



## JOHN LOZANO - ER of Lodge#2117

April 2024 Message

Hello Family-

I am excited to welcome you all to a new fraternal year, here at OUR Lodge. I've been entrusted with the task of being your newest Exalted Ruler for 2024-2025 and I'm certain your history, commitment and passion for ELKDOM will be a valuable complement to our team and will help us thrive in our new positions.

This court of officers is an incredible mix of talent and experience so let me introduce them formally. Marilyn Elwood, PER will be our Leading Knight, Linda Vigil, PER will be our Loyal Knight, Marvin Bryant will be our Lecturing Knight, Jo Ann Acero, PER will be our Inner Guard, Michael Amato will be our Lodge Chaplin, Earl Woodson will be our Tiler, Fred Camuñez, PER will be our Esquire,

Carolyn Woodson will be our Treasurer, Sherry White will be our Secretary and I, John Lozano will be your Exalted Ruler. Together we promise and I commit to keeping Benevolence in high regard!

As for me...many of you may know my name. I have been an active member for 10 years and your trusted Lodge Newsletter Editor of "THE ELKS HORN". I have resided here in Livermore since 2004 and I am proud to call the Tri-Valley home. Erica and I have an amazing family which I hope you will all meet over these next several months as we all become better acquainted. We have a son and daughter that both reside here in Livermore. Stephen is the executive chef and curator of unique cuisine at a local restaurant and Jacqueline is an up and coming professional within the metal industries who will likely bridge that gap with representation of women in key leadership positions. We are also fortunate to have 2 granddaughters who are active in our lives. Jesenia is an office lead at an intown traffic signal display equipment company and Victoria is a scientist in the field of mass spectrometry. They are our pride and joy!

I plan on being at our lodge as often as possible, spending time learning, listening and absorbing all your wisdom. Occasionally I will be obligated to travel to represent Livermore/Pleasanton. Our annual Ritual Competition will be held in Modesto next month and rest assured this new team is actively training to represent Livermore/Pleasanton. This competition provides a means for Elks who have prepared to exemplify the teachings of Elkdom, to be rewarded for their time and effort and to be recognized for their contribution to the future of Elkdom as best as possible.

In May, a few officers and I, will be attending our State Convention in Fresno. This convention gives us the opportunity to acquire knowledge and ideas that work for other lodges, that just might work for us. In July, we will also be traveling to Austin, Texas to attend Grand Lodge Convention. This is where Elk Members from across the country will meet, pass changes to the laws of the Order, and in general have a great time learning about Elkdom. Finally in November, our Mid-Term Meeting will be held in Burbank, and this is my final travel need as your ER for the year. This meeting is a series of Workshops/Team Building sessions that are designed to strengthen our lodge and members awareness.

We are planning on having our lodge open on Tuesdays, effective April 2<sup>nd</sup> and begin to introduce dinners at 6 PM. I have heard from many of you that this was an integral part of being connected and it has been sorely missed. I encourage you to watch for emails and get your reservations in. One "new" addition on Tuesdays that I am excited to share will be (**I hope**) fun, engaging and an interactive experience. This is planned for the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month. Check page #8 of this edition for details on those dates. In addition to Tuesday night we have some larger activities lined up. Here are just a few ticklers to think about, Evening at the Races returns in May, Food Trucks in July, Hawaiian Luau in August, Tom Rigney Concert in September, Octoberfest Celebration in October, and a Holiday Boutique in November.

In closing...This past fraternal year we have had more new members initiated (29 to be exact) than in previous years. Thank You Marilyn! We want to keep that momentum going and it's only possible with your commitment to keep lodge#2117 active, relevant, interesting and fun. We are looking to you to become involved during

this upcoming year by volunteering and attending our events. Someone in our leadership will be reaching out to you to see what you may be interested in participating in. A few things that come to mind are Lodge Monitors (for the event center), Volunteer Bar Tenders and Food Handlers for Lodge events. "Many hands make work light", so think about volunteering! Together, we can make this an exciting fun-filled year!

Genuinely,  
John Lozano, Exalted Ruler

*John Lozano*

