



THE

ANTLERS

SPEAK



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PUBLISHED MONTHLY

Elks

Vol. 49, No.3

The Antlers Speak

March 2019

108th Annual

Merced Elks Lodge #1240

Installation of Officers 2019 ~ 2020

Saturday, March 16, 2019



**Exalted Ruler 2019-2020
RaeLene Pritchard**

No Host Cocktails: 3:00 to 4:00 PM

Installation 4:15 pm

Dinner 5:30 pm

Entertainment after Dinner ~ Dress Attire is Dressy Casual

\$15 per person, Tickets available at Lodge Office or Upstairs Bar.

*New York Strip (Prime Rib Style), Baked Potato, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls and Dessert



Portuguese Night at the Elks - April 13th, 2019

Doors open & Cocktails 5 pm - Hors d'oeuvres 6 pm - Dinner 7 pm

Raffle, Gun Auction, Special Auction

Torresmos, Beans, Salad, Bread & Filhos \$25.00 per person

Music by the Chris Bigford Band

All proceeds go to the Elks Lodge Charities

In remembrance of Richard Pereira, John Borba and Earl Souza

FOR TICKETS PLEASE CALL: Mark Leigh (209) 617-8554 Aaron Baker (209) 777-4816

TICKETS WILL ONLY BE SOLD IN ADVANCE NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE DOOR

"Old Timers Night"

Thursday March 7, 2019

New York Steak Dinner

Chairman: Bud Roduner

Irish Night

Thursday March 21st, 2019

Cornbeef'n Cabbage

Chairman: Andy Murphy

THE ANTLERS SPEAK

published by
Merced Elks Lodge #1240 B.P.O.E.
1910 "M" Street
Merced, CA 95340
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Elks Park: (209) 500-7352
Lodge e-mail: elks1240@gmail.com



Exalted Ruler
Fred Arzamendi



Leading Knight
Raelene Pritchard



Loyal Knight
Wil Hunter



Lecturing Knight
Ken Thompson

OFFICERS FOR 2017-2018

- Exalted Ruler Fred Arzamendi
- Leading Knight Raelene Pritchard
- Loyal Knight Wil Hunter
- Lecturing Knight Ken Thompson
- Esquire Candy Soares
- Chaplain Jane Lozano
- Inner Guard Mark Lewis
- Tiler Glenda Hefner
- Secretary Frank Semonelli
- Treasurer Len Samuelson
- PER Organist Ed Deldotto
- Trustee 1 Rick Eason
- Trustee 2 Susan Albertoni
- Trustee 3 Cyril Lawrence
- Trustee 4 Brian Williams
- Trustee 5 Mike Anderson
- Bulletin Editor Bill Gray

DEADLINE

All articles for the ANTLERS SPEAK must be sent to mercedofficers@gmail.com by the 5th of the month.

EXALTED RULER'S MESSAGE

Hello Fellow Elks,

As my year as Exalted Ruler of this honored and respected lodge comes to an end, I want to thank all my fellow elks for the support, encouragement, and advice throughout the past year. I also didn't want this to become personal, but with the recent passing of my mother, this past month has been my toughest month as ER.

Thank you to our Secretary, Frank Semonelli, for all he does behind the scene and for staying on top of all the reports required to be in compliance with the Grand Lodge. Also, thank you, to our new Lodge Manager Mark Leigh, who continues to work diligently keeping this lodge the "Jewel" of our district.

I want to personally thank all the Lodge Night Chairmen and their volunteers who helped made the dinners and raffles a continued success. In addition, I want to recognize the Veterans of our Lodge for all they do in the community honoring our local Vets. Another group who deserves special recognition and thanks is the Bingo committee and the many volunteers. With the help of the Merced Elks Bingo donations, over \$40,000 was given back to the community to support Scholarships, Youth Activities, and other non-profit charitable organizations. This is why it is so important to volunteer, when you can, so that we can increase our "ELK" presence with all our charitable deeds.

Lest I forget, let me thank my First Lady, my Wife, and my Rock: Meg, for the past year by keeping me organized, my calendar up to date, and how she accompanied me along this path of Elk-dom.

As if this last month could slow down, March roars in like a lion. Old Timers Night begins the activities on the 7th chaired by Bud Rodner who just celebrated his 90th birthday. On the 10th, the lodge will be hosting the Central District Initiation, and new members from all eleven lodges will be initiated by the Central District All Star Ritual Team. Monday the 11th, Ray Lozano, Drug Awareness Spokesman for Elks USA, will be here for the second year in a row to speak to our local students. We are grateful for the donations from the Merced Sheriff and our Lodge so that this event can occur. Irish Night will be held on the 21st chaired by the Murphy Clan; led by Andy who does a great job with the Corned Beef and Cabbage.

Mark your calendars for Portuguese Night, Saturday April 13th! This event sold out last year so get your tickets early!

Elk of the Month
Frank Semonelli

May God Bless our Lodge
Fred Arzamendi
Exalted Ruler

FROM THE SECRETARY

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE WHO VOTED TO REELECT ME AS YOUR LODGE SECRETARY, IT WAS REALLY APPRECIATED, LET'S HAVE A GREAT YEAR!!

Frank Semonelli, Lodge Secretary

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

The scholarship committee and all members of the Merced Elks Lodge would like to congratulate the following seniors who participated in the Elks National Foundation scholarship program. All of these outstanding students advanced to district judging which was held in early January in Modesto. Quin Hagerman (Merced High); Calley Hall (Merced High); Megan Westerfield (El Capitan High) Lucca Lorenzi (Golden Valley High) and Chris Giardina (El Capitan High). Lucca advanced to state judging which was held in Fresno in February. A total of 25 high school seniors submitted applications and they are to be congratulated on this academic achievements.

The lodge scholarship committee

1240 History

ELK LOT IN OIL

Reprinted from the Merced Elks Bulletin December 4, 1924

Since the last issue of the Bulletin the Elk lot at Nineteenth and M streets, where poppies have been wont to bloom, has blossomed forth as an oil service station. The Shell people have put the corner in very nifty shape in the familiar yellow hue and we must admit that the change is an improvement over the vacancy which existed there before. The Shell Company dismantled their service station at L and Eighteenth and put this new one in on the Elk corner. The desire of the oil companies seems to be to get their service stations on the "Yosemite highway", which leads out M street and turns east on Twenty-first. There are now five stations on that street the Union and Standard at M and Sixteenth, the Standard at M and Seventeenth, the Union at M and Eighteenth, and now the Shell at M and Nineteenth. Some wag was not far wrong when he moved that the slogan of Merced be changed from "The Home of the Fig" to "The Home of the Oil Service Station". The Shell Company has leased the elk lot on M street for a period of three years at a rental of \$50 a month with an option of two years more at \$100. Possibly at the end of the three or the five years, Merced lodge will be ready to build an adequate place, in which case it will rise on the site of the present Shell station. All initiation fees are placed in the building fund, which now amounts to about \$7500. This fund was started a year ago.

OLD TIMERS

Please remember, pins are handed out in five year increments; i.e., 25, 30, 35, etc. We have listed anyone with over 50 years to show our appreciation for their dedication to the Elks!

25 Years

Ralph Fagundes
 Joe Foster
 Garry Hamit
 Warren Horal
30 Years
 Richard Dodson
 Ray Flores
 George Harrison
 Joe Lial
 Charles Parish
 Richard Spielman
 William Spriggs

35 Years

Robert Hinson
 Donald Hoffman
 Stephen Jones
 Richard Lemas
 Barry McAuley
 William McGowen
 Garry Parreira
 Dennis Jean Pellissier
 Ray William
 Fred Sherman
 Thomas Theofanides
40 Years
 William Atkinson
 Joe Benson
 Duane Borba
 Willis Cox
 Ronald Ferrero
 Conrad Fournier
 Robert Gutierrez

45 Years

Lawrence Bowers
 George Chester
 Norman Covert
 Michael Gallo
 William Ghiglia
 Paul Gomez
 Michael Hernandez,
 Jr.
 Ronald Johnson
 Ronald Mahy
 John Toste, Jr.
50 Years
 Michael Crowley
 Edward Deldotto
 Ralph Jones
 Michael Kemps
 Dennis Mineni
 Robert Quaglia
 Thomas Ragsdale
 Robert Rucker
 Dale Wagner
51 Years
 Pete Bandoni
 Wayne Bann
 Darrell Smiley
 Kenneth Tucker
52 Years
 Thomas Brown
 Paul Chaffin
 Fred Hykal
 Michael Jones
 Robert Salles

53 Years

Gerald Hunt
 Robin Ingraham
 George Jones
 Julio Sandino
 Robert Scholl
54 Years
 Frederick Heitman III
 Roland Howard
 Robert Lewis
55 Years
 Robert Arnold
 Edward Keegan
 Lewis Mathis
56 Years
 Melbourne Gwin, Jr.
 Ralph Hudson
 Keith King
 Charles Miltenberger
 John Rolfes
 Russell Schaff
57 Years
 Loren McMillin
 Norbert Miller
58 Years
 Walter Burr
 Earl Welch
59 Years
 Leon Bartlett
 Jack Chapman
 Victor Dragovich
 Mack Smith

61 Years

Ronald Basmajian
 Ray Blevins
 John Pazin
 Richard Roduner
62 Years
 Clark Channing
63 Years
 Bruce Gabriault
64 Years
 George Naumann
65 Years
 Almo Lorenzi
 Andrew Murphy
66 Years
 Edward Stahl
67 Years
 Albert Bardini
68 years
 Robert Gaestel
69 Years
 Eugen Souza
70 Years
 Ralph Busby
71 Years
 William Zierenberg
73 Years
 Albert Baleme



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SAVE THE DATES


March 16 Installation of Officers

April 13 Portuguese Feed



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MERCED LODGE MAJOR PROJECT

Jack Kelly, Chairman



A coin a day so they can walk, talk, see and play!

MARCH is Purple Pig month, and the CHEA convention is just around the corner, May 15-18 in Fresno. FRESNO, what a great place to let everyone know just how charitable members of this Lodge are; so please, fatten those pigs and bring them into the Office. Donations made after March will be for the 2019-2020 Elk year so please bring your pigs in so Merced will shine in Fresno.

This month Major Projects wishes to thank Jane Lozano, Mark Gregory, Butch Hinson, Tom Ingram, Ken Bohner, Dave Wells, Francesco Giacalone, Ralph Offerman, Michael Hernandez, Sharon Cotter, Kristi Bates, Corey Bate, Bob Hinson, and Clifford McGhee. Please note that Vern Williams has reached the Millennium Club (\$1000). Again, THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT to provide treatment for children, so that they may walk, talk, see, and play.

Don't forget, shopping online at Goodshop.com just got better! Now every time you make a purchase at one of more than 5,000 online retailers we benefit. Log on, register, and begin to save \$ for yourself and contribute to Major Projects.

As always, I direct you to the CHEA web site for additional information on the Major Projects program. <https://chea-elks.org/major-projects>
Until next time, CHEERS

LODGE NIGHTS IN APRIL

April 4 Law Enforcement Night
April 18 Bikers Night

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

Beginning April 1, 2019, Members will NO longer be able to obtain cash back on bar or food purchases when using a Credit or Debit Card. This change is an effort to keep food and beverage prices affordable to members.

The Lodge will be installing an ATM Machine in a convenient location in the Lodge.

Thank you,
Board of Directors

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

MARK LEIGH IS THE CLUB MANAGER. TO BOOK PARTIES, RECEPTIONS, ETC AT THE LODGE, PLEASE CONTACT MARK AT 723-1240, THANK YOU.

ON SUNDAY MARCH 10TH, 2019 THE SKY LOUNGE (UPSTAIRS BAR), WILL NOT OPEN UNTIL 12:30 PM, DUE TO THE CENTRAL DISTRICT INITIATION COMMENCING AT 11:00 AM, THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING

DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM

By Dr. Donald Gumm, PDDGER
ENF Grants Coordinator & Drug Awareness Chairman

On the last Friday of school before the Christmas break, our Lodge provided a free luncheon for 202 special needs students enrolled in middle school, high school, and the transition (school to work) programs and the school staff. The students came from the Merced County Office of Education and the Merced Union High School District programs located throughout Merced County. We provided a delicious lunch of turkey, dressing, green bean casserole, mashed potatoes with gravy, cranberry sauce, rolls, and pumpkin pie. The food was all that they could eat, so everyone left with a full stomach. Drug awareness wristbands and educational information were passed out, and all of the students were given a bag of holiday food (enough to feed a family of 4 for their holiday meal) to take home.

A big thank you to our outstanding event sponsors Elk member Robert Ford and the Elks National Foundation. A special thank you to the following volunteers, Event Chairman & AVP Designate Dave Wells, PER John Cale, Leslie Hamilton, Michael Montgomery, Meg Kirby, Mark Theofanides, Bryan Smith, PER Jack Kelly, Martha Kelly, Len Samuelson, Kristy Johnson, Renee Bettis, Brian Strong, Nancy Kissack, Cora Gonzales, Bernie Lingehfelter, and CHEA Trustee Donald Gumm.




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Purchase tickets, in advance, from the Elks Lodge, 1910 M Street,
from Past Exalted Rulers or at the door the night of the event.

For more information, contact the Lodge at 723-1240 or Dave Wells at 756-3070.

John A. Garcia
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What I Get For My Dues

- I get the opportunity to belong to the finest Fraternal Order in the world.
- I get the opportunity to be associated with fine American citizens.
- I get the opportunity to enjoy the comforts of my Lodge and Club, both socially and fraternally.
- I get the opportunity of taking an active part in all Lodge Charitable work my Lodge performs.
- I get an opportunity to participate actively in all the programs sponsored by my Lodge.
- I get the opportunity of electing, by democratic process, the officers who run my Lodge.
- I get the opportunity of visiting other Elks Lodges and enjoying their hospitality.
- I get the opportunity of wearing my Elk insignia and showing to everyone that I am proud to be an Elk.

What I Don't Get For My Dues

- The right to conduct myself in an un-acceptable manner.
- The right to throw my weight around in any manner.
- The right to harass or browbeat the employees of my Lodge.
- The right to take advantage of a member.
- The right to grouse about the conditions and operations of my Lodge, unless I want to be active in helping to improve them.
- The right to use my Lodge and the Order for my own personal gain.
- The right to cause my Lodge any extra expense, because of my interference with its normal operation.
- The right to become involved with anything that is not my business, and should be left to the running of those elected, appointed and hired to perform these functions.

ATTENTION MEMBERS

DUES FOR THE 2019-2020 FISCAL YEAR WILL BE \$148.50 FOR ONE YEAR, AND FOR 1/2 YEAR THE FIRST PAYMENT MUST BE \$86.50, AND THE SECOND PAYMENT WILL BE \$62.00. DUES MAY BE PAID AT THE UPSTAIRS BAR OR IN THE OFFICE. PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THERE IS NO GRACE PERIOD ON DUES, IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID DUES BY APRIL 1, 2019 YOU ARE CONSIDERED DELINQUENT

Please remember to sign up as an Organ Donor, you may be the one to help save someone's life, and if you do please let the Lodge know by calling 723-1240.

BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH

1 Ryan Heller Joseph Nunes Jr. Robert Scholl	9 Derek Banks christina Beckstead Anna Bolling Ray Flores	17 Joe Lara	26 Brian Ludwig, Jr. Leonard Samuelson
3 Rickey Davidson Cynthia Gaither Wyatt Silva	10 David Cataldo Matthew Mahaffey Mike Yorks	18 Mike Melo	27 Mark Heagy Satnam Malhi Vincent Remillard
3 Rodd Parker Eugene Souza	11 Scott Camper John Garcia	19 Paula Amis Joe Ernst Dennis Nichols	28 Javier Romero Derick Roque Ellen Taylor
4 Karry Brigham Mike Carlsen	12 William Haze Ronald Ramirez Lynda Steeber Wes Unruh	20 Larry Morse II Tim Ragsdale Andy Andrew Robertson Bryan Spielman	29 Roger Ashlock, Jr. Clark Channing Daniel Fialho Richard Lewis William Olson Brent Sales
6 Alan Arnold Stan Bommarito Daniel Fuentz John PresoL, Jr. Earl Welch	13 Michael Albright Stacy Betschart Jennifer Toste	21 Butch Adams James Greer Judy Ingram James Lajune John Trujillo	30 Cynthia Bell Paul Vasquez Filiberto Viilanueva
7 Patrick Briggs Robert Ghiglia John Strube	14 Corky Ogletree Matthew Porras Brian Taylor	22 Steven Berkenkamp Robert Burns Thomas (Rooster) Franklin, Jr.	31 James Andereg Thomas Clendenin Sharon Cotter Richard Haynes
8 Donald Althoff Benjamin Beznoska Oscar Martinez Tammy McNece Charles Miltenberger	15 Damon Banks 16 Melissa Fountain Leroy Lewis Richard Pazin Kenneth Tucker	24 Larry Kussler Michelle McCuen 25 William Alcorn, Jr.	

THE PHONE NUMBER FOR FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER RESERVATIONS IS 723-1240, PLEASE CALL BY FRIDAY 12:00 PM. TO ENSURE A SEAT. PLEASE LEAVE YOUR NAME, HOW MANY AND A PHONE # SO WE CAN CALL BACK IF THERE IS AN ISSUE.

MARCH FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER SPECIALS

- March 1st ~ Chicken Fried Steak and Basa
- March 8th ~ Chicken Cordon Blue and Salmon
- March 15th ~ Rack of Lamb and Parmesan Calamari
- March 22nd ~ Baby Back Ribs and Tilapia
- March 29th ~ Chicken Marsala and Red Snapper

THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES WILL BE VOTED ON MARCH 7, 2019. IF APPROVED FOR MEMBERSHIP, WILL BE INITIATED AT THE CENTRAL DISTRICT INITIATION AT OUR LODGE ON MARCH 10, AT 11 AM.

VICKY BANAGA	JOSEPH BARNES
JOHN BLAKE	JULIE BORGES
AARON CAVALLORO	STEVEN CLARK
FOREST FOLLETT	KEVIN GIBSON
SHELLY GIBSON	KEVIN HAMMON
CHARLI HERRERA	APRIL HIGGINS
BRANNIGAN HIGGINS	DANIKA PERRY
MANDEEP SAMRA	JOHN SEYMOUR
MICHELLE SHEPERD	MIKE SHEPERD
ESPERANZA SILVA	SEAN STUDLEY

REINSTATEMENT CANDIDATES TO BE VOTED ON
JEFF BUBENCHIK
SCOTT HOSBURGH

CANDIDATE READY TO BE INITIATED
ERIC DAU

JOE FAUSONE
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March 2019

OLD TIMERS NIGHT
CHAIRMAN: BUD RODUNER

IRISH NIGHT
CHAIRMAN: ANDY MURPHY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday <i>(No Lunch Served)</i>	Saturday
					1 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00PM-8:30PM CHICKEN FRIED STEAK & BASA	2 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM - 4:00PM
3 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM	4 LUNCH 11:30-1:30 PM PER MEETING 5:30 PM	5 LUNCH 11:30-1:30 PM PER MEETING 5:30 PM BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM HAMBURGERS & HOT DOGS 5:30-8:30 PM	6 LUNCH 11:30-1:30 PM	7 LUNCH 11:30-1:30 PM OLD TIMERS NIGHT DINNER 6:45 PM MEETING 8:00 PM ELKS PARK MEETING @ 5:30PM VOTING ON CANDIDATES	8 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00PM-8:30PM CHICKEN CHICKEN CORDON BLUE & SALMON	9 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM - 4:00PM
10 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 12:30PM CENTRAL DISTRICT INITIATION	11 LUNCH 11:30-1:30 PM	12 LUNCH 11:30-1:30 PM BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM HAMBURGERS & HOT DOGS 5:30-8:30 PM	13 LUNCH 11:30-1:30 PM	14 LUNCH 11:30-1:30 PM TRUSTEE MEETING AT 6:00 PM, HOUSE MEETING AT 7:00, BOARD MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE HOUSE MEETING	15 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00PM-8:30PM RACK OF LAMB & PARMENSAN CALAMARI	16 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM - 4:00PM INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
17 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM	18 LUNCH 11:30-1:30 PM	19 LUNCH 11:30-1:30 PM BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM HAMBURGERS & HOT DOGS 5:30-8:30 PM	20 LUNCH 11:30-1:30 PM ROAMING ELKS CARD PLAYERS	21 LUNCH 11:30-1:30 PM IRISH NIGHT DINNER 6:45 PM	22 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00PM-8:30PM BABY BACK RIBS & FRESH TILAPIA	23 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM - 4:00PM
24/31 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM	25 LUNCH 11:30-1:30 PM	26 LUNCH 11:30-1:30 PM BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM HAMBURGERS & HOT DOGS 5:30-8:30 PM	27 LUNCH 11:30-1:30 PM	28 LUNCH 11:30-1:30 PM	29 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00PM-8:30PM HOMEMADE MEATLOAF & RED SNAPPER	30 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM - 4:00PM