

East Central District

Bakersfield Lodge #266
Porterville Lodge #1342
Madera Lodge #1918
Oakhurst Lodge #2724

Fresno Lodge #439
Tulare Lodge #1424
Wasco Lodge #2419

Hanford Lodge #1259
Coalinga Lodge #1613
Clovis Lodge #2599

Visalia Lodge #1298
Delano Lodge #1761
Reedley Lodge #2699



August 1, 2018

Volume 1, Issue 5

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Visalia # 1298</i>	1
<i>Bakersfield #266</i>	3
<i>Tim Martin</i>	9
<i>AVP Susan Good</i>	9
<i>Mission Statement</i>	10
<i>August Calendar</i>	11
<i>September Calendar</i>	12

Special points of interest:

Articles for the next issue are due on September 20, 2018. This will be the October / November newsletter.

Newsletter Committee:

Carroll Friend
Reedley #2699

Daryl Sensano (Editor)
Fresno #439

FEATURED LODGE VISALIA ELKS LODGE #1298

Visalia, CA is the oldest San Joaquin Valley town between Los Angeles and French Camp. It's the Crown Jewel of the San Joaquin Valley and well worth your time to take the Hwy 198 exit East to Visalia from Highway 99.

One of the first inhabitants of a fort built by the settlers to protect themselves from Native Americans (unnecessarily as it turns out), was Nathaniel Vise. Nathaniel was responsible for surveying the new settlement. In November of 1852, he wrote, "The town contains from 60-80 inhabitants, 30 of whom are children of school age. The town is located upon one of the subdivisions of the Kaweah (River) and is destined to be the county seat of Tulare." In 1853, that prediction became a reality and Visalia has remained the County Seat since that time.

In 1858 Visalia was added to John Butterfield's Overland Stage route from St. Louis to San Francisco. A plaque commemorating the location can be found at 116 East Main Street.

The reason I'm telling you this is to impress upon you the important part that

the BPOE Elks Lodge #1298 played in the early years of Visalia and its residence.

Visalia Lodge #1298 was granted Dispensation on May 24, 1913, just 60 years after the settlement of Visalia was formed. And has been active in the community ever since.

The Land for our original building was purchased in 1913 on the corner of Main and Locust, and construction on the building began in 1916. It was completed in 1918 for a whopping sum of \$65,000.00.

We Lost our original lodge to a fire on December 1, 1959, but on September 9, 1962 we were back in business at our new location on West Main and proudly still call it home today.

We host numerous events each month. A couple of our most popular events are the Veterans Breakfast (which is open to the public) and served the 2nd Sunday of the month, and our Cook Your Own Steak night on the 3rd Friday of each month.

Next issue the featured lodges are Wasco Lodge #2419 and Coalinga Lodge #1613

FEATURED LODGE VISALIA LODGE #1298

Some of our other member favorites include a Halloween party (for adults) and our Vagabonds do a Halloween children's party, Honor the Badge which is held in August provides lunch for all our local Police, Fire Fighters and other first responders. Our New Year's Eve party, Turkey Shoot, PER Crab Feed (it sells out fast), PER Fundraising Dinner, a Kentucky Derby Day and we can't forget our Ladies Tea party. To see a full calendar of our events, you can visit our website: www.visaliaelks.org.

If you're ever in our neck of the woods, please feel free to stop in and visit. We would love to have you.

Ray Lewis
Exalted Ruler



FEATURED LODGE BAKERSFIELD LODGE #266

BY KELLY ARDIS kardis@bakersfield.com
June 20, 2018

There aren't many entities in town that can claim 125 years. Bakersfield itself was first incorporated 145 years ago, so for any group to be more than 100 years old it had to put itself together while the city was still new.

But members of the Elks Lodge have never been ones to sit on the sidelines. In its 125 years, the fraternal organization has not only been part of Bakersfield's history, it has accumulated plenty of its own, too.

"It was chartered before oil was found in the oil fields," said Jason Browder, Elks Lodge member and chair of the birthday event. "A lot of history that correlates with the lodge also correlates with Bakersfield."

On Saturday, the Elks Lodge will celebrate its 125th birthday, just a few days before its actual anniversary on Tuesday. The event will include a program on the club's history and barbecue ribs, made by volunteers. Member or not, everyone is welcome to celebrate the milestone.

"(Come) to get an understanding of the history of the Elks and what the future may hold for the next 125 years," Browder said.

Rep. Kevin McCarthy, state Sen. Andy Vidak and Kern County Supervisor Leticia Perez will also be there, proclaiming June 23 Elks Day. Dignitaries from the California-Hawaii Elks Association (of which the local lodge is a part) are due to come, too.

Current Exalted Ruler Nancy Fenwick said, "It's about respecting the years we've been here and what's been accomplished."

While much of the club's history remains unknown (or yet to be discovered in lodge documents), at least four members have been doing some digging to find out more: Browder, Fenwick, Secretary Bill Wilson and Tiler Brian Payne.

The Elks Lodge was instituted in 1893, as part of the national organization that started 25 years earlier. It first met at what is now the Habersfelde Building at 1710 Chester Ave.



FEATURED LODGE

BAKERSFIELD LODGE #266

In 1924, it moved to 17th and Eye streets, where the City of Bakersfield Building Department now is. When the 1952 earthquake struck the city, the upper floors were condemned and the group used only the lower levels until, in 1969, it moved to its current location at 1616 30th St., formerly the Bufeteria Restaurant.

Founding members of the local Elks Lodge were at the grand opening of the Santa Fe Railroad in 1898, Browder said. Throughout the years the lodge was a regular part of the Christmas parade and was well known in town for its famous steak feeds.

In 2001, the local club opened its membership to women, who had previously been allowed into specific programs but not the lodge itself. "Without the women, I don't think we could exist here," said Wilson, who's been a member for 18 years. "They work their tails off."

Although the Elks Lodge once had as many as 3,000 members, since the late 1990s membership has stayed under 1,000. Currently, the lodge has 384 members.

"Getting members has been the constant challenge throughout the years," said Fenwick, a member of 15 years.

Even with a much smaller membership base, the Elks Lodge is still continuing the organization's mission to help those in need, encourage patriotism and good fellowship and recognize a belief in God. Their work continues with the organization's motto at heart: Elks Care and Elks Share

Members meet twice a month and hold events throughout the year to raise money. Causes the Elks help include veterans groups, scholarships for local students and an annual Christmas event for kids in need. Over the years, the lodge has helped several thousand local kids and given hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships, Browder estimated.

"I've ran across several people ... that say, 'Oh, I went to that!'" Fenwick said of the impact the Christmas events have had on the community. "The teachers tell us what it meant to the kids."

With other lodges in the California-Hawaii Elks Association, it also contributes to its "purple pig" fundraising arm to help disabled children walk, see, talk and play. The local lodge also donated funds to those affected by Hurricane Harvey and the Erskine fire.

Anyone in the community who wants to learn more about the Elks and how to join are encouraged to come to the birthday celebration. To become a member, one must be a citizen of the United States over 21 years old, who believes in God. Those who meet the requirements need to be sponsored by any member in good standing, with references from two others.

With other lodges in the California-Hawaii Elks Association, it also contributes to its "purple pig" fundraising arm to help disabled children walk, see, talk and play. The local lodge also donated funds to those affected by Hurricane Harvey and the Erskine fire.

Anyone in the community who wants to learn more about the Elks and how to join are encouraged to come to the birthday celebration. To become a member, one must be a citizen of the United States over 21 years old, who believes in God. Those who meet the requirements need to be sponsored by any member in good standing, with references from two others.

"It's a great way to make quick friends and do good for the city of Bakersfield," said Browder, who's been a member for eight years.

Continued

FEATURED LODGE BAKERSFIELD LODGE #266

Bakersfield Lodge #266 - 125th Birthday Celebration

PER Mike Montano with CHEA President Bob Duitsmann

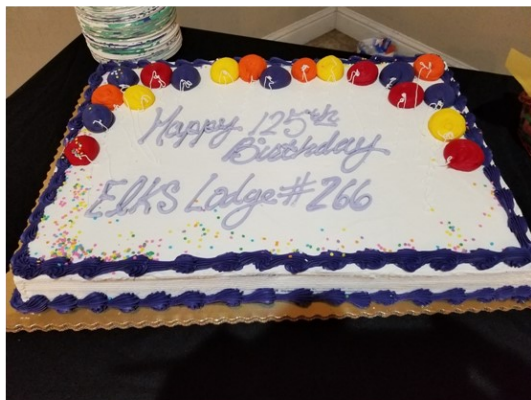


Senator Jean Fuller's Proclamation to #266!



Continued

125th Birthday Cake



PER Mike & Rosie Montano with CHEA President Bob Duitsmann



History of our Lodge with very old Minutes



Past Awards & Proclamations for #266!



FEATURED LODGE BAKERSFIELD LODGE #266

Bakersfield Lodge #266 - 125th Birthday Celebration

CHEA President Bob Duitmann
visiting our Hand Ball courts

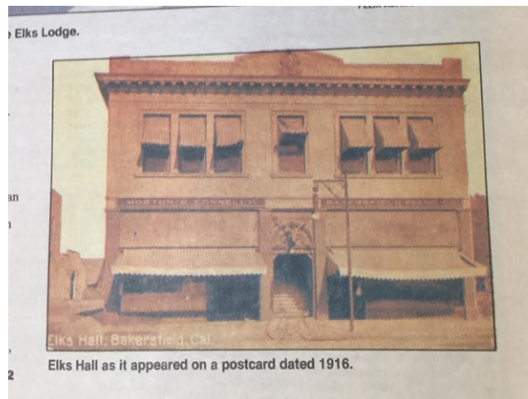


Susan Good visiting our Lodge



Continued

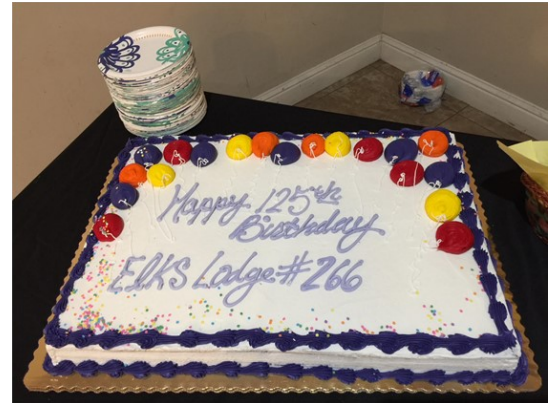
Photo of our first Lodge Building



History Tables



Birthday Cake



History Tables



FEATURED LODGE BAKERSFIELD LODGE #266

Bakersfield Elks Lodge #266



“A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION”

Exalted Ruler Nancy Fenwick attended Independence High School Awards Ceremony to announce that Emily Searson received Second Place Most Valuable Student Award in the amount of \$400 from the Lodge.

Emily was also awarded a California Hawaii Elks Association Most Valuable Student Award of \$800 and was sponsored by her Grandfather from Paradise Lodge #2026 for an Elks National Foundation Legacy Award which she won in the amount of \$4,000.

Congratulations **Emily Searson** from the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks!

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| August 25th | Margaritaville Cheatin' Chili Cook-off |
| September 8th | Annual Family Picnic—Noble Park |
| September 25th | Charlene Klinger DDGER Visitation |
| October 6th | Golf Tournament at North Kern |
| October 26th | Opportunity Gala |

Continued

FEATURED LODGE
BAKERSFIELD LODGE #266



Bakersfield Elks Lodge #266
Past Exalted Rulers Association
Golf Tournament

Saturday, October 6, 2018 - Shotgun 8:00 am



Continued



NORTH KERN

17412 Quality Road
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Teams of Four

Prize for Men's Team, Woman's Team, and Mixed Team

Entry Cost is \$85 per Person

Includes: Golf Cart, Range Token, Green Fees, Lunch Combo

Prize for Longest Drive (Male & Female)

Prize for Closest to Pin (Male & Female)

To Register

Please email / call Ron Parli with your Teammates names

rparli@sbcglobal.net - Cell # (661) 496-0995

ADDITIONAL NEWS ARTICLE

Tim Martin

Tim Martin, from Clovis Lodge No. 2599 was nominated and elected to the Grand Lodge Board of Trustees at the Grand Lodge Convention in San Antonio. He is pictured with the 2018-2019 Grand Exalted Ruler Michael T. Luhr (center) and John Holt from Burbank Lodge who was elected as Loyal Knight.



Dave and I extend a big thank you to all of our Lucky 13 Lodges in our East Central District for your great food and hospitality, your friendship and for all the Elks programs we learned you're engaged in as we made our round of Lodge visitations in June.

Susan Good

Keep up the good work as you bring President Bob Duitsman's theme of "Honoring the Past...Embracing the Future" to Life and know our District Chairmen and I are here to help you along the way. Don't hesitate to call any of us.



I couldn't help sharing this photo of Dave and I at our Homecoming Saturday, July 14th—which was another successful night of Elks fellowship, great food and dancing, thanks to all of you who were able to join us. Dave has the apron he custom-made for the occasion as he took off his blue coat, donned his Elks' cap and went to work in the kitchen to prepare a surprise Swiss dessert for everyone.

Please make your calendars for October 26-28th when CHEA President Duitsman and his wife Beth make their official visit to our District. And, Dave says he has a new surprise dessert in mind. (No, it is NOT Swiss this time...)

Editors Office

5351 N. Diana Street
Fresno, CA 93710

Phone: 559-222-8071
Email: mbz87560@gmail.com

We're on the Web!
example.com

Business Tagline or Motto



**Benevolent
And
Protective
Order of Elks**

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the U.S.A.

Mission Statement

*To include the principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity; to recognize a belief in God; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its Members' to quicken the spirit of American patriotism; to cultivate good fellowship; to perpetuate itself as a fraternal organization, and to provide for its government, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America will serve the people and communities through benevolent programs, demonstrating that **Elks Care and Elks Share.** *Founded February 16, 1868**

BACK PAGE STORY HEADLINE

August 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

**DDGER
Charlene
Klinger
Jeweling**

26

**PER Association Mtg
DD Clinic**

27

28

29

30

31

September 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

DDGER
Visitation
Delano

13

DDGER
Visitation
Madera

14

15

16

17

18

DDGER
Visitation
Clovis

19

20

DDGER
Visitation
Tulare

21

22

23

24

25

DDGER
Visitation
Bakersfield

26

DDGER
Visitation
Wasco

27

28

29

30