



Petaluma Elks Lodge #901 The Whisperings

August 2023
Issue 8 Volume 119



-By Wayne Wilson, PER/ER

Hello, Elks.

It's the dog days of summer. And I hope that we don't see as many blistering hot days this month as we did in July. It really seemed to impact folks coming to the Lodge. In fact, on one Pasta Night it was so hot that I was told some people just did not want to get out of their houses. Whew... Let's hope for better in August.

Well, last month was fun. The Car Show was a huge success and it was great fun to have Aushay, the CHEMPI Theme Child, and his family there to participate. He really enjoyed the cars and being able to present his own trophy. I had a great time, too. As it seemed that everyone did who came on down. You should remember that a portion of the proceeds go directly towards supporting the CHEMPI charity. So, Thank You to all

Thoughts from our Exalted Ruler

who participated.

July, is also the month when the Exalted Ruler (me) is required to attend the Elks National Convention, which was held in Minneapolis over July 2-5. One of the requirements of the ER is to report back to the Lodge about anything pertinent to the Lodge. And I have a couple of items of interest.

First of all is the voting results on the proposed resolutions. There were 18 in all, but most had to do with clarifying some of the statutes. Three of them (2023-04, 05 & 06) had to do with making clear that the District Deputy has the sole authority to grant dispensation for a required officer not to attend a DD Clinic. They passed. One (2023-12) would have required Grand Lodge to provide a per-capita credit to local lodges for dropped members. That one failed. Too bad. There were also a couple that would allow a PER Assoc to form a sub-corporation for charitable purposes, similar to 16.030. Those failed, too. Although, I cannot see why a lodge would want to do that in the first place. Anyway, the total voting results can be seen at; [https://www.elks.org/convention/files/Minn](https://www.elks.org/convention/files/Minnapolis2023/2023BallotResults.pdf)

[apolis2023/2023BallotResults.pdf](https://www.elks.org/convention/files/Minnapolis2023/2023BallotResults.pdf).

I also attended a number of sessions at the convention and I want to point out two that should be of interest. One is that there is a big push for lodges to take advantage of a new app called MyElks. This is an app that can be downloaded to your cellphone and provides a number of neat advantages like;

- Pushing current notifications right to the users even better than email notifications
- Providing an advertising banner that businesses can subscribe to as a source of income to the Lodge.
- Online facility for volunteers to sign-up to activities.
- Better reservation page for event tickets
- A facility for members to be rewarded the more they come to the Lodge.

I'm going to ask the House Committee to invest in this app as it has many benefits to be enjoyed.

Finally, there was a session where it was announced that, within two to three years, we will be replacing the standard QuickBooks accounting

system with one that has a group license for all Lodges. This will not only save license fees, but will also eliminate the use of the FRS System for reporting to Grand Lodge. This is really nice.

Regarding upcoming Lodge activities, August is a bit slow. But for those who like to travel, the annual Jamboree is being held at the Eureka Lodge the weekend of August 18-20. This is a gathering of all the Lodges in our District for a weekend of fun & games including a Steak Night, a Chowder Cookoff, a gala dinner with a gift basket auction to benefit charity. I might even get in some fishing on Humboldt Bay. Anyone want to join me? Of course, we will continue our weekday meals of Sunday Breakfast, Monday Pasta, Wednesday Burgers, and monthly Friday Karaoke. The new salad bar should also be open for Friday Sandwich & Salad nights. And on that note, I want to say how much I enjoy being part of the kitchen crews that serve up these dinners. Come and join us. We have a lot of fun and so will you!

Well, that's it for this month. Have great month and thank you for all that you do as members of our Lodge.



Elks National Foundation It's Scholarship Time - MVS Opens!

For details and applications for all scholarships, go to www.elks.org/enf/scholars.





California-Hawaii Elks Major Project – CHEMPI

Serving children with disabilities since 1950.

“The Elks Major Project provides invaluable help to the children struggling to be independent and builds hope in the hearts of their parents.”

Make A Difference In A Child’s Life

More info on BLT at www.chea-elks.org

Please consider making a lasting legacy gift to the children in whatever manner works best for you. There are a number of different ways to provide for future generations of the children served by our CHEMPI Therapists and Vision Screeners.

Even a modest gift can have a tremendous impact in terms of future benefit.

If you would like to learn more about BLT Legacy Giving, contact Lodge BLT Legacy Giving Chairperson Duane Sartori: Duane@boslawfirm.org

Enjoy warm summer days & Feed the Purple Pigs



Elks Give The Gift Of Life
 Register as a Donor **Donate Life America**
 For more info go to: www.donatelife.net

NOTE: UPCOMING EVENTS ARE LISTED ON THE BACK PAGE & INFO/FLYERS ARE THROUGHOUT

From Our Purple Pig Chairman

- By George Matt

As summer moves along, our counting is still being done. Thank you for your donations. The total for the month of June was \$738.39. There were 19 contributors. Dennis Nowicki turned in 4 pigs for a total of \$104.05

Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Thank you for placing your names on the pig. Please keep up giving to help the children in need. Keep the coins coming and I'll keep on counting. If you have any question about the Purple Pig fund please contact the Secretary's office.

Turn in your full piggies and adopt another...then repeat often!

A Coin a Day... They'll Walk, Talk, See and Play.



Contributors for the month of June:

- | | | |
|---------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Sandie Piro | William Kelley | |
| Lori Ham | Wally Homes | |
| Bob Sheldon | Harold Matzen | Rusty McManus * |
| Fred Lucas * | Debra Geaffv * | Margret Ronsheimer |
| Bill Lewis | Mitch Barnes | Dennis Nowiicki * 4 Pigs |
| Tony Morgan * | Charlen Gannon * | Petaluma Elks RV Club * |

(* Member that has turned in more than one pig in the past 12 months.)

- Lodge's Website:** www.elks901.org
- Lodge Email:** info@elks901.org
- Lodge Exalted Ruler:** er@elks901.org
- Lodge Editor:** editor@elks901.org
- Lodge Webmaster:** webmaster@elks901.org
- Lodge Secretary:** secretary@elks901.org
- National Elks' Website:** www.elks.org
- State/CHEA Elks' Website:** www.chea-elks.org
- Lodge Number:** (707) 763-0901
- RV Reservations:** www.elks901.org

Lodge Information: Call (707) 763-0901
Office Hours: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Meeting Nights: 2nd & 4th Thurs. 7:00 p.m.

Lounge Hours: *See calendar.
 (Happy Hours ended July 31)
 Note: meeting nites- bar closes at 6:30p.m. Then opens after meeting until 9:00pm.

Lodge 901 Officers: 2023-2024

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Exalted Ruler*: | Wayne Wilson, PER |
| Est. Leading Knight*: | Laurie Banks |
| Est. Loyal Knight*: | TBD |
| Est. Lecturing Knight*: | Ken Conley |
| Secretary: | Larry Sartori, PER |
| Treasurer: | Gary Lassen |
| Esquire: | Lisa Ohman |
| Chaplain: | Tim Sheehan |
| Inner Guard: | Al Petrides |
| Tiler: | TBA |
| 1 Year Trustee*: | Tony Estes |
| 2 Year Trustee*: | Mike Martin |
| 3 Year Trustee*: | David Baggenstos |
| 4 Year Trustee*: | Tim Moore |
| 5 Year Trustee*: | Bill Lewis |
| House Committee: | Officers with * |

The Whisperings Staff

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Editor in Chief: | Bobbi Galbraith, PER |
| Printer: | QPS/David Adams |
| Contributing Writers: | Wayne Wilson PER/ER,
George Matt, Larry Sartori-Sec, Gordon Cox,
Laurie Banks-Ldg Kn, Tony Morgan, Susan Degive |

Photos/Flyers: Susan Degive, Butch Smith

All lodge notifications in this publication constitute an Official notification, and no other need be given. Committe Chairpersons should submit their new items in writing no later than the 15th of each month.

Lounge Hours*: Our ability to open the bar is dependant upon available volunteer staffing. Check calendar, verify with lodge.



Major Project Update

-By Laurie Banks, Leading Knight & Major Project Chair



Looking over the reports for May-June, thank you to all members that donated, with special kudos to those that achieved special benchmarks:

Century Club Members: Dennis Nowicki, Gary Ham

52 Club Members: Barbara "Bobbi" Galbraith, Charlie Head, Garth Hewitt, Kenneth Hillman, Dennis Nowicki, Roy Smith, Mark Temple, Wayne Wilson, Debra Graff, Gary Ham, William Kelly, Harold Matzen, Anthony Morgan, Margaret Ronsheimer

A shout-out to all the car lovers who donated \$147.00 with their Car Show Registration.

And sweet thanks to the Purple Pig Chocolate Chip Cookie lovers, your sweet tooth fed the Purple Pig \$45.

The Sky is the limit. If you don't have a piggy to fill up, just drop by the Lodge and pick one up from on top of the display case in the front hallway.

I thought since kids are on vacation, let's try and see if we can get some of our kids, grandkids, kids we know to get involved in saving to the Purple Pig. It teaches them about saving and even small amounts can add up. Also, about about the rewards donating to those in need. A great learning experience and awesome cause! Have them get their own piggy, fill it up and turn it in with their information and receive a special thank you. If they would like to decorate their pig, I will display them in the lodge!

Let's have some fun with this!

The goal sign for our lobby is on order. Let's set this goal together. Send me your thoughts and let's achieve it and even go beyond it. So, keep those piggies coming in and remember...

"A coin a day so our children with special needs can walk, talk, see and play."



Leading Knights Corner –

"It's About CHARITY"

-By Laurie Banks, Leading Knight

Charity items that will go to the floor of the lodge for members to vote:

- ♦The Casa Grande High School Boys Soccer Program requested support for the upcoming soccer season (uniforms, equipment, referees and other needs to help their program).

- ♦Wayne Wilson requested a \$100 donation be made to Scout Troop #274 for their

help with our Flag Day Ceremony.

Make a difference, have your opinion and thoughts on these matters and others heard. Come to our lodge meetings and vote on things that need approval.

Please contact me with questions or thoughts on a charity that the Elks can help support.
lmdbanks@yahoo.com

August Birthdays

- By Susan Degive

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 3 John Hutchinson | 18 Bryan Giroux |
| Michael Stafford | Gary Ham |
| 4 Sherri Adams | James Hopkins |
| Gregory Geide | Wayne Ritz |
| Jim Langford | 19 Alexander Banayat |
| Bill Mickelson | Kate Carpenter |
| 5 Roger Burk | 20 Charlene Gannon |
| Terry Mc Clarnon | Donald Johnson |
| 6 Albert Breeden | John King Jr |
| Roger Damron | 21 Steve Gosselin |
| Everett Swesey | Alicia Rones |
| 8 Duncan Holt | 22 Patrick Chipman |
| Annette Marks | John Conway |
| Scott Slonoff | Frank Gambonini |
| 9 Pamela Abbott-Enz | Lil Mc Carthy |
| Glenn Kabanuck | 23 Dave Ginilo |
| Casimir Klimowski | Dustin Johnson |
| 10 Karl Bastian | Mike Tomasek |
| Robert Crosat | 24 Albert Petrides |
| Robert Ferrando | 26 Michael P Kerrigan |
| Robert Gambonini | Roman Latanyszyn |
| John Glover | Jeff Lucchesi |
| 11 Tom Corda | Jim Sebastiani |
| Douglas Frampton | 27 Robert Hofer |
| Wayne Stefenoni | 28 John DeSylva |
| 12 Gloria Del Santo | Harry Humes |
| 13 James Crichton | Sandra Stone |
| Robin Davis | 29 Thomas Higbee |
| Kimball Hall | Scott Hudnall |
| Myron Witt | Gayle Ramos |
| 14 Rick Ashby | 30 Jim Andrews |
| Dorothy Cosmi | Michael Cook |
| Bonnie Koagedal | Douglas Fletcher |
| 15 Jack Burns | George Polley Jr |
| Michael Nevin | ♦ |
| 16 Leroy Cabral | |
| 17 Kerry Davison | |
| Eric Graul | |
| Heidi Johnson | |
| Carlos Soto | |



HAPPY BIRTHDAY ALL!!!



Happy Birthday!

If your birthday is this month, clip this coupon, fill in your name, card number & birthdate & present it with proof of your birthday at the bar for a couple of drinks.

Name: _____

Member Card Number: _____

B. Date ____/____/____

BLOOD DRIVE

Because of you, life doesn't stop.



Petaluma Elks Lodge
Tues. Aug, 29th 10am- 2:15pm
Wed. Aug, 30th 10am- 1:45pm
Elks Lodge - Meeting Room
 2105 South McDowell Blvd
 Petaluma, CA 94954

To make an appointment, visit donors.vitalant.org.
 Use your unique blood drive code: **PetalumaElksLodge** or call 877.258.4825.

APPOINTMENTS are encouraged.
 All up here you can POWER UP your donation.

To make an appointment:

SCAN QR  CALL 877-258-4825 877-25-VITAL  Use the VITALANT DONOR APP  **vitalant** Blood Donation

Since 2019, there has been a 31% decline of blood donated at mobile blood drives. The need for blood never stops, however there are times of the year when securing enough donations to meet patients' needs is more of a challenge; we need your help.



JAMBOREE 2023



Tickets Due
The Early Bird Has Flown,
But There Are Still
Good Prizes In The Nest...




You can still win. Mail in your ticket stubs (& money) by the **August 5th** deadline and you are eligible for some great prizes and you will be supporting worthwhile District projects. The drawing will take place Saturday August 19th at the Eureka lodge. You do not have to be present to win at that evening's dinner and fun event.

Please return the filled out ticket stubs with a \$20 check payable to Ukiah Elks Lodge 1728 in the self-addressed return envelope provided. If you cannot use the tickets please return them so others may. If you need more tickets, contact the office. Good luck and thank you.

Volunteering is fun & rewarding...
 Give it a try! Give a hand!
 Be part of the team!

MONDAY Pasta NIGHT

5PM- 7PM
 No Reservations Needed.

AUGUST MENUS

Aug 7 - Spaghetti with Meatballs, mixed green salad, red or pesto sauce, garlic bread \$15
Aug 14 - Cheese Tortellini with Alfredo or red sauce, Caesar salad, garlic bread \$15
Aug 21 - Penne Pasta with Italian sausage, red or pesto sauce, mixed green salad, French bread and butter \$15
Aug 28 - Minestrone Soup and Caesar salad, French Bread and butter \$12

Something Different Each Week
Because Pasta is Amazing!



PETALUMA ELKS #901 • 2105 SOUTH MCDOWELL BLVD

~Elks 901~ SOCIAL CLUB

It's BACK & All Are Welcome

Fri
Aug 4
12:30
 (at the Lodge)

MENU:
Mexican Food Truck
\$20



Please RSVP & mail by Jul 25
Make check payable to & mail to:
Norine (Bobby) Gervasi
1074 Santa Clara Lane
Petaluma, CA 94954



Questions?
Contact Bobby Gervasi (707)762-0724

...ALERT...

Some dinners are very popular. Ensure the meal you came for is waiting for you. Make your reservations online or call the office.

More August events on pages 5

Proposed for Membership:

- Gregory Drew- proposed by Dennis Drew
- Mojib Aimaq- proposed by Doug Fletcher
- William Kabage- proposed by Richard Giuliani
- Stephen Rustad- proposed by Bill Hart
- Cynthia Halvorson- proposed by Kate Carpenter.
- Martin Seiler- proposed by Roger Horick
- Jason Fox- proposed by Steven Rubino
- Ignacio Navarro- proposed by Priscilla Burgi
- Kenneth Schacht- proposed by Jack Marshall
- Matthew Nathe- proposed by Jonathan Nathe
- John O'Brien- proposed by Laurie Banks
- Kristen Joyce- proposed by Tim Joyce
- Michael Stanford- proposed by William Kelly
- Ray Peterson- proposed by Michael Nistler
- Christine Diles- proposed by Wayne Wilson
- William Diles- proposed by Rick Nadale
- Gretchen Sweet- proposed by Jerry Corda
- Colleen Budd- proposed by Jerry Corda
- Andrew Sorokowski- proposed by Meliss Flagg,
Newport Harbor Lodge #1767

Proposed for Lifetime Member Status:

The following members have requested Lifetime member status:

- 1) Jack Conway, a member for 32 years.
- 2) Jerry Corda, a member for 49 years.
- 3) Don De Renzo, a member for 42 years.
- 4) Tony Estes, a member for 30 years.
- 5) Doug Frampton, a member for 30 years.
- 6) James Lovrin, a member for 42 years.
- 7) Robert Lopez, a member for 42 years.
- 8) Gene Petersen, a member for 49 years.

They will be voted on at the August 24th Lodge meeting.

Secretary's Corner

-By Larry Sartori



Membership Recap	
Members as of April 1, 2023	942
Initiated	15
Affiliated:	6
Reinstated:	2
Dropped	0
Transferred Out	1
Absolute Dimit:	0
Deaths	3
Expelled	0
Net Change	19
Members as of July 10, 2023	961
Delinquent	89
Delinquency Rate	9.45%
Honorary Life Members	2
Life Members	43
Life Percentage:	4,78%

Charity –

Volunteering Adds Up – What You Do Counts!

Our final annual charity numbers are in and have been reported to Grand Lodge. We had \$160,425 in non-cash donations and \$30,354 in cash donations. And when you add in the volunteer hours, it brings our total Charity value to \$489,995.16. We could not have done this without all of our volunteers! This information helps us to retain our private, tax-exempt status. Thanks to all who were able to help out this last year.

DD CLINIC -

EUREKA LODGE

Sun., August 20th, 2023

Officers and Members of Elks Lodges throughout our Great Northwest District attend this clinic to discuss business matters and activities.



Lodge of Sorrow - "The chimes of memories will always recall..."

Ronald Lipori, PER- Born 12/16/1942. Died 6/25/2023. Initiated 10/13/1973. An Elk for 51 Years.

ENF supports Veterans, Communities & Children

Please support ENF

To Do

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

DD Visitation reports due by/before

Mon. Sept. 25th

Send your reports to the ER
Email: wwilson-elks901@outlook.com

Please be prompt. Thanks for your participation!

Lodge Meeting Nights' Bar Hours

On meeting nights, per rules of Elkdom, the bar closes promptly at 6:30 PM (before the start of the 7PM meeting). Everyone must exit the bar at 6:30 PM. The bar will open after the meeting & close at 9pm.

TO DO

EVENT CHAIRS

1. Get your event plans on the T/HC meeting agenda for **Aug 7th** (for approval).
2. Get approved info to the Newsletter Editor by the **15th**.
3. Then promote event!
4. After event, write your wrapup article about the event & thank yous. Send to both the Newsletter & the PR Chair to get published.



Biography of
Randy P. Shook
GRAND EXALTED RULER
Fraternal Year 2023-2024
Benevolent and Protective Order
of Elks of the U.S.A.



Nashville, Tennessee is the birthplace of country music, bluegrass, and Randy Paul Shook who was born in its rolling hills on the 25th of November. Along with his parents, D. Webster Shook, Sr. and Joyce Fay (Sims) Shook, his younger sisters, Pam and Patty, Randy grew up and went to school in Loretto, a small town in Lawrence County.

Completing school in 1974, Randy worked in the family farming operation until 1977 when he joined the team at Genesco, a shoe manufacturer in nearby Pulaski. His career advanced while at Genesco, as he was promoted to Assistant Department Manager in 1980 and Department Manager in 1982.

Randy's time at Genesco is significant for another reason: in 1981, this is where he met the love of his life and his soulmate, Wanda. They have been partners in life, love, and laughter ever since.

In 1984, Randy discovered his vocation while studying Real Estate, Banking, and Economics at Columbia State Community College and became an affiliate real estate broker. After continuing to take courses through the Tennessee Real Estate Educational System and graduating from the Nashville Auction School, Randy became a licensed Real Estate Broker and Auctioneer in 1986. He served as President of the Southern Middle Tennessee Board of Realtors in 1989.

Randy founded his company, Appraisals Plus, in 1992 after becoming a Certified Real Estate Appraiser. He remains the sole proprietor of Appraisals Plus which serves seven counties in southern Tennessee. For more than 20 years his son, Billy, and niece, Kristy have worked side-by-side with Randy as Certified Appraisers.

Randy was proposed and initiated into Lawrenceburg Lodge No. 2206 in 1993 and continues to this day to be an active and dedicated member. He was elected Esteemed Loyal Knight in 1995-1996, Exalted Ruler in 1996-1997 and 1998-1999, and Trustee from 1999 to 2001. Randy was named Lawrenceburg Elk of the Year in 2008-2009. He was elected Treasurer from 2010 to 2015 and again in 2019-2020.

Randy began his service to the Tennessee Elks Association in 1998-1999 as Vice President-Elect and was Vice President in 1999-2000. He was elected President-Elect in 2004-2005 and as Tennessee State President in 2005-2006. His service continued as Government Relations State Chair from 2003 to 2016, Raffle Committee State Chair from 2005 to 2018, Budget Committee State Chair

from 2010 to 2022, Executive Committee from 2009 to present, and the Board of Directors and Advisory from 2006 to present. He was named Tennessee Elk of the Year in 2007-2008 and was inducted into the Tennessee Elks Hall of Fame in 2012-2013.

At the Grand Lodge level, Randy was appointed Esquire to District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler in 2000-2001. In 2001-2002, he served as District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for the Middle District of Tennessee. Randy was named Area 3 Grand Lodge Government Relations Member from 2007 through 2009. He was elected Grand Treasurer for 2009-2010. Randy was named Area 3 Public Relations and Marketing Member from 2014 to 2018. In 2018, he was elected to represent Area 3 on the Board of Grand Trustees, serving as Building Applications—West Member in 2018-2019, as Pensions and Benefits Member in 2019-2020, as Secretary of the Board in 2020-2021 and Chairman of the Board in 2021-2022.

Along with his service to the Elks, Randy has demonstrated his civic commitment through his service on various Boards and Commissions within his community. He was appointed to the Lawrenceburg Regional Planning Commission in 2003 and served until 2023, serving as the Chairman for the past ten years. He was also on the Zoning Board of Appeals from 2003 to 2023, Lawrence County Joint Economic Board from 2011 to 2023 and Historical Planning from 2019 to 2023. Randy is a 32nd Degree Mason and has been a Shriner for over thirty years.

Randy and Wanda were married on March 19, 1982, and together they have two sons: Brad and Billy. When Brad was 21 years old, Randy had the honor of initiating him into the Elks. When Billy was 21, Randy was the District Deputy of Tennessee's Middle District and was present as Billy was initiated into the Order. Tragically, Brad died in 2021 after a brave fight against pancreatic cancer. Randy and Wanda continue to reside in Lawrence County, Tennessee where they are surrounded by extended family, friends, and most importantly, their four wonderful grandchildren: Madison, Jacob, Griffin, and Vaida.

Randy and Wanda are looking forward to the adventures ahead and are thankful and humbled to represent the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America as Grand Exalted Ruler and First Lady. We welcome the opportunity to meet new friends and let our communities know that:



“WE ARE *The* ELKS”



Dennis Hunter

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND EXALTED RULER

“Great” Northwest District Fraternal Year 2023 – 2024 Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of the U.S.A.



Dennis Hunter was born on July 8, 1942 in Newport, Oregon. At four years old, his family moved to Eureka, California where he attended local schools and graduated from Eureka High School in 1960. During his high school senior year, he began working for Eureka radio and television stations, co-hosted a local Saturday TV dance show and played piano in a local dance band. While working as a morning disc jockey, Dennis attended Humboldt State University where he majored in Radio-Television Speech Communication and minored in Business.

Dennis completed his college education and obtained his Bachelors of Arts Degree at Sacramento State University while he was working for KCRA-TV in Sacramento. After a stint as Promotion Director at a television station in Denver, Colorado, he decided to return home to Eureka where he opened an advertising agency which he operated for 25 years.

In 1977, Dennis joined the Rotary Club of Eureka where he served as its President in 1994-1995. While managing his advertising agency, he served as news anchor on a Eureka television station from 1982 through 1988. In 1989, Dennis entered the world of local politics as he was elected to the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District. He was re-elected four times, serving as President, Vice President and Secretary of the Board. He also served on the Redwood Region Economic Development Commission from 1992 to 2007, where he served twice as Chairman of the Board and served on its Executive Committee.

Dennis served on the board for

Easter Seals of Northern California where he was President of both the State and local chapters. He also served as on-air host and producer of the local Easter Seals Telethon for 30 years. Other community involvement includes three terms on the board of the Greater Eureka Chamber of Commerce where he served as its President in 2008, board member of the local PBS television station, the American Cancer Society, Civil Air Patrol, the Humboldt Convention and Visitors Bureau and is a current member of the City of Eureka's Financial Advisory Committee. He is a Master Mason of Humboldt lodge #79. In 1995, Dennis became the Vice President of Marketing for a regional credit union and held that position until he retired in 2013.

Upon retirement, Dennis and his wife Karen joined Eureka Elks lodge #652. Two months after being initiated, he became Inner Guard and began to work through the chairs until he served as Exalted Ruler in 2018-2019. During that time, Dennis also edited the lodge's newsletter, served as Public Relations Chair and chaired the House Committee. In 2019, DDGER Brad Smith appointed him as his Grand Esquire of the “Great” Northwest District. In 2021-2022, he served as the Northwest District's Association Vice President.

Dennis and Karen have four children, eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Hobbies include learning guitar, reading, rooting for the San Francisco Giants and 49ers and traveling with Karen and their two four-legged canine children, Buster and Posey. He has authored one book: “The Last American Whaler”.



CRESCENT CITY LODGE #1689 INVITES YOU TO JOIN US AT EURKEA LODGE #652 for the

Great North West District Jamboree 2023 August 18-20



This year's Jamboree is guaranteed to be packed with memory making excitement, come out enjoy camaraderie, competition and make lifelong friends with the Best People On Earth

There's no place you would rather be then at the Eureka Lodge #652 on August 18-20 2023. So put it on your calendar. You don't want to miss this event. The event of a lifetime!



Friday, August 18th, 2023

Cocktails at 5:00, no host bar.

Cook your own steak RSVP 707-442-6652

Cut off for Reservations August 17th by Noon 12:00

Cost \$25.00



Saturday, August 19th, 2023

11:00am – 4:00pm

Crab races, Cornhole and Giant Jenga competition.

-Chowder Cook off-

9:10 start time Judging at Noon 1st, 2nd and people's choice awards.

Check with Alan for rules.

Alan Bobillot 707-834-3397



Saturday, August 19th, 2023

No Host Bar 4:30pm

6:00pm Dinner - Cost \$30.00

Breaded Chicken Cordon Bleu, Garlic Mashed Potato, Fresh Salad, Dessert



Charitable Auction

Lodge baskets (with contents that represent their area), will be auctioned off during the Jamboree dinner.

Sunday, August 20th, 2023

Continental Breakfast.

Jamboree meeting 7:30-8:30am

District Deputy Clinic - 9:00 – 12:00 am

Eureka Lodging

(the RV park at Eureka is limited. So arrangements should be made for housing well in advance.)

1. Comfort Inn 4260, Broadway, phone 707-444-2019
2. Bayshore Inn 3500, Broadway, phone 855-516-1090
3. Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 815 Wabash, phone 707-269-0682
4. Best Western Humboldt Inn, 232 W 5th St, phone 707-200-4720
5. Red Lion Inn, 1929 4th St, phone 707-445-0844

Plan your weekend getaway in the redwoods!

Be a part of the good things Elks do for veterans, kids & our community. Help make it happen.

Looking Ahead...

You Are Cordially Invited To B.P.O. ELKS Petaluma Lodge #901



The Visitation of District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler

Dennis Hunter & his wife Karen
Thursday September 28, 2023

Watch for details

RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST!

Please RSVP (Acceptance Only) by Friday September 22nd
To office 707-763-0901 or online www.elks901.org



Oktoberfest
A Fundraiser for
Elks National Foundation
(ENF)

Oct 21
5PM - 9PM
\$35

Dinner by Chef Hans:
Schnitzel & Bratwurst
and all the sides

A Festival of Fun
Featuring:

- Oktoberfest Beer Special
- German Soft Pretzels
- Costume Contest
- Beer Stein Holding Contest
- Photo Booth
- Silent Auction & Raffle

Dancing to Blowmusik
(a German Oompah Band)

Reserve Online at Elks901.org by OCT 14
or call the office 707-763-0901
Questions? Contact laurie901elks@gmail.com

PETALUMA ELKS #901 • 2105 SOUTH MCDOWELL BLVD



ENF News It's No CIP-rise...

-By Larry Sartori, PER,
901 Secretary & ENF Chair



Year after year, Elks produce creative solutions for the unique needs of their communities. In the 2022-23 fiscal year, the Community Investments Program helped Elks implement those solutions with 4,266 Beacon, Gratitude, and Spotlight Grants—the most in the program's history. Eighty-three percent of Lodges received at least one grant, on average, receiving 2.8 grants per participating Lodge. More than \$5.5 million in CIP grants was utilized to fight food insecurity. Beacon Grants alone accounted for 671 projects aimed at increasing food access.

Lodges used CIP grants to aid individuals living in households below the poverty line, provide COVID-19 relief, and support youth. More than 78 percent of Spotlight Grants were used to respond to the impacts of COVID-19, and more than 50 percent of Beacon Grants were used to support youth. From Mid Westchester, N.Y., Lodge No. 535, which facilitated art and music classes for students with disabilities to Pratt, Kan., Lodge No. 1451, which partnered with Operation Warm to provide 200 elementary school students with new coats, shoes and books, Elks' youth projects came in all shapes and sizes. "[Lodge members] never

thought about how the coats and shoes could become more than a physical warmth, but an emotional warmth," says Linda Stelzer, the Pratt Lodge's Grants Coordinator, "that these items might give the confidence to socialize and succeed."

These projects are only a sample of what Elks have accomplished in their communities this fiscal year. A record-breaking number of grants creates an impact that can't be quantified. Additionally, CIP grants are now open for the 2023-24 year! Ask your Secretary or Grants Coordinator how you can help make a change in your community.

The Elks National Foundation allocated nearly \$16 million this year to fund the Community Investments Program. Lodges meet local needs through grants that offer Elks opportunities to serve their community in ways that will raise the Lodge's profile, energize the membership, encourage former members to return to the fold, and gain the notice of people who want to be part of an organization that's doing great things. To learn more about the Community Investments Program, please visit elks.org/CIP.



ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION 2024 Scholarship Season



The 2024 MVS Scholarship application opens...

It's time for action.

For scholarship information and applications, go to www.elks.org/enf/scholars.

Openings and Deadlines vary:

*MVS/Most Valuable Student Scholarships -
application available 8/1/23

*Legacy Awards - available 9/1/23

*Emergency Educational Grants (see online)

*More opportunities online.

~Elks 901~
SOCIAL CLUB
All Are Welcome



Fri
Oct 20
12:30

Hawaiian
(pork & chicken)
\$15

Please RSVP & mail by Oct 10
Make check payable to & mail to:
Norine (Bobby) Gervasi
1074 Santa Clara Lane
Petaluma, CA 94954



Questions? Bobby Gervasi (707)762-0724



Veteran's News

Elks 901's Yountville Vets Dinner

-By Tony Morgan,
Veterans Committee Chair



Strolling into the Lodge on Wednesday for my stint as the Lord of the Fries I have the opportunity to see people sitting at the bar enjoying a libation or two and it gives me pause for thought. We are pretty fortunate that we can come and go as we please. We can come to the Lodge, stay home, go to a movie or whatever. There are some folks that cannot do that. I am specifically referring to the Vets of the Veterans Administration Yountville Care and Residential Facility in Napa County. There are residents that can come and go as they please. There are others that are limited in their forays off the grounds due to their physical needs in Residential Therapy. Then, there is the smaller population in Licensed Care that rarely go into the outside world without accompanying aides caring for their health. And, for these folks it is sometimes a day-to-day deal. All it takes is an outbreak of influenza or a resurgence of COVID to shut the gates to visitors and preventing the residents from leaving.

As Elks we have pledged **"SO LONG AS THERE ARE VETERANS, THE BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS WILL NEVER FORGET THEM"**. Many Lodges across the Nation serve the veteran facilities in their area. Lodge 901 participates in providing the monthly gifts and prizes delivered to Yountville, participating in the annual Petaluma Veterans Parade, Lodge 901 Veterans Appreciation Dinner and other veteran related endeavors. But, the big event for the year is the annual Elks 901/Yountville Vets Dinner.

Last year I had the pleasure of assisting now Esteemed Leading Knight Laurie Banks and the tireless Susan Degive in resuming (after lifting of COVID restrictions) the annual dinner for the Yountville Vets. It was a great event and learning experience for me especially. I

had the opportunity to speak with a good many of our guests. Several had wondered if the Dinner would ever occur again. Others enjoyed talking with many of our members. Still others liked the idea of getting away from the facility for dinner and a nighttime drive on the buses. The smiles, the handshakes and the "thank you's" made all the work by the staff and many volunteers worth it.

Well, it is going to happen again this year on Friday, October 27th. And, I'm going to ask for some help from all of you. I ask my fellow Elks to consider buying a meal for a Yountville Vet. This would cost \$18. If you are so inclined, I suggest a purchase of an entire table (eight seats) for \$140. I would be remiss if I did not mention that purchasing a table does not entitle you to a seat at the table. If you plan on attending the Dinner it would cost you \$18. Additional guests are also \$18 per person. Purchases of all tickets/seats opens on September 1st. We have set the final, final deadline for tix for Monday, October 23rd, noon. No tickets will be sold after that or at the door. So don't lose the chance to honor the Yountville group. Kind of like having a wedding reception for 100 people and 125 people show up. Of course, there will be more information to follow in The Whisperings, flyers, and the "Upcoming Events" monitor at the Lodge bar in the near future.

Special Thanks to Donors

Several weeks ago, my wife, Dorothy, was perusing Facebook and caught an ad that piqued her interest. A couple in Santa Rosa was asking if anyone was in need of adult diapers and pads. They had 21 unopened boxes of said items for whoever wanted them. (The story is a bit more detailed than told here.) Dorothy asked me if the items could be of use at Yountville. I told her that they are always in need of such items. My wife



Independence Day Celebrated!

-By Laurie Banks, Leading Knight & Lodge Activity Chair



Proud to Announce... Sunday July 2 at The Penngrove Parade, Petaluma Elks Lodge #901 **WON** First Place in the Historical Division with our Yellow Fire Truck Entry. Big Thank You to Laurie Banks, Rick Nadale, Loretta Bracco, Pam Tarango, Julie Ferrari, Cousin Joy, Pam & Hanz Enz, Tony Morgan and Special Thank you to Dan & Friend for the Vehicle and Driver. Great fun and Proud to be an Elk. Thanks to all of you for pulling this event together.



KUDOS, Applause & Thanks To...

- Dennis Nowicki**, our Monday nite Pasta King- for the great meals he prepares.
- Laurie Banks**- for the many hats she wears,
- Teams on Picnic/Car Show**- for the fun & successful event.
- Patricio**- for pressure washing the back patio to go with our new furniture.



VETERANS

Served To Protect Our
Freedoms, Let Us Give



To Improve Their Quality Of Life.

Please pick up a few items for the Yountville Veterans. Find the **VETERANS' WISH LIST** on our Lodge's website: www.elks901.org or at the Lodge office. Thanks to all of you who have dropped off items at the lodge. These small personal items we may take for granted, mean alot to the Yountville Veterans.

A gesture of thanks for their service.
Your thoughtfulness & generosity are appreciated.

called the couple and told them we knew of a place where they would be put to use. They said "great". All we had to do was pick them up. No charge. They barely fit in our car.

Dorothy went online and figured out how much this donation was worth. A bit over \$900. On behalf of Elks 901 and the Yountville Vets, we thanked them for their generosity. The donors requested anonymity.

Petaluma Veterans Parade

Fifteen days after the Dinner, Lodge 901 Elks will be participating in the Petaluma Veterans Day Parade. We had a great time last year and we would like to see a larger turnout this year. Esteemed Leading Knight Laurie has again reserved the trolley and fire vehicle for this year. Of course, marching/walking, cool cars and motorcycles are most welcome to join in.



Editor's Note - Article Deadline

The deadline for newsletter submissions is the 15th of the month for the upcoming issue **(August 15th for the September newsletter)**.

Info must be in writing.

Event Chairpersons: Don't delay, meet with the T/HC 4 months in advance to approve event budget & ticket prices (only approved prices will be posted). Promote event at least 3 months in advance.

Email your approved details, articles, flyers, etc to: **bgalbraither@gmail.com**



Outings & Hosts

When August days are hot an' dry,
I won't sit by an' sigh or die,
I'll get my bottle (on the sly)
And go ahead, and fish, and lie ...
-By Sara Teasdale, 'August Moonrise'.

Sara would feel right at home with our RV gang. How about you?

- By Gordon Cox, PR Officer

Our Elks 901 RV Club has monthly outings which include group dinners (both pot luck and at nearby eateries), happy hours, games (corn hole, spinners, etc.) and visits to local attractions (wineries, river boat excursions, golf, etc.).

If you are a member or associate member of the BPOE 901 and would like to take your RV on one of our outings, please contact the host of the outings shown in the schedule below. Please call early as most RV parks require a list of attendees at least two weeks in advance of arrival.

2023 Outing Schedule:

August 9-13 (Wed.-Sun.)

Duck Island RV Park, Rio Vista, CA.
Ron Lundsford 707-479-9891, Diane Bergeron, & Ed & Sally Jensen 707-542-3900

September 13-17 (Wed.-Sun.)

Flag City RV Resort, Lodi, CA.
Neal & Diane Parker 707-495-1810 & Dee Jones 707-481-5248

October 15-19 (Sun.-Thurs)

Bodega Bay RV Park, Bodega Bay, CA.
Larry & Denise Calvert 707-280-0980

November 8-12 (Wed. - Sun.)

Monterey County Fair RV Park, Monterey.
Carole Cavin 702-499-5192, Dorothy Riddle 707-539-3959, & Ted & Sherri Adams 415-328-5542.

December: (member's Christmas Party, no outings).



Veterans Bingo Wish List

Out Shopping?

Please pick up a few items for the Yountville Veterans.



They play bingo.

Items needed for their Bingo prizes:

Candy, Chips, Jerky, Peanuts in the Shell, Microwave Popcorn, Cup of Soup, Tea Bags, Instant & Regular Coffee, Stationery, Envelopes, Stamps.
Drop items off at the lodge. We will get them to the Veterans.

T/HC Meetings' Times

Meetings are held on the Monday prior to the Lodge Meeting.

- House Committee 6:30pm – 7:15pm
- Trustee Meeting: 7:30pm -8:00pm

All members are welcome to the T/HC meetings. But to be placed on the agenda of a T/HC meeting please send your request into the lodge office no later than the Wednesday before the meeting. Members wishing to speak at these meetings, but not on the agenda will be heard on a time available basis. Remember all members are invited to the T/HC meetings & we need to hear from all of our brothers & sisters.

EVENT CHAIRS



1. Get your event plans on the T/HC meeting agenda for **Aug. 7th** (for approval).
2. Get approved info to the Newsletter Editor by the **15th**.
3. Then promote event!
4. After event, write your wrapup about the event & thank you. Send to both the Newsletter & the PR Chair to get published.

Elks 901 Food for the Community

"When you're down at the lodge remember to drop off canned goods in the lobby food barrel."



The Petaluma Salvation Army food pantry is open to all in the community:
Tuesday thru Thursday
Emergency food boxes available all week long.

To volunteer call (707) 769-0716
721 S. McDowell Blvd.



Students making food boxes for those in need. The need in our community grows each day.



Get The Latest Updates...

via interim e-mail regarding events, schedules, etc. that come in after press time, be sure the lodge has your e-mail address. Don't miss out. Also check our website: www.elks901.org

UNIQUE GOODS
HANDMADE ITEMS
LOCAL ARTISANS

Craft & Vendor Faire

Sat & Sun Nov 4 & 5 10AM-3PM

ATTN CRAFTERS & VENDORS
APPLY ONLINE NOW - Space is limited

Hungry? We've got you covered! Yum...

Check the calendar for "food nights".

Support our volunteer cooks, they are cooking for you!





PETALUMA LODGE #901, BPO ELKS
 2105 S. McDowell Boulevard Ext.
 Petaluma, CA 94954-6909

Pre-Sort
 Non Profit
 U.S. Postage PAID
 Petaluma, California
 Permit No. 385



*Support Your Lodge
 &
 Community...
 Participate!
 Have some fun, Do
 Some Good
 Enjoy!*


**MARK YOUR CALENDAR,
 BUY YOUR TICKETS ONLINE at**
 store.elks901.org
 Don't Miss Out
 As Known at Press Time

Current Events


MVS Scholarship- available online _____ Aug 1st
 Social Lunch _____ Aug 4th
 Lodge Meeting #1_(summer schedule) _____ None
 Jamboree - Eureka Lodge _____ Aug 18th-19th
 DD Clinic- Eureka Lodge _____ Aug 20th
 Lodge Meeting #2 _____ Aug 24th
 Blood Drives _____ Aug 29th-30th

Upcoming Events

Legacy Scholarship- available online _____ Sep 1st
 DD Visitation- Petaluma _____ Sep 28th
 Social Lunch _____ Oct 20th
 Octoberfest _____ Oct 21st
 Yountville Veterans Dinner _____ Oct 27th
 Craft Faire (Crafters/Vendors: Sign Up Now) _____ Nov 4th-5th



Blood Drive
Tues. Aug. 29th
Wed. Aug. 30th

Because of you,
 life doesn't stop 

(See pg 4 for details)




**Sunday
 Breakfast**
 9:00am - 11:30am




Jamboree 
 2023
 @ Eureka Lodge #652
Aug. 18 - 20th
 (See pg 7 for details)



**MONDAY
 Pasta
 NIGHT** **5pm - 7pm**
 Weekly specials TBA via
 website & interim e-mail
 (See pg 4 for details)



DD Clinic 
 Eureka Lodge #652
Sun. Aug. 20th
 (See pg 5 for details)



Burgers
Wed. Nights
5pm-7pm
 Weekly specials TBA via
 website & interim e-mail