California-Hawaii Elks Association
ELK Magazine
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Spring 2026
Volume 73, No. 2

Chrystalyn Naccarato

Occupational Therapist

Alameda Elks Lodge No. 1015 Nomination of Lynn Glick for California-Hawaii Elks Association President for 2026 - 2027

Whereas, the Officers and Members of Alameda Elks Lodge No. 1015 recognize and appreciate the leadership, accomplishments, and dedicated service rendered by Lynn Glick to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America, the California-Hawaii Elks Association, the Alameda Elks Lodge, and the Lodges in the Bay District of the California-Hawaii Elks Association; and,

Whereas, Lynn has been a member of the Alameda Elks Lodge since 1997, was elected as Esteemed Lecturing Knight in 1999, and later served as Esteemed Loyal Knight, Esteemed Leading Knight, and finally as Exalted Ruler in 2001-2002; and, has served on the Lodge's Budget, House, and Membership Committees, as Chair of the Public Relations Committee, as a member of the Hall Association Board of Directors, and as a Lodge Trustee for six years; and,

Whereas, Lynn has served the Bay District as Chair of the District's Indoctrination, Elks Training, Ritual Contest, and BLT Legacy Giving Committees, as a Ritual Judge, as District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler in 2011-2012, and as District Leader since 2025; and,

Whereas, Lynn was recognized by the California-Hawaii Elks Association serving as Association Vice President in 2009-2010, as a member of the CHEMPI Board of Trustees in 2013-2016, serving as Secretary in 2015-2016, as Vice Chair of the Meetings Committee in 2018-2019, as Vice Chair of the BLT Legacy Giving Committee in 2019-2024, and as Chair in 2024-2025, and as a California-Hawaii Elks Association Trustee in 2023-2025; and,

Whereas, after obtaining her B.A. and M.A. in Linguistics, and her teaching credential, Lynn worked for over 35 years for the Oakland Unified School District as a primary grade classroom teacher, Teacher on Special Assignment in the Office of Bilingual Education, and Reading Coach, and served on several area and statewide education committees; and,

Whereas, Lynn's dedication to her Community, Country, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is equaled only by her dedication to and love for her husband Jeff, daughter Elissa, brothers Reg and Randall, and her friends; and,

Whereas, Lynn's leadership, dedication, and devotion to our Order has earned her the respect and gratitude of the members of the Alameda Elks Lodge, the Bay District, and the California-Hawaii Elks Association;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Officers and Members of Alameda Elks Lodge No. 1015 are honored and privileged to present to the annual California-Hawaii Elks Association Convention session in May 2026 in Palm Springs, California, the name of our Member Lynn Glick for the Office of President of the California-Hawaii Elks Association for the 2026-2027 fraternal year.

Santa Ana California, Lodge No. 794 Presents Arthur H. Echternacht for Grand Esteemed Loyal Knight

Whereas, The Officers and Members of Santa Ana, California Lodge No. 794 do recognize and appreciate the accomplishments, leadership, and dedicated service rendered by Arthur H. Echternacht to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America, the California-Hawaii Elks Association, and the Santa Ana Lodge; and,

Whereas, He has been a dedicated member of the Santa Ana Lodge for 51 years, was initiated in October, 1976, was appointed Inner Guard in 1987, and was appointed Lodge Esquire in 1988, and proceeded through the Chairs, served as Exalted Ruler in 1992-1993, and won District and Association Ritual Contest, and competed at Grand Lodge in Dallas, Texas. He served the Orange Coast District as District Orientation Chairman from 1993-1994, District Ritual Contest Member from 1995-1997, District Esquire 1996-1997, District Ritual Contest Chairman from 1997-1998, District Public Relations Chairman from 1998-2000. Was elected Honorary Life Member in 2004; and,

Whereas; with distinction he served the California-Hawaii Elks Association as the Orange Coast District Vice President in 2000-2001, as California-Hawaii Elks Association Sergeant at Arms from 2004-2005, as Association Drug Awareness Chairman from 2005-2007, was honored to be named Rookie of the Year for Association Drug Awareness Chairman 2006. As California-Hawaii Elks Association Assistant Tiler, 2008-2009, was appointed by the Sponsors to be the District Leader of the Orange Coast District, 2008 to Present. As California-Hawaii Elks Association Trustee from 2009-2011, as California-Hawaii Elks Association First Vice President 2011-2012, and then served as President of the California-Hawaii Elks Association in 2012-2013, was appointed a Member of the California-Hawaii Elks Association Major Project Inc. 2013-2016, and as the California-Hawaii Elks Association Meetings Committee Chairman from, 2018 to Present.

Whereas; He served the Grand Lodge with distinction as District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for the Orange Coast District in 2002-2003, Chairman of the Local Support Committee for Grand Lodge Convention in Anaheim, CA. in 2008.

Whereas; He has been married to his wife, Shirley, for 56 years, has three children, Art III (Leah), Terry (Larry), and Rene' (Billy) Rene' is a member of Hesperia Lodge No. 2646. He and Shirley have seventeen grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren and,

Whereas; He graduated from California State University Fullerton with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice.

Whereas; He retired from Santa Ana Police Department as a Sergeant after thirty years of service, then was employed by the Orange County District Attorney's Office in Santa Ana, CA as a Supervising Investigator for Welfare Fraud. He retired after thirteen years of service in 2008.; now therefore,

Be it resolved, that the Officers and Members of Santa Ana, California Lodge No. 794 are honored and privileged to present to the 2026 Grand Lodge Convention in Chicago, Illinois, the name of Arthur H. Echternacht as a candidate for the Office of Grand Esteemed Loyal Knight of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America.

President's Message

Scott Stephens, President
California-Hawaii Elks Association

Our latest adventures began with the CHEA Mid-Term Conference, in Santa Clara. Chairman, Michele Wilson and volunteers ut on a wonderful Conference that was very informative. Mary Kay and I stuck around the Lodi/Livermore area to do a little wine tasting before visiting the West Central District. Vice President, Angela Moore took us to the San Juan Mission. We enjoyed meals as well as the touring of the Salinas, ollister, and Monterey Lodges. Saturday we were treated to a tour and wonderful Ribeye dinner at Gilroy Lodge.

In the San Gabriel District, we had the rare treat of touring the Pasadena Tournament House, and had lunch at the Pasadena Elks. After touring the San Gabriel Mission and devastated burn areas and we were hosted at the West Covina Elks, were I met T & T (you'll have to ask them). The Duarte and Alhambra/San Gabriel Lodges shared many highlights of their community involvement, and we were very impressed by how close all of their Exalted Rulers are.

The following weekend we visited Sacramento Lodge. We enjoyed homemade crumpets and hearing about its rich tradition. They explained their use of ENF Grants to provide free Narcan to anyone who needs it (they're trying to take this District-wide). The Placerville Hardware Store was an amazing visit. The Roseville Elks shared that they received all Grants except the Impact. The Rancho Cordova Elks were very kind after I was handcuffed and taken to Folsom Prison.

That led us into a very full weekend in Pasadena with Grand Exalted Ruler, Bryan Klatt and his fun wife, Susan. We saw the float being worked on, attended Bandfest and the Rose Parade (in the pouring rain). Then the sun came out for the Rose Bowl game. We also enjoyed exceptional meals and hospitality at the Pasadena and West Covina Elks Lodges. The Pasadena Elks showed us an exceptionally memorable five-days.

In the Southeast District we were hosted by the Hemet Elks, who shared their successful use of Grants for Veterans programs. The Corona Elks fed us a homemade lunch, showered us with gifts and we visited with Past President, Frank Keller, and Diane. They also shared their very successful Grants uses and Veterans programs, as did the San Bernardino Elks. Plus, at their Saturday dinner we witnessed their strong Antlers program in action. We visited the Yucaipa Elks Lodge for breakfast. Our stop at the "Help Healing Vets" facility was very memorable. We learned just how involved they are with our Elks' Veterans programs and visa versa.

Lastly, our South District Vice President, Karl Weir and wife, Erika, truly outdid themselves. We visited the newly-opened Palm Springs Lodge and the very friendly Brawley Lodge. We went on a Jeep run, during which, Brawley Elks came out to the desert and made us lunch. Then at another stop they served us wine. We also enjoyed exceptional breakfasts with Mariachis at their restaurant, Las Chabelas. We visited the ranch of a fifty-four year member where he

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Tim Martin • Executive Director • The California-Hawaii Elks Association

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David Martin	West Central Coast

Auburn-Grass Valley Lodge 538 used an ENF Freedom Grant to purchase winter clothing and bedding items for eight low-income Veterans. The items were delivered to the Grass Valley Activities Center, which provides housing.

Big Bear Lake Lodge 1787 hosted its fourth annual American Patriot Music Project Soldiers and Six Strings guitar build workshop. Disabled Veterans and First Responders spend three days building their own guitars with a mission of healing through music.

Garden Grove Lodge 1952 donated $600 to help three Elementary Schools in Garden Grove purchase books for their Positive Behavior book vending machines.

CHEA President **Scott Stephens** Upcoming Schedule

Jan 30-Feb 1	South Central Coast District
Feb 6-8	West Central Coast
Feb 20-Feb 22	Southeast Bowling Tournament
Mar 13-15	Homecoming Orange Coast District
Apr 16-19	National Hoop Shoot Finals • Chicago
May 1-2	Utah Elks Association Spring Meeting
May 13-16	CHEA Convention

CHEA Advisory Committee Past Presidents

Timothy C. Martin • 1996-1997	Clovis
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Robert "Bob" Duitsman • 2018-2019	Culver City
Timothy Jaeger • 2019-2021	Napa
Jay Larkins • 2021-2022	Santa Clarita
Bradford "Brad" Smith • 2022-2023	Modesto
Ted Talbot • 2023-2024	Torrance
Marty Mello • 2024-2025	Woodland

Auburn Grass Valley Lodge 538 donated $2,500 worth of Target gift cards to the Placer County Veterans Service Officer Steve Johnson, for homeless Veterans and other Veterans having temporary financial difficulties. Pictured is Rudy Pelzman, Chairman of the Veterans Service Committee. Funds were provided by the Lodge Veterans Reserve Account.

Elk Grove Lodge 2577 delivered hams to the Elk Grove Food bank to distribute for Christmas dinners.

Elks National Foundation

Jere Williams, PDDGER • Chairman

The holidays have passed and we are now in the home stretch toward our annual Association Convention in May. However, we still have work to complete if we are to surpass last year's record setting contributions to our Major Project, the Purple Pig. Contributions to the Elks National Foundation monies have been coming in steadily from the Lodges, up from nearly $700,000 at our Mid-Term Conference to currently $1.07 million dollars. There are still twenty-six Lodges that have not made the Per Capita for this year and twenty-four Lodges that have not increased their Fidelity Club by 5% of their membership. With the elections of new Officers coming soon, a good way to start off your year is to have a fundraiser for ENF. The more contributions we can collect for ENF, the more money the Grand Lodge will allocate to our Association Major Project in May. Last year, the Elks National Foundation donated $1.25 million dollars to the Purple Pig and for every dollar spent, we received in return $1.87. So lets make a big push to increase our ENF giving, so that our Major Project will surpass the $5 million plus mark, which was set last year.

The Community Improvement Grants (CIP's) have also increased and are doing well. Currently Lodges have received over $1.15 million dollars of grant money (up from $1.128 last year). However, there are still twenty-six Lodges, who have qualified for grant money and have not applied for any grants. We are leaving free money on the table and not taking advantage of our opportunities to assist our communities. Please coordinate with your local government, charities, school, etc, to identify the needs of your Lodge's community and apply to the Elks National Foundation for these grants. Whether the grant money is used for children, Veterans, homeless, there is someone, in need, who can use our help and assistance.

Steve Graham and I would like to express early congratulations to all the new Officers and Exalted Rulers who will be installed in the next few months. Get ready for a wonderful and busy year. Stay safe and well!!

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Walnut Creek Lodge 1811 supported three Veteran families with Christmas presents and gift cards. Pictured are Lodge members who delivered the Christmas cheer!

In other news, the Lodge used ENF Grants to donate $2,000 to Trinity Center for Homeless in Walnut Creek and another $2,000 to Monument Crisis Center in Concord, a family resource center for low income residents.

Temecula Valley Lodge 2801, used a Gratitude Grant to purchase and delivered twenty-five Christmas meal kits to the Temecula Vet Center. Pictured is Charter Member, Paul Gonzalez with the Temecula Vet Center staff.

In other news, ten Lodge volunteers showed up to ring the bell for the Salvation Army, wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The kettle collected over $500 for the Salvation Army.

Santa Maria Lodge 1538 with the motto "No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in our Town" hosted its annual "Bed Build" with the help of an ENF Community Investment Grant of $9,000. A total of 102 beds were built by volunteers. At the build the Lodge Car Show Committee presented Sleep in Heavenly Peace a check for $6,500.

Needles Lodge 1608 Exalted Ruler, Brian Dooley presented a check to Scholarship recipient, Julia Boydston. Julia is a graduate of River Valley High School and will be attending Nursing School.

In other news, the Lodge used its ENF Gratitude Grant to donate $1,250 to the Needles Recreation Center and $750 to the Needles Aquatic Center.

Garden Grove Lodge 1952 used their Beacon Grant to purchase 300 Winter coats for children in need in the Garden Grove Unified School District.

Piggy Bank

Bob Farrens, PDDGER • Chairman

I was one of the presenters at the CHEA Learning Seminars this year. I had the opportunity to speak to several hundred Elks about Piggy Bank and ENF fundraising. Many of the members we were speaking to had never attended or it had been a long time since they had attended, the CHEA Convention or the Mid-Term Conference. So, this was a great opportunity to present them with current information.

I use the acronym **PFET** when I am talking about Fun and Fundraising. It stands for **Promote, Feed, Entertain,** and **Thank** them.

- Promote your fundraiser. "If no one knows, no one shows". Use all your Lodge's media systems to get your message out to your target audience.
- Elks love to graze. Serve appropriate food at your fundraiser. Yes, you can serve pulled pork sandwiches or ribs at a Purple Pig Fundraiser. It is not against the statutes. I have had phone calls about this issue.
- Have entertainment at your event. The Elks started as a fun-loving group of entertainers known as the Jolly Corks. Continue the tradition, have fun, upbeat events; "Where there is fun, there will be funds".
- Thank them. Be sure to thank everyone that helped you put on your fundraising event, the people who donated money or items, the cooks, entertainment committee, and the people who clean up after.

Use the PFET formula. Remember to "have fun and you will raise funds". Remember, the Elks were started by the Jolly Corks, not the Sad Corks.

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Santa Clarita Lodge 2379 recently hosted their Annual Silent Auction with over eighty-five baskets that were donated by members, various Lodge groups, and the community. The California-Hawaii Elks Major Project was the recipient of the funds raised, which totaled nearly $6,000. Pictured above are Patti Chisler and Ginger Larkins, event organizers.

"*Love is making your problem, my problem*". A magazine page with that quote and a photo showing an adult helping a little boy fix a broken toy hung on a teenager's wall for many years. That statement signifies unity, empathy, and shared responsibility in overcoming difficulties together, highlighting that love means facing challenges together as a team. That teenager is now a seasoned Occupational Therapist, Chrystalyn Naccarato, OTR/L, who has been in a career spanning forty-two years.

Chrystalyn was born and raised on Long Island, New York. She grew up boating, fishing, and enjoying a wide range of water sports. She shared fond memories of living on their family boat in the summers and setting out with her two younger brothers in a small dinghy with a bucket, a net, and some fishing poles and being told to come home with dinner – which they successfully accomplished each time. This way of life promoted independence, competence, and nourished the spirit of adventure.

Chrystalyn attended Florida International University in Miami earning her Bachelor of Science degree in Occupational Therapy in 1984. She later earned three Advanced Certifications from the American Occupational Therapy Association in Hand Therapy, Modalities, and Feeding, Eating and Swallowing. It is not common for an OT to hold three certifications of this type, and it represents her deep commitment to specialized, high-level clinical practice. More recently she earned additional certifications in Traumatic Stress Studies and Functional Vision Rehabilitation.

In Miami, Chrystalyn was employed at a level three trauma hospital accessible by land, sea, and air. There she worked with survivors of catastrophic events such as near drowning, spinal cord injuries, and severe arm and hand injuries. She studied Spanish and became bilingual to effectively communicate with the many Cuban-born patients that she served. Chrystalyn returned to New York and her first experience working with children was in a large pediatric hospital. There she worked with tiny, premature babies in a neonatal intensive care unit, children with AIDS, cancer and those recovering from surgery. She eventually bought a covered pickup up truck, packed it with camping gear and headed across the country to find a new place to call home.

Chrystalyn landed in Santa Barbara, California where she met her husband, Mikel Naccarato. Together they have raised five children over the past thirty-eight years. They adopted their youngest out of foster care which had been Chrystalyn's lifelong dream. Chrystalyn contracted with various residential care facilities for the developmentally disabled, provided early intervention services for children ages birth to three years old, and worked as a school-based therapist serving children in special education program. For many years she was employed by California Children's Services and worked with children diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy and Spinal Bifida.

Chrystalyn was living in Lompoc, in northern Santa Barbara County and working as the therapy supervisor for Santa Barbara County Education Office when she first met two long time therapists of the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project (CHEMPI) at a continuing education course. After getting to know each other over a couple of days they were convinced that CHEMPI and Chrystalyn would be a perfect fit. She contacted Pat Baglietto, former Director of Professional Services, who asked if she would be willing to drive to San Diego to attend the annual CHEA Convention and interview with her and the Executive Director, Tim Martin.

At the Convention, she witnessed the Exalted Ruler's March and watched in awe as more than three million dollars was raised for the Major Project. She met other Major Project therapists who seemed to genuinely love their jobs and watched as Elks members showered the therapists with gratitude and respect. She interviewed, was offered the position and she accepted. It was at this interview that Chrystalyn first brought up the idea of a transfer if a position ever opened on Hawaii Island (The Big Island).

Chrystalyn went on to serve children and their families as a CHEMPI Therapist in Northern Santa Barbara County in Lompoc, Santa Maria, and the Santa Ynez Valley. She loved attending Lodge events including the yearly Santa Maria Rodeo parade in which she was a participant. Families attending the parade were always excited to see her in her car adorned with purple pigs, balloons, and a bubble machine which spewed out bubbles for the children to catch

In early 2020, when the pandemic was declared, Chrystalyn was able to quickly pivot to working fully remote via Zoom. Later that year, she was told that the Big Island Therapist had left and she was asked if she was still interested in a position there on the Hawaii island. Despite all of the uncertainties of the times, in a shared spirit of adventure, Chrystalyn and Mikel packed their essentials into a shipping container, sold their Lompoc home and said goodbye to their children and grandchildren. That was five years ago. Now Chrystalyn provides home-based services to children and their families on the Big Island.

She enjoys her time off by ocean swimming, kayaking, camping, and spending time with her family when they are visiting. She has been learning the Hawaiian language and acts in accordance of the local proverb "Ma ka hana ka 'ike" (one learns by doing). It suggests that the best way to understand a culture is through active participation and practice. One of the families wrote in a recent caregiver questionnaire "Chrystalyn has been a blessing…She is very relatable to both my child and our family. We look forward to OT days with Aunty Chrystalyn." Chrystalyn has been proudly serving CHEMPI for over 10 years. She is the Occupational Therapy Legislative Committee representative and writes quarterly reports to keep the administration and her colleagues apprised of policy changes and issues affecting their profession. One of the major highlights of her time with CHEMPI has been the creation of the current Professional Staff Mentor Program. In this administrative role, Chrystalyn has been serving as a trusted advisor utilizing connection, clarity, compassion, and commitment to mentor Speech Therapists, Occupational Therapists, and Physical Therapists. As an experienced senior Therapist, she not only facilitates their learning of the technical aspects of CHEMPI policies and procedures but also assists mentees to resolve challenges and achieve personal and professional goals by shared wisdom, offering support, and providing constructive feedback. Recently, when asked how the program has benefited their employment a mentee responded, "The mentor program has given me consistent support, encouragement, and perspetive. It has helped me grow in confidence as a clinician while feeling genuinely supported and understood. It is clear to the families and colleagues who know Chrystalyn that she continues to embody the adage "Love is making your problem, my problem."

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Public Relations

Dennis Hunter, PDDGER • Chairman

The start of a new fraternal year for the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks gives me the perfect opportunity to say thank you to all who have made this past year truly GREAT to be an Elk! As your Committees begin their planning for the new Elk year, your Public Relations Committee should be out there leading the charge.

Public Relations is one of the five emphasis programs that CHEA President Scott Stephens has set for this year. Recently, he sent me his thoughts on Public Relations. Since every Elk in your Lodge is a member of the Public Relations team, I am sharing his thoughts with you. Thanks Scott!

"For a very long time the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks grew like crazy, even though it was a fairly well-kept secret. The lucky people, who were in the know, had to search for someone to sponsor them into the Order. Some would say it was even prestigious to be asked to join.

Well, those days have changed. While the Order still has a great reputation, it may not be as highly sought after as in its hay day. Due to double income family structures, more entertainment competition, and way more children's extracurricular activities, fewer people recognize the Elks like they used to. To those of us who know and love our Elks Lodges, these sentiments may not matter, but they should. With more members and more volunteers, we can do so much more for our Veterans, special needs children, keeping kids off of drugs, scholarships and in our communities. Telling outsiders who we are and what we do, will bring those members and volunteers into our Lodges. More participation could also bring down the cost of goods and maybe even labor in our Lodges.

It all begins with the choosing of a proper Public Relations Chairman. Then, we must publish all of our accomplishments, upcoming events, charity opportunities, and Grant availabilities everywhere possible. Shout these things from the highest rooftops everywhere you go and encourage all of your fellow members to do the same. You never know what is going to peak someone's interest, so publish everything. Continually send this information to local and national news organizations, post it on all of the social media channels, post pictures, and articles of upcoming events and recent successes in your Lodge newsletter.

Please remember to ALWAYS keep it positive, *no drama*, no matter where the article is or what it's about. Plus, if you want the right kind of members, remember also to post pictures without alcohol or people winning money. Remember to always praise publicly and everything else privately.

Our success is dependent on you and your Lodge being **Sold on Public Relations.**"

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

Scholarship and Vocational Grants

Rich Wallace, PDDGER • Chairman

Vocational Grant Program

You asked, and the CHEA Vocational Grant Committee listened. Please watch for the next edition of the CHEA Magazine, which will share updates to the Vocational Grant Program. The program's core strengths will continue, while thoughtful minor changes will expand eligibility to a broader range of schools and introduce electronic application options. These changes are designed to better serve applicants while maintaining the program's core mission.

The Most Valuable Student Contest

Lodges—thank you to the 150 Lodges that conducted Most Valuable High School Student (MVS) Scholarship program this year. These efforts were led by 308 coordinators and supported by countless other Elks who generously gave their time and energy to promote and judge the contest. As a result, 2,454 MVS applications were judged.

Our sincere thanks also go to the District Coordinators who organized and managed the application scoring. In the same vein, a team of Elk volunteers staffed the CHEA Scholarship judging—we welcomed seven new team members who proudly represented their Districts and one former MVS winner (2010)—all spending hours in a conference room to score applications. We gratefully acknowledge:

Ellen Burk, Kevin O'Shaughnessy, Neil Yeager, Harvey Boelts, Lynn Belcher, Tom Ward, Andy McCarthy, Debbie Lucas, Sarah Rangel, Peggy Basarab, Dave Satel, David Coleman, Doug Thompson, Kris Picard, Lynda Einstein, Ray Broussard, Anne DeBattista, Shelly Picinich, Dolores Sanchez, Steve Mejia, Jame Warrick, Diane Phillips, Patti Powell, Reem Agel, Nicole Sato, Annette Adams, Julie Steele, Jan Bennett, and Sean Pringle.

Your dedication ensures the integrity and success of this important Scholarship program.

Words of Thanks from a Former MVS Winner

My name is Nolan Mulay, and in the Spring of 2021, I was selected as a recipient of the Most Valuable Student Scholarship. As we kick off the new year, I wanted to reach out to your organization to give a brief life update and to express my gratitude for your support during my post secondary endeavors.

After graduating from Colfax High School in May 2021, I moved to Boston, Massachusetts, enrolling at Tufts University. Tufts broadened my horizons more than I could imagine. From diverse course work and worldly travel experiences to self-reflection, Tufts stimulated my intellect and shaped me into a more thoughtful individual. In May 2025, I graduated summa cum laude from Tufts University with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and a minor in Entrepreneurship. Since graduating, I have begun a full-time role as a Financial Specialist at Armada.

I walk away from Tufts with unparalleled experiences, a curiosity for learning, and most importantly, lifelong friends. The Most Valuable Student Scholarship enabled me to immerse myself in such a stimulating environment. I recognize and appreciate the hard work that your organization does to support students like me. Your commitment and willingness to sacrifice do not go unnoticed, and I am extremely thankful for your generosity.

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President's Message

Continued from Page 3

had twenty plus old tractors and bulldozers. I was honored to open their 100-year time capsule and accept resolutions from the Brawley Mayor and their 36th District Assemblyman, during a fabulous dinner, served to a packed house, at the Brawley Elks.

We only have two visits left, before our Homecoming (which we hope to see all of you at), on March 14 and 15. Until then, my hope is that you will all continue to be **Sold on Elkdom**.

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Lodge Activities

Rudy Guerra, PDDGER • Chairman

Happy New Year, California-Hawaii Elks Association! Wishing everyone a joyful and safe celebration.

This quarter started with Halloween festivities, costume parties, and plenty of treats—hopefully without extra dental bills. After a busy October, we had Thanksgiving dinner in November and expressed our gratitude. In December, Elks across the country observed the Elks Memorial Day, to remember members lost during the year and celebrate Christmas with friends and family.

The Pasadena Elks Lodge has consistently maintained and excelled in the longstanding tradition of participating in the Pasadena Rose Parade, highlighted by the presence of Grand Exalted Ruler Brian Klatt. Thank you, Pasadena Elks Lodge. Wishing you and your loved ones a happy New Year.

We've had a busy quarter with many celebrations, which should be reported to your Lodge Activities Chairperson.

Our work continues, as there are three months left in the reporting period. Continue regular reporting. I trust each Lodge is preparing for Officer nominations and Installations; however, be sure this process does not delay welcoming or Installing new members.

In closing, I thank all of the District Lodge Activities Chairmen for their consistent quarterly reports. I appreciate your dedication.

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Santa Maria Lodge 1538 goes Golden every September to support the Pediatric Cancer Awareness month for Golden Circle of Champions. Golden was born out of the Elks Rodeo in 2016 to support children and their families battling Pediatric Cancer. This year the Lodge raised $17,500. Additionally, our Golden Circle sponsored a special Fishing Day at a local fishing pond for the kids and their families.

In other news, the Lodge held a Wine Tasting fundraiser for the Major Project. Local vendors donated their wines and olive oils, the tickets sold out raising $3,200 for the Purple Pig. The Lodge hosted our local CHEMPI Therapist who put on a great slide show representing the Major Project.

Membership Retention and Lapsation

James Warrick, PDDGER • Chairman

Initiate, Initiate, Initiate!

Over 1,000 candidates in CHEA Lodges currently await initiation. Candidates don't have to wait one or two months for initiation into the Elks. Special initiations may take place at any time or at any Lodge in the Order. Because California-Hawaii Elks led the nation in membership development, CHEA sat up front in 2025 at Elks National Convention in Kansas City. With resolve to complete initiations CHEA may sit up front in 2026 at the National Convention in Chicago.

Lodges may want to dedicate a class of initiates to some special Elk, like an Elk of the Year, a District Deputy, or a Past Association President. Lodges may think about having a BBQ, a fish fry, or some other different type of meal in conjunction with a special initiation. Following through with timely initiations is fulfilling the promise gleaming in the eyes of sponsors and candidates.

R & R ... Recruit and Retain! In addition to streamlining the initiation process, membership development dictates that every Elk is part of the Membership Committee. Membership is the lifeblood of the Elks, without new Elk memberships an acidic empty void may envelope a Lodge. Recruitment of new members is an ongoing process to rejuvenate Lodges, so the Elks social, patriotic, and civic endeavors may continue to thrive.

Membership development includes several roots to success. The tap root involves initiating new members, but paying attention to Stray Elks, and timely attention to reinstatements, may provide additional strength to overall membership development. "Stray Elks" pay dues at one Lodge but live in the jurisdiction of another one. Lodge Secretaries have the names and addresses of Stray Elks in their area and may reach out to them. Reinstatement help: Sponsors may want to reach out to inactive members who broke from the herd to guide them back.

Big Bear Lake Lodge 1787 used a Freedom Grant to host six Veterans from the California Veterans Center for a Fishing Day. Following the fishing, the Lodge provided lunch for Veterans, boat captains and first mates. Pictured above are Loyal Knight, Dan Grimes, Exalted Ruler, Bryan Bianchi with Veteran, Lo.

Youth/Soccer Activities

Jim McCloskey, PDDGER • Chairman

Fellow Elks,

The CHEA Mid-Term Confernce in November was a great time to meet up with old friends and find new ones in the process. The seminars were well attended and we enjoyed helping those stopping by our Youth Activities booth looking for current information especially those Lodges looking for information to hold their first Soccer Shoot. We are looking forward to the CHEA Convention coming up in May in Palm Springs.

Thanks all of the Lodges who reported their third quarter Youth Activities to their District Chairmen. We are already one third of the way through our fourth and final quarter of this year, so it would be a good idea to start documenting activities for the report to be submitted in April. We must stress to the Lodges the importance of submitting accurate and complete information in their quarterly reports. A strong Youth Activities Program is a good metric for the viability and future of our Lodges, and the reports help to support our non-profit status.

The new Elk year is approaching and there is much to do before the transition of Officers. This will include planning your Lodge Youth Activities and reserving likely dates for the events. Funding and budgeting for Youth Activities will also impact your plans, so be sure to line up your grant applications and deadlines in preparation for next year's events, there is always a lot of grant money that goes unclaimed!

Entries for the Virtual Soccer Shoot competition need to be sent to the District Chairmen by March 1st for this Elk year 2025/2026, and District Chairs are to submit to CHEA by March 15, 2026.

The beginning of our Elk year 2026/2027, April 1st, will be a great time for the new year's Soccer Shoot events! Virtual Soccer Shoot Competitions will be energized with the FIFA World Cup events, many of which are being held in California in June and July. This should serve as an inspiration for communities to find the local soccer events promoted by the Elks. It has been rewarding to see the first time Soccer Shoots reporting "bundling" their event with other activities.

Our Youth, Our Future

Gardena Lodge 1919 gets our shout out this edition for a successful first time Soccer Shoot at Arthur Lee Johnson Memorial Park. They included (bundled!) Drug Awareness material, Elks information, snacks, drinks and prizes for participants, and have already submitted scores for the Virtual Soccer Shoot competition. Great job, Gardena Lodge!

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Auburn-Grass Valley Lodge 538 on Christmas Day proudly partnered with Community Resources to host a "Giving for All Day" event. The event was open to all members of the community. Volunteers donated their time, skills, and compassion. Professional services were offered, haircuts, massage therapy, acupuncture, and general medical guidance. Meals were served to 376 people, children enjoyed arts and crafts, face painting as well as the opportunity to make Christmas gifts.

Government Relations

Alyssa Santos, PDDGER • Chairman

Greetings Fellow Elks,

As our Elk year begins to wind down, I'd like to take this opportunity to show appreciation for so many that have worked hard for Elkdom this past year. The Government Relations Lodge report is simply seven questions that need to be answered. Thank you to the Lodge Chairmen that take the time to fill this out and report to their District Chairman. Thank you to the District Chairmen that have done a great job of getting their monthly reporting in for the Lodges in their District .

From those that report, it's great to see that so many Lodges are engaged with their local government by interacting with their Chamber of Commerce, hold local events at their Lodges and attend city council meetings on a regular basis.

It's wonderful that information about what your Lodge is doing is also getting reported to local newspapers and featured in Lodge monthly newsletters. Letting your members that may not frequent the Lodge know what's going on, may be a nice incentive to want to be part of what your Lodge is doing in the community. Collectively, we are doing amazing things.

A big thank you to the District Chairmen and DDGER's who have been helpful in ensuring the Charitable Giving reporting has been getting done. Your Secretary or Charity Report Coordinator deserves a thank you as well. It's a time consuming task, but so important that all we are doing, is getting logged in a timely manner. Imagine how much more we do that slips by and doesn't get reported? We, as Elks, do things that truly exemplifies our GER 's theme of "**Be The Difference**".

We are coming to the end of the Elk year and that means the Final Charitable Giving Report will need to be submitted by your Lodge Secretary after March 31, 2026 . A reminder to the Lodge Secretary to make sure all numbers have been input before hitting that final submit button for 2025-2026.

Vice Chair, Kris Picard and I look forward to seeing you in Palm Springs at The CHEA Convention. Please stop by our table and introduce yourself.

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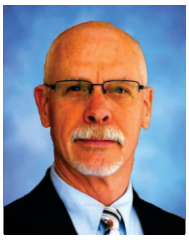
Monterey Lodge 1285 Youth Activities Foundation members collaborated with Laguna Seca Raceway during the race season and raised funds that were reinvested directly into the following youth programs across Monterey County:

- Tatum's Treehouse, an all-inclusive playground designed for children using wheelchairs
- Salinas Young Outdoorsman Program
- Seaside Raiders Youth Football and Cheer
- Punt, Pass & Kick competitions, Basketball Hoop Shoots, and a new Community Youth Soccer Shootout
- Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Program
- Marina Police Department Youth Activities League

In other news, the Elks Youth Activities Foundation presented a $1,500 check to the Pacific Grove High School's PTA Sober Graduation program.



Veterans Service

John Hardman, PDDGER • Chairman

Aloha Brothers and Sisters,

Has everyone seen the 2024-25 Elks National Veterans Service Commission Annual Report? You should have received one in the mail. This year's report is unique. Filled with post cards that can be torn out and mailed to someone. Give it a try. The report is also available online at https://www.elks.org/vets/news.

As Elks we did some cool things for Veterans in 2024-25.

- Volunteered 813,447 hours in service to Veterans.
- 357,061 Elks and friends volunteered to serve Veterans.
- We served Veterans in all 50 states and multiple U.S. territories.
- $56,159,264 – the total estimated value of Elks support in time, in-kind and fiscal donations.

In 2024-25, the Elks National Foundation provided $5,625,253 to the Elks National Veterans Service Commission. This money was spread across 7 programs:

- Welcome Home Kits – 31%
- Freedom Grants – 20%
- Emergency Assistance Fund – 18%
- Voluntary Service – 18%
- Focus Grants – 8%
- Veterans Leather Program – 4%
- Sponsorships and Other Support – 1%

Grants:

- April 1, 2026, is the date the online applications are available for Focus Grants and Freedom Grants. Start planning now.
- Focus Grants are only available to Lodges in San Diego, Los Angeles, Loma Linda, and San Francisco.
- For more information go to https://www.elks.org/vets/. On the left side of the web page click on 'Programs'.

I'd like to revisit something I wrote a year ago.

March 29, 1973, was the day the last American combat troops left Vietnam. The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017 made March 29 the National Vietnam War Veterans Day (NVWVD). For many of our Vietnam Veterans this is a difficult time. Reach out to your local VFW and American Legion Posts to see if there is any way you can help.

In closing, Vice-Chair, Dan Baccelliere, and I commend the thirty-four VAVS Reps/Deputy Reps, nineteen CHEA District Chairs, and the 97,827 members of CHEA, for all the hard work you do in support of Veterans. Don't give up! Keep up the good work! Also, don't forget about submitting articles and pictures of your Veterans activities to Ted Olsen, CHEA Magazine Editor. Ted is always looking for new material!

Until next time, safe travels and **help a Vet!**

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Burbank Lodge 1497 took part in National Wreaths Across America Day to honor our fallen U.S. Veterans. Placed this wreath on the Veterans Memorial at the Valhalla Cemetery in Burbank to honor Veterans buried there.

Chico Lodge 423 have created a Chico Elks Veteran Plaza, where engraved bricks will be placed to honor Elk Veteran members, as well as Elk Veteran family members who have served our Nation. The Chico Elks Veterans Committee has raised money to aid Veteran causes and recently donated $1,000 to VFW Post 1555 to assist the Post's Relief/Veterans Assistance Program.

Carmichael Lodge 2103 organist Chuck Shumate, who turned 102 on November 11, 2025, was presented with the Non-Commissioned Officers Association World War ll Legacy Medallion. The Medallion was presented by Chief Master Sergeant, James Sullivan, Chairman of NCOA Central Valley Chapter. The World War ll Legacy Medallion recognizes the extraordinary service of WWll Veterans and their families.

Norwalk Lodge 2142 donated $6,000 to the Falcon's Nest Veterans food bank this year to help feed local Veteran in need.

In other news the Lodge donated more than $15,000 in goods and services to a new local Veteran's housing facility for previously homeless Veterans. The Lodge teamed up with the Los Angeles Space Force Exchange to feed, clothe, and provide services for the community Veterans.

In the Christmas spirit, Norwalk Elks donated $1,000 to the Norwalk Santa Sleigh Foundation. The Lodge has been helping Santa get around the City of Norwalk for over 40 years, visiting local schools for the community children.

CHEMPI Latest Millennium Plus Level Donors • (November 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026)

Sharon Dearborn • Newport Harbor 1767

Rick Blake • Newport Harbor 1767
Don Morrison • Buena Park 2046

Deborah Brown • San Francisco 3
Ronald L. Brusato • Sacramento 6
Don Beck • Chico 423
Cliff Wadley • Riverside 643
James R. Peterson • Santa Ana 794
Jean Branton • San Bernadino 836
Shawn Conrad • Portervolle 1342
Christopher McEntire • Duarte 1427
Franklin J. Brenner • Orange 1475
Dawn E. Campbell • Orange 1475
Ilona K. Smith • Lancaster 1625
Carl James "Jim" Winget • Hemet 1749
Sharron Cannon • Chula Vista 2011
Karen Vargas • Corona 2045
Don Morrison • Buena Park 2046
Steven R. Dale • Roseville 2248
Judy L. Harris • Poway 2543
Patricia Krueger • Clovis 2599
Rick Schaneman • Clovis 2599
Nancy Albright • Kona 2616
Pamela Puterbaugh • Temecula Valley2801

Kathleen Wheeler • Sacramento 6
Donald Bragg • San Diego 168
Jim Borland • San Luis Obispo 322
Scarlett Rhoads • Chico 423
Michael Cosby • Auburn 1691
John Jessup • Redlands 583
Louis Brooner • Marysville 783
Elizabeth "Beth" Alexander • San Bernadino 836
Marla Buckmaster • Woodland 1299
Jerry "Gene" Day, Jr. • Calexico 1342
Jim Backer • Ontario 1419
Myron Battles • Santa Maria 1538
Roger McGonegal • Newport Harbor 1767
Joe Acosta • El Cajon 1812
Claudia Ayala • Chula Vista 2011
Robert Cruz • Fontana 2013
Kathy Messmer • Fontana 2013
Patrick McDowell • Corona 2045
Don Morrison • Buena Park 2046
Bobbie Strelow • Canoga Park 2190
William "Bill" Vance • Encinitas 2243
Bobbie Flatt • Rosevlle 2248
Michael Drummond • Santa Clarita 2379
Pat Brennan • Sky Forest 2393
Erik Brown • Wasco 2419
Debby Lamb • Mission Viejo 2444
Laurie Gonzalez • Temecula Valley 2801

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

CHEMPI Latest Millennium Level Donors ($1,000) • (November 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026)

Gina D'Arcangelo	6	Don Checchi	906	Stan Matthews	1787	William Biehl	2117
Kathleen Wheeler (3)	6	Amber Spencer	906	Brendan Sole	1804	Jaime N. McKean	2117
Gary Marinelli	168	Michelle Ottobon	1015	Ruth Reeves	1811	Michelle Lewis	2128
Mary Ann Marinelli	168	Lee Watson	1015	Mike Rittenhouse	1811	Tina McConnell	2190
Glenn Montague	168	Howard Weinman (7)	1015	Nancy Kulinski	1812	Bryan Brower	2243
Chuck Nolan	168	Ron Blount	1073	Larry Faust	1918	Cindy McKim (2)	2248
Richard Yeager	168	Inga Aksamit	1108	Barry Brockman	1952	Nancy Simendich	2314
Gail Marcum	322	Susan Gumm	1240	Joanne Galvin	1952	Robert Simendich	2314
Nicolette Munoz	322	John Strube	1240	Louie Beck	1959	Michele Wilson	2347
Arthur Nuno	322	Robert & Eileen Riedel (2)	1282	Erlinda Puig	1959	Henry Schmitz	2364
David Fundakowski	423	Penny Rieger	1289	Richard Tanguy	1959	Diana Crovo	2379
Karen Hamar	423	Russell McKinney	1298	Patrick Tone	1959	Brian Prewitt	2379
Terry Horne	423	Scott Nelson	1298	Jose Torres	1959	Tom Schmidt	2379
Joe Koshak	423	Francis Coll	1378	Bill & Tas Whitmore (2)	1959	Charles Strohl	2389
Rosada Koshak	423	Anthony Gilstrap	1378	Daniel Cassidy	1968	Reem Agel	2477
Deborah Laird	423	Les V. Leslie Smuellen	1378	Tex Perry	1968	Art Garcia	2477
Bernie Lightner	423	Sylvia Smullen	1378	Robert Cassetta	1991	Brenda Hagen	2477
Ian Lind	616	Clarence Allen	1419	Trudy Nuzum	1993	Greg & Barbara Metzgus	2477
Gerrie Brewington	643	Kelly Bonser	1419	Richard Dana	1996	Paul Stein	2477
Pamela M Elias	643	Wayne Hoover	1419	John King	1996	Robert "Bob" Brotherton	2484
Chuck Hall	643	Sherry Riccardi	1419	Ben Ortega	1996	David Coleman	2492
Elizebeth Prince	643	Chris & Bri McEntire	1427	Jeremy Langley	2013	Alvin Hicks	2504
Terry Williams	643	Jackie Orovecz	1427	Thomas Drake	2026	Lawrence Vieira Serpa	2504
Brett Engel	652	Shelley Gonzales	1443	Fran Hedberg	2031	Richard Barcellos	2510
Brad Weinfeld	672	Matt Ferrero	1475	Ronald Hedberg	2031	Larry Fink	2543
Neil F. Yeager	672	Sean Gambill	1475	Patrick Akes	2045	Donald Kammerer	2577
Robert Arthurs	759	Amanda Jung	1475	Patrick McDowell	2045	Larry Ryan	2591
Linda Fernandez	794	Kelley Martinez	1475	Anita McMillian	2045	Marti Fredericks	2599
James Peterson	794	Gunther Schroth	1475	Amelia Nieves (2)	2045	Patricia Krueger (2)	2599
Mark Schauwecker	794	Linda Maddox	1587	Jesse Vargas	2045	Kim Riehl (2)	2599
Sheila Cox	832	Judi McEvers	1740	Robert Young	2045	Rick Schaneman (2)	2599
Jean Branton	836	David Olson	1740	Don Morrison (7)	2046	Richard Gonzalez	2616
Robert Cones	836	Jim Winget (2)	1740	Ken Petri (2)	2046	Brian Klassen	2699
Raphael Rangel	836	Sharron Dearborn (2)	1767	Gary Isner	2050	Bob Farrens	2801
Sarah Rangel (2)	836	Roger McGonegal	1767	Sylvia Thoma (2)	2050	Pam Puterbaugh	2801
Wayne Wilson	901	Mark Layman	1786	Carol Webber	2103	James R. Stead	2801

CHEMPI Latest Century Club Donors ($100) • (November 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026)

Ronald Brusato	6	Rebecca Handal	6	Carol Mitchell	6	Kathleen Wheeler (9)	6
Mary Castro	6	James Irion	6	Maribeth Reynolds	6	Rudy Shappee (3)	168

CHEMPI Latest Century Club Donors ($100) • (November 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026)

Mateja Brown 322
Jonathan Brown 322
Eric Barron 423
Don Beck (5) 423
Brandon Boggs (7) 423
Ron Brooks 423
Sid Brown 423
Monica Burandt (2) 423
Mark Deome (2) 423
Denise Dykhouse 423
David Fundakowski (10) 423
John Garcia 423
DJ Grinkiewicz (7) 423
Mike Gross 423
Karen Hamar (3) 423
Terry Horne (4) 423
Howard Jeffries 423
Jan Jordan 423
Joe Koshak (5) 423
Rosada Koshak 423
Deborah Laird (4) 423
Bernard Lighter 423
Suzanne Lightner 423
Steve Lobdell 423
James Luallen 423
Shirley Mannings 423
Bruce Mattson 423
John McMakin 423
Tammy Meigs 423
Linda Reynolds 423
Al Smith 423
Sue Sutton 423
Susan Von Rotz 423
Kimberly Wessels 423
Richard "Ric" Wilson (4) 423
Robert Baker (2) 522
Gregory Kimball (5) 522
Wayne Brown 583
Thomas Dorsey 583
Ross Dvorak 583
Larry Eberly 583
James "Jim" Everitt 583
Chris Geelan (2) 583
Danyale Goldberg 583
Dennis Grimes 583
Kathleen Murray 583
Kevin Shields 583
Meda Chesney Lind (5) 616
Ian Lind (5) 616
Mark Pitchford 616
Richard Barr 643
Rose Barr (3) 643
Gerrie Brewington 643
Abelina Eckroth 643
Pam Elias (3) 643
Steven Gilson (4) 643
Linda Herrera (6) 643
Janet Morgan 643
Mona Perez 643
Larry Perez (2) 643
Erik Perry (5) 643
Dave Petersen 643
Janna Prewitt 643
Elizabeth Prince (5) 643
Mary Frances Rojas 643
Sandra Ruyle 643
Susan Samson-Owen 643
Linda Shipley 643
Hubert Shipley 643
Wayne Stolfus 643
Cynthia Sydow (2) 643
Bonnie Wadley (2) 643
Josie White (5) 643
Brad Weinfeld 672
Tony Brock 794
Ed Du Pont 794
Angie Kardashian 794
Robert McEllsy 794
Marietta Parkinson (3) 794
Jim Duey 832
Patricia Gardiner (5) 832
Mark Phillips 832
Lindsay Wanagel 832
Jean Branton (5) 836
Steven Brown 836
Michael Gilligan (6) 836
Carol Gilligan (4) 836
Raphael Rangel (6) 836
Sarah Rangel (6) 836
Candace Valenzuela (4) 836
Jon Coster 888
Dennis Woodson 888
Barbara Galbraith 901
Gary Ham 901
Heather Hupp (3) 901
Judy Krozek 901
Jonathan Nathe 901
Rita Schaefer 901
Wayne Wilson (8) 901
Eddy Ochoa 906
Dan Radlaur (2) 906
Lawrence Fukuba 1015
Donald Francis Donohue 1073
Craig King 1073
Kelly Snowden 1073
Joyce Arila (2) 1240
Robert Hinson (2) 1240
Larry Shankland 1240
John Strube (4) 1240
David McGinnis 1250
Scott Key 1259
Michael McClelland 1259
Mike Pepe 1259
Harold Hackett 1282
Sharon Hackett 1282
Marla Buckmaster (4) 1299
Pete Echols 1299
Carl Prutch 1299
Sylvia Caldera-Martinez 1342
Jerry "Gene" Day, Jr 1342
Chad Everett 1342
Mary Jayne Fusick 1342
Jaymes Fusick 1342
Joyce Gloth 1342
Mary McCaig 1342
Eddie Pacheco 1342
Jerry Baltz (5) 1378
Bonnie Medina 1378
Les Smullen (3) 1378
Sylvia Smullen (4) 1378
Ski Tarnoski 1378
Clarence Allen, Jr (2) 1419
Lisa Allen (2) 1419
Lisa Arredondo-Smith 1419
James "Jim" Backer (4) 1419
Jeffrey Badeau 1419
Kelly Bonser 1419
Mark Boroch (2) 1419
Judy Boroch (2) 1419
Ken Carnes 1419
Mary Costa 1419
Sue Garcia (2) 1419
Kent Gurney 1419
Wayne Hoover (3) 1419
Jill Kendrick 1419
Teri Ludwig 1419
Vicki Martinez 1419
Roger Riccardi (7) 1419
John Riccardi (2) 1419
Sherry Riccardi 1419
David Schuler (3) 1419
Glenda Tharp 1419
Raymond Trueblood 1419
Robert Walker 1419
Valerie Wilkins 1419
Roy "Alan" Wissing 1419
Wade Roberts (3) 1424
Jeremy Sychampanakhone (5) 1424
Loren Utsler 1424
Jessica Utsler 1424
Mary Marchais 1430
Seth Mallory 1471
Vienna Ashley (2) 1475
John Bivens 1475
William Brogan 1475
Dawn Campbell (5) 1475
James Chaffin 1475
Mike Duff 1475
Alan Gussin (2) 1475
Tom Nocella 1475
Eric Padget 1475
Kathy Parker 1475
William Parker 1475
Thomas Ruff 1475
David Salas 1475
Linda Salas 1475
Dorinda Sullivan (2) 1475
James Swindell 1475
Melissa Worland 1475
Richard Wynn (2) 1475
Laverne Burns 1561
Robert Close 1561
Fred Johnson 1561
Carl Reinhardt 1567
Linda Maddox (2) 1587
James Opie 1587
Wayne Ball 1603
Jim Boyle 1608
Barbara Earle 1608
Linda Fields 1608
Nancy Larkin 1608
Owen Long 1608
Albert Miller 1608
Jason Payne 1608
Donna Rohrer 1608
Fred Wasserman 1608
Dustin York 1608
Sam Dulin 1625
Tammy Lovelady 1625
Ilona Smith 1625
Donald Williams 1625
Robert "Bob" Evans 1643
Ronald Hinman (5) 1643
Kendra Sheil (3) 1687
Kent Stone (2) 1687
Edward Chicoine 1728
Joe Dishman 1728
Mark Garland 1728
Douglas Andrews 1740
Ron Brechtel (2) 1740
William "Bill" Cook (5) 1740
Larry Lister (2) 1740
Virginia "Jeannie" Lowe 1740
Judi McEvers 1740
David Olson (6) 1740
Cathleen Peel 1740
Steve Raway 1740
Carl "Jerry" Reeves 1740
Linda Reeves 1740
Lyle Roberts 1740
Carol Swenson 1740
Louis Pandol (6) 1761
Michael Anderson (2) 1787
John "Jack" Lower 1787
John Rodriguez 1787
Jimmy Lowe 1799
Brendan Sole (2) 1804
Dustin Cardaropoli 1811
Kimberly Everette (3) 1811
Nancy Kulinski 1812
Daryl "Mac" McClelland 1812
Sue Watson 1812
Michelle Goodman 1839
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Patricia "Tish" McCauley	1919	Jeffery Smith	2011	Christi L. Cross	2134	Deborah Lamb	2444
Cecilia Misner	1919	Kenneth Smith	2011	Donald Luepnitz	2142	Michele Scaglione	2444
William "Bill" Misner Jr	1919	John Fulton	2013	Margie Pickett	2142	Craig Acerboni	2477
Janet A. Molina	1919	Ashley Gaines	2013	Robert A. Pickett	2142	Reem Agel	2477
Richard Monteverde	1919	Jeremy Langley	2013	Michael Cline	2148	David Anderson	2477
Nicole Moreno	1919	Kathy Messmer	2013	Rick J. Fisher	2190	Tom Baldridge	2477
Reyne Rocha	1919	Michael Messmer	2013	Frank H. Padilla	2230	John J. Betancourt	2477
Alyssa Santos	1919	Henri Brachais	2026	Carl Romero	2230	Carol Fredericks	2477
Tammie Scott	1919	Patricia L. Elkerton	2026	Bryan Brower	2243	Art Garcia	2477
Shirley M. Treuden	1919	Jan Keller	2026	Bonnie Corbin	2243	Bryan Gicking	2477
Ted G. Talbot	1948	Kyle Ritchey	2026	John Corbin	2243	Terry Gicking	2477
Beverly A. Woulfe	1948	Michael Hyman	2027	Mike Farber	2243	Gerry Gillies	2477
R.C. "Stoney" Bourke	1952	Jean Snow	2027	Cheryl Fleming	2243	Peter Gordon	2477
Randall N. Eldridge, Sr.	1952	Wesley Snow	2027	Barry Clark Goodballet	2243	Brenda L Hagen	2477
Paul Escobar	1952	Fran Hedberg	2031	Lolita G. Noga	2243	Donald Halvorson	2477
Karen Lewin	1952	Ron Hedberg	2031	Tracy Reigle	2243	Richard Herrera	2477
Mary Nicoll	1952	Jesse Vargas	2045	Elizabeth Schreiber	2243	Dan Hoffman	2477
Henry "Rick" Ross	1952	Karen Vargas	2045	Fred R. Schreiber	2243	Sheryl Holloway	2477
Robert Ruppert	1952	Richard Crowe	2046	Maria R Schreiber	2243	Diane Jones	2477
David L. Skelton	1952	Nancy L. Brennan	2050	Jane Wagner	2243	Ed Lees	2477
Lance Slimmer	1952	John Dewey	2050	Kathleen M. Cobb	2248	Greg Metzgus	2477
Linda Vulgamore	1952	Frank Frazier	2050	Lesley Dale	2248	David Naccarato	2477
Roger Vulgamore	1952	Kathy Grant	2050	Steven R. Dale	2248	Julie Novak	2477
Gary Gersch	1959	David Hessler	2050	Michael Dreiling	2248	Victor Pesce	2477
Erlinda M. Puig	1959	Izzy Kamrath	2050	Roberta Flatt	2248	Richard Platt	2477
Richard W. Tanguy	1959	Lori A. Marple-Pereslete	2050	Walter Flatt	2248	Debra Reed	2477
Patrick Tone	1959	Diane E. Phillips	2050	Jan P. Jones	2248	Kelly Jo Reed	2477
Jose Torres	1959	Anthony Pereslete	2050	Cameron Murray	2248	Alexandra "Sandra" Rogers	2477
Kathy Torres	1959	Jane Roszhart	2050	Elisa W. Ungerman	2248	Carol Spinner	2477
Zion Wehrle	1959	Dixie E. Sanchez	2050	John P. Vertido	2248	Paul H. Stein	2477
Daniel Cassidy	1968	Serina Tremayne	2050	T. Norman Hardy	2274	Gregory Sweet	2477
Susan Cooke	1968	Sean Williams	2050	Michael C. Maglinte	2274	Dolores Thomas	2477
Robert Cosh	1968	Allan Wiseman	2050	Gregory J. Martin	2274	Jill Williams	2477

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Recurring Donors

(Donations of $5 or more accepted as a monthly recurring donation.)

Lyssa L. Wright	2477	Kurt A. Lovett	2543	John Golden	2599	Dan Smith	2640
Robert C. Brotherton	2484	Steve D. Martin	2543	John Hardman	2599	Rose Marie Johnson	2646
Melvin R. Keeter	2484	Linda Tucker	2543	Lisa A Hennesay	2599	William A. Lansville	2646
David Coleman	2492	Margaret Yorio	2543	Denise Lynne Ketcham	2599	Frank Molles	2646
Frank Karim	2492	Steve Filippo	2577	Mark Lammon	2599	Darlene Voltz	2646
Kris Picard	2492	Roma G. Filippo	2577	Thom Richardson	2599	Christy J Williams	2697
Kari Sears	2492	James M. McCloskey	2577	Kim Riehl	2599	Dave Hosted	2698
William E. Bolton	2504	Mike Van De Pol	2577	Cheryle Roberts	2599	Karen Kaye	2698
Rae Alee Breen	2504	Michael D. Cain	2591	Rick A. Schaneman	2599	Rodney L. Lowe	2698
Jay Dupler	2504	Connie Flatley	2591	James J. Williams Jr.	2599	Marvin Elrod	2699
Kristi Dupler	2504	Jim Flatley	2591	Nancy Albright	2616	Daniel Rodriguez	2699
Robert Pringle	2504	Paul A. Parker	2591	Laura Kniffin	2616	Richard Bielenberg	2704
Marshall Parker	2510	Larry L. Ryan	2591	Lawrence Kniffin	2616	Patricia Finley	2704
Dale G. Strickler	2510	Vince Briceno	2599	Vernon D. Ungerecht	2616	Patricia "Patti" Powell	2704
Lisa Cullum	2543	Howard Cook	2599	Kenneth Barnhardt	2639	Valerie Schweifler	2704
Larry L. Fink	2543	Cynthia Eastin	2599	Maria Jimenez	2639	Lance Erickson	2733
Marilyn J. Fink	2543	Lisa A. Escalante	2599	Diane C. Ward	2639	Diane M. Farrens	2801
Judy L. Harris	2543	Ted Escalante	2599	Linda Houston	2640	Robert E. Farrens	2801
Todd James	2543	Angels L. Gamino	2599	Steve Larson	2640		

Lodge Group Donations Exceeding $150

(November 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026)

Orange Coast District Golf	$ 6,400.00	Orange Coast Dist
Chico Elks Ladies	$ 250.00	Chico 423
Riverside Elks Lodge Bingo Players	$ 22,007.05	Riverside 643
Lakewood/Bellflower Bingo Patrons	$ 2,491.00	Lakewood Bellflower
Hanford Emblem Club No. 290	$ 300.00	Hanford 1259
Porterville B.P.O.E. Bingo	$ 454.74	Porterville 1342
Ontario-Upland Lions Club	$ 300.00	Ontario 1419
Ontario Elks Bingo Patrons	$ 14,007.75	Ontario 1419
Ventura Elks Emblem Club No. 157	$ 250.00	Ventura 1430
Palo Alto Elks Bingo	$ 650.00	Palo Alto 1471
Santa Maria Touring Elks	$ 250.00	Santa Maria 1538
Oceanside Elks Bingo Patrons	$ 5,000.00	Oceanside 1561
Hemet Elks Bingo Patrons	$ 5,000.00	Hemet 1740
Newport Harbor Nauti-Gals	$ 1,000.00	Newport Harbor 1767
Big Bear Lake Elks Bingo Players	$ 3,007.75	Big Bear Lake 1787
Madera Elks Bingo Club	$ 364.00	Madera 1918
Gardena Elks Lodge Bingo Players	$ 2,088.00	Gardena 1919
Santa Clarita Elks One Under Golf Club	$ 400.00	Santa Clarita 2379
Casamar Group	$ 1,000.00	Santa Clarita 2379
Santa Clarita Bingo Patrons	$ 4,950.00	Santa Clarita 2379
Santa Clarita Elks Cigar Club	$ 337.00	Santa Clarita 2379
OC Parrot Head Club	$ 1,054.50	Mission Viejo Saddleback 2444
Lake Elsinore/Wildomar Bingo Players	$ 11,200.00	Lake Elsinore/Wildomar 2591

Gilroy Lodge 1567 held an Italian theme night fundraising dinner. Twelve high school students and their teacher, visiting from Italy, were guests of the event organizer, Sam and Judy Bozzo. The Bozzo's enlisted the visiting students help, along with their teacher, to prepare from scratch tagliatelle pasta that was served for dinner. The proceeds of the fun evening fundraiser were used to help fund a storyboard walk at the Christmas Hill Park. The storyboard walk is based on the children's book, "The Summer Nick Taught his Cats to Read", written by Curtis Manley and Kate Berube.

Norwalk Lodge 2142 donated $3,000 to Falcon Nest food bank, which helps Veterans in need at Cerritos College.

Garden Grove Lodge 1952 7th Annual Purple Pig Charity Golf Tournament Hosted by Exalted Ruler, Chris Garland raised $10,800 for the Purple Pig. Pictured are Exalted Ruler, Chris Garland and David Skelton, PDDGER and Lodge Advisor.

Newport Harbor Lodge 1767 Veterans Committee, using a $1,000 Freedom Grant, had the privilege of giving back to those who have given so much. The committee spent an afternoon at Jamboree Housing in Anaheim, hosting a taco lunch, providing groceries, and leading a lively bingo game complete with prizes for the Veterans.

Madera Lodge 1918 made Bingo proceeds cash donations to four organizations in January. Madera County Food Bank, the Madera Rescue Mission, California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, and the Garden of Innocence, an organization that provides burials for abandoned deceased and unidentified babies. In the past twelve years they have provided a dignified special burial for 157 babies.

Riverside Lodge 643 donated $35,000 to support local organizations that provide essential services in our community. The recipients include Voices for Children, the Fraternal Order of Police, Riverside Mountain Rescue, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Ronald McDonald House, and California-Hawaii Elks Major Projects, Inc.

Riverside Lodge 643 used its Beacon Grant to host its annual Veterans Christmas Dinner, welcoming more than fifty Veterans, residents of March Veterans Village and Lodge Veterans. Guests were treated to a prime rib dinner and a special appearance by Santa and Mrs. Claus, who greeted each Veteran. Following dinner every Veteran received a generous gift package.

In other news, the Lodge spread holiday cheer with its annual Childrens Christmas Party, welcoming local families for a festive and memorable celebration. Children delighted in face painting, balloon animals, a coloring station, holiday music, an entertaining magic and comedy performance by member, James Skaggs. Santa arrived with some of his elves to the delight all of the children.

Palo Alto Lodge 1471 held a drive for Operation Care and Comfort, which sends care packages overseas to deployed troops year-round. The Lodge also hosted forty hospitalized veterans in the Palo Alto VA Rehabilitation Building for dinner at the Lodge, giving them a much-needed break from the hospital. Pictured is Exalted Ruler, Amy Love with some of the donated items.

Temecula Lodge 2801 using a Gratitude Grant, sent volunteers, Vicki Puterbaugh and April Gilbert to visit Veterans at Loma Linda Veterans Medical Center, leaving comfort kits, in their wake. Included in the kits were Veteran ducks, fidget spinners, Lifesavers candies, protein bars and lip balms. The Veterans, some of them sitting for hours in dialysis or cancer clinics, appreciated the items as well as visits from friendly Elk faces.

Santa Clarita Lodge 2379 hosted Canyon High School's JV Cheerleaders, who made homemade wreaths and presented them to local Veterans. Thirty cheerleaders decorated thirty-three wreaths, and our Lodge's Veterans Committee gathered Veterans from several local organizations including Vietnam Vets of America, Veterans Collaborative Committee, Coffee 4 Vets as well as our Lodge.

Roseville Lodge 2248 delivered knit beanies, gloves, scarves, socks, and string backpacks to Mariposa School for children that needed the warm clothing. Pictured (L-R) Marcia LeDoux, Member and Jenna Sweeney, School Community Specialist.

San Rafael Lodge 1108 Thanksgiving Meals Program, held from November 24th to 26th, Lodge volunteers prepared, packaged and delivered 450 Thanksgiving Meals to those in need in Marin County. Delivery was done by Elk volunteers and also assisted by Volunteers from Extra Food, another Marin County nonprofit. Pictured (L-R) Elk Volunteers, Tiffany Couch, Wendy Sadeh, Extra Food Volunteer Delivery Man, Bruce Stein and Elk Volunteers, Exalted Ruler, Susan Adler, Elise Vitale, Leslie Freed, Nancy Morais and Susan Blair.

Alturas Lodge 1756 awarded five Modoc High School students Scholarships totaling $28,000. The Scholarships were funded by The John Wall and Ray Lewis Foundations. Both gentlemen were long time members of the Alturus Lodge. Pictured above are the students who received the Scholarships.

Needles Lodge 1608 proudly announces the launching of their "Junior Golf League" Winter Program. Pictured above is the first gathering of students from the neighboring schools, grades six through nine, at the River's Edge Golf Course in Needles, under the direct supervision of Exalted Ruler, Brian T. Dooley, and Members, Michael Reese and Dave Tradup. This provides the students with the opportunity to learn about golf.

Monterey Lodge 1285 dedicated a library for Veterans during the grand opening of the Veterans Transition Center's Lightfighter Village (LFV), a housing complex recently built to support low-income Veterans and their families. Monterey Lodge members donated books, CDs, DVDs, and bookcases for the library in honor of our Veterans whose love of books and learning will be cherished here always.

Thousand Oaks Lodge 2477 held an "All you can eat" spaghetti fund raiser for the Westlake High School Girls Fast Pitch Softball Team. The event had great community support, raising just over $2,500 for the team.

Fullerton Lodge 1993 held its Annual Special Child Christmas Party for thirty families in December. Darren Baker as Santa Claus, with Leslie Swaim as Mrs. Claus, and Candy Valko as Grandma Claus. After lunch, gift stockings were presented to each family which contained gift cards.

Gilroy Lodge 1567 hosted Jason S. at the Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony. The ceremony was attended by family, friends, and fellow members of Scout Troop 711. Lodge members presented Jason with his Elks Eagle Scout Certificate, a Pin from Grand Lodge, a Lodge Eagle Scout Certificate, American flag, and an engraved Swiss Army Knife.

Orange Lodge 1475 has a popular way the Lodge raises funds for charity donations is our Sunday Fun Day. Members can enjoy Sunday NFL football games, enjoy great food, and bid on gift baskets. The Lodge delivered a $1,700 check to the Breast Cancer Angels. The Breast Cancer Angels do wonderful things for women going through Breast Cancer. Pictured (L-R) Kelley Martinez, Julie Sutton, Lisa Erickson, Executive Director of Breast Cancer Angels, and Janine Storm.

Grand Exalted Ruler Bryan Klatt, First Lady Susan along with a few of the friends that came to help on the Rose Parade float

Santa Clarita Lodge 2379 hosted a Purple Pig Night at the Races Fundraiser. Dinner was served, and bets were placed as DJ Curveball Wayne Edwards, kept the atmosphere lively and entertaining for everyone in attendance. Debbie Hagar, our Lodge Charity Chair, donned a purple princess gown to oversee the event, which raised over $4,500 for the Purple Pig.

Elk Grove Lodge 2577 hosted the Elk Grove High School Band family, who held a successful "80's Bingo" night fundraiser which raised a total of $5,000. Many band parents worked to make arrangements with the Lodge and several local businesses for donations and funds in support of the cost of instruments, sheet music, uniforms, field trips, and a proposed trip to Carnegie Hall in March of this year.

In other news the Lodge recently initiated a Lodge generated Vocational Scholarship program and presented Elk Grove High School with the two $500 Scholarships for their 2025/2026 school year.

Napa Lodge 832 hosted Veterans from Yountville Veterans Home, serving them dinner, continuing the celebration of Veterans Day as well as a long-held Napa Lodge tradition. Pictured is World War II Veteran attendee Bob Heiss, age 102, visiting with his friend Barbara Meraz. Neighbors at the home since 2008.

A big "Thank You" to all of the volunteers that helped decorate the Elks Rose Parade float. In all, 525 Elks registered from California, with many volunteering for four to five days. We had out of state volunteers from Texas, Arizona, South Carolina, Rhode Island, Hawaii, and a group from Pennsylvania. Every year we have been lucky to have Past Grands, Mills and the Pickering's. This year we had GER Bryan Klatt's First Lady, Sue Klatt, and Sandy Jaeger, our next First Lady, came back on December 30th after dinner, to volunteer into the night.

The 2027 Rose Parade Theme will be "Welcome" and we welcome every Elk to come and volunteer. We never have too many and believe me once you do it, you will be hooked. Decorating starts on December 5th at 8:00am – mark your calendars and plan to join us.

Be sure to visit us at the Convention, we will have the decorating schedule for the Elks Rose Parade entry on January 1st, 2027.

Kathy Grant and Nancy Brennan
Elks Rose Parade Float Volunteer Coordinators