



# The California-Hawaii

# Elk

*"Elks Care ~ Elks Share"*



**Official Periodical of the California-Hawaii Elks Assn., 5450 E. Lamona Ave., Fresno, CA 93727-2224**

**Volume 56, Number 2**

**March/April 2009**

## **Eureka Elks Lodge No. 652 Proudly Nominates Leon A. Karjola for CHEA President**

WHEREAS,

The Honorable Leon A. Karjola was initiated into the Longview, Washington Elks Lodge No. 1514 in 1968, just three days after his 21st birthday. He later transferred his membership to the Eureka, California Lodge No. 652 in 1985, where he served on and chaired various Lodge Committees, including the Board of Trustees between 1986-1990, the last two as their chairman, and served as Exalted Ruler in 1991-1992, and;

WHEREAS,

Lee has served on numerous District and CHEA Elks Committees, including Jamboree Chairman, Government Relations, Ritual Contest, Bequests and Living Trusts Committee and was a qualified Ritual Judge for 10 years, and;

WHEREAS,

He served the Grand Lodge as District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for the "Great Northwest District of California" in 1995-1996, as a Member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Judiciary for six years between 1996 - 2002, the last two as its Chairman, Grand Lodge Parliamentarian in 2000, as a Member of the Pardon Commission in 2001-2002, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Pardon Commission in 2008, as Justice of the Grand Forum from 2003-2006, and Chief Justice of the Grand Forum in 2007-2008, and;

WHEREAS,

Lee served as the First Vice President of the California Hawaii Elks Association in 2008-2009, and;

WHEREAS,

Lee married his high school sweetheart, Cindy, without whom he freely admits he could never have accomplished all that he has done in and out of Elkdom. They have been married for 40 years, and they have

two sons, both Elks, and two grandchildren whom Lee is certain will become Elks, and;

WHEREAS,

Lee graduated from Central Washington University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1969, the University of Montana with a Master of Arts in 1970, and Western State University with a Juris Doctorate Degree in 1975. He is presently engaged in the practice of law in Eureka, California where he is a member of both the Local and State Bar Associations, and;

WHEREAS,

Lee has been involved with and donated countless hours to community service, serving as a Member of the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee on Law Enforcement, serving on various Local and State Election Campaigns, becoming a Life Member of the California Waterfowl Association and the National Rifle Association, serving our youth by donating his time as a Little League Baseball Coach, a Pop Warner Football Coach, and as a sports fan rarely missing his two sons baseball, basketball, football, and soccer games, by being active in the United States Jaycees, becoming a Regional Director in 1977, and by being an Exchange Club Member and its President in 1986.

NOW THEREFORE,

COMES NOW Eureka Elks Lodge No. 652 who proudly presents the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the Officers of the Eureka Elks Lodge No. 652 are honored and proud to present to the 2009 California Hawaii Elks Association Convention in Ontario, CA, LEON A. KARJOLA as a candidate for the Office of President of the California Hawaii Elks Association of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America for the year 2009 - 2010.

## **Pittsburg Elks Lodge No. 1474 donates to Salvation Army**

The Pittsburg Elks Lodge No. 1474 donated \$1,000.00 to the Antioch chapter of the Salvation Army in December. These funds were to be used to purchase toys for disadvantaged children in the community. The funds were raised by the lodge members who worked booths at the Pittsburg Seafood Festival.

## **Carmichael Elks Lodge No. 2103 Feeds Needy Families With Help From Bingo Players**

The Carmichael Elks Lodge No. 2103 provided Christmas Baskets to many local needy families in December. The Lodge has a very active bingo program, and the bingo players volunteered to donate 517 cans of food and 236 children's toys for this vital program. Each basket contained all the foodstuffs and stocking stuffers for the children, and many other items. The bingo players truly demonstrated the "Reason for the Season" by helping the lodge continue their community activities program.

*Elks Care - Elks Share*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As President of the California Hawaii Elks Association, I have had the opportunity to meet many Elk members during this year. One of the great things I have noticed is that everyone seems to be very positive about being an Elk. They are justly proud of the accomplishments of their lodges as they work together to serve their communities. Our members are banding together with other organizations and local government to see that all of our programs succeed. Assisting children is always first on their list of accomplishments, but is closely followed up with pride in our efforts in Scholarship and assistance to our Veterans. Each of our programs is being led by a highly qualified State Chairperson. I would like to say thank you to these fine Elks and their cadre of District and Lodge Chairpersons. What you are doing is making a difference in so many lives.

At our upcoming Annual Convention in Ontario, we will receive reports of accomplishments from our leaders, and I know that they will make us all proud to be an Elk. Each Lodge can do their part by making the final push to improve their own per-capita in Elks National Foundation donations. No other organization has something as wonderful as the ENF to see that our programs will always continue. Also, we need all of our lodges to refocus their effort to increase their contribution to our Piggy Bank Program. Each donation puts us closer to our goal of Three Million Dollars. There are many children that can Walk, Talk, See, and Play because our members had one more car wash or chili cook off. Remember to send your money to the Fresno office before the convention. This will insure that the fruits of your efforts will be counted in the final total. If you do have late activities, the donations can be submitted to our CHEA office in person at the convention. However, this must be done by noon on Friday of the convention.

At the convention, all of our new Exalted Rulers will make their march across the stage and have the opportunity to let everyone know what their Lodges have accomplished. These individuals have accepted the challenge of being the leader of their lodge. I ask that you get behind your Exalted Ruler and help to improve your Lodge. Ask them what you can do to help make this coming year better. Elks are a special group of individuals that have banded together to make this world a better place. The only difference between us and so many other organizations is that we have fun accomplishing our goals. I dream of a time when all of our veterans are receiving the kind of care that they deserve. I dream of a time when every child can walk, talk, see, and play. I dream of a time when any child that wants to further their education is not prevented from that goal due to financial hardship. I dream of a time when we will live in a perfect world. And it will happen someday because

ELKS MAKE DREAMS COME TRUE

Fraternally,

*Jerry Rucker*

President, California Hawaii Elks Association

(USPS 010-116)  
Periodical postage paid at Fresno, CA and additional mailing offices. **Post-Master:** Send address changes to: The California-Hawaii Elks Association, 5450 East Lamona Ave, Fresno, CA 93727-2224

Official Periodical of:

### The California-Hawaii Elks Association

5450 E. Lamona Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93727-2224

Published 5 times per annum in the interest of  
California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc.

Distribution:

### CHEA Lodges & All Paid-Up Members

### ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Jerry Rucker.....President  
Lee Karjola.....First Vice President  
Ronald Howell.....Secretary  
Donald D. Schultz.....Treasurer  
Robert Cones.....Sergeant-at-Arms  
Catherine "Kitty" Tufford.....Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms  
Donald Schafer.....Tiler  
Arthur Echternacht.....Assistant Tiler  
William "Bud" Morgan.....Chaplain  
Fred P. Krinke.....Organist

### ASSOCIATION VICE PRESIDENTS

**Richard Gay** – Bay; **Edward "Trill" Torrilhon** – Central;  
**Bob Couch** – East Central; **Ronald Mizuno** – Hawaii;  
**Jeff Brown** – Inland; **Kelvin Swanson** – Metropolitan;  
**George Waters** – North; **Jerry Landreth** – North Central;  
**Bill Chelonis** – Northeast; **Rich Simmons** – Northwest;  
**Ed Repic** – Orange Coast; **David Delgado** – San Gabriel Valley;  
**John Lieser** – South; **David Morgan** – South Central; **Landon Strattan** – South Central Coast; **David Hosted** – South Coast; **Manny Rodriguez** – Southeast; **Steven Mayne** – West Central; **David Coleman** – West Central Coast

### SUBMISSION AND COPY DEADLINES

1st Day of Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Dec

**Copy:** Microsoft Word preferred. Article should be sent as an attachment to the e-mail

**Photos:** Digital (\*.jpg) format, using a 4 megapixel (or higher) camera

**Send electronic items to:** cheamag@concoursecomm.com

**Guidelines:** www.chea-elks.org/MagazineGuidelines.pdf

**Only if necessary, mail items to:**

Concourse Communications

1175 Shaw Avenue 104, PMB#304

Clovis, CA 93612

www.concoursecomm.com

### EDITOR

Ian Lanouette

### PUBLISHER

Concourse Communications  
1175 Shaw Avenue 104, PMB#304  
Clovis, CA 93612  
www.concoursecomm.com  
Ph 559.322.2215  
Fx 559.322.2219



### ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES

Richard McDonald.....Chairman  
Floyd "Skip" Henke.....Vice Chairman  
Joe Cenoz.....Member  
James Nuse.....Member  
Dr. Eugene DeAngelis.....Member  
Norman "Mike" Pettigrew.....Member  
Eugene Beckel.....Member  
Robert "Bob" Burns.....Member  
David Williford.....Member  
Ronald Howell.....Secretary  
Donald D. Schultz.....Treasurer

### MAJOR PROJECT TRUSTEES

John G. Holt.....Chairman  
Fred Hewins.....Vice Chairman  
Vern Ungerecht.....Secretary  
Billy J. Skarles.....Treasurer  
E. F. "Gene" Pendergast.....Member  
William F. Young.....Member  
Dwayne Hutson.....Member  
Wayne Howard.....Advisor

### SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Gene Baxter.....'09 Conv. Chairman  
Charles "Chuck" Nolan.....'10 Conv. Chairman  
Ian Lanouette.....Editor, "The CA-HI Elk"  
Tim Martin.....Executive Director  
Bob Brennan.....Blue Coat Chairman  
Jerry Rucker.....GL Convention Chairman  
Edward "Trill" Torrilhon.....Historian  
Doug Larsen.....Chairman Meetings Comm  
Frank Keller.....V. Chairman Meetings Comm  
James Mason.....V. Chairman Meetings Comm  
Mell Steiger.....'08 Mid-Term Chairman  
Billy J. Skarles.....'09 Mid-Term Chairman  
C. R. Jim Beem.....Pres. Achievement Award

### ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Robert Cassetta.....Americanism  
Ron Berglund.....Bequests & Living Trusts  
Jack D. Jones.....Business Practices  
John "Jack" Dalton.....Drug Awareness  
Roy Long.....Elks Training  
Josh Serrano.....Government Relations  
Darrell "Dude" McMaster.....Hoop Shoot  
Edward M. Coffman.....Insurance & Safety  
Robert Ostini.....Lapsation  
Fred Whitnack.....Lodge Activities  
David Harris.....Membership  
Fred E. Reis.....National Foundation  
Frank Chicago.....National Veterans Service  
Debbie Hosted.....Piggy Bank  
Fred L. Bianchini.....Public Relations  
Phil Trujillo.....Ritual Contest  
Michael Mathers.....Ritual Training  
Jerry Taylor.....Scholarship  
James Warrick.....Scouting  
Marty Mello.....Youth/Soccer Activities

### DISTRICT LEADERS

William F. Young.....Bay  
John B. Damonte.....Bay  
Fred H. Hewins.....Central  
Lou Aguiar.....Central  
Dwayne Hutson.....East Central  
Dave Davidson.....East Central  
Wayne Howard.....Hawaii  
Vern Ungerecht.....Hawaii  
Donald D. Schultz.....Inland  
Richard J. Hickey, Sr.....Inland  
John G. Holt.....Metropolitan  
Hugh H. Scanlon.....Metropolitan  
Sim Nathan.....North  
Dwight L. Roberts.....North  
John A. Parker.....North Central  
Billy J. Skarles.....North Central  
Stephen Haydn.....Northeast  
Robert D. Souza.....Northeast  
Russell L. Clarke.....Northwest  
John Holsapple.....Northwest  
Lee Northcutt.....Orange Coast  
Arthur Echternacht.....Orange Coast  
Rex E. Dondlinger.....San Gabriel Valley  
Patrick F. Koen.....San Gabriel Valley  
E. F. "Gene" Pendergast.....South  
Jimmy D. Lowe.....South  
Ralph P. Ortiz.....South Central  
William "Bill" Woodard.....South Central  
James W. Taylor.....South Central Coast  
Donald R. Checchi.....South Central Coast  
William Wiscovitch.....South Coast  
Chuck Nolan.....South Coast  
Manuel Gomez.....Southeast  
Jimmie Spezia.....Southeast  
Thomas S. Brazier.....West Central  
Catherine "Kitty" Tufford.....West Central  
William K. Lloyd.....West Central Coast  
Mac Clark.....West Central Coast

### CHEMPI

(California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc.)

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

**Give to Your Major Project**  
**"A coin a day and they'll walk, talk, see and play."**

## Orange Elks Lodge No. 1475 Canine Capers and "Meal Deals"

The Orange Lodge No. 1475 has helped the Orange Police Department purchase four police dogs. In 2006, Orange Elks Trustee Mike Duff saw an article in the Santa Ana Register about the Orange Police Department needing a police dog. Since then, Mike has helped raise \$15,000 to purchase three police dogs. In December, the Orange Lodge presented a check to the police department for \$5,000. Lodge member Amy Carr's daughter, Megan, helped organize a car wash at her school. The school raised \$524 and presented it to the Lodge for the purchase of the dog.

Each week, the Lodge's Tuesday night cook, Steve Weaver prepares a "Meal Deal" for lodge members and their friends. This year, \$500 from the dinners was donated to the Orange Police Department to help purchase a third police dog. The remainder of the money was raised by the Lodge members. The Tuesday Night "Meal Deal" crew also raised \$500 for the lodge's Cub Scout Troop. In the last three years, these "Meal Deals" have raised over \$3,000 for the Lodge's Cub and Boy Scout troops.

The Kitchen Crew prepared a spaghetti dinner for over 200 Orange Elks Lodge members, their families and friends. 203 Christmas baskets were purchased and packed for selected families in need in the city of Orange. Orange lodge member Steve Redding, a UPS Manager, presented the lodge with 100 gift cards for turkeys. The baskets included the gift card and all the trimmings for a wonderful Christmas dinner.

## R. E. "Bud" Cenis Passed Away

The Association office received word that R. E. "Bud" Cenis, Past Grand Esteemed Loyal Knight 2000-2001 and Past Association President 1988-1989 passed away on Wednesday evening, January 7, 2009 at the Glenwood Garden Nursing Facility in Bakersfield, CA.

## President's Upcoming Visitation Schedule

**March 6-8, 2009**  
**Homecoming, San Bernardino**

**April 23-26, 2009**  
**National Hoop Shoot Finals**

**May 7-10, 2009**  
**Utah State Elks Association Convention**

**May 13-16, 2009**  
**CHEA Convention, Ontario**



**Mojave Elks Lodge No. 2059 Community Activities**

The Mojave Elks Lodge No. 2059 has had several successful community activities over the past few months. They donated 600 dictionaries to third-grade students in elementary schools in California City, Mojave and Rosamond. The lodge members joined Marines from Air Group 46, Detachment B, from Edwards Air Force Base to serve dinner to 25 veterans from the Mojave area. These Marines are assigned to HMM-764, "The Frogs" and fly CH-46 helicopters. In addition to serving the breakfast, the lodge raised money for the Marine's "Toys for Tots" program. The lodge held a hoop shoot on December 13, 2008. In addition to enjoying a lunch, each participant received a basketball, a T-shirt, a Frisbee and door prizes. On December 20, 2008, the lodge held its annual Children's Christmas Party for the community. Over 420 people participated, including 20 children who got to meet Santa Claus, receive gifts, cookies, candy, juice and "Toys for Tots" stickers.



Left to right: CPL Daryl Giesbrecht, Santa Claus (PER Bob Grey), Mrs Claus (Jane Cramer, lodge member and wife of PER Ray Cramer), Exalted Ruler Amy L. Cook, Miss Mojave, Little Miss Mojave (with Mrs. Claus), SGT Dagoberto Espinoza, and an unidentified child.

**California-Hawaii Elks Association Annual Association Convention May 13-16, 2009 Ontario, CA**

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Registration

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Registration

CHEA & CHEMPI Board of Trustee Meetings

Ritual Practice

First Vice President's Meeting

DDGER Designate Meeting

Opening Session - Visitors Welcome

Introduction of Guests

Introduction of Grand Exalted Ruler

Memorial Service

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Registration

Ritual Contest

First Business Session - Visitors Welcome

Introduction of CHEA Officers & CHEA Vice Presidents

Nomination & Election of Officers

Grand Lodge Committee Reports

**Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 Holds Children's Christmas Party, Donates Food Baskets**

The Huntington Beach Elks Lodge No. 1959 held their annual kids Christmas party. Approximately 100 children from various support groups were honored at the Lodge. Santa Claus arrived on a fire engine. Gifts from him were distributed to every child along with lunch of pizza and sodas. Musical participatory entertainment was provided.

The Lodge also donated 75 baskets of food to needy families. Included in this donation were 50 baskets to families of U.S. Army personnel serving overseas and 25 baskets to needy local families.

Demonstrating its support for Youth Activities, the Lodge donated \$3,600 to two worthy causes: \$3,000 was earmarked for the annual Americanism Essay contest for scholarship prizes and an awards dinner; and \$600 was donated to the city of Huntington Beach's annual "snowflake" sponsorship. Each holiday season the city "sells" large decorative snowflakes which adorn lamp posts on the city's famous ocean pier. The proceeds from this event support local charities. The Elks snowflake purchase will benefit the Huntington Beach Youth Shelter.



Elks Lodge 1959 volunteers and U.S. Army personnel after loading 50 baskets of food for families of personnel serving overseas.

First Lady's Social Hour & Luncheon

Secretaries, Trustees & Club Managers Luncheon

Exalted Rulers, Leading Knights, other Officers & Members Luncheon

DDGER, PDDGER and Lodge Advisors Luncheon

Association President's Dinner

Friday, May 15, 2009

Registration

Ritual Contest Finals

Second Business Session - Visitors Welcome

Rally and Installation of Officers

Seminar Workshop

CHEA and CHEMPI Board of Trustee Meetings

CHEMPI Piggy Bank Seminar

Saturday, May 16, 2009

Past Association President's Breakfast

Final Business Session - Visitors Welcome

Theme Child Presentation and Exalted Rulers March

Ritual Contest Awards

**Advisory Committee (Past Presidents)**

*L.E. Chenoweth	Bakersfield	1913-14
*Hilliard E. Welch	Stockton	1914-15
*Dr. Ralph Hagan	Los Angeles	1915-16
*William M. Abbott, PGER	San Francisco	1916-17
*Harry M. Ticknor	Pasadena	1917-19
*James M. Shanley	Oakland	1919-20
*Charles Donlon	Santa Barbara	1920-21
*John D. Saxe	San Rafael	1921-22
*Richard C. Benbough	San Diego	1922-23
*Howard B. Kirtland	San Luis Obispo	1923-24
*Edgar F. Davis	Long Beach	1924-25
*John J. Lermen	San Francisco	1925-26
*Mifflin G. Potts	Pasadena	1926-27
*William E. Simpson	Fresno	1927-28
*John J. Doyle	Los Angeles	1928-29
*Fred B. Mellmann	Oakland	1929-30
*Horace S. Williamson	Redlands	1930-31
*F.E. Dayton	Salinas	1931-32
*Horace H. Quinby	Alhambra	1932-33
*J. Thomas Crowe	Tulare	1933-34
*Milton R. Standish	San Bernardino	1934-35
*George M. Smith	San Jose	1935-36
*L.A. "Fay" Lewis, PGER	Anaheim	1936-37
*C. Fenton Nichols	San Francisco	1937-38
*C.P. Hebenstreit	Huntington Park	1938-39
*Elmer B. Maze	Merced	1939-40
*Robert S. Redington	Los Angeles	1940-41
*Donald K. Quayle	Alameda	1941-42
*Newton M. Todd	Long Beach	1942-43
*Clifford C. Anglin	Richmond	1943-44
*Stephen A. Compas	Huntington Park	1944-45
*Horace R. Wisely, PGER	Salinas	1945-46
*R. Leonard Bush, PGER	Westchester	1946-47
*Earl J. Williams	Oakland	1947-48
*Morley H. Golden	San Diego	1948-49
*Robert J. Craine	Hanford	1949-50
*Ben W. Osterman	Santa Ana	1950-51
*John B. Morey, PGELK	Palo Alto	1951-52
*Vincent H. Grocott	Santa Barbara	1952-53
*Edward E. Keller	San Mateo	1953-54
*Robert P. Mohrbacker	Long Beach	1954-55
*Jim B. Nielsen, PGELK	Watsonville	1955-56
*Owen O. Keown	Santa Monica	1956-57
*John A. Raffetto	Auburn	1957-58
*Frank M. Linnell	Newport Harbor	1958-59
*Charles T. Reynolds	Vallejo	1959-60
*Guy A. Daniels	Redlands	1960-61
*Paul T. Wemple	Susanville	1961-63
*Vern R. Huck	Los Angeles	1963-64
*Henry J. Budde	San Francisco	1964-65
*Edgar Dale	Vallejo	Honorary
*Bruce H. Marsh	Inglewood	1965-66
*Gerald Strohm, PGER	Fresno	1966-67
*Marvin M. Lewis, PGER	Brawley	1967-68
*Norman S. Lien	Watsonville	1968-69
*Paul E. Haines	Pasadena	1969-70
*Ernest Olivieri	Sonora	1970-71
*Walter Schween, Jr.	Salinas	1971-72
*C. Wallace Erickson	Glendale	1972-73
*Yubi G. Separovich, PGELK	Sacramento	1973-74

**Advisory Committee cont. (Past Presidents)**

*Dan Davis	Van Nuys	1974-75
*Rev. Msgr. George Scott	San Pedro	Honorary
*James E. Spence, Jr.	Oakland	1975-76
*Marvin M. Pike, PGELK	Torrance	1976-77
*Donald W. Luce, PGELK	Richmond	1977-78
*Dr. Robert G. Robb	Garden Grove	1978-79
Donald D. Dapelo, PGER	Coalinga	1979-80
*William D. Brunner	Redondo Beach	1980-81
*Leland J. "Butch" Simas	Santa Maria	1981-82
Kenneth L. Moore, PGER	Corona	1982-83
Elmer L. Lanini, PGT	Salinas	1983-84
Robert J. McLain, PGELK	Pasadena	1984-85
Clifford E. Beatty	Chico	1985-86
Richard L. "Dick" Alves, PGEsq.	San Jose	1986-87
*Bernard E. McCune	Long Beach	1987-88
*Oscar W. Stutheit	Orange	Honorary
*R.E. "Bud" Cenis, PGELK	Bakersfield	1988-89
Dr. Eugene P. Weigand, PGELK	Pasadena	1989-90
*Lynn Wood	Modesto	1990-91
William C. "Bill" Ijames, PGELK	Vista	1991-92
Richard E. Owen, PGELK	Santa Maria	1992-93
John A. Parker, PGT	Marysville	1993-94
Rex E. Dondlinger	Arcadia	1994-95
Anthony J. Mauro	Hollister	1995-96
Timothy C. Martin	San Bernardino	1996-97
Sim Nathan	Redding	1997-98
Frank G. Keller	Corona	1998-99
Louis J. "Jim" Grillo, PGER	Stockton	1999-00
John G. Holt	Burbank	2000-01
John M. Carvalho, Sr.	Sacramento	2001-02
H. Eugene Chambers	Needles	2002-03
Doug Larsen	Salinas	2003-04
Lee Northcutt, PGE	La Habra	2004-05
Roy R. Newman	Marysville	2005-06
James S. Mason	Gardena	2006-07
Oren Richardson	Coalinga	2007-08
*Deceased		

**Los Banos Elks Lodge No. 2510 Recognizes Veterans**

The Los Banos Elks Lodge No. 2510 hosted a Veterans Appreciation Luncheon on November 13, 2008. Loyal Knight Raul Gutierrez served 110 guests from all branches of the Armed Services. After the lunch they had a sing-along, performing the songs that are representative of each branch of the service. Each veteran was also asked to give their name, former rank and branch of service, as well as where and when they served our country. The lunch was enjoyed by all and the veterans were very thankful that the Lodge had taken the time to recognize them for their service.

**Box Tops for Education**  
**Clip coupons to aid CHEMPI**  
 Go to <http://www.chea-elks.org/BoxTops4Education.pdf>



**South San Francisco Elks Lodge No. 2091 Santa visits San Mateo County Special ED Center**

On December 19, 2008, the South San Francisco Elks Lodge No. 2091 sponsored a visit from Santa Claus to the San Mateo County Special Education Center and California Children's Service. During his visit to these two organizations, Santa gave gifts and candy to 90 or more children. When the children returned to their classrooms, they were surprised to find that ice cream and cookies were waiting for them!

The festivities started with a magician, so the children really had a lot of fun. The highlight of the Christmas Party was, of course, Santa (Ken "Bubba" Anderson). There was a bounce in his walk while his red cheeks framed a delightful smile on his face. As he entered the room the children's faces lit up with excitement.

Exalted Ruler David Heaton announced the names of the children as they came up to visit Santa and receive their present and candy. Some walked up, some used their wheel chairs and others were carried up. The smiles on their faces were priceless and very fulfilling to Santa's Helpers: Jim St. John, Mary Motoh, Terrie Espinoza, Evelyn Lavin and Shelly Pederson.

Throughout the year, the members of South San Francisco Lodge No. 2091 sponsor several fund raisers to raise the monies that allow us to put joy into the hearts of these children.



*Santa (Ken Anderson) with unidentified people.*

**Jerry Rucker visits North Central District: Receives an Award and Presents an Award**



Jerry Rucker visited several lodges during his visitation to the North Central District (NCD). While visiting the Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6, he presented Linda Pohl, the Lodge No. 6's Public Relations Chair, with the CHEA First Place Award for "Best Single PR Event". However, following his official visitation dinner, the Lodge surprised Jerry with a Resolution from the State of California Legislature that commended him on his many accomplishments. In addition, the NCD presented Jerry with an embroidered "Ping" golf bag. First Lady Bonnie Rucker received a custom designed quilt that was comprised of a square that represented each of the eleven Lodges in the district, depicting a highlight of their Lodge.



**Alameda Elks Lodge No. 1015 Honors Iraq War Veteran**

The Alameda Elks Lodge No. 1015 presented a "Merit of Appreciation for Service to Our Country" to Capt. Ryan Haslam, U.S.A.F. The lodge honored him as one of the warriors who served our country with distinction. Capt. Haslam is the son of Ken Haslam, a member of the Alameda Lodge. He served in the Judge Advocate's Office in the Republic of Iraq, assisting the Multi-National District West Criminal Court of Iraq in drafting security agreements.

Capt. Haslam placed service at the investigation hearings of adversaries and suspected terrorists. He assisted the Chief International Law Attorney to create, review and implement a memorandum of understanding between the multi-national forces and the various provincial governors. He worked with the Iraqis to implement the first free election for the Iraqi people.

Capt. Haslam placed service before personal achievement. While working at the United States Embassy in Iraq, he coordinated the delivery of truckloads of humanitarian aid to local Baghdad area orphanages, hospitals, schools and churches. He volunteered his time at numerous chapel services, contributing to the spiritual well being of those with whom he was deployed. He assisted the trial council of the 386th Air Expeditionary Wing in Kuwait. Capt. Haslam always maintained the highest level of leadership and professionalism. The Alameda Elks Lodge is proud of Capt. Haslam, who is an officer of our armed forces and a humanitarian who demonstrates the best that America has to offer. The Alameda Elks salute Capt. Haslam and thank him for his service to our country.



*Left to Right: Diane Pryor, ER; Chris Cormier, Ken Haslam, Richard Ghera, PER. Ken Haslam is holding a photo of his son, Capt. Ryan Haslam, receiving his award.*

**Jerry Rucker and Bonnie Visit the Tracy Elks Lodge No. 2031**

Tracy Lodge No. 2031 was proud to host a luncheon for CHEA President Jerry Rucker and Bonnie on Friday, January 30, 2009. The Lodge has sponsored Boy Scout Troop 525 for several years. Two Eagle Scouts from that troop were invited to the luncheon to discuss their Eagle Scout projects.

Brandon Chu, a senior at Tracy High School, discussed his project designing and building a greenhouse for Discovery Charter School that will help the students to understand how plants grow and develop throughout a growing season.

Garret Dong is attending Cal Poly as a Mechanical Engineering major. He drove to the lodge from Cal Poly specifically for the luncheon and described his project. Garret inventoried the library books and textbooks at Wanda Hirsch Elementary School and then designed and built the bookcases to contain them.

Both students were effusive in their thanks to the Tracy Lodge, for, without the help provided by the lodge and its members, they would not have been able to complete their Eagle Scout projects.

Following the Eagle Scouts' presentation, Jerry reminded all of us that their success really does prove that "Elks Make Dreams Come True".



*Left to right: Bonnie Rucker, Jerry Rucker, Association President, Garret Dong, Eagle Scout, Brandon Chu, Eagle Scout, Charles De Schepper, ER and Pam De Schepper.*

**Santa Clarita Lodge No. 2379 Donates Dictionaries**

The Santa Clarita Lodge No. 2379 recently donated 1,000 dictionaries to the third grade students in the Santa Clarita school district. The funding for this project came from the Lodge Kamper Klub, Charity Fund Raisers and several members of the lodge. The books were delivered by the Dictionary Project Chairwoman Karen Henke, Skip Henke, PDDGER, Larry Lousberg, PER and Simone Swanson, the Lodge Treasurer. Simone's grandson is a third grader whose classroom was among the classes receiving the dictionaries. This is such a rewarding project and the children just loved the books! The Santa Clarita Lodge is hoping to be able to deliver dictionaries to more schools next year.

*In 2008-2009, the ENF will return \$1.75 to CHEA for each \$1.00 you donated in 2007-2008. Please support the ENF!*

**Walnut Creek Elks Lodge No. 1811 Sponsors a Streak of Hoop Shoot Champions**

Walnut Creek Elks Lodge No. 1811 boasts five Northern California champions in the CHEA Hoop Shoot finals over the past two years. This year, the lodge provided 1,575 boys and girls an opportunity to compete for the Lodge championship in the 37th annual Elks National Free Throw Contest.

The Lodge Hoop Shoot Committee participated in the "Excel in Basketball" free throw competitions at De La Salle High School this past summer. The winners from the summer camp were invited to the lodge championships held on December 7, 2008.

Twenty Elk volunteers skillfully directed the flawless event. Tie-breaker shoot-offs and an awards ceremony were conducted before nearly 100 parents, siblings and friends of the divisional winners. Beautiful trophies and T-shirts were presented to the finalists of this year's lodge championships.



*Back row, left: Darrell Webb, ER; Back row right: Mike Rittenhouse, Lodge Hoop Shoot Chairman.*

**GER Helsel and First Lady Jane Enjoy Hawaiian Hospitality**

What a way to greet the New Year! Grand Exalted Ruler Paul Helsel and Jane recently visited the State of Hawaii. Following their visit to the Pasadena Elks Lodge to view the Rose Parade and Rose Bowl, the GER and his wife traveled to Hawaii for a week of fun in the sun. John Brown, DDGER, and his wife Colette Aoki, warmly welcomed Paul and Jane to the island of Oahu. The Helsels were accompanied by the Hon. PGER Ken Moore and his wife Rosemary. After visiting Honolulu, Paul and Jane spent several days on Maui enjoying some well deserved R & R before returning to the mainland and continuing their travels around the USA.



*John Brown, DDGER Hawaii District, Hon. Paul Helsel, GER, Jane Helsel, Colette Aoki, Rosemary Moore, and the Hon. Ken Moore, PGER*



**Clovis Elks Lodge No. 2599 Sponsors Basketball Tournament**

The Clovis Elks Lodge No. 2599 has sponsored a state-wide basketball tournament for 27 years. The appropriately named "Clovis Elks Christmas Classic" draws teams from all parts of California. This year's tournament drew 20 High School teams, with 300 players and 64 coaches and referees.

Over 6,000 spectators enjoyed the tournament. As part of sponsorship of the event, the Lodge prepared over 1,200 meals for the coaches and players. The event received wide local television coverage as well as publicity in the San Francisco newspapers.

The championship game Between McClymonds High School (Oakland, CA) and Hanford High School (Hanford, CA) was won by McClymonds High School.

The photograph shows the trophies that were presented by the Lodge to the winning teams.



*Left to Right: Lodge members Thom Richardson, Bill Cornelson, Tom Bryan, Laura Magnee, Judy Johnson, Frank Magnee, Sonny Pineada, Lynn Armstrong, Fred Uriarte, Dennis Prindiville, Alyssa Glaum, ER, Don Pruett, Dave Davidson, Tim Brooks and Mike Heffernan, proudly wait to present trophies to the winning teams of the 27th Annual Clovis Elks Christmas Classic Basketball tournament.*

**Lake Elsinore Elks Lodge No. 2591 Donates Flag to School**

Each Thursday, the staff and students of Cole Canyon Elementary School in Murrieta hold an abbreviated flag ceremony that includes a salute to the flag and the singing of the Star Spangled Banner. On Thursday, December 4, this ceremony also included a special flag dedication ceremony. Rafael Lopez, Exalted Ruler of Lake Elsinore Elks Lodge No. 2591, joined other Lodge members to present a 5 foot by 8 foot American Flag to the school.

Rafael spoke about the objectives of the Order of Elks and then presented the flag to Karen Michaud, School Principal. She thanked Rafael and the Elks, stating that the strong wind conditions in Murrieta made the regular replacement of tattered flags a necessity.

Everyone saluted the flag, which had already been hoisted up the school flag pole, then the school's "Coyote Choir" lead the audience in singing "The Star Spangled Banner".

There was a special guest present: Cpl. Zackary Jasperson, USMC, the son of Arnette Jasperson (who is a teacher at the school) was introduced. Cpl. Jasperson had just returned from duty in Iraq. Mrs. Michaud presented him with a special plaque for his service and a plaque to be given to his unit at Camp Pendleton. Cpl. Jasperson thanked the school for honoring him and the Marines, while the students saluted him with banners that praised him and the Marine Corps.

**Hollister Elks Lodge No. 1436 Nominates Anthony J. Mauro for Grand Trustee**

WHEREAS, the officers and members of Hollister Elks Lodge No. 1436, California, do recognize and appreciate the leadership, accomplishments and dedicated service rendered by Anthony J. Mauro to the Benevolent and Protective Elks of the United States of America, the California-Hawaii Elks Association, the West Central District, California Lodges, Hollister Lodge; and

WHEREAS, he was initiated into the Order as a member of Hollister Lodge in 1964, has served on various committees, went through the chairs, was elected Exalted Ruler in 1971-1972, served on the Board of Trustees for 2 separate 5-year terms, being elected chairman twice, and was granted honorary life membership in 1996; and

WHEREAS, he has served the California-Hawaii Elks Association as a certified word judge for 25 years, as Vice-President 1982-1983, as Gold Coat Chairman for 5 years, as Trustee for 3 years, as Vice-President at Large 1994-1995, as President in 1995-1996, and the Meetings Committee for 5 years, the last 3 as chairman; and

WHEREAS, he has faithfully and effectively served the Grand Lodge as District Deputy in 1985-1986, served as the District Leader for 15 years, served on the Grand Lodge, Lodge Activities/State Association Committee from 2004-2007, the last year as Secretary; and

WHEREAS, he served in the United States Coast Guard and was honorably discharged; and

WHEREAS, he started working in the family office supply business in 1958, became a partner in 1968, and incorporated in 1979 when his brother entered the business, and he was one of five individuals that grouped together to start a co-op originally to support small business. He served on the Board of Directors for 15 years, and today, after mergers and acquisitions, is the largest office supply co-op in the world, is a past member of the San Benito County Chamber of Commerce, member and Past President in 1994 of the Hollister Downtown Merchants Association, member and Past President in 1994 of the Hollister Le Tip Group; and

WHEREAS, he has accomplished all this with the help, love and support of his wife of 43 years, Carol, and their daughters Karen and Joan, and their granddaughter Camryn;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the officers and members of Hollister Elks Lodge No. 1436 are honored and privileged to present at the 2009 Grand Lodge Convention in Portland, Oregon, the name of our fellow member, Anthony J. Mauro, as a candidate for the office of Grand Trustee of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks of the United States of America.

**Santee-Lakeside Lodge No. 2698 Provides Dinner and Gift Baskets**

For the last 20 years Santee-Lakeside has provided families with Christmas Dinner plus several weeks worth of food and staples. This year the Lodge provided food and staples to 33 families and seniors.



**Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672 Welcomes GER Paul Helsel**

The Hon. Paul D. Helsel, GER, his charming wife, Jane, and their entourage, visited the Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672 during the New Years Day holiday. They were escorted to the various functions and activities by the Exalted Ruler of the Pasadena Lodge, Thomas Gorden Jr. and his staff. A tightly scheduled agenda included a welcome dinner, viewing the last minute touches to Rose Parade floats, an afternoon at Santa Anita Race Track, and the formal New Years Eve Ball. The Rose Parade was viewed from the grandstand on the front lawn of the lodge on New Years Day. Later that afternoon they attended the University of Southern California vs. Pennsylvania State in the Rose Bowl game then enjoyed a sumptuous farewell dinner. GER Helsel expressed his gratitude and thanks to the members of the Pasadena Lodge for their kindness and generosity as the host lodge for this traditional New Year's visit. They especially enjoyed the nice sunny weather as he and his wife had recently arrived from Philadelphia, PA.



*Left to Right: Thomas Gorden Jr., ER, Hon. Paul D. Helsel, GER; Richard J. Burg, Administrative Assistant to the GER, Aron Anderson, New Years Eve Chairman on New Year's Eve.*

**Rancho Cordova Elks Lodge No. 2484 Helps 1,642 CA Military Families**

The Rancho Cordova Elks Lodge "Catch The Spirit" Project was established to provide assistance to military families in need throughout the Northern California area. It also provides assistance to families of "At-Risk Youth" in the local community. During the December Christmas holiday season, the project provided "Christmas Baskets" to 1,642 National Guard and U.S. Army, Navy, Marine, and Coast Guard families throughout Northern and Central California. The project also provided 100 additional "Baskets" to the Rancho Cordova Police Department to deliver to families of "At-Risk Youth". Each family received a turkey or a ham; three huge boxes filled with crackers, cookies, nuts, juice, soups, fruit, canned goods, stuffing, rice, boxed meals, bread and pastries; a case of Prego spaghetti sauce, and a case of sodas. Overall, 11,494 boxes were delivered, including 400 toys and 40 Christmas trees. Additionally, a complete Christmas dinner was provided to 350 U.S. Army Reserve personnel of the 319th Signal Battalion and their families.

This was a real community effort. Troops and families from the National Guard and Reserve units put in a large amount of off-duty time to pack and assemble the "Baskets" so that others could have a nice Christmas. Other members of the community helping the Elks in the effort were the local California Conservation Corps, the local chapter of the American Red Cross, the Rancho Cordova 4-H Club, the Navy Sea Cadets, the National Guard Explorer Scouts and the Rancho Cordova Police Department. Vehicle and air support from the Guard and Reserve Commands, and the generous donations from the various businesses

**Brawley Elks Lodge No. 1420 Holds Its First Annual Veterans Dinner**

On November 21, Brawley Lodge No. 1420 held its first annual Veterans dinner. Eighty to eighty-five veterans and their families were in attendance. Captain Hubbard of the El Centro Naval Base was the keynote speaker. The Captain's tales of his first visit to the Brawley Lodge kept the audience enthralled.

South District Elks Veterans Service Chairperson, Carol Lieser and her husband District Vice President John Lieser were present for the dinner. Carol made a presentation to the Brawley Lodge for their meritorious service to the Veterans. Brawley Lodge Veterans Service chairperson, Kathleen Allison and co-chair Sam Couchman presented Carol with a framed certificate of appreciation and a special commemorative gold coin.

Veterans from all the conflicts from WWII to present day Iraq were present. Each veteran received a certificate of gratitude and thanks for their service and a silver commemorative coin.

Present also were South District DDGER Barbara Knox and her husband, PDDGER Chuck Knox, who is a veteran and received a silver coin.

The entire dinner had been made possible through donations and was free to everyone attending. It was truly Elkdom at its finest.



and food suppliers also contributed to the success of the project, along with the donation of warehouse space by Buzz Oates, and an Impact Grant from the Elks National Foundation. The Army Guard and Reserves and the Marine Reserves provided over 50 military vehicles to move the provisions, and the Air National Guard provided a C-130 to deliver "Baskets" to Los Alamedas and San Diego for families of the 40th Infantry Division. (Article by PER Al Russell, and photo by PER Neil Bodine).



*Left to right: Rancho Cordova Elks "Catch The Spirit" Project Manager Bob Burns Jr., Bob's service dog "Caesar" and California Army National Guard Double Deuce Transportation Battalion E-7 Sgt Carl Adams organizing the "Christmas Basket" deliveries.*



Century Club Donations- November 22, 2008 through January 22, 2009

DONOR	LODGE NO.
Frances Abraham	1427
Clair Abts	1427
Ted Sanderson & Thomas Adams (5)	1918
Linda Aguirre	1251
Alex's Tire	1799
Arthur & Barbara Allen (2)	832
Almquist Sales	1799
Art Amelio	1430
John Armitage	2103
Richard Bacon	1587
Bob Bagwell	1474
Calvin Bailey	1608
Luke Baker	2068
Larry Bakken	1787
Gary Barker	2733
Rick Barone, Jr.	6
Pam Beckwith	2733
Arlene Bennett	6
Lilly Bennett	559
Fred Bergstrom	1073
Sharon Bettencourt	1691
Blythe Ambulance	1799
Earl Bouchard	2098
Christine Brown	2020
Jim Brown	1587
Rollin Brown	6
Irene Brunson	2013
John Burger	6
CB Plumbing	1799
Edie Caffrey	1430
Callan Oil/Lovekin Liquor	1799
Stan Campbell	2733
Richard Carstens (2)	1250
Fred Casey	1250
George Castellanos	2013
Chaffin Farms	1799
John Chandler	1073
Rodney Chang	616
Don Checchi	906
Kathy Checchi	906
E.D. Cheeley (5)	616
Barbara Cherry (5)	6
Katherine Johnson Chugon	168
Stephen Clazie	6
David Coffman	1567
John K.K. Collins	616
Faygie Colton	888
Shirmey Colwell	2504
Barbara Conner	2801
Paul Cooper	1799
Joe Coulter (3)	2733
Crawford & Associates	1799
William C. Cridland	2103
Lon Croddy	1289
Russell Crosson	616
Christopher Crowe	1567
Cyr Aviation	1799
Carl Davis	1430
Gerald Davis	2274
Duane Day	2299
Desert Critical Care/Desert Air	1799
The Desert Ratz (4)	2095
Chris Despol	2724
Elizabeth Despol	2724
Frank Diano	1712
Diva's Closet/Curves	1799
Rosemary Dix	1567
Constandine Docous	2103

DONOR	LODGE NO.
Ben Drake	2699
Nettie Drake	2699
Bill Duran	1430
Willie Edwards	1913
Elks Lodge No. 6 Golf Club	6
Joe Elwell	6
Karen Emery	2013
Gerri Endicott	2095
Richard Enea	1474
Erica Entz (2)	1691
Marilyn Facha (3)	6
Frank Furtado (3)	1474
Larry Galper	1250
Jason Goodrow	2013
Milton Grau	322
Delorese Gregoire (2)	616
Josh Hachadourian (2)	3
Aubrey Halford	2031
Virgil Hansen	1328
Richard Hanson	6
Joann Haugen	2095
Richard Haugen	2095
Mark Hayden	1799
Carl Hebenstreit (5)	616
Richard Henderson	1712
Dan Hertz	2013
Fred Hewins	1474
Gordon Hilchey	2733
Dick Hill	1289
Marilyn Hooton	6
Richard Hoover	1799
Kenneth Horst	6
Greg Howe	2733
Wilbur Howe	1712
Patrick Ileyay	1539
Inland Builders	1799
Bill James	2543
Joey De Connick Farms	1799
Barry Johnson	2299
Jim & Marion Jones (2)	1430
Richard L. Jones	1728
Rose Karadsheh	2103
John P. Kearney	6
Geraldine King	6
Joel Kroeker	2699
Barbara Kutscher	2103
La Casita Dos	1799
Doug Larsen	614
Lounge Lizards	1811
Arthur & Marjorie Lovell	1259
Bob Lowe	2103
Rita Lowe	2103
Jack Lower	1787
Arthur Bud W. Lush	616
Dennis Malone	1289
Ernest Mandere	1073
Carl Maple	1643
June McClure	1251
Ralph McCornack	2733
Mike McNeill	1250
Bob Medellin (2)	1539
Lee Melville	2444
Jody Mentzer	2038
Clair Miller	1712
Gervin Miyamoto	616
Forest Moffet	2103
Jeffie Moffet	2103
Walter Moody	1980
Eilene Moore	1289
Bob Moreda	2432

DONOR	LODGE NO.
Beverly Morgan	1811
Virginia Morrow (3)	1328
Timothy Mullins	6
Richard Nakasone	616
Ray Nielsen	6
Robert Noland	1913
Dorothy Odsen	1913
Patrick O'Keefe	2013
Philip Otterbeck	2655
Philip Otterbeck	2655
Louis Pandol	1761
Isaac Parsons	6
John Paulsen	2733
Doug Payne	2733
Janet Pearce	2117
Chris Peepe	1689
Emily Phelps	2011
Robert Pitts	1643
The Players Sales, Inc.	1799
Jack Porter	2733
LeRoy "Roy" Potter	1587
Richard Pratt	1430
Gary Pringle	1712
Anita Pugh	6
Phil Quast	1567
Rayner Ranches	1799
Christine Rehberg	2333
Steve Reilly	1073
River Run	1799
Edmund Robben	6
Daisy Roberts	1980
Dwight Roberts	1980
Ronald L. Roberts	6
Tony & Melba Rodriguez (2)	1740
Ture Roslund (8)	1712
Lawrence Rotharmel	6
Thomas Rotharmel	6
William Rowlette	2026
James Rutherford	2095
Dr. Sahlolbei	1799
William Sampino	6
Dale Scanlon	1289
Hugh Scanlon	1289
Michael Seligsohn	1712
Daniel Shadden	1787
Robert Shaull	1799
Rose Shaw	1740
Joe Silva	1474
Canaro Smith, Jr.	6
Jim Smith	1430
Wanda Smith	1430
Solar Distributors	1799
Leo Soto	1430
State Farm Insurance - Robert Crain	1799
David Story	2432
Fred Strayhorn	6
Robert Strecker	1799
Robert Strickland	2733
Taco Belles of Walnut Creek Lodge	1811
Raymond Thielen, II	6
Vernon Tinsley	2050
Trail Dusters RV Club (3)	1073
Dorothy Trapanese	6
Carmo Trinidad	1991
Juliana Turner	1712
Grant Tuttle (2)	2333
Valley Beverage Distributors	1799
Maggie Vandergon	2733

Continued from Pg. 10

DONOR	LODGE NO.
Benjamin Verde	1905
J.C. Vickerman	2299
Don Vincent	1289
Allen Ward (2)	1689
Larry Welch	2103
Wayne Weller	1567
Muriel White	1740
Rudy Whitmer	1712
Kristie Wiest (3)	888
Wilbur Ellis Company	1799
James Williams (5)	2599
Dennis K.K. Wong	616
Norman Wood	616
Steve Worthington	1787
Yellow Mart	1799
Mickey Yost	1691
Tyrus Young	2230
Yreka Elkettes (5)	1980

Millennium Club Donations- November 22, 2008 through January 22, 2009

DONOR	LODGE NO.
Jim & Claudia Buford	1691
Elizabeth Despol	2724
Don Elholm	2419
Herman Bruce Froelich	2031
Hildegard Grill (2)	1285
Ray Harrod (5)	614
O. Maynard Helle	2504
Joan Hoffman	2020
Louis Koellner	2027
Michael McAlpine	672
Robert Noland	1913
Dorothy Odsen	1913
Erma Olivas	2735
Jerry Rucker	836
Don Vincent	1289
James Williams	2599
William G. Williford	2103

Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 Held Police and Fire Recognition

The Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge No. 2477 conducted their 32nd Annual Law Enforcement and Fire-fighter Appreciation night under the direction of Scott Dool, Committee Chairman. Eighty-five members and guests enjoyed a dinner of barbecued baby back ribs and chicken.

The Colors were presented by Lodge-sponsored BSA Troop 763 members Max Seligman, Kevin Driscoll and Antonio Pagano, assisted by Juliet GSA member Alexi Seligman and Jackson Seligman, a member of Cub Scout pack 3763. Scout Kevin Driscoll delivered the invocation.

The Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge jurisdiction includes: Agoura Hills, Oak Park, Westlake, Hidden Valley, Thousand Oaks and Newbury Park. This area is served by the California Highway Patrol, Ventura County Sheriffs Department, and the Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department. Charter member City Councilman Dennis Gillette represented Thousand Oaks. The Ventura County Supervisors also honored the outstanding law enforcement officers and firefighters from each of these area agencies.

In other activities, on December 4th, the lodge had received requests from over 80 families for holiday assistance. The lodge hoped to generate at least \$5,000 to meet the community's need for assistance. Each family was to receive a turkey, food staples, vegetables, milk, and eggs, and each child was to receive at least one new toy. The "El Konejo Kampers" donated \$1,000 to the Lodge's Christmas Basket Program to kick off the fund-raising effort. The lodge sponsored a Christmas tree lot to raise more funds. Thanks to the generosity of the lodge members, and to Carlson's Building Materials, who donated their facility to house the Christmas tree lot, on Saturday, December 20th, Santa's little helpers (the lodge members), manned their sleighs and delivered Christmas baskets to 80 needy families and new toys for 94 children.



Front row, left to right: Michael Marco, Kevin Davis, Daniel Laubscher; middle row, left to right: Pete Sanzone, Rick McClurg, Jon Relles; top row, left to right: Scott Dool, Committee Chairman and Exalted Ruler George Meehan

South San Francisco Lodge No. 2091 Donates Dictionaries

It was an early Christmas for sixty third grade students at Westlake School in Daly City. With the help of The Dictionary Project and the South San Francisco Elks Lodge No. 2091, the students, most of them from low income families, were able to receive much needed dictionaries. PER Ted Wright and member Carl Dalessio had never seen children so happy to receive something so easy to give as a dictionary. In appreciation for the dictionaries, each child sent a thank you letter to the Elks Lodge. The thank you letters show how easy it is to help young children in their education. Ms. Acquisti and the other third grade teachers are to be congratulated in how well all the children behaved during the presentation.





**Piggy Bank**

*Debbie Hosted  
Piggy Bank Chairwoman*

Hello members and friends! 2009 is off to a fast start. By the time this is published, new officers will have been elected and a new Elk fraternal year is soon to begin.

Don't forget, however, that you have until the CHEA convention in May to make your donations to this year's Piggy Bank March. We are trying very hard to reach that \$3,000,000 mark and we still need your help. I know that, in these times of economic stress, we all feel like everyone wants our money, but your donations are sorely needed to maintain the level of care that our kids deserve.

Take a moment to go to the CHEA website [www.chea-elks.org](http://www.chea-elks.org) and click on the "News" link near the top left of the page. Read the article about the "1995 Theme Child -Then and Now". This article emphasizes what we, as members, have enabled our therapy staff members to accomplish. And remember that we have done this not only for Mischa Kennedy, but for many other deserving children since the Major Project started over 50 years ago.

If we each buy just one less soft drink, one less candy bar or one less Big Mac every day, and put that money into our piggy banks, it will mean more precious hours of therapy for our kids. Each penny adds up to help us make it to our \$3,000,000 goal! It is not too big a goal for our member Elks and their friends who have big hearts to accomplish!

I'd like to offer a special thank you to each person who shopped or searched using the Goodsearch.com web site in November and December. We had a nice amount of donations added in both columns. Just because the holiday season is over, don't stop searching and shopping. It's fast and easy and again - every bit helps.

**San Mateo Elks Lodge No. 1112 Hosts Children's Christmas Party**

The San Mateo Elks Lodge No. 1112 held a children's Christmas Party on December 14th. This annual event attracted almost 200 children of all ages. The center-ring entertainment was performed by the delightful clown "Skates", while visiting clown Brian McBride played joyful holiday music. Other clowns who performed were Lodge members: "Champagne" (Orey Facchini) who greeted everyone with music as they arrived; "Dancing Clown" (Richard Farrar) and "Swami" (Ernie Bloom). The added attraction to the festivities was a great model train layout presented by Mike Desing. It took hours to set up and to take down. Thanks, Mike and Susan! It was enjoyed by all.

Thanks, also, to Santa Claus for providing such a jolly time for all the children. They enjoyed talking and laughing with him. And, thanks, also, to Santa's helpers: Pearl Bloom, Marlene McBride, Dorothy Jones, Barbara Gay and Ruth Henning. Jeanne and John Atno helped fill all the goody bags that Santa had for each child. Richard Gay was the photographer of the day and Gerry Byrd was the roaming photographer.



*Santa surrounded by his helpers and a few others who "clowned around" that day. No names were provided for this photo.*

**Drug Awareness**

*Jack Dalton, Drug Awareness Chairman*

Who among us has not been affected by a family member, relative or close friend that has become addicted by mind altering drugs? This great nation is faced with a serious drug abuse and addiction problem. However, there is a solution. This epidemic can be nipped in the bud by educating today's youth to ensure a better future for them and a drug free tomorrow for our nation.

Each of you can be proud that we are members of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. You can be proud that you are part of the largest volunteer drug awareness program in the USA. The Drug Awareness Program consists of a dedicated army of men and women who volunteer their time and talents to this noble cause. These Elks are committed to eliminating the use and abuse of illicit substances by all members of society. They believe that, in order to ensure a bright future for our country, it is essential that our children be raised in a drug-free environment.

The Grand Lodge spends approximately \$3.5M annually to promote the Drug Awareness Program, primarily to support, produce and distribute drug awareness literature, and the "Hard Choices" comic books and coloring books.

Many Exalted Rulers have been reluctant to, or cannot find, a member to appoint as their Lodge Drug Awareness Program Chairman. This is one of a few programs whose success can bring great satisfaction to its committee members and to the lodge members. Share the pride of the children who write drug awareness essays or who enter the drug awareness poster contests. Witness the joy on children's faces as they accept their very own third-grade dictionary.

I would like to remind the many Lodge Community Relations Chairmen who have special programs honoring our Law Enforcement Personnel to please check out the "Enrique Camarena Award". This history of this award is described on page 17 of the Drug Awareness Program manual and its guidelines are on page 18. The details about another recognition program, the "Starfish" award, can be found on page 21 - please review this award as an adjunct to the "Enrique Camarena" award.

Now is the time to join the fight to curb the usage of illicit drugs! Become familiar with the Drug Awareness Program by viewing the Grand Lodge Drug Awareness Program web site at <http://www.elks.org/dap/>. If that site piques your curiosity, then you can find additional information on the CHEA web site at <http://www.chea-elks.org/drugawareness.html>. Check it out!

**Vacaville Elks Lodge No. 2638 Delivers 1,878 Dictionaries**

Vacaville Lodge Elks Lodge No. 2638 donated the money needed to purchase 1,878 dictionaries that were distributed to the third grade students in 22 schools in the Fairfield/Suisun School District. The third graders at the Holy Spirit Catholic School also received dictionaries. All of the dictionaries were delivered to each school by PDDGER John Holsapple from the Vacaville Lodge.



*John Holsapple, DDGER, with one of the third grade classrooms that received dictionaries.*

**West Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 2529**

The West Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 2529 held their annual Christmas Party for Kids on December 20th. It was the very best ever! All the children decorated the Christmas tree and made picture frames for the pictures that they had taken with Santa Claus. In other news, our lodge will be busy in January 2009 delivering 600 dictionaries to 7 schools in our school district.



*Santa Claus (Gary Collum, PER), Mrs. Claus (Norma Nafus), Donny and his mother Charlene Sprink.*

**Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801 Drug Awareness and Hoop Shoot Competitions**

The Temecula Valley Elks Lodge No. 2801 held a Drug Awareness Poster Contest for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students in the Temecula and Murrieta Elementary schools. They also held a Drug Awareness Essay contest for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students in the same schools. The theme for both contests was "Get Smart...Don't Start". There were over 100 poster entries with the best entries for three girls and three boys selected as winners. Each was presented with a framed certificate of award and a gift certificate from Barnes & Noble. The winning posters were sent on to the Elks' District Level for additional judging and possible awards. The Drug Awareness Essay Contest had 476 entries and the top three essays for the girls and the top three essays for the boys were selected. Each of the essay winners were presented with a framed certificate and a United States Savings Bond. The winning essays were sent on to the Elks' District Level for additional judging and awards. The winning students were invited to a dinner and an Award Presentation Program at the Temecula Valley Elks Lodge on December 9th.

On December 6, 2008 the Temecula Valley Elks' held their annual Hoop Shoot Competition at the Temecula Community Recreation Center. Thirteen area schools participated with more than 60 students competing. Each of the schools held a Hoop Shoot Competition and sent their top three boys and the top three girls to compete in the lodge contest. There were three age groups: 8-9 year olds; 10-11 year olds; and 12-13 year olds. Boys and girls competed separately and trophies were presented to the top three boys and the top three girls from each age group.

**National Veterans Service**

*Frank Chicago, PDDGER  
CHEA National Veterans Service Chair*

I thank the 19 District Deputies and District National Veterans Service Chairmen who made it possible for CHEA to achieve 100% participation in the 2009 Veterans Remembrance Report contest!

The judging is complete and it is my pleasure to announce the 6 Lodges that will represent CHEA at the Grand Lodge competition for the National Veterans Remembrance Report Contest award. The judges will evaluate the entries from each State Association for each membership division.

The CHEA membership division winners are:

- Division 1 (300 and under): Concord Lodge No. 1994 (Central District)
- Division 2 (301-500): Ventura Lodge No. 1430 (West Central Coast District)
- Division 3 (501-700): Fremont Lodge No. 2121 (Bay District)
- Division 4 (701-1100): San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 322 (West Central Coast District)
- Division 5 (1101 to 1500): Hemet Lodge No. 1740 (Southeast District)
- Division 6 (1501 and over): Santa Maria Lodge No. 1538 (West Central Coast District)

The judging was tough and all the lodges did an outstanding job of supporting our Veterans this year. It is just amazing to see all of the hard work that is done by our veteran volunteers throughout California and Hawaii. Keep up the good work!

The appropriate awards will be presented at our Association convention in Ontario.

Remember, through your efforts, we are "Making Dreams Come True" for our veterans.

**Canoga Park Elks Lodge No. 2190 Feeds the Needy**

On Saturday, December 20th, the Canoga Park Elks Lodge No. 2190 distributed the annual Christmas Food Baskets to 29 needy families with 59 children and 46 disabled seniors in the Canoga Park area. There were 12 volunteer drivers and 20 members who helped to pack the baskets. Each basket included turkey or Cornish game hens, stuffing, cranberry sauce, potatoes, yams, canned vegetables, butter, milk, eggs, bread and toys for all the children.



*Left to Right: John, Chris and Dawn Conner.*



**Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625 Honors Firefighters**

On January 6, 2009, the Lancaster Elks Lodge No. 1625 honored three outstanding firefighters from the City of Lancaster. Firefighter Specialist Greg Short, Lancaster Station 117; Firefighter Specialist Donald Galick, Lancaster Station 33; and Firefighter/Paramedic Kent Hess, Quartz Hill Station 84 were each recognized.

The event Chair, Jerry Mundell, opened the awards ceremony then introduced Assistant Chief Metro. Chief Metro made a PowerPoint presentation about the 9-11 World Trade Center tragedy and updated the audience on present and future attitudes toward the tragedy. Battalion Chiefs Blackburn, Cosey and Meredith introduced the honorees and gave a short background history for each of them. Exalted Ruler Beverly Jaramillo and Jerry Mundell presented a plaque in the name of Lancaster Lodge No. 1625 to each honoree. They also received scrolls of recognition from the City of Lancaster and Los Angeles County.

For the City of Lancaster, Bishop Henry Hearn, Mayor Emeritus, representing Mayor R. Rex Parris, made the scroll presentations. Norm Hickling represented Los Angeles County Supervisor Mike Antonovich to present the scrolls from the county.

The families of the honored firefighters and many other deserving firefighters and their families from the Lancaster area were in attendance. Also attending were many members of the Lancaster Elks Lodge and their spouses. The firefighters and their families were treated to dinner before the award presentations.

**Lake Tahoe No. 2094 Hosts Children**

On December 8, Lake Tahoe No. 2094 hosted children of limited means to a Christmas shopping morning at the local K-Mart. This is an annual event for our Lodge. Eight children participated this year and the Lodge spent approximately \$1,000.



Loyal Knight Elton Stone, Exalted Ruler Ray Olsen, and Esquire Tom Worrell greet the children.

**El Cajon Elks Lodge No. 1812 "We The People"**

El Cajon Elks Lodge No. 1812 sponsored the "We the People" competition involving twelve San Diego County Middle Schools and over 400 students. A four minute presentation on six different units of study pertaining to the framing of our Constitution and how it applies to their lives today was presented by teams from each of the participating schools. First place trophies were awarded to Black Mountain Middle School (Team B) representing the North County schools and to Oak Grove Middle School representing the East County schools. Plaques were also awarded to each team from the twelve participating schools.

**Lapsation**  
Bob Ostini, PDDGER  
Lapsation Chairman

Where has everybody gone? Was it something I said? Actually it was probably something you didn't say and something you didn't do. I have heard too many stories of lodges, mine included, that once had large memberships and now have a dwindling membership.

Unfortunately, it is past time to make the tough decision to drop yet more members who have not paid their dues for the 2008-2009 fraternal year. Your lodge should avoid paying another year of Grand Lodge and CHEA per-capita fees for disinterested members. Your lodge's per-capita fees should be an investment in your lodge's future.

Now is the time to start working on improving your lapsation experience for the next fraternal year by focusing on membership retention. Prior to the start of the 2009-2010 lodge year, every newly-elected and installed Exalted Ruler should give each of his or her Officers and Committee Chairpersons a copy of the "Exalted Rulers, Officers and Committee Members Manual, (No. 510500)". In addition, each committee chairperson should own a copy of the Grand Lodge manual written for their committee. Grand Lodge has a written manual for every committee and you can order them today! Each committee member who has internet access, and who has registered as an Elk on the Grand Lodge web site, can view the manuals online (or download them) at <http://www.elks.org/grandlodge/manuals/>.

The Exalted Ruler's next step should be to put together an attractive program of activities and events for your lodge membership. Remember that an active lodge is an attractive lodge. The secret to improving member retention is simple. Give your members a reason to stay around! Make it a matter of pride and fun to be a member of your Lodge!

If your lodge is not yet using the "Second-Step Program" to get new members involved, then download it from [www.chea-elks.org/lapsation.html](http://www.chea-elks.org/lapsation.html) and start using it now. Consider every member a new member and use the Second-Step program to get as many members involved as you can. (Can I suggest here that you start with your habitually late dues payers? Just asking.)

Okay. If you have read this far, maybe you are serious about stemming the tide of reducing membership. Let us not give up on our lapsed members. Get a few members to help contact these lost members and find out why they quit paying their dues. Have an exit interview form handy (also available at [www.chea-elks.org/lapsation.html](http://www.chea-elks.org/lapsation.html)) and fill it out during your conversation. Then, review these forms and see how you might encourage some of these members to reinstate. More importantly, determine if you can see how your lodge can prevent more members from getting discouraged about continuing their membership in your Lodge.

**Palo Alto Elks Lodge No. 1471 Sponsors Bingo at VA Hospital**

The Palo Alto Elks Lodge Veterans Committee held their first Bingo of the New Year at the Veterans Hospital in Palo Alto. 27 players attended the bingo from the Spinal Cord Injury ward, the Traumatic Brain Injury ward, the Fisher House and the PTSD unit.

The Veterans Committee was helped with students from the local Palo Alto high school. In addition to the Elks and the students, there were 7 others who helped those veterans who were playing in their hospital beds that had been rolled into the room.

In addition to the hospital canteen script handed out to bingo winners the Elks gave out a CD/AM/FM personal player, an AM/FM arm-band radio, and various sports memorabilia items consisting of Key rings, money clips, 2 watches, an NFL finger ring and personal water bottles. There were enough prizes that every participant went back to their hospital room with a prize. One patient from the PTSD won the Steelers NFL ring, his home team. To ensure the PTSD patients' privacy, no pictures were taken during this event.

**Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 Assists the Simi Valley Police Department**

The Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 collected stuffed animals again this year for the Simi Valley Police Dept. and Emergency Response Teams. Each year, after the Marines "Toys For Tots" drive at the lodge, the lodge starts a stuffed animal drive. These stuffed animals are used at "Safe Harbor" for sexual assault victims and all the Emergency Response Teams carry them. This year the Elks were honored to have Sr. Officer T. Moyer and Victim Advocate Renee Johnson pull up in a black and white to collect the animals.

In other news, the lodge held a Pearl Harbor Remembrance on December 7, 2008. The lodge was honored to have Ty Wilcox, representing the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 10049, Simi Valley, and Marine Corps League members Larry Frischer, Sam Castellon and Tory Olea from the Ventura County Marine Corps League Detachment 597 present. The special Guest of Honor was Bob Krause. Bob is a member of the Simi Valley Elks and is a Pearl Harbor Survivor. Bob, now 87, was a Master First Class assigned to the Destroyer Tender USS Dobin in 1941. Bob and Exalted Ruler Olivia Morales gave a brief history on the events of December 7th, 1941 to those present. Following that presentation, Bob Krause received a United States Flag that was retired from the Simi Valley Elks from ER Olivia Morales and the Americanism Chairman, Dennis Wavra. Afterwards, the lodge members, the Marines Corps League members, the VFW members, and the Guest of Honor, and others present, proceeded outside where the Marine Corps League presented the Simi Valley Elks Lodge No. 2492 with a new American Flag. After these ceremonies, lunch was served.

The lodge continues its dedication to the Boy Scouts of America. On January 11, 2009, the lodge hosted 120 scouts and guests for an "Arrow of Light" ceremony. This ceremony bridges Cub Scouts to the Troop level. The ceremonies were held inside and outside of the lodge. A Chinese buffet luncheon was served inside. The guests enjoyed desserts that were prepared by the Cubs themselves. After lunch, the guests moved outside. The scene was set by majestic rocks and oak trees. The fire was lit and the "Bridge" was ready. One Cub at a time sparked the fire and walked the bridge. It was very impressive! The last Cub to walk the bridge was greeted by a Scout from Troop No. 622 and Scout Master Mike Gulotta. The Scout pinned the Cub, then the members of Troop 622 saluted him. Troop 622 is sponsored by the Simi Valley Sunrise Rotary Club. The Cub Scouts from Pack 3642 have been sponsored by the Simi Valley Elks Lodge for 7 years. The new Scouts are: Robert Ota, James Bence, Ryan Bilbee, Jack Delgado, Hunter Buch, Gabriel Colmenares and Joey Alfred.



Left to Right: Elks Club Manager Doug Wright, Sr. Officer T. Moyer and Victim Advocate Renee Johnson with a few of the \$1,000+ of stuffed animals.

**Northeast District Hoop Shoot**

The Portola California High School gym was the recent site of the NE District Hoop Shoot on January 11, 2009. The first place winners received a gold trophy, second place a silver, and all contestants were given a new basketball. The boys and girls were from the communities of Portola, Quincy and Chester, and they ranged in age from 8 to 13. About 100 supporters were there in the stands to support these promising basketball players. It was truly an inspiration to all of the Elks who helped with the hoop shoot to see the determination and drive each child displayed during the contest.



All of the participants in the Northeast District Hoop Shoot pose with the Hoop Shoot Co-Chairman Ron Jacobson (left rear) and Chairman Greg McIntire (right rear).

**Yucca Valley Elks Lodge No. 2314 Children's Christmas Party**

The Yucca Valley Lodge No. 2314 hosted their annual Christmas Party for the underprivileged children of the Morongo Basin on December 21st. The lodge hosted 130 children who enjoyed crafts, Christmas music, sing-a-longs, and were entertained by a Christmas clown and two Christmas artists. The children were adorned with custom balloon art and facial Christmas designs. The afternoon was rounded out with a free meal, a visit with Santa, a gift for everyone and a bag full of goodies to take home. In addition, the lodge also donated gifts to the children of Unity Home, which is a home for battered women, and to the Twenty-Nine Palms Marine Base "Toys for Tots" program.



Lodge members displaying some of the donated toys. Front Row: Genny Loving, Maggie Lowry, Sharidan Bickford and John Olietti; Back Row: Event Chairman Kiria Vincent, Tom Vincent and Delbert Funk.



**Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 Dictionary Program and Other Community Activities**

The Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley Elks Lodge No. 2444 Dictionary Project Chairman Pat Martino recently donated 4,300 dictionaries to the elementary schools in the Saddleback and Capistrano Valley School Districts. While delivering the dictionaries, Martino, and his team of Elks volunteers, put on an entertaining 15 minute presentation to the third graders. He asks the kids if they know what an Elk is. After the predictable response that an elk is a four-legged animal, he explains, "Yes but we're the two-legged, 'people' kind of Elks and we're here to give you each a gift." The children are instructed to print their names in the book and to keep it as their very own personal dictionary for the years to come. Team member Andy Costello encourages the kids to learn just one new word from their dictionaries every day. He then delights them with his explanation of the longest word in the English language containing 1,909 letters. The long unpronounceable word describing a scientific formula is a fun thing found on the last page of the dictionary and is an immediate hit with the children. The lodge joined the National Dictionary Project three years ago and has since distributed over 13,000 dictionaries in the Saddleback Valley, earning much praise from the teachers and hundreds of thank-you cards from the students.



**Pat Martino and ER Michael Holohan at Carl H. Hankey Elementary School.**



**Andy Costello and Christmas party guest.**

rang with the holiday spirit as the Elks played host to over 220 very special guests. The gathering was one of the largest parties of its kind in Orange County for some of the most beloved people in the community. Each guest enjoyed a personal visit with Santa and received a bag full of gifts and a photo with Santa. The Elks volunteers also served a hot lunch and plenty of homemade cookies and punch. DJ entertainers Irene and Larry Stevens kept the music flowing much to the delight of the merry-makers who sang and danced all afternoon. The Laguna Woods Clown Alley clowns were again on hand in full regalia passing out balloon hats and bringing smiles to the faces of the partygoers. "This event couldn't happen without the help and support of dozens of people and the finan-

cial backing from the Elks Bingo Committee," said Exalted Ruler Michael Holohan. "We actually had to turn down two late requests from two care homes because we just couldn't accommodate any more people. I hope they will get their requests in early for our next big event in August which will be the Sock Hop for the Developmentally Disadvantaged."

In another event, the Lodge honored the South County Law Enforcement and Firefighters Associations on January 17th. One hundred seventy-five guests and members honored 21 South County awards recipients. The Tesoro High School Music boosters club provided members who helped to serve the guests. The Orange County Fire Authority Color Guard posted the colors and their Pipes and Drum Corp entertained the audience. Police Chiefs, Fire Chiefs, CHP representatives, and the Orange County Sheriff's Department joined dignitaries from the local community in the awards celebration.

**Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672 Gives "Starfish" Award**

The Pasadena Elks Lodge No. 672 recently presented the Drug Awareness Program "Starfish" award to State Senator Jack Scott (21st Senatorial District, Pasadena, CA). Senator Scott was recognized for his ardent support of the Pasadena Elks Lodge's Drug Awareness Programs. His continued efforts have truly benefited youth, school districts and the community at large.



**Left to Right: Thomas Gorden, Jr., ER, Senator Jack Scott, Angel Corral, Drug Awareness Chair for the Lodge and John Cabibbo, San Gabriel Valley District Drug Chairman**

