Petaluma Elks Lodge #901

The Whisperings

November 2026
Issue 11 Volume 122

Thoughts from our Exalted Ruler



-By Tammy Atwood, ER

Family, Friends & Home

As I sit down to write my November message, I find myself thinking about what this time of year means to me. November has always been a month that reminds me to slow down, take a breath, and appreciate the people who surround me.

For me, it comes down to three simple words: family, friends, and home.

Home isn't always a place. Sometimes home is a table surrounded by people you love. It is the sound of laughter coming from another room, sharing a meal with friends, or knowing that there are people who will be there for you when you need them. Home is where memories are made, traditions are shared, and people feel like they belong.

And that is what I hope our Lodge continues to be.

When I walk through the doors of Lodge 901, I don't just see a building. I see the people who make it special. I see friendships that have grown over many years, families who have made the Lodge part of their lives, volunteers who quietly give their time, and members who continue to show up because they believe in what the Elks stand for.

I have been fortunate to experience so many of those friendships myself. Some of the people I now call friends started as people I simply met through the Elks. Over time, those friendships have become something much more meaningful. That is one of the things I treasure most about being an Elk.

As we gather around our Thanksgiving tables this month, I hope we take a moment to remember how fortunate we are—not only for the people sitting beside us, but also for the people who may not be sitting at our table but are still an important part of our lives.

I am especially thankful for our Lodge family.

I am thankful for the volunteers who give their time without asking for recognition. I am thankful for the members who support our dinners and events. I am thankful for the people who walk through our doors and bring their smiles, their stories, and their friendship. And I am thankful for the opportunity to serve as your Exalted Ruler during this Elk year.

One of my hopes for this year is that everyone who walks through our doors feels welcome. Whether you have been an Elk for 50 years or are attending your very first Lodge event, I want you to feel that there is a place here for you.

So this November, I encourage you to bring someone with you.

Invite a friend to dinner. Bring your family to an event. Sit with someone you don't know. Introduce yourself to a new member. Volunteer for something you've always wanted to try. Sometimes it only takes one person reaching out to make someone else feel like they have found a home.

We have so many wonderful things ahead of us, and I am excited about the memories we will make together. My hope is that when we look back at this Elk year, we won't just remember the events and activities—we will remember the people, the laughter, the friendships, and the moments that made us feel connected.

Because ultimately, that is what makes a Lodge a home.

Thank you for being part of my Elks family and for allowing me the honor of serving as your Exalted Ruler. I am grateful for each of you, and I look forward to sharing many more meals, celebrations, conversations, and memories together.

From my family to yours, I wish you a very happy and meaningful Thanksgiving.

Thanks & Congrats!

November 2026

- **Elk of the Month - Joe Pogar**
- **Volunteer of the Month - Linda Rahman**

Joe & Linda, thank you for all you do to support Elkdom and our lodge!

Elks National Foundation
It's Scholarship Time, MVS Deadline is Here

MVS deadline is November 12, 2026, 11:59pm

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

November is Veterans Remembrance Month

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**

A recent newspaper article reports that 50% of Americans do not have an estate plan and at their deaths their assets pass according to state law. Wouldn't you prefer to decide what happens to your assets? If so, consider creating an estate plan. When you do so, please also consider including a gift to support children served by the California Hawaii Elks Association Major Project, Inc.

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

Be thankful & share your blessings…

During this holiday season
we should not only stuff our holiday turkeys, but also stuff our Purple Pigs

The kids need our help





"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**

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

From Our Purple Pig Chairman

- By George Matt

With the Fall season upon us things have slowed down some and we still need the pigs to keep coming. A Big Thanks to all of you who contributed in the past. The total for September was $412.74. Keep the filled pigs coming and we will keep 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 September:

Tony Morgan *
Mike Alejos *
Diane Perez
Douglas Creer
Alfred Mello*
Larry Calvert
Richard Courier
Diana & Jim Edens *
Anonymous. (3 Pigs)
Petaluma Elks 901 RV Club * (2 checks)

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



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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.
Note: meeting nites- bar closes at 6:30p.m.

Lodge 901 Officers: 2026-2027

Exalted Ruler*:	Tammy Atwood
Est. Leading Knight*:	Mary McSweeney
Est. Loyal Knight:	Tim Sheehan
Est. Lecturing Knight:	Ken Conley
Secretary:	Larry Sartori, PER
Treasurer:	Bill Lewis
Esquire:	Marilyn Cohoe
Chaplain:	Matt Reiter
Inner Guard:	Julie Ferrari
Tiler:	Julie Dillingham
1 Year Trustee*:	Jeff Poteet, PER
2 Year Trustee*:	Jon Nathe
3 Year Trustee*:	Mike Repp
4 Year Trustee*:	Gary Lassen
5 Year Trustee*:	Jerry Rezendes
House Committee:	Officers with *

The Whisperings Staff

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Photos/Flyers: Mary McSweeney, Jim Johnson-Studio 7 Photo, 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.



Leading Knights Corner

It's About Americanism & Charity!



-By Mary McSweeney, Leading Knight

Honoring Our Veterans

November is National Veterans and Military Families Month, a time for our nation to honor the brave men and women who have served in our Armed Forces, as well as the families who have stood beside them. Their courage, sacrifice, and commitment to our country have helped preserve the freedoms we enjoy each and every day. We owe them so much.

As Elks, honoring our veterans is not something we do only in November. It is a commitment we carry throughout the year. From hosting veterans' dinners and organizing outings to visiting VA hospitals, supporting veterans' homes, and providing assistance to those in need, Elks work tirelessly to ensure that our heroes are never forgotten. Caring for our veterans is one of the proudest traditions of our Order.

This November, I encourage every member of Petaluma Elks Lodge #901 to make a personal commitment to show appreciation for a veteran. It doesn't have to be a grand gesture. Sometimes the smallest acts of kindness mean the most. Shake a veteran's hand and sincerely thank them for their service. Buy them a cup of coffee or a meal. Take the time to listen to their stories. Volunteer at a veterans' hospital or home, or make a donation to an organization dedicated to serving those who have served us such as the Elks National Veterans Service Commission, whose programs, supported by the Elks National Foundation, provide vital assistance, comfort, and companionship to veterans across the nation. Supporting these efforts is another meaningful way we can make a difference.

And let us not forget our military families. Behind every service member are loved ones who have made sacrifices of their own, enduring long separations, uncertainty, and the challenges that come with military life. They, too, deserve our recognition, gratitude, and support.

Above all, let us continue to live by the solemn promise of our Order: "So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them." Not just in November, but every day of the year.

November is Veterans Remembrance Month

Thank a Veteran



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

Come down to the Lodge on the 2nd Wednesday of the month and celebrate your birthday with birthday cake!! We'll share a cake on Burger Night to celebrate all our fellow Elks' birthdays. Come Celebrate on Nov 18th* and Dec 9th. (*date change due to Veternans Day holiday).

November 2026 Birthdays

- By Mary McSweeney

1 Aaron Arellanes
Verna Eisen-Fenzl
Eric Greenband
Steven Lambert

3 Jerry Balf
Ron Carli
R Courier
Carol Dewey
Edward Montague

4 Mary Currie
Michael O'Connor
Scott Tedrow

5 Richard Giuliani
Steve Miller
Andrew Tarantino

6 Cathleen Llorence

7 Douglas Creer
William Park

8 Gene Harlan
Walt Kehr
Lisa Ohman

9 David Grube
Thomas Powers
Julian Sutherland
Matthew Thomas

10 Owen Fredericks
Brent Gamba
Joseph Hug
Cynthia Yee

11 Cheryl Brown
Johanna Hug
Ronald Raffo

12 Laurel Murray

13 Steven Degard
Carolyn Kline
Andrea McArtor
Scott Miller
Lois Taylor
Brent Weber

14 David Myers

15 Royce Israel
Sue Kane

16 Jorge Alejos

17 Harry Clifford
Jimmie Davis
Clarence Faria
Jeffrey Kress
Mark Lavin

19 Steve Countouriotis
Ron Harrigan
William Riedstra
Dianna Scheiner

21 Ann Albertoni
Alice Condit

22 John Lane
Michael Nistler
Arnold Riebli
Gary Shelden

24 Michael Bakalar

25 Kenneth Jones
George Newport
Michael Repp

26 Sean Smagalski
Bennie Tiapon

27 Louis Langlamet
Earl Schuerman

28 John Barella
Arthur Fanucchi
James Hawkins
James Ruddell

29 Brian Cassidy
John McGinnis
Duane Sartori

30 James Creedon
Mike Dunaway
Ron Head
Kevin Meixner
Chris Offenbach



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.

"Be the Difference"

SP



Start with Tacos, stay for Paint!



Good Fun, Good Food, Come Have Some!

...ALERT...

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





NOTICE

The walk-in (refrigerator/freezer) demolition and repair will be going on starting the first week of November. This work will have an impact on our weekly dinners. Please have patience with kitchen staff/volunteers as they work around this project.

Daylight Savings Time Ends



"It's time to "Fall Back"
Sunday*
November 1st at 2:00 A.M.
Change your clocks!



*Change your clocks Saturday night when you go to bed.

More November events on page 3, 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14 &16



Secretary's Corner

-By Larry Sartori





Lodge Meetings

The Thursday **lodge meetings start at 7PM.**

Please arrive a few minutes early so we can begin on time.



Have you fed a Purple Pig today?
Fill them up!





"READY ELKS—LET'S GO"

GER

ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION

It's Scholarship Season

MVS Scholarship Deadline is here/now

-Excerpt From ENF *Pulse* Oct 2026

The clock is ticking on the Most Valuable Student scholarship application! The deadline to apply is **November 12.** Ranging from $4,000 to $30,000 over four years, 500 scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors based on leadership, academics and financial need. With this scholarship, students gain more than just financial aid—they gain an appreciation of service, a network of like-minded peers, and an #ElksFamily for life.

Applicants need no relation to the Elks to apply, so please spread the word about this exciting opportunity to all the high school seniors in your life! Click here for eligibility requirements and other important information.

Know a high school senior? Share this information with them.

MVS (Most Valuable Student):

application Deadline 11/12/26, 11:59pm PST.

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

ENF

ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION

Helping Elks Build Stronger Communities

Help make it happen

Support ENF



PER Association News



-By Wayne Wilson, PER

OK… So, what is the status of the PER projects? Read on....

PER Ballpark Fundraiser

As of final accounting, the fundraiser amounted to just short of $7,000, much of which was raised from the raffle of the premium seats to a Giants vs Cardinals game in September. The raffle was won by Ryan Wagner, who took his family to the game and is reported to have had a great time. I should know, as I was at that game (in another section) and annoyed him by texting him reports on what I could see him doing. LOL! With a bit of a bump-up from our Charity fund, the Lodge voted to donate a total $7,500 to the Petaluma Leghorns Baseball Club, for improvements to the ballpark at the Petaluma Municipal Sports Complex. Thank you to all who supported this fundraiser as it demonstrates what Elks can accomplish to benefit our community.

Seafood Paella Dinner

Sadly, this dinner had to be cancelled as there were not enough members signed up to make it worthwhile. A Paella dinner is cooked out of a single large pan and requires at least 50 diners to make it worthwhile. Pity… On the other hand, we have opportunities (such as a member who offered to donate a quantity of fresh-frozen Alaskan halibut) to hold other events that benefit our Charity account, so watch this space. I will let you know.

One Warm Coat Drive

Here we go… Check out the yellow & black storage bins in the lobby! We are collecting new, or lightly used warm coats for needy folks, of all ages, in the bay area. They will be taken to a distribution point on a regular basis through the holiday season. Your help is appreciated.

So, that's it from the PER Association. We are, as always, at your service.



November is Veterans Month



From Nov. 2019 Whisperings' issue

-By JAMES W. MARTS FIELD, GL Committee Member

November is the month to honor our V.E.T.S. [] and a time to be thankful for all that we have.

The Order of Elks has designated November as Veterans Remembrance Month and we as Elks remember our solemn pledge that "So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."

In 1917, our Order established a war fund to care for veterans. In 1946, the Elks National Veterans Service Commission was established with the goal of serving hospitalized veterans, and to this day we are proud of our pledge to never forget the veterans in our hospitals. We also honor our servicemen and women whose sacrifices have preserved the freedoms we all enjoy. They are the heroes of our country.

Let us also never forget the volunteers who make our programs so successful. The men and women who donate their time to make our Elks Veterans Program work are also heroes. Be sure to recognize and thank them.

******

Per our PGER Robert Duitsman…"Do your part in letting your local veterans know you care".

The Home Of The Free, Because Of The Brave. Thank a Veteran

Elks Care - Elks Share

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

November is Veterans Remembrance Month
Thank A Veteran



Veterans Day 11/11/26

You can show your thanks by remembering the Veterans when you shop. Year long, pick up a few things for them, then drop the items off at the lodge. We will deliver the items (& paperwork) to our proper contacts to ensure the items get to the intended Veterans at the Yountville Veterans Home & Hospital. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Go to our Lodge's website to see the

VETERANS' WISH LIST

Thanks to all of you who have dropped off items.

It all adds up!

Elks Remember, Elks Care

2026 Yountville Veterans Dinner



-By Gary Lassen, Trustee

Once again, the Petaluma Elks Lodge #901 showed its patriotic pride in honoring our Yountville Veterans. We had approximately 76 guests of honor, Veterans from all branches of the military, and 26 staff members. Thank you to everyone who sponsored a Veteran's meal or table.

After a ceremony presenting military service flags, the hard-working Petaluma High School FFA members served dinner. The dinner featured BBQ chicken, expertly grilled by Larry Wagner and his crew; pulled pork, smoked all day by Gary Lassen; roasted potatoes by Bob Lopez and Tony Estes; salad by Ron Green; green beans by Sue Lassen and Joe Hugg. Special thanks to Bobby Gervasi and her crew for the incredible dessert!

This event would not have happened without the many volunteers. A heartfelt acknowledgment to the setup team: Lindsay Calegari and Mom, Tammy Atwood, John and Cindy Lane, Priscilla Burgi, Joe and Jody Hugg, and Tim Sheehan at the check-in table.

Our kitchen crew included Gary and Sue Lassen, Ron Green, Bob Lopez, Tony Estes, Marilynn Cohoe, Judy Krozek, Kevin Campton, and Joe Hugg.

Server Lead Marilynn Cohoe, grocery shoppers Bill & Joan Lewis, and Veterans beverage servers Joe & Jody Hugg also deserve immense gratitude.

The chicken BBQ team, led by Larry Wagner, included Mike Kerrigan, Ken Tehurne, and Dave Jackson.

We look forward to another successful Yountville Veterans dinner next year!

"So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."







...Coming in December...

Paint & Donate at the Elks



Tue Dec 8th

6PM - 8PM

$35

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.

PETE'S SAKE Rustic Art Petaluma, CA

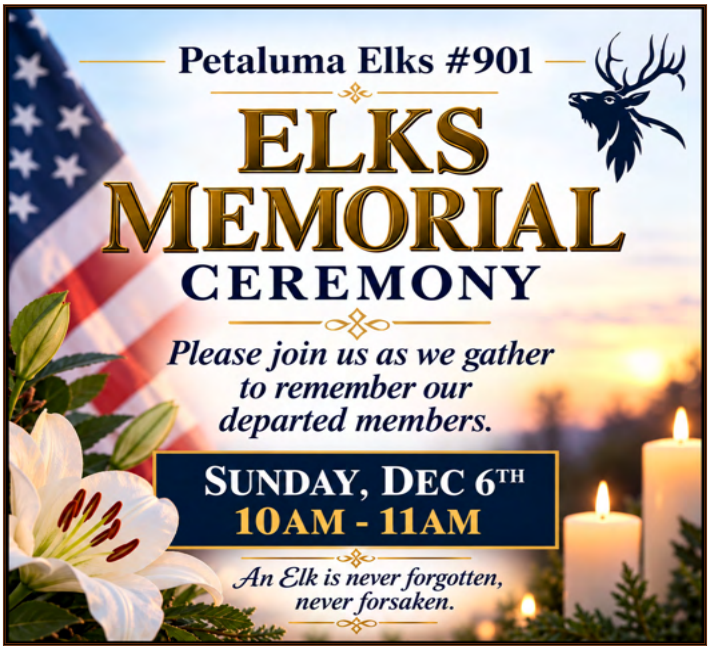
Lisa Pedrani

Elks

Register online www.elks901.org/store

www.elks901.org

PETALUMA ELKS #901 • 2105 SOUTH MCDOWELL BLVD



~Elks 901~ SOCIAL CLUB

Fri Dec 4 12:30 (at the Lodge)

All Are Welcome



MENU: Prime Rib $25

Please RSVP & mail by Nov 27

Make check payable to & mail to:

Norine (Bobby) Gervasi

1074 Santa Clara Lane

Petaluma, CA 94954

Questions?

Contact Bobby Gervasi (707)762-0724



Did you know...



You can volunteer to decorate the Elks' Rose Parade Float?

Decoration schedule runs from Dec. 5th through Dec. 31st.

Check it out on chea-elks.org, also ElksVolunteerForRoses@gmail.com



Support Your Lodge & Community... Participate!

ENF- Scholarships Welcome to the Elks Family

Since 1931, the Elks National Foundation has helped students recognize their academic dreams. Each year, we award nearly $4 million in college scholarships to at least 850 outstanding, service-minded high school seniors. Once you're an Elks scholar, you're family. Support systems can be hard to gain, especially ones that understand the challenges of transitioning to college. With scholarships from the Elks National Foundation, students receive more than financial aid; they receive an invitation to join a strong, supportive community: the #ElksFamily.

"It's been great building my #ElksFamily," says Emma Qiao, a 2025 Top 20 Most Valuable Student scholar sponsored by Clear Lake (Kemah), Texas, Lodge No. 2322. "Even though we all live in different areas, at the end of the day, we're all Elks scholars, and we can always come back to this community."

Ranging from $1,000 to $7,500 per year, **Most Valuable Student(MVS)** scholarships are open to high school seniors who will be pursuing a four-year degree, on a full-time basis, in a United States college or university. Five hundred four-year scholarships will be awarded to the highest-rated applicants in the 2026 competition. No relation to the Elks is needed to apply for the MVS scholarship, but once someone is an Elks scholar, they are part of the #ElksFamily for life.

"I never realized how beneficial the Elks are, what they do for people, and what their principles are," says Ricky Lazaro, a 2025 Top 20 Most Valuable Student scholar sponsored by San Antonio, Texas, Lodge No. 216. "It's something that I think is really revolutionary, and I plan on being a part of it in the future."

For **Legacy Awards** winners, the Elks have always been part of the family. Awarded to children or grandchildren of Elks, this $1,000-per-year scholarship requires recipients to serve with an Elks Lodge three times over the four years they receive the scholarship.

"Receiving a Legacy Award means so much to me and my family," says Kaylee Kollross, a 2025 Legacy Awards recipient sponsored by Marshfield, Wis., Lodge No. 665. "As the granddaughter of an Elks member, I've seen firsthand some of the values the Order stands for—community, charity, integrity, and knowledge—and I am proud to carry those values forward in my own educational journey."

As they enter the next stages of their life, the class of 2026 Elks scholars will feel a wide range of emotions; with their new #ElksFamily, they will never feel alone.

Applications for the 2027 Most Valuable Student scholarship and Legacy Awards are now open! If you know any high school seniors, encourage them to apply.

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

Openings and Deadlines vary:

- **MVS/Most Valuable Student Scholarships-** Any high school senior who is a U.S. citizen is eligible to apply. **Deadline 11/12/26 -NOW!**
- **Legacy Awards** - are $4,000 scholarships for high school seniors, the children and grandchildren of Elks members. Deadline **2/2/27**





Annual Blue Star Moms Care Package Boxing --- Donations Needed!



-By Priscilla Burgi, PER

The time has come to call upon our generous Petaluma Elks members to support our annual Blue Star Moms Care Package Boxing! You may ask, "What is a Blue Star Mom?" A Blue Star Mom is a mother, stepmother, grandmother, foster mother, or female legal guardian whose son or daughter is currently serving (or has honorably served) in the U.S. Armed Forces, National Guard, or Reserves. Petaluma Elks proudly supports this organization wholeheartedly. In recognition of that commitment, we designated the third Saturday of every January as Blue Star Moms Day. We are also pleased to share that we received a $1,000 Freedom Grant to help cover the cost of shipping these care packages. This year's boxing event will take place on **Saturday, January 16, 2027, at 10:00 a.m.** Please bring all donated care package items to the Lodge game room no later than **Wednesday, January 13.** For questions, please contact Priscilla at burgi57chevy@gmail.com. Thank you for helping us send a little comfort, appreciation, and a reminder of home to those serving our country!

Giving Tuesday December 1, 2026

Giving Tuesday is the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. An annual, global movement to inspire people to give, be charitable, celebrate generosity, and as a reminder of community and altruism.
It is a suitable time to remember our charitable causes,

ENF/Elks National Foundation
and
CHEMPI/The Purple Pig.

As Elks, we deem every day to be a good day to be charitable to our communities. ENF and CHEMPI help us achieve that goal. Don't let the year slip by without an effort to make the world (at least your community) a better, nicer place.

ELKS #901 Christmas Cheer 2026



-By Gary Lassen, Trustee

Our lodge has submitted and received the Beacon Grant that will be used for our Christmas Cheer program. We will work with the Petaluma People Services Mentor Me program to provide ~45 local families experiencing hunger issues with baskets of groceries, enough to make a complete holiday meal for their entire family.

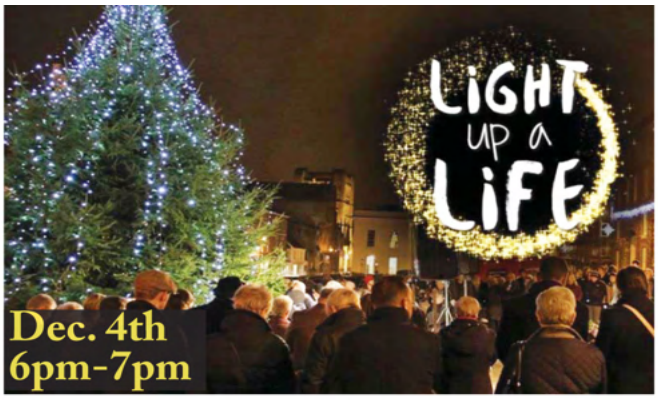
The delivery/pick up day is scheduled for **Sunday, December 20th**. We will be doing a lot of shopping the week prior. If you are available, we need members to assist with the shopping. We also need members, especially those with trucks or large SUVs, to help deliver the grocery baskets. It is an honor for the Petaluma Elks to help those in need in our community.

Together we can make a difference!



…Our Holiday Craft Fair, November 14th–15th, a festive weekend filled with handmade treasures, friendly faces, and community spirit.

Volunteers are needed
for set-up, assisting during the event, and clean-up afterward — every helping hand makes a big difference!
Can you help? Have questions? Contact Tammy Atwood, ER at 707-484-4249 or tlatwood70@gmail.com.



Light Up A Life Tree Lighting
Walnut Park (Petaluma Blvd. S. at D St.)

Donated cookies & homemade treats need to be at the lodge by 3pm on 12/4/26.

An annual community event where people come together in remembrance and celebration of the lives of those we have loved and lost. Each light symbolizing the life, hopes and dreams of a loved one.

Elks 901 provides coffee, hot chocolate, cookies, etc. to the attendees. All free. We are asking for donations to be dropped off at the Lodge on Dec. 4th by 3pm. Any questions please contact:
Larry Sartori 707-763-0901 or
Gary Lassen lassenwg@gmail.com

Elks PETALUMA ELKS #901 • 2105 SOUTH MCDOWELL BLVD

Elks Care - Elks Share

Gifts for Kids in Need

Sonoma County's
Valley of the Moon Children's Center

Protecting, sheltering and caring for abused, neglected and abandoned children and teens in Sonoma County.



Request **Wish List**

All Items must be new, unwrapped.
Kids are 7-17 (most over 13)

COLLECTING ITEMS AT THE LODGE NOW THRU DEC 4.

* Gift cards for Walmart, Safeway, Target, Starbucks, Cold Stone Creamery, Baskin Robbins , Visa AmEx MC, I-Tunes. Spotify
* CLOTHING ITEMS: Slippers, Socks, Pajamas (infant, toddler, pre-teen, teen/young adults), Hooded sweatshirts, Sweatpants, leggings, Beanie caps, Vans slip on shoes (adult sizes)
* Games (Clue, Sorry, Trouble, Monopoly, Chess, Dominos, Battleship, Connect 4, Jenga, etc.)
* Legos, UNO , Phase 10, Puzzles
* Multicultural Dolls, Stuffed Animals
* Sport Balls (Nerf, basketballs, soccer)
* Earbuds/ Headphones
* Journals, Fancy Pen Sets, Art Kits
* NO GLASS, SHARP OBJECTS or BALLOONS
* NO USED ITEMS

Thank you for your generosity.

Coming in December...



Elks Memorial Service & Children's Christmas Party – Sunday, December 6th

The holidays are just around the corner, and that means it's time for two of our favorite Elks traditions! On Sunday, December 6th, we have a full day planned at the lodge that celebrates both remembrance and holiday cheer.



We'll start the morning with our Elks Memorial Service at 10:00 a.m. — A heartfelt time to reflect and honor the members we've lost over the years. This beautiful ceremony reminds us that "Elks Are Never Forgotten, Never Forsaken." Please join us for this meaningful service, followed by coffee, juice, and donuts with friends and family.

Then, we'll shift gears and spread some holiday magic with our



Children's Christmas Party from 1:00p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ... one of the most joyful events of the year. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be stopping by, along with their trusty elves and helpers, to make the afternoon extra special! There will be festive activities, a fun food buffet, and a present for every child who attends.

If you'd like to help out or donate toward the children's presents, we'd love your support! Please contact Mary McSweeney, Esteemed Leading Knight at 707-338-4022 or muzcmam@gmail.com. If you will be bringing a child please let me know so that we ensure each child receives a present.

Let's make December 6th a day full of love, laughter, and Elks spirit — a perfect way to kick off the holiday season together!



See you at the lodge.

It's Your Lodge... Share The Fun, Bring a Friend



Our Lodge events & dining room are an opportunity to return that dinner favor you owe a friend, relative or neighbor, or to celebrate a birthday or anniversary, or just to hang out & relax.
Please RSVP for special events, promptly buy your tickets online (many events require advance purchase), and tickets may not be available at the door. See more info on our website.

Hall Association News – We Are Replacing The Walk-In!



-By Wayne Wilson, PER & Hall Assoc Director

It's about time! After years of unreliable performance, the Lodge kitchen's walk-in refrigerator and freezer are being replaced. The old equipment has suffered repeated breakdowns, fluctuating temperatures, icicle buildup in the freezer, and frost around the freezer door that has made it difficult to open and close. Because the compressor has been running nearly nonstop, the aging unit has probably also increased the Lodge's electricity costs.

After several attempts by the Lodge and the Hall Association to obtain Grand Lodge approval for the repair as a joint project, the Hall Association decided to take responsibility for the entire job.

And now it's happening! Depending on when you read this, demolition of the old unit and installation of the new one will be under way or complete. The project has required careful planning to minimize disruption to the Lodge's daily operations, including the weekly meal schedule and major upcoming events such as the Craft Faire. Thanks to the teamwork of the Lodge Trustees and ER Tammy, the Hall Board, the contractor, and volunteers, we have a solid plan in place. Our biggest challenge is keeping refrigerated products available to the kitchen throughout the work, so we will bring in temporary refrigeration units and have backup storage available for any overflow.

The work is planned according to the following schedule:

11/2-11/3 (Mon/Tue) – Temporary refrigeration units and a dumpster will be delivered to the Lodge
11/4 (Wed after Burger Night) – All food products will be transferred to temporary storage.
11/5 (Thurs) – Electrical & refrigeration to the old unit will be disconnected
11/6 (Friday) – Old unit will be defrosted
11/7 (Saturday) – Demolition of the old unit.
11/9-11/10 (Mon/Tue) – Construction of the new unit and power on.

If everything goes according to plan—and yes, we know it's construction—we'll be back up and running by the end of the week, just in time for the Craft Faire, with everything safely returned to the new refrigerator and freezer.

Wish us fair winds and smooth sailing as the work moves forward, and please be patient with our kitchen volunteers as they keep our weekly meals on track during the transition. Before long, we'll have an upgraded kitchen, dependable new refrigeration, and—maybe—even lower electricity costs.

This holiday season is an exciting time at the lodge. Enjoy!



IT help
Help Keep Our Lodge Connected!

Hello, fellow Petaluma Elks Lodge #901 members!

We're looking for one or two volunteers to help with the Lodge's website, weekly eBlast, flyers, and social media. Whether you're interested in one area or several, we'd love your help! Sharing these responsibilities keeps our members informed and helps spread the word about Lodge activities. If you have the skills and interest to lend a hand, please let us know as soon as possible. Thank you for supporting our Lodge!



Volunteers are needed for our Holiday Craft Fair, November 14th–15th for set-up, assisting during the event, and clean-up afterward — every helping hand makes a big difference!

Can you help? Have questions? Contact Tammy Atwood, ER at 707-484-4249 or tlatwood70@gmail.com.

Have Some Fun,
Do Some Good...Get Involved!
So Many Ways To Help!
Find Your Fit.



We Need You!

Blood Drive at the Lodge

in the Meeting Room

Tues. November 3rd, 10am-2:45pm

Make your appointment
Walk-ins welcomed too!

Because of you, life doesn't stop
Together We Can Make A Difference



Patients are Thankful for Friends Like You.

Friendship means showing up when someone needs you most. Donate blood and be the reason a neighbor, friend, or stranger gets another tomorrow. Donate **Nov. 1-22** and receive a **Winnie-the-Pooh T-shirt**.* Plus, you'll be entered to win **one of three $10,000 gift cards**.** *Donor Rewards program opt-in required.*

Make an appointment at vitalant.org or call 877-25-VITAL

Use blood drive code: Petalumaelkslodge

Petaluma Elks Lodge Blood Drive

Location: 2105 South McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954

Date: Tuesday, November 3, 2026

Time: 10:00 am - 2:45 pm

Schedule your appointment today at www.vitalant.org. Use Blood Drive Code: petalumaelkslodge or Scan QR Code.

*Terms and condition apply; see vitalant.org/Classic. While supplies last.
**Terms and conditions apply; see vitalant.org/ShoppingGiveaway.

877-25-VITAL | vitalant.org
Because of you, life doesn't stop

vitalant



A sweet, simple (& satisfying) way to help a child...









Saturday Pool Tournament



-By Priscilla Burgi, PER -

The Saturday Pool Tournament works around Lodge rentals and special events, so keep an eye on our social media pages and weekly eBlast for tournament dates and updates. The lounge opens at 11:00 AM, with the tournament beginning at 12:00 PM. Entry is just $5 per player. We'd love to see you at the Lodge, as pool player or observer! Questions? Contact: Priscilla Burgi at burgi57chevy@gmail.com.

Casual Cribbage Tuesdays

Cribbage Nights at the Lodge every Tuesday at 5:00 PM. This is a casual, drop-in style play, perfect for those who want to learn how to play, practice their skills, or for veteran players to challenge each other. A Cribbage League is planned to start soon. Have questions? Contact Priscilla at burgi57chevy@gmail.com.





Autumn's Here –

(Also Family & Friends)

901's RV Park is for Elks Members (in good standing) and their guests.

18 full hook ups and a dry camping area.

Check it out on our website: **elks901.org**

Reservations encouraged.

Autumn's Here!!! So is the Patio BBQ!

Get Your Grill On!

It's time to get outside and enjoy the great outdoors, camping, fishing, walks, and of course, BBQs with family and friends!

Speaking of BBQs... did you know the patio BBQ area is available for use?

It's the perfect spot to fire up the grill, relax, and make some great memories with your crew. Come out and enjoy it!

Petaluma Elks Lodge #901 The Whisperings
Thoughts from our Exalted Ruler

Important Announcement About The Whisperings

The Whisperings is now be distributed to members via email only (and available on 901's website).

There will be a limited number of printed copies in the office at the lodge if members would like a printed copy.

Be sure the secretary has your e-mail address, so you don't miss an issue. Go to lodge 901's website: elks.org/News and Events/Change e-mail or address and fill out form, or contact lodge Secretary Larry Sartori: Secretary@elks901.org.

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

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!

How about helping out on Wednesday Burger Night?
We welcome needed kitchen help.
Volunteer for a few hours a week.
Give Tammy a call or text at 707-484-4249.



FOLLOW US ON Instagram

Find us on Facebook



Outings & Hosts

- By Gordon Cox, PR Officer

Thanksgiving Day 2026, a federal holiday in the United States, falls on Thursday, November 26. In 1621, the Plymouth colonists from England and the Native American Wampanoag people shared an autumn harvest feast that is acknowledged as one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations in the colonies.

Another reason to be thankful in November is Election Day, when we are free to exercise the right to vote, an awesome responsibility to choose the leaders and policies which will determine our future.

We owe it to ourselves, our children, and the well-being of our communities, our nation and our planet to choose wisely, and vote.

Dig out the loose change in the sofa so you can gas up your rig and join our gang of happy RV campers on one of our monthly outings.

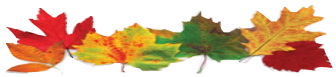
Our Elks 901 RV Club has monthly outings which include group dinners (both pot luck and at nearby eateries), happy hours, games (corn hole, spinners, etc.) campfire yarns, and visits to local attractions (wineries, river boat excursions, golf, etc.).

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.

RV 2026 Outing Schedule

November 9-13 (Mon-Fri)
Angels Camp RV Resort in Angels Camp, CA.
Larry & Denise Calvert 707-799-6567.

December 9th: Members Christmas Party (no outings in Dec.)



T/HC Meetings' Times

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

- House Committee **6:00pm – 6:45pm**
- Trustee Meeting: immediately follows H.C.

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

Things happen between newsletters... You can

⇨Check the website for current info www.elks901.org.

⇨Sign up for e-blast, our weekly updates notice

⇨Update your info, Contact/email Secretary@elks901.org

RV 2026 Outing Schedule con't.

January 7-11 (Thurs-Mon)
Vineyard RV Park in Vacaville, CA.
Shirley Hill 707-484-4006, & Bob & Carole Gonzales 707-849-7000.

February 21-25 (Sun-Thurs)
Betabel RV Park, San Juan Bautista, CA.
Hosted by the club's board. Contact Diane Parker 707-494-1810 or Kris Foster 707-338-1748.

March 15-19 (Mon-Fri)
Flag City RV Resort in Lodi, CA.
Diane Bergeron 843-338-5266, Ron Lunsford 707-789-9891 & Ed & Sally Jensen 707-542-3900.

NOV/DEC

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
NOV 1 Breakfast 9am-11am & Football **Daylite Saving Time ends 2am** Flag Retirement Ceremony **11am** Bar 9am-4:00pm	2 Bar 3-7pm	3 Cribbage- 5pm Tacos 5pm - 6:30pm BLOOD DRIVE 10am - 2:45pm Bar 3-7pm	4 Burgers 5pm-7pm Bar 3-7pm	5 Bar 3-7pm	6 CHEA/State Md-Term November 6-7, Burbank Bar 3-7pm	7 Bar 11am-4:00pm
8 Breakfast 9am-11am & Football **Hoop Shoot** **8:45am - 10am** **Casa Grande Gym**	9 Trustee/House Committee 6:00pm Bar 3-7pm	10 Cribbage- 5pm Tacos 5pm - 6:30pm **Paint & Donate** 6pm - 8pm $35 Bar 3-7pm	11 Burgers 5pm-7pm **VETERANS DAY** Bar 3-7pm	Scholarship-12 MVS Deadline **901 Veterans Members Tribute Dinner** Meeting Night 7pm Bar 3-6:30pm	13 **Bar Food** 4:30-6:30pm Bar :3-7pm	**Sax's Joint Delicious Eats** 14 Holiday Craft & Vendor Fair 10am-3pm Bar 11am-4:00pm
Sax's Joint Delicious Eats 15 Holiday Craft & Vendor Fair 10am-3pm Bar 9am-4:00pm	16 Bar 3-7pm	17 Cribbage- 5pm Tacos 5pm - 6:30pm Bar 3-7pm	18 Burgers 5pm-7pm Bar 3-7pm	19 Bar 3-7pm	20 Bar 3-7pm	21 PURPLE PIG ROAST $24 C-5pm D-6pm Bring Your Purple Pigs Bar 11am-4:00pm
22 Breakfast 9am-11am & Football Bar 9am-4:00pm	23 Trustee/House Committee 6:00pm Bar 3-7pm	24 Cribbage- 5pm Tacos 5pm - 6:30pm Bar 3-7pm	25 **Thanksgiving Social** Bar 3-7pm	26 **HAPPY THANKSGIVING** **Lodge Closed** ~~Bar 3-6:30pm~~	27 **Lodge Closed** ~~Bar 3-7pm~~	28 **Lodge Closed** ~~Bar 11am-4:00pm~~
29 Trim Tree & Lodge 4pm Bar 3pm-7:00pm	30 Bar 2-7pm	DEC 1 Cribbage- 5pm Tacos 5pm - 6:30pm Bar 3-7pm	2 Burgers 5pm-7pm Bar 3-7pm	3 Bar 3-7pm	4 **Bar Food** 4:30-6:30pm 901's Social Luncheon- Prime Ribs 12:30pm $25 Light Up A Life Walnut Park 6pm-7pm Bar 3-7pm	5 Bar 11am-4:00pm
6 Elks Memorial Service 10:30am ---&--- Kids Xmas Party 12:30pm-3pm Bar 9am-4:00pm	7 Bar 3-7pm	8 Cribbage- 5pm Tacos 5pm - 6:30pm Bar 3-7pm	9 Burgers 5pm-7pm Bar 3-7pm	10 Bar 3-6:30pm	11 **Bar Food** 4:30-6:30pm Bar 3-7pm	12 Bar 11am-4:00pm

EVENTS THIS MONTH

Sunday: Breakfast
Tuesday: Cribbage
Tuesday: Taco Tuesday
Wednesday: Burgers
Friday: Bar Food (if no other food event that night)
Saturday: Smash Burgers 12-2pm
2nd Wednesday: Birthday Cake
3rd Friday: Bunco- (no Nov-Dec)

Nov 1: Flag Retirement Ceremony
Nov 3: Blood Drive
Nov 8: Hoop Shoot
Nov 6-7: CHEA Mid Term- Burbamk, CA
Nov 10: Paint & Donate
Nov 12: MVS deadline
Nov 12: Vets-901 Dinner
Nov 14-15: Craft Faire
Nov 21: Purple Pig Roast
Nov 25: Thanksgiving Social
Nov 29: Decorate the Lodge

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 4: Social Luncheon
Dec 4: Light Up A Life
Dec 6: Elks Memorial Service
Dec 6: Kids Xmas Party
Dec 13: Blue Star Moms- Donation drop-off
Dec 16: Blue Star Moms- Packing
Dec 20: Xmas Cheer Deliveries

GET TICKETS ONLINE

www.elks901.org/store

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





Have questions or want more information?
Contact Priscilla at burgi57chevy@gmail.com.



A great time to work on your holiday shopping.
Lots of special and unique treasures
await you at this year's
Holiday Craft Faire!