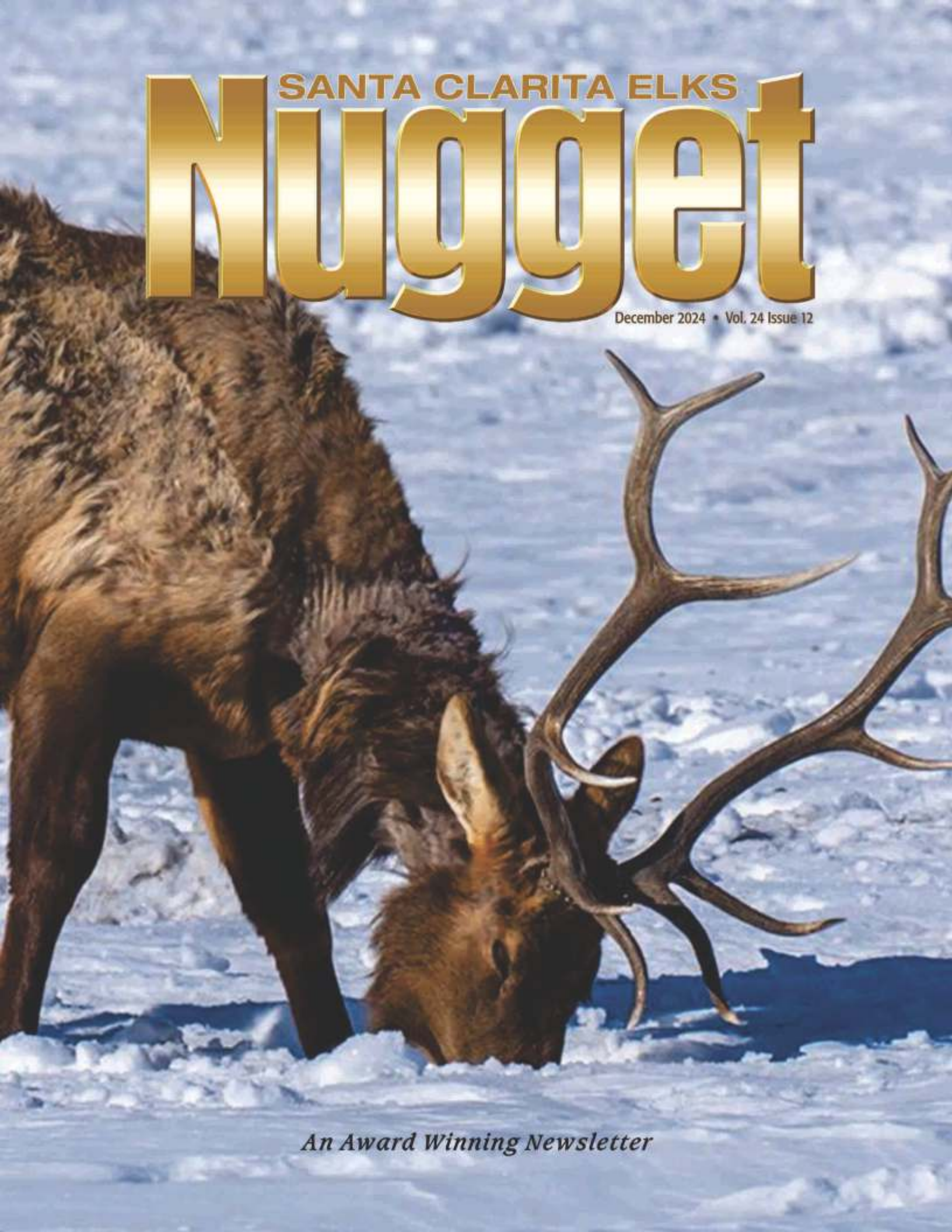




SANTA CLARITA ELKS Nugget

December 2024 • Vol. 24 Issue 12

An Award Winning Newsletter

OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
SANTA CLARITA LODGE 2379
 ESTABLISHED 1967
 BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS



Santa Clarita Elks Lodge 2379 • 17766 Sierra Highway • Santa Clarita, CA 91351

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Lodge Website: scelks2379.org

California-Hawaii Elks Association Website: www.chea-elks.org • BPOE Website: www.elks.org

The Nugget is a monthly periodical offered free of charge to Members of Santa Clarita Elks Lodge 2379 • 17766 Sierra Hwy • Santa Clarita CA 91351



LOUNGE HOURS	OFFICE HOURS	PAST EXALTED RULERS
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Mon. - Thurs. 4:00 pm - 10:00 pm	The office consists of mostly volunteers, we try to be open Mon - Fri, 9 am to 2 pm. If we miss your call, please leave a message and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.	1967/68 Gayland Dillenbeck ♀	1997/98 Jeffery L. Brown, PAVP ¹
Friday 12:00 pm - 11:00 pm		1968/69 Richard Snow ♀	1998/99 Floyd 'Skip' Henke, PAP, DL
Saturday 12:00 pm - 10:00 pm		1969/70 Jack Belding ♀	1999/00 Harry Pennington ♀
Sunday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm		1970/71 Robert Horstman ♀	2000/01 Larry Lousberg, PDDGER
		1971/72 Eugene Kronnick ♀	2000/01 Ray Broussard, PDDGER ¹
		1972/73 William Armstrong ♀	2001/02 Kelvin Swanson, PDDGER
		1973/74 Robert Horstman ♀	2002/03 David Amette, II
		1974/75 Robert Wells ♀	2003/04 Frank Webster
		1975/76 Donald Jennings ♀	2004/05 Ken Song
		1976/77 Eugene Little ♀	2005/06 Don Dewhurst
		1977/78 Hugh Gregory ♀	2006/07 James Johnson
		1978/79 Sherman Lowe, PSVP ♀	2006/07 Sam Moore ¹ ♀
		1979/80 James Dunn ♀	2007/08 Gail Dewhurst
		1980/81 Bud Riffer ♀	2008/09 Rick Dalton ♀
		1981/82 Robert Wells ♀	2009/10 George Aguilar Jr.
		1982/83 Gayland Dillenbeck ♀	2010/11 Cheryl Laymon
		1983/84 Art Rousseau, PDDGER ♀	2011/12 Tom Schmidt
		1984/85 Mike Feraud ♀	2012/13 Julie Whitman
		1985/86 Mel Ponton ♀	2013/14 Richard Casaubon
		1986/87 Bill Lomont ♀	2013/14 Billie Jo Olson, PAVP ¹
		1987/88 Grant Barnard ♀	2014/15 Ted Olsen, CHEA Editor
		1988/89 Frank Lorelli ♀	2015/16 John Rivetti, DDGER Elect
		1989/90 Jim Howton ♀	2015/16 Billie Jo Olson, PAVP ¹
		1990/91 Paul Tyree	2016/17 Tina Jackson
		1990/91 George Aguilar Sr. ¹	2017/18 Maurice Hamilton
		1991/93 F.E. (Gil) Gilchrist ♀	2018/19 Roger Lowe
		1992/93 George Aguilar Sr. ¹	2019/20 Gary Keener
		1993/94 Ronald Douglass	2020/21 Rick Veiga
		1994/95 Charles Halterman	2021/22 Steve Graham
		1995/96 James Haggerty ♀	2022/23 Mike Fisher
		1996 Jim Delaney ♀	2023/24 Glenn Daniel
		1996/97 Jay Larkins, PAP	
		1997/98 Jay Larkins, PAP	

MONTHLY LODGE MEETINGS

Lodge Meeting	December 4 and 18 • 7:00 pm
Governing Body	December 11 • 7:00 pm
Trustee Meeting	December 11 • 6:00 pm
Knights Meeting	No Meeting
P.E.R. Meeting	December 3 • 10:30 am
Roving Elks Kamper Klub	No Meeting
The Emblem Club	December 22 and 16 • 6:30 pm

LODGE OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler	Wayne Edwards	Linda
Leading Knight	Mike Brandriff	Cara
Loyal Knight	James McKenna	Stacy
Lecturing Knight	Danise Davis	
Secretary	Ray Broussard	Karen
Treasurer	Judy Delaney	Dan
Esquire	John Rivetti, DDGER Elect	Terri
Tiler	Kelvin Swanson, PDDGER	Simone
Inner Guard	Michael Lowrance	Cheryl
Chaplain	Ilia Piedra	
Organist	Charlie Handy	Missy
Alternate Delegate	Glenn Daniel, PER	Laura
Presiding Justice	Skip Henke PAP, DL	Karen
Lodge Advisor	Skip Henke PAP, DL	Karen
Lodge Mediator	Jay Larkins, PAP	Ginger

TRUSTEES

First Year	Michael Mazzetti	last year. That doesn't include the money Lodges in California-Hawaii will get back through our Community Investments Program. For the 2023-24 fiscal year, ENF awarded a total of \$1,041,520 to 129 CHEA Lodges. Our Lodge contributions this year to date are: \$9,936.00 Our Lodge - 2024-2025 per capita donation year to date: \$ 12.10 Our Lodge Goal per capita for 2023-2024 is: \$25.00 Our Lodge - 2023-2024 per capita donation was: \$22.28
Second Year	Rick Shepard Jill	
Third Year	Charlie Handy Missy	
Fourth Year	Darren Anderson Dawn	
Fifth Year	Ed Alvarez Kendall	

HONORED ELKS

Elk of the Year	Ed Alvarez
Officer of the Year	Judy Delaney
Tall Elks of the Year	Frank Webster • Mike Mazzetti • Charlie Handy
Volunteers of the Year	Rob Forsberg
Citizen of the Year	Donna Schmidt • Jill Forsberg

ELKS CARE-ELKS SHARE

Elks National Foundation

How ENF is helping California-Hawaii?

During the 2023-24 Lodge year, the Elks of California-Hawaii donated **\$1,199,510.92** to the Elks National Foundation. This year, the Foundation will give back the following:

State Charities Grant:	\$803,140.00
Special Projects Grant:	\$645,610.00
Bonus Grant:	\$182,670.00
Most Valuable Student:	\$304,000.00
Legacy Award:	\$92,000.00
National Veterans Service Commission:	\$55,140.00
Grand Total:	\$2,082,565.00

That's a ratio of 1.73 for every dollar the Foundation received from CHEA last year. That doesn't include the money Lodges in California-Hawaii will get back through our Community Investments Program. For the 2023-24 fiscal year, ENF awarded a total of \$1,041,520 to 129 CHEA Lodges.

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GER Goal is \$5.00 per member. Our Lodge must contribute \$4.105 to be Grant eligible. Our "Per Capita" is based on 821 Lodge members for 2024-2025.

Nugget Submission Standards & Copy Deadlines

Copy submissions must be in by the 15th of the month preceding publication.

Copy: Articles preferred typed within an email or word document

Photos: Digital (jpg) format, please send **actual or original size images**

Send electronic items to Editor: Ted Olsen - Email: tedolsenelks2379@gmail.com

Photo Credits: Linda Edwards, Jay Larkins, Julie Whitman

Cover Credit: Estes Park Elk

A Message to the Members from Exalted Ruler Wayne Edwards



Yahoo! December has arrived, and I love it. I absolutely love walking around, seeing the decorations...of course Home Depot, and Lowe's, have had em up since Halloween! What in the world? Anyhow, it is a fun time for me especially as a kid getting to enjoy family time.

First and foremost a huge shout out to you Elks for supporting the Emblem, Elk Angel Tree Dinner. Stacy McKenna headed the chair for this, and you all turned out in droves for a wonderful dinner but even more importantly, an absolutely worthy cause.

Our very own, District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler John Rivetti and his First Lady Terri Rivetti, had their long-awaited homecoming at the Lodge and it was a blast, roasting ... oops, I mean honoring him. Truly a fun occasion for such a hard-working individual. Thank you John for all you do, and Terri for allowing him to be around as well as your tremendous support!

Next our Hoop Shoot was held at the Canyon Country Community Center, just down the street from the Lodge, and Jamie McKenna headed the charge there, thank you sir. Over thirty kids showed up! Wow, a great turnout, with some spectacular shooting was done as well.

Then that evening, Debbie "Princess" Hager, fired up the Purple Pig Race! It was a blast and well attended. Thank you to all who attended and made it such a fun event. The goofy clown guy running around said he had fun; not sure he needed an outfit to be a clown though! ha-ha

Now, December is definitely full of events and such. On Sunday, December 1st, we will have our annual Lodge Elks Memorial Service, to honor those who have left us.

On Friday December 6th, we will have our Silent Auction supporting our Purple Pig, headed up by Ginger Larkins, thank you for working so hard to support "Da Kids!" because, that is what it is all about.

On Saturday December 7th, we have our annual Lodge Christmas Party, sponsored by the Kamper Klub! Thank you, Geoff and Edie Bartoldo, for organizing and getting that all together! A little singing from the Sweetwater Gentlemen as well!

Then on Sunday December 8th, is our annual Children's Christmas Party with Santa! Thanks to Chris Villavicencio (and you wonder why we call him "Chirs V." for short!), for taking up the charge for this endeavor.

Continued on Page 13

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Accident Prevention	Charlie Handy • Mike Mazzetti
Americanism	Monica "Sunny" Gnirs
Auditing & Accounting	Steve Graham, PER
Backyard / RV Rental Area	Ed Alvarez
Backyard Camp Hosts	Dave & Marilyn Shearman
Backyard Guitar	Michael Lowrance
Barbeque Team	Frank Webster, PER • Charlie Handy
Bequest and Living Trust	Jim Lentini
Bingo Committee	Dave Shearman • Larry Finley
Car Show & Chili Cook Off	Shelly Tomson • Jay Larkins, PAP
Charity Request Review	Wayne Edwards
Children's Christmas Party	Chris Villavicencio
Contract Manager	Trustee Rick Shepard • Debbie Hager
Dictionary Project	
Drug Awareness	Steve Graham
Elks National Foundation	Michael Fisher, PER
Purple Pig Silent Auction	Ginger Larkins
Flag Day	Tom Schmidt
Get Well / Visitations	Wayne Edwards
Government Relations	James McKenna
Halloween	Brad Coukos
Historical	Kelvin Swanson, PDDGER
Hoop Shoot	James McKenna
Housekeeping	Michael Angulo
July 4th Parade	Jeannette Fisher • Mike Fisher, PER • Ed Alvarez
Kitchen Manager	Missy Handy
Kitchen Cleaning	Michael Angulo
Lodge Activities	Debbie Hager
Lodge Fundraising Chair	Stacy McKenna
Lodge Office Manager	Ray Broussard, PDDGER
Lodge Treasure Chest	Missy Handy • Ed Alvarez
Lounge Manager	Rick Walroth
Lounge Entertainment	Roger Lowe, PER
Major Project Purple Pig	Debbie Hager
Membership / Membership Retention	Debbie Hager
Memorial Day - Eternal Valley	Frank Webster, PER
Monday Night Football	Judy Reeher • Cindy Bost
New Member Interviews / Orientation	Tom Schmidt, PER
PER Association	Glenn Daniel, PER
Public Relations and Marketing	Ted Olsen, PER
Ritual Training	Jay Larkins, PAP • John Rivetti, DDGER
	Kelvin Swanson, PDDGER • Roger Lowe, PER
Scholarship	Ray Broussard, PDDGER
Social Media	Ilia Piedra
Super Bowl	Judy Reeher • Cindy Bost
Veterans	Jeannette Fisher
Webmaster	Michael Angulo
Youth Activities	Nikki Bright • Michelle Hundt

Fill your banks up & bring 'em in!



*A Coin a Day so they can
Walk, Talk, See and Play!*

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project 'The Purple Pig'

Our Lodge Donation Totals to Date in 2024/2025:	\$13,596.25
A 2024/2025 per capita donation year to date is:	\$16.560
Our Lodge Donation Totals to Date in 2023/2024:	\$54,779.52
2023/2024 total per capita donation for the year was:	\$71.795

(Per capita is based on 821 Lodge members for 2024-2025)

**California-Hawaii Elks Association Total Donations
Received in 2023/2024, were \$4,413,163.32**

Elks - Helping Children Since 1868

A Message from the Leading Knight Mike Brandriff



Greetings Fellow Elks,

Time is moving quickly in the holiday season. November flew by with lots of events. Unfortunately, there are so many events, I can't list them all. We started off with the Elks Midterm Conference which was held in Burbank. Our District Leaders, and Burbank Elks Lodge did a terrific job coordinating this event. There was a ton of great information that was passed on for Elksdom. It's very refreshing to attend these large Elk events. You meet many great people from around the state and country and realize that our beloved little Elks Lodge is just a small piece of a grand Order that is truly larger than you realize.

We enjoyed a wonderful evening at the Angel Tree dinner. The event was well attended and came off without a hitch. There was a host of volunteers that made this happen, between both our Elks, and Emblem members. A big shout-out to Stacy McKenna, for all her hard work coordinating this event. We reached our monetary goal to be able to donate much needed items for fifty needy families in our Santa Clarita Valley.

A big thank you to Larry, and Gaelynn Gregg, along with their crew for a sparkling Mama Mia Disco night. This event was fashioned after the movie Mama Mia, and everyone had a great time. The wild costumes everyone wore were a hit. While the movie was playing on the screen, everyone danced to the disco hits, and feasted on appetizers inspired by the movie. Thank you all for a great time! We look forward to your next event!

Our own District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, John Rivetti, was welcomed back at his Homecoming event. John, and his team traveled to all of the Lodges within our District, providing inspections and guidance. It's a large commitment, and John, along with his team were celebrated that evening for a successful job they completed. He provided a great message to us, and we are very lucky to have him as our District Deputy. Once again there were teams of volunteers that made this a great event. A special shout-out to Steve Corn, and his team for a delicious dinner.

Here we are at the end of 2024! December is upon us and hopefully your family, and friends, will be gathering for your Christmas, and Holiday celebrations. If you missed the Purple Pig Races in November, we still have two more events this month to contribute to our State Major Project, the Purple Pig. The Silent Auction is scheduled on Friday, December 6th, and is traditionally a fun evening loaded with wonderful gifts for auction. If you have a great idea

Continued on Page 15

A Message from your Loyal Knight James McKenna



To the Best People on Earth,

First let me sincerely thank the wonderful volunteers that helped me on November 16th to execute a successful Youth Hoop Shoot event. For the first time this go round as Hoop Shoot Chair we had more contestants than volunteers at the contest. Without the help of these folks who gave four and a half hours of there Saturday I sincerely could not have done it without every one of the twenty Elks that help to fill all six categories from the thirty youths that participated. ER Wayne and First Lady Linda Edwards, as Judges, Stacy McKenna, Judy Delaney and Nancy Webster handling the Registration. All twenty volunteers were needed to fill all the positions to complete this wonderful community event.

Prior to the Hoop Shoot, we had a very successful Angel Tree, that helped to raise over \$7,800 to fund the gifts for families in need at the Child and Family Center, as I said, "The Best People on Earth." Thank you to all the donors who enjoyed a dinner and raised these funds.

The Mama Mia "Disco" event, was just an evening for all to relax and cut loose in our own building, enjoying the wonderful people that make up the membership of our Lodge. Thank you to the Larry Gregg Gang, that put on this fun and entertaining event!

The Purple Pig "Night at the Races" was Fun-rasier, again very successful. After an enjoyable dinner, the laughs and fun that followed were entertaining, and enjoyable. We raised funds ... *"for the Kids!"*

The following Wednesday night we welcomed Home, and honored our own John Rivetti, DDGER. Again another wonderful dinner served by the Young Marines, with the kitchen staff led by Steve Corn, cooked an outstanding meal. It was a very busy and enjoyable Month.

As we head into the holiday season, we have many events planned for children, and our own members at our Lodge. Come participate, or volunteer to help, if you are traveling this holiday season, I pray you all enjoy your family and friends during the next few weeks. Then returning safely to the wonderful community that we all have helped create.

Treat everyone like you would want to be treated!



**Maybe Christmas, the Grinch thought,
doesn't come from a store.**

~ Dr. Seuss

A Message from the Lecturing Knight Danise Davis



While I've been sharing information directed to new members, this month's article could be helpful to all members. First, in case you don't know, there is an easy way to "earn" a prize of a free beverage, and it's the meeting attendance card!

As I explained in last month's article, we have membership meetings twice a month (Balloting and Initiation). When you attend one of these meetings ask the Loyal Knight (Jamie McKenna) or the Lecturing Knight (myself) for one of these cards. After each meeting, present your card to one of us and we'll initial it that you were there. Once you have attended the noted number of meetings, the Exalted Ruler will initial your card so you can use it, and then start a new card.

If you come to a few meetings, whether that's Membership meetings, and/or Governing Body meetings, there are several benefits for you, besides the above mentioned card. You'll learn not only what's going on and coming up, you'll see who is involved in that activity/committee/event and why we're doing it. Also, you'll see the chemistry of friends working together. You will hear who is not doing well and maybe a way to help or share a prayer for them. You will learn more about the Elks organization, how we support Veterans, Americanism, helping Kids, and outreach here in our local community. You will laugh too; there is always someone teasing someone, or other spontaneous laughter. And no doubt, you will know why you see us in the lounge laughing and talking and now it's suddenly so much easier to join the conversation.

Remember to bring your membership card with you every time you visit our Lodge. Your badges are just for the meetings, but you always need to have your membership card with you ... Yes, you too. Happily we have started having a Greeter at the door, like every other Lodge I've ever visited. They will ask to see your card when you come in. This is not only a common practice in Elks, it's a requirement for our liquor license. And, how nice to come in and be greeted!

It's November, our National Gratitude month. Pause for a moment and consider what you are grateful for. Counting your Blessings is a real thing and taking the time, even for just a minute, can bring a sense of calm, and maybe a smile.

Thanksgiving isn't limited to one day a year. It's a mindset, a way of viewing the world around you every day. This is Brotherly (or Sisterly) Love.

The faults of our members we write upon the sand ...



December Birthdays

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Gary Scott
Richard Thompson | 17 David Himmel
Orlan Larson
David Podsadecki
Richard Sandnes |
| 2 James Anderson
Dennis Duarte
Brian Prewitt | 18 Courtney Paladini
Charlene White |
| 3 Christe Marks | 19 David Cacic
Gail Dewhurst
Scott Gurnett
Ken Harms
Mitchell LaPorte
Less Rune |
| 4 Jeff France
Bob Reinhardt | 20 Betty Camarillo
Gerard Sola |
| 5 Edward Guiza
Daniel Peterson
Ron Vail | 21 Larry Finley
Riel Johnson
Michael Kelley |
| 6 David Ham
Robert Stratton | 22 Charles Bell
Richard Getzelman
Joe Gomez
Michael McKessy |
| 7 Roy Hermann | 23 John Hernandez
Jennifer Ricco |
| 8 Thomas Polucki
Hayden Sharp | 24 Wendy Heirshberg
Richard McCool
Mark Pieropan
Marina Santeramo |
| 9 Patsy Ayala
Kristen Turcios
Jose Verdin | 25 Chris Ball
Mellie Garcia
Harry Stirwalt
Adebayo Windokun |
| 10 Bud Houston
Blake Pennington
Michael Schirber | 26 Robert Forsberg
Dennis Hammonds
Peter Schmidt |
| 11 Thomas Gavin
Wade Melcher | 28 Mitch Gillespie
James Klinger
Reinhardt Schuerger |
| 12 Kelly Fanion
John Lopez | 29 Douglass Peterson |
| 13 Deborah Rheinfurth | 30 Toni Kirk |
| 14 Jim Lentini
Steven Mauser
James Spraker | 31 Roxanne Brill
Claes Green |
| 15 Carl Hodge
Richard Hodgkinson
Teresa Jacobs | |
| 16 Amy Lamberth
Clay Porlier
Rick Schutte | |

District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler John Rivetti Homecoming Visitation

Metropolitan District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler John Rivetti, and First Lady Terri, made their Homecoming Visit to our Santa Clarita Lodge. John's Team of Auditor Mike Gaglio, Van Nuys/Reseda Lodge, Esquire Ron Esquibel, Canoga Park Lodge, and our own Photographer Julie Whitman, were hosted by our Exalted Ruler & First Lady, Wayne and Linda Edwards.

Sixteen Past Exalted Ruler's from our Lodge, formed the Honor Guard for John's entry to the Lodge. Nearly 100 people attended the dinner and enjoyed the "bingo" conversation during the meeting. *Note* You will just have to ask John.

First Lady Linda hosted the visiting spouses, and had a fun evening. Exalted Ruler Wayne concluded the night with several gift presentations, to John for the Elks National Foundation, and a great dose of humor. Dinner by Pam Hogan and Steve Corn, served by the SCV Young Marines.



John greeted by the Past Exalted Rulers



Chairman of the Evening, Jay Larkins, PAP



ER Wayne Edwards, DDGER John Rivetti, Ron Esquibel, PER Canoga Park, Mike Gaglio, PER Van Nuys/Reseda



December 2024

MAMMA MIA!

DISCO PARTY

On November 9th, nearly 100 people descended on the Lodge to dance the night away, at the Lodges Mama Mia ... it's a Disco Party! The Crew pulled out all the stops to create a 1970's atmosphere, while incorporating the Mama Mia theme by bringing several Greek Hors' d'oeuvres. But, of course, the disco beat; the Bee Gees, Donna Summer, and of course Abba, were stars of the evening. The dance floor was never empty and sometimes spilling over into bar!

Thanks to all who attended, and if you enjoy these evenings, set aside January 11, 2025 for *The Crew's Prohibition Party!*





Veterans

BREAKFAST

Our Lodge was very privileged, and honored to host our Annual Veteran's Appreciation Breakfast on Sunday, the 3rd of November. We had an overwhelming turnout of members, visiting Elks, and guests as we served over 120 meals.

Many visiting Elks from around the state, who attended the Mid-Term Conference that weekend in Burbank, stopped in on their get-away travels. Including our California-Hawaii Elks Association Veterans Chairman, John Hardman, and Vicky, from the Clovis Elks Lodge.

We were honored to serve breakfast to over thirty veterans that morning. As a 'thank-you' to our service heroes, breakfast was complimentary for veterans. However, many vets chose to 'support the cause' and paid for breakfast regardless, as the beneficiary of the event was our Veterans Charity Fund.

The supplies for the event were donated by our Lodge's Charity Fund as well as from individual members. Special thanks to Cay in the kitchen, for "courage-under-fire" due to the extra folks that day.

Sincere thanks to our hard-working volunteer team: Wayne Edwards, Linda Edwards, Dave Baker, Ellen Baker, Diana Crovo, Charlie Handy, Missy Handy, Pat Corrigan, Eric Elrod, John Rivetti, and Mike Fisher.

And remember the Elks Pledge – *"So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."*

Jeanette Fisher,
Lodge Veterans Chair



PDDGER, John Hardman, California-Hawaii Elks Association Veteran's Chairman, shown with Jennette Fisher, our Lodge's Veteran's Chairman.





Elks Hoop Shoot

... all Age Division Winners, will move on to compete in the District Finals, to be held here in Santa Clarita, January 4th.



Some of the kids who participated in this year's Hoop Shoot.



Purple Pig

Fundraiser

*A Night
at the Races!*



What a great night for the Purple Pig, everyone had a fantastic time. Thank you to everyone who came, participated and contributed to this fun filled evening.

It takes so many to make an event successful and I have been so fortunate, and blessed to have all of you. Ted Olsen, for all you do for all of us, Missy Handy for selling dinner tickets. Jeannie, Codey, Frank, Diana, Hollis, Carmen, Charlie and Phil, for a delicious and fabulous dinner.

Judy Delaney, for everything you do always. Diana, you're one in a million. Michelle, Aunt Deb, Nikki, and Judy for setting up the table, decorating and helping through out the evening.

Linda, Michelle, Cynthia, you all sure did sell a lot of tickets, for that I'm grateful. Stacy, Jamie, Nanci, Ilia, Dwana and Larry, your the best at what you do and always willing to help with everything.

ER Wayne, and First Lady Linda Edwards, there are no words, or not enough words to express all the joy you bring to our Lodge and events. We are truly blessed to have you both. The best Rodeo Clown ever! You make everything FUN!!!

Our bartenders Shelly and Jennie, were fantastic. Last, but not least, Bingo set up. Everyone helped, thank you. I went in the back to count the proceeds, came back out and it was all done. If I missed anyone, I'm truly sorry. It takes a Lodge to do an event, we are truly blessed to have the best volunteers and members to make this all happen. We certainly have fun doing it. You all make my heart smile!

WE DO IT FOR THE KIDS!

With much love and appreciation, I thank each and everyone of you. We do make a difference in the lives of these children and their families. We couldn't do it without you!

Debbie Hager,
Purple Pig Chairman



Emblem Club 459

Simone Swanson, President • Respectfully submitted, Lee Urquhart, Press Correspondent

This is being written for the December Nugget....the last one of this calendar year. We ask ourselves, "Where in the heck have I been this whole year? What have I accomplished? What improvements have I made? What good deeds have I done along the way? What could I have done better?" Well my friends of SCV Emblem Club 459, if you're a part of this membership, read all this past years' Nugget entries and just take a bow! We keep getting better as a club; as caring friends and just honest-to-goodness, good, and down to earth folks.

Our **Angel Tree** fundraiser held on November 8th was another one of our accomplishments. It was another successful event, again led by our very own Stacy McKenna. Enough funds, almost \$8,000 was raised and our adopters have been busily shopping for the fifty families that we adopted. The gifts will be delivered to the Child and Family Center by the 10th of December. Thank you to all of Santa's little elves!

At our board meeting, and social evening on November 18th, we hosted Monday Night Football, serving a spaghetti dinner with meatballs and Italian sausage, garlic rolls, Caesar salad and so many desserts. There was a great turnout of members attending the meeting, as well as hungry football fans. I doubt if anyone went away hungry.

Drug Awareness:

I, as chairperson, paid a belated visit to NCADD (National Counsel on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency). I brought them their much appreciated Folger's coffee and a bag of

candy treats donated by one of our generous members. They had been waiting for and expecting me to show up with Halloween candy.

I must not fail to bring them their Costco cookie tin. They're like little kids at.....well.....Christmas.

SAVE THE DATE:

December 2: Emblem Member Christmas Dinner at the lodge, \$10.00. Mexican dinner will be catered by Lorena D's at 5:30.

Our Literacy Program led by Cathy Kopp, has asked that in lieu of a gift exchange, we bring a book from the prepared book list or one of our favorites. We have adopted McGrath School in Newhall as our recipient of these donated books.

December 6: Purple Pig, Silent Auction and Bake Sale. We've been requested to assist with the bake sale.

January 20: Supreme President, Molly Velez visitation. "Good golly, Miss Molly". I'll bet she gets that a lot!

January 22-26: Winter State Meeting in Visalia

*"You cannot do a kindness too soon,
for you never know how soon it will be too late."*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Respectfully Submitted, Lee Urquhart, Press Correspondent
Simone Swanson, President

FRIDAY, December 20th

Family Christmas Cookie Decorating Party

Time: 5:00 to 8:00 PM



Exalted Ruler Wayne Edwards
Continued from Page 3

On Saturday December 14th we have our Purple Pig Boutique with lots of lovely gifts, and ideas for you to check out! Come check it out at the Lodge. have a wonderful time shopping!

On Friday December 20th, we have the annual Family Christmas Cookie Decorating that evening. Thanks to Lauren Graham for chairing this, and making such a fabulous time for the kids. We will have a Children's Christmas movie playing as well on the big screen, while we decorate!

Then, to finish off the year, our Trustee sponsored annual New Year's Eve party on December 31st. It will be a Hawaiian Luau theme! So, get your Hawaiian Shirts dusted off and come on out and enjoy ringing in the New Year!

As we enter this month, enjoy the time spent with family and friends. I am reminded of my favorite Christmas Movie, It's a Wonderful Life. I am sure it is open for interpretation, but I try to always put my positive spin on it. George is so overwhelmed with life's trials and tribulation he forgets till he has exhausted all his means, that God is faithful if you just ask him. And then when he gets his Guardian Angel 2nd Class, Clarence Odbody, he starts to see just how blessed he really is! One of my favorite quotes of all time, that I think has a lot of Elk overtones is, "No man is a failure, who has friends".

God Bless, Happy Hanukkah,
and Merry Christmas to all!



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VIEW MENU

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
18902 Soledad Canyon • Canyon Country, CA 91351

OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



Jerry Bronstrup



Susan Corrigan



Michael James

Current Membership Information

Number of Members on April 1, 2023: 821

Increases

New Initiated Members: 42
 New Affiliated Members: (Transferred In) 4
 Reinstated Members: 4
 Subtotal: 50

Decreases

Dropped 2
 Transferred Out: 4
 Absolute Dimit: 0
 Deaths: (Since April 1st) 9
 Subtotal: 15

Membership Total

Current Calculated Membership Total: 856
 Average Age: 66.19
 Gain/Loss 35

Delinquency

Members Delinquent in Registration: 83
 Lapsation Rate: 10.11%

Applications on Hand

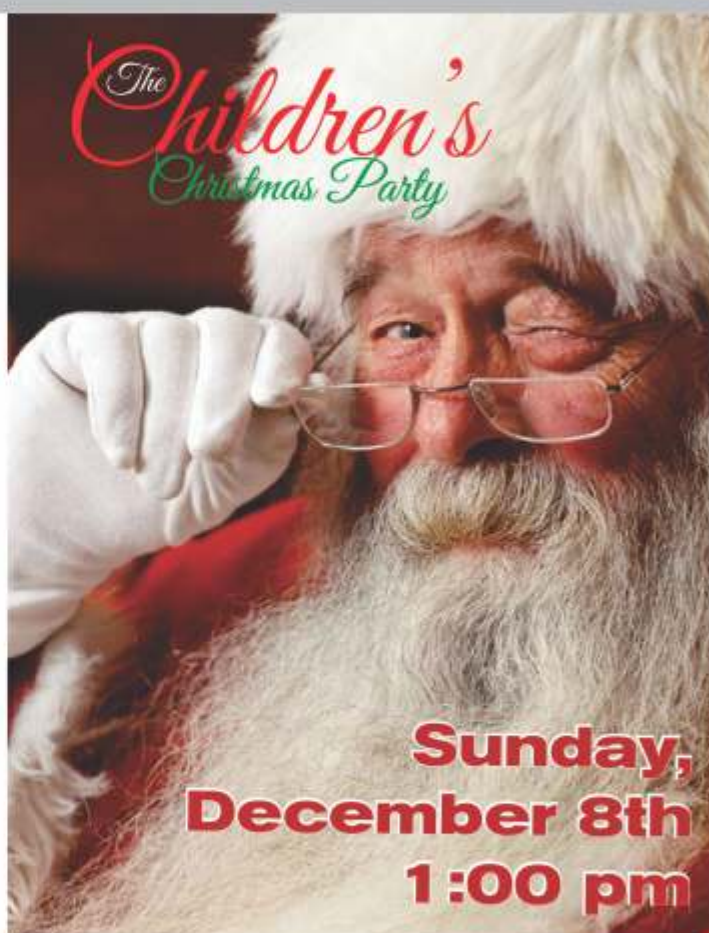
Total Applications in Process 19

Life Members

Life Members 22
 Honorary Life Members 2
 Total: 24
 Life Percentage 2.92%

Proposed For Membership

Jeremie John • Plumber	Steven Crain
Elizabeth Johnson • Bid Coordinator / Administration	Jay Larkins
Richard Freyre • Retired	Ed Alvarez
Amanda Telford • Hairstylist	Debra Chappellear
Michael Sanchez • Insurance Agency Owner	Debra Chappellear
Laura Medina • Aerospace Engineer	Ilia Piedra





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A Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler
Douglas A. Scheifer, GER • Bucyrus, Ohio Lodge 156



Share Charity and Compassion this Holiday Season

Merry Christmas! Let's focus on the reason for the season: Remember to

be kind and compassionate to one another as you attend social events at your Lodges. It must be a time when we can be the best of who we are. At the end of the day, it's truly about putting our hearts toward enjoying family, friends, and service to others.

The Elks Memorial Service is to be held on the first Sunday of December. It is an occasion to honor those Elks who have passed away. It's a time to remember the honorable way these Elks have served our Order. The great heart of Elksdom in our Eleven O'clock Toast symbolizes how we feel about our departed Members.

Think of ways to serve your community by donating presents to underprivileged children, and families, and giving veterans a gift or holiday card. Giving is always better than receiving. Be sure to spread the word of your charitable works through your membership. I'm confident you'll receive a positive response and many helping hands.

In 2019 GER Michael T. Luhr issued a challenge to Elks Members to raise funds for the Pearl Harbor National Memorial in Hawaii. There is no better way to honor the service and dedication of Americans, whose profound contributions to our Nation should never be forgotten, so that generations to come will know and appreciate the enormous sacrifice of the "Greatest Generation."

Julia and I want to wish you a happy, joyous Christmas season. We wish your loved ones a heartfelt safe and enjoyable holiday season as you demonstrate "Elks Care—Elks Share" and show "Elksdom's Heart For America."

God bless our great Order, our troops,
and God bless America!



Christmas is not a time nor a season,
but a state of mind. To cherish peace and
goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to
have the real spirit of Christmas.

~ Calvin Coolidge

Leading Knight Mike Brandriff
Continued from Page 4

for a gift basket or another gift idea, feel free to put it together and reach out to Ginger Larkins to donate it to the event. The other event scheduled is the Holiday Boutique, which is scheduled on Saturday, December 14th. There will be an abundance of special gifts available for your shopping desire. Lastly, don't forget about our New Year's Eve Party on December 31! Our Trustees have planned a Hawaiian theme party for us, complete with Hawaiian food and a Polynesian Dance group.

Did you know that Canyon Country had its own airstrip? It all started when Remi Nadeau, the grandson of the infamous Remi Nadeau, who was the mule-team freighter during the late 1800s, bought land in Canyon Country. Remi, the grandson, befriended his neighbor, pioneer resident John W. Mitchell, of Soledad Canyon. The two men partnered in a cattle-ranching business, and together their adjoining ranches became the venue for annual roundups. These roundups were widely attended in the valley along with Remi Nadeau's Deer Farm, which was established in 1927. After Remi Nadeau died in 1941, Helm and Earle Schmidt purchased Nadeau's 1,800 acre plot of land and opened the 6-S Ranch Airpark in 1946.



This airstrip site was located on the northwest side of the intersection of Whites Canyon and Soledad Canyon Road. The aerial photo depicts the 2,600 foot asphalt airstrip. After Helm Schmidt died in 1960, his heirs sold the acreage to developers who eventually used the site to build the tract of homes called the North Oaks. The construction of the homes began in 1961 in this area, which was originally known as Saugus. However, by 1963, this area became known as Canyon Country. This name became official in 1968 when the US Postal Service opened up the first Canyon Country Post Office.

May you all have a safe, Joyous Christmas, and Holiday Season!

Remember Charity is the highest virtue
of every Elk creed ...



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Our Absent Members

"We carve their worth on the rock of the earth,
and write their faults in the sand"



Harry Pennington • June 1945 - January 2024 • Past Exalted Ruler
• Life Member • a.k.a. Santa Claus

Kenneth Song • May 1935 - February 2024 • Past Exalted Ruler

Jerry Oldfield • April 1927 - February 2024 • Life Member

Mats Fahlstrom • March 1947 - March 2024

Ben Taylor • April 1951 - March 2024

Charles Webster • January 1947 - April 2024

James Hogan • September 1947 - May 2024

Kenneth Miller • July 1931 - July 2024

Grace Elliott • November 1951 - October 2024

Durward "Woody" Schrick • June 1942 - November 2024

Robert West • August 1941 - November 2024

Sickness and Distress

If you become aware of someone suffering from
an illness, hospitalization, please inform the Lodge



Durward "Woody" Schrick, passed away in November,
please keep his wife in you thoughts and prayers.

Norman Malin in Hospice.

Tom Newbon in Hospice

Past Association Vice President, John Coyle, Burbank
Lodge, is in Hospice

Past District Deputy, Frank Farquharson's, wife Mary Ann,
passed away.

Please keep these, and all Elks, in your thoughts and
prayers.

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Christmas is the spirit of giving without a thought of getting. It is happiness
because we see joy in people. It is forgetting self and finding time for others.
It is discarding the meaningless and stressing the true values.

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December 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 1 12:00 Noon Elk Memorial Service 9 AM Breakfast 10:30 AM PER Mtg No Bingo	 2 Monday Night Football 5:30 pm Food Served Browns @ Broncos Emblem Bus Mtg	 3 5:30 Taco Tuesday Cigar Night	 4 Lodge Balloting Mtg	 5 6 pm Darts Cigar Night	 6 benefiting the Friday Night Dinner Team: Rivetti Crew	 7 Lodge Clean-up Red Shirt Saturday Lodge Christmas Party with the Sweetwater Gentlemen New KK Officers Installed
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 8 Children's Christmas Party 9 AM Breakfast No Bingo	 9 Monday Night Football 5:30 pm Food Served Bengals @ Cowboys	 10 Red Cross Blood Drive Taco Tuesday Cigar Night	 11 Governing Body Mtg 6 pm - Trustee Mtg	 12 6 pm Shuffleboard Cigar Night	 13 Roses for the Living Luncheon - Burbank Friday Night Dinner Team: Larry Greg Gang	 14 Holiday Boutique DO: Mazzetti
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 15 9 AM Breakfast No Bingo	 16 Monday Night Football 5:30 pm Food Served Bears @ Vikings Falcons @ Raiders Emblem Social Mtg	 17 5:30 Taco Tuesday Cigar Night	 18 Lodge Initiation Mtg	 19 6 pm Appreciation Dinner Officers Serve Darts Cigar Night	 20 Family Christmas Cookie Decorating? Karaoke Friday Night Dinner Team: Edwards Crew	 21 We've got "GREAT" Hot Dogs! DO: Edwards
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 22 9 AM Breakfast No Bingo Knights Mtg No Meeting in Dec.	 23 Monday Night Football 5:30 pm Food Served Saints @ Packers	 24 Christmas Eve Lodge Closed	 25 Merry Christmas Lodge Closed	 26 BOWL SEASON Shuffleboard Cigar Night	 27 The kitchen is closed until January 5th Karaoke and Country Dancin'	 28 Saturday Hot Dog & Beer Specials DO: Anderson
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	 Sunday • December 1st 1:00 pm Elk Memorial Service Where we honor the memory of our departed Members. Please be sure to join us.			
 29 Sunday Football No Breakfast No Bingo	 30 Monday Night Football 5:30 pm Food Served Lions @ 49ers	 31 Happy New Year				

In the Lodge,
Friday,
December 27th ...

In the Hall ...
Country Dancin'

In the lounge ...

Karaoke



January 2025

 THE ELKS SPORTRINKS WILL BE OPEN TO ONLY THOSE WITH EXCLUSIVE MEMBERSHIP ... ARE YOU AN ELK?		 1 Lodge Closed. Happy New Year!	 2 Bingo Schuffleboard Cigar Night	 3 Friday Night Dinner Team: Kamper Klub	 4 9 am Lodge Clean-up Red Shirt Saturday DO: Fisher	
SUNDAY  5 Mike Brandriff's 1st Calendar Mtg. Start after the KK Mtg 10:30 PER Mtg Noon - KK Mtg 12:30 - Bingo	 6 Emblem Club 6:30 Business Mtg.	 7 5:30 pm Taco Tuesday Cigar Night	 8 Governing Body Mtg	 9 Bingo Darts Cigar Night	 10 COUNTRY DANCER WITH DAVE & HANA Friday Night Dinner Team: Edwards Crew	 11 1:00 pm Veterans Mtg DO: Edwards
 12 9 AM Breakfast 12:30 Bingo	 13 We've got GREAT Hot Dogs!	 14 5:30 pm Taco Tuesday Cigar Night	 15 Governing Body Mtg 6 pm - Trustee Mtg	 16 Bingo Schuffleboard Cigar Night	 17 Karaoke 7:00 pm with Sonny Friday Night Dinner Team: Anderson Crew	 18 Lancaster Lodge DO: Anderson
 19 9 AM Breakfast 12:30 Bingo	 20 RITUAL Practice 2025 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP JANUARY 2025 ATLANTA Emblem Club 6:30 Social Mtg.	 21 5:30 Taco Tuesday Cigar Night	 22 Lodge Initiation Mtg	 23 Bingo Darts Cigar Night	 24 COUNTRY DANCING with Dave & Dana Friday Night Dinner Team: Piedra Crew	All you can eat Ribs - Lodge Fundraiser Rivetti - Ritual Word Certification Clinic 9:am - 10:30am DO: Piedra
 26 9 AM Breakfast 12:30 Bingo Knights Mtg Canoga Park	 27 RITUAL Practice We've got GREAT Hot Dogs!	 28 5:30 Taco Tuesday Cigar Night	 29 Governing Body Mtg	 30 Bingo Schuffleboard Cigar Night	 31 Friday Night Dinner Team: Shepard Crew	 Support



New Orleans - February 9th, 2025
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Norman Vincent Peale



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