ~ Elks Share. Southeast District DDGER Bob Cones, Chairman John Branton and Exalted Ruler Hal Hively presented the check to LLUCH Senior Foundation Specialist, Ms. Kelly Phipps.

Visalia Elks Lodge No. 1298 Recognized by the State Legislature

On January 20, 2016 the Visalia Elks Lodge No. 1298 was awarded a Certificate of Recognition from The California State Legislature. The Lodge was recognized for its donations of items to fire personnel and families that were affected by the devastating fires that overtook the State last summer. We were the largest contributor in the area for donations. Thanks to all our members and others who helped receive this honor.

Buena Park Elks Lodge No. 2046 and Santa Greet Children

Santa Claus is coming to town and kids were patiently waiting for the big event. Buena Park Elks Lodge No 2046 hosted a Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, December 5, officially opening the Christmas season. The Lodge room was packed with children and parents alike. It was a special feeling to see our Lodge room filled with happy children. There were all kinds of things planned for them: crafts, face painting, corn dogs, chips, refreshments, homemade desserts and even a balloon man. Each child visited Santa and received a special gift just for them. Special thanks to Joyce Henry and her team for a job well done.



Gilroy Elks Lodge No. 1567 Hosts Soccer Shoot for 78 Kids

The Gilroy Elks Lodge No. 1567 hosted the soccer awards night dinner for the highest scoring boys and girls and their families who participated in the 9th annual soccer shoot. The awards presenters included the local community college soccer head coach, an assistant coach and a professional soccer player goalie coach. All of the contestants received a soccer ball and a pro soccer team jersey. This year we had 78 boys and girls competing and demonstrating their soccer ball kicking skills. One player had a perfect score, kicking all fifteen soccer balls through the different sized goals.



Back row (L to R): Mitch Marinovich (Soccer Chairman), ER Wayne Miles
Front Row (L to R): Francisco Espinosa (Gavilan Community College Head Coach), Jenna G., Ayana W., JJ C., Sofia C., Karen C., Angel Trejo (GCC Assistant Coach), Steve Purdy (GCC Goalie Coach and Professional Player)

Membership

By James Warrick, CHEA Membership/Lapsation Chairman



Your family, friends, and fellow community members desire your personal attention in sponsoring members into your Lodge. Those you hold dear know that a strong local benevolent organization, means more opportunities for increased social and fraternal vibrancy. They know that sponsorship means the continuance of the principles fellow American citizens like you enjoy. As your Lodge increases in membership, they realize opportunities increase to

enhance the quality of life in your community.

After the seeds of Elkdome are planted, why not nurture a good friendship and consider stepping up with your new member on an event or on a committee? Think of the priceless social fortune created by the interactions of good people, the BPOE people. Give yourself the opportunity to rekindle experiences with your son, daughter, brother, or sister by sponsoring them into the Order of Elks. Think of the adventures you may have together and the good deeds you may do along the way.

It's not difficult to sponsor a member; it is just a matter of where sponsorship lies on your things to do list. Don't have an application handy? Go to the Lodge and your secretary will be glad to get you one. Need to explain what the Elks do? Direct attention to the local Lodge, CHEA, ENF, and Grand Lodge websites. Relay to your candidate that the Elks support our nation's veterans, support programs for youth, and regularly contribute to charitable programs in communities throughout the United States.

Calpine Elks Lodge No. 2432 Sponsors a Christmas Party for Local Families

The Calpine Elks Lodge No. 2432 was recently host to Santa and over 200 people for breakfast. The Lodge had a professional photographer photograph all the children who visited with Santa. There were numerous toys, hats, and shirts given to visitors that were made possible by a donation from the California State Fair. A local quilters group donated 35 quilts to families. The Lady Elks had numerous craft tables to help people make Christmas ornaments and seasonal crafts. The lodge only asked the guests to bring a food item to be donated to the local food bank. Judging by the attendance, it was a very successful and happy event. All of the Lodge expenses were covered by a grant from Grand Lodge.



Elks Care - Elks Share

Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801 Drug Awareness Contest Awards Dinner

The Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801 hosted a dinner for their Drug Awareness Contest winners recently at the Lodge. The winners, their parents, and their teachers were invited to attend the dinner and Award Presentations. Students from the Murrieta and Temecula Schools, both public schools and private schools, were invited to participate in the various contests.

There were three contests – a poster contest for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students, an essay contest for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students and a video contest for pre-high school, high school and post graduate students (individuals or groups). The topic for the contests was “Just Don't Do It.” First, second and third place prizes were awarded to the students in each of the three contests. 125 posters were received from the elementary schools, 104 essays were received from the middle schools and 10 videos were received from the high schools.



L to R: Posing with the first-place winners are: Diane Farrens (Lodge Drug Awareness Chairman), Brooke D., Ken Hauer (Exalted Ruler), Alina V., Chloe T., Elroy T. Elk, Kasey C., Avery L., Kathleen Kuttler (CHEA Drug Awareness Chairman) and Karen Caruso (Southeast District Elks Drug Awareness Chairman)

Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625 Held a Children's Christmas Party Courtesy of LA County FD

The Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625 was the setting for the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus on December 12th, courtesy of Los Angeles County Fire Department Station No. 129. To the delight of the local youngsters, Santa visited them individually and presented a personal gift to each. In addition, various games were played, a drawing was held and a hot dog or hamburger lunch served. One hundred children and adults enjoyed the festivities with the assistance of twenty volunteers. PER Jerry Sheridan was Santa for his twentieth year. The Lodge has enjoyed presenting this community event for the past 36 years.

Elk Grove Elks Lodge No. 2577 Visited Hospitalized Veterans

On December 23, 2015 the members of the Elk Grove Elks Lodge No. 2577 brought a little Christmas cheer to the patients in the Mather Veterans Administration Hospital. The Elks provided small Christmas trees and candy canes to the patients and staff at the Surgery Intake Unit. The visit with the Veterans was very meaningful for the patients and the Elks. Everyone shed a few tears. If you ever get a chance to participate in a tour, it will be something that you will remember for a long time.

Lodi Elks Lodge No. 1900 Holds Local Hoop Shoot Contest

The Lodi Elks Lodge No. 1900 held their annual Hoop Shoot Contest on January 9th at the Historic National Guard Armory. 26 boys and girls, ages 8 through 13 years participated. Lodi Parks and Recreation and BOBS (its volunteer Youth Activities program) partnered with the Lodge to make this a very successful event.

The 1st Place male winners were: Jayden H. (8-9yrs), Preston P. (10-11 yrs.), and Chandler M. (12-13yrs.). The 1st Place female winners were: Jorri R. (10-11 yrs.), and Ingrid M. (12-13 yrs.).

All of the winners received a patriotic basketball and were eligible to compete at the Central District level Hoop Shoot Contest; however, only four were able to attend the District Competition. Jack Y., who placed 2nd at the local level, replaced Chandler M., who was unable to attend. Jack placed 2nd at the District level, thus receiving a certificate.

The Elk volunteers were: Mike Zaccagni (Hoop Shoot Chairman), Marilyn Hughes, Hal Laney (P.A.V.P.), PER Jim Miller, Sue Sandeen (Leading Knight), Jeff Lodi (Lecturing Knight), PER Mike Dugan, and Eileen Dugan (Chaplain and District Public Relations Chairman). These volunteers and the girls, boys, parents and coaches made this a successful fun-filled contest.



Back row, on the right: Mike Zaccagni, Hoop Shoot Chairman, with some of the participants

Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672 Hosts Children's Christmas Party

On December 20th, the Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672 hosted a children's Christmas Party. Eighty children, plus their caregivers, attended the party. They were delighted to meet Santa Claus who gave each child a gift. In addition to the Lodge members' children and grandchildren, the Ronald McDonald House and the Foothill Unity Center were invited to participate. The kids enjoyed games, crafts, singing, story time, snacks and a hot lunch. ER Billie Jo Olsen and her volunteers organized the event. After the party, Santa and his friends visited the pediatric ward at the Huntington Memorial Hospital to deliver gifts to the hospitalized children who were there, and left gifts for the children who would arrive later.

Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 Honors Law Enforcement and Firefighters

Each year the Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 honors members of our Police and Fire Departments for their work in our city. This year our cooks prepared another great dinner and the servers were members of the "Renegade Roller Derby" team.

One of our Lodge members, Fire Captain John Stokes of the Fullerton/Brea Fire Department, was the Master of Ceremonies. John introduced the Mayor of Orange, "Tita" Smith, and another Lodge member, Mayor Pro Tem, Mark Murphy. Lodge member Lee Fischbach, a Retired Fire Captain of the Orange Fire Department, was among the honorees.

Orange Battalion Chief Kevin Southerland presented Meritorious Service Awards to: Captain/Deputy Fire Marshal Casey Fieldhouse, Fire Captain Alan Velasco, Fire Engineer Bob Lobato, Firefighter Miguel Gonzales and Fire/Arson Investigator Anthony Gutierrez.

Captain Dave Nichols presented Meritorious Service Awards to: Detective Joseph Ramirez, who just retired, K-9 Officer Damon Allen and his partner Bosco, Officer Randy Houston (HEART Team), and Michelle Micallef, Crime Prevention Specialist and CERT Team member. HEART is the Homeless Engagement Assistance Resource Team and CERT is Community Emergency Response Team.



Fireman's Group (L to R): Casey Fieldhouse, Alan Velasco, Miguel Gonzales, Anthony Gutierrez, Bob Lobato and Kevin Southerland

Chula Vista Elks Lodge No. 2011 Provides Clothing for Teens

The Chula Vista Elks Lodge No. 2011 used an Elks National Foundation Gratitude Grant to provide summer clothing for seventeen teenage children of "Care House." Care House is a Christian organization committed to serving the needy children of their local area who are hungry, suffering, forgotten, and homeless. Care House is part of a San Diego based organization that is dedicated to bringing enduring hope amidst these children's dire circumstances, as well as assistance towards their educational needs. A patio party with their own fashion show gave these teens an opportunity to show off their new clothes. A volunteer DJ provided the music and sound equipment and lots of good food was served to all who participated in support of these local teens. The Care House theme is "if you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday."

Serving Our Children Since 1950



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

14 THE CALIFORNIA-HAWAII ELK

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Millennium Plus (\$5,000) Copper Pig Level Donors December 1, 2015 - January 31, 2016)

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>
Beverly C. Burns	2484

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Millennium Plus (\$2,000) Purple Pig Level Donors December 1, 2015 - January 31, 2016)

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>
Lynn Glick	1015	Diane Wrobel	1811	Kris McKim	2248	Coleen Morris	2477
Richard L. James	1289	Robert W. Griffith	1952	Grace A. Rodriguez	2358		

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Millennium Club (\$1,000) Donors December 1, 2015 - January 31, 2016)

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>
Chuck & Ginger Nolan	168	Virginia Proceviat	1471	Ben L. Ortega	1996	Grace A. Rodriguez	2358
Robert W. Spinner	613	Charles Buel	1561	Jan Keller	2026	Kari Sears	2492
Jerome Paul	672	Greg & Sandy Koester	1561	Marilyn Price	2026	Robert Ring	2577
John "Jae" Eitel	1108	Darleen Underwood	1740	Jacquelyn "Jackie" Serrano	2091	Henry Hein, Jr.	2801
Greg Brittner	1289	Nancy Kulinski	1812	Charles E. Grant	2121		
Eugene Premer	1289	Donald D. Schultz (2)	1877	Michael Dreiling	2248		
Albert D. Fredrickson	1328	Dottie Ijames	1968	Charlie Fleskes	2347		

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Century Club (\$100) Donors December 1, 2015 - January 31, 2016)

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>
Hilary Magan	3	Loren Hill	1282	Ronald & Nancy Hinman	1643	Gerald Gompers (2)	2230
Anna Echevarria	322	Bruce Jorgensen	1282	Mike Bashore (2)	1691	Raymond Monmaney	2230
Carrie Sims	322	Sharon Jorgensen	1282	Evon Basque	1691	Michael Sullivan	2230
Chico Elks Bridge Club (6)	423	Carol Lundblad	1282	Kevin Besana	1691	Richard Vaughn (5)	2230
Chico Elks Ladies	423	Hugh Page	1282	Stuart Foster	1691	Molly Bertelt	2243
Chico Elks Lodge No. 423	423	Patrick Barnes	1289	John Healy	1691	Scott Hagner	2243
Chico Elks Rib Cook-Off (5)	423	Rick Barnes (2)	1289	Richard Kulhavy	1691	Larry Tessary	2243
Terry Horne	423	Warren Ferrell (2)	1289	Jacqueline Traynor	1691	Michael Dreiling (3)	2248
Gil Houston	423	Charles Follett (4)	1289	Kathy Connor	1740	Rosie Dreiling	2248
Dick & Laura Hughes	423	Richard James (6)	1289	Jerry Reeves (2)	1740	Marionette Mason	2248
Ben Kerman	423	Robert "Bob" Lee (3)	1289	Darleen Underwood (5)	1740	Cindy McKim	2248
Brad Winding	423	Ramon Navarro	1289	Alan Barceloux	1786	Kris McKim (3)	2248
Bill Berner	522	Eugene Premer (9)	1289	Robert Rist	1786	Billy Black	2358
Anthony Camarda	522	Mark Ringelberg (2)	1289	Coleman Anderson	1799	Ken Colbert	2358
Patrick Taylor	522	Gerald Salthouse	1289	Black Bear Diner (2)	1811	Dick Miller	2358
Robert Spinner	613	Thomas Veatch	1289	Kimberly Everett	1811	Michael Long	2444
Glenna Clegg	616	William Weir	1289	Nick Fleming (4)	1811	Victoria Long	2444
Anita Edwards	616	Scott Nelson (2)	1298	Allan Hoskins	1811	Dennis Lumley	2444
Harold Johnston	616	Jim Pyle	1298	Beverly Morgan	1811	Greg Metzgas	2477
Patrick Keliini	616	Mike Wiebe	1298	Ruth Reeves (2)	1811	Coleen Morris (2)	2477
Carl Reber	616	Vince Fazio, Jr.	1328	Walter Vogan	1811	Cherri Peterson	2477
Donald Seto	616	Al Fredrickson (3)	1328	Diane Wrobel	1811	John Peterson	2477
Roy Tanabe	616	James Messinger	1328	Donald Cooper	1900	Hartley Hermansen	2484
Katherine Wada	616	Dinah Perez	1328	Tom Lund	1900	Jay Colliatie	2492
Michael Winter	616	John Rodriguez	1328	Diane Gill	1905	The Poliskey's	2492
Norman Wood	616	Rita Rodriguez	1328	Eugene Mitchell (2)	1905	Kari Sears	2492
Elio Bertolini	652	Joe De Toma	1328	Gary Winters	1905	Orville Keeton	2504
Sherie Bialous (2)	652	Tricia Vargas (3)	1328	Jose Antonio "Tony" Lopez (5)	1952	Helene Fowler	2591
Ron Cooper	652	John D. Adams (4)	1427	Paul Zacks	1959	Lawrence Hannon	2591
Barry Jacobsen (3)	652	Circle of Friends (6)	1430	Stewart Allen	1968	Virginia Mulhern	2591
Gerald McDowell	652	Jessica Gracia	1430	William Haun (2)	1968	Jack Dusek	2616
Pat Myers	652	Sheryl Holloway	1430	Wayne Moore	1968	David Minnich	2669
Redwood Roamers RV Club	652	Dan Kurilchyk	1430	Vista Lodge Social Quarters	1968	Kurt Matel	2698
Robert Sylvester	652	Jwanita Alexander	1436	John Walz	1968	Arnold "Buzz" Bussard	2704
Jeani Vallee	652	Thomas Lusenskaskas	1436	David Freeman	1980	Bradley "Herb" Cline	2704
Jon Coster	888	Rick Monighetti	1436	Daisy Roberts	1980	Bernard Merchen	2704
Clifford Kohler (2)	888	Shelley Gonzales	1443	Dwight Roberts	1980	Charlie Pikas	2704
Becky Cool	966	Mary Crum	1471	Steven Johnson	2050	David Pyle	2704
Alameda Facility Breakfast Crew	1015	John Lowney (2)	1471	Joann Haugen	2095	Warnie "Ed" Roark	2704
Lynn Glick (2)	1015	John Walther	1471	Richard Haugen	2095	Bryce Smith	2704
Ron Blount	1073	Neal Essary	1474	American Legion Post 377	2098	Arda Sundstrom	2704
Ron Cam (3)	1073	William Filbeck	1474	Bud Fales	2098	Henry Hein	2801
Velmond Cary	1073	Frank Furtado (2)	1474	Jack Connell	2117	Robert Johnson	2801
Bud Davis	1073	Tom McAllister (5)	1474	Karol Sparks	2117	David Mitchell	2801
Brain Leidig (5)	1073	R.C. "Stoney" Bourke	1475	Tony Sparks	2117		
Harry Tully	1073	Jean Coye	1487	Linda Clary	2121		
Robert Vanderhyde	1073	Phil Robbins (3)	1487	Rudy Girardelli	2121		
Ed Will (2)	1073	Cheryl Richards	1497	Cathy Ledbetter (3)	2121		
Brenda Johnson (3)	1108	Joy Zapata-Chavez	1497	Joe Ledbetter	2121		
Travis Jones	1108	Skip & Deanna Hoy	1587	Milton Noland	2121		
North Bay Lighting & Electrical Supply	1108	Dave Mason	1587	Jolene Smith	2121		
Richard Carstens	1250	Jake Parsons	1587	Larry Smith	2121		
Dave Noland	1259	John Wilson (2)	1608	Mark Wright (2)	2121		
Tom Fielder	1282	Jeanne Beadle	1643	Richard Anderson	2230		

Santa and Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 Deliver at House of Hope

"The kids have been waiting all year for the Elks and Santa Claus to return and help decorate the tree," stated Melissa Stupfel, Volunteer Resources Coordinator at the House of Hope, which is the next stop for those families that are leaving the Orange County Rescue Mission.

On December 6, the Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley (MVSV) Elks Lodge No. 2444 volunteers helped the children and moms decorate their huge Christmas tree as everyone waited in anticipation for Saint Nick. Every child took their turn hanging ornaments on the tree until the boxes were empty. When the tree was finally trimmed, one last ornament was needed. Charlie, one of the older kids, climbed the tallest ladder to affix a golden star to the treetop. Everyone cheered because they knew what was about to happen ... the magic of Santa and Mrs. Claus! When Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived, the children gathered for hugs, candy canes and had their family picture taken with the Santa. For the second year in a row, the Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks have made Christmas a little bit brighter for these families in need.

To make Christmas possible at the House of Hope, the MVSV Elks received a Beacon Grant for \$2,000 from the Elks National Foundation, which must be used for kids. The Community Outreach event could not have been made possible without the help of many volunteers: PER Derek Randles organized this special event for the second year.

The House of Hope provides single mothers with children the opportunity to enter the labor market while obtaining housing and supportive services that assists them through the crucial transition from recent homelessness to a stable housing environment. The House of Hope has 15 rooms and up to 45 beds where families are provided help and hope through an on-site case manager. This community-based structured program can best be described as a loving, Christ-centered, supportive place and the Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks are honored to spend a few hours each year giving gifts to children while adding smiles to their faces when Santa and Mrs. Claus enter the room.



Lodge members Julie Thomas and Dennis Lumley supervise the tree decorating

Lake Elsinore/Wildomar Elks Lodge No. 2591 Raised Money for High School

The Lake Elsinore/Wildomar Elks Lodge No 2591 hosted its annual "Christmas Tree Lane" at the Lodge on Saturday, December 5. This event is one of the lodge's fundraisers for high school scholarships. Ten decorated Christmas Trees with presents valued from \$1,000 to \$2,000 were raffled off. Each tree had a specific theme and sponsors. For example, Lodge Bingo members had "Santa's Computer Room" with a desk, computer, printer, software, etc. There were door prizes and the Lodge kitchen sold food items. This year \$13,000 was raised by Christmas Tree Lane.

Petaluma Elks Lodge No. 901 Donates for War Memorial

The Petaluma Elks Lodge No. 901 was able to donate \$1,000 towards the Korean War Memorial in Walnut Park because of a yearlong effort by the members of the Petaluma Elks Lodge No. 901 to raise the money. Not only the member veterans, but also all of the members feel very special for being able to make this donation. The Lodge's involvement in its community, demonstrated by actions such as this, make the Petaluma Elks Lodge a very special place to be a member.



Chula Vista Elks Lodge No. 2011 Delivers 4,123 Dictionaries to Schools

The Chula Vista Elks Lodge No. 2011 delivered 4,123 dictionaries to 51 local schools in their area. Many thanks go to all the sponsors and members who have helped in support of this effort to get these books into the hands of students at the beginning of their school year. New Chairman, Kim Coronado, has worked diligently in the planning of this year's Dictionary program. National City School Board member Brian Clapper and National City School District Governing Board Member Maria Dalla have been in attendance at several deliveries along with ten participating Lodge Members.



Rancho Nacion Elementary School, National City, CA

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Recurring Donors

Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge
Josh Hachadourian	3	Melanie McKimmons	1298	Robert W. Griffith	1952	Debbie Hosted	2011
David Podger	3	James Ferris	1378	Emily L. Hsu	1952	Roy Jenness	2011
Marilyn Hooton	6	Shelley Gonzales	1443	Donald Larry Hudson	1952	Ashley Munoz	2011
Donal Frigerio	168	Richard D. Enea	1474	Jose Justiniano	1952	Rebecca Munoz	2011
Flo Gandolfi	168	Dennis Linsley	1474	Sherrie Larson	1952	Christine Nelson	2011
Kathleen Kuttler	168	Kathleen Linsley	1474	Karen Lewin	1952	David Plotke	2011
Karen Lakey	168	R. C. "Stoney" Bourke	1475	Jose A. Lopez	1952	John Hardman	2031
Gary Marinelli	168	Matthew Ferrero	1475	William "Bill" O'Hearn	1952	David Dickey	2045
Margaret "Peg" McDonald	168	Amanda Jung	1475	Lance Slimmer	1952	William G. Williford	2103
Glenn Montague	168	Colin Smith	1475	Thomas E. Lemm	1959	Janice L. Brown	2117
Chuck Nolan	168	Karen Feldpouch	1538	Richard Tanguy	1959	Ian Lanouette	2121
Nadine Steel	218	Sylvia Spiva-Schramm	1561	Carol Beckwith	1968	J. Martin Borden	2230
Jerome Paul	672	Steven Wagstaff	1687	Henry "Hank" DiTomaso	1968	Leroy Bostick	2358
Charles Rowe	672	Richard Blake	1767	Jim Byerrum	1993	Ted Olsen	2379
Lisa Fleury	759	Ray Prettyman	1767	Dan Casey	1993	Terry Gicking	2477
Jerry Hansen	901	Kaye Brandos	1804	Richard Green	1993	Greg Metzgas	2477
Donald Checchi	906	Nicholas Fleming	1811	Alan Kelley	1993	Beverly Burns	2484
Frank Frazier	906	Gerry Gouveia	1811	Diana Mondragon	1993	Paul Kassel	2543
Margaret Pickett	906	Chuck Jackson	1811	Trudy Nuzum	1993	Janet Rasmussen	2543
Robert A. Pickett	906	Edward C. Johnson	1811	Ben Ortega	1996	Linda Tucker	2543
John Eitel	1108	Michael Silva	1811	Laurie Ayala	2011	James Williams	2599
Dr. Donald Gumm	1240	Kevin Wroble	1811	Martin Barros	2011	Tom Warren	2639
Dave Wells	1240	Donald Schultz	1877	Janet L. Byrd	2011	Dave Hosted	2698
Frank Gutierrez	1250	James G. Anderson	1952	Phillip W. Byrd	2011	Lance Erickson	2733
Robert Ostini	1251	Randall N. Eldridge	1952	Francis J. Glenski	2011		

Petaluma Elks Lodge No. 901 Hosted a Dinner for Yountville Veterans

The Petaluma Elks Lodge No. 901 hosted a dinner for 150 veterans and staff members from the Veterans Home of California-Yountville. The guests arrived in six buses and were greeted at the door as they arrived. They enjoyed a hosted chicken and ribs dinner with all the fixings. As the veterans left the premises to travel back to the VHC-Yountville, they were given a "goodie bag" that was filled with the items needed for everyday life at the home. Each bag contained toiletries, some nice items for the holidays and a lap blanket for the wheelchair-bound veterans. The Lodge members funded the event by purchasing service placards (each one funding a dinner for a veteran) that were displayed in the Lodge as well as purchasing table sponsorships to help with the other related expenses.



Jack Dunaway, PER Marilyn Bartow, and Jack Strange giving "goodie bags"

Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801 Honors Middle School Students of the Year

The Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801 held its 17th annual Middle School "Student of the Year" awards presentations recently at Van Avery Prep School. Forty-six students were recognized from eight schools in the Temecula area. Each middle school was asked to submit applications for three females and three males. Each application included a 300-word essay, describing why he or she should be selected as the "Student of the Year" from their school. A committee of Elks judged the applications according to their academic achievement, citizenship, involvement in school activities, and leadership activities. The top female and top male from each school received a gift card for Barnes & Noble in the amount of \$50. All the candidates received a framed Certificate of Achievement from the Temecula Valley Elks, an engraved Olympic style medallion medal, a coupon from Chick-fil-A and a coupon from the Golden Spoon.



First row (L to R): Monet N., Kelsey W., Sheen-Yi C., Elizabeth R., Patricia A., Jasmine W., Allison S. and Trinity C.

Second row (L to R): ER Ken Hauer, DL Jimmie Spezia, Jonathan L., Ethan J., Samuel P., Cole N., Ryan K., Brian N., Nick B., Ryan M., Diane Farrens, Student of the Year Co-chairman and Bob Farrens, Student of the Year Co-chairman

Piggy Bank

By Gerry Gouveia, CHEA Piggy Bank Chairman



Aloha, the results are in on the Leading Knights Challenge. We had dozens of Lodges participate and the results will be announced at the Association Convention in Anaheim. You all did a great job and are applauded for your efforts. As you know, Steve Wagstaff ran the Chili's Purple Pig Event, and the Lodges stepped up and we had a banner year. If it continues, this will be one of our best programs to raise funds. Thanks to all who participated - let's talk it up for

next year!

The Association Convention is coming up in May, and we will need raffle prizes for the Piggy Bank booth and volunteers to assist with the booth. You do not need to be a Purple Pig Chairman to help; all we need are people who want to help us raise more money for the kids. Do not forget that this is your last chance to buy a chance to win those Disneyland tickets worth \$640. All you need to do is stop by the booth to buy your chance.

The money is coming in to Fresno on a regular basis, but some Lodges are still reporting large amounts in their Lodge accounts. Remember, it all goes towards your year-end total, and the money can earn more interest in Fresno than in your accounts. So please send it in today!

Linda Pinnell Celebrates 40 Years with CHEMPI as a Preschool Vision Screener

Linda Pinnell has worked as a CHEMPI Preschool Vision Screener for 40 years. Linda said that she is very proud of the work she has done for the Major Project. "It has been my life's work finding and helping so many children with vision problems. Remaining dedicated to providing the most reliable vision screening possible while still making the process fun for the children."

Vision problems in preschool children hamper their ability to learn and may affect their confidence. Correcting their vision problems allows these children to enter school on the same level as their peers, giving them the chance to prosper and excel.

Linda's passion for finding children with amblyopia and getting them the treatment they need is what has driven her. She has been committed to improving and enhancing the overall Preschool Vision Screening program. Linda has been responsible for program development and many positive changes throughout her years with CHEMPI. With Linda constantly striving for excellence in all that she has done, she has inspired others by example, creating a positive ripple effect on the entire Preschool Vision Screening program.

Pat DiMercurio, Director of Professional Services for CHEMPI said, "It has been a privilege to work with Linda. Her passion and depth of knowledge is unsurpassed. She has truly made a difference in countless children's lives as well as everyone who has worked with her."

In 2010, Linda was promoted to Team Leader, supervising, training and mentoring the PVS staff in Southern California. Linda is currently covering an area from Riverside to Temecula, Lake Elsinore to San Jacinto and all cities in between. Last year she personally saw more than 4,000 children, finding 270 children with vision problems.

"Linda is a very dedicated and gifted Preschool Vision Screener, an asset to our Major Project. She, as are all of our professional staff, is compassionate, innovative and inspiring. We will miss her expertise and wish her well as she retires later this year." Tim Martin, PGELK, Executive Director.

Elks Care - Elks Share

San Fernando Elks Lodge No. 1539 Awards Scholarships Totaling \$60,000

The San Fernando Elks Lodge No. 1539 held their 2015 William L. Frye Scholarship dinner and award ceremony recently, and presented to eight local high school seniors scholarship awards totaling \$60,000.

Anneka C. received a \$25,000 scholarship and will be attending the University of California at Davis. Joaquin S., who will attend UCLA, received a \$10,000 scholarship. \$5,000 scholarships were awarded to Karla C. (UC Irvine), Patricia B. (Princeton), Dominique F. (Seattle University), and Kathryn M. (Syracuse). Aastha P. and Ethan S. are both attending UC Berkeley and received \$2,500 grants.

Past scholarship recipients joined the celebration and spoke about their college activities and how the scholarship has allowed them to pursue a dream that may not have otherwise been possible.

Over the past 13 years, the San Fernando Elks Lodge has presented well over \$600,000 in scholarships and grants. Our sincere gratitude to 1940's member, William L. Frye and his daughter Dorothy Hamil, for entrusting a legacy of over \$725,000 to San Fernando in the belief that Elks do Care and Share.



Top row (L to R): Sherilynn Paul (Committee Member); Bob Medellin ER, PDDGER (Committee Member); Robert Paul (Committee Chairman)
Bottom row (L to R): Dominique F., Karla C., Kathryn M., Aastha P., Ethan S., Anneka C., and Patricia B.

San Pedro Elks Lodge No. 966 Helps Ronald McDonald House With a Pull-Tabs Donation

On Monday December 21, 2015, representatives (the "Ruff Neks") from the San Pedro Elks Lodge No. 966 toured the Ronald McDonald House (RMDH) in Long Beach, California. Bill "AZ" Antkiewicz, Donald Bomgart, Bob Costales, Sergio Espinoza, Jim MacKilligan and Sean Mejia participated in the visit.

The purpose of their visit was to turn in more than 30 pounds of beverage tabs, which had been donated by Lodge members and friends throughout the year. This donation was one of the largest single beverage tabs donation received by the RMDH this year, according to Julie Dickey, Manager for the RMDH.

These beverage tab donations helps the local RMDH fund their "home-away-from home" program for seriously ill children. The proceeds from the donated tabs support the families that stay at the house, which is within walking distance from the Children's hospital. Our charitable contributions to support needy families are a true depiction of our esprit-de-corps to support our local communities.

Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444's RV Club Donates to Food Pantry

Members of the Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 camping club ("The Run-A-Ways") visited the South County Outreach Food Pantry in Irvine a few days before Christmas. The club members came bearing little gifts, as has been the custom for the past five years. The campers recently held their annual Christmas party, and, in lieu of a gift exchange, once again left donations for gift cards to be purchased and donated to South County Outreach.

Club members Frank Gunning and Andy Costello joined the wagon master, PER Pat Martino, and the assistant wagon master, Jim Wessling on the visit. Twenty-one \$15 department store gift cards were presented to Outreach Director Ken Carpenter. "We add the gift cards to our family food baskets," said Outreach Director Ken. "We usually have things to give the small children but we seldom have anything for the teenagers. Our intention is to include these gift cards for the teens in the family to buy something for themselves, or to buy a gift for someone else. These 21 special gifts will make Christmas just a little happier for 21 families." Director Carpenter thanked the men and wished a Merry Christmas to all the members of the Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge.



L to R: Past wagon master Andy Costello, Ken Carpenter, Pat Martino, Jim Wessling, and Frank Gunning

Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 Donates Stuffed Toys to HBFFA

The Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 donated a "Dog Pound 100 Stuffed Dogs" to the Huntington Beach Firefighters Association to participate in the Association's "Operation Lots-O-Hugs." The program provides a stuffed Dalmatian dog to bring comfort to the children when the Department is dispatched to an incident in the city. The money for the "Dog Pound" is part of the HB Elks ongoing program raised through the Lodge's weekly bingo activities supported by an all-volunteer group.



L to R: Exalted Ruler Rick Bruce, member Greg Neneman, HBFFA members Randy Babbitt, Dane Morrissey, Marty Ortiz, and Battalion Chief Jeff Lopez

Lodi Elks Lodge No. 1900 Hosts Children's Christmas Party

On December 12th, the Lodi Elks Lodge No. 1900 held its annual Children's Christmas Party. Penny Knapp, representing the Telephone Pioneers, provided the stockings filled with toys, coloring books and other goodies for Santa (Jim Miller) to hand out to the children, with the help of Santa's Elf (Dottie Thompson). Suzanne Henderson emcee'd the event and read "The Night Before Christmas" to the children. Joann Miller ("Mrs. Claus") decorated the dining tables for everyone to enjoy. Nancy Sanguinetti, and her friend Kathy, served ice cream sundaes, while the children had an assortment of condiments to add to it. Carolyn Greeson decorated the tree for all to enjoy. The children who attended had a wonderful time enjoying the ice cream sundaes and goodies provided by Santa. This event was free for all children and the lodge requested canned food donations from their parents to be sent to Grace and Mercy Food bank. Thanks to Nancy Politano for chairing this event and putting everything together.



Gilroy Elks Lodge No. 1567 Supports Local Veterans

Gilroy Elks Lodge No. 1567 hosted a calamari dinner for 80 local area veterans in the community. The program for the evening was a presentation about the Freedom Paws service dog organization for veterans, which included a narrative demonstration by the founder and director, who herself is a veteran. She told us about how service dogs help other veterans who have returned from active military service with severe injuries get readjusted. Lodge members and guests attending the event collected over \$700, which was given to the director to help support the organization's work.

Scholarship
APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE
chea-elks.org/youth-activities/scholarships

Oceanside Elks Lodge No. 1561 Welcomes Troops Home from Deployment

The Oceanside Elks Lodge No. 1561 recently held a dinner at the Lodge to welcome home some troops who had been deployed to the Middle East. During their deployment, the Lodge had sent several "Care Packages" to the unit.



First row: second from right is Major Patrick Davis and troops
Second row: far right looking at picture, is ER Karen Kundtz
Back row: Leading Knight, James Johnson (retired MGySgt USMC), and to the far left, Major Chris White

Roseville Elks Lodge No. 2248's Head Start Christmas Project

The members of the Roseville Elks Lodge No. 2248 used an Elks National Foundation Promise Grant to bring Christmas cheer to disadvantaged children and their families in the Roseville community.

The members provided gifts and food baskets to 25 needy families and 67 children. Santa and his Elf presented the gifts and food baskets at a "Breakfast with Santa" special event. In addition, members assembled Christmas stockings for 125 children enrolled in the Head Start program, and Santa delivered the stockings to the children during visits to each Head Start school site.

In other news, the Roseville Lodge conducted its annual Hoop Shoot, sponsored the Wheatland Little League and provided six Lodge scholarships to graduating seniors.



Paradise Elks Lodge No. 2026 Volunteers to Help Distribute Food to the Needy

On December 17th, members of the Paradise Elks Lodge No. 2026 volunteered to distribute the Salvation Army Christmas Food Boxes. The Elks had given a \$2,000 Elks National Foundation Beacon Grant to Grocery Outlet to help pay for the food in the boxes. 177 family food boxes were distributed. These boxes fed over 700 family members.



L to R: Members Jim Williams, Renee Tanner and ER Jim McMillen

Victorville Elks Lodge No. 1877 and Local FD Help Santa Give Presents to Local Children

On December 19th, Santa Claus visited the Victorville Elks Lodge No. 1877 and handed out presents to all the children. Victorville Lodge members Cindy Burklow and Mary Kassel coordinated the children's Christmas Party. Exalted Ruler Rose Marie Johnson had the pleasure of greeting Santa (Noah Demerly), Fireman (SPARKY), and his dog.



Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672 Donates \$10,000 to the BLT

On December 30, 2015, the Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672 presented a check in the amount of \$10,000 to CHEA President Donald Schultz. The donation is earmarked for the California-Hawaii Elks Association's Bequests and Living Trusts (BLT) fund.



L to R: DL Aron Andersen (PDDGER), ER Billie Jo Olson (PER), and Donald Schultz, CHEA President

A Kern River Valley Elks Lodge No. 2358 Member Receives a Special CHEMPI Award

Al Rodriguez is a 50-year member of the Kern River Valley Elks Lodge No. 2358. He also belongs to an elite group of veterans who are survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7th, 1941.

Al recently received a special award from the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. (CHEMPI) to recognize his donation of \$3,000 to CHEMPI in memory of his late wife. The Lodge held a special Major Project Dinner and auction, which raised an additional \$3,400 for the Major Project. PER Mike McCloskey and Sherlyn Littlejohn, the Lodge's Major Project Chair, presented the award to Al Rodriguez during the event.



L to R: PER Mike McCloskey, Al Rodriguez and Sherilyn Littlejohn

Watsonville Elks Lodge No. 1300 Donates \$500 to VTC of Monterey

The Watsonville Elks Lodge No. 1300 teamed up with the Veteran's Transition Center (VTC) of Monterey and, through our 50/50 drawing, dinner proceeds and donations, were able to give the Center over \$500 to help our homeless veterans and families.



L to R: Julian Garcia, Veterans Chairman, and Col. Greg Weir, Transition Center

Lake Almanor Elks Lodge No. 2626 Donates to Local Food Bank

On December 1st, the Lake Almanor Elks Lodge No. 2626 donated \$500 from an ENF Beacon Grant to the Chester food bank. This money was used to purchase well-needed Christmas food supplies for the needy families in Plumas County.