



VOLUME 23/ISSUE 12

AARON CASTELLANOS, EXALTED RULER

SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA

DECEMBER 2023

EXALTED RULER *Aaron Castellanos*



Members,

It is hard to believe just how fast time seems to pass us by. We are now just a bit past the halfway mark of yet another Elk year and we have been able to experience and enjoy some of the great things that we all look forward to

- as well as creating new events to look forward to in the coming years.

Earlier this month our Lodge welcomed our current District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Henry Schmitz for his official visitation to our Lodge as part of his tour of all the Lodges in our District. During this Visitation the DDGER along with his District Auditor conduct a series of checks and balances of the many aspects of how each Lodge is conducting themselves. This includes a thorough review of proper documentation of our day-to-day business, a review of the Lodge financials, fiscal responsibility and well-being, as well as a safety inspection. The visitation went very well. It was determined that our Lodge is doing very well and all finances are in top shape. Our Membership numbers have increased year-over-year. Our public and government relationships are extremely solid. Our community involvement and partnerships with our city officials is one not every Lodge can say they are fortunate to have. This, of course, is thanks to each and every one of our many Members, and the hard work and dedication of all of our Lodge volunteers, making us one of the most active Lodges in all of Elkdome. We are truly an ever-growing Lodge with a bright future ahead of us.

Just as we as a Lodge are currently in a good place I am also happy to share that this is also the case across our California-Hawaii Elks Association. Immediately following our DDGER visitation, a small delegation of our Lodge officers attended the CHEA Midterm Convention in Riverside where we learned how our 165-Lodge Association is doing. We were able to hear some of the best practices

Continued on page 3

SANTA MARIA ELKS SUPPORT VETERANS HONOR FLIGHT TO WASHINGTON DC



Continued on page 14

All American Lodge

LEADING KNIGHT

Chuck Biely



Members,

December already! How does that happen so quickly each year? By now you all know the Leading Knight Challenge is in full swing so

please be sure to support the California-Hawaii Major Project, Inc. (CHEMPI) in any way you can. Remember all proceeds go to our Lodge's contribution which will be tallied at the State Convention next May. All Purple Pigs turned in before the end of January 2024 will be counted toward this goal which is to match or exceed our contribution from last year. With your support we can accomplish that.

As part of our Leading Knight Challenge CHEMPI fundraising activities there are dinners being held periodically in conjunction with our very own Karaoke Nights. Last month was All You Can Eat Spaghetti dinner. Mexican shrimp cocktail specials will also be available for purchase at a couple of Friday night CYO's.

Also, we have an opportunity drawing for a 2 bedroom condo for one week on the beautiful "Big Island" of Hawai'i that will sleep 6. This unit is located in Kailua-Kona with beaches, snorkeling, shopping, the airport and Costco nearby. Only 200 tickets will be sold for this fundraiser at \$20 each so don't be left out. More information will be available on Facebook and the 1538 website. But wait – there's more: we also have a wheelbarrow (thank you Oak Knolls Hardware for your donation) filled with various adult libations. Get your raffle tickets for each of these drawings at the front office or contact myself or other officers for information.

During the holiday season I hope each of you enjoys a safe and secure time with friends and family. Remember the reason for the season; enjoy yourselves responsibly. Respect your Lodge and respect each other as you swore to do when you were initiated. Some Members and their guests seem to have forgotten this simple fact of respect. Remember your Solemn Obligation.

With warm regards to you all, have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fraternally yours,
Chuck Biely

Esteemed Leading Knight

LOYAL KNIGHT

Jeremy Forman



Members,

I want to wish a heartfelt Merry Christmas to each one of you. May it be a joyful and festive holiday season. The holidays are a time to spend with family

and friends and rekindle those relationships that may need it. This is a time for giving and being thankful of all the blessings in your life.

There are many events this month at the Lodge for you to partake including the Elks Memorial Service on December 3rd, the Children's Christmas Party December 13th, and the always fun New Years Eve party. Additionally, there are always opportunities to volunteer, and I know that the holiday food basket committee would appreciate any help they can get, as well as the Highway Cleanup committee. Details as to how to participate can be found in the Elks Horn.

As we approach the end of the year, let's renew our obligation of 'Brotherhood.' We are one Lodge, and we are all in it for the same reasons. We are a community of friends and family that work together to provide a safe place to socialize and do good for the people in our area. Let's be proud that we are Members of Santa Maria Lodge #1538.

Fraternally,
Jeremy Forman PER
Esteemed Loyal Knight

HIGHWAY CLEANUP

Have you ever wondered...Who are those people in yellow vest and white hardhats picking up trash? If they are on Highway 101, between Broadway and Main, and it's the third Saturday. Elks!

If you would like to help, we meet next to the wood room, every 3rd Saturday. We leave at 8 a.m., work for 2 hours, and return to the Lodge for free pizza and beverages. You might even win a bottle.

Hope to see you.
Jerry Schons

Questions? 805-478-2620

MAJOR PROJECT TAMALES SALE
SUNDAY DECEMBER 10



1:00 – 4:00
Pork or Chili Cheese
\$25 per Dozen

Tickets available at the Members Bar & Lodge Office
Info: Eva Guzman 805-720-2446

LECTURING KNIGHT

Christina Lagrimas



Members,

As we approach the close of one year and the dawn of another, we are presented with a unique opportunity for self-improvement and reflection.

It's a time to look back at our experiences, learn from them, and look forward to a new beginning. In this spirit, I would like to reaffirm the fundamental principles that serve as the foundation and groundwork of our Order.

"To do unto others as we would they should do unto us" is the Golden Rule that encapsulated the essence of our mission. It reminds us of the profound importance of empathy, kindness, and compassion. Treating others as we wish to be treated is not only a universal moral principle but also a guiding light that illuminates our path forward.

As Elks, we represent something profound – we are American citizens who guide our course in life by the cardinal principles of our order: Justice, Charity, Brotherly Love and Fidelity.

In our interactions, we should uphold these principles with compassion and encouragement. We must also show respect for our Lodge by adhering to its rules, such as the simple act of bussing our tables to maintain a clean and welcoming environment. Additionally, it is our responsibility to inform our guests of our codes of conduct, ensuring that they too become a part of this culture of respect and shared values.

With these thoughts in mind, I extend my warmest wishes for a joyful Christmas and a prosperous New Year. May we continue to embrace the values that define us and, through our actions, make the world a better place for all.

Fraternally,
Christina Lagrimas
Esteemed Lecturing Knight

PER'S CORNER

The Past Exalted Rulers Association thanks all the Members who supported our Scholarship Fundraiser Opportunity Drawing that netted \$3,122.25. We had a Cake auction, a 50/50 Drawing, and sold extra dinners. A Special "Thank You" to Frances Brawner and Mark McNutt for donations of \$100.

SECRETARY'S DESK

NOTICE OF LODGE MEMBER BALLOT ACTION

*Flooring Replacement Project:
Dining Room and Members Bar*

Lodge Meeting JANUARY 4, 2024:

The flooring in the Dining Room and Members bar is almost 30 years old, if not older, and needs to be replaced. We have obtained a bid from Flooring 101 to remove both the old flooring in both areas and replace with new material. The current vinyl tiled areas will be replaced with new, Raw Sienna color, wood-look vinyl plank, with a 20 mil wear layer. The carpet area of the Members bar will be replaced with 2-foot square carpet tiles.

Our account reserves will pay for the project so the Lodge will not incur any debt. The project estimate bid is \$61,986.23. The stated Motion asks our Members to approve a total of 10% more in order to cover any unforeseen costs and to purchase additional planks and carpet for future replacement should there be a problem, for a total of \$68,184.85. Work is to be completed in late January 2024.

The motion to be voted on will be as follows:

"A motion to contract Flooring 101 to remove and install new flooring and carpet in the Dining Room and Member's bar not to exceed \$68,184.85. The project will be paid for out of current Lodge Maintenance funds and the Lodge will not be incumbered at all."

The above motion will need to be passed by a 2/3rds majority of the Members present at this meeting. Once passed the project will require Grand Lodge Approval from the Grand Trustees.

EXALTED RULER Aaron Castellanos *continued from page 1*

that some lodges are using and also discuss some of the opportunities that others have worked through in order to help each other move in the right direction. Our Elks organization is doing extremely well in every aspect. The Veteran programs each Lodge is conducting is inspiring. Our Youth Activities and Community Involvement is of top priority. As National organization we are experiencing a Membership growth at a level we haven't seen in many years - a growth that has been led by CHEA the last two years running and one we aim to lead once more this year. Our State President Ted Talbot's motto this year is "3 in a row, let's go, it's great to be an Elk". It truly is Great to be an Elk and I hope you all feel the sense of pride in your Membership and can see the good it brings. Thank you for your support and commitment in all that you do.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. May it be filled with love and surrounded by the people we love.

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
Exalted Ruler

ELKS SWAP MEET SUPPORTS THE GOLDEN CIRCLE OF CHAMPIONS



BOWLING

After 8 weeks Team 9, TOE THE NINE, Irma Real, Andrew Keil, Jeremy Jordan, and William Thorpe, is in first place with a SPECTACULAR 22 wins and just 10 losses! Team 4, TYME TO BOWL, Dustin Dutton, Debbie Johnson, James Franklin, and Larry Galaites leads in High Team Series with a STELLAR 2851 score! Team 9, TOE THE LINE, also leads in High Team Game with a STRIKING 987! In Men High Series, Larry Galaites leads with a STERLING 854 and in Men's High Game, Jeremy Jordan leads with a SENSATIONAL 308 game! Tami Baty leads the Ladies in High Series with a SUPER 756 and Donna Ryczek leads in Ladies High Game with a SKILLFUL 286 game! CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

The following bowlers bowled a 200 or higher game or 600 or higher series: Tami Baty – 214/608, Randy Blankenship – 220, Jim Bolterman – 229/621, Scott Daniels – 224, Kat Fitzgerald – 248/627, James Franklin – 246/661, Larry Galaites – 203, Jeremy Jordan – 223, Tom Klein – 227/641, Lee McClatchey – 213, Donna Ryczek – 227, Travis Soule – 227, Deanne Stote – 226, and William Thorpe – 248/624! CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

JOKES OF THE MONTH: *God is talking to one of his angels. He says, "I just created a 24-hour period of alternating light and darkness on Earth." The angel says, "What are you going to do now?" God says, "Call it a day..." I love cooking with wine, sometimes I even put it in the food... Money isn't everything but it sure keeps the kids in touch... A bartender is just a pharmacist with a limited inventory.*

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Mike Kenderes

Bowling Chairman



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

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

1309 North Bradley Road
Santa Maria

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

\$20 Per person

We would appreciate an email to kchenault@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 17, 2023

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, 2024.

*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 21, 2024. (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 @ (805) 720-3581
or visit Elks.org/hoopshoot



DRESS CODE IN EFFECT FOR ALL ELKS FUNCTIONS

Elks Lodge 1538 is a flagship among Elk Lodges and not just another "Bar or Club." As such we have a Dress Code. Most times it is casual and allows more casual wear: Long shorts, like Bermuda and cargo style shorts are acceptable after 6:00 pm except Thursday Lodge Night.

- Please no mid-thigh, cutoffs, short-shorts, or torn/frayed wear.
- Please wear all pants at your waist, not below! And no "Plumber Pants!"
- No Sweat Suits or Beach Apparel - No Flip Flops (rubber style shower shoes) - Sandals okay
- **FOR LADIES:** No Inappropriate tops - No dresses shorter than mid thigh
- **FOR MEN:** During the month of December only, Ugly Sweaters are allowed in place of collared shirts. But only collared shirts or Ugly Sweaters ARE ALLOWED FOR MEN. Gentleman, wear pants at the waist, not below! Hats should be worn properly, not backwards or sideways, and please remove hats when sitting at the table to eat.

Our Greeters, Staff, and Officers do not wish to embarrass or upset any Member or guest, so please do not put them in that position. We will ask you to leave to change. Members, remind your guests that you are responsible for them!

Remember: All persons attending Friday Night CYO must be OVER 21 YEARS OF AGE.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Any Member currently on the delinquent list, your dues were due on April 1, 2023. Sometime in December a list of delinquent Members will be generated and on display in the Members lounge. In March all those that have not paid their dues will be dropped from the Membership role. At that point, you will have to reinstate to become a Member again, please also remember that anyone dropped from the Membership role is no longer allowed to be at the Lodge for any purpose even as a guest.

Phil Daighton
Lodge Secretary

MAJOR PROJECT PURPLE PIG

The California-Hawaii Elks Major Project Inc (CHEMPI) is committed to addressing the unmet needs of children with disabilities throughout California and Hawaii - developing a program of supporting services to aid these children at no cost to families and without discrimination. Please fill up your Purple Pigs with your extra change and return them to the office with your Name and Membership Number attached. Here is a special "Thank You" for all who turned in their Pig last month.

A Coin a Day so They will Walk, Talk, See and Play!

Amy Gillot
Major Project Chairman

MAJOR PROJECT PURPLE PIG DONATIONS

SUSAN MANDLER • BAR CORNER GUYS
STEVE PENZES • JOHN PURDUM • STEVE SANCHEZ
JEAN LOBO • SAM HERNANDEZ • GEORGE JOHNSTON
TERESA RIVERA • MICHAEL KELLER

CYO BBQ REPORT FOR OCTOBER

Date	Band	Dinners	X-cuts
6	Mestizo	534	34
13	John Pemberton	332	11
20	DJ Davy D	320	31
27	Mike Arriola Project	303	8
TOTAL DINNERS SOLD		1,489	84

Elks Childrens Christmas Party

Bring the kids for a fun filled evening.

Wednesday December 13, 2023
5:30PM-8:00pm

- There will be games, prizes and music.
- Food will be available to purchase
- Santa will be available for pictures



Elks Members and Family only

SUNDAY BREAKFAST AND FOOTBALL PUB GRUB

IN THE MEMBERS BAR

BREAKFAST 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

- Chicken Fried Steak with Eggs \$12 -
- Biscuits and Gravy with Sausage Links \$12 -

GAME TIME GRUB 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

- Chicken Wings (6 pieces) \$8 -
- (12 pieces) \$15
- (24 pieces) \$25
- Your choice of Buffalo, BBQ or Sweet Thai Chili
- Nachos \$10 -
- BLT Sandwich \$9 -
- Angus Western Burger \$12 -
- Quesadilla with Salsa, Guacamole, Sour Cream \$7 -
- with Meat \$10



Elks Horn News offered free of charge.
Vol. 23, 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

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
 Marina Muscio (RV/Desk/General Information) x101
 Julian Azevedo (Club Manager/Catering) x103
 Julie Willis (General Information) x104
 Kim Chenault (Membership Desk) x105
 Janet Cullivan (General Information/Club) x106
 Donnell Apetz (Bookkeeper) x107
 Phil Daighton, PER, PAVP (Lodge Secretary) x108
 Lodge Bar x110
 Keith Summers Jr. (Kitchen Manager) x114

Lodge Events Recording: (805) 925-1538

ELKS HORN BULLETIN STAFF
 Kim Newman PER, Andy Licoscos

PHOTO COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
 Ray Sanchez

RODEO OFFICE
 (805) 925-4125
 2325 Skyway Drive, Suite H, Santa Maria
 Website: Elksrec.com
 Email: elksrodeo@elksrec.com



Wood Crew Sale
Now available to members
OAK BBQ WOOD
 (chips/chunks)
 \$10.00/box - 16" x 20" x 10"
Pick up time is 12:00 noon on Wednesdays at the Wood Room.
For more information contact:
 Norm McDonald (805) 310-3610
All proceeds go to Wood Crew for equipment acquisition and maintenance.

GOLF

The Santa Maria Elks Golf Club held the last event of the year at Santa Maria Country Club on Wednesday November 8th which was also the last event for our Club Championship. In essence we had two tournaments - our Regular Tournament plus the Club Championship. The format for our Club Championship required playing our last three events of the year at Sandpiper, River Course, and Santa Maria Country Club. We take the total of the gross scores for those tournaments and add them to arrive at our Gross Club Champion. We do the same to arrive at our Net Club Champion. One must play in all those events to be eligible for our Club Championship. Rich Grenz was our Gross Club Champion with a score of 239 receiving a plaque plus \$100. For the Net Club Championship Rich Taylor was able to catch the leaders and did just enough to beat Jamie Cuellar by 2 strokes. He also received a plaque and \$100. Congratulations to Rick and Rich.



Our regular tournament was an individual stroke play competition with 70 players. In the gross competition Kevin Tarango shot a 79 winning \$80, coming in 2nd in a card off was Angel Lopez winning \$75, taking home 3rd was Al Vargas with a score of 80 and winning \$70. We had 4 scores of 81 requiring card offs. Todd Yoder claimed 4th pocketing \$65, 5th was Rich Taylor worth \$60, Bill Grimm 6th for \$55. In other card off with scores of 85 was Tom Glover and Rick Grenz with Tom Glover prevailing for \$45 while Rick took 9th worth \$40.



Gary Concellos claimed 1st in the Net competition and taking home \$80. With a score of 72 was Paul Rodriguez good enough for 2nd worth \$75. We had 4 players tie with scores of 74. 3rd Bill Comeau \$70, Jeff Goad \$65 for 4th, Jon Hitchens 5th \$60, Ruben Castillo had the 4th 74 for 6th and \$55. With a net of 75 was Steve Brown worth \$50. Steve beat Greg Martin in a card off with Greg winning \$45. Claiming 9th was Larry Humburger and taking home \$40.

In the 50/50 raffle with each winning \$25 was Randy Gil, Paul Feeley Shelly Glover, Randy Spear, and Jim Burbultz. Closest to pins: #7 Jeff Goad 11'4", Bill Grimm #13 10'4", and #16 Chuck Winkles 1'5". Each won \$15

We will start our 2024 season in March. If you would like to join us for our upcoming season contact one of our board members to get an application.

Santa Maria Elks Lodge #1538
VETERANS COMMITTEE
presents
VETERANS APPRECIATION
DECEMBER 14 11:00 AM

- ★ Lunch is FREE for Veterans ★
- ★ Guest Speaker ★
- ★ Veteran Information Booths ★
- ★ Local Veteran Groups ★

Lunch is served from 11:30AM until we run out of food.

1309 N. Bradley Road, Santa Maria



Just a Thank you for your service

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND EXALTED RULER VISITATION



Despite bruises from a fall, Barbara Metzglas still accompanies her husband, District Leader Greg to our Visitation

DD Henry Schmitz Presents Exalted Ruler Aaron Castellanos a Certificate of Appreciation for Exceeding the Grand Exalted Ruler's ENF per capita contribution goal

2023 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.

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 Christmas. Please sponsor a family by providing the name and telephone number to the Elks Office at 805-922-1538.

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.

If the family you sponsor cannot 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 to eva.macias805@gmail.com or leave a message at 805-886-6061.

Eva Macias
Holiday Baskets Chairman



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- Wed, Dec 13 Deadline for Sponsoring a Family
- Mon, Dec 18 6 pm Baskets Setup
- Tue, Dec 19 8:00 am Basket Perishable Items
 9:30 – 11:00 am Basket Pickup

TRAVELEERS

Late September through mid-October have been eventful weeks for the Travelers – two camp-outs, an ENF presentation to the Lodge and hosting a table at the Childrens' Halloween Party at the Lodge.

The Travelers headed inland to River Run RV Park in Bakersfield for our September 28th – October 1st camp-out. As the River Run park has become one of our annual "must visit" locations, it wasn't surprising that we had a big turnout of members – 20 rigs / 37 attendees. Among our group we welcomed new members Loriann and Todd Heaney.

On the way Thursday morning, a few of our group stopped at the Buckhorn Restaurant in New Cuyama for brunch. After everyone arrived at the park, hooked-up their rigs, our first item of business was, as usual, to decide where to go for dinner, ending up at the Hungry Hunter Restaurant. Returning to the RV park we enjoyed sitting out in the evening's warm air – something not usually doable in Santa Maria after the sun goes down.

Richard Chrisman, Tom Simas and their helpers treated us to a full breakfast on Friday morning, which was much appreciated – thank you Tom and Richard et.al. Following breakfast, the golfers in our group went golfing with "terrible" results but had lots of laughs. That evening's meal was a potluck held in the park's clubhouse, with cake and ice cream for dessert to celebrate September birthdays.

The Travelers have adopted the Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) as one of the organizations we support with annual donations of aluminum can pull tabs (their official fundraising request) and housekeeping supplies for the use of the families staying at their Houses while their kids are receiving care at a nearby hospital. On Saturday morning a large group of us delivered 247 lbs of pull tabs and \$1,800 worth of household items to their House in Bakersfield – all of which was thankfully received by the staff at the facility. We also voted to purchase an inscribed Travelers "supporting organization brick" to be placed at the front entrance of the House in support of this fund-raising campaign of the RMHC. We Thank all the Lodge Members for adding their pull tabs to the collection blocks on all of the bar tables and for your donations to the Lodge office.

A champagne toast was hosted by Mike Morris for his wife Patty's birthday and all other member's September birthdays were recognized. A potluck brunch was held afterward, followed by our monthly business meeting with a raffle to raise funds for our operating expenses, and a 50/50 drawing with half the proceeds going toward our ENF contribution fund.

Sunday was an "on-your-own" day with several of us getting on the road back to Santa Maria after another enjoyable camp-out.

At each of the Travelers camp-outs, we take the opportunity to conduct either a 50/50 drawing or a



pass-the-hat collection for ENF. Once a year, the funds are presented to the Lodge, and on October 19th the Travelers presented a check in the amount of \$500. We were pleased that the Lodge leadership afforded us this opportunity to make this presentation during a Lodge meeting.

A day later, the Travelers were off again on a short hop to the Tres Hermanas Winery in Foxen Canyon. This was the second time we've gathered at the winery this year, but enjoyed ourselves so much the first time that we decided to go back again. Since the winery is in the beautiful but somewhat isolated countryside, there were no nearby restaurants to go to for our usual first meal of the trip. Thank You to Carol Steigler, Sylvia Saucedo, Sherry Purser and Karen Munch who put-on a marvelous spaghetti, meatballs, and salad dinner for everyone.

On Friday morning, an "eggs in a bag" breakfast was provided by Toni & Mark Brown and Kelly & Mark McLoughlin. "Thank You"! Since everyone chose their own ingredients to go into the plastic bag, everyone was pleased and it was a great way to start-off the day!

There were many options for the day including following the Wine Trail with the various tasting rooms, or taking lunch in Los Olivos or Los Alamos, or contributing cash to the Chumash casino nearby. That evening Richard Souza whipped up some really good margaritas to go with a "you build it" fajitas dinner, all provided by Cheryl and Norm McDonald. Thanks to Richard and to Cheryl and Norm for arranging this great outing. Our membership business meeting followed the dinner, with a special Halloween-themed raffle table set-up by Karen Munch.

Richard Chrisman and Tom Simas once again treated us to breakfast on Saturday morning, which was very much welcomed. "Thank You". The day's optional activity was a tour of the historic Rancho Tinaquaic Frederick Wickenden house in Sisquoc. That evening, the Saucedos and Munches provided the champagne for a celebration of their October anniversaries: Sylvia and Joe S. - 55th, Karen and Alan M. - 53rd. A Potato Bar and Salad with all the fix'ins dinner was served by Joanne & Richard Willis, Terrie Eskew, Ed Hawes and June Pusley. Great idea, and much appreciated.

Sunday started off with Karen Munch and Chuck & Linda Glines putting-on a cowboy skillet and gravy breakfast (was it mentioned that no one ever went hungry on our camp-outs?). An axe throwing contest was held later on in the winery's patio (low risk – plastic axes!), with a number of other less strenuous activities (cards games, puzzles, etc.) taking place throughout the day. Everyone was looking forward to the catered bar-b-que dinner that evening, and it was excellent. A BIG Travelers "thank you" to Norm McDonald for arranging it.

The weather on this trip was quite varied, from hot (high 80's) to cool, and from abundant sunshine to cloudy, with an overnight rain shower on Sunday night. It all added up for another really great camp-out of the Travelers.

To top-off the month of October, the Travelers were invited to participate in the Lodge's Childrens Halloween Party event on October 25th by creating a "spooky" table display to hold the candy treats that were provided by the Lodge for the kids. Our group's volunteers for this event consisted of "Witches" Karen Munch, Carol Steigler, Sherry Purser and Sylvia Saucedo. There was no doubt that our table was one the best in the competition. It was still fun to see all the kids, some in unusual and creative costumes, having a great time playing games that the Lodge organizers conducted.

If you have an interest in RV camping with the Travelers, just send an email to our Membership Chairperson, Kelly McLaughlin (mkk96@msn.com) for an invitation to join us on one of our next outings.

Alan Munch
Travelers Article Contributor



UPCOMING CAMP-OUTS

JANUARY 2024 (dates TBD)
Santa Barbara Elks Lodge

FEBRUARY 8 - 11, 2024
Casa de Fruta RV Park, Hollister

Santa Maria Elks Lodge 1538
Cordially Invite you to Attend Our
ELKS MEMORIAL SERVICE
for all of Our Departed Members

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023 2:00 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



"... Departed Members that have
Passed Through the Vacant Chair
since December 8, 2022"

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Raymond "Corky" Ball | Charles R Sims |
| Johnny M Simas | Sergio Zepeda |
| Tim P Nolan | Clint Scruggs |
| Willie C Asistin | Ralph K B Clay |
| Larry G Tanner | Kurt Mahelona |
| Ellis Castner | Allen R Bennett |
| Bill Munoz | Valdemer D Brose |
| Jim Ventriglia | Donald F Malin |
| Antonio Chavez | Robert Kauffman |
| Kenneth Flores Jr | Lee La Faille |
| Robert "Mike" Polley | John J Normanly |
| Harold C Moss | Robert A Doss |
| Jess E Buchert | Dennis C Rhule |
| Fredrick J Bezerra | Ruben Martinez |
| Michael L Diaz | Marc E Buentiempo |
| John D Hamner | Robert G Blackmore |
| Debra A Boner | Fred Sobottka |
| Kevin W Hightower | Gary G Winters |
| Terry "Wayne" Newby | Robert D Barca |
| Howard L Harrison | Robert Limon |
| Kenneth P Brown | Schuyler C Wardrip |
| Carol Sorenson | David J Avila |
| | Dick Weldon PER |

**THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS QUALIFY FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP AND WILL BE VOTED ON
TO BECOME LIFE MEMBERS ON AT THE LODGE MEETING DECEMBER 14, 2023.**

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 006686 G H Pete Brodnick | 006654 Harry W Mc Kitchens |
| 006735 Ronald B Burk | 006531 Richard Medley |
| 006417 Glenn Clyde | 006533 Edward L Miller |
| 006690 Russell J Collins | 006708 Michael A Murray |
| 006742 James M Cox | 006709 Patrick H Murray |
| 006695 Dennis J Fernandez | 006710 Richard E Muscio |
| 006637 Joseph A Freitas Jr | 006576 Robert D Randolph |
| 006748 Robert J Fulton | 006665 Ronald H Souza |
| 006429 Lloyd W Ingram | 006720 John E Stornetta |
| 006700 Harold E Jackson | 006668 Donald M Tate |
| 006702 H Wayne Kingsley | 006723 Jack T Taylor |
| 006705 Frank Mainard | 006438 John D Von Achen |
| 006530 Roger Maxwell | 006781 Dennis J Yeoman |
| 006527 Norman Mc Donald PER | |

CRYING TOWEL

October 5

- Carina Reyes \$55.00 PRESENT
 Bob Smith \$55.00 PRESENT
 Shari Purser \$55.00 PRESENT
 John Gilham \$55.00 PRESENT
 Jeff Koester \$55.00 PRESENT
 Richard Parker PER ... \$55.00 PRESENT
 Tommy Gee PER \$55.00 PRESENT
 James Tomei \$55.00 PRESENT

October 12

- George Bernard Hammerle \$500
 Ruben V. Ceja \$500
 Herber Morales \$500

October 19

- Norman W. "Wes" Kyzer \$500
 Edward Vargas \$500
 Vincent Lopez Jr. \$500

October 26

- Scott G Leube \$500
 Rafael Mendoza Jr \$500
 Theo Cain \$500

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- | | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|---|
| Sally Aparicio | Melissa Landey | Monica Navarro | Diana Sellars |
| Efrain Ayala | Maribel Limon | Virginia Oliver | Steven Sellars |
| Laura Barragan | Johnny Ling | Charlene O'Toole | Michael Torres |
| Alfredo Camacho | Alexandria Lopez | Alberto Pantoja | David Vallejo |
| George Cowett Jr | Steve Marshall | Ricardo Pardo | John Ventura |
| Jorge Cuevas | Eric McDaniel | Laurena Perez | Anne Villarin |
| Jesse Estrada | Abraham Mendez | Marcus Perez | Brigitte Ytting |
| Adrian Gonzalez | Javier Mendez | Alfredo Rodriguez | Torben Ytting |
| Stephen Good | Marc Mitchell | Tony Rodriguez | Reinstatments
and Transfers: |
| Lisa Johns | Roberto Morales | Rafael Sanchez | Sarah Santana |



Robert Dorado Class

SANTA MARIA ELKS SUPPORT
THE ANNUAL SANTA BARBARA COUNTY STAND DOWN
AT THE SANTA MARIA FAIRPARK



In Memoriam
To Our Absent Members

AN ELK IS NEVER FORGOTTEN, NEVER FORSAKEN

#13863

SCHUYLER C WARDRIP

BORN: December 19, 1927

INITIATED: October 25, 2007

DIED: August 13, 2023

#9122

JOSEPH C FRIEDMAN

BORN: June 18, 1933

INITIATED: February 28, 1985

DIED: September 15, 2023

#5068

ROBERT D BARCA

BORN: September 12, 1929

INITIATED: February 08, 1968

DIED: September 19, 2023

#8115

DAVID J AVILA

BORN: March 01, 1956

INITIATED: February 26, 1981

DIED: October 07, 2023

#9044

JOSEPH HUNSAKER

Born: May 10, 1940

Initiated: March 25, 1976

Died: October 18, 2023



TOYS FOR TOTS



6:15 pm . . . No-Host Cocktail Party
with hors d'oeuvres

7:30 pm . . . Dinner served

8:30 p to 12:30 am . . . Dancing

DANCING to Mike Arriola Project

Elk Member & Guests - \$65/ticket
Tables - \$780/table (12 per table)

SANTA MARIA ELKS

New Years Eve Party

DECEMBER 31, 2023

~ 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 at 12:30 am

Semi-Formal Dress: Coat & Tie Required

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	
7	6	5	4	3
				2
				1

2023 New Years Party
12 per Table
\$780 per Table

STAGE

★ 96 YEARS ★

LODGE ACTIVITES



Attendance Drawing winner of \$55 each are: Carina Reyes, Kirt Murdock, Jeff Koester, Bob Smith, Shari Purser, John Gilham, Glenda Jennings, Tommy Gee PER, James Tomei



The Lodge Officers present \$10,354 collected from CYO raffles, Committee Donations, Gold Ribbon sales, and a Lodge donation to the Golden Circle of Champions



Jaime Flores and James Thomas from the Elks Parade Committee present April Sargent a \$500 donation for Neurofighters to assist individuals with Parkinson's and other neurological conditions



Golf Tournament Chairman Fernie Tarango presents a \$1,000 donation to Eva Macias for Holiday Baskets



Jaime Flores and James Thomas from the Elks Parade Committee present Lodge Esquire Eva Guzman a \$250 donation for the Children's Halloween Party



Paula Elkins presents a \$2,635 donation from the Swap Meet to Scott Parsons for the Golden Circle of Champions



Golf Tournament Chairman Fernie Tarango presents a \$250 donation to Steven Funkhouser for the Antlers



Golf Tournament Chairman Fernie Tarango presents a \$1,000 donation to Veterans Committee Chair Brian Mason



Kirk Murdock from the Touring Elks present a \$1,000 donation to the Golden Circle of Champions

VETERANS NIGHT



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Exalted Ruler Aaron Castellanos and Student of the Month Chair Eva Macias present a Certificate of Achievement from the Elks and the Mayor and a check to each Student.



SYDNEY MADISON from Orcutt Academy High School with a 4.68 GPA is Ranked 1st in her class of 128, has over 271 Service Hours, has completed two Advanced Placement classes, and has taken seven classes at Hancock.

Her Awards include: Scholar Athlete; Principal's List; Junior Honor Court; National Honor Society; National Society of High School Scholars;

Congress of Future Medical Leaders; JavaScript Level I Certified; Female Athlete of the year; Sophomore Class Soccer MVP; Orcutt Academy Golden Boot Award; and First Place Golden State Association of Christian Schools Chess Competition.

Sydney's Activities include: California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress; English Language Arts (ELA); Mathematics; Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) score of 1200; American College Testing (CT) composite score of 28; Varsity Soccer Captain; Jazz Band; GSACS Science and History Tests.

Her Community Involvement and Service includes: Marian Regional Medical Center (231 hours); Veteran's Clinic (30 hours); Merrill Garden (10 hours playing piano).

CLARISSA MARIE VARGAS from Pioneer Valley High School with a 4.17 GPA, Ranked 29th in her class of 749, has over 342 Service Hours, and has taken eight classes at Hancock.

Her Awards include: Outstanding ASB Freshman; Greenhand, Chapter and State FFA Degrees; Academic Excellence; ASB Outstanding Sophomore; and Career Readiness Certified.

Clarissa's Activities include: Pioneer Valley ASB Leadership; ASB Historian; ASB Chief Justice; Sophomore Class President; Freshman Class Secretary; Link Crew Leader; Pioneer Valley FFA; Pioneer Valley Women's Golf.

Her Community Involvement and Service includes: The Patch (310 hours); Santa Maria Huskies Basketball (16 hours); and Santa Maria Elks Rodeo (16 Hours).



CAMDEN ISAIAH PATTERSON from Orcutt Academy High School, with a 4.67 GPA, ranked 2nd in his class of 125, has over 100 Service Hours, completed one Advanced Placement and has taken 15 classes at Hancock.

His Awards include: two Spartan Achievement Awards; the National Hispanic Recognition Award; Northern Santa Barbara County

Athletic Round Table; AP Computer Science; Junior Year Honor Court; and Scholar Athlete.

Camden's Activities include: Freshman Connect Crew - Leadership Team; National Honor Society; Volleyball Captain; Varsity Soccer; Beach Volleyball Club; California Boys State City Attorney.

EVAN LANDON TROESH from Ernest Righetti High School, with a 4.63 GPA, Ranked 1st in his class of 616, has 1,100 Service Hours, has completed five Advanced Placement classes and has taken seven classes at Hancock.

His Awards include: Congressional Silver Medal Award; AP scholar; National Rural and Small Town Award; National Honor Society; California Scholarship Federation; RHS Top Senior Scholar; Scholar Athlete; Academic Warrior; OSHA General Industry Certified; and California Food Handler.

Evan's Activities include: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM); Interact; Tutoring; Treet's - Troesh Spreadsheets,; USS Iowa internship; Academic Guidance Counseling; school Photographer; supported the rodeo campaign through fundraising events; and reconstructed part of an airplane.

Interests/Hobbies: Has created over 500 rings from antique forks and spoons



Haunted Hills

SANTA MARIA ELKS SUPPORT VETERANS HONOR FLIGHT TO WASHINGTON DC *continued from page 1*



VETERANS HONOR FLIGHT REPORT

On October 2nd 2023, 100 Veterans & 78 guardians departed from Santa Maria Airport on a Chartered direct 5 hour flight to Baltimore International Airport for a quick 3 day adventure thanks to an organization called Honor Flight Central Coast. Upon arrival, we boarded the waiting buses and headed to the American Legion for dinner. The next morning we departed for Washington DC and visited the Vietnam Wall Memorial, Korean War Memorial, World War II Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, US Marine Corp War Memorial and the Air Force Memorial. Four of our Veterans participated in laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

On the 3rd and last day, we visited the Naval Academy at Annapolis arriving early enough to watch the band perform during the raising of the American Flag. We were greeted by the base commander and members of the band, then proceeded to the visitors Center for a

short movie about the history of Annapolis and daily life of a Midshipman on base. We then headed over to the Naval Academy Chapel with the Music Director performing for us. Our last stop of the trip was Ft McHenry, location of the battle that inspired the writing of "The Star Spangled Banner". We watched a short movie, toured the Fort and some of our Group purchased and raised their own American Flags.

Upon our return to the Santa Maria Airport, we were greeted by over 1000 people wearing Red, White & Blue and waving American Flags. It definitely was a memorable trip for our Veterans. If you know a WWII, Korean or Vietnam Veteran that would like to go on the Honor Flight, have them apply at www.honorflightccc.org.

Ray Sanchez
Lodge Historian, Inner Guard, & Photo Committee Chairperson

ANNUAL VETERANS DINNER



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.

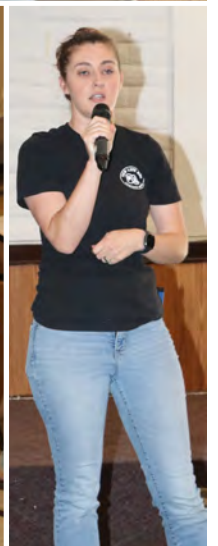
ADULT HALLOWEEN PARTY



CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN PARTY



VETERANS MINI STAND DOWN





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AND ASSOCIATES
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 TEL: (805) 735-9992
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Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the lord, not for men.
 Colossians 3:23

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

THE BACKBONE OF OUR LODGE IS THE VOLUNTEERS.

HELP US STAY STRONG, JOIN THE FORCE.

USHERS, SERVERS, BINGO, PUB GRUB
 CALL THE OFFICE LEAVE YOUR INFO



**B.P.O. ELKS – NO. 1538
2023-2024 OFFICERS**

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

1309 North Bradley Road, Santa Maria, CA 93454
 Office: (805) 922-1538 | Events: (805) 925-1538
 Lodge Fax: 1-(805) 925-0297
 Web Page: www.SantaMariaElks.org
 Parade Web Page: www.elksrodeoparade.com
 Lodge E-mail: lodge@elks1538.org
 Elks Horn E-mail: smelkshorn@gmail.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
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DECEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Members Bar Open Daily 10:00 am - 9:00 pm Every Sunday Football Menu (Details pg. 5)	Men's Dress Code Change for DECEMBER ONLY (Details pg. 5)	Elks Bowling Every Tuesday Rancho Bowl 6:30 pm		Upon Entrance to the Lodge, there may be a COVER CHARGE for Guests not buying a CYO Dinner	1 CYO Steak/Ribs/Fish Chicken Breast 6:00 – 8:00 pm Dance to Unfinished Business 8:30 pm	2
3 Elks Memorial Service 2:00 pm Lodge Room (Details pg. 9)	4 Monday Night Dinner 5:30 – 6:30 pm Chicken Tacos \$15 House Committee 6:30 pm	5 Pub Grub 5:30 – 7:00 pm BINGO 6:00 pm	6	7 Lodge DARK Elks Horn Articles DUE	8 CYO Steak/Ribs//Fish Chicken Breast 6:00 – 8:00 pm Dance to Mike Arriola Project 8:30 pm	9
10 Cigar & Fine Spirits 2:00 pm Patio Major Project Tamale Sale 1:00 pm-4:00 pm (Details pg. 2)	11 Monday Night Dinner 5:30 – 6:30 pm Beef Stroganoff \$15	12 Pub Grub 5:30 – 7:00 pm BINGO 6:00 pm Investigations 6:30 pm	13 Childrens Christmas Party 5:30-8:00 pm Dinner Until 7:00 pm (Details pg. 5)	14 Veterans Appreciation Mini Stand Down 11:00 am (Details pg. 6) Lodge 7:30 pm Student of the Month Ballot on Life Members	15 CYO Steak/Ribs//Fish Chicken Breast 6:00 – 8:00 pm Dance to John Pemberton 8:30 pm	16 Adopt-A-Highway 8:00 am
17 PER Christmas Party Hoop Shoot (Details pg. 4)	18 Monday Night Dinner 5:30 – 6:30 pm BBQ 1/2 Chicken \$18 Holiday Baskets 6:00 pm	19 Holiday Baskets 7:30 am Pub Grub 5:30 – 7:00 pm BINGO 6:00 pm	20	21 Food Bank 9:00ish Lodge 7:30 pm Join us for Holiday Cheer with Eggnog & Adult Hot Chocolate. Spouses welcome to join us after Lodge	22 CYO Steak/Ribs//Fish Chicken Breast 6:00 – 8:00 pm Dance to DJ Tymeless 8:30 pm	23
24 Bar Closes 5:00 pm	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS Lodge Closed	26 Pub Grub 5:30 – 7:00 PM BINGO 6:00 pm	27 Karaoke Night 6:30 - 8:30 pm Members Bar (Details pg. 2)	28	29 CYO Steak/Ribs//Fish Chicken Breast 6:00 – 8:00 pm Dance to Night Ridge 8:30 pm	30
31 New Years Eve Party No Host Cocktails 6:15 pm Dinner 7:30 pm Dance 8:30 pm-12:30 am Details (pg. 11)	<p>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.</p>					

