Lodge Meetings
Wed March 11, 2020 – Business
Wed March 25, 2020 - Initiations

House Committee Meeting
Wed March 11, 2020

Trustee Meeting
Wed March 11, 2020
(You must call or e-mail in advance to be on the agenda)

P.E.R. Assn Meeting
Mon March 2, 2020 - 5:30pm

Vagabonds RV Club Meeting
Friday, March 18, 2020 – 7:30pm

Taco Tuesday – March 10th and 24th

Friday Lunch
Most Fridays 11:30am to 1:00pm $7.00

Poker Night
March 5th and 19th - Seat Cards handed out at 6pm - Cards are dealt at 6:30pm

Veterans Breakfast
Sunday, March 8, 2020
8:30 to 11:00am
Adults $10.00 Veterans & Kids $8.00

Cook Your Own:
Steak, Salmon or Chicken
March 20, 2020 - 6:00 – 7:30pm
RSVP is required. 734-6762

“EXALTED RULER’S CORNER”

Hello Members,

The month of February is over. As most of you know, we held our annual nominations and elections on Wednesday night. I would like to congratulate the newly elected officers:

Exalted Ruler - Ron Marshall
Leading Knight - Eli Ledesma
Loyal Knight - Shawn Cooper
Lecturing Knight - Brian Tenhet
Secretary - Judy Staley
Treasurer - Mike Salque
5-year Trustee - Victor Perez

I’m very confident that they will do an amazing job.

I wanted to give an update on the parking lot project: First, I would like to thank everybody who has donated. We have raised over $73,000. The grading of the parking lot has been shot and plans are in the process of being completed. Hopefully we will have a biddable set of blueprints by June or July. This has not been an overnight project, but we are moving in the right direction. Thank you for your patience.

And my “final final” positive thought for my last ER Corner...

Thank you for the opportunity to be an officer of this lodge, it’s been an honor and a privilege. Life is short, cut out negativity, forget gossip, say goodbye to people who hurt you, spend your days with people who are always there.

Thank you,
Ray Lewis
Exalted Ruler - Visalia Elks Lodge #1298

Visalia Elks Lodge Bulletin
Periodical of the; Visalia Elks Lodge #1298
Volume 19/20 Edition #12

News Submission Deadline
Submissions must be received on the 20th of each month to be included in the next newsletter. Send to:
kristy@rknstudio.com

Visit us on Facebook at:
FACEBOOK.COM/VISALIAELKSLodge
Lodge Officers 2019/2020

Exalted Ruler    Ray Lewis
Leading Knight    Ron Marshall
Loyal Knight     Shawn Cooper
Lecturing Knight  Eli Ledesma
Esquire      Susan Kazarian
Chaplain    Jan Lee PER
Inner Guard    Dorothy Van
Tiler     Lori Jackson
Secretary    Lisa Ledesma
Treasurer    Mike Saulque

Trustees:
1-Year     Thomas Higgins
2-Year     Ralph Kaeble
3-Year     John Peters PER
4-Year     Jorge Montano
5-Year     Brenda Costa

Past Exalted Rulers *
Dick Hovey 1964-65
Gordon Pendergraft 1965-66
Ronald Mathis 1976-77
Larry Paxton 1978-79
John Peters 1989-90
Jim Hay 1991-92
Robert Casey 1992-93
Al Hack 1995-96
Royce Gholson 1997-98, 98-99, 07-08
Rob Van Wagoner 1999-2000
Joe Alberti 2004-05, 05-06, 15-16
Ted Donald 2006-07
Dennis Oswalt 2014-15
Jan Lee 2016-17, 17-18

*Active in Good Standing

Past Exalted Rulers from other lodges:
Ken Bridges Tulare # 1424
Pat Dugan Tulare #1424
Bob Jones Porterville # 1342

Orientation and Initiation.
Next Orientation is March 25, 2020 at 5:30pm. Ball Room #2

Orientation is MANDATORY for all candidates. Spouses and significant others and families are encouraged to attend with the candidate.

This is the beginning of the learning process of the BPOE and what we are all about.

Dinner will be served at 6:30pm and candidates and one guest will have dinner on us.

After dinner during the initiation non-member spouses and guests may gather and socialize with other nonmembers in the front lounge until after the initiation.

Only members and candidates are allowed in the lodge room and Members Lounge after 6:00pm on meeting nights. The members lounge will be closed during the initiation and lodge meeting. Expect about an hour. No beverages are allowed in the lodge room.

Note to Sponsors: Please make reservations for your candidates and notify them of the above listed times. Sponsors should escort their candidates to orientation, dinner and initiation. **Attire is business casual.**

**NO SHORTS, FLIP FLOPS, “T-SHIRTS OR JEANS DURING THE INITIATION...**

From the Secretary’s Desk

Dues notices have gone out. If you have moved, please call the office to update your file.

**STATUE OF THE MONTH**

We call this our Food for Thought section. There is a book that has all the rules of the order. Each month I will share one with you and hope you will understand more of the laws of the order which we must obey.

**Section 16.050(d)**
A Lodge making alterations in its present facilities if the cost is in excess of $25,000 must obtain a permit from the board of the Grand Trustees.

Member News:
The following candidates will be voted on at the March 11th meeting:
Claude Steverin (transfer from Clovis)
Steven Williams (by Neal Schneider)
Thomas Oliveira (by Roland Kreps)
Brock Dias (by John Threadgill)
Elmer Lucas (by Neal Schneider)
Angela Silveira (by James Conlin)
Philip Johnson (by Ryan Samuels)
Barry Langston (by David Smith)
William Molkenthin (by Danny Carrell)
Cory Lenz (associate member)
Richard Domenici (by Jonathan Meeker)
Scott Manley (by Scott Reeder)
Sarah Buetler (by James Conlin)
John Silvas (by John Peters)
Philip Walker (by Jeff Wheeler)
Steve Shahan (by Jacob Kennedy)
Yolanda Faubel (by Jonathan Meeker)

What’s Happening E-Mail

There is a **What’s Happening This Week** email sent early each week to let our members know what is going on at the Lodge. If you aren’t on the list, you can sign up by visiting visaliaelks.org. There is a box on the home page (right side) to sign up.

**Something FUN**
Send a card or letter to our man Ethan. Let him know how proud we are of him. **NOTE:** NO food, care packages. etc., yet. He’s still in training.

AB Aldaco, Ethan A.
322 TRS/FLT 249 Dorm A-1
1320 Truemper St. Unit 364065
JBSA Lackland AFB, TX 78236
**VISALIA ELKS COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**

- **Americanism**: Stephen Sobko
- **Beqs. & Living Trusts**: Melanie McKimmons
- **Business Practices**: Lisa Ledesma
- **Drug Awareness**: Thomas Higgins
- **ENF**: Melanie McKimmons
- **Government Relations**: Ralph Kaelble
- **Hoop Shoot**: Ron Marshall
- **Insurance & Safety**: John Peters PER
- **Lodge Activities**: Kristy Cooper
- **Membership/Indoc.**: Rob VanWagoner PDDGER
- **Nat Vets Service**: JT Groover
- **Public Relations**: Kristy Cooper
- **Major Project**: LaRuth Chance
- **Ritual Training**: Jan Lee PER
- **Scholarships**: Bill Flores
- **Scouting**: Melanie McKimmons
- **Soccer Shoot**: Carl Sousa
- **Youth Activities**: Ashlie Cooper

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**Hot Oven Tributes & Kitchen Thanks**

**2-11-20 – Taco Tuesday**

**Team Lead**: Susie Mooney

**Helpers**: Dianna & Floyd Martinez, Ladean Pearce, Mike Wiebe

**2-9-20 Veteran's Breakfast – 371 Guests**

**Team Leader**: Tom Hansen

**Saturday Prep Crew**: Ed & Jean Shields, Ron Vasquez, Roy & Joan Bremmer, Scott Reeder, Steve & LaRuth Chance, Margo Giles

**Sunday Breakfast**:

- **Hostesses**: Sue Hamilton, Brenda Costa, Stephanie Costa
- **Front Lounge**: Chuck and Eric Fishel
- **Omelet Cooks**: Lori Jackson, Scott Reeder, Scott Nelson, Sark Davidian, Margo Giles and Kevin Colopy
- **Kitchen Cooks**: Sausage and Potatoes: Brian Fishel
  - Bacon: Phil Fortney
  - Gravy: Tim Penton
- **Servers**: Susie Mooney (Bacon and Sausage)
  - Justin Kinderknecht (Potatoes)
  - James Silva (Pancakes & French Toast)
  - Maria Silva (Biscuits and Gravy)
- **Set Up and Everything Else**: Steve Chance
- **Dishwashers**: Heather Simon, Brian & Kelly Kleinkopf, Emma Housley and Kelly
- **Back up Cooks**: Jorge Montano, LaRuth Chance, Ron Vasquez and Rebecca
- **Bus Boys & Girls**: Girl Scouts

**2-18-20 – Caseras Family Memorial**

**Team Lead**: John Peters

**Helpers**: Susie Mooney, Tandi Turner, Brenda Souza, Rosalie Gilcrest, LaRuth Chance, Sharyky, Sark, Scott Heitzig, Terry Dodson, Steve Chance, Ted Donald

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**2-19-20 – Wednesday Night Dinner**

**Team Lead**: Jane Shields

**Helpers**: Eddie Shields, Reuel Stephens, Joy Branco, Rae Crawford, Craig Williams, Maria Reyes, Melanie McKimmons

**1-17-20 – Steak Night**

**Team Lead**: Jamie Duncan

**Helpers**: Floyd & Dianna Martinez, Laurel Flores, Mike Wiebe, Susie Mooney, LaRuth Chance

**STEAK NIGHT ANNOUNCEMENT:**

We know how many of you enjoy steak night, but please understand how important it is to call in to reserve your meal (even a birthday meal or comp ticket). There’s a cutoff and people who call their RSVPs in are currently unable to get their meals. **Effective March**: If you have not called in your order of steak, chicken or fish you will be unable to purchase a meal. The volunteers who work to make it a great meal need to have the orders done by **NOON** the day of. Also, to-go containers are only available for what you have on your plate to take home. Containers to load up additional food to take will be subject to an additional fee.

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**PURPLE PIG THANKS YOU ALL**

Leo and Lola D’Andrea, Laurel Flores and Dorothy VanWaggoner

**52 Club**: Mike Burchett

**Century Club**: James Silva

A BIG thank you for all the purple pig donations that were collected by Larry Tate after our business meeting on February 12th. All together a total of $152.00 was raised. We appreciate all the great Elk members that keep supporting our major project. If you are missing a thank you and receipt for a Purple Pig turned in recently, please let Maryanne know in the Elks office. We WANT to make sure your Major Project money is properly accounted for.

LaRuth Chance

**Remember:**

“I believe life is 10% what happens to us and 90% how we react to it. “ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING!” Dr. Ravalin
UPCOMING EVENTS:

5th Annual Tea Party – March 28, 2020

Doors will open promptly at 10:30am. Raffle prizes and table prizes. Raffle tickets – 25 for $10. Tickets are $20. All proceeds benefit Visalia Elks Lodge. Come and enjoy an afternoon of tea, goodies and fun!

Elks 2nd Annual Bayou Fest – May 16, 2020

The Bayou Fest is coming up in May. On the menu – crawfish boil, alligator tail appetizers, red beans and rice and Pastalaya. There will be live music by St. John’s Riverboat band and a 50/50 drawing.

Kid’s Easter Party – April 11, 2020

The Changing Lives Scholarships website is now up and running. They are accepting applications for scholarships through April 15, 2020. To find out what is required to apply, please visit: https://changinglivesscholarships.com/

Also – the next Changing Lives Summer Music Fest is set to happen on August 8, 2020. Tickets can be purchased on the website as well. There will be more information posted about the upcoming event soon on the same website.

EVENT RECAP:

Suds ‘n Stories

“Suds ‘n Stories” 2020 is in the books for Visalia, CA Lodge #298.

Story time, crafts, snacks and a new book for the kids. Laundry money for the adults. Leftover unopened snacks to the County Library system for their Early Literacy Foundation.

- BONUS - Little Free Library set up at the Laundromat. Thanks to Elks National Foundation for our Spotlight grant.

Summer Music Festival

The Changing Lives Summer Music Fest is coming up in Summer 2020. Tickets can be purchased on the website as well. There will be more information posted about the upcoming event soon on the same website.

It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold when it is summer in the light and winter in the shade.

~Charles Dickens
Hard to believe it is March already. I must say, though, I am enjoying the weather today – sunny, cheerful and just the right temperature of 79 degrees. I am sitting on our patio looking at our beautiful mountains in the distance. I really can’t ask for a nicer afternoon and such peaceful few minutes to mention Vagabond activities for the next few months.

The month of March finds the Vagabonds heading to Casa De Fruta for the annual St. Patrick’s Day Rally March 12-16. I understand there are 38-40 rigs signed up. This outing has been a favorite of the members for many years and the number attending continues to increase. Traditionally, Lloyd and Mary Cooper and their crew fix the best corned beef, cabbage, carrots and potatoes for Saturday night – makes my mouth water thinking about it. This rally always proves to be a fun time for all.

From April 23 to 27, the group will be at Pacific Dunes RV Park in Oceano with Roland and Lucille Kreps spearheading that time. If you haven’t signed up, be sure to do so at the March meeting.

This past Super Bowl weekend rally proved to be so much fun that a rally is booked at River Run, Bakersfield from February 4 to February 8, 2021. Speaking of fun, the club treasury received $250 from the football pool for the Super Bowl game and happy pool winners were Joyce Absher (guest), Jack Wilson and Lloyd Cooper. Jack Wilson took lots of kidding about being a winner since he was the one who suggested having a pool – Jack just grinned and took the teasing in stride. Those who didn’t go that Super Bowl rally truly missed some of the best food. Eric Bush spent most of the weekend cooking, grilling, etc. to the enjoyment of the rest of us. I heard several say that was the best chili verde they had ever eaten! Thanks Eric for cooking all weekend for the rest of us to enjoy. Thanks also to Neville for all your efforts making the weekend such fun as well.

Upcoming rallies also include one at the Orange Grove RV Park, Bakersfield – November 19 to November 23. Details will be provided later and, of course, the annual Christmas Party at Lodge on December 18.

One last note – Vagabond dues are due by April 1 = $25/couple or $12.50 single. Also, it is the time of year for voting for new Vagabond officers. Contact Frank Kelly any time now so slate of candidates can be presented at the March Meeting.

From the Kellys – Happy St. Patrick’s Day and here’s an Irish blessing to think about – May the Lord keep you in his hand and never close his fist too tight!

Safe travels,
Kathy and Frank Kelly
To access this calendar on-line to stay up-to-date on changes, visit: http://visaliaelks.org/events/.

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<td>5:30 pm - Taco Tuesday</td>
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**KNOW SOMEONE WHO’S NOT GETTING THE BULLETIN?**

Help them get the information they need by visiting our website: www.visaliaelks.org and subscribing to the mailing list (on the home page on the right side). You can even do this from your phone. Once they enter their name and email into the subscription form, they will get an email to confirm their subscription. After it’s confirmed, they will receive the monthly bulletin as well as the weekly **What’s Happening This Week** email that is sent out on Mondays (also now posted on the VisaliaElks.org home page).
These good folks have donated to help keep our monthly newsletter coming to each and every one of our members. We appreciate their consideration. If you are interested in being a sponsor in future bulletins, please contact the office. The cost is $100 a year and it can be prorated if needed.
Members with a birthday this month get a FREE dinner on any dinner of the month, including Friday Steak Night. (Excludes Prime Rib, Rib Nights, Fireside Dinners, Crab and Shrimp Feeds. Get A Free Beverage on your birthday in the lounge.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March Birthdays</th>
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| 1 | James Christopherson  
Robert Davis  
Turner Houston  
Pepe Maxwell  
2 | Dennis Adamson  
Ronald Vasquez  
3 | Jennifer Cawley  
Margo Giles  
Corey S Harris  
Beverly Keith  
Kenny Marshall  
Janice Pineda  
Valerie Remy  
Sylvia Santillan  
Jerry L Schock  
James Sullins |
| 4 | Wallace W Wicks  
5 | Leon De Asis Jr.  
Chuck Fishel  
Wayne Koons  
Ryan Lasalde  
Scott Lawrence  
Bernie Van Tol  
Farrel D Ward  
6 | James Abercrombie  
Jason Joaquin Mattos  
Clifford James Miller  
James Russell  
7 | Thomas Goulart  
Richard Grissom  
Tony Keller  
Alan Rodriguez  
Wayne Stafford  
Nancy Stovall  
Barbara Summers  
Chris Vicars  
8 | Gary Greg Gostanian  
Brent Main  
James R. Millar  
John L Rocha  
9 | Bob Ausherman  
Craig A Boone  
Sherry Maze |
| 10 | Douglas Watson  
11 | Jonathan Meeker  
12 | John J Kinderknecht  
13 | Craig Allen Russell  
14 | Terry French  
15 | Todd Soares  
16 | James W McMillan  
17 | Frank Chesser  
18 | Sue Hamilton  
19 | Jacky W Lee  
20 | Lacy R Cecil  
21 | Tim Miller  
22 | Eddie Ausherman  
23 | Kathy Page  
24 | Brock Steven Robertson  
25 | Bret Belknap  
26 | Wendolyn Buss  
27 | Jon Haggestrom  
28 | Karen MacKenzie  
29 | Felipe G Moreno  
30 | Denney D Anderson  
Kevin Nugent  
Barbara Koberstein-Davis  
Juanita Carmena Jones  
John Mark  
Dorothy VanWagoner |