



-By Laurie Banks, ER

My time as ER is winding down, and soon, I'll be passing the torch. Next month, I'll share my final thoughts in my last Whisperings article. But for now, let's talk about some of the fun things happening at the lodge!

**Paint Nite #12** was a hit in January! We had 28 members and guests painting, laughing, and creating together. Plus, this

event brings in a little extra to support the lodge. If you haven't joined us yet, mark your calendar for February 10—it's a Valentine-themed night you won't want to miss!

**Trivia & Pizza** is always a good time. January's turnout was a little lighter, but we still had plenty of laughs and brain teasers. The pizza team knocked it out of the park! In February, we're switching things up—Trivia Night is moving to Wednesday, February 19. No pizza this time, but come grab a burger and play along. No reservations needed!

### **A Shoutout to Our Volunteers**

Our lodge runs on volunteers—including our officers and trustees (except the secretary, our one paid

officer). They put in so much time and effort to keep things running smoothly. As ER, I've worn a lot of hats—purely for the love of giving back. Here are just a few things I've done:

- Bartending at rentals, lodge nights, Wednesday burger nights, and Sunday breakfasts
- Helping in the kitchen—register, prep, cooking, serving, and dishwashing
- Supporting event chairs with shopping, especially for Sunday breakfasts
- Chairing events, including the two Craft Fairs that raise over \$24,000 annually for the lodge and charities
- Keeping our Facebook page active so everyone stays in the loop
- Spending 5-6 days a

week at the lodge—greeting members, working on projects, listening, and helping wherever I can

As ER, I'm keeping this year's budget on track while gearing up for next year's. We're also continuing to work with Grand Lodge reps on probation and Hall Association issues. Unfortunately, we still haven't gotten the walk-in refrigerator application approved, so that project is on hold.

From one dedicated member to another—please consider volunteering! Find something you love and jump in.

See you around the lodge!

## ENF Scholarships

For Elks' Families  
Legacy Awards



**Deadline is Here, Act Now...**

**Scholarship Deadline**

**2/3/25 at 11:59pm, Pacific Time.**

For complete scholarship information/requirements & applications go online to: [www.elks.org/enf/scholars](http://www.elks.org/enf/scholars)

## Thanks & Congrats!

February 2025

- ★ Elk of the Month - Lindsay Calegari
- ★ Volunteer of the Month - John & Cindy Lane
- ★ ER Acknowledgement - Doug & Debbie Fletcher

Lindsay, John & Cindy, & Doug & Debbie, thank you for all you do for Elkdom & this Lodge. Congratulations!

Community – Friendship – Charity

[join.elks.org](http://join.elks.org)



## 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

*“Gifts that last beyond Tomorrow”*

### Bequests & Living Trusts



Learn how you can help the Purple Pig while helping your family in the process.

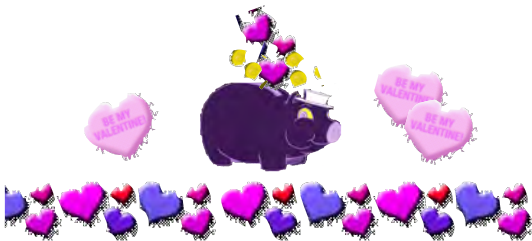
**BEST LASTING THING YOU CAN DO**

More info on BLT at [www.chea-elks.org](http://www.chea-elks.org)

Estate or tax planning? Please consider including a gift to support children served by the California Hawaii Elks Association Major Project, Inc. Help continue the important work of our therapists and vision screeners.

If you need help getting started or would like to learn more about BLT Legacy Giving, contact Lodge BLT Legacy Giving Chairperson Duane Sartori: [Duane@boslawfirm.org](mailto:Duane@boslawfirm.org)

### Fill with Love & Care...




These little purple pigs, filled with your generosity, give a special gift to kids with special needs.

**Have you filled a purple pig lately?**



**“Elks Give From The Heart”**

 **Elks Give The Gift Of Life** 

Register as a Donor **Donate Life America**

For more info go to: [www.donatelife.net](http://www.donatelife.net)

NOTE: UPCOMING EVENTS ARE LISTED ON PAGE 11 & INFO/FLYERS ARE THROUGHOUT

# From Our Purple Pig Chairman

- By George Matt

As we move through the winter season let’s not forget the pigs. We had a strong month with all the holidays. Total income of \$503.95. Please keep up the giving to help the children in need. Keep the coins coming and I’ll keep on counting.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Thank you for placing your names on the pig. If you have any questions 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 December:

- |                 |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Don Woods       | Micheal Kernigan         |
| Cindy Cleary    | Charlene Gannon *        |
| William Place   | Judith Rose Krozek       |
| Glenda Smith *  | Mike Cleary (2 pigs)     |
| 1 Anonymous     | Richard Briggs. (2 pigs) |
| Eleanor Sebring |                          |



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

### Lodge’s Website:

[www.elks901.org](http://www.elks901.org)

### Lodge Email:

[info@elks901.org](mailto:info@elks901.org)

### Lodge Exalted Ruler:

[er@elks901.org](mailto:er@elks901.org)

### Lodge Editor:

[editor@elks901.org](mailto:editor@elks901.org)

### Lodge Webmaster:

[webmaster@elks901.org](mailto:webmaster@elks901.org)

### Lodge Secretary:

[secretary@elks901.org](mailto:secretary@elks901.org)

### National Elks’ Website:

[www.elks.org](http://www.elks.org)

### State/CHEA Elks’ Website:

[www.chea-elks.org](http://www.chea-elks.org)

### Lodge Number:

(707) 763-0901

### RV Reservations:

[www.elks901.org](http://www.elks901.org)



### Lodge 901 Officers: 2024-2025

Exalted Ruler*:	Laurie Banks
Est. Leading Knight*:	Priscilla Burgi
Est. Loyal Knight*:	Dino Ricci
Est. Lecturing Knight*:	Tammy Atwood
Secretary:	Larry Sartori, PER
Treasurer:	Gary Lassen
Esquire:	Vacant
Chaplain:	Tim Sheehan
Inner Guard:	Vacant
Tiler:	Ken Conley
1 Year Trustee*:	Lindsay Calegari
2 Year Trustee*:	Dave Baggenstos
3 Year Trustee*:	Bill Lewis
4 Year Trustee*:	Vacant
5 Year Trustee*:	Vacant
House Committee:	Officers with *

### The Whisperings Staff

Editor in Chief:	Bobbi Galbraith, PER
Printer:	QPS/David Adams
Contributing Writers:	Laurie Banks-ER, George Matt, Larry Sartori-Sec, Gordon Cox, Pricilla Burgi- Ldg Knt, Susan Degive, Heather Huff-Vets, Julie Ferrari-Bunco, Photos/Flyers: Susan Degive, others

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 to the Editor no later than the 15th of each month for the upcoming month.

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

### 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.

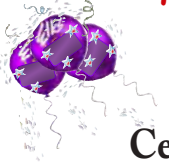
● Sean Smagalaski

### Lounge Hours:

\*See calendar.

Note: meeting nites- bar closes at 6:30p.m. Then opens after meeting until 9:00pm.

**Happy Birthday Elks!**



**B.P.O.E.**  
**Celebrating 157 Years of  
 Outstanding Service &  
 "Caring and Sharing"**



On Feb. 16, 1868, the "Jolly Cork" members voting for "The Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes" were C.A.S. Vivian, R.R. Steirly, M.G. Ash, H. Vandemark, H. Bosworth, Frank Langhorne and E.W. Platt. Voting for the name "Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks" were W.F. MacDonald, G.W. Thompson, T.G. Riggs, W. Carleton, W. Sheppard, G. Guy, H. Dougherty and W.L. Bowron. The name "ELKS" was chosen by a committee viewing an Elk head at Barnum's Museum.



**February Birthdays**

- By Susan Degive

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Steve Bergeron<br>Kevin Labanowski<br>Eugene Petersen  | 16 B.P.O.E.<br>Kevin Cox<br>Donald De Bernardi   |
| 2 David Comeaux<br>Daniel Gallagher<br>Thomas O'Neill  | Deborah Fisher<br>Edward Heffernan<br>Timothy McCarthy                                   |
| 3 Andrew Shaw<br>Hubert Smith  | Louella Sproul-Reinke  |
| 4 Allan Cecil<br>Wes Mc Coy  | 17 Dennis Merrill<br>Jennifer Rivera   |
| 6 Glenn Andrade<br>Matt Bell   | 18 Dan Maners<br>Bill Mc Sweeney<br>Carol Robinson                                       |
| 7 Paul Barbieri<br>Loretta Bracco<br>Richard Briggs<br>George Gambonini<br>James Hovis<br>Raine Howe | 19 Craig Jacobsen<br>Willis Mc Junkin  |
| 8 James Murray<br>Susan Rebottaro-Moore  | 21 John Aguiar<br>Adam DeLa Montanya<br>Mary McSweeney<br>Patricia Moore                 |
| 9 Scott Beiswanger<br>Alexander Tanalski   | 22 Allan Berger<br>Bob Rowland   |
| 10 Robert Attubato<br>Patrick Bentivegna<br>David Bettin   | 23 Priscilla Burgi<br>Gerald Corda<br>Steve Krinsky<br>Edward Rueda                      |
| 12 Dennis Chambers<br>Jake Mischel<br>Michael Smith  | 24 Loretta Kruusmagi<br>Kevin McClanahan<br>Fred Montini<br>Richard Murphy<br>Pat Toland |
| 13 James Simontacchi   | 25 Jan Back<br>Manuel Brazil<br>Matthew Nathe<br>Kenneth Schacht                         |
| 14 Larry Wagner<br>Ken White   | 27 Larry Drew<br>Thomas Jackson<br>Daryl Johnson<br>Judy Krozek                          |
| 15 Margaret Cavanaugh<br>Owen Fredericks<br>Stephen La Forge   | 28 Jim Cavellini<br>Anthony Silva ♦  |



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY ALL!!!**



**CHEERS!!!**

Please pick up your Birthday Drink Tickets at the Bar. You receive 2 drinks on the Lodge to celebrate your birthday. Let the Bartender know, and they will check your name off their list. Must show your member card. Valid birthday month only. (No Top Shelf).

**January Birthdays... We Had Cake!**



Great birthday celebration at the lodge with members, including our ER Laurie, celebrating their birthdays. 76 burgers were cooked by volunteers. Laughter and stories told filled the air and a fun night was shared at the lodge.

**It's Your Birthday... We Have Cake!**

Every month on the 2nd Wednesday, we'll share a cake on Burger Night to celebrate all our fellow Elks' birthdays. Come Celebrate, see how many candles we can light on Feb. 12th & Mar. 12th.

**"Elkdom, Love It, Live It, Promote It"**  
 SP



Fri Feb 7 6PM

# Stew & Polenta Dinner

\$25

Join Us for a Hearty & Flavorful Meal

Prepared by Chef Lloyd Johnson

Music by Brian Francis Baudoin

OLD TIMERS NIGHT  
Members for 50+Years FREE!  
Call office for reservations

Get tickets online [www.elks901.org/store](http://www.elks901.org/store)




PETALUMA ELKS #901 • 2105 SOUTH MCDOWELL BLVD

# Paint Nite at the Elks

Mon Feb 10  
6PM - 8PM  
\$30




Join local artist Lisa Pedrani for a fun evening of creativity. All skill levels welcome. Lisa will guide you step-by-step for a fun, relaxing time. All supplies provided.

Pre-register 5 days ahead for guaranteed space. Limited walk-ins accepted.

Register online [www.elks901.org/store](http://www.elks901.org/store)

[www.elks901.org](http://www.elks901.org)

PETALUMA ELKS #901 • 2105 SOUTH MCDOWELL BLVD




Wednesday Feb 19

# TRIVIA NIGHT



Activities begin 6:15PM

# AND BURGERS!

SPECIAL NITE - FEBRUARY ONLY  
Come for regular Wednesday Burgers and a rousing game of Trivia!

# BUNCO NIGHT



Activities begin 6PM **NEW TIME!**  
(Bar hours 3pm - 7pm or later)

Buy in \$10  
Fridays:  
**Feb 28 & Mar 21**

GET YOUR TICKETS ONLINE TODAY (limited at door)

Hosted by Julie Ferrari, [heyjewelie@gmail.com](mailto:heyjewelie@gmail.com)

PETALUMA ELKS LODGE #901  
THE ALEX J. MCMAHON MEMORIAL  
ANNUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION NIGHT

February 6, 2025  
No Host Bar 5:00pm  
Dinner 6:30 pm



TABLE SPONSOR \$140.00  
INDIVIDUAL DINNER SPONSOR \$20.00

NAME OF SPONSOR: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE#: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECKS PAYABLE TO:  
PETALUMA ELKS LODGE #901  
2105 South McDowell Blvd. Ext.  
Petaluma, CA 94954-5146  
707-763-0901

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT:  
PAYMENT AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
VISA OR MASTERCARD #: \_\_\_\_\_  
EXP DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 3 DIGIT CCV CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR DONATION IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

For additional information, please contact.  
Lodge Office @ 1-707-763-0901, Ext 3 or [office@elks901.org](mailto:office@elks901.org)

...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 Feb. events on page 5, 7, 10 & 12

California Hawaii Elks Association  
110th Annual Convention

# ANAHEIM

May 7-10, 2025

## THE CONVENTION FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Local attractions include:  
Disneyland, California Adventure, Knotts Berry Farm, Angels Baseball, Beaches, Parks and more.  
Learn about the things to do at:  
[www.visitanahaim.org](http://www.visitanahaim.org)



Activities at all 8 Orange Coast Lodges  
All within 30 minutes of the Convention  
Buena Park • Fullerton • Garden Grove • Huntington Beach  
Mission Viejo/Saddleback Valley • Newport Harbor • Orange • Santa Ana



Questions? Contact [cheastate2025@gmail.com](mailto:cheastate2025@gmail.com)

**Proposed for Lifetime Member Status:**

Michael Carroll  
Henry Corda  
Darrel Freitas  
Gene Harlan  
Jerome Millsap  
James Moreda




## Secretary's Corner

-By Larry Sartori



**Proposed for Membership:**

<b>Candidate:</b>	<b>Proposer*:</b>
Marian Campion-Healy	
Kevin Healy	
Jim Wright	
*All proposed by Larry Sartori	



**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS**  
4:30 - 6:00PM

Questions Answered

- Event Ticket Purchase
- FOB Entry Keys
- Member Info Update
- Volunteer Sign Ups
- New Member Apps
- Lodge Programs

**Elks** PETALUMA ELKS #901 • 2105 SOUTH MCDOWELL BLVD



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

Nicholas Flocchini- Born 6/5/1935. Died 12/28/2024. Initiated 6/14/1972.  
An Elk for 53 Years.


Sherri Adams- Born 8/4/1948. Died 11/29/2024. Initiated 12/13/2018.  
An Elk for 7 Years.

**Petaluma Elks Lodge #0901**

## INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

2025-2026 Lodge Officers

**Saturday March 27, 2025**



**Mark Your Calendar, Watch for Details**



**PETALUMA ELKS #901**

## SUPER BOWL PARTY

**Sunday Feb 9**  
**3:30pm Kickoff**

**\$10**  
Covers 'tail gate' food provided by the Lodge (and anything attendees want to bring)

Ernest Garcia



**DRIVE THRU BBQ FUNDRAISERS**

**COMING IN MARCH**

Proceeds to benefit So Cal wildfire relief and Petaluma Leghorns ballpark construction.  
Watch for details coming soon.

**Hosted by your Past Exalted Ruler Assoc**





### Veteran's News Vets Wish List 2025

-By Heather Hupp,  
Veterans Donations-Run Chair



Hello fellow Petaluma Elks! 2024 was an amazing year! So many donations for the Veterans in Yountville came in. Thanks to everyone who brought in donations to the Lodge. I was able to make three trips over to Yountville with my car full of items that were greatly needed and appreciated. We were also able to donate a sum of monetary support for the Holiday Gift Project. Gary Lassen was our grant writer. Thank you, Gary!! Four thousand dollars provided so many Veterans with holiday gift cards! For 2025, I would like to encourage everyone to make donations. There is a list on our Lodge website that outlines

the most needed and wanted items. Donations are needed all year round. Just a reminder that food and used clothing will not be accepted. I will be placing a donation box in the front lobby of our Lodge. During the past few months, there have been so many other charity collection boxes, that I have waited until now for a Veterans box. I hope to have enough donations to make a delivery trip over to Yountville every 3-4 months. I appreciate the dedication to Veterans by our Lodge. When you're out shopping, please consider picking up a few items to add to the donation box. Thank you to everyone for your continued support!



### Burger Night- Reorganizing

-By Laurie Banks, ER



A Huge thank you to Hanz & Pam Enz for all their volunteer time and support as Co-Chair of Burger Night with PER Rick Nadale. They are stepping down from burger night but will continue Sunday Breakfast. Hanz left a HOW-TO BURGER NIGHT binder. Very very helpful. Rick and I are working on reorganizing volunteers in the kitchen. New and old members are stepping up to fill some spots. Need help trying to fill teams so you don't have to volunteer every week unless you want to. (We have some that LOVE IT IN THERE.) Let's help/volunteer when you have/can make time. We need a weekly shopper and salad maker as well. Contact me if interested in Burger Night or Sunday Breakfast. A Huge Thank You to ALL THE VOLUNTEERS that keep this Lodge busy and fun. It's a lot of your time and truly appreciated by the membership.



### Support our Troops - Wear Red on Fridays!

Wear a Red Shirt to the lodge or around the Community to bring awareness.



### Holiday Potluck Party

-By Laurie Banks, ER

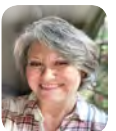


Petaluma Elks Lodge's Holiday Potluck Party was a huge success. The Lodge had over 70 members and guests laughing and sharing memories at the end of 2024 to bring on the New Year. It was good to see members we hadn't seen in a while and new members as well. The food table was filled with appetizers and desserts for everyone to share. An enjoyable night at the lodge.



### BUNCO 2025

Date Change Feb. Only  
-By Julie Ferrari, Bunco Host



Welcome back to BUNCO 2025 at the Lodge! I hope everyone enjoyed themselves over the holiday break. Friday, January 17th was our first game night of the new year. I hear it was a lot of fun with some new players joining in on the fun. A nasty virus kept me from attending; however, the games went on under the fun and experienced leadership of Molly & MJ! Our February Bunco will take place on a different date so as not to cause any conflict with your Valentine's Day. Our new date is Friday, February 28th at 6:00 PM. We will try to keep game night on the third Friday of the month and be flexible on dates to work with the Lodge's schedule. I can't tell you how pleased I am to have watched the idea of a fun game night become so successful. If you have an idea for something similar, don't hesitate to throw it out there...Elks like to have FUN. Thanks everyone.

### The Veterans Wish List

**Little Things Mean A Lot**

Going shopping? Please remember the Yountville Veterans. Find a copy of the **VETERANS' WISH LIST** on our Lodge's website or at the Lodge office. Thanks to all of you who have dropped off items at the lodge. Every item helps and is appreciated by all!






### Name Game

-By Laurie Banks, ER



Win a weekday dinner or breakfast ticket.

- Find your name somewhere in The Whisperings where it doesn't belong (by/before the end of the month). Hint: 3 names.

Let me know if you find your name. Good Luck!  
This will repeat every month with new names.

**"ELKDOM'S HEART FOR AMERICA"**



GER



## Leading Knights Corner

It's About  
Americanism & Charity!

-By Pricilla Burgi, Leading Knight



As we have moved through this past year of the Elks, I participated in many events and think "this is the biggest impact on my year as Leading Knight...", then another event comes and that's the biggest..... then I realized that it all is an impact on my Elk life as well as my personal life. Once again, we are facing an event, that we as Elks, is right up our alley. We all know about the devastating fires in Southern California and the loss that has taken place. Petaluma 901 took the lead and started collecting new items that will be brought down for the victims of these horrific fires. We invited several of our Sister Lodges to take part as well, the more we can gather, the more we help the community. By the time you read this, the 1st of 3 loads has been sent; the 2nd & 3rd loads by early to mid-February. If you have ANY questions, please reach out to me via email: [burgi57chevy@gmail.com](mailto:burgi57chevy@gmail.com) or by phone (707)772-7489.

### Americanism:

★ Blue Star Moms boxing event was held on Saturday January 11, 2025. What an amazing experience! We were able to fill 26 boxes to be sent to the Men and Women who are serving our Country overseas! We are already planning for the next, and I know we as Petaluma Elks can beat our box number!! Special thanks for the members who donated cash for shipping and boxing items, we even had a visiting member donate, how awesome is it to be in this Elk family!!!!.... Our membership makes me very proud to be an Elk!!!!



### Hoop Shoot:

Another amazing event!! The Elks Hoop Shoot! We had 5 participants, unfortunately only 1 could attend the District level Hoop Shoot, Evan Weis boys 8-9 level. Evan made us proud by placing Second in the District! We are already looking forward to and making plans for next year's Hoop Shoot.



### Just things:

I just want to say how you, our Petaluma Elks 901 members, make me so proud. You come through to make our Lodge successful. I look forward to representing you outside of our Lodge as the next Exalted Ruler and hearing what you would like to have done within our Lodge and making that happen. Thank you Members- you are all ROCK STARS!!!! Are you looking for a way to be more involved in the lodge? We are always in need of volunteer's... Would you like to see a specific event held at the lodge, let us know so we can work on it with you and get it to happen!!



Fri Feb 14  
12:30

All Are Welcome



Chinese  
\$15

Please RSVP & mail by Feb 4  
Make check payable to & mail to:  
Norine (Bobby) Gervasi  
1074 Santa Clara Lane  
Petaluma, CA 94954



Questions?  
Contact Bobby Gervasi (707)762-0724



## KUDOS, Applause & Thanks To...

- Law Enforcement Personnel-** for diligently striving to keep our communities safe.
- Holiday Events Teams-** for your efforts creating enjoyable events bubbling with "Holiday Spirit".
- Cooking Crews-** for serving up tasty meals.



Petaluma Elks' Members -  
#901 wants YOU...  
Open positions  
for 2025-2026 need you.

Contact Priscilla Burgi:  
[burgi57chevy@gmail.com](mailto:burgi57chevy@gmail.com)

Have Some Fun,  
Do Some Good, Get Involved!



**...Coming in March...**

**PETALUMA ELKS LODGE #901  
CLYDE GIBBY'S  
ANNUAL FIREFIGHTER  
APPRECIATION NIGHT**

**March 6th 2025  
No Host Bar 5:00pm  
Dinner 6:30 pm**



TABLE SPONSOR \$140.00  
INDIVIDUAL DINNER SPONSOR \$20.00 PER FIREFIGHTER

NAME OF SPONSOR: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE#: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECKS PAYABLE TO:  
PETALUMA ELKS LODGE #901  
2105 South McDowell Blvd. Ext.  
Petaluma, CA 94954-5146  
707-763-0901

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT:  
PAYMENT AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
VISA OR MASTERCARD #: \_\_\_\_\_  
EXP DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 3 DIGIT CCV CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR DONATION IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

For additional information, please contact.  
Lodge Office @ 1-707-763-0901, Ext 3 or office@elks901.org

**St. Patrick's Dinner**  
GET SOME LUCK

**SAT MAR 15  
CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE  
\$30/PERSON**

5:00PM Appetizers & No-host Bar  
6:00PM Dinner

Keenan Irish Dancers Will Perform!  
Limited Seating, Presale Only.

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY  
online at [www.elks901.org/store](http://www.elks901.org/store)  
Event Chair Tammy Atwood

MEMBERS & GUESTS • PETALUMA ELKS #901 • 2105 SOUTH MCDOWELL BLVD

**DINNER'S ON US!**

**Thu Mar 27**

6:00pm Dinner & Presentation  
Menu: Stew & Polenta, Salad, and Dessert (catered by Paul Pedroni)

**FREE to Lodge 901 Members**  
(WITH RESERVATION and in good standing)  
**Spouses & Guests \$25**

RESERVATIONS for dinner required by  
Mon Mar 24 (very limited at door)  
[www.elks901.org/store](http://www.elks901.org/store)

Why: The Petaluma Elks Hall Association is conducting its annual general meeting. The agenda will include "State of the Association" update, financials and comments from the audience. All #901 members are urged to attend.

LODGE MEETING immediate follows.

PETALUMA ELKS LODGE #901

**PETALUMA ELKS HALL ASSOCIATION**

The Hall Association owns and maintains the Elks #901 building and facilities, managing major improvements and the building tenants.

*Support Your Lodge & Community...  
Participate!*

**Paint Nite at the Elks**

**Mon Mar 10  
6PM - 8PM**

All supplies provided.  
Pre-register 5 days in advance.  
Limited walk-ins accepted.

**\$30**

**PETE'S SAKE**  
Lisa Pedrani

[www.elks901.org](http://www.elks901.org)

**Thursday Mar 20  
TRIVIA NIGHT**

Activities begin 6:15PM

**AND PIZZA!**

Served 5 - 7PM

Personal Pizza & Side Salad for \$15



## A Letter from the Petaluma Elks Hall Association

As you are aware, the Grand Lodge has been pressuring Lodge 901 to compel the Hall Association to comply with Statute 16.030. This ongoing challenge has placed significant strain on both Lodge 901 Officers and the Hall Board of Directors. The Hall has retained legal counsel, as has Lodge 901. However, rather than working collaboratively with these attorneys to develop a resolution, the Grand Lodge—through its representative, Brad Smith—continues to malign the Hall Association and its board members, fostering distrust and animosity among Lodge 901 members.

### REBUTTAL

In the January issue of Whisperings, Lodge 901 published an article by Brad Smith containing multiple inaccurate and inflammatory statements. In response, our attorney has formally requested a retraction from Lodge 901's attorney, stating that the article "demonstrates a fundamental misunderstanding of the California Corporations Code and the legal and factual issues" at hand.

The article makes several allegations, which we address below:

**Allegation 1:** The Hall, through its Board of Directors, is in violation of Grand Lodge statutes.

**Reply:** The Petaluma Elks Hall is a separate legal entity from Lodge 901, with no legal affiliation with the Grand Lodge. . Since it was formed 120 years ago, the Hall has never been subject to the jurisdiction of or control by the Grand Lodge or Lodge 901. As such, the Hall is not legally required to comply with Grand Lodge statutes and cannot do so unless a majority of its members vote otherwise.

**Allegation 2:** The Hall, through its Board of Directors, is in violation of the California Corporations Code.

**Reply:** The Hall is fully compliant with the California Corporations Code. In fact, forced compliance with Grand Lodge Statute 16.030 would constitute a violation of the Code. Compliance with this statute would require members to be divested of their membership rights, either through reorganization or dissolution of the Hall. Under California law, the Board of Directors cannot divest members of their interests without an affirmative vote of the membership.

**Allegation 3:** The Hall, through its Board of Directors, is in violation of IRS statutes and is exposing itself to significant legal risk.

**Allegation 4:** The Hall, through its Board of Directors, is asserting independence from the Lodge.

**Reply:** Mr. Smith asserts that "continu[ing] to assert the Hall's independence from the Lodge violates Internal Revenue law and subjects the directors and officers of the Hall to significant legal implications with the IRS." The Hall is not asserting independence from Lodge 901. To clarify, the Hall's corporate tax structure requires it to benefit a nonprofit entity, which it does by supporting Lodge 901. However, while the Hall benefits Lodge 901, neither the Lodge nor the Grand Lodge has the authority to mandate compliance with Statute 16.030. Only a majority vote of the Hall membership and a bylaw amendment can enact such a change.

**Allegation 5:** The Hall, through its Board of Directors, is commingling funds.

**Reply:** This is a serious accusation that unjustly tarnishes the reputations of past and present Board Members, all of whom are or were members of Lodge 901. Without supporting evidence, publishing such untrue claims against fellow members is irresponsible, unbecoming, and not conducive to resolving these issues for the benefit of our membership.

### MOVING FORWARD

The Hall Board of Directors has no authority to comply with the Grand Lodge's demands without a majority vote of its membership. To date, the Hall has only been able to conduct an advisory vote, in which the membership opposed compliance with Grand Lodge Statute 16.030. A majority vote requires over 400 members to vote in agreement, the advisory vote garnered only 271 total votes with 178 votes to not comply.

The Board believes a viable resolution lies in an agreement stipulating that, in the event of Lodge dissolution, the Hall's real property assets would be returned to the local community. Such an agreement may encourage a majority of the Hall membership to vote in alignment with the Grand Lodge's wishes.

The Hall Board of Directors urges the Grand Lodge and Lodge 901 to engage constructively with legal counsel to find an appropriate resolution. We also call for an end to the false accusations, divisive rhetoric, and misrepresentations that only serve to deepen discord among Lodge 901 members.

### Petaluma Elks Hall Association Annual Meeting, and Nominations & Vote for Directors

The Petaluma Elks Hall Association owns and manages the physical building that Lodge 901 calls home, and holds an **Annual General Meeting** each year to share financials with our members – the members of Lodge 901. You are invited to attend on March 27 for a Dinner at 6:00pm, meeting at 6:30pm. Members enjoy dinner free of charge, compliments of the Hall Association and guests are charged a reduced amount. You must reserve both free and guest dinners online in advance at [elks901.org/store](http://elks901.org/store).

**Nominations** are now open for 3 positions on the Board of Directors. If you are interested in serving a 3-year term, contact Rick Nadale or email [PetalumaElksHallAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:PetalumaElksHallAssociation@gmail.com).

Ballots for voting for Board of Director positions will be mailed by March 1 to every member of Lodge 901. If you do not receive a ballot and cannot attend in person vote, please contact the Hall at [PetalumaElksHallAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:PetalumaElksHallAssociation@gmail.com).

**Petaluma Elks 901 Food Drive**



**Charitable Help to our Community**

*Together We Can Make A Difference!*

Bring your donations to the  
**"Drive Thru Food Drive"** at  
 721 S. McDowell Blvd.  
 Monday thru Friday 9am to 12pm

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

• Dave Jackson

Check the calendar for "food nights".

**Support our weekly meals & volunteer cooks, they are cooking for you!**



**Bring family and friends for a relaxed evening and enjoyable meal.**

When you enjoy a weekly meal please help clear your tables for the working volunteers!

**Wednesday BBQ Burgers**  
**\$13 • 5pm - 7pm**  
 Hamburger, Cheeseburger, Veggie Burgers, or the BIG 901 Hot Dogs.  
 Choice of fries or macaroni salad.



**WEEKLY SPECIALS \$15 For Feb:**

- Feb 5 : Western Bacon Cheese Burger
- Feb 12: Patty Melt
- Feb 19: Onion Mushroom Burger
- Feb 26: Gary's Famous Big 901 Beanless Chili Dog

Members & Guests Welcome • No Reservations  
 PETALUMA ELKS LODGE #901 • 2105 S McDowell Blvd




**Outings & Hosts**

- By Gordon Cox, PR Officer

Roses are red  
 Violets are blue  
 Here's more about Valentine's Day  
 Than you probably knew.

The holiday's origins, according to npr.com, date back to ancient Rome where the feast of Lupercalia was celebrated from Feb. 13 to 15. Lupercalia honored Lupa the she-wolf who nursed and sheltered Romulus and Remus and was aimed to please the Roman fertility god Lupercus. During the festival, Roman men would sacrifice a goat and a dog. The men would then run around naked or nearly naked, hitting women with the hide of the freshly killed animals. Women would line up to be hit, believing it would make them fertile. The women's names were then placed in a jar and the men would draw a name to see who they would be paired with for the remainder of the festival. According to History.com, Pope Gelasius I, to expel pagan rituals, combined the festival with St. Valentine's Day in the fifth century. The holiday seemed to mature from the revelry of ancient Rome to a day of romantic love over time.

Our outings are considerably tamer than the feast of Lupercalia. Come join us!

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.) campfire yarns, 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 outing.

**T/HC Meetings' Times**

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

- House Committee  
**6:00pm – 6:45pm**
- 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.



**Get The Latest Updates...**

Check the website for the most current info [www.elks901.org](http://www.elks901.org). Are you getting our weekly events by email? Do you want to change how you receive this Whisperings (by mail or email)? email [webmaster@elks901.org](mailto:webmaster@elks901.org)

**Elks 901 RV Club**

**2025 Outing Schedule (partial):**

















**February 13-17** (Thurs-Mon)  
 Feather Falls Casino, Oroville, CA.  
 Jim & Kris Foster 707-338-1748,  
 Gail McGovern 707-318-1811, &  
 Gordon Cox 707-364-4647

**Mar. 11-15** (Tues-Sat)  
 Heritage RV Park, Corning, CA.  
 Ron Lunsford 707-479-9891,  
 Diane Bergeron 843-338-5266 &  
 Ed & Sally Jensen 707-542-3900.

April 9-13 (Wed-Sun)  
 Mountain Gate RV Park, Redding, CA.  
 Carole Caven 702-499-5192, Dorothy  
 Riddle 707-479-6119, &  
 Adela Hennings 707-775-8750.



# FEB/MAR

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>JAN 26</b>  Breakfast 9am-11:00am & Football	<b>27</b> Bar 3-7pm	<b>28</b> Bar 3-6pm	<b>29</b>  BBQ Burgers 5pm-7pm   <b>CONCIERGE</b> 4:30pm - 6pm	<b>30</b> Bar 3-7pm	<b>31</b> Bar 3-7pm	<b>FEB 1</b>
<b>2</b>  Breakfast 9am-11:00am & Football	<b>3</b> Bar 3-7pm	<b>4</b> Bar 3-7pm	<b>5</b>  BBQ Burgers 5pm-7pm   <b>CONCIERGE</b> 4:30pm - 6pm	<b>6</b>  Law Enforcement Appreciation Nite Bar 3-7pm	<b>7</b>  Stew & Polenta Dinner 6pm \$25 Old Timers Nite Bar 3-7pm	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>  Breakfast 9am-11:00am & Football  	<b>10</b> Trustee/House Committee 6:00pm  Paint Nite  6pm - 8pm \$30 Bar 3-7pm	<b>11</b> Bar 3-7pm	<b>12</b>  BBQ Burgers 5pm-7pm   <b>CONCIERGE</b> 4:30pm - 6pm Bar 3-7pm	<b>13</b> Meeting Night 7pm  Nominations of Officers Bar 3-7pm	<b>14</b>  Happy Valentines Day!   901's Social Luncheon- Chinese 12:30pm \$15 Bar 3-7pm	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b>  Breakfast 9am-11:00am  Happy Birthday Elks! Bar 3-7pm	<b>17</b> Bar 3-7pm	<b>18</b> Bar 3-7pm	<b>19</b>  BBQ Burgers 5pm-7pm   <b>CONCIERGE</b> 4:30pm - 6pm  Trivia & Burger Nite Trivia- 6:15pm Bar 3-7pm	<b>20</b> Bar 3-7pm	<b>21</b>  Bar 3-7pm	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>  Breakfast 9am-11:00am	<b>24</b> Trustee/House Committee 6:00pm Bar 3-7pm	<b>25</b> Bar 3-7pm	<b>26</b>  BBQ Burgers 5pm-7pm   <b>CONCIERGE</b> 4:30pm - 6pm Bar 3-7pm	<b>27</b> Meeting Night 7pm  Voting on Officers Bar 3-7pm	<b>28</b>  Bunco Nite \$10 6pm Bar 3-7pm	<b>MAR 1</b>
<b>2</b>  Breakfast 9am-11:00am	<b>3</b> Bar 3-7pm	<b>4</b> Bar 3-7pm	<b>5</b>  BBQ Burgers 5pm-7pm   <b>CONCIERGE</b> 4:30pm - 6pm Bar 3-7pm	<b>6</b> Fire Fighters Appreciation Nite  Bar 3-7pm	<b>7</b> Bar 3-7pm	<b>8</b>

## EVENTS THIS MONTH

- Sunday: Breakfast & Football
- Wednesday: Burgers & Concierge
- Feb 6: Law Enforcement Appreciation Night
- Feb 7: Stew & Polenta - Old Timers Night
- Feb 9: Super Bowl Party
- Feb 10: Paint Night
- Feb 12: Birthday Cake
- Feb 13: Lodge Meeting- Nomination of Officers
- Feb 14: Social Lunch
- Feb 19: Trivia & Burgers
- Feb 21: Crab Feed
- Feb 27: Lodge Meeting- Voting for New Officers
- Feb 28: Bunco Night

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar 6: Fire Fighters Appreciation Night
- Mar 10: Paint Night
- Mar 15: St Patricks Day Party
- Mar 20: Trivia & Pizza
- Mar 21: Bunco Night
- Mar 29: Installation of Officers
- Apr 12 & 13: Craft Faire

## GET TICKETS ONLINE

[www.elks901.org/store](http://www.elks901.org/store)





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

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 Permit No. 385

ELKS 901 CHARITY

# Craft & Vendor Faire

April 12 & 13  
 Sat & Sun 10<sup>AM</sup>-3<sup>PM</sup>

**CRAFTERS & VENDORS APPLY ONLINE NOW**

Space is limited [Elks901.org/craft](http://Elks901.org/craft)



## Sunday Breakfast At The Elks Club

9AM to 11AM New Hours



**\$13 Includes:**

- Eggs to order • Sausage • Bacon • Potatoes
- English Muffin • Fruit • Juice and Coffee

\$3 extra for Pancakes

The bar will be open.

**NO RESERVATION NEEDED**  
**PETALUMA ELKS #901 - 2105 South McDowell Blvd**



### Elks National Foundation

ENF supports Veterans, Communities & Children  
 Please support ENF

ENF - Helping Elks Build Stronger Communities

Help make it happen



Happy Birthday Elks!

Look How Far We've Come,  
 Here's To Our Future!




## ELKS 901 ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

# CRAB FEED

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 21

**TICKETS \$85/PERSON**  
 RESERVE EARLY - TICKETS LIMITED

No Tickets at Door - No Take Out  
 - No Open Flame Devices

**HOPE YOU GOT YOUR TICKETS, MAY BE SOLD OUT ALREADY.**

APPETIZERS, SALAD, GARLIC BREAD, & ALL THAT SUCCELUENT CRAB!

MEMBERS & GUESTS • PETALUMA ELKS #901 • [WWW.ELKS901.ORG](http://WWW.ELKS901.ORG)