

Nugget

SANTA CLARITA ELKS

March 2006 • Vol. 26 Issue 3

Our refurbished Barbeque Trailer
Details Page 9

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

Lodge Office: (661) 251-1500 • Lounge: (661) 251-1520

Lodge Email: office@scelks2379.org • Fax: (661) 367-6012

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
--------------	--------------	---------------------

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	1998/99 Floyd "Skip" Henke, PAP, DL
Friday 12:00 pm - 11:00 pm		1968/69 Richard Snow	1999/00 Harry Pennington
Saturday 12:00 pm - 10:00 pm		1969/70 Jack Belding	2000/01 Larry Lousberg, PDDGER
Sunday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm		1970/71 Robert Horstman	2000/01 Ray Broussard, PDDGER
		1971/72 Eugene Kronnick	2001/02 Kelvin Swanson, PDDGER
		1972/73 William Armstrong	2002/03 David Anette, II
		1973/74 Robert Horstman	2003/04 Frank Webster
		1974/75 Robert Wells	2004/05 Ken Song
		1975/76 Donald Jennings	2005/06 Don Dewhurst
		1976/77 Eugene Little	2006/07 James Johnson
		1977/78 Hugh Gregory	2006/07 Sam Moore
		1978/79 Sherman Lowe, PSVP	2007/08 Gail Dewhurst
		1979/80 James Dunn	2008/09 Rick Dalton
		1980/81 Bud Riffer	2009/10 George Aguilar Jr.
		1981/82 Robert Wells	2010/11 Cheryl Laymon
		1982/83 Gayland Dillenbeck	2011/12 Tom Schmidt
		1983/84 Art Rousseau, PDDGER	2012/13 Julie Whitman
		1984/85 Mike Feraud	2013/14 Richard Casaubon
		1985/86 Mel Ponton	2013/14 Billie Jo Olson, PAVP
		1986/87 Bill Lomont	2014/15 Ted Olsen, CHEA Editor
		1987/88 Grant Barnard	2015/16 John Rivetti, PDDGER
		1988/89 Frank Lorelli	2015/16 Billie Jo Olson, PAVP
		1989/90 Jim Howton	2016/17 Tina Jackson
		1990/91 Paul Tyree	2017/18 Maurice Hamilton
		1990/91 George Aguilar Sr.	2018/19 Roger Lowe
		1991/93 F.E. (Gil) Gilchrist	2019/20 Gary Keener
		1992/93 George Aguilar Sr.	2020/21 Rick Veiga
		1993/94 Ronald Douglass	2021/22 Steve Graham
		1994/95 Charles Halterman	2022/23 Mike Fisher
		1995/96 James Haggerty	2023/24 Glenn Daniel
		1996 Jim Delaney	2024/25 Wayne Edwards
		1996/97 Jay Larkins, PAP	2025/26 Mike Brandriff
		1997/98 Jay Larkins, PAP	
		1997/98 Jeffery L. Brown, PAVP	

MONTHLY LODGE MEETINGS	LODGE OFFICERS
------------------------	----------------

Lodge Meeting	March 4 and 18 • 7:00 pm	Exalted Ruler	James McKenna Stacy
Governing Body	March 11 • 7:00 pm	Leading Knight	Danise Davis
Trustee Meeting	March 11 • 6:00 pm	Loyal Knight	Scott Bickle Clarita
Knights Meeting	March 22 • Santa Clarita • 10:30 am	Lecturing Knight	Larry Finley Dolores
P.E.R. Meeting	March 1 • 10:30 am	Secretary	Ray Broussard Karen
Roving Elks Kamper Klub	March 1 • noon	Treasurer	Judy Delaney Dan
The Emblem Club	March 2 and 16 • 6:30 pm	Esquire	Jeannette Fisher Mike
		Tiler	Kelvin Swanson, PDDGER Simone
		Inner Guard	Greg McCormick
		Chaplain	Robert Forsberg Jill
		Organist	Charlie Handy Missy
		Alternate Delegate	Mike Brandriff, PER Cara
		Presiding Justice	Skip Henke PAP, DL Karen
		Lodge Advisor	Skip Henke PAP, DL Karen
		Lodge Mediator	Jay Larkins, PAP Ginger

LODGE OFFICERS	TRUSTEES
----------------	----------

Exalted Ruler	James McKenna Stacy	First Year	Charlie Handy Missy
Leading Knight	Danise Davis	Second Year	Mike Fisher Jeannette
Loyal Knight	Scott Bickle Clarita	Third Year	Ed Alvarez Kendall
Lecturing Knight	Larry Finley Dolores	Fourth Year	Rick Veiga Lori
Secretary	Ray Broussard Karen	Fifth Year	Robert Potter Kimberly
Treasurer	Judy Delaney Dan		
Esquire	Jeannette Fisher Mike		
Tiler	Kelvin Swanson, PDDGER Simone		
Inner Guard	Greg McCormick		
Chaplain	Robert Forsberg Jill		
Organist	Charlie Handy Missy		
Alternate Delegate	Mike Brandriff, PER Cara		
Presiding Justice	Skip Henke PAP, DL Karen		
Lodge Advisor	Skip Henke PAP, DL Karen		
Lodge Mediator	Jay Larkins, PAP Ginger		

TRUSTEES	HONORED ELKS
----------	--------------

First Year	Charlie Handy Missy	Elk of the Year	Donna Schmidt
Second Year	Mike Fisher Jeannette	Officer of the Year	Scott Bickle
Third Year	Ed Alvarez Kendall	Tall Elks of the Year	Larry Gregg • Larry Finley
Fourth Year	Rick Veiga Lori	Volunteers of the Year	Linda Edwards
Fifth Year	Robert Potter Kimberly	Citizen of the Year	Danise Davis

HONORED ELKS

Elk of the Year	Donna Schmidt
Officer of the Year	Scott Bickle
Tall Elks of the Year	Larry Gregg • Larry Finley
Volunteers of the Year	Linda Edwards
Citizen of the Year	Danise Davis



ELKS CARE-ELKS SHARE

Elks National Foundation
 How ENF is helping California-Hawaii?

During the 2024-25 Lodge year, the Elks of California-Hawaii donated \$1,159,276.27 to the Elks National Foundation. This year, the Foundation will give back the following:

State Charities Grant:	\$870,030.00
Special Projects Grant:	\$641,340.00
Bonus Grant:	\$173,300.00
Most Valuable Student:	\$304,000.00
Legacy Award:	\$96,000.00
National Veterans Service Commission:	\$55,140.00
Grand Total:	\$2,139,810.00

That's a ratio of 1.864 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 2024-25 fiscal year, ENF awarded a total of \$1,159,276 to 137 CHEA Lodges.

Our Lodge contributions this year to date are:	\$13,763.05
Our Lodge - 2025-2026 per capita donation year to date:	\$16.642
Our Lodge Goal per capita for 2025-2026 is:	\$20.00
Our Lodge - 2024-2025 per capita donation was:	\$16.94

GER Goal is \$5.00 per member. Our Lodge must contribute \$4.105 to be Grant eligible. Our "Per Capita" is based on 827 Lodge members for 2025-2026.

Nugget Submission Standards & Copy Deadlines

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: Jay Larkins, Mike Brandriff,

A Message to the Members from Exalted Ruler James McKenna



Hello, Santa Clarita Elks Family,

As I prepare to step into the role of Exalted Ruler, I want to start by saying thank you. Your support, encouragement, and confidence mean more to me than I can express. This Lodge is special — not because of the building, but because of the people who fill it with kindness, humor, generosity, and heart.

My motto this year is **"Charity, Elks Legacy"**. Charity is what kept me coming back to the Lodge. And I want to keep up the incredible work we do in this community. We have a very charitable group of members and they are lead by the volunteers that give their time to make this an Elks Lodge we can all be proud of in the future. Let us strive to do better each year.

I'm excited for the year ahead, and I'm looking forward to working side by side with all of you. Our Lodge has a strong foundation built by dedicated members and Past Exalted Rulers who have given so much of themselves. My goal is to honor that work while continuing to move us forward in ways that strengthen our community and deepen our connections with one another.

Here's what I hope to focus on this year:

We're at our best when our members are involved. Whether you volunteer, attend events, help in the kitchen, or simply stop by for a friendly conversation, your presence matters. I want to create more opportunities for everyone to participate in ways that feel meaningful and fun.

Our commitment to veterans remains at the heart of who we are. This year, we'll continue to grow our outreach and make sure those who served know they have a home here at Lodge 2379.

The friendships we form here are something truly special. I want our Lodge to continue being a place where people feel welcome, appreciated, and connected — a place where laughter is shared, help is offered freely, and everyone feels like part of the family.

Our rituals and values guide everything we do. I'm committed to preserving the traditions that make Elkdom meaningful while embracing new ideas that help us grow.

I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve, and I'm excited for what we'll accomplish together. This Lodge thrives because of you — your time, your energy, your generosity, and your heart. Let's make this a year filled with purpose, fellowship, and plenty of good memories.

Thank you again for your trust. I'm proud to be your Exalted Ruler, and I look forward to sharing this journey with all of you.

Fraternally, Your Incoming Exalted Ruler
James McKenna



COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Accident Prevention	Ed Alvarez
Americanism	Linda Edwards, Donna Schmidt
Auditing & Accounting	Steve Graham, PER
Backyard / RV Rental Area	Ed Alvarez
Backyard Camp Hosts	Dave & Marilyn Shearman
Barbeque Team	Frank Webster, PER
Bequest and Living Trust	Jim Lentini
Bingo Committee	Dave Shearman, Larry Finley
Building Maintenance	Michael Angulo
Car Show & Chili Cook Off	Shelly Tomson, Jay Larkins, PAP
Charity Request Review	Jim McKenna
Children's Christmas Party	Chris Villavicencio
Contract Manager	Debbie Hager
Drug Awareness	Steve Graham
Elks National Foundation	Michael Fisher, PER
Purple Pig Silent Auction	Ginger Larkins
Flag Day	
Get Well / Visitations	Wayne Edwards, PER
Government Relations	Danise Davis
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	Missy Handy
Lodge Activities	Debbie Hager
Lodge Fundraising Chair	Stacy McKenna
Lodge Office Manager	Ray Broussard, PDDGER
Lodge Treasure Chest	Missy Handy, Ed Alvarez
Lounge Manager	Ginger Larkins
Lounge Entertainment	Wayne Edwards, PER
Major Project Purple Pig	Debbie Hager
Membership / Membership Retention	Debbie Hager
Memorial Day - Eternal Valley	Frank Webster, PER
Monday Night Football	Judy Reeher
New Member Interviews/Orientation	Glenn Daniel, PER
PER Association	Wayne Edwards, PER
Public Relations and Marketing	Wayne Edwards, PER
Ritual Training	Jay Larkins, PAP, John Rivetti, DDGER, Kelvin Swanson, PDDGER, Roger Lowe, PER, Wayne Edwards, PER
Scholarship	Ray Broussard, PDDGER
Social Media	Ilia Piedra
Super Bowl	Judy Reeher, Cindy Bost
Veterans	Jeannette Fisher
Webmaster	Michael Angulo
Welcome Wagon Orientation	Michelle Hundt
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:	\$45,187.00
A 2025/2026 per capita donation year to date is:	\$51.819
Our Lodge Donation Totals to Date in 2023/2024:	\$50,200.66
2024/2025 total per capita donation for the year was:	\$61.145

(Per capita is based on 827 Lodge members for 2025-2026)

**California-Hawaii Elks Association Total Donations
Received in 2024/2025, were \$5,000,805.16**

Elks - Helping Children Since 1868

A Message from the Leading Knight Danise Davis



Well, it's the beginning of the Elks's new year! Funny that it starts on April 1, I wonder if that's tied to our Jolly Corks roots, lol? I'd better save more on that on for another day.

Your new membership cards will now work to open the door, on or after April 1.

I was looking through the recent Nugget (our newsletter) and found a couple of things a new member might find confusing.

The calendar now shows Ritual Practice on Mondays ... what is that? When you joined our Lodge, the officers performed the Ritual of Initiation where each officer in turn explains the meanings which are represented by their station. I encourage ALL members to attend our Initiation meetings, especially newer members, because there is a lot of valuable information shared in this presentation! Our Initiation meetings are typically on the third Wednesday of a month. The Initiation Ritual is a memorized performance ... each word, phrase, step and head-turn is (hopefully) memorized. Even when there is an officer substitution sitting in, they strive to get it right. If the verbiage seems quaint, these scripts have been handed down almost from the beginning, over a hundred years.

Remember, Elks started as the Jolly Corks in New York in 1868, a group of actors and others in that industry.

This Ritual performance also becomes a competition with officer teams competing at the District, State, and Grand Lodge (National) levels. So when you see it on the calendar, know that it's a closed-door practice session as we strive to make it impressive and informational for you. Watch for our "Friends and Family" night when we perform a demonstration for you.

Another question I hear is about serving teams. On Friday night dinners, and Sunday Breakfasts, the various serving teams take turns working those two meals. The duties include wrapping the silverware, setting the tables, taking meal orders and delivering the meals, helping Kay and anyone else working in the kitchen and various other chores according to the meals served. Also clean-up. Helping on a serve team is fun, busy and a great way to meet other members. It's how I & many others got started. Missy Handy is the kitchen manager so you can ask her about volunteering, one time or more. Or ask a serve team leader before the kitchen opens.

Continued on Page 9

A Message from your Loyal Knight Scott Bickle



Hello fellow Elks,

This will be my first article for my new position as your Loyal Knight. I am excited to be back in the chairs and look forward to this year. I have been studying my lines and getting prepared for the upcoming Ritual competition.

We have a great team and know we will all do our best to represent the Santa Clarita Lodge. On April 27th we will have Ritual practice in front of our family and friends. This gives us an opportunity to practice in front of an audience. Please come support us!

I look forward to representing our Lodge as your Loyal Knight this year and look forward to visiting other Lodges and meeting new people. I had the unique experience working for DD John Rivetti as his Auditor this year, and with Wayne Edwards as his Esquire. I really enjoyed going to all of the Lodges in our District and meeting some great people. It keeps reinforcing my belief that the Elks are one of the greatest organizations in this country and I am proud to be a member. Thank you John for allowing me to be your auditor and learn so much! It was a pleasure to work with you and Wayne. I will never forget the laughs and great time we had.

I know most of you have heard about my wife's diagnosis of Parkinson's Disease. She is the love of my life and this was sure a punch in the gut and not what we wanted to hear. I want to thank all of you for the prayers and kind words of encouragement. She is a strong woman with a great attitude about it and is on a mission to do everything possible to delay the progress of the Parkinson's. She has started her medication and we pray that it will take away her tremors and stiffness. She is walking 3-5 miles a day and working out like an athlete! We are both believers and know God has a plan so we will leave it in his hands. We are not going to allow it to change anything we are doing now and will live life to its fullest! Our plan is to focus on the positives and deal with the negatives if they come. Thank you all for your love and support!!

Sweetie, we got this! I love you.

With Love and Gratitude,



California-Hawaii Elks Association Major Project



All it takes is ...

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



A Message from the Lecturing Knight Larry Finley



Hello Fellow Elks,

I am your new Esteemed Lecturing Knight. I am originally from Owensboro, Kentucky. I am married to the former Dolores Ruiz, of San Fernando, for 26 years. We have two children (Jasmine Ybarra and Jonathan Ybarra) and five grandchildren. We have lived in Santa Clarita for ten years. I retired from the United States Army after 25 years of service in 2011. I have served in four Combat tours: Operation Desert Storm, two tours in Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Enduring Freedom. My wife and I share the same title as the late Colonel Harland Sanders, by being Commissioned into the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels by the Governor of Kentucky.

My first taste of Elksdom was when my wife was in search of Bingo, and we came across the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks in 2017. Noticing that the Bingo hall was short-handed in volunteers, I decided to help out by learning to sell pull tabs from PER Tina Jackson. As time progressed, I was sponsored by Tina in 2018 and was Initiated into the Order during PER Roger Lowe's tenure. What a ride it has been, in 2020 I was offered the Bingo Co-Manager position by David Shearman. Since then I have been volunteering across multiple committees and somehow was noticed ... I stood too close to the bar and was asked if I would be the next Inner Guard. Funny that silence was taken as acceptance, due to me not saying anything. As Jamie was filling in his positions for his next role as Exalted Ruler. I learned the role as Inner Guard until I received a phone call from PER Wayne Edwards, with PAP Jay Larkins blessing, asking if I would be interested in becoming the Esteemed Lecturing Knight. I gladly jumped at the chance. It is a great feeling to be selected out of 800 plus other members to become an officer of an exceptional BPOE Lodge 2379.

I can only hope that everyone finds comfort in their new chapter of life. Let it be a big part of Elksdom. Add to your resumes and volunteer your time at your favorite committee or event. There are so many events throughout the year to stay an "Active Elk."

I look forward to new friendships and fellowship.
Ever practice Brotherly Love.



No man has a good enough memory to be a
successful liar.

~ Abraham Lincoln

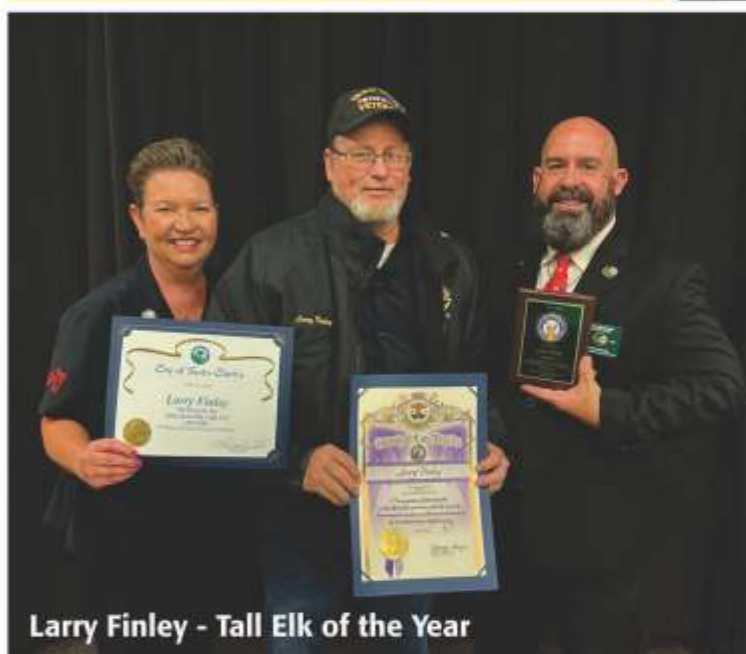


APRIL Birthdays

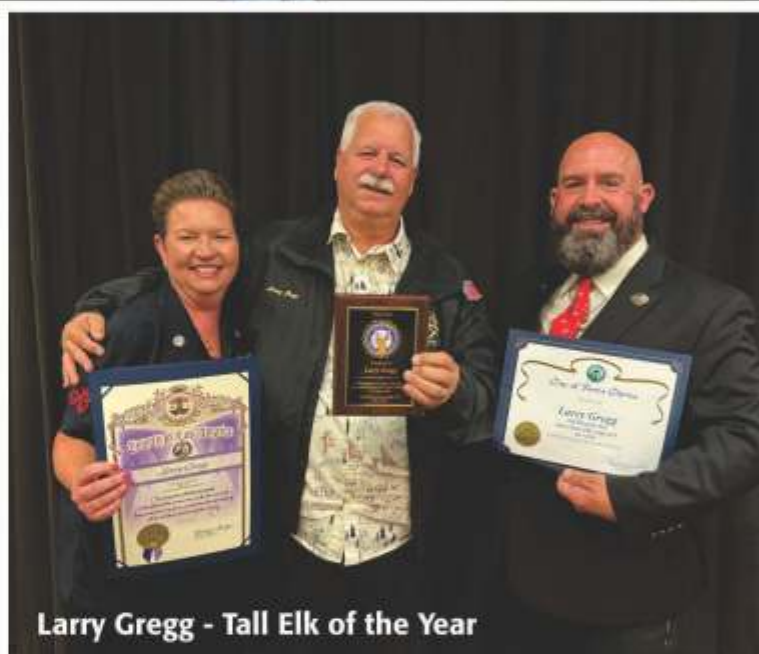
- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Bruce Amer
John DiLuigi
Ron Kidd
Michael Maher | 15 Janella Wigdor |
| 2 Thomas Cadman | 17 Robert Hahnlein
Heide Prinsze
Don Wolf |
| 3 James Mansdorfer | 19 Ronnie DeCesare
Michael Drummand |
| 4 Randy Blackstock
Hugh Crooks
Yvonne Davis
Christine Kline
Tom Overstreet
Nicholas Pavelka
Pat Warford | 20 Antonio Cunado
Ervin Rhodes
Miguel Romero |
| 5 Cynthia Bost
Michael Sanchez | 21 Yvonne Ackles
Jennifer DeHaven
Elizabeth Johnson
Salvatore Ruocco
Kory Strickland |
| 6 Catherine Gurwell
Missy Handy
James Tubbs | 22 Cara Brandriff
Donald Clark
Janet Pearson
Jorge Romo |
| 7 David Boardman
Mark Meyer
Ruben Valenzuela | 23 Gregory Lasalle
Ruben Ramirez
Kent Weaver |
| 8 Michael Chandler
Carol Rosenbaum | 24 Michael Garcia
David Volpe |
| 9 Murel Crum
Jill Forsberg
Richard Hutchings
Dan Ormiston | 25 Alys Aguirre
Mark Booth
Michael Emerson
Michael Kemper
Donna Vicente |
| 10 Gerald Dougherty
Pam Hogan
Greg Nutter
Judy Reeher | 26 Elizabeth Arnold |
| 11 Lynn Wagstrom | 27 Ray Carver
Max Felser |
| 12 Lana Aiachi
Vincent Morales
Tarlana Owens
Hector Vicente | 28 Ed Alvarez
Shelli Hughes
Robert Schlesinger |
| 13 Jeri Clark
Mary Patton
Richard Winger | 29 Susan Buchta
Paul Reinhardt
Matt Stanchfield
Todd Towne |
| 14 Zoran Basich
Mark Economou
Charlie Handy | 30 Michael Brandriff
Gary Daugherty
Dale McLean
Annmarie Moreno |



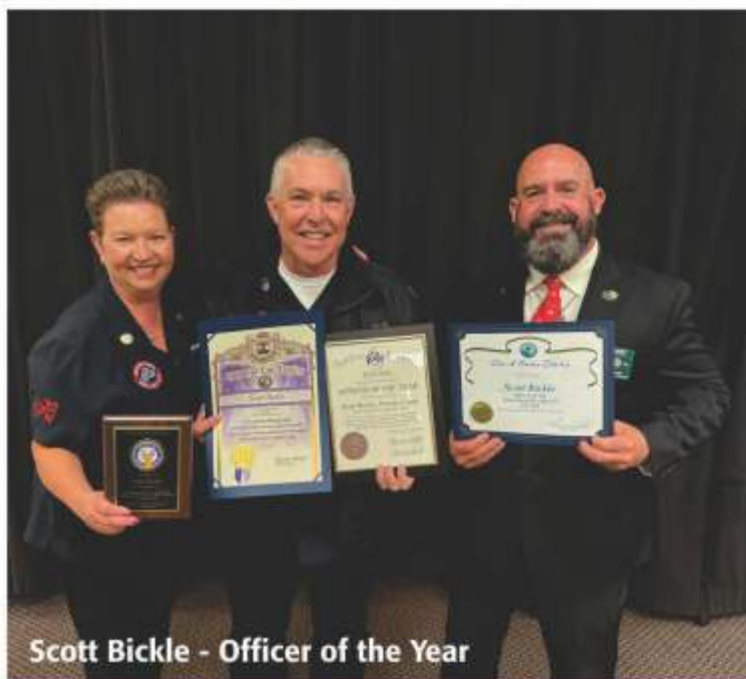
Donna Schmidt - Elk of the Year



Larry Finley - Tall Elk of the Year



Larry Gregg - Tall Elk of the Year



Scott Bickle - Officer of the Year





Jeannette Fisher - Grand Exalted Ruler Award



Danise Davis - Citizen of the Year



Briana Bonfiglio - First Place Girl Scholar



Five Year Anniversary Pins



Community Award Winners



Ten Year Anniversary Pins



Fifteen Year Anniversary Pins



Twenty Year Anniversary Pins



Bingo Volunteer Appreciation



Twenty Five Year Anniversary Pins



Thirty Five Year Anniversary Pins

Refurbished Barbeque Trailer

Hi Everyone,

Our Santa Clarita Elks Lodge has developed a history over the past several years of putting on some award winning barbecues. Our essential tool for getting this done was our little Santa Maria style barbecue trailer. After years of grilling thousands of pounds of assorted meat, our poor trailer recently told us it had grilled enough and wanted to retire. We obviously tried to negotiate with our trailer's decision, but it kicked back on us and the bottom fell out. Our trailer won that fight.

However, the BBQ Team got together and tried to negotiate with the trailer one last time. At the end of our discussion, our trailer agreed to go back to work as long as it had some longtime necessary repairs made.

If you haven't seen it yet, our barbecue trailer has been completely restored, and it looks amazing! After several thousand dollars of repair work, the barbecue trailer looks like new. Not only did our barbecue get repaired, but the entire project was completed with donations! Our dear member, Pat Corrigan, coordinated the restoration, and he worked his tail off along with his brother, Mike, and friend Johnny. Another longtime member of our Lodge, Jeff Preacher, donated the use of his shop and assisted with the rebuild as well. The floor of the trailer had completely disintegrated so a new floor was installed. This involved new steel and welding. Pat's brother, Mike, graciously donated all the firebrick which lined the bottom of the trailer. The barbecue grills were repaired and new steel cables were installed. The trailer was completely rewired, and new rims and a spare tire were also donated. A couple of accessories were welded onto the body of the trailer, and lastly it received a complete new paint job.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to Pat Corrigan and his team for their many hours of hard work and donations to this project. This is a direct reflection of their character, their pride, dedication to our Lodge, and of Elksdom. They have given our old trailer a new lease on life which will give us many years of grilling culinary delight for future Lodge and charity events. Thank you for targeting Elksdom.

Sincerely,
Mike Brandriff, Past Exalted Ruler

Leading Knight Danise Davis
Continued from Page 4

Our Lodge's Taco Tuesdays are prepared and served by that committee ... Or just come to eat and mingle!

So much was accomplished last year when Mike Brandriff was at the helm as Exalted Ruler.

I am looking forward to the coming year when you and I support James McKenna as he leads us through a year of Charity, accomplishments, and fun. I hope to see you at my side, whether it's on the dance floor, or holding a shovel, or in the Lodge kitchen, or in any of our activities.

Charity is the greatest of all the Virtues,



Building Maintenance Corner

This is the first of what we hope becomes a regular article in the Nugget. We have a small committee of volunteers on the Building Maintenance Committee that have been helping with some electrical, surveillance camera placement, doors, and anything else that needs to be addressed. We are always looking for anyone that is handy and available to help when the Social Quarters are closed. Typically, early morning seems to work best. Also looking for help bringing building concerns that need to be addressed. There is a clipboard in the Mens room next to the front office in the upper part of the cabinet where we store toilet paper and paper towels that you can write your concerns. You can also send an email to office@scelks2379.org with Subject Maintenance to notify us of any concerns with the property.

Michael Angulo
Building Maintenance

Elks Partner with SCV Education Foundation to Support "Page Turners" Program

Using an ENF Spotlight Grant, the Lodge partnered with the SCV Education Foundation to support the "Page Turners" program—an initiative that provides two free reading books to junior-high students at three Title I schools in the Santa Clarita Valley. A \$2,000 ENF grant, along with \$1,000 from our Lodge's charity fund, helped purchase the books distributed at the school-run book fairs.

Approximately 115 students at each school were selected to choose two books to keep and take home, helping foster a love of reading and allowing many students to build their own personal libraries. After selecting their books, each student also received an Elks Drug Awareness bookmark.

PER Mike Brandriff, First Lady Cara, Donna Schmidt, and Linda Edwards volunteered at the book fairs, working alongside the schools' librarians. All of us enjoyed seeing the students' excitement as they carefully picked out their books—many proudly calling them their very own.

This project is another strong example of how donations to the Elks National Foundation directly support grants that empower Lodges to make a meaningful impact in their communities.

Emblem Club 459

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

SPREAD KINDNESS

(President's theme for 2026-2027)



Literacy: READ ACROSS AMERICA! Emblem volunteered to read to the students at our adopted McGrath Elementary School. Linda Edwards, Cathy Kopp, Lee Urquhart and our "Honorary" Emblem member Wayne Edwards enjoyed reading to the well behaved and attentive students. It gives us great pleasure to see their little faces light up while being read to. They are just like little sponges.

NCADD: (National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency) I'm beginning to think I go there for the hugs and warm greetings. They so appreciate their treats and cards, aaaand Folger's Coffee. Thank you to all who continue to contribute.

EMBLEM INSTALLATION!!

I just get giddy when I look around the room at the sea of faces: Emblem Club members who travel long distances from their parent clubs, supportive Elks members, SCV 459 Emblem members, and our gentlemen chaperones, James McKenna, and Mike Brandriff. And of course, there's our ever-smiling Jay Larkins. Our "event coordinator", Stacy McKenna and her helpers set a lovely buffet of sandwiches, chips, potato salad and beautifully decorated cookies that should be in a picture frame ... too pretty to eat. (I don't know how she does it!)

Annitta Macheda and her acting Marshal, Jackie Orovecz did an outstanding job as installing officers. Their wit and humor and the fact that they don't mind laughing at themselves when mistakes are made, filled the room with laughter. Even our seasoned President, Simone, chided herself with a quip that eluded to the fact that she brushed her eye teeth and couldn't see what she was saying. Not her exact words ... I just took poetic license.

Introducing Emblem Club 459 Slate of Officers 2026-2027

President • Simone Swanson
Vice President • Diane McKenna
Financial Secretary • Patti Chisler
Treasurer • Stella Paladini
Recording Secretary • Linda Edwards
Corresponding Secretary • Sherri Loughran
Press Correspondent • Lee Urquhart
Historian • Diane McKenna
First Trustee • Kathie Harris
Second Trustee • Shirley Franzen
Third Trustee • Heidi Barr
Marshal • Stacy McKenna
First Assistant Marshal • Cynthia Brehm
Second Assistant Marshal • Cathy Kopp
Chaplain • Dwanna Lousberg
First Guard • Lee Urquhart
Second Guard • Doris Baby

Thank you April Barr and Shirley Franzen for standing in as proxies for absent officers.

SAVE THE DATE:

April 6th: General Meeting
April 7: Lunch with Dorothy Karnes at Lazy Dog (in the Mall) at 11:30 Please Call/Text: Lee 661-714-5728
April 18th: Bunco TBA
April 20th: Board Meeting and Social
Did you Do the Dues??? \$41.04

KINDNESS

*is the Language which the Deaf Can Hear
and the Blind Can See*

~ Mark Twain



President Simone Swanson
and Installing Officer Anita Macheda



Roving Elks Kamper Klub



Orange Grove - Bakersfield
Rick & Lorrie Veiga • Wagon Masters
Co-Wagon Masters • Nancy & Frank Webster

The month of March found the Roving Elks Kamper Klub at the glorious Piru Petroleum Club. After a grueling 40-minute trip, sixteen rigs convened to enjoy each other's company in unseasonably warm weather. Some members just drove up and back each day to visit. With a couple of portable air conditioning units, lots of fans, and a few cold beverages the lodge room was comfortable for entire weekend. Lots of games and puzzles were enjoyed daily. Some ventured into Fillmore visiting the Red Engine Brewery, the fish hatchery, and just taking in the sites. Others opted to remain in camp and just relax and nap between meals.

The Wagon Masters for this event were Rick & Lorrie Veiga with Frank & Nancy Webster crafting a relaxing time with more food than a cruise ship serves. Elks know how to stay nourished.

Friday night we had a great potluck dinner, Saturday morning a full breakfast was available and that night we had a chicken taco fiesta with all the fixings.



California-Hawaii Elks Association Major Project



All it takes is ...



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



Hair Together

"A Family Salon"

Dwain Hofbauer

(661) 251-7150
17745 Sierra Highway
Canyon Country, CA 91351



Danise Davis

Agent | DRE: 00983481

M: 661-645-1310

Danise.Davis@Compass.com

23914 Summerhill Lane
Valencia, CA 91354

Licensed Realtor® since 1988

COMPASS

Renew Your Love of Singing



Visit Harmony Hills Chorus

SCV Barbershop Harmony Society
and embrace the mind-body benefits
of singing again-(or for the first time)!

*Open to all, 18 and above.
No previous singing experience required.*

Rehearsals Tuesdays • 7 to 9 pm
26370 Diamond Place • Suite 503 • Santa Clarita
Call: 661.259.6109 or 805.405.5127 or visit
harmonyhillchorus.org for more information



Santa Clarita Heating and Air Conditioning Services, Co

California Contractor Lic. #550508

30 Day Warranty on Service
Duct Cleaning • Refrigeration
Plumbing • Electrical
visit us at
www.santaclaritaair.com

Low Prices • Quality Work • Reliable Staff

661.251.8000

17675 Sierra Hwy
Santa Clarita, CA 91351

FEDERAL ESCROW, INC.

Tarlina Owens

Certified Escrow Officer
SCVEA Past President 2005, 2007, 2015, 2021, 2023



25152 Springfield Court, Suite 280
Valencia, CA 91355
Tel (661) 222-3132
Fax (661) 254-3492

tarlina@federalescrowinc.com

visit us at www.federalescrowinc.com

Full Concierge Listing Service

(Clean-outs, Remodeling & Home Staging)

Senior Relocation Specialist

(Mover Manager, De-clutter, Age in Place)

Helping you Build, Protect & Transfer Generational Wealth



HILDA VOSKANIAN, MBA
REALTOR®, SRES® DRE#01921576

818.402.9923

hildavoskan@gmail.com

exp
REALTY



SENIOR REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST®



Lorena D's Mexican Restaurant

661.251.0557



VIEW MENU

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

18902 Soledad Canyon • Canyon Country, CA 91351



26401 Riverrock Way
Santa Clarita

Duane R. Harte Park
at River Village

City of
SANTA CLARITA

... a place for family fun!

OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



Michelle Birchfield



Coe Budge



Thomas Cadman



Stephen Cambra



Jeff Coneys



John DiLuigi



Cecil Goodnight



Debby Jones

Current Membership Information

Number of Members on April 1, 2024 827

Increases

New Initiated Members	80
New Affiliated Members (Transferred In)	2
Reinstated Members	0
Subtotal	82

Decreases

Dropped	6
Transferred Out	8
Absolute Dimit	0
Deaths: (Since April 1st)	11
Subtotal	25

Membership Total

Current Calculated Membership Total	884
Average Age	66.67
Gain/Loss	57

Delinquency

Members Delinquent in Registration	59
Lapsation Rate	7.13%

Applications on Hand

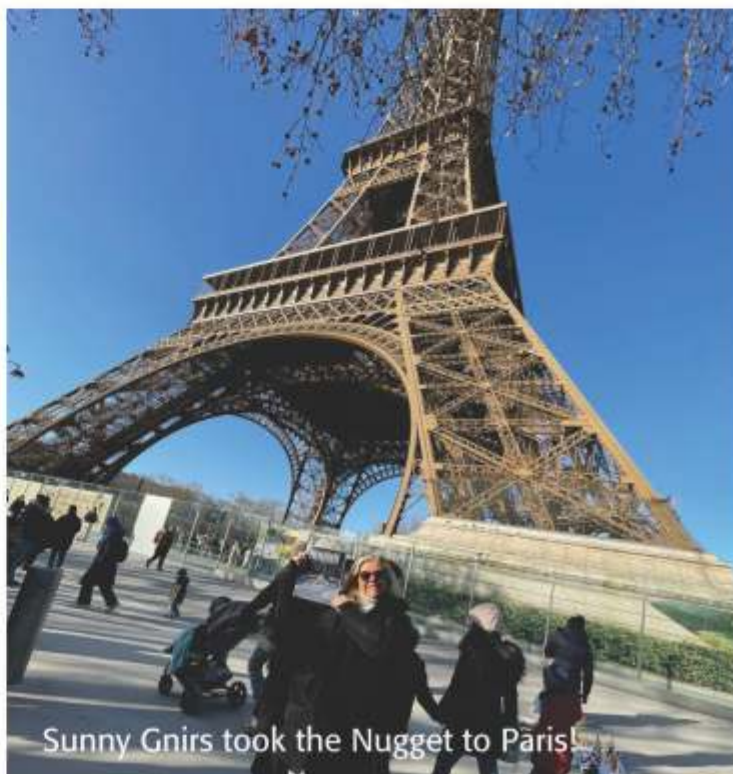
Total Applications in Process	18
-------------------------------	----

Life Members

Life Members	24
Honorary Life Members	2
Total	26
Life Percentage	3.14%

Proposed For Membership

Gerardo Reyes • Private Security Officer	Jeannette Fisser
Victoria Waldorf • Real Estate Agent	Danise Davis
Sharon Wright • Retired	Pam Hogan
Mark Austin • Retired	Danise Davis
Albert Rodriguez • Realtor	Jeannette Fisher
Allan Feldman • Retired	Sunny Gnirs



A Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler

Bryan R. Klatt, GER • DeKalb, Illinois Lodge 765



Set Yourself Up For Success As Lodge Year Begins

April is here and hopefully spring has arrived. It always feels like a new beginning in April as the new Lodge year takes over.

As the new fraternal year begins, I want to congratulate the Officers for accepting their office and taking on the challenge of providing leadership within your Lodge.

Be sure to review and implement the programs of the 2025-2026 Grand Lodge Program booklet so you can continue to Be The Difference during the upcoming year. Strive to make sure you have all your committees prepared and they know their responsibilities. Stressing communication is the key.

Your Lodge must be ready to present a sound budget for the membership to adopt no later than the last regular meeting in April or the following regular meeting. The annual report for the previous year is also due May 1st so make sure that your financial reporting system is up to date.

The Lodge, at this time, should review the by-laws, house rules, and regulations to verify if any need updating.

It's for the good of the Lodge to make everything orderly and to always prioritize the integrity and safety of the Lodge. Many Lodges make a calendar of social events for the Lodge's upcoming year. Try creating a reasonable and achievable monthly list of events that will excite and attract membership.

Outside of your Lodge you are encouraged to establish a community project that emphasizes charitable work. Your Lodge life should always have a balance of what you do inside your Lodge and outside in the community you serve.

Don't forget to set aside May 1-7 as Elks National Youth Week. All Lodges are urged to sponsor programs dedicated to the youth of our country.

Always remember to Be The Difference by promoting "Elks Care—Elks Share."



*Take Pride
in America*

It's Your Land, Lend A Hand



Trustee Corner ...

Hello my fellow Elks,

This will officially be my last article as the Chairman of the Trustees. I was blessed to have the experience of being a Trustee. If you want to learn about our Lodge and how things work, it is a great place to start. I want to thank Ted for making room in the Nugget for us. It gave us a platform to keep everyone up to date on projects and tell you what the Trustees were doing. I thought the last article I wrote was supposed to be my last one, so I am going to keep this short.

I was sad we were not able to get the floor done in the main Lodge this year due to the status of the current asbestos. I was able to hand this project over to Rick Veiga who will finish the project. I will still be here to support and help them get through the process and can't wait to see the final project!

We have completed the budget from 2026/2027 Lodge year. The new Chairman will bring it to the floor for approval on the 15th of April.

The New Chairman of the Trustees will be elected at the Trustees first meeting on April 8th. The first thing they will do at the meeting is nominate and vote for our new Chairman. It would be nice to have a good turnout to support the process and the new Chairman.

It has been an Honor to serve as your Chairman of the Trustees. I will strive to do my best in my new position as I want to thank my wife, Clarita, for helping me as I memorize the words for Ritual. I think she is going to know it as well as me when I am done. None of us can do this without the love and support from our spouses, friends, and family. I am blessed to have the support and mentoring from my family and friends. I love you sweetie!

Respectfully,

Scott Bickle, Chairman of the Trustees 2025/2026



Santa Clarita Elks 2379

**VOLUNTEERS, ARE THE
BACKBONE OF OUR LODGE**

**HELP OUR LODGE STAY STRONG, JOIN THE FORCE!
CALL THE LODGE OFFICE AND LEAVE YOUR INFO**

Michael Angulo Technical Services

Affordable Technical Consulting & Services
Computer Repair • Programming
Website Design & Support

Michael J. Angulo
Owner

18645 Delight Street • Canyon Country CA 91351

Cell: 661 803-0696

micanglo@yahoo.com • <http://michaellangulo.com>

Kamper Klub Trips Planned

March • Piru Oil Refinery

April • Cachuma Lake

June • Boulder Creek

July • Lompoc Elks Lodge

August • Oceano Elks Lodge

September • June Lake

October • Kernville Camp James

November • Joshua Tree Lake

December • Elks Christmas Party



Elks **One**
Under
GOLF CLUB

Outings

March 26 • Santa Anita Golf Course
Arcadia • 32 Golfers • \$65

April 16 • Los Robles Greens
Thousand Oaks • 32 Golfers • \$65

For more information on the Golf Club, contact:

Wayne Edwards • 661.478.5797 | Michael Angulo • 661.803.0696

Become a Major Project Recurring Donor

(\$5 Monthly Minimum)

Ask any Officer how you can
become a Recurring Donor.

chea-elks.org/major-project/donations/



Our Absent Members

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



Norman Malin • August 1938 - January 2025

Gregory Byars • April 1957 - March 2025

Keith Glenn • August 1931 - April 2025

Roberta Monroe • October 1948 - June 2025

Tom Schmidt, PER • July 1955 - July 2025

Nicholas Doty • June 1940 - August 2025

Richard Egan • January 1963 - August 2025

Mark Miller • October 1956 - November 2025

Rebecca Bravo • October 1954 - March 2026

Ron Corn • May 1939 - March 2026



Sickness and Distress

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



Rebecca Bravo passed away.

Ron Corn has passed away.

PDDGER Bruce Troe from Van Nuys Reseda Lodge was
hospitalized with kidney issues.

*Please keep these people, their families, all Lodge
Members, as well as our Country in your thoughts
and prayers.*



**Elks
National
Foundation**

HELPING ELKS BUILD STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Youth Programs: Drug Awareness • Hoop Shoot

Community Investment Program Grants

Most Valuable Student • Educational Grants

Emergency Educational Grants

Legacy Awards • Weigel Medical Scholarships

Veterans Programs • Freedom Grants

Our Legacy to the future!



Always be grateful for our
Veterans' service and sacrifice.

Rick Drew
Income Tax
 Planning & Preparation

CRTIP A006837, RTRP

1040

Office: 661-298-7261
 Cell: 661-713-0145
 Email: rikstax@sbcglobal.net

15500 Nasturtium Drive • Canyon Country, CA 91387

Chris Vasques, AAMS®
 Financial Advisor

25152 Springfield Court • Suite 210
 Valencia, CA 91355
 Bus: 661 253-1002 • Fax: 877 265-0032
 chris.vasques@edwardjones.com
 www.edwardjones.com
 California Lic. OC24309

Edward Jones
 Serving Individual Investors Since 1871

 • Is your Loved One at the Hospital or in a Nursing Home?
 • Have the developed Bedsores, Fallen, or WORSE?
 • Bedsores, Falls, and Dehydration are almost always the result of **Negligent Care**.

Get The Legal Help You Need

BASICH LAW GROUP (800) 215-1234 • (818) 558-6885
 Email: info@basichlawgroup.com

1955 W. Glenoaks Blvd. • Glendale, CA 91201-1546

Get Your Nursing Home Care
 Paid For at Little or No Cost

nhs Nursing Home Solutions
 Helping Families Since 1977

- DO NOT "spend down" your Assets
- Protect your Home and your Savings!

(800) 773-6467 • Website: www.nhscare.com

J & S CUSTOM APPAREL

KITCHEN & BBQ APRONS • ISLAND SHIRTS • EMBROIDERED CAPS
 TOWELS • COFFEE MUGS • MOUSE PADS • AND OTHER NEAT STUFF

• CALL US, WE'LL WORK TO GET YOU WHAT YOU WANT! •

818.207.4023 / 818.414.2423
 JANE & SCOTT LUDWIG
 Email: sixxgunscott@gmail.com
 All Major Credit Cards Accepted

**SANTA CLARITA'S
 MOBILE RV SERVICE**

Hours: Mon - Fri 8 am to 6 pm
 Sat 8 am to 12 pm • Closed Sunday

661.618.1886

Service, Installation & Repair
 of all systems within your RV

20 Years of Experience
 Certified & Insured

We are sorry, but no
 Chassis or Engine work,
 we handle everything else

All Major Credit Cards Accepted



L L L **LENTINI**
 RETIREMENT PLANNING
 Established 1964

G. James Lentini, CLU, ChFC
 Financial Planning License # 0210184

24359 Walnut Street • Unit B • Santa Clarita 91321
 Phone: (661) 254-7633 • Ext. 15 • Fax: (661) 367-7237
 Email: Jim@Lentiniandi.com

Couture Kitchen Apparel
 by *Sharon*

Specializing in aprons for children and adults.
 Also bibs for messy eaters.
 Your favorite college and sports team fabrics available!

sharoncollins@aol.com
 (661) 645-2616 (texts okay)



Southern Oaks REALTY

Trusted Real Estate Solutions
 for the 55+ Community!

Jeff Eisenberg
 President/Broker
 Senior Real Estate Specialist®
 & Compass Certified

661.964.2600 Office | 661.904.5989 Cell
 brokerjeff@sorproperties.com
 CA DRE 01236132 | 01458657



Thomas Graphics SCV PRINTING

Mike Thomas

24777 Valley Street • Santa Clarita, CA 91321
 818.252.5737 • 661.263.1095
 Email: mike@mikemyprinter.com
 web: thomasgraphics4printing.com

April 2026

Bring your grandchildren easter egg hunt to follow brunch		WEDNESDAY 1 Lodge Balloting Mtg	THURSDAY 2 Bingo Shuffleboard Cigar Night	FRIDAY 3 Friday Night Dinner Team: McKenna	SATURDAY 4 PERLS & Officer Spouses Breakfast - 10am Lodge Clean-up Red Shirt Saturday DO - McKenna	
SUNDAY 5 Easter Sunday Easter Brunch 9-11 am Kids Easter Egg Hunt No Bingo	MONDAY 6 Ritual Practice San Fernando Emblem Club 6:30 Business Mtg	TUESDAY 7 Taco Tuesday 5:30 pm Taco Tuesday 6:00 pm Cigar Night	WEDNESDAY 8 Trustee Mtg Governing Body Mtg	THURSDAY 9 Bingo Shuffleboard Cigar Night	FRIDAY 10 COUNTRY DANCING with Dave & Dana Friday Night Dinner Team: Fisher	SATURDAY 11 DD Clinic - 9am Ron Corn Memorial 12:15 - 4pm 1:00 pm Veterans Mtg DO - J Fisher
SUNDAY 12 9-11 Breakfast 10:30 PER Mtg 12:00 KK Mtg 12:30 Bingo	MONDAY 13 We've got GREAT Hot Dogs! Ritual Practice	TUESDAY 14 Taco Tuesday 5:30 pm Taco Tuesday 6:00 pm Cigar Night	WEDNESDAY 15 Lodge Initiation Mtg	THURSDAY 16 Bingo Shuffleboard Cigar Night	FRIDAY 17 7:00 pm Karaoke with Sunny Friday Night Dinner Team: Handy	SATURDAY 18 We've got GREAT Hot Dogs! DO - Handy
SUNDAY 19 9-11 Breakfast 12:30 Bingo	MONDAY 20 Ritual Practice San Fernando Emblem Club 6:30 Social Mtg	TUESDAY 21 Taco Tuesday 5:30 pm Taco Tuesday 6:00 pm Cigar Night	WEDNESDAY 22 Governing Body Mtg	THURSDAY 23 Bingo Shuffleboard Cigar Night	FRIDAY 24 COUNTRY DANCER with DAVE & DANA Friday Night Dinner Team: Potter	SATURDAY 25 Lake Cachuma DO - Potter
SUNDAY 26 9-11 Breakfast 12:30 Bingo Knights Mtg - San Fernando	MONDAY 27 7 pm Ritual Friends & Family	TUESDAY 28 Taco Tuesday 5:30 pm Taco Tuesday 6:00 pm Cigar Night	WEDNESDAY 29 Governing Body Mtg	THURSDAY 30 Bingo Shuffleboard Cigar Night	Easter Brunch ... be sure to join us!	

Metropolitan District Ritual Competition San Fernando • Saturday, May 2nd Awards Dinner 6:00 pm • Sunland-Tujunga

The Lodge will open around 8:00 am, with each team will going on promptly at the top of each hour. Be there early if you want to watch your Lodge's Team.



May 2026

happy
MOTHER'S
day

... be sure to join us for brunch!



FRIDAY



1

Friday Night Dinner
Team: Kamper Klub

SATURDAY

**Metro Ritual
Competition
San Fernando
Awards @ Sunland**

2

Ron Corn
Memorial Service
DO: Veiga

SUNDAY



3

9-11 Breakfast
10:30 PER Mtg
12:00 KK Mtg
12:30 Bingo

MONDAY



4

Ritual
Practice
Emblem Club
Business Mtg

TUESDAY



5

5:30 pm Taco Tuesday
6:00 pm Cigar Night

WEDNESDAY



6

Lodge Balloting Mtg

THURSDAY



7

6 PM
Shufflebaord
Cigar Night

FRIDAY



8

**COUNTRY
DANCING**
with Dave & Dana
Friday Night Dinner
Team: Rivetti

SATURDAY



9

1:00 pm Veteran Mtg
Welcome Wagon
Canyon Softball
Awards Banquet
DO: Davis

SUNDAY



10

Mother's Day
9 AM Brunch
Officers Serve
No Bingo

MONDAY



11

We've got
GREAT
Hot Dogs!
Ritual
Practice

TUESDAY



12

5:30 pm Taco Tuesday
6:00 pm Cigar Night

WEDNESDAY

13

No Mtg - Convention

THURSDAY



14

6 PM
Shufflebaord
Cigar Night

FRIDAY



15

7:00 pm with
Sunny
Team: Alvarez

SATURDAY



16

**Saturday
Hot Dog
& Beer Specials**
CHEA Ritual
Awards Presentation
DO: Alvarez

CHEA Convention - Palm Springs - May 13th - 16th

SUNDAY



17

9-11 Breakfast
12:30 Bingo

MONDAY



18

District Badges
6pm
Emblem Club
6:30 Social Mtg

TUESDAY



19

5:30 pm Taco Tuesday
6:00 pm Cigar Night

WEDNESDAY



20

Lodge Initiation Mtg

THURSDAY



21

6 PM
Shufflebaord
Cigar Night

FRIDAY



22

**COUNTRY
DANCIN'**
WITH DAVE
& DANA
Friday Night Dinner
Team: Redshirt

SATURDAY



23

**Eternal Valley
with the Scouts**
DO: M Fisher

SUNDAY



24

9-11 Breakfast
12:30 Bingo
Knights Mtg
Glendale

MONDAY

**Memorial Day
Lodge Pottluck**

25



TUESDAY



26

**Taco
Tuesday**
5:30 pm Taco Tuesday
6:00 pm Cigar Night

WEDNESDAY



27

Governing Body Mtg

THURSDAY



28

6 PM
Shufflebaord
Cigar Night

FRIDAY



29

Friday Night Dinner
Team: Bickle

SATURDAY

**Kamper
Klub**

30

Kamper Klub • Santa
Maria Rodeo Weekend
DO: Bickle

SUNDAY



31

9-11 Breakfast
12:30 Bingo



**Saturday • May 23rd
9:00 am**

**Friendly Valley
with the Scouts**

Memorial Day Pottluck
Monday, May 25th • 1 pm
Please join us and bring a dish to share!



ELKS LODGE 2379

17766 Sierra Highway • Santa Clarita, CA 91351

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 3
SANTA CLARITA CA

Health is the greatest gift, contentment the greatest wealth, faithfulness the best relationship.

~ Buddha



Easter Sunday

April 5th

Breakfast Served from 9:00 to 11:00 am
Children's Easter Egg Hunt to follow.

