

# VISALIA ELKS

# 1298 BULLETIN | "The Herd"

Visalia, California - September 2021 Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks



## "EXALTED RULER'S CORNER"

### Lodge Meetings

Wed September 8, 2021 – Business  
Wed September 22, 2021 - Initiations

### House Committee Meeting

Wed September 8, 2021

### Trustee Meeting

Wed September 8, 2021  
(You must call or e-mail in advance to be on the agenda)

### P.E.R. Assn Meeting

Mon September 6, 2021 - 5:30pm

### Bunco Night

September 14<sup>th</sup> – Sign-up sheet is in the Members Lounge

### Poker Night

September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> - Seat Cards handed out at 6pm - Cards are dealt at 6:30pm

### Veteran's Breakfast

September 12<sup>th</sup> – 8:30-11am

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### Visalia Elks Lodge Bulletin

Periodical of the;  
Visalia Elks Lodge #1298  
Volume 21/22 Edition #6

### News Submission Deadline

Submissions must be received on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month to be included in the next newsletter. **Send to:**

[kristy@rknstudio.com](mailto:kristy@rknstudio.com)

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK AT:  
[FACEBOOK.COM/VISALIAELKSLODGE](https://www.facebook.com/VISALIAELKSLODGE)

I hope everyone had a great Summer and that you're excited for Fall (and some cooler weather). I know I have had my fill of these hot summer days & nights.

We have had some great turnouts at our recent Veteran Breakfast's - keep it up and spread the word. It's been great seeing everyone come together for our monthly Bunco, Poker and Cigar nights. If anyone has a great idea for another monthly game night, or just an idea of another way to get our members together to laugh and socialize, please let us know. I think it's very evident that our members are enjoying themselves and strengthening their friendships with some good clean fun.

I would also like to take this time to let everyone know of some upcoming events being held at our Lodge:

Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> - We will be hosting the Area 7 Ritual Competition Judges training. Which also will include another one of P.E.R. John Peters great steak dinners on September 17<sup>th</sup>.

Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> not only will it be our regular Initiation Night, but we have a DD Visitation from D.D.G.E.R. Ben Drake and other District Leaders. They will be joining us for dinner and for the Initiation Meeting.

And finally, mark your calendars in October - We are hosting the State President and First Lady along with his V.P.'s and their significant others from October 22<sup>nd</sup> thru the 24<sup>th</sup>. There will be various activities planned for them while visiting our area. We would like to extend an invitation to those interested in joining them as well. There will be a dinner held on the October 23<sup>rd</sup> for the State President, which should be a great event. I would like to see you all pack the banquet room and show them how great and supportive our members are!

In closing I would like to thank you for your continued support to your Lodge and all its member's. You are all making this year a truly exciting ride to be on!

Fraternally Yours,  
Eli Ledesma  
Exalted Ruler

## Lodge Officers 2021/2022

Exalted Ruler	Eli Ledesma
Leading Knight	Mike Saulque
Loyal Knight	Shawn Cooper
Lecturing Knight	Kevin Colopy
Esquire	Russell McKinney
Chaplain	Ron Marshall PER
Inner Guard	Jane Donald
Tiler	Ted Donald PER
Secretary	Judy Staley
Treasurer	Dorothy Van Wagoner

### Trustees:

1-Year	John Peters PER
2-Year	Jorge Montano
3-Year	Brenda Costa
4-Year	Victor Perez
5-Year	Tom O'Conner

### Past Exalted Rulers \*

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 Oswald	2014-15
Jan Lee	2016-17, 17-18
Ray Lewis	2018-19, 19-20
Ron Marshall	2020-21

\*Active in Good Standing

Past Exalted Rulers from other lodges:

Ken Bridges	Tulare # 1424
Pat Dugan	Tulare #1424

## Member News:

### Orientation and Initiation. Next Orientation is September 22, 2021 at 5:30pm. Ball Room #2

Orientation is MANDATORY for all candidates. Because of our current situation, only candidates and sponsors will be allowed to attend.

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 will have dinner on us.

Only members and candidates are allowed in the lodge room. 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...***

## Candidates for voting in September

**David Arebalos** – by Devony Smith

**Peter Babagian** – by John Silvas

**Christopher Barrett** – by Jonathan Graham

**James Preston Castleman** – by Brian Kleinkiof

**Phillip Cooksey** – by Phil Fortney

**Nicholas Gordon** – by Brian Fishel

**Jacob Huerta Jr.** – by David Watts

**John Martinez** – by Melissa Sisk

**Todd McRoberts** – by Craig Williams

**Enrique Mexicana** – by Robert Chavez

**Frank Reynoso** – by Craig Williams

**Louie Shepard** – by Randy Oliveira

**Wendy Shilling** – by Steven Williams

**Rafael Vasquez Jr.** – by Robert Chavez

**Kelsey Wilson** – by Angela Chambers



### From the Secretary's Desk

Members I can't stress enough to have your membership card on you! If you have misplaced, lost, dog ate it, whatever contact the office and we can print you a new card. You will not be served without one.

### LOOKING FOR SOME HELP

As we move forward with dinners and some kind of normalcy in this world, we are needing dishwasher help. If anyone has a son, daughter, grandson or granddaughter or even a neighbor who may be able to use a few extra bucks send them our way. They can pick up an application in the office. Must be at least 16 years of age.

### New Bar Hours

Opening hours for Saturday and Sundays will now be 10am

## KNOW SOMEONE WHO'S NOT GETTING THE BULLETIN?

Help them get the info they need by visiting our website:

[www.visaliaelks.org](http://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/email into the subscription form, they'll get an email to confirm their subscription. After it's confirmed, they'll receive the monthly bulletin and the weekly **What's Happening This Week** email that is sent out on Mondays.

## VISALIA ELKS COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Americanism	Dan Dieterich
Auditing & Accounting	Rod Aguiar
Beqs. & Living Trusts	LaRuth Chance
Business Practices	Judy Staley
Drug Awareness	Thomas Higgins
Government Relations	Ray Lewis PER
Hoop Shoot	Brian Chance
Insurance & Safety	John Peters PER
Lodge Activities	Judy Staley
Membership/Indoc.	Dorothy VanWagoner
National Foundation ENF	Melanie McKimmons
National Foundation Grants	Melanie McKimmons
Nat Vets Service	Steve Williams
Public Relations	Stacey Marshall
Major Project	La Ruth Chance
Ritual Training	Ray Lewis PER
Scholarships	Bill Flores
Scouting	Melanie McKimmons
Youth Activities	Kim Chance



*A Coin a Day so they can  
Walk, Talk, See and Play!*

## PURPLE PIG THANKS YOU ALL

Dan Dieterich

**Century Club:** Mike Burchette and Karen Schubert

Please feel free to bring your pigs to the office any day between 8 am and 11am. We appreciate all your donations for our state major project Purple Pig. Every nickel and dime donated is much needed to continue to provide therapy to any disabled child in California and Hawaii.

Have a wonderful September

LaRuth Chance

### Thought of the day:

**Life has NO remote control – Get up and change it by yourself!**

## Please Support Your Lodge

Whether it's cooking, cleaning, selling tickets, coming to a dinner / event or sending a donation ... We thank you for supporting the good we do for our Youth, Veterans and our Community.

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE COMMITTEE

It has been brought to our attention that the two doors leading into the Member's Lounge have been tampered with again.

Do not alter the door jams or locks as this is causing additional costs to the Lodge and its members for unnecessary repairs. Please do your part in making sure both doors stay locked from the inside and are not left propped open or unlocked.

Thank you,  
Visalia Elks Lodge 1298 House Committee

## Kitchen & Event Volunteer Thanks

### 8-8-21 Veteran's Breakfast – 287 Guests

**Team Leader:** Scott Reeder

**Saturday Prep Crew:** Ed & Jean Shields, Ron Vasquez, Scott Reeder, Steve & LaRuth Chance, Rule Stevens and Rae Crawford

**Sunday Breakfast:**

**Hostesses:** Brenda Costa, Judy Staley & Rae Crawford

**Front Lounge:** Chuck and Eric Fishel

**Omelet Cooks:** Becky Kennedy, Lori Jackson, Scott Reeder, Kevin Colopy, Ron Marshall, and Janie Donald

**Kitchen Cooks:**

Sausage and Potatoes: Brian Fishel

Bacon: Phil Fortney

Gravy: Brian Kleinkopf

**Servers:**

Susie Mooney (Bacon and Sausage)

Justin Kinderknecht (Potatoes)

Lisa Brown (Pancakes & French Toast)

Sark Davidian (Biscuits and Gravy)

**Dishwashers:** Craig Williams, Ted Donald and Scott Nelson

**Back up Cooks:** Jorge Montano, Steve Chance, Ron Vasquez John Kennedy

**Bussers:** Girl Scouts



## Upcoming events:



**Visalia Elks Labor of Love Rib Cook Off**  
 Sunday Sept. 5, 2021 - 10 am to 3 pm  
 CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT | BBQ SAUCE COMPETITION |  
 PEOPLE'S CHOICE!

## LABOR OF LOVE RAFFLE



Wifi Pellet Smoker raffle - \$10 a ticket  
 Green Mountain – Daniel Boone  
 Will be drawn at the Labor of Love Rib Cook Off  
*\*winner need not be present to win\**  
*\*smoker must be picked up within 7 days\**



## 1298 Cigar Club – September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm

If you enjoy a good a cigar or you're just curious about cigars, this will give members an opportunity to meet at least once a month. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 6:30pm.

## Upcoming events – cont.



*Veteran's Breakfast*  
 - 8:30-11:00am

## Veteran's Breakfast – September 12<sup>th</sup>

Eggs/Omelet bar, Potatoes, Bacon, Sausage,  
 French toast, Pancakes, Biscuits and Gravy  
 8:30 to 11:00am  
 Adults \$10.00 Veterans & Kids \$8.00



**September 14<sup>th</sup> - Bunco Night**  
 Sign-up sheet is in the Members Lounge



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Veteran's Appreciation Picnic - October 2, 2021

11am – 4pm  
 Free for all Veterans / Active Duty and their families  
 Music, Bounce House, Games & Prizes, Raffles &  
 more!!



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## VAGABONDS TRAVELS

COVID-19 has had a big influence in all our lives, including Vagabond activities in the past 18-20 months. The Board of Directors has just recently been in action again. The Board of Directors has had a vacancy since the passing of Roland Kreps, a very special friend to many. Wagon Master Neville has appointed Eric Bush to fill this vacancy until the next elections in 2022. Thank you, Eric, for your willingness to do so.

We have been fortunate to have many new members since the group started meeting again. Welcome to these new Vagabonds: Bill Slack and Marilyn Hatley, Tom and Wendy O'Connor, Fred and Judy Staley, Jason and Michelle Williams, Michael and Linda Wright. We hope in the months ahead you will enjoy the many friends in the Vagabonds and fun rving times together.

Speaking of times together, **Mark your calendars – October 29-31.** Halloween Rig Decorating and Kids Trick or Treating Rally here at the lodge. More details will be provided closer to the event. **November 11-14** rally in Bakersfield at Orange Grove RV Park. Bring your checkbook to the October meeting so you can reserve a rv spot. Neville is asking for host/hostess for this rally. He states he will help but would really appreciate a “host/hostess”. Happy news - the annual Christmas Party date has been confirmed at the lodge for **Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**. Mark your calendar now.

Activities are picking up, but looking for **different people to say** “I will do a rally.” Rest assure, getting help is not a problem, just getting someone to say “I will lead” is. Others will follow and help the “leader.”

It is with a very heavy heart that the Vagabonds extend our thoughts, prayers and condolences to Laverne Herman. Glen passed away late August. Glen and Laverne were long time Vagabond members until recent years when they were faced with health issues. Some of the “older” Vagabond members truly have memories of fun times with them.

Speaking of passing of previous Vagabond Members, it is with great sadness I share the news that Wil Jones (husband of JoAnn) passed away May 11, 2021. We send our sincere sympathy to JoAnn and prayers for strength in the months ahead.

One of the founding members of the Vagabond RV Club, Dorothy Minor (Susan Garvin’s mother) passed away at home on August 22. She had been on Hospice for the past 3+ months with Susan proving loving, kind 24/7 care. Susan, our prayers are with you. She was such a vibrant, loving, kind woman with a great sense of humor.

There are still many Vagabonds on the Sick Call List – Joyce O’Rafferty, Bill Pearce, Jerry Schock, Frank Weekly. It was really good to see both Bill and Linda Lawley at the August meeting. They have had rough times in the past months so nice to see them out and about. Would be a great blessing if all our “sick” members would be strong enough to venture out. They may not be seen in person at a meeting, but are remembered in our daily positive thoughts.

The Queen of Hearts is still playing hide and seek. At the August meeting, new member Bill Slack drew Bill Lawley’s ticket from the barrel. Sorry no luck as Bill drew 10 of Spades. Bill drew second ticket from barrel. Marsha Marchand’s ticket was drawn but no luck for Marsha either. Queen is a sly one for sure!

Until next meeting on September 15 (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month), safe travels to those on the road and to those not yet traveling, peaceful times are wished for you.

Kathy and Frank Kelly

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## “OUR BULLETIN SPONSORS”

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.

BPO Elks  
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**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

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.

1	Eugene Bueno Matthew Crawford Jeff R Lawson Ralph David Smith Jeffery G Weinert	15	Raymond Baca Josef Greene Larry Larmon	26	Donald David Heisey Matthew M Kelly Clifford S Ketchie John T Place Cooper Watt
2	Oscar Barcenas Gloria Couchman Everly Kennedy Melinda Kae Morgan Gene Murphy	16	Robert Brown Mike Cook Stacey Jared Marvin M Meske	27	Greg Bardonnex Scott Glidden Larn Duke James James R Mathis Jane Shields
3	Rodney C Bennett Michael McDaniels Ernest Clint Woods	17	Kristy Cooper William G Flores Shawn Martin Thomas L Sigler	28	Joseph M Freitas Al Hack Rodney Jared Josh P Johnson David A Reid Darrell Smith
4	Kim Burchett Danny Freitas Tom Guinn Dan McCarthy Daniel Roberts	18	Sam Castillo Michael Davidson Royce E Gholson Joel Glick	29	Ron Dodson Michael Edwards
5	Lonnie Butterfield Zachary Fehlman Andrew Holdbrooks Scott Manley Eddie Monroe Shields Thomas G Weddle	19	Samuel Baldivia Gary D Gallian Joshua S Jump Larry Nelson	30	Terry Culotta Cindy Gezzer Ruben Juarez Brenda Kay Nagel
6	Jennifer Creech	20	Ted Donald		
7	Patrick James Stover	21	Tim Brown Daniel Gonzales		
8	Alexander Barss Shawn C Corley Craig Mashler	22	Ernest Alvarado Pauline Archuleta Julie Gilbert Dennis Krohn		
9	Thomas Higgins William Mueller Miguel Vasquez Wayne E Villines	23	Jacob Kennedy Michael L White		
10	Thomas M Gruber	24	Chris Archuleta Craig Barnes Eric MacBean Floyd Martinez Robert Romero		
12	Jeffery Wilkinson	25	Russell David Bradford Del Hardin Fred Harrell Ray V McCarty		
13	Danny L Jones Maria Reyes Ralph Vargas	26	Dawn Bliler Pat Dugan Chester Grammer		
14	Rod Adam Charles F Davis Teresa Kenner Steve Williams Rita Ann Woodard				

