



The California-Hawaii ELK



Elks Care
Elks Share



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July/August 2012



New CHEA Vice Presidents take the oath of office



Association President
Art Echternacht is
sworn into office

Art and First Lady
Shirley enjoy
the rally



Vision Screener
Wyomi and
Evelynn



2012 CHEMPI Theme Child Evelyn Pacheco

Evelynn
and
family



Shirley waves to the audience as family looks on



Poway Elks Lodge No. 2543 coordinates a golf event for charity

The Public Relations Chairman of the Poway Elks Lodge No. 2543, Michelle Foster, spearheaded their annual "Hitty Putty" golf tournament on April 27th at the Lawrence Welk golf course. There were 54 participants in the tournament.

The tournament raised \$1,743 for the Lodge's Purple Pig, veterans and other charities. One of the many sponsored holes was provided by the "Elks Riders SC" – a new Elks affiliated motorcycle organization that raises money for its Districts Lodges' charities.

The Poway Elks Lodge's Exalted Ruler, Kevin Farrell, ER, is actively interacting with the community to promote the good deeds that we do as Elks.



L to R: Cindy Kassel, Poway Elks Lodge Secretary and her husband, Paul Kassel, the President of the "Elks Riders South Coast"

Arcadia Elks Lodge No. 2025 teaches scouts pizza making

The Arcadia Elks Lodge No. 2025 recently held a special event on April Fool's Day. No, it wasn't a foolish activity, but a training session for the Scouts of Venture Crew 91. The Lodge Executive Chef, Ryan Maguire, taught the Scouts the art of making pizza.

The Scouts discovered that they could now make a better pizza pie than any pizza that has ever been delivered to their home. The Lodge and Crew 91 have had a long time relationship. On a regular basis, they can be found at the Lodge holding Scouting meetings or assisting the Lodge during dinners or other special events. The Venture Crew 91 is a co-education group of local high school students.



Stockton Elks Lodge No. 218 recognizes PGER Grillo

The Stockton Elks Lodge No. 218 presented the Honorable Louis J. "Jim" Grillo, PGER, with an Elks National Foundation "Permanent Benefactor Certificate" for his accumulation of over \$2,000 in donations to the Elks National Foundation. The presentation was done at the Lodge business meeting in March 2012.



L to R: Lodge Secretary Frank Chicago, PDDGER; Jim Grillo, PGER and ER Ed Tempel, PER

Canoga Park Elks Lodge No. 2190 distributes DAP literature

The Canoga Park Elks Lodge No. 2190 Drug Awareness Committee Chairman Jim Swavely and Committee Member Donna Swavely handed out over 200 Elks Drug Awareness Program brochures and over 120 American flags at the annual Canoga Park Memorial Day Parade end-point at Quimby Park. The committee's colorful banner attracted a lot of attention and drew hundreds of people to the display table to accept the free literature. The town of Canoga Park turned 100 years old in March.



Donna Swavely

President's Message



To Elk Members All:

What a great Convention in San Diego, thanks to Chuck Nolan and his committee. Thank you for a great beginning as Shirley and I start our year as President and First Lady of the California-Hawaii Elks Association. First, I would like to thank the members of the Santa Ana Elks Lodge No. 794 for their support over many years - especially this last year - as Shirley and I were preparing for this

journey. Their unwavering encouragement and support has helped Shirley and me attain this dream. Thank You! I would also like to express my appreciation to all the members of the Orange Coast District for helping me fulfill my dream. As I stood on the stage watching the most fantastic rally I had ever witnessed, I thought: what an awesome tribute from the Orange Coast District, the Santa Barbara Drum and Bugle Corp, the Westminster Elks Lodge Beefeaters, the Vice Presidents "Art's Eagles" and, of course, all of the Elks from the great States of California and Hawaii. Thank You so Much!

It will be an honor and privilege to represent all of the members of the California-Hawaii Elks Association as your President. Shirley and I are so proud and humbled for the opportunity to travel throughout both states to meet our Elk family. As we start our travels to all of the Districts, I am looking forward to meeting Lodge members and seeing firsthand what each Lodge is doing to promote the various Elk programs in their communities.

My motto this year is "Reaching New Heights by Soaring with Elkdom." With the help of all my Vice Presidents, "Art's Eagles," and the members of both great states, we will soar to new heights while promoting all of the programs of the Association - especially the Major Project, Bequests and Living Trusts, Membership, Lodge Activities, and, most importantly, our Veterans programs. I have chosen these five as the special emphasis programs for the year. I challenge you as well as myself to soar a little higher in promoting our charitable programs - especially the Major Project "Piggy Bank." Also, we must not forget our Veterans and our proud heritage of patriotism by letting everyone in our community know that Elks take care of our Veterans and their families.

As Shirley and I travel throughout both states visiting the Lodges, you can use the CHEA website to track our schedule. If we are in your area, please come to the Lodge and meet us. I pledge our support in all of your endeavors, and by working together we will be "Reaching New Heights by Soaring with Elkdom."

Fraternally,

Art Echternacht, President

San Rafael Elks Lodge No. 1108 fetes youth

The San Rafael Elks Lodge No. 1108 was proud to honor the participants and winners from its various Lodge Youth Activities at a dinner and awards ceremony on May 2, 2012. The Hoop Shoot participants and volunteers, Soccer Shoot participants and winners, Americanism Essay Contest winners and Lodge Scholarship winners and their families were honored during a dinner event that was held at the Lodge.

The dinner was provided by the Lodge Officers. Following the meal, the Lodge presented certificates, medals, gift certificates and cash awards to the various winners for their accomplishments. The Lodge Officers and members offered their congratulations to all of the participants and winners. The San Rafael Elks Lodge is proud to have them represent the Marin County community, and wishes for all a bright future filled with wonderful achievements!

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

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

President's Upcoming Visitation Schedule

July 1-5, 2012
*Grand Lodge Convention
Austin, TX*

July 14, 2012
Hanford 100th Anniversary

July 21, 2012
Orange Coast DD Jewelling

July 27-29, 2012
Northeast District

August 3-5, 2012
West Central Coast District

August 17-19, 2012
South Central District

Van Nuys-Reseda Elks Lodge No. 2790 treats veterans

The Van Nuys-Reseda Elks Lodge No. 2790 treated the hospitalized veterans at the Sepulveda VA facility to a delicious fish fry dinner on January 13th. The Lodge's fish fry dinner was made famous by its original Chef, Dick Stine, PER, who had just passed away on January 8th at 87 years of age. The dinner was a tribute to PER Stine, so Gus Stevenson, a veteran, played patriotic and funeral music on his harmonica. An additional 30 Lodge members and Antlers were on hand to prepare and serve the meal.

In other news, 300 Easter cupcakes were prepared by ER Bruce Troe, Leading Knight Jill Lace and Lawrence Middle School teachers Christine and Lillie. The cupcakes brought a little bit of sunshine to the Sepulveda VA veterans, the Canoga Park Elks Lodge Kids Easter Party, the Van Nuys Fire Department Station No. 39, patients at the Belmont Assisted Living facility and our Lodge Members.

Lawrence Middle School students and Antlers also made 50 sack lunches disguised as "bunnies" and filled them with Easter candies and chocolates for the veterans. Delivering the colorful cupcakes and sack bunnies were: Bruce Troe, Jill Lace, Tiffany Lace, PER, Kathy Rogers, PER, Duane Wheeler, Trustee, and Nancy Kephart, PSVP.

**Elks Care
Elks Share**

Public Relations

By David L. Harris, CHEA Public Relations Chairman



At the recent CHEA Convention, a discussion was held on what the definitive meaning of Public Relations would be as it pertains to the Elks. Upon returning home, and after researching the issue, I propose this definition: "The practice of creating and maintaining the *goodwill* of an organization's various public entities (members, officers, employees, recipients, etc), usually through publicity and other *nonpaid* forms of *communication*. These efforts may

also include the support of arts, charitable causes, education, sporting events, and other civic engagements."

The words in italics explain our approach and what has been done over the years. Goodwill is insuring that our members, officers, employees and yes, the recipients of our charitable works understand what our projects are and tell the world. At the convention, I coined the phrase "*Organizational Narcissists*" – meaning that we must stand and declare that we belong to the greatest charitable organization in the USA.

In previous generations, it was considered arrogant or egotistical to boast of one's good works. It was to be done without fanfare or recognition. The competition for our free time is not as it was in the past - we now have many things to occupy our time. Today, we must let everyone know just how the communities in California and Hawaii would be affected by the loss of Elkdom. If Lodges become smaller, we will have less to contribute in the way of funds and manpower. We can turn this around by asking our neighbors to join our Lodges and by asking them and our local businesses to donate to the various causes that we champion.

I know that this is preaching to the choir and many say that I have done everything I can. Over the next few weeks and months, and with the help of your District and Lodge PR Chairmen, I will pass on suggestions and programs that will enhance our efforts to gain recognition for our Lodges. Join me and become Organizational Narcissists by yelling from the roof tops, "I am an ELK - a member of the greatest charitable entity in the USA. We provide scholarships, veteran's care, and children's therapy, etc." You get the idea. Don't be shy. All together now: "I am an ELK, a member of the greatest charitable ..."

Tracy Elks Lodge No. 2031 presents \$3,000 in scholarship awards

The Tracy Elks Lodge No. 2031 held its annual Scholarship Awards on May 2, 2012. Don "Spanky" Rathjen, PSVP, presented scholarship awards totaling more than \$3,000. The Lodge is very proud to congratulate these amazing young men and women.



L to R: Ved Vakharia, Manjap Singh, Cyndi Leigh Quenery, Amy Ly, Don "Spanky" Rathjen, PSVP, Michelle Paez, Tyler Bertao, Steven Gigli

Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538 welcomes President Echternacht and First Lady Shirley

The Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538 welcomed Association President Art Echternacht and his wife, Shirley, to their community and Lodge over the weekend of May 31 to June 3, 2012. It is a tradition for the Santa Maria Elks Lodge to welcome the CHEA Association's new First Couple to the annual Santa Maria Elks Rodeo – the 69th such event being held this year. The four day event has many highlights, of course - the main ones being several rodeo events and a Rodeo Parade. The four performances were watched by thousands of rodeo enthusiasts.

In addition, Santa Maria is unique in hosting a children-only rodeo performance to kick off its rodeo weekend. On Thursday, May 31st, the Clarence Minetti Mini Rodeo event started at 9:30 a.m. Named in memory of a long time Lodge member, this event is all about the kids. Clarence Minetti wanted to make sure every child had the opportunity to see and live the Western experience. 34 young cowboys and cowgirls competed for championship buckles in three different events: team roping, breakaway roping and barrel racing. There was also mutton bustin', saddlebronc and bareback riding exhibitions from Cal Poly University cowboys and a specialty act performance from Pumkintown the Clown to round out a complete rodeo experience for more than 6,000 local elementary school students. Also, with the help of 17 sponsors, the Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538 gave six different school districts a teacher and student award in memory of Clarence Minetti.

The 69th Annual Santa Maria Elks Rodeo Parade was held on Saturday morning, June 2, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. The day was picture perfect. In brilliant sunshine, over 135 parade entrants marched down Broadway. President Art Echternacht and his wife Shirley rode in an antique car, both of them bedecked in colorful western attire. Art proudly wore a belt buckle that was given to him during a special ceremony at the rodeo event on Friday. Thousands of parade watchers enjoyed the show.



Shirley and Art Echternacht preparing to ride in the Rodeo Parade

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

Lake Almanor Elks Lodge No. 2626 holds Drug Awareness Awards dinner

On April 10th, the Lake Almanor Elks Lodge No. 2626 held its Drug Awareness Award dinner at the Lodge. Lodge members, family and friends of the winners enjoyed over 100 hamburgers. Each of the winners received a \$25 check and a trophy from the Lodge. Two of the winners also received additional awards. Calvin Wilson received an additional \$100 from CHEA and \$100 from the Northeast District for a total of \$225 in award monies. Hayze Leiblod received an additional \$300 from CHEA and \$75 from the Northeast District for a total of \$400 in award monies. The other winners were: Shane Nicholson, Robert Painter, Silas LaGroue, Allison Yearwood, Hanna Doyle and Cassidy Sylvester. PER Dave Alcorn, the Drug Awareness Chairman presented the awards.



Front row (L to R): Shane Nicholson, Robert Painter, Silas LaGroue, Allison Yearwood, Hayze Leibold
Back row (L to R): Calvin Wilson, Hanna Doyle, Cassidy Sylvester, Dave Alcorn

Paramount Elks Lodge No. 1804 at city's Memorial Service

The Paramount Elks Lodge No. 1804, in conjunction with the City of Paramount, hosted their annual Memorial Day service at the Paramount Memorial Plaza. The Lodge Chaplain, Todd Hansen, and Exalted Ruler, Ray Jensen, read the names of the 43 military personnel, from the City of Paramount, who gave their lives in the service of their country. These fallen heroes served in World War II (13), the Korean Conflict (7) and the Vietnam War (23).

Floral wreaths were presented by Lodge officers at each of the Memorial monuments. There were many guests present, including other Lodge members and officers, Paramount City officials, and numerous family members and friends. A celebration luncheon was held at the Lodge at the conclusion of the ceremonies.

Yucca Valley Elks Lodge No. 2314 created Easter baskets for needy children

On Tuesday April 3, 2012, several members of the Yucca Valley Elks Lodge No. 2314 gathered together for a spaghetti dinner at the Lodge for the purpose of assembling Easter Baskets to be distributed to local children in need. The baskets were distributed to 30 mothers and their children who reside at Unity Home, a home for battered women located in the Morongo Valley.

Red Bluff Elks Lodge No. 1250 participates in community activities

The Red Bluff Elks Lodge No. 1250 had a booth at the Tehama County Special Olympics, held May 15, 2012 at Red Bluff High School. The Lodge has had a presence at the Special Olympics for several years. The Lodge brought in a basketball hoop and soccer net and kids were given the chance to shoot all they wanted. This is always one of the most popular booths in the Special Olympics Village. Some of our most enthusiastic participants were given balls to take home. They were very excited about that. Local high school athletes came in and helped out, working directly with the kids. To add to the festivities, the Lodge gave away beads and bubbles, a crowd fun favorite. A reported 325 athletes were present at the event this year.

On April 21, 2012, Lodge members and Emblem Club No. 408 members entered a float in the Red Bluff Round-Up parade. The Red Bluff Round-Up is the largest 3 day rodeo in the United States and its theme was "Kids and Cowboys." The float was decorated with this theme in mind and featured the Purple Pig, local charities receiving aid from the Lodge and this year's poster child. The float gave the local Lodge exposure to over 5,000 people and was one of over 150 entries. It was awarded a second place trophy in its division and received numerous positive comments during the parade.



L to R: PER Chris Sharp, Cira Sharp, Twylla Alford, PER Jim Alford at the Special Olympics

Escondido Elks Lodge No. 1687 family and community members remember fallen Marine

Earlier this year, the Escondido Elks Lodge No. 1687 hosted more than 100 friends and family of Sgt. Justin Everett to celebrate the life of this fallen Marine. Sgt. Everett was one of 7 Marines who were killed in a mid-air helicopter collision while training in Yuma, AZ. The members of the Lodge had about two days to plan the private function. The crash has prompted members of the North County community to help families and the base to memorialize the fallen. One Murrieta couple printed large portraits for the Marines' memorial service. Sgt. Everett was a resident of French Valley, near Murrieta.

Also lending a hand were Wayne Louth and Albert Kapitanski, of "The Flag Man," who volunteered to line the walls of the Lodge's ballroom with flags of the fifty states for the private ceremony. Dozens of lodge members were there to welcome the attendees. "They want to be here for nothing else than to let the military know they have our support," Exalted Ruler Marsha Franklin said. "When things like this happen to the military, we want them to know that we care and we would do anything that we could to help as well."

Membership

By Lance Erickson, CHEA Membership Chairman



The Association Convention in San Diego was well attended this year. Congratulations to the New Exalted Rulers, Vice Presidents, District and Lodge Membership Chairmen. Membership continues to be the Life Blood of our Great Organization. This year our new CHEA President's theme is "Reaching New Heights by Soaring with Elkdom." As a Vice President, Exalted Ruler, Membership Chairman, or as a member, this is an opportunity for you to encourage all of our

members to turn the tables and reach new heights in membership. If you do not have a Membership Program and Planning Manual, you can download one at www.elks.org. This manual gives you an overview of the Program, Membership Recruitment process, Orientation of new members, and other information such as Lapsation, sample letters and blank monthly reporting forms. In the near future, you will also be able to download a Member Management Team manual for 2012-2013 through www.chea-elks.org (look under Committees-Membership).

The day of just having one person in your Lodge who is the Membership Chairman should be a thing of the past. In order for our Lodges to maintain a strong Membership program, a team of enthusiastic members should come together within the Lodge and map out a plan to recruit new members and to keep the members that are already in the Lodge. With this new team in place, the goals for each Lodge should be set as follows:

- Initiate a number of new members equal to at least 10% of the starting number of members in the Lodge as of April 1st of the current year. This is in addition to those added to the rolls by transfer dimit and reinstatement.
- Set a goal for less than a 2% member loss for the year.

A well planned program within your Lodge that is enthusiastically implemented will result in new ideas, new strategies and, most importantly, new members. Put an application in the hands of current members and new members, and then challenge them to bring in a worthy candidate. This is the year that we can "reach new heights" and exceed our membership goals.

Rancho Cordova Elks Lodge No. 2484 holds mortgage burning ceremony

On February 11, 2012, the Rancho Cordova Elks Lodge No. 2484 held a Mortgage Burning Ceremony in celebration of paying off the 30 year mortgage and owning our building and grounds free and clear.

In attendance were 100 members and guests to join in the celebration.



L to R: PER Jay Jiter, Esquire; Charter Members PGLC John Staup, Steele Houx, George Winters, Ernest Alessandri, PER Richard McIntyre; PER Jim Wash (representing the PER Association); Rancho Cordova Emblem Club No. 479 Charter President Joan Staup and Bonnie Friddle, current Emblem President. At the podium is Exalted Ruler Dave Ferguson.

Buena Park Elks Lodge No. 2046 helps fund youth trip and visits veterans

The Buena Park Elks Lodge No. 2046 recently donated \$1,900 to the Buena Park Junior High School. The Leading Knight, Don Betzhold, PER, presented the check to Assistant Principal Bill Lynch during a special event at the Lodge. The donations were from candy sales, member contributions and the Emblem Club. The youth music group showed their appreciation by entertaining us with a few song selections under the direction of their music teacher Ms. Welling. The donation was intended to provide supplemental funding for future students to participate in "American Heritage" tours.

The Lodge also presented American Heritage Scholarship Awards to nine students from the school: Ruby Garduro, Yuri Cerialle, Hannah Kwon, Victoria Meza, Christian Murano, Matthew Ozuzun, Michael Rios-Silva, Joshua Vincent and Alex Montalvo. These students had just completed an 8-day escorted tour of Boston, New York and Washington, D.C., visiting many sites that are of significant cultural and historical interest to our country. The students kept journals of their experiences on the tour and turned in an assignment about the trip to their teachers. Principal Lynch showed a slide show of the students' trip. To participate in this tour, these students worked hard all year on fundraising projects at their school and at home to earn the money to pay for their trip. The Buena Park Elks Lodge signed a Declaration of Adoption with Buena Park Junior High School, becoming a community partner, pledging continuous support for the American Heritage Tour Program which assists worthy, less fortunate students to attend this tour.

In other news, fourteen Elks from the Buena Park Elks Lodge and the Garden Grove Elks Lodge No. 1952 sponsored a Bingo night for the veterans who are hospitalized at the Long Beach Veteran's Medical Center. The veterans were served refreshments and snacks and received door prizes. The Bingo events are sponsored monthly by the Orange Coast District. Each Lodge in the District sponsors Bingo twice a year at the VA with another Lodge. Buena Park and Garden Grove sponsor Bingo in April and October. Thank you to the Buena Park Elks, Richard Crowe and Pat Fusco, and to the Garden Grove Elks, Bernadette Roldan, Joe Perry, Ray Kuczski, Ann Lybech, Jim Faulkner, Tsudi Tsukyyama, Ron Starr, Myrna Allen, Bob "Chili Bob" Griffith, Willy White and also to Harvey Langham from Huntington Beach, CA.

Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538 awards MVS scholarships

On May 5, 2012 the Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538 invited students of the past semester and their parents to a BBQ dinner. After the meal, Tyler Dickson and Chelsea Bake (both from Pioneer Valley High School) received a \$1,750 scholarship award from the Lodge.

The winners of the Elks National Foundation's Most Valuable Student Scholarship received their awards as well. The 1st place awards (\$1,750) went to Alexander R. McKinney and Kathryn Enstad (both from Righetti High School). The 2nd place awards (\$1,500) went to Frank W. Compton and Sharmaine N. Pasion (both from Pioneer Valley High School). The 3rd place awards (\$1,250) went to Paul A. Hurd (Righetti High School) and Rebecca Drake (Saint Joseph High School).

There were other scholarship awards as well: Jesus Meraz, Ariana Fawner, Tyler Dickson, Shannon A. Patterson, Sang Hoon Moon, Sarahi Amanda, Anthony J. Zepeda, Dasi Paniagua-Urbe, Marc Lopez, Pei-en Yang, Enrique Pinon, Chelsea Baker, Frank W. Compston, and Samantha Morales-Felix each received a check for \$500.

Another highlight of the evening was honoring the Lodge's Citizen of the Year, Robert Acquistapace. He is the chairman of the Santa Maria Elks Rodeo Parade fundraiser and is also noted for his many other contributions to the community.

Piggy Bank

By Bill Williford, CHEA Piggy Bank Chairman



The weak economy, our shrinking membership and the storm damage in the Midwest combined to lower our accomplishments in 2011-12, but I still say THANK YOU!!! \$2,539,694.66! The California-Hawaii Elks ARE STILL the Best People On Earth! Here are the statistics for those who are interested:

The Five Highest Lodges (per-capita):

1. Fremont Elks Lodge No. 2121\$64.65
2. Glendale Elks Lodge No. 1289\$62.08
3. Sunnyvale Elks Lodge No. 2128\$60.29
4. Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801\$52.77
5. Santa Monica Elks Lodge No. 906\$51.78

The Five Highest Lodges (dollars):

1. Honolulu Elks Lodge No. 616.....\$75,568.70
2. Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538.....\$37,332.62
3. Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672.....\$37,307.21
4. Santa Ana Elks Lodge No. 794.....\$33,634.56
5. Indio Elks Lodge No. 1643\$33,624.64

The Five Highest Districts (dollars):

1. Orange Coast District\$176,104.95
2. West Central Coast District.....\$167,321.10
3. West Central District\$127,571.03
4. Southeast District\$120,776.46
5. South District\$109,819.17

In addition to the above donations, the Piggy Bank received \$555,480.00 from the Elks National Foundation; \$170,253.00 from the Peters Estate and \$36,204.13 from various other miscellaneous sources for a total of \$761,937.13 from those donors.

Let's keep it up! The California-Hawaii Elks Major Project is widely recognized as one of the best in Elklod (if not THE best). We help thousands of children and their families by providing therapy at no cost to them and without any government dollars because Elks Care – Elks Share.

One of my goals for 2011-12 was to increase participation in the 52 Club. \$1 per week is easily attainable and it is rewarding to see the top 5 lodges in per capita reaching that goal.

There was some confusion at the Exalted Rulers March this year. We now know that in addition to the Elks Camper Rally and the Southern California Bowlers, we have another contributor in the Southeast District Elks Bowling Club who donated \$10,000. I wish to extend my sincere apology to Mike Rentschler and the Southeast District Elks Bowling Club for this oversight.

The winners of the Chairman's Challenge are Helena Scherrer of the North Central District and Billy Watson of the South District. The Leading Knight's Challenge winning Lodge is, again, the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge No. 1811 (Central District) with \$10,165.96. The Leading Knight's Challenge winning District is, again, the West Central Coast District with \$27,305.55.

I sincerely thank the Association Advisors for reappointing me to this position. With your help, I feel certain that 2012-13 will be another banner year for our Piggy Bank. Thank you for your continued efforts.

Oceano-Five Cities Elks Lodge No. 2504 honors students

The Oceano-Five Cities Elks Lodge No. 2504 held a Students' Awards Night on Tuesday April 10, 2012 to honor their "Teenagers of the Month" for the months of January through May. Last year, on December 13, 2011, the Lodge held an Awards Night for its "Teenagers of the Month" for the months of September through December. All of these students are from Arroyo Grande and Nipomo High Schools.

Collectively, these two groups are the Lodge's "Teenagers of the Month" for Class of 2012 from both Arroyo Grande High School and Nipomo High Schools. From this group, one girl and one boy from each school will be selected and awarded the Lodge's "Teenager of the Year" and will win a \$2,000 scholarship to be used for their future scholastic endeavors.

In addition, the Lodge presented awards to the local winners of their Americanism Essay Contest whose theme was "Why I am proud to pledge allegiance to our flag." The 5th and 6th grade winners were: 1st place: Rebecca Schwind (Shell Beach Elementary), 2nd place: Daisy Wickstrom (Coastal Christian), and 3rd place: Samantha Peachey (Coastal Christian). The 7th and 8th grade winners were: 1st place: Jules Vasquez (Judkins Middle School), 2nd place: Ryan Brennan (Coastal Christian) and 3rd place: Angel Saylor (Judkins Middle School).



Teenagers of the Month (January through May 2012)

Eureka Elks Lodge No. 652 holds Peace Officer Appreciation Night

The Eureka Elks Lodge No. 652 held its annual Humboldt County Peace Officers Appreciation Night on Thursday, April 5th. The Lodge has been honoring local officers for over 45 years. The officers selected are chosen by members of each department. Exalted Ruler Mike Shapiro (far left) and PER Sherrie Bilious (far right) pose with the officers.

The officers that were selected for recognition are: Arcata PD Officer Keith Altizer; CHP Humboldt In Memoriam, Officer Christine McPherson; CHP Garberville, Sergeant Tami McCanless; Eureka PD, Officer Travis Barud; Ferndale PD, Officer Lindsey Frank; Fortuna PD, Officer Brian Taylor; Rio Dell PD, Officer John D. Beauchaine; Sheriff's Department Rookie of the Year, Deputy Conan Moore; Deputy of the Year, Josh McCall; Humboldt State University PD, Sergeant Melissa Hansen; Drug Task Force Officer, Stanley Harkness; Probation Department Adult Division Officer, Duane Smith; Juvenile Division Officer, Kim Sousa, and California Department of Corrections, Agent Lewis Haws.



Richmond Elks Lodge No. 1251 uses ENF "Beacon Grant" to refurbish school's baseball field

The Richmond Elks Lodge No. 1251 recently received an Elks National Foundation ("ENF") "Beacon Grant" in the amount of \$2,000. Exalted Ruler Robert Ostini, PDDGER, was the Lodge's Beacon Grant Coordinator. The Grant, which is part of the ENF's Community Investment Program, was used to refurbish the baseball field at St. Paul's School in San Pablo, CA. In addition to refurbishing the field, the fund was also used to help build science gardens for the school's recreation and science departments.

Parents Joe Fraga and Bill Fellows had been working individually to make the field usable for the students. The Beacon Grant not only provided them the funding to see their dream come true but also inspired other parents to get involved and complete the project. Lodge members also donated many hours of labor and secured additional funding from the Oakland Athletics baseball team to insure that the project would be complete and finished on time.

Lodge Secretary, Gloria Maltagliati, brought this community need to the Lodge's attention. Her husband, Mark Maltagliati, volunteered to be the Project Chairman. Other members who assisted in the project were: Conrad and Gloria Ettling, Linda and John Pitts, PER Carl Petersdorf, Milton Barney, and Art Smrekar.

Lodge members gathered for a dedication of the newly named Fraga-Fellows Field on April 24, 2012. The baseball field was also dedicated at a public ceremony on Saturday, April 28, 2012.



Bob Ostini, Mark Maltagliati, Art Smrekar, John Pitts, Gloria Maltagliati, School Principal Natalie Lenz-Acuna, Joe Fraga, Bill Fellows and PER Carl Petersdorf.

San Bernardino Elks Lodge No. 836 supported a DAV Golf Tourney

The San Bernardino Elks Lodge No. 836 supported the San Bernardino Disabled American Veterans Chapter 12 Golf Tournament.

In the spirit of a combined community involvement for our veterans, the San Bernardino Elks Lodge No. 836 Veterans Committee donated the money necessary to pay for one-half of the entry fee for veterans from the Loma Linda Veterans Administration Medical Center (their Golden Age Golf Team) to participate in the San Bernardino Disabled American Veterans Chapter 12 Golf Tournament on April 21, 2012. The other half of the entry fee was donated by American Legion Post 772. The Lodge also supported the Golf Tournament by sponsoring a hole.

Gilroy Elks Lodge No. 1567 awards \$6,500 in scholarships

On Wednesday May 2, 2012, the Gilroy Elks Lodge No. 1567, as part of the Elks National Youth Week, honored eight graduating seniors from Gilroy and Morgan Hill for their achievements and awarded \$6,500 in scholarships. The students, their families and Live Oak High School Scholarship Coordinator Jan Bergkamp enjoyed dinner and the awards presentation which followed as guests of the Lodge.

Sobrato High School senior Ernest Yip and Live Oak High School senior Christina Avina were the big winners of the evening with each receiving \$1,000 from the Gilroy Elks, \$800 from the California-Hawaii Elks Association and \$400 from the West Central District Elks Association.

Live Oak High School Senior Abrianna Robles was close behind as she received \$1,000 from the Gilroy Elks, \$800 from the California-Hawaii Elks Association and \$200 from the West Central District Elks Association.

Other recipients included Live Oak High School seniors Derek Satterlee, Jacqueline Protsman and Wendy Carmona who each received \$500 from the Gilroy Elks. Paulina Vo-Griffin and Martin Ettema, members of the first graduating class at Christopher High School, each received \$1,000 from the Gilroy Elks.



L to R: Lodge Scholarship Chair Art Gillespie PER, Jacqueline Protsman, Abrianna Robles, Wendy Carmona, Christina Avina, Paulina Vo-Griffin, Martin Ettema, Derek Satterlee and ER Betty Blakely

Marysville Elks Lodge No. 783 holds annual youth and charity banquet

The Marysville Elks Lodge No. 783 distributed nearly \$4,000 in donations to area youth and community groups. Lodge members also prepared and served a salad and an assortment of pizzas to 85 youth and adults attending this annual Youth and Community Awards Program.

The top three winners of two essay contests were: Boy Scouts Troop 21 ("Why Is America Exceptional"): 1st place - Timothy Stewart; 2nd place - William Hill; 3rd place - Tyler Klingenfuss. The 3rd grade class of Faith Christian Elementary School ("Why I am Proud to Pledge Allegiance to Our Flag"): 1st place - Mackenzie Blankenship; 2nd place - Sarah McLean; 3rd place - Abi Fisher.

The chairman, Roy Newman, PSP, announced that the Lodge purchased and delivered over 500 Student Dictionaries to 3rd grade elementary school students in the Yuba-Sutter area. The program, cash awards, dinner, and dictionary purchases, were made possible by Lodge member donations and two Elks National Foundation Grants of \$2,000 each - in conjunction with the ENF's Community Investment Program.

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, PGT	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 Stroh, 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
*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, PGELK	Arcadia	1994-95
Anthony J. Mauro, GT	Hollister	1995-96
Timothy C. Martin, PGELK	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, PGEsq.	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
Lee Karjola	Eureka	2009-10
Hugh H. Scanlon	Glendale	2010-11
Thomas S. Brazier	Santa Cruz	Honorary
Wayne Howard	Honolulu	2011-12
*Deceased		



B.L.T.

On the Web?

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

Become a Benefactor for the
BLT Commitment Trust.

Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 sponsors "Brownilympics"

The Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 sponsored the Simi Valley Brownilympics at Royal High School. They donated and prepared lunch for the Brownies and parents at the event. This year the lunch consisted of 250 hot dogs and 75 hamburgers. The event had a special guest this year. Lindsey Fraye, a senior at Santa Su High School who just recently received her Gold Award, was there to inspire the girls.

Elks National Foundation

By Debbie Hosted, CHEA ENF Chairman



Greetings California-Hawaii Elks:

I would like to share some information about the ENF with you. As you know, every year the Grand Exalted Ruler requests that each member donate a small amount of money to the Elks National Foundation. For several years, the GER has asked for a minimum \$4.50 donation from each of us. Even this small amount of money reaps huge benefits. In the 2011-2012 fraternal year that ended on March 31, 2012,

members of the California-Hawaii Elks Association donated \$698,797.84 - an increase from the previous year of \$47,708.23! What a great effort on behalf of ENF!

One of the wonderful things about donating to ENF is that THEY give US more money back than we gave them for us to use in OUR Association Charities! In the 2012-2013 fraternal year, the ENF will give us \$2.03 for every dollar that we donated last year!

Here is how our Association will use these funds - \$1,421,340:

- \$555,480 to the Piggy Bank (to kick off the 2013 ER's March).
- \$463,480 for our Drug Awareness, Hoop Shoot and education programs.
- \$284,000 for 71 ENF MVS scholarships.
- \$84,000 for Legacy Scholarships (children, grandchildren, stepchildren of Elks).
- \$34,380 for our Veterans programs.

An additional \$175,585.00 was awarded to Lodges under the ENF's Community Investment Program Grants. Several CIP Grants are available to our Lodges. Promise Grants (\$2,000) are available to the first 500 Lodges that apply - you promise to hold one or more youth events during the year. Gratitude Grants (\$2,000) are available when you have met the GER's per capita goal. There is a new Grant this year - the Beacon Grant. It is a \$1,000 grant to be used in your community for an ongoing project. Combine it with your Gratitude Grant and you have \$3,000 to help you get recognized in your community with Elk involvement. A Community Impact grant of up to \$10,000 is also available for you to use in reaching out to your community. Go online to www.elks.org and check out the Elks National Foundation pages for additional qualification details and application deadlines.

Remember that ENF not only stands for Elks National Foundation - it stands for what we as ELKS do all year round - Elks Nurturing Families. From our third grade dictionary program to our care of Veterans and every age in between, the Elks Nurture the Families in our communities.

Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801 hosts CHEA vision screener

The Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801 invited California-Hawaii Elks Association Vision Screener, Linda Pinnell, to be their guest speaker. Linda is one of CHEA's Preschool Vision Screeners in California and Hawaii. They screen over 50,000 children per year. The goal is to significantly decrease the number of children at risk for visual issues such as amblyopia (lazy eye), astigmatism, hyperopia, myopia, strabismus, and other vision problems. This highly effective program has saved thousands of children from permanent eye damage over the years. The services are free of charge to the families and are funded by the Piggy Bank donations from Elks Lodges in California and Hawaii. They also guide families toward finding appropriate medical help, and in securing additional financial assistance when it's needed. Vision Screenings are held throughout California in various preschool or daycare centers. It is estimated that one in about 20 children between the ages of three and five has some sort of vision problem.

Merced Elks Lodge No. 1240 sponsors "Relay for Life"

This is the 5th year that the Merced Elks Lodge No. 1240 has been an active sponsor for the Merced Relay for Life program. Not only did the Lodge contribute \$1,000 to the program, but they provided dinner for over 600 participants on the first day. As if that wasn't enough, the Lodge members returned the next morning and made breakfast for over 400 participants who had walked through the night.

At the closing ceremonies, the Relay for Life Committee presented a plaque to the Lodge in recognition of their continued support of this event. Projects like this require the dedication and participation of a lot of people. We wish to acknowledge the outstanding work of the 29 individuals who accomplished this very successful project, for without them, this could not have happened.



Front row (L to R): Mark Theofanides, Karen Theofanides, Laura Mendoza, Sabrina Maldonado, Tiffani Fox, Norma Alicia Sanchez, Deb Samuelson and Len Samuelson

Back Row (L to R): Clint Moore and Anna Miller

Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 donates \$5,000 to youth shelter

The Huntington Beach Elks Lodge recently donated \$5,000 to the Community Service Program (CSP) Youth Shelter Program in Huntington Beach, CA. This community service program is a short-term intervention "safe-haven" for runaway, homeless and at risk youth 11-17 years of age.

The program provides a safe, supportive and therapeutic environment designed to give youth the experience of belonging to a group of caring, responsible people, and to provide them with the catalyst to stop the cycle of running away and homelessness. It is a safe alternative to the streets while providing youth the support necessary to link them to more stable living conditions.

The Shelter program facilitates improved family communication, values and empathy, mutual respect and knowledge of normal adolescent development. After receiving shelter services, youth and their family members will demonstrate an increase in positive interaction with peers, improved communication skills and positive attitudes towards family interaction.

In other news, the Lodge hosted a vendor booth at the 20th Annual Duck-A-Thon. The Duck-A-Thon is an event in which charitable organizations purchase rubber ducks that are dumped into the Pacific Ocean off the Huntington Beach pier and "race" to shore with the tide. Participants bought more than 3,000 ducks for the event. The three-day event raises much needed funds for AltaMed's Huntington Beach Community Clinic, where thousands of uninsured and medically underserved patients are treated every year. This year, the Elks reached out to the community to share our values with the public and to publicize our ongoing programs. Brochures were handed out that explained our scholarship, veterans, drug awareness and Major Project programs.

Petaluma Elks Lodge No. 901 Boy Scouts retire flags

Many know me as "Old Glory." I fly over our Nation's Capital, I am carried in a parade, honored at a ballgame and draped over the coffins of those who have fought and died for our country. This is how most of us connect ourselves to our Flag. But, what happens when you have to retire the flag? In 1942, Congress passed the first U.S. code, which provides basic standards for honoring and presenting our flag. They did not set a method for the retirement of the flag; but it is generally known and strongly suggested that if the flag no longer adequately represents America, that it will be retired, preferably by burning in a dignified manner.

Retiring the flag is a solemn tradition. "The importance of this act, and the pride and emotions that it evokes makes it a very powerful event that can serve as a reminder of our National Pride and help instill the values brought forth in developing good citizenship in our youth." It does not matter if the flag is shiny and new or worn and tattered from use; it is our nation's symbol and must be retired with dignity.

Boy Scout Troop No. 2 knows that a retirement ceremony for our nation's flag is a significant responsibility that must be addressed with the proper respect and dignity it deserves. This duty was performed on March 26th, at Petaluma Elks Lodge No. 901 by the members of Troop No. 2. Six American flags were retired while Past Exalted Rulers, Lodge Officers, friends and family looked on.



Scouts Lucas Spangler (left) and Nicholas Schlager (right) holding the Flag

Santa Clara Elks Lodge No. 2347 holds Court of Honor

On April 7, 2012, an Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held at the Santa Clara Elks Lodge No. 2347 for 3 new Eagle Scouts from Troop No. 394: Kyle Bartlett, Joseph Huber and Nick Delucchi.

Kyle donated 173 hours to repair a platform that allows visitors to enjoy the Grassland Environmental Education Center and to view the nearby local marsh. Joseph built a professional and impressive backdrop for the Drama Department at his former school. Nick chose to assist the Peterson Middle School Nature Center in replacing the fiber optic cable which had broken during winter vacation of 2009-2010. This will enable the students at Peterson Middle School to observe the natural behaviors of the Nature Center's inhabitants and to regulate its environment. This 222.5 person-hours project was completed in five days.

Santa Clara Mayor, Jamie Matthews, was in attendance. Many other dignitaries from the BSA and members of the Lodge were present. The Lodge has sponsored Troop No. 394 for many years and we are very proud of these young men.

Santa Cruz Elks Lodge No. 824 honors youth

The Santa Cruz Elks Lodge No. 824 recently held their annual Youth Appreciation Night. The guests included members of Boy Scout Troop No. 674, which the Lodge has sponsored for 86 consecutive years, a Little League Team, which the Lodge has sponsored for 57 years, Hoop Shoot winners, the Mayor of Santa Cruz, several educators and parents. The Lodge awarded \$8,700 in scholarships to six students, including a \$4,000 ENF Most Valuable Student award.



L to R: ER Jack Marden, Mayor Don Lane, Rose Leopold, Slater Meehan, Charles Chamberlin, Demitri Nava, Clara Hartman, PDDGER Les Yeffa

Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 holds a "Day at the Races"

The Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 recently held a "Day the Races" fundraiser for several Elks charities - among them the Association's Major Project.

The event, chaired by Gloria R. LeCouvre, PER, raised \$850 for the Lodge's Elks Charities. It simulated the Kentucky Derby with jockeys on broomstick horses competing in seven races with a "pick six" and two "daily doubles." The winners of each race had their picture taken in the "Winners Circle" - a beautifully decorated trellis made of red roses by Bette Boelts. Members and guests bet on the races and enjoyed the food served from the "Turf Café", also betting and competing in the most humorous, beautiful and creative hat contest. Raffle tickets were sold to win additional prizes donated by Las Vegas and Laughlin establishments, local merchants and golf courses. A beautifully decorated hat with \$100 was won by Donna Wild.

Volunteers on the event included Nadine and Steve Wardell, Harvey and Pat Ohman, Joanne Hanker, Katherine Stokes, Andy Costello, Jim and Carol Glover, Marty and Jean Frankenreiter, Rosemarie Shafar, Marsha Krumm, Ron and Sandy Combs, Tom Banning, Carla Joe Hannon, Celeste Baker, Kyle Nelson, Donna Wild, Clint McDonald, Steve Rusie, Bob Hauxhurst, Roger Yarnell, Walter Scott and Dennis Lumley. The Lodge Photographer and many more assisted. The Lodge Exalted Ruler, Roger Yarnell, said, "This event is just one of many small fundraisers that help to contribute to the many charitable causes the Elks support. It is another example of how we Elks can do good things for others in the community and also enjoy ourselves in the process."

Scholarship

By Greg Metzgas, CHEA Scholarship Chairman



For those that have not seen the final results of the Elks National Foundation's Most Valuable Student Contest for 2012, please go to <http://www.elks.org/ENF/scholars/mvswinners.cfm>. Near the bottom of the page you can view the winners by state. You will find that one of the two first place national winners is a young man from California. He will receive a \$15,000 annual scholarship for four years – an award totaling \$60,000!

We offer our congratulations to that young man and to

Exalted Ruler Julie Whitman of his sponsoring Lodge, the Santa Clarita Elks Lodge No. 2379 of the Metropolitan District.

I recently met a woman at a non-Elk event and when I mentioned to her that I was the CHEA Scholarship Chairman, she beamed and told me she had received an Elk MVS Scholarship in 1954. She added that our program had helped her earn her teaching degree and later to become a school Principal. She thanked me but I actually had nothing to do with it – at that time I was only 6 years old – a little young to be an Elk. This encounter did motivate me to do some research on the history of our MVS Scholarship.

- 1931: the ENF awarded its first scholarships – a single award of \$300 to one student in each of the 48 states.
- 1933: the contest was officially named The Most Valuable Student Scholarship Program and two additional awards of \$1,000 were added.
- 1947: the contest was separated by gender.
- 1983: the program was expanded to 500 awards issued over four years, with eleven levels of awards (\$4,400 to \$20,000 over four years).
- 1988: the award levels were reduced to five, with 494 additional one time awards of \$1,000.
- 2001: the award levels were reduced to four, and the awards were adjusted (\$60,000, \$40,000, \$20,000 and \$4,000 over four years).
- 2008: twelve additional top awards were added. This is our award structure today (<http://www.elks.org/enf/scholars/mvs.cfm>).

As we gear up for the 2013 Most Valuable Student Contest, please don't forget about our Vocational Grant. Applications for this grant are accepted all year round. See our web site <http://www.cha-elks.org/youth/activities/scholarships>.

Moreno Valley Elks Lodge No. 2697 donates dictionaries

In February 2012, the Moreno Valley Elks Lodge No. 2697 began distributing dictionaries to third grade students in the Moreno Valley Unified School District. As of May 11, 2012, the Elks had visited nine schools and personally presented a dictionary to each student. In all, 1,175 dictionaries were donated to third graders attending the Serrano Elementary, Ramona Elementary, Butterfield Elementary, Sunnymead Elementary, Bear Valley Elementary, Armada Elementary, Edgemont Elementary, Chaparral Hills Elementary, and Creekside Elementary Schools. Students wrote thank-you notes telling about their favorite parts of their dictionaries. Many of the thank-you notes included drawings depicting the students' schools, programs and use of the dictionaries. All involved teachers expressed their sincere gratitude. The Dictionary Project is one of many successful, charitable projects supported by the Moreno Valley Elks. The Lodge plans to purchase more dictionaries and distribute them to additional schools and a new crop of third graders during the next year.

**Elks Care
Elks Share**

Redding Elks Lodge No. 1073 uses Gratitude Grant to help schools

The Redding Elks Lodge No. 1073 received a \$2,000 Elks National Foundation "Gratitude Grant" earlier this year. The Lodge decided to use these funds to help their local schools.

On May 2, 2012, the Cypress Elementary School received a \$1,000 check which will be used to purchase additional books for the school library. The Lodge used the remaining \$1,000 to purchase 552 dictionaries which were given to 3rd grade students in the local elementary schools. These donations are part of the Lodge's ongoing efforts to support literacy in their local community.



L to R: Larry Reef (Lodge Chaplain), Nadina Darrah (Cypress Elementary School Librarian), Cindy Bishop (Cypress Elementary School Principal) and Ron Asher, PDDGER (ENF Chairman)

Atascadero Elks Lodge No. 2733 honors policeman and firefighter

The Atascadero Elks Lodge No. 2733 honored policemen and firefighters recently at an annual dinner that filled the Lodge to capacity. The Lodge provided free dinners to over 100 public safety members and their families. At the dinner, the Lodge recognized Caleb Davis as the Police Officer of the Year and Matt Vierra as the Firefighter of the Year.

Since its inception in 1987, the Atascadero Elks have contributed over \$400,000 to various programs including: youth activities, local sports, programs for handicapped and needy children, patriotic programs, veterans programs and many 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.

San Jose Elks Lodge No. 522 creates 230,000 meals

The San Jose Elks Lodge No. 522 main dining room can seat and feed 500+ members at a time. But on April 27th and 28th, 2012 they turned their main dining room into an assembly line, putting together 230,000 meals for starving children. This was the second time that they have donated in this area to "Feed My Starving Children" (FMSC).

Lodge members joined other volunteers to hand-pack meals that are a mixture of a specialty formulated blend. This blend is designed to feed malnourished children and adults. On these two days, kids and adults worked together, side by side, to put together an estimated 230,000 pre-packed meals. These meals will be sent to 70 countries around the world.

14 THE CALIFORNIA-HAWAII ELK

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Millennium Plus (\$5,000) Copper Pig Level Donors (March 29, 2012 - May 18, 2012)

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>
Ken Smih	1419

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Millennium Plus (\$2,000) Purple Pig Level Donors (March 29, 2012 - May 18, 2012)

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>
Josh Hachadourian	3	Richard D. Blake	1767
Frank Frazier	906	Frank & Janice Parent	2389

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Millennium Club (\$1,000) Donors (March 29, 2012 - May 18, 2012)

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>
Josh Hachadourian	3	Ovie Cobb	672	Joe Callian	1289	Donald "Don" L. Bush	1905
Jesse Nighswonger	322	Jason Fields	672	Ken Lewis	1289	Ed Givens	1905
Dennis DeSanti	643	Edwin Ziolkowski	672	Ken Smith (3)	1419	Don Winter	1913
Dave Petersen	643	John H. Larkin	906	Richard Laughrin	1420	Seymour "Mike" Weiss	1968
Donald "Ziggy" Ziegenfuss	652	Edwin W. Ball	1112	Sharron Dearborn	1767	Frank & Janice Parent	2389
Wendell Cabot, III	672	Roger Lyons	1250	John P. Buckinger	1905	Robert "Bob" Burns, Sr.	2484

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Latest Century Club (\$100) Donors (March 29, 2012 - May 18, 2012)

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Lodge</u>
Bob Korbus (2)	3	Ron Combs (2)	652	Tom Mathers	901	Vern Williams	1240
Ned Tosyali (3)	3	Dave & Jill Creech	652	Bob Baldwin	906	Richard Carstens (2)	1250
Katherine Carder	6	Keith & Mary Daniels	652	Elizabeth Beers	906	Dan Padilla	1250
Billie J. Skarles	6	Pete Day (3)	652	Ray Beers (2)	906	Dan Parker	1250
Woman's Forum (2)	6	Lenore Dias	652	Theresa Beers	906	Red Bluff Emblem Club No. 408	1250
AG Bailey	168	Debbie Duckworth	652	Cheryl Brown	906	Ted Burg	1259
Zachariah Bruce	168	Jim Ely	652	Don Checchi (2)	906	Stan Felipe	1259
Sandi Christini	168	Eureka High Class of 1981	652	Joe Checchi	906	Clay Bunte	1282
George Helling	168	Eureka Emblem Club No. 298 (2)	652	Kathy Checchi	906	Harold Hackett	1282
George Knapp (2)	168	Raymond Grundhofer	652	Linda Marie Checchi	906	Sharon Hackett	1282
Elmer Moore	168	Craig Hansen	652	Cephus Daniels	906	David Lucero	1282
Art Scott	168	Barry Jacobsen (5)	652	Chad Dolle	906	John Thompson	1282
Stockton Iris Club	218	Barbara Johnson (2)	652	Lisa Dorsey	906	Bill Welch	1282
Stockton Emblem Club No. 266	218	Donna Johnson	652	Joe Eorio	906	Garry Ackerman	1289
Paul Stolberg	218	Don Kudrna	652	Max Feinberg	906	Rick Barnes	1289
Gloria Surber	218	W. Phil McCartney	652	Frank Frazier (3)	906	Karl Berger	1289
Danny & Bunny Allen	266	Jerry McDowell (3)	652	Joe Gonzales	906	Donald Bodeau	1289
Bob & Shirley Couch	266	Joe Moore	652	Mark Hasson	906	Greg Brittner (2)	1289
Lincoln & Patricia Maielua	266	Ernie Nunes	652	Sue Hasson	906	Joe Callian	1289
Ray Mish	266	Phil Nyberg	652	Betty Ho	906	Royal Clark	1289
Mike & Rosie Montano	266	Jim Olson	652	Don Hopp	906	Wally Colborn	1289
Robert & Jan Sweet	266	Dawn Pedersen	652	Carolyn Horton	906	Don Colyar (2)	1289
Butte County Remote Conrol Club (2)	423	Tom Quigley	652	Marian Johnston	906	Dave Conklin	1289
Chico Elks Bowling League (5)	423	Barbara Ranstrom	652	Christy Klein	906	Warren Ferrell	1289
Chico Elks Craft Ladies	423	Redwood Roamers (2)	652	Ken Lady (2)	906	Mike Gardner	1289
Chico Elks Ladies (2)	423	Emanuel Rose	652	John Larkin (2)	906	Ralph Harmon	1289
Fred Heath	423	Sue Silva	652	Sharon Larkin	906	Sterrett Harper	1289
Milton Jensen	423	Brad Smith	652	Mona Lopez	906	Dennis Hayes	1289
Don Lee	423	Sylvia Vader	652	Norm Lopez	906	Dick Hill (2)	1289
Hazel Mello	423	Cathy Vicory	652	Mike Mansoor	906	Linn Hoadley (2)	1289
Northern Elks Travel League (4)	423	Ruth Ziegenfuss (2)	652	Lucy Michel	906	David Kakita (4)	1289
John Schultz	423	Ziggy Ziegenfuss (4)	652	John Mondragon	906	Margaret Kanov (2)	1289
Norman Stump, Sr.	423	Earl August (2)	672	Abrey Myers	906	Al Kepler	1289
Bob Vanella	423	Robert Beggs (2)	672	Cindy Osborne	906	Ken Lewis (3)	1289
Malcolm Wagner	423	James Brockman (2)	672	Chris Perry	906	Joe Mendicina (4)	1289
James Culpepper	583	Wendell Cabot (2)	672	R.A. Pickett (2)	906	Ed Morris	1289
Mike Petlow	613	Ovie Cobb (2)	672	Margy Pickett (2)	906	Joe Myers	1289
Robert Spinner	613	Gus Crowe	672	Doug Randall	906	Dave Olson	1289
Barbara Szakacsy	613	Jason Fields (2)	672	Fred Riley	906	Carl Povilaitis	1289
John Beck	614	Robert Filder (2)	672	Augdon Roberts	906	Hugh Scanlon	1289
Dean Callender	614	Bruce Morrison (2)	672	Ronald Robinson	906	Jerry Stephens (4)	1289
Stephen Jensen	614	Robert Ramage (2)	672	Santa Monica Emblem Club No. 154	906	Dan Svetich	1289
Stephen Jensen	614	Donald Short (2)	672	Santa Monica PER Association	906	Marko Swan	1289
Raymundo Santos	614	Anthnoy Vecchio (2)	672	Irma Santiago	906	Don Thompson	1289
Gregory Andrasick	616	Edwin Ziolkowski (2)	672	Stephen Schechter	906	Frank Weber	1289
Ruth Farmer	616	Lisa Fleury	759	Anna Scully	906	Bob Garner	1299
Peter Gaskell	616	David Heaukulani	759	Tom Scully (2)	906	Patricia Cason	1325
Mary Hammond	616	Miles Nakatsu	759	Burton Lucich	966	Martha Amescua	1328
Wayne Howard	616	Robert Levin	783	Loren McAnelly	966	Al Fredrickson (2)	1328
John Isabelo	616	William Lynch, Jr.	824	Dale Ogden	966	George Lyles	1328
Donald Nickon	616	Arthur Weeks	824	Alameda Elks Rollin' Herd	1015	Charles Shaw	1328
Wayne's Ohana (2)	616	John Dewey Buezis	888	Ed Ball	1112	Jerry Day, Jr.	1342
John Parkinson	616	Faygie Colton	888	John Cale	1240	Donavan Helslep	1342
Lyn Pate	616	Jon Coster	888	Daniel Farmer	1240	Dale Huckaby	1342
George Quillin	616	Robert J. Nelsen	888	Jack Kelly	1240	Janice Huckaby	1342
Dave Petersen	643	Al Fernandez	901	Corey Pellitier	1240		
Rick Bailey	652	Jack Krout	901	Ken Wenrich	1240		

Continued on Page 15

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

Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge	Donor	Lodge
Robert Uphoff	1342	Sonora Emblem Club No. 124 (2)	1587	James Hathaway	1968	Frank & Janice Parent (3)	2389
Joyce Taylor	1378	James Cook	1608	Mike Weiss	1968	Chuck Smith	2389
Dick Bushman	1419	David Simon	1608	Gary Marlow	1980	Mike Wood	2389
Ken Carnes	1419	Andy Anthony	1613	Amy Sauget	1980	Robert Yoast (2)	2389
Jim Farrand (7)	1419	Leoma Green	1613	Robert Cassetta	1991	Dave Story, Sr.	2432
Lorraine Hildebrand	1419	Virginia Poindexter	1613	Robert & Margaret Cassetta	1991	Stephen Finnerty	2477
Paul Massono	1419	Oren Richardson (5)	1613	William Leahy	1991	Reino Hilden	2477
Charles Matthes	1419	Dee Uribe	1613	Lyle Personette (3)	1991	Greg Metzgas	2477
Frank Robertson	1419	Ronald Hinman (2)	1643	Richard Green (2)	1993	Ruby Metzgas	2477
Michael Castellanos	1420	Jan Richardson	1643	Brian Hogan	1993	Coleen Morris (2)	2477
Doug Conaway	1420	Clyde Vaughn	1643	Ed Lima	1996	Dorothy Murray	2477
Debra Enders	1420	Crescent City Emblem Club No. 175 (2)	1689	Robert Bosch	2026	Pamela Perrenoud	2477
Francis Frye	1420	Allen Ward (2)	1689	Major Price	2026	Gil Riding	2477
Dale Griggs	1420	Michael Abbott	1691	Carlos Bracamontes	2027	William Smail (3)	2477
Hugh Kissick (2)	1420	Warren Haase	1691	Melba VanPelt (5)	2027	Steve Smith	2477
Richard Laughrin	1420	Greg Robinson	1691	Earl Wilhelm	2027	Mishelle Aldrich-Davis	2484
Carl Russell	1420	Angeline Steinhart	1691	Buena Park Emblem Club No. 340	2046	Bob Brotherton	2484
Kevin Smith	1420	Hemet Elks Auxiliary	1740	William MacFarlane	2046	Lydia Brotherton	2484
John Adams	1427	Melvin West	1740	Tory Stucker (2)	2046	Anthony Brown	2484
Anthony Cascone	1427	Richard D. Blake (2)	1767	Tracy Bagdon	2050	Beverly Burns (5)	2484
Allan Cook	1427	Sharron Dearborn	1767	Robert Leatham	2050	Bob Burns (5)	2484
Duarte Emblem Club No. 71 (2)	1427	Henry DeOlivera	1767	Von Stroff	2051	Michael Davis	2484
Sally Emerson	1427	Ron Greenburg	1767	Larry Barr	2068	Lou Dulay	2484
Frank Fimbres (2)	1427	Tim Mason	1767	Dave Brown	2068	Russell Friddle	2484
Jackie Fimbres (2)	1427	Conchetta Randall	1767	Steve Cary (2)	2068	Pat Gleason	2484
Donna Leiby	1427	William Ross	1767	Ron House	2068	Pete Hall	2484
Gideon Leiby	1427	Shawn Thayer (5)	1767	Sparky Longley	2068	Charlotte Horn	2484
Jeanne Lewis	1427	Eugene Veres (3)	1767	James Rutherford	2095	Ron Howell	2484
Richard Lewis	1427	Judy Wilson	1767	American Legion Post 377	2098	Al Lasson, Sr.	2484
Jody Mentzer	1427	Mike Butler	1786	Jim Newman	2098	Donny Ridgley	2484
Marc Trummel	1427	Larry Tischer	1811	Carmichael Emblem Club No. 355	2103	Rick Swinford	2484
George VanHove	1427	Walnut Creek PER Association	1811	Peggy Ledbetter	2103	Vi Thatcher	2484
Chris Lyon	1430	John Holthaus	1812	Lawrence McHenry	2103	Wolfgang Tuerpe	2484
Roy Lompa	1436	Penny McMahon	1812	Joe Mohammed	2103	Jim Wash	2484
Bill Sproul	1436	Sharon Wilson	1812	Michael Smith	2103	Thomas Adrian	2504
Dr. Clark Atkinson	1471	James Payne	1839	Janice Brown	2117	Richard Andersen	2504
Ann Morey	1471	Curtis Tate	1839	Ralph Davis (2)	2117	Thomas Cameron	2504
Will Smith	1471	Eileen Dugan	1900	William Diebner	2117	Robert Hamilton	2504
Oren's Sparks	1475	Don O'Connelly	1900	Cynthia Kennedy	2117	Bill Jansen	2504
Brian Allison	1538	Brian Avery	1905	Bryon Kitt	2117	Richard Wilson	2504
Robert Ambrosetti (2)	1538	Harrison Barth	1905	Emblem Club No. 413	2117	Richard Barcellos	2510
George Benford	1538	Norma Jean Clark	1905	Jacob Reid	2117	Raymond Gomes (2)	2510
David Campbell (3)	1538	Merle Dillon	1905	Manuela Rodriguez	2128	Cookie Rendon	2510
Daniel Decker	1538	Douglas & Lorana Enroth	1905	Gene Wallis	2190	Poway Leading Knights	2543
Jens Dybdahl	1538	Edward Givens (3)	1905	Richard Anderson	2230	Janet Rasmussen	2543
David Gale	1538	Harry Kolb	1905	Carl Romero	2230	Silas Bollinger	2626
Ralph "Reg" Ginter	1538	George & Estelle Layton	1905	Johnny Stonier	2230	Roy Cowley	2626
Marjorie Gjerdrum	1538	Jeff Marx (5)	1905	Michael Sullivan	2230	Steve Honey	2626
James R. Jensen	1538	Richard O'Linn	1905	Thomas Cunningham	2274	Norman Pettigrew	2626
Don Leininger	1538	Robert Pelton	1905	Steven Dixon	2274	William Zeller	2626
Chris McLaughlin	1538	Pamela Rosen	1905	Wayne Duncan	2274	Patrick Murphy	2655
Albert Mitchell	1538	Richard Ross	1905	Donald J. Palmer	2274	Philip Otterbeck (2)	2655
Joseph Olivera	1538	Nellie Siddell	1905	Timothy Staffel	2274	Frank Petroni	2733
Tim Romero	1538	John Simpson	1905	Leonard Todd	2274	Marti Barraza	2801
Santa Maria Elks Bingo Kitchen Crew	1538	Eugene Bennett	1913	Heidi Haulzinger	2314	Barbara Conner	2801
Santa Maria Touring Elks (5)	1538	Henry Blecha	1913	Genny Loving	2314	Laurel Frey	2801
James Snowdy (3)	1538	Charles Hawthorne	1913	Jane Belmont	2364	Kenneth Hauer	2801
William Stanford (4)	1538	Don Winter	1913	Barbara Hofer	2364	Henry Hein, Jr.	2801
Leroy Stanford (2)	1538	Mary Collim (2)	1917	Donald Hofer	2364	Cynthia Higl	2801
Scott Stephen (2)	1538	Al Ochs	1917	John Prian	2364	Richard Higl	2801
Pete Thornton	1538	Karen Lewin	1952	Tom Silva	2364	Jack Keefer	2801
Myrl Wallace	1538	Henry "Rick" Ross	1952	Alice Toole	2364	Robert Walker	2801
Richard Mountz	1567	Bruce Swanson	1952	Pat Allen	2379	Donna Zeeb	2801
Mark VanWyk	1567	Philip Waddleton	1952	Bob Atkins	2389		
Anthony Fiori	1570	Howard Whittaker	1952	Bob Boucher (2)	2389		
Ron Reid (2)	1570	Vista Emblem Club No. 294	1968	Terry Bourne	2389		

Nevada City Elks Lodge No. 518 holds annual Easter egg hunt

The members of the Nevada City Elks Lodge No. 518 dyed and hid 40 dozen eggs for the annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 7, 2012. Just over 100 children in the Nevada County Community enjoyed hunting for eggs, seeing and taking a picture with the Easter Bunny and taking an Easter Basket home filled with jellybeans.

On April 8, 2012 they served Easter Breakfast to 200 plus members of the community.

Sonora Elks Lodge No. 1587 awards \$26,700 in scholarships and vocational grants

The Sonora Elks Lodge No. 1587 recently awarded nineteen high school seniors from five area high schools in Tuolumne and Calaveras Counties a total of \$7,700 in scholarship awards. These awards came from the Sonora Elks Lodge, the Elks Central District and the California-Hawaii Elks Association.

The Lodge also distributed ENF Vocational Grants in the amount of \$1,000 each to nineteen additional seniors. These awards add up to a total of \$26,700 that was given to deserving students in our community.

Ritual Contest Results

By Bill Turner, CHEA Ritual Contest Chairman

Well, the results are in! The Riverside Elks Lodge No. 643 will send their ritual team to Austin, TX to represent the California-Hawaii Elks Association in the Grand Lodge Ritual Contest! Congratulations!

At the recent Association Convention in San Diego, our 2011-2012 CHEA Ritual Program concluded when the CHEA Ritual Championship Trophy was awarded to the Riverside Elks Lodge No. 643 for their first place finish in the contest. Even with the recent major changes to our Ritual Programs, nearly 70% of the Association's Lodges performed in their District competitions. Each District, except one, sent its best team to compete in San Diego—in a contest that required all parts to be performed from memory.

This year, seventeen District Championship teams competed for the honor of representing our Association at the Austin, TX Grand Lodge Convention. These seventeen teams were divided into two divisions - the Moore Division and the Grillo Division. Within each Division, the top two scoring teams from their Divisional competitions advanced into the finals competition. Again this year, these “final four” contests were very competitive as the best-of-the-best competed for a first place score and the privilege to represent our Association at Grand Lodge. The final four scores were very close, with less than 0.60% separating the finalists. The final four scores were:

1st place: Riverside Elks Lodge No. 643 (Southeast District) - 96.52179%

2nd place: Santa Cruz Elks Lodge No. 824 (West Central District) - 96.40293%

3rd place: Santa Maria Elks Lodge 1538 (West Central Coast District) - 96.11164%

4th place: Garden Grove Elks Lodge No. 1952 (Orange Coast District) - 95.93836%

In addition to the team awards, the California-Hawaii Elks Association recognized and awarded other categories of Ritual excellence, including All-State Officers, the Bud Tari Perpetual Trophy and the Gerald Strohm Award. All-State Officer awards were determined for each Division during the first day of competition, with the highest scoring eligible officer of each Lodge chair, the Coach and the Candidate receiving this honor. They were as follows:

Moore Division All-State Officers:

Exalted Ruler: Greg Carlson (Alameda No. 1015); Esquire: Karen Feldpouch (Santa Maria No. 1538); Leading Knight: Myrl Wallace (Santa Maria No. 1538); Loyal Knight: Larry Perez (Santa Maria No. 1538); Lecturing Knight: Rick Silva (Santa Maria No. 1538); Chaplain: Theresa Delany (Riverside No. 643); Inner Guard: Eric Fausal (Santa Maria No. 1538); Candidate (in a tie score): Diane Pryor (Alameda No. 1015) and Bonnie Wadley (Riverside No. 643); and Coach: Terry Kokot (Riverside No. 643).

Grillo Division All-State Officers:

Exalted Ruler: Henry “Rick” Ross (Garden Grove No. 1952); Esquire: Phillip Smith (Garden Grove No. 1952); Leading Knight: Ashley Munoz (Chula Vista No. 2011); Loyal Knight: Shawn Brown (Garden Grove No. 1952); Lecturing Knight: Wayne Nelson (Petaluma No. 901); Chaplain: Margaret Dow (Santa Cruz No. 824); Inner Guard: John Miller IV (Garden Grove No. 1952); Candidate: Frank Perez (Garden Grove No. 1952); and Coach: Randy Barrows (Garden Grove No. 1952).

The Bud Tari Perpetual Trophy for the most impressive Candidate in the contest finals:

Bonnie Wadley (Riverside No. 643).

The Gerald Strohm Award for the most impressive Exalted Ruler in the contest finals:

Bryan Feldpouch (Santa Maria No. 1538) with a most impressive score of 47.140% out of 50.000%.



Riverside Elks Lodge No. 643 Ritual Team:

L to R: Cliff Wadley (Coach), Terry Kokot (Coach), Jessica McDonald (Esquire), Dan Orvananos (Leading Knight), Exalted Ruler Dennis DeSanti (with plaque), Mona Perez (Lecturing Knight), Bonnie Wadley (Candidate), Peggy Brauner (Coach), Theresa DeLaney (Chaplain), Lucky DeLaney (Tiler), Joanie Marin (Inner Guard), and Larry Perez (Loyal Knight)

Elk Grove Elks Lodge No. 2577 participated in Memorial Day ceremony

The Elk Grove Elks Lodge No. 2577 participated in the Memorial Day Ceremony at the Elk Grove Cemetery on May 28, 2012. Our Lodge members wore many hats that day as well as having a large group in attendance.

Lecturing Knight Chris Orrock is the head of the “Young Marines” who performed the posting of the colors. Inner Guard Bill Taylor, an Army veteran, participated as a member of the Marine Corps League. The Lodge's Exalted Ruler, Robert Samaniego, is a retired Sergeant Major and a member of the American Legion and VFW. Lodge Esquire Ralph Daniels, an Air Force veteran and Purple Heart recipient, performing as a member of the American Legion, lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were PER Mike Sabo, a Navy Veteran, Trustee Don Kammerer, an Army National Guard veteran, and PDDGER Angelo Sannino, a former Air Force pilot. These members proudly displayed the Lodge's Elks banner during the event.



L to R: Chris Orrock, Bill Taylor, Robert Samaniego, Ralph Daniels, Mike Sabo, Don Kammerer, and Angelo Sannino

Victorville Elks Lodge No. 1877 member is CHEA's "Veteran Volunteer of the Year"

The Victorville Elks Lodge No. 1877 is proud to announce that William Thornton, the Chairman of the Lodge's National Veterans Service Committee, has been awarded California-Hawaii Elks Association (CHEA) "Veteran Volunteer of the Year 2012" award by the Elks National Veterans Service Commission. This award honors those who have dedicated themselves to "Serving Our Nations Veterans." Only one male and one female from each state may be nominated for this honor. Nomination for this award has very strict criteria.

He or she must have worked with veterans in the following areas: hospitalized veterans, veterans at outpatient clinics, veterans in Nursing Homes, homeless veterans, veterans in the community, host veteran's functions in the Lodge, visit veterans confined to their homes and, finally, Adopt-A-Veteran.

William Thornton met all of these criteria, serving as the Lodge's National Veterans Service Committee Chairman for over four years. He exemplifies our motto; "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."

In other news, at a recent Youth Appreciation dinner Meeting, the Lodge's "Say No to Drugs" poster award winners were announced. All were awarded Elks Soccer Balls and gift certificates to Target stores. The winners were: Joshua Wilkins, Jacob Steely, Audrey Ledford and Haylee Poulsen. The awards were presented by Holly Lucero (Scholarship Chairwoman), Bill Whitney (Drug Awareness Chairman) and Jim Baum, PER.



L to R: Robert Burns, Sr. (CHEA National Veterans Service Chairman), Wayne Howard (2011-2012 Association President) and William Thornton

Westminster Elks Lodge No. 2346 golfers donate to charity

The Westminster Elks Lodge No. 2346 participated in a recent Orange Coast District golf tournament and their golf team placed first in the tournament. The team members, Larry Bell, Bob Becker, John Franks and Raul Urquidi donated their winnings (\$400) to the Hoop Shoot and Special Olympics on behalf of the Lodge.

San Diego Elks Lodge No. 168 recognizes student's DAP poster contest award

On March 26th, the San Diego Elks Lodge No. 168 visited the Vista Grande Elementary School and presented student Madison Wood with her award and check for winning 3rd place in the State Drug Awareness Poster contest. Brooklynn Greer was also honored for her entry in the Elks DAP Poster contest.

South San Francisco Elks Lodge No. 2091 raises \$10,000 for "Juliana's Journey" community charity

She was only eighteen months old when her parents took Juliana to the doctor to check on what they thought were the minor complaints of a toddler. When none of the answers added up, Juliana's parents, Jesus Pena and Patricia Watson, pushed for more tests. Within a short time, they learned that they would now need to fight for the life of their little baby girl who was diagnosed with neuroblastoma - a rare form of childhood cancer. Over the next ten months, Juliana kept in good spirits as she was subjected to six rounds of chemo, twenty rounds of radiation, two abdominal surgeries, and so much more. She was always smiling even when her condition abruptly worsened in mid-February.

Our Lodge had been working to do a benefit for this little princess warrior, yet with the holidays and her intense treatments, we had to keep pushing the benefit date out further. Her parents really wanted Juliana to be in attendance for any fundraisers that would help them with the huge medical bills that were piling up. A motion to do a benefit was made at the Lodge meeting on February 23rd by then Leading Knight Patrick Currier and seconded by Exalted Ruler Mary Motoh. The Lodge membership unanimously approved the motion. But, on February 24th Juliana took her last breath and our community was shaken. The fundraiser would now focus on raising money for her funeral expenses as well as her medical bills and for seed money so that her parents could create Juliana's Journey Foundation, which would be dedicated to helping other families who are hit with this horrific disease. It seemed this would now be a heartbreaking event to host.

On March 18th, with only 23 days of planning, our ELKS hosted one of its most successful fundraisers: Juliana's Journey Pancake Breakfast Benefit. We had over 40 members volunteer to shop, prep, set up, cook, serve, bus tables, tear down, and do dishes for the appreciative crowds that topped 500 attendees, under the leadership of ELK Shelly Pedersen. Pancakes, eggs, sausage, bacon, potatoes, and juice breakfast tickets sold for \$10 each. Our ELK members also put together a hugely successful raffle by donating items and soliciting the community for great prizes. Help poured in from local Council members, San Bruno Lions, SSF Lions, social media group Everything South City, and more. Between the breakfast and the raffles, our Lodge helped raise \$10,000 for the "Juliana's Journey Foundation."

Juliana's parents and family attended and were warmly overwhelmed by the generosity and kindness that our Lodge had shown them. Rather than a solemn event, it became a celebration of a beautiful spirited little one that touched us all. Juliana's parents said, "We don't even know most of you, but we love you." Even through our sadness we were blessed by knowing that, as ELKS, we had the chance to put our motto into action - "Elks Care, Elks Share."



L to R: Juliana's mother, Patricia Watson, Kamala Silva Wolfe (PR Chairman), Juliana's father, Jesus Pena

2012 CHEMPI theme child loves her glasses

Evelynn Pacheco was introduced to the assembled members of the California-Hawaii Elks Association (CHEA) Convention attendees on May 19, 2012. She was warmly greeted by the crowd and lit up the room with her amazing smile. Evelynn is the first California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. (CHEMPI) Theme Child nominated by our Pediatric Vision Screening professionals.

Evelynn was born on April 6, 2006. Her parents, Stephanie and Joseph Pacheco, were unaware of her vision problems until her three-year annual exam by her pediatrician. At that time, it was recommended that her eyesight be monitored as she grew older. Later, at her preschool, an opportunity for a free eye screening sponsored by CHEMPI revealed that Evelynn's left eye was much weaker than her right eye and that it could eventually develop into a condition known as amblyopia, also known as "lazy eye," which can result in the failure of both eyes to work together.

The family was going through some tough times and could not afford to pay for optometrist or ophthalmologist visits, much less the cost of eye glasses. The CHEMPI eye screening professional, Wyomi Yockey, told Stephanie about CHEMPI's Vision Care Program that covers the cost of eye exams, glasses and even, in some instances, surgeries for preschool children. Stephanie was very relieved and grateful. The Major Project did assist with Evelynn's eye exam and covered the cost of her first pair of glasses. Evelynn thought that her new purple glasses were cool and made her look like a rock star.

Today, Evelynn is in kindergarten and is one of only five readers in her class. She was Student of the Month last December and her eyesight has improved. This is truly a success story that speaks volumes about the value of the services that the various CHEMPI professional therapists and vision screeners can bring to the needy families and children living in our communities.



Palm Springs Elks Lodge No. 1905 receives city proclamation

The Cathedral City Mayor Kathleen DeRosa presented the Palm Springs Elks Lodge No. 1905 a City Council proclamation at the City Council meeting of April 25 that designated May 1-7, 2012 as Youth Week in the City of Cathedral City. The proclamation noted that the Lodge will honor America's Junior Citizens during that week. The proclamation was accepted by ER Kim Clark and Hoop Shoot Chairman Morgan Peterson. Mayor DeRosa and ER Clark noted the many contributions made to support young people by Elks Lodges. Our Hoop Shoot competition, patriotic activities, scholarship programs, drug awareness programs, dictionary program and other programs are evidence of the Elks contributions in support of youth.

Gardena Elks Lodge No. 1919 and local dignitaries honor students

On May 2, the Gardena Elks Lodge No. 1919 held its annual Youth Night to recognize six students from local elementary schools. These six students had submitted the winning essays in the Americanism Essay contest. 74 essays were received by the Lodge and these students' compositions were selected as the best entries. The essay theme was "Why I am Proud to Pledge Allegiance to Our Flag."

The Lodge gave each winner a color "Nook" reader. They also received an American Flag and a Certificate of Congressional Commendation. Bruce MacRae, VP of UPS – State Government Affairs, and Ivan Sulic (representing Congresswoman Janice Haan) presented the students with the flags and certificates which were signed by Congresswoman Haan. This was a big night for these students.



Front row (L to R): Irvin Samuel, SaNae Muhammad, Gualberto Ku

Back Row (L to R): Jason Asabere, Tish McCauley (5th year Trustee), Bruce MacRae, Lesley Carranza, Naomi Duprez, Rodney Tanaka, ER, Ivan Sulic, Sam Sweeney (Lodge Americanism Chairman)

Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 purchases computers for a school

The Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 donated \$3,500 to the Prospect Elementary School for new computers. The school was given the software program "Read 180," but did not have the funds or means to obtain the computers needed to run the software. Because of the donation, the school was able to purchase the computers and create a new computer lab.

In other news, the Lodge hosted an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Dillon Marin. Lodge member and Scoutmaster, Michael O'Donoghue, presided. Dillon is the fifth Eagle Scout from Troop No. 1475. He became a Scout twelve years ago and stated, "He would do it again because it was well worth the effort." Dillon was awarded the Arrow of Light, the Order of the Arrow, was the Troop Senior Patrol Leader and earned 32 Merit Badges. He designed and built two horseshoe pits at the Mesa Regional Park in Irvine, CA as his project.

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www.chea-elks.org

Drug Awareness

By Tim Jaeger, CHEA Drug Awareness Chairman



The Association Convention in San Diego this year was truly a rewarding and fulfilling experience. We were able to meet many of you at the Drug Awareness booth and again during the Drug Awareness seminar.

The highlight of the convention, for me, was the presentation of the Enrique Camarena award to Detective Felipe "Doc" Lucero. This young man, his wife, mother and father traveled from Fresno to receive the award. After receiving the award, early in the morning, Detective Lucero then spent the next 3+ hours talking to Elks and visitors as they came and went from the various business sessions. Seven members of the Enrique "Kiki" Camarena Foundation were also on hand to honor Detective Lucero and thank him for his contribution to the ideals which Kiki lived and died defending.

This award means so much to the recipient, his Lodge and District that I certainly hope we can expand on the local winners in future years. The CHEA website lists all of the criteria and the nomination deadline which usually corresponds with our Mid-Term Conference. I sincerely hope that next year every Lodge and every District in our Association honors a Lodge winner and then presents them to the District Chairman for consideration and forwarding on to me as a nominee for the State award.

I would be extremely surprised if every reader of this article could not think of someone in Law Enforcement who deserves some special recognition for the service they perform for your community. If your Lodge Chairperson is not aware of this award, here is your chance to get involved and offer to help with this program.

I will be traveling to the Grand Lodge Convention and will attend a special two-day Drug Awareness training session on the Saturday and Sunday before the Convention opens. I am sure that I will return with a plethora of new ideas and programs to forward to you. Please check the CHEA website in mid July for any updates.

I did note that the Grand Lodge website has listed the new theme for the Poster and Essay contests as: **"The choice 4 me is drug-free!"** **I will get the official word on this theme at Grand Lodge, but it is pretty safe to begin planning your local contests using this theme. Once again, the deadline for submitting your District winners to me is mid- January. Please check with your Lodge and District DAP Chairpersons for their respective deadlines.**

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

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



L to R: Detective Felipe "Doc" Lucero receives the "Enrique Camarena Award" from President Wayne Howard and Drug Awareness Chairman Tim Jaeger

Hanford Elks Lodge No. 1259 joins Orange Blossom Parade

The Hanford Elks Lodge No. 1259 was invited to participate in the Annual Orange Blossom Parade in Lindsay, CA. The Lodge displayed its beautiful 12' x 20' American Flag. The flag team travels to over 26 parades a year, traveling around 19,000 miles annually to display this beautiful flag. In addition, they have distributed over 300 Elks Drug Awareness Program bookmarks in two of the parades so far this year.



Ridgecrest Elks Lodge No. 1913 helps their community

The Ridgecrest Elks Lodge No. 1913 presented a \$300 check to Mary Noh, the KidSpree Chairperson for Altrusa, Inc. The donation came from the Lodge's Bingo Charity Fund. The money provided the funding for four local needy children to go shopping in the local Wal-Mart and K-Mart stores on the 17th of November 2012. KidSpree is a shopping spree where an Altrusa representative and/or volunteer chaperones a child to the store to shop for clothes. Many times their thankful parents tell us that this was the first new clothing their child had received other than hand-me-downs.

In other news, the Lodge supported local Community Cleanup Program by donating ten gallons of weed killer. The funds to purchase the weed killer came from the Lodge's Bingo Charity Fund. The weed killer will be used in an upcoming community cleanup day.



L to R: Ken Dalpiaz (Exalted Ruler), Mary Noh, Dan Zurn (Trustee)



Oceanside Elks Lodge No. 1561 supports troops; gets thanks

The Oceanside Elks Lodge No. 1561 loves to send “Hugs from Home” to the troops. These gifts are well appreciated by our overseas servicemen and servicewomen. Sandee Murphy is the Director of this ongoing Lodge project that collects and sends care packages to our troops. Recently, Sandee received a letter and some photographs from the troops. She offers to share that letter with us. The folks mentioned in the letter are the individuals who paid the postage to send these packages overseas. Here is the letter and one of the pictures that she received:

“Please pass on my sincere thanks on behalf of the Marines and Sailors of CLB-11. I received some packages today from Sergeant Major Morris which the Marines and Sailors really enjoyed opening. I would like to send a special thank you to Mr. Steve Allen, Ms. Carol Grice, Ms. Margie Neilson, Ms. Kim Williamson, and Ms Sandee Murphy for these boxes. These always bring joy and excitement to the Marines and Sailors aboard the ship. We appreciate the continued support of the individuals back home and would like to say thank you for the support and thank you for allowing us to have a reason to continue serving this great nation. Attached are some pictures that were taken so that you may show them around. Semper Fidelis, Staff Sergeant Keeter, Engineer Equipment Chief, CLB-11 11th MEU, USS PHB LSD 52.”



Santa Barbara Elks Lodge No. 613 receives ENF “Freedom Grant”

The Santa Barbara Elks Lodge No. 613 applied for and won the first “Freedom Grant (2011-12)” from the Elks National Veterans Service Commission. Designed to provide support to our veterans in need at a community level, this Freedom Grant will enhance their self-sufficiency by providing access to employment and training opportunities. This event has brought together the Elks National Veterans Service Commission and Santa Barbara Elks Lodge No. 613 in a collaborative effort with the Santa Barbara Outpatient VA Medical Clinic.

The grant enabled the Lodge to purchase: 64 gift cards at \$25 each; 24 Shell Gasoline cards (\$600); 5 rolls of MTD Bus Tokens (\$393.75); 12 K-Mart clothing cards (\$300); 12 Sears clothing cards (\$300), and 16 Vons Food Cards (\$400). Ray Duarte, the Lodge's Veterans Committee Chairman presented these items to Scott Hertzog, the Santa Barbara VA Outpatient Medical Clinic Director.

In other news, the Santa Barbara Elks Lodge No. 613 hosted a fundraiser for the Vietnam Veterans. They were treated to a Tri-Tip lunch, with music and, of course, liquid libations. For the event, a Blackhawk helicopter that had served during that war was brought to the Lodge for all to inspect and to help them appreciate the difficulties that these men had endured.



L to R: Scott Hertzog, Ray Duarte