



VOLUME 22/ISSUE 12

MATT RODRIGUEZ, EXALTED RULER

SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA

DECEMBER 2022

EXALTED RULER

Matt Rodriguez

SANTA MARIA ELKS SUPPORT THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY VETERANS STANDDOWN

Members,

As we come to the end of 2022, let us reflect on the year and give thanks for what we have and what we have done. Some may say that they haven't done anything.



Well, if you are reading this then you have made it this far and that is a positive thing. We always need to seek out the positive in life. The negative is a given and will be pointed out to you. The people around you are part of what makes you strong: Thus, if they are with you then you are stronger; if they are against you then you need to be stronger as to not let it get you.

As an Elk Member and an Officer, I have seen this all around me and take it all in and use it. Reflecting on this past year, I do know that it is not easy nor do I try to please everyone. We need to always try to do what is best for the Lodge. I'd like you to keep these words on your mind, especially when you are here. "It is the duty of the Members, under their Obligation, to assist in upholding and maintaining the honor and dignity of the Order and of this Lodge." The most important thing we as Members need to remember is that Santa Maria Lodge #1538 has a long history and it is a privilege to be part of it and the words "Honor and Dignity" are what makes us so great. I ask that our Members and their guests treat our Lodge and everyone here with Honor and Dignity, just as you would like to be treated. I hope all Members feel this way and will ensure that their guests will also act toward one another with Brotherly Love.



continued, page 2

All American Lodge

Elks Horn News Offered free of charge
Vol. 22, Issue No. 12 is a monthly
periodical issued by the
Santa Maria Elks Lodge No. 1538
1309 N. Bradley Road
Santa Maria, CA 93454

Credit cards accepted in the Members' Bar with a \$20 minimum purchase

CRYING TOWEL

October 6	
Richard C. Oberly	\$500
Carlos Cortez	\$500
Aaron L. Apodaca	\$500
October 13 NO Drawing	
October 20	
Alx Sanchez	\$100 PRESENT
Corky Ball	\$100 PRESENT
Joshua Forman	\$100 PRESENT
Bryan Feldpouch	\$100 PRESENT
Liz Brown	\$100 PRESENT
October 27	
Levi Newland	\$500
Raymond L. Booth Jr.	\$500
Michael D. Hamilton	\$500

MAJOR PROJECT PURPLE PIG DONORS

David Lombardo	Joe Hernandez
Phil Davis	Vicki Melville
Victor Diaz	Sunny Nash
Ray Booth	George Moore
Kathy Booth	Chuck Biely
Lewis Gault	
Rodger Bunch	

PHOTOS IN THIS ISSUE CONTRIBUTED BY

Lauri Stoneburner
 Randy De La Pena
 Ray Sanchez
 Alx Sanchez
 Claudia Sanchez
 Kim Newman

EXALTED RULER CONTINUED

I'm asking, as you start your New Year, join a volunteer team; there is a place for you,--just take that first step. We Members need to keep Santa Maria #1538 shining for another 95 years.

AnnMarie and I would like to wish all the members and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We appreciate all of you!

"May God be with us Always"
 Fraternally,
 Matt Rodriguez
 Exalted Ruler

LODGE ACTIVITIES



Exalted Ruler Matt Rodriguez presents an Elk of the Month plaque to Dave Linsky for April



Exalted Ruler Matt Rodriguez presents an Elk of the Month plaque to Matt Austen for June



Secretary Phil Daughton presents Leading Knight Aaron Castellanos with a letter and pin from the Grand Exalted Ruler for sponsoring three or more new Members



Exalted Ruler presents \$100 each to Attendance Drawing winners: Organist Bryan Feldpouch (who donated \$50 to the Veterans), Corky Ball, Alx Sanchez, Joshua Forman, and Treasurer Liz Brown (who donated it to Golden Circle of Champions)



Greg Rodriguez presents a \$200 donation from Bingo Kitchen Workers to ENF Chair Suzanne Filmore



Touring Elks presents a \$250 donation to Rick Silva for the annual Christmas toys and candy distribution by the Guadalupe Fire Department



Bingo Workers Suzanne Filmore, PER Tommy Gee, Past Elk of the Year Rick Martino presents a \$3,000 donation to Leading Knight Aaron Castellanos for the Major Project Leading Knight's Challenge while Major Project Chair Chris Wilson looks on

CHARITY LEADING KNIGHT

Aaron Castellanos



Members,

I would like to spotlight the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project Inc. which is the part of the California-Hawaii Elks Association that is committed to addressing the unmet needs of children with disabilities throughout

California and Hawaii by developing a program of supporting services to aid these children at no cost to the families and without discrimination. This unique program which is better known as CHEMPI, for 72 years has funded 32 paid therapists and preschool vision screeners to help disabled children when no other organization can or will. These CHEMPI professional therapists and preschool vision screeners travel, sometimes at great distances to help children get the care they need. During vision screening tests early signs of amblyopia ("Lazy Eye") are often found. This medical condition, when caught early, can be corrected and save a child from going blind, quite literally.

Throughout the year the program accepts donations from our Members in order to maintain its mission of support. This can be made possible during Membership renewal by either a one time gift or by the choice to pledge a recurring monthly amount of \$5 or more, or through the main fundraising arm of the organization known as the Purple Pig. Every Member is given a purple Piggy Bank at Initiation with the simple ask of "A coin a day so they can walk, talk, see and play!" The hope is that once filled they are returned and another is taken.

From the beginning of November to the end of January every Leading Knight is given the challenge to raise as much support as possible and for now my hope is that everyone will do so by choosing one of the following before end of January:

Return all Purple pigs, consider making a donation payable to CHEMPI or become recurring monthly donor by visiting www.chea-elks.org/dev/major-project/donation/ then click "make a recurring donation to CHEMPI!"

What better time to do so than in this time of giving? I thank you for your consideration of support for this amazing program and would like to wish you all the best this holiday season.

As always...Be safe, be careful and take care. And I hope to see all of you at Lodge... (every Thursday night 7:30pm)

Fraternally,
Aaron Castellanos
Esteemed Leading Knight

JUSTICE LOYAL KNIGHT

Steve Jones



Members,

I want to thank John Maretti for his years of dedication and service to the Lodge as Club Manager. Inadvertently, he is one of the reasons I am an Officer of the Lodge today. I'll get to that story in a minute.

While the Officers sit and look pretty in their suits and cowboy hats, the Club Manager is the guy who really runs the day to day operations at the Lodge. He oversees the ordering of the booze and the food, books the bands and the parties, coordinates all catered events, manages the kitchen and the maintenance staff, and puts out a thousand little fires all day every day. I never had the opportunity to interact with any of his predecessors so John is the only Club Manager I have known and his shoes will be hard to fill.

The story of how John was instrumental in my becoming an Officer has to do with the Super Bowl Party. One day he called me up and said that my friend Bob Lewis had agreed to take over the Super Bowl party if I would help him do it. I thought "Bob said that?" Well, if Bob is doing it then I will help him out. Then he called up my friend Bob and told him Steve Jones is going to take over the Super Bowl party if you help him do it. Bob said, "Steve said that?" Well, if Steve is going to do it then I will help him out. And just like that, myself and Bob were Shanghai'd into running the Super Bowl party and we both ended up getting more and more involved with the Lodge as a result. A few years later when Wes Brown was looking for his Officer Corps, he approached us and we both agreed to put on the purple shirts. So: thanks a lot John Maretti - somehow all of this happened because of you.

Maria and I appreciate all that you have done for the Lodge and will miss seeing your grumpy self around and we wish both you and Lynn the best. Your phone will still ring another thousand times from all of us at the Lodge for the next six months, but we hope that in between calls, you get to enjoy your retirement to its fullest.

Fraternally,
Steve Jones
Esteemed Loyal Knight
SteveJones1538@gmail.com

BROTHERLY LOVE LECTURING KNIGHT

Chuck Biely



Members,

Merry Christmas to you all. Here's hoping you are all able to share this special season with family and good friends and that you remain safe and healthy. Remember, the best things in life

are not things.

The Lodge calendar is busy in December, which gives you a great opportunity to VOLUNTEER. (There is that word again.) The Holiday food basket committee can always use help in preparing the food boxes. See Eva Macias' article in this Elks Horn for details on dates and times. And then there is the Kid's Christmas party. What a time for the young and young at heart. Come watch these young faces light up when they see Santa. Pure joy for all to watch.

As always, the New Year's Eve party will once again to be your opportunity to ring in a better new year for all. It gives us all a chance to dress up and really shine. Come join us and have a great time in a safe environment with your Elk family. And yes, your officers will be serving breakfast at 12:30 a.m., including Menudo, sausage and eggs, and biscuits. Such a deal!!

In this special season, keep in mind the reason we are celebrating one special life who walked the Earth over 2000 years ago. Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity are not just words to be heard in Lodge. We need to live by those words and their true meaning.

Fraternally yours,
Chuck Biely
Esteemed Lecturing Knight

Monday Night Grab n Go Dinners will come to an end Dec 19th, we will go back to family dinner served inside only starting January. Thank you to all who have helped these past few years.

**SANTA MARIA ELKS LODGE 1538
CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO ATTEND
OUR ELKS MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR
ALL OF OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS**

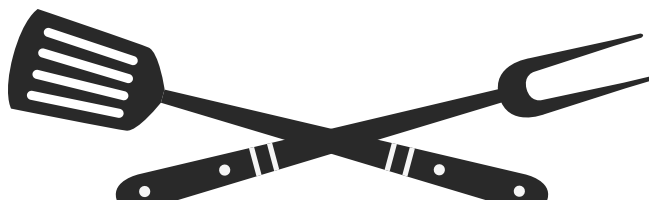
Sunday December 4, 2022 1:00 pm

1309 N. BRADLEY ROAD
SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA 93454

**Cold Cut Buffet will be served following the service
Please call 805-922-1538 to RSVP**

CYO BBQ REPORT FOR JULY

Date	Band	Dinners	X-cuts
7	DJ John Ortiz	307	31
14	Soul'd Out	365	36
21	Ron Miller & Gun Metal Gray	364	38
28	Soul Cool	291	28
Total Dinners Sold		1327	133



ELKS BBQ (A CONTINUING SERIES):

Now About BBQ Chicken

After we published the articles on Santa Maria Elks' styles of BBQs and recipes, there have been a lot of people asking me how some of our crews keep the chicken so moist when we BBQ. Chicken seems as though it would be easier than other types of food to BBQ. The opposite is true. They are one of the most difficult meats to get right. Cook them too long and they are tough and dry; too little they are raw. Most people cook half chickens and they do come out better than breast or thighs. There is more fat in a half chicken to help keep the chicken moist. Half breasts or thighs, the methods are similar.

You can put more seasoning on the chicken if you like as some will wash off later. As you season the chicken using the seasoning I provided in previous articles, you also need to prepare a spray or marinade. I will use spray throughout this article, but if what you are using can't be sprayed you can brush or mop it on. Our Lodge's traditional spray is wine and oil: 2/3 wine, rose or white zin is preferred, and 1/3 vegetable oil. The wine adds some flavor and moisture, and the oil helps to crisp the skin and hold in some moisture. Of course, you can use any mixture of spray you want. Keep in mind that some of what you put in your spray will contain sugar or some other type of sweetener. Ike Simas liked to use Worcestershire sauce. That contains sweeteners. Sweeteners will burn very easily when cooked so keep that in mind.

Once the fire is ready, spray the screen with a no-stick spray such as Pam. Be careful as these sprays are flammable. If your screen is removable that is even better. For half chickens put the chicken on with the bone-side facing down. For other cuts you want the skin side facing up. Adjust the heat until you are at the correct level to hold the back of your hand at the same height for 5 seconds. Heat control is very important. If it is not hot enough it will take too long to cook and will dry out. Too hot and you burn and dry out the outside and may still be uncooked on the inside. The time you cook on each side depends on the size of the pieces you are cooking.

For the average size half chicken, cook on the first side for about 30 minutes and then cook the second side for 15 to 20 minutes. You can tell if it is done by holding the end of the leg bone and twisting it. If it pulls from the meat easily, it is done. You will also see the meat crack open along the bone where the chicken was cut in half. For the breast: cook about 20 minutes on the first side and 10 minutes on the second. Thighs

are about 25 minutes on the first side and 15 minutes on the second side. For all three, take a look at the skin often. If it is turning dark too soon, raise the chicken a little higher from the fire.

No matter what cut or size you are cooking, 60 to 75% of the time is on the first side and the rest on the second. Why? The chicken was cold when you put it on. It needs to come up to temperature before it actually cooks. The second side is already up to temperature and has started to cook before it was even turned. The time on each side must be adjusted for the size of the pieces. Remember the spray you have sitting there? It is as important as the cooking temperature. You don't want to spray for most of the cooking time on the first side, it will just wash off the seasoning. Wait until about 5 minutes before you turn the chicken and spray lightly a couple of times. Turn the chicken and immediately spray it and be generous. It will run down onto the side that is now cooking. The rest of the cooking time spray, spray, spray. The more the better.

Don't use all of your spray. Save a little. Once the chicken is cooked it can be served immediately. But the nice thing about chicken is can be steamed so you can either get other things ready or even cook another batch of chicken if necessary. Put something in the bottom of whatever type of pot or pan you use to keep the chicken from directly sitting in the juices. Screens, empty crushed beer cans or wadded up aluminum foil are some methods. For half-chickens put them in a pot or large pan with the bone side up. For other cuts, it doesn't matter. Use some of you spray once you have the chicken in the pot, enough to have a small amount on the bottom of the pot. This gives moisture to start the steaming process. The chicken juice will then take over. Cover the pot tightly. Place the pot near but not on the fire to keep it warm. It is very important you don't get the pot too hot. Over-steaming the chicken will not make you a hero. Over steaming will pull what looks like blood out of the bone and turn the meat red. People will complain it is raw while it is actually over-cooked. If you keep the heat at a temperature to lightly steam the chicken, you can steam them of about a couple of hours while you get the next batch cooked. Ideally one hour or less of steaming is best. BBQ and enjoy. Leftovers? BBQ chicken makes great chicken salad with a nice hint of smoke flavor.

Wayne Stahl

SANTA MARIA ELKS LODGE #1538 45TH ANNUAL FIREFIGHTER APPRECIATION NIGHT

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

1309 North Bradley Road
Santa Maria

No-Host Bar 5:30 pm
Dinner 6:30 pm

\$18 Per person

We would appreciate an email to faith@elks1538.org
Or a call to our Lodge Office at (805) 922-1538 Ext 104
No later than Wednesday, January 9, 2023 for reservations

Help show your appreciation, join us for this very special evening honoring those fine men and women who proudly wear the firefighter's uniform



Elks National Free-throw "Hoop Shoot" Contest

Sunday, December 18, 2022



Location:
Minami Community Center
600 West Enos Drive

Registration: 9:00 am - 10:15 am
Competition begins: 10:30 am

All Boys and Girls 8-13 yrs are welcome to participate
and must be accompanied by an adult.

Contestant age groups: 8-9, 10-11, and 12-13 will be
determined by their age as of April 1, 2023.

*Each participant will shoot 25 free-throws. *Boys age 8-11 & all girls use a 28.5" ball. *Boys 12-13 use a regulation size ball. *Boys and girls 8-9 shoot 11 ft. from backboard, all others 15 ft. *Basket height is 10 ft. for all ages.

*1st place winners from each age group will be invited to compete at the district level contest in Paso Robles on January 28, 2023. (Proof of age required.)

*Winners will advance to State, Regional
and National Competition held in Chicago, Illinois!
*National Champions are Enshrined in the Basketball Hall of Fame

The "Hoop Shoot" program builds character while promoting integrity, hard work, discipline, and good sportsmanship. So come on out and support this great program!

IT'S FREE & IT'S FUN!
No Experience Necessary!



For more information, contact Eddie Navarro @ 720-3581
or visit www.elks.org/hoopshoot.cfm

SANTA MARIA, CA - B.P.O. ELKS LODGE 1538

1309 N. Bradley Road
Santa Maria, CA 93454
(805) 922-1538

Office hours Monday-Friday 10 am - 5 pm

LODGE STAFF

Kim Chenault (RV Desk/General Information) x101
Club Manager/Catering: John Maretti x103
Julie Willis (General Information) x104
Faith Reynolds (Office Manager/Membership Desk) x105
Janet Cullivan (General Information/Club) x106
Donnell Apetz (Bookkeeper) x107
Phil Daighton (Lodge Secretary) x108
Lodge Bar x110
Chris Souza (Kitchen Manager) x114

Lodge Events Recording: (805) 925-1538

ELKS HORN BULLETIN STAFF

Kim Newman PER
Andy Licoscas

PHOTO COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Alx Sanchez
Ray Sanchez

RODEO OFFICE

(805)-924-4125
2325 Skyway Drive, Suite H, Santa Maria

RODEO OFFICE STAFF

Tina Tonascia
AnnMarie Rodriguez

In Memoriam

"TO OUR ABSENT MEMBERS"

**AN ELK IS NEVER FORGOTTEN,
NEVER FORSAKEN.**

2946 Life Member Vic Diamond

BORN: February 07, 1933
INITIATED: February 11, 1965
DIED: October 06, 2022

15255

Joseph "Jay" Nunez

BORN: August 9, 1982
INITIATED: May 12, 2016
DIED: October 09, 2022

10890

Louis Schot

BORN: November 17, 1932
INITIATED: February 28, 1991
DIED: October 14, 2022

DECEMBER 7TH MEMORIAL CEREMONY – ELK PARTICIPATION REQUEST

December 7th will soon be here, and we could use some help. For the past 20 plus years we have been honoring our local Veterans lost to the various wars around the world. The number of our losses is too high to forget. Each of the names has a story. Some are known and some are unknown. For those of us who have lived in the Santa Maria area for an extended period of time we very likely know some of the family or friends of our lost local HEROES. A few selected community members willingly put this program together every year. Their efforts have resulted in the building of a beautiful monument with the names of each lost local person proudly carved in stone. This is all on display at the Maldonado Center at 600 S. McClelland.

From the very beginning of this event, many people have shown up to commemorate and memorialize these brave heroes. There are always a couple hundred chairs put out to accommodate people who attend the ceremony, which is about 45 minutes to an hour long.

Remembrance speeches are given by our mayor, public figures, chamber organizers and there is always a ranking service member from Vandenberg. There are several floral wreaths placed at various places by some civic groups such as the Elks #1538, VFW, and the City of Santa Maria.

There are families in our community who have lost a loved one in the recent past. Some show up quietly and ask for nothing, but I know they notice who is there. I have seen them in the crowd at event after event. Over the years, attendance has dwindled. This needs to

change. We can and should do better as a community. There is no cost to attend. It is something you can do with a friend or family member. It will give you a good feeling to know that you have participated in honoring a local hero who has made the ultimate sacrifice – his or her life.

If this year is true to form, we will hear from military survivors who did come home. We will all know how painful it must be for them to remember and talk about those terrible times of war. No one likes war, least of all a veteran, but continuing world events force us to maintain our vigilance about events that could happen. History reminds us that we must always be prepared.

We are a community of about 111,000 people. Let us do our best to make this a standing-room-only event and show our friends and neighbors that we have respect for the people who fought for our freedoms by giving their lives. We must let their families and friends know that the people of Santa Maria will respect and honor them always. I am asking Elks 1538 Members to don your red jacket, if you have one, show up, and honor these brave heroes. I thank all of you who can make it on December 7, 2022, at 10:00 am. Many will thank you for your dedication.

Mike Cordero
Government Relations Committee Chair

ANNUAL VETERANS NIGHT



Air Force



Navy



Marines



Army





Michael B. Clayton
AND ASSOCIATES
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
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Cell: 805-260-5180
Fax: 855-975-2954

ADULT HALLOWEEN PARTY



CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN PARTY



Haunted Hills



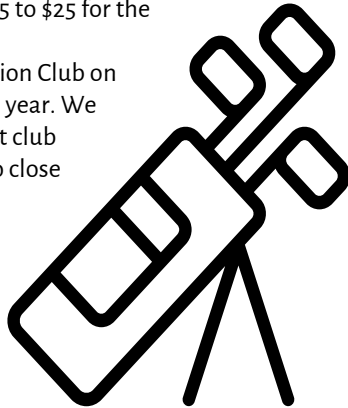
SANTA MARIA ELKS GOLF CLUB

The Elks Golf Club played the second round of our Club Championship at Santa Maria Country Club and were treated to beautiful weather. As they say on the PGA tour: this was moving day as some held their own while others slid and some climbed the leaderboard. In the gross completion Marc Rodriguez beat Rick Grenz in a card off. Marc shot 37 on the back to Rick's 38 to claim 1st place pocketing \$20 and Rick winning \$15. Gary Adair shot a net 70 to take home the \$20 1st place money while Sandy Landrum took home the \$15 2nd place money. Closest to pin winners: Paul Leventis 8" on hole #3, Robert Fulton 8' 8" on #7, Marc Rodriguez was 8' 8" on #13, and Steve Haskins 11' 4" on hole #16.

Our game was a two person blind draw combined net scores. With a combined net scores of 145 was the team of Gary Adair and Tim Vandermolen winning \$188. Winning 2nd place in a card off with a score of 146 was Marc Rodriguez and Hank Rickett pocketing \$178. 3rd place was won by Ruben Castillo and his blind draw partner Marc Rodriguez winning \$168. Since one cannot win twice, Marc's portion was raffled off. Claiming 4th place worth \$158 was Jeff Balvanz and Roy Wallace with a score of 150. Kevin Niles and Sandy Landrum took home 5th place with a combined score of 152 winning \$128. The team of Mike Zubiri and Blanca had a combined net score of 154, good enough to take 6th place winning \$108. In the 50/50 we drew 6 tickets that ranged from \$35 to \$25 for the winners.

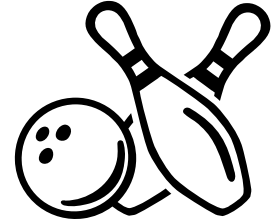
We will be traveling to The Mission Club on Dec 2nd for our final outing of this year. We will be crowning our Gross and Net club champions with both categories to close to choose a clear winner.

Fernie Tarango
Tournament Chairman



BOWLING

After 8 weeks of bowling, Team 3, The 4 Amigos, Bev and Tom Klein, Mike Head, and George Woehlke and Team 7, Quiet Thunder, Melva and Lee McClatchey, Lyn Vaughn, and Randy Blankenship are TIED for FIRST PLACE with SPECTACULAR records of 21 wins and just 11 losses!



Team 8, Soule Mates, Colby Freitas, Madeline Thompson, Travis Soule, and Deanna Stote lead High Team Series with a STUNNING 2879 score! Team 2, Odis Walton, John Bolterman, Ashley Kelly and Tami Baty lead High Team Game with a STUPENDOUS 1003 score! In Men High Series, Travis Soule leads with a STAGGERING 818 and in Men's High Game, Randy Blankenship leads with SUPERB 321! Bev Klein leads the Ladies in BOTH High Series and High Game with STELLAR scores of 727 and 314 respectively!! CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

The following bowlers bowled a 200 or higher game or 600 or higher series:

Johnny Anguijo – 247/605, Tami Baty – 205, Randy Blankenship – 287/651, Jim Bolterman – 236/630, Scott Daniels – 213, Larry Galaitis – 246, Debbie Johnson – 214, Bev Klein – 230, Tom Klein – 224, Rance Lewis – 204, Lee McClatchey – 200, Travis Soule – 226/662, and Belinda Thomas – 234/601! CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

Christmas Joke of the Year: One Christmas dad told us kids he had gotten just one gift we could all share. He told us he had modified our TV so we could watch 550 channels. We all ran to the TV and discovered dad had replaced the TV channel selector dial with the knob from our gas stove!

Merry Christmas to All
Mike Kenderes
Bowling Chairman

BROTHER AND SISTER ELKS,

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Honor Flight Central Coast California is looking for all "WWII", "Korean", "Vietnam" and Other Veterans to complete applications for their all-expense paid 3-day "Tour of Honor" trip to Washington, DC to see their Monuments or to support a Veteran by being their Guardian on a once in a lifetime flight, at your own expense.

If you don't apply we don't know you want to go.

For details go to www.HonorFlightCCC.org or contact Santa Maria Elk and Santa Barbara County Liaison Jay A. Conner, Army Veteran 1966-1968

(805) 550-6305

Jay A. Conner

Founding Board Member
Santa Barbara County Liaison
(805) 550-6305

PO Box 1750
Paso Robles, CA 93447

HonorFlightCCC.org

Jay@ConnerCoastandCountry.COM



OUR MISSION is to safely fly our Veterans to Washington, D.C. to experience the Memorials that were built in their honor.

Honor Flight CCC is a 501(C)(3) Non-Profit Organization. We receive no government funding. Your donation of any amount to Honor Flight CCC can help us accomplish our mission.

TRAVELEERS

The Traveleers journeyed to Bakersfield for our September campout and stayed at the River Run RV Resort. The highlight of the trip was our annual visit to the Ronald McDonald House – which is the short-term resident facility for families to stay while their children are receiving medical care at the nearby hospital.

Our group presented 164 pounds of aluminum pull tabs, which is the official fund-raising project of the RMCH. In addition, Members of our Club donated \$2,500 worth of much needed household items for the use of the families while staying at the House. This "Elks Care, Elks Share" effort of the Traveleers was begun by Sylvia Saucedo, who has spearheaded this charity for several years. A big THANK YOU! Sylvia.

For our October outing, 9 rigs with 14 Traveleers headed to the Valencia Travel Village from October 29th to November 1st. Shortly after setting up our rigs, the group went out for dinner at Lucille's Smokehouse BBQ, then headed back to camp and gathered around the Munch's rig for Karen Munch's Sherry wine-infused cake, further socializing and camaraderie before retiring for the evening.

Sunday was a kick-back day (not surprisingly, nobody was up for the "Scream" roller coaster ride at Magic Mountain), but that evening a great potluck dinner was held in the clubhouse. Afterward everyone gathered around a fire ring at the Munch's rig and Terrie Eskew served up her delicious brownies (unadulterated! - but still very good).

Monday was the Club's monthly meeting day, preceded by a champagne toast to, and hosted by, Silvia and Joe Saucedo for their 54th anniversary, and Karen and Alan Munch's 52nd anniversary, as both couples "tied the knot" in October. Since Monday was Halloween, a few of us "kids" donned our costumes and had a good laugh.

Following the cook-your-own BBQ dinner, we all got together once more around the fire ring and were approached by some "real kids" staying at the park who were Trick or Treating. Good thing we were prepared and had candy on hand to give them to avoid any tricks. The next morning was departure day, and another great campout came to an end.

The Traveleers have a full schedule of outings being planned for 2023, and if you'd like to obtain an invitation to join us for one of our next trips, send our Membership chairperson, Luci Fetzco (lkfetzic@gmail.com), a note that you are interested. We'd be pleased to include you in our travels.

Upcoming campouts:

Yanks RV Resort, Greenfield

January 12 – 15

Casa de Fruta RV, Hollister

February 9 – 12

Alan Munch

Asst. Wagon Master



IN 2022, CHRISTMAS IN THE COUNTRY WILL RETURN ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9TH AND RUN THROUGH SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24TH AT THE ELKS EVENT CENTER.

Visitors embark on a magical holiday light drive-through experience with displays presented by local businesses and families.

Along with Christmas in the Country, we introduced Stuff the Stocking to bring awareness to pediatric cancer. While in line for the event, elves walk around with stockings for money donations. All proceeds go to the Golden Circle of Champions (GCOC) program that is devoted to raising awareness of childhood cancer and provides financial support to families enduring childhood cancer.

Details at: <https://www.elksrec.com/p/events/christmas-in-the-country>



TOURING ELKS



Hello fellow Elks,

Wow! Can you believe that December is here and the New Year is creeping up on us! December is the Season Of Giving and the Touring Elks are doing it up big. Last month we held our 16th Annual SMV Bike Run benefiting the Marine Corp Reserves Toys for Tots program, which was a great success. It was the best year yet with over 100 bikes collecting over 200 toys. The event started at 8 a.m. with registration and kickstands up at 10 a.m. We rode to La Simpatia Restaurant in Guadalupe then onto the Lompoc Elks Lodge, followed by Figueroa Mountain Brewing in Buellton, Naughty Oaks Brewing in Orcutt, then returning to our Lodge. We had a High Hand and Low Hand winner. The Chicken BBQ was delicious, and we finished with a Raffle. All in all, it was great fun and a lot of "rewarding" work. As a result of the Bike Run, we will be purchasing toys for kids in Santa Maria, Orcutt, Guadalupe and Cuyama as well as over 100 bicycles and accessories.

I would like to recognize our Sponsors that helped make this event so very successful:

Ramsey Asphalt - Touring Elks #1538 - Flynn's - Maya Restaurant - Mettle Construction - Santa Maria Elks Bingo Kitchen - Santa Maria Elks PER's - V. Lopez Jr. & Sons - Absolute Power Wash - E & J Automotive - Friendly Smiles - Jacob's Plumbing - JD Green Construction - Sparkling Hoods - Aguilar Insurance - Air Control - Alvarez Coffee Service - Black Sheep Motorcycle Ministry - Coasthills Credit Union - Community Bank of SM - DeBernardi Bros Farming - DW Fabworx - Frontal Security - Fusion Colors Auto Body - Gold Coast Collision - Gold Coast Senior Options - Hernandez Drywall Inc - Harley Owners Group Santa Maria - Home Motors - Honda Santa Maria - JD Woodcraft Design - Night Owl - Paragon of Santa Maria - Point of Action - R Studio Hair Salon - Culichi's Zone - T.O. General Contracting - Veritas Innovative Pest & Termite Solutions - World Financial Group - FIB Business Management - Jim Chapman

Please, if you have a chance, thank these Sponsors and use their services so that they can continue blessing others. A big "Thank You" to everyone who volunteered to make this event a success!!

If you would like to learn more about the Touring Elks Committee, contact Gary Gross, Touring Elks President at 805-260-5180 or TouringElksPrez@gmail.com. We meet on the last Tuesday of each month in the ladies Bar at 7:30 pm.

We will have photos in the January Elks Horn.

Gary Gross
 President Touring Elks #1538
 Touringelksprez@gmail.com

PAST EXALTED RULER'S CORNER

We hope that you and your family are doing well and had a wonderful Thanksgiving.

The P.E.R. Association wants to give a BIC SHOUT-OUT to everyone who supported our opportunity drawing and greatly appreciated the support. This gives us the ability to provide scholarships to our local youth along with supporting some of the young men and women going through the Allan Hancock College Police, Sheriff, Fire and EMT Academies.

This is the 2nd month of the Leading Knight Challenge to benefit the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project Purple Pig. Please support the raffles; donations are always welcomed.

We wish you and your loved ones many blessings throughout the holidays and the New Year.

Take care, and God be with you. We hope to see you at the New Year's Eve Party.

Don Moshier, PER
 President, Past Exalted Rulers Association



Santa Maria Elks Lodge #1538 Veterans Committee

Presents
Veterans Appreciation BBQ
Wednesday January 4th 2023
12 PM - 3 PM

Lunch is Free for Veterans
 Guest Speaker
 Veteran Information Booths
 Local Veteran Groups
 Lunch is served from 12:30pm till we run out
 1309 N Bradley Road, Santa Maria



Just a Thank you for your service

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR OCTOBER 2022

Vignesh Neerathalingam from Ernest Righetti High School with a 4.70 GPA, ranked 2nd of 600, has over 250 Service Hours and passed four-Advanced Placement (AP) courses.

-His Awards include: Righetti Golden Warrior, Homecoming King 2022, 1st in Tamil District Indian language Speech Competition, and \$500 donated to Interact by Santa Maria Parks and Rec for implementation of weekly trash pickup idea.

-Vignesh's Activities include: Track and Field, President of the National Honor Society, raised more than \$1700 for Ukrainian relief, Vice President and secretary of California Scholarship Federation, Vice President of the STEM Club, tutoring students weekly, Co-President of the Rotary Club's Interact at Righetti.

-His Community Involvement and Service includes: SB Co Foodbank, weekly trash pickup events, Elk's Thanksgiving Baskets, painted fences and cleaned up yards for the elderly and painted over graffiti under the Santa Maria bridge through "Serve Santa Maria". President of Righetti's Helping Hand, Volunteer at Marian Regional Medical Center.



-Itzel's Community Involvement and Service include: Public Library, STEAM Club, Tommie Kunst Junior High School tutoring, Link Crew, AVID, Key Club including St. Jude Valentine's Cards/CardzforKids, Cards for Seniors, Christmas Cards for the Military, Charity Miles, Free Rice, Santa Maria Eagles Hall, Santa Maria Gun Club, and Hagerman Field.

Yitzel Chavez Herrera from Pioneer Valley High School with a GPA of 4.36, ranked 11th of 784. She has successfully completed 5 Hancock classes and Passed 7 AP classes.

-Her Awards include: Academic Excellence, Advanced Placement Excellence, Division 24/29 Executive Assistant, CNH Key Club Bronze Award, College Board National Hispanic Heritage, and Junior Varsity Ocean League Champions for Swimming.

2022 HOLIDAY BASKET SCHEDULE

You are invited to join the Holiday Basket Committee. We need helpers to pick up and deliver donations to the Elks Lodge. We also need people to pack the food into the baskets and distribute them (from the Elks Dining Room) as families come to pick up their baskets at the Lodge. Come join us for the Holiday Basket Organized Chaos!

Holiday Baskets are for families in the Santa Maria Valley who cannot afford a holiday dinner for Thanksgiving or Christmas. Please sponsor a family by providing the name and telephone number to the Elks Office at 805-922-1538 (see deadlines below).

If the family you sponsor is unable to pick up their basket, you, the sponsor may deliver it yourself.

God has blessed you with a family, home, and much more. Be the one to give to others so that they may enjoy the day and be thankful as well. Please email any questions at eva.macias805@gmail.com or leave a message at 805 886-6061.

Eva Macias
Holiday Baskets Chairman

Important dates to Remember:

Christmas (December)

Wednesday 14	Deadline for Sponsoring a Family
Monday 19	6 pm Baskets Setup
Tuesday 20	7:30 am Basket Perishable Items
	9:00 – 11:00 am Basket Pickup

If you're short on time, not to worry; you can still help. We can use monetary donations to help the increasing number of families we can assist. Also, there are barrels in the front lobby of the Elks Lodge and another in the Member's Bar. Please deposit non-perishable items (no expired dates) in these barrels.



SANTA MARIA ELKS NEW YEARS EVE PARTY
DECEMBER 31, 2022
 No host Cocktail Party with hors d'oeuvres at 6:15 P.M.
 Dinner served at 7:30 P.M.
 Dancing from 8:30 P.M. till 12:30 A.M.

Elk Member & Guests \$65.00 Per Ticket
 Tables are \$780.00 Per Table (12 per table)

Menu:
 New York Steak
 Baked Potato
 Sonoma Vegetables
 Mixed Green Salad
 Sourdough Dinner Roll
 Cheesecake
 2 Bottles of Red Wine on Every Table
 Champagne Station @ 11:45 pm

Santa Maria Style Breakfast
 Breakfast Served @ 12:30 AM

SEMI-FORMAL DRESS; COAT & TIE REQUIRED
 TICKETS GO ON SALE ON NOVEMBER 1ST

Dancing to Mestizo



**FOOD BANK STATS
 AS OF 10/27/2022**

47,498
Bags given out

23,773
Families served

71,679
Individuals served

1,169,993
Pounds of food given out

2022 NEW YEARS PARTY
 12 Per Table
 \$720 Per Table

40	39	38	37	36
32	33	34	35	
31	30	29	28	
24	25	26	27	
23	22	21	20	
16	17	18	19	
15	14	13	12	
8	9	10	11	

Santa Maria ELKS Childrens Christmas Party
COME JOIN US FOR A FUN FILLED EVENING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2022
5:30 PM - 8:00 PM DINNER SERVED TILL 7:00 PM

GAMES & PRIZES

MUSIC

PICTURES WITH SANTA

POPCORN & ICE CREAM

PIZZA

HOTDOGS WITH CHIPS

MEMBERS AND FAMILY ONLY

Tokens will be available for purchase to play games resulting in Prize Tickets to be used in the Christmas Country Store to acquire presents for their parents



**B.P.O. ELKS – NO. 1538
2022-2023 OFFICERS**

Exalted Ruler Matt Rodriguez
 Esteemed Leading Knight Aaron Castellanos
 Esteemed Loyal Knight Steve Jones
 Esteemed Lecturing Knight Chuck Biely
 Esquire Jeremy Forman PER
 Chaplain Marty Durrett PER
 Inner Guard Chris Wilson
 Tiler Ray Sanchez
 Organist Bryan Feldpouch PER
 Secretary Phil Daughton PER, PAVP
 Treasurer Liz Brown
 1 Year Trustee Don Moshier PER
 2 Year Trustee Mike Arndt
 3 Year Trustee Tony Campas PER
 4 Year Trustee Jim Elkins
 5 Year Trustee Wes Brown PER, CoB

1309 North Bradley Road, Santa Maria, CA 93454
 Office: (805) 922-1538 | Events: (805) 925-1538
 Lodge Fax: 1-(805) 925-0297
 Rodeo Office: (805) 925-4125
 Web Page: www.SantaMariaElks.org
 Rodeo Web Page: www.elksrec.com
 Parade Web Page: www.elksrodeoparade.com
 Lodge E-mail: lodge@elks1538.org
 Elks Horn E-mail: smelkshorn@gmail.com
 Rodeo Office E-mail: elksrodeo@elksrec.com
 f www.facebook.com/SantaMariaElksLodge
 i [SantaMariaElksLodge](https://www.instagram.com/SantaMariaElksLodge)

B.P.O. ELKS - NO. 1538
 SANTA MARIA ELKS
 1309 N. Bradley Road
 Santa Maria, CA 93454

Change Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 SANTA MARIA, CA
 PERMIT NO. 143

DECEMBER 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov. 27 Decorate Lodge for the Holidays 10 am	 New Years Eve Party Tickets on Sale Details page 15	 Elks Bowling Every Tuesday Rancho Bowl 6:30 pm	 Christmas in the Country December 9 – 24 Elks Event Center Details Page 12	1 LODGE DARK	2 CYO Steak/Ribs/Fish Chicken Breast 6:15 – 8:00 pm A Moment in Time	3 Bar and Lounge Open 10 am – 9 pm
4 Bar and Lounge Open 10 am – 9 pm Elks Memorial Service 1:00 pm Lodge Room Details page 4	5 Grab 'n' Go 5:15 pm Family Night Dinner 5:30 – 7:00 pm Chili Relleno House Committee 6:30	6 Pub Grub 5:30 – 7:00 pm BINGO 6:00 pm	7 Community Memorial Ceremony Maldonado Center 10 am Details page 6	8 Lodge 7:30 pm	9 CYO Steak/Ribs/Fish Chicken Breast 6:15 – 8:00 pm Smooth Groovz DJ Artie	10 Bar and Lounge Open 10 am to 9 pm
11 Bar and Lounge Open 10 am – 9 pm Cigar & Fine Spirits 2pm Patio	12 Grab 'n' Go 5:15 pm Family Night Dinner 5:30 Family – 7:00 pm Lasagna	13 Pub Grub 5:30 – 7:00 pm BINGO 6:00 pm	14 Children's Christmas Party 5:30 – 8:00 pm Dinner until 7:00 pm Details page 15	15 Lodge 7:30 pm Vote on Lodge By Law Changes (Details in November Elks Horn pages 16-18)	16 CYO Steak/Ribs/Fish Chicken Breast 6:15 – 8:00 pm Brass Factory	17 Adopt-A-Highway 8:00 am Bar and Lounge Open 10 am to 9 pm
18 Bar and Lounge Open 10 am – 9 pm PER's Christmas Party 5:00 pm	19 LAST Grab 'n' Go 5:15 pm Family Night Dinner 5:30 – 7:00 pm BBQ ½ chicken	20 Holiday Basket Pickup 9 – 11:00 am Pub Grub 5:30 – 7:00 pm BINGO 6:00 pm Investigation Interviews	21	22 Lodge 7:30 pm Balloting Adult Hot Chocolate Night	23 CYO Steak/Ribs/Fish Chicken Breast 6:15 – 8:00 pm DJ Tymeless	24 Bar and Lounge Open 10am to 9 pm Bar Closes 5:00 pm
25 Merry Christmas Lodge CLOSED	26 Lodge CLOSED	27 Pub Grub 5:30 – 7:00 PM Sportsmen 7:00 pm Touring Elks 7:30 pm	28	29 Lodge 7:30 pm	30 NO CYO!!	31 Bar and Lounge Open 10:00 am – 9 pm New Year's Eve Party 6:15 No Host Cocktails 7:30 Dinner 8:30 - 12:30 am Dance

NOTE: Deadline for Elks Horn copy is 8:00 pm, THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH!

Please email all copy to smelkshorn@gmail.com and include your name and phone number. Early entries appreciated.

All contents herein are for the private use of the members of the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America.

