



THE ANTLERS SPEAK



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The Antlers Speak

October 2025

OKTOBERFEST



FOOD • MUSIC • BEER

October 18, 2025 • 6 - 11 pm

Yodel-ay-hee-hoo!

It's that time of year again!

Oktoberfest is just around the corner

From traditional German food and drinks to live music and dancing, we've got everything you need to get into the Oktoberfest spirit.

Come on down and join us for the festivities!

Social Hour & Dinner from 6 pm to 8 pm
Live Music & Dancing by Sound Remedy
8 pm to 11 pm

Authentic German Brats & Wienerschitzel, Hot Potato Salad, German Cheese Spaetzle, Pretzels w/dips and German Chocolate Cake

For more information: please contact lodge at (209) 723-1240

Tickets are \$35 per person.
There will be tables of 10!

Merced Elks Lodge

George (Cheech) Mora Poker Run



Saturday, November 1, 2025

Elks Park- 3600 Wardrobe Avenue

Sign Ups Start @: 9:00 am /Kick Stands Up @10:00 am

Lunch @ Noonish

Raffle/Jello Shots

Chairperson: Joe Martinez

Everyone is welcome. You do not need a bike to participate!

Sponsors Needed - (Includes T-shirt & Name On Back) - \$50.00

Contact: Joe Martinez -(209)-233-5924

Raffle and/or Cash Donations Contact: Ellen Burk -(209)-769-9999

\$20.00 - Single Rider

\$30.00 - Double Rider

Lunch Only -\$10.00



P.E.R. FIZZ BRUNCH

Sunday, November 16, 2025



10:00 am 11:00 am Fizzes

11 am to 12:30 pm Brunch

Breakfast Brunch, Drinks, and Raffle

VETERANS DINNER

NOVEMBER 11, 2025

3:00PM TO 5:00PM



Location: Merced Elks

Free to all Vets

Donations and Volunteers Needed - Contact Matt Woods 559-223-0241

LODGE NIGHT INITIATION FIREFIGHTER'S NIGHT

October 2nd, 2025

Chairman: Jeff Horta



LODGE NIGHT MID NIGHT

October 16th, 2025

Chairman: Ed Del Dotto

THE ANTLERS SPEAK

published by
Merced Elks Lodge #1240 B.P.O.E.
1910 "M" Street
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 723-1240 • Fax: (209) 723-2327
Upstairs Bar: (209) 722-5909
Elks Park: (209) 500-7352
Lodge e-mail: elks1240@gmail.com



Exalted Ruler
Jim Pacheco



Leading Knight
Ellen Burk



Loyal Knight
Vickie Munson



Lecturing Knight
Dawn Williams

OFFICERS FOR 2025-2026

- Exalted Ruler Jim Pacheco
- Leading Knight Ellen Burk
- Loyal Knight Vickie Munson
- Lecturing Knight Dawn Williams
- Esquire Miranda Hendrickson
- Chaplain Bart Ramirez
- Inner Guard Robert Romero
- Tiler Kenn Working
- Secretary Jane Lozano
- Treasurer Len Samuelson
- Organist Joyce Avila
- Trustee1 Nancy Kissack
- Trustee2 Ryan Williams
- Trustee3 Donovan Sizemore
- Trustee 4 Leonard Redwine
- Trustee 5 Cyril Lawrence
- Bulletin Editor Bill Gray
- Club Manager Jesse Reynolds

EXALTED RULER’S MESSAGE

Greetings Members! As we welcome the arrival of fall, October offers us an opportunity to reflect and reconnect ourselves to the values that define us as Elks.

We were honored to host the official visitation of our District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, William Wims, and his wife, Nancy, at our Lodge Night on September 4th. I want to thank Dave Wells and his Teachers Night crew for a wonderful meal and thank you to all the members who were in attendance at this very important event. Your presence displays our true spirit and the pride we have in our Lodge.

Our annual Shrimp Feed held on September 6th was outstanding! Kathy Francis and Aggie Freeman were awesome co-chairs for the event! Their hard work and enthusiasm made this event run smoothly and created a welcoming, fun atmosphere for everyone who attended. I’ve heard nothing but rave reviews!

Our 9/11 Ceremony was reverent and reflective. We remember those we lost, honor the brave and hold their families in our hearts. Our Ceremony reminds us of the importance of standing together, supporting our community and never forgetting the sacrifices made in the name of freedom.

**Elk of the Month
Jane Lozano**

Jane Lozano is our Lodge Secretary, and she has been a tremendous help to me all year. During our recent dignitary visitations, Jane made sure everything ran smoothly and put our Lodge in a positive light. It takes a lot of time and effort to prepare our presentations and keep us organized during visitations. I am grateful to have someone so dedicated and dependable, not just during special events, but day in and day out. Thank you for everything you do to keep me on track.

Let’s stay active, engaged and proud to be Elks. Invite a friend, lend a hand and keep the flame of service burning bright. Thank you for the passion and pride you bring to our Lodge

Fraternally,
Jim Pacheco
Exalted Ruler

FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY

“Smile Often, Think Positively, Give Thanks, Laugh Loudly, Love Others and Dream Big”

Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped with the mailing and other activities that we do around here at the Lodge. I really appreciate your help. Some of the Officers will be gone for the Mid-Term Convention in Santa Clara from November 7th to the 9th. There will be lots of volunteer events coming up. If there is something that you would like to get involved in, please call the office at 209-723-1240.

The deadline for applications for the next Initiation will be October 23rd, Voting on Candidates will be Thursday, November 6th, Orientation Dinner on November 12th and Initiation on November 20th.

Thank you and have a blessed day.

Jane Lozano
Secretary

FRIGHT-DAY NIGHT DINNER

**Kids Halloween Party
in the Parlor**

**Friday Night ~ October 24th
6 – 8:30 pm**

**Bring your kids or grandkids in costume to the Lodge
for Friday Night Dinner.**

(Not too) scary movies and treats.




DRUG AWARENESS CONTESTS

The Merced Elks Lodge is currently taking entries for their 2025 –2026 Drug Awareness Contests. This year’s theme is **“Drugs Are a Grave Mistake!”**. The poster contest is open to all 3rd to 5th graders. The essay contest is open to all 6th to 8th graders. The video contest is open to all pre-high school & high school students. Applications and contest rules can be obtained at <https://chea-elks.org/youth-activities/drug-awareness/>. At the local Lodge level, the 1st place winners will get \$100, 2nd place \$50, and 3rd place \$25. The 1st place winners at the local Lodge contests will be forwarded to the district level contests. The Merced Elks Lodge contests deadline is **December 5, 2025**, and entries can be dropped off at the Lodge office or mailed to: Drug Awareness Program, Merced Elks Lodge, 1910 M Street, Merced, CA 95340-3707.



Dr. Donald Gumm, PDDGER
Drug Awareness Chairman

SHRIMP FEED

The Shrimp Feed Chairmans would like to express their thanks and appreciation to the **Kitchen Crew**; Paul, Holly, Noah and Francisco, **Volunteers**; Janet Morales, Nancy Kissack, DeAnna Atkins, Adam Atkins, LaDonna Sullivan, Maria Lopez, Jenny Dart, John Brickley, Dawn Williams, Ryan Williams, Miranda Hendrickson, **Raffle & Dessert Dash**; Nancy Kissack, Nick Francis, Jack Kelly, Steve & Donna Jones, Raelene Pritchard, Diane Diliberto, John Pulido, Ellen Burk, Glenn Galman, Lynn Fleming, Jim Pacheco, Stefanie & Richard Caldie, Allyne Beutel, Jesse Reynolds, and Jane Lozano. Thank you, Ed Benes, for the guitar music. We could not have pulled this off without all your help.



9/11 CEREMONY

Thank you to the Honor Guard and the boy & girl scouts of troop 88 who joined the officers of Merced Elks Lodge for the ceremony. It was well attended.



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DD VISITATION

Thank you DDGER Sir Bill Wims and Esquire to DDGER Leading Knight Dennis Starkweather for the outstanding visitation at the Merced Elks. Hope to see you again soon.



ELK'S BREAKFAST
 Buffet Style

Date: Sunday, October 26, 2025
 Time: 8:30Am-11:30Am
 Merced Elks Lodge-1910 M. Street
 Ticket Price: \$12.00
 (Price includes coffee & OJ)
Bloody Mary's & Mimosas will be available for purchase!


Members & Guests! Come enjoy a delicious breakfast buffet made with love by our amazing kitchen staff!
 Tickets will be available soon up in our Sky Lounge!
 Stay tuned for upcoming Sunday Brunches for: Leading Knight/Purple Pig Challenge!!!!

For more information please contact:
 Jesse Reynolds @209-769-8068
 Ellen Burk@209-769-9999

ELKS LODGE 1240 PRESENTS

LINE DANCING CLASSES
 FOR ELKS MEMBERS AND GUEST

First Class on Monday, Oct. 13 from 7-8pm



Join our classes twice a month!
 Prepay Each Lesson For Only \$10 or \$15 at the Door!
 (Prepay must be purchased by noon the day of lesson)

Step right, step left, and join us for a night of exciting dance moves. This class offers a fun, low-impact way to stay active, improve balance, and socialize. Elks Member, Morgan Penner is a certified line dance instructor willing to teach this beginners course.

Contact Dawn Williams 559-760-9224 or Call the Lodge Office 209-723-1240

MIXOLOGY NIGHT
 October 15th, 2025
 At the Downstairs Bar
 Price: \$25
 Starts at 6:00 PM
 Hello everyone.

We will be mixing up your requests: a Blueberry Lemon Bar, an October Sour, and a Caramel Apple Martini. In honor of Halloween, our \$5 bonus shot is the Scooby Snack!
 Please bring your shaker tin, muddler, and martini glass.
 Please RSVP to pbelmontes121@gmail.com.
See you there!

In Memoriam...

<p>Ronald Hoffart Date of Birth: November 25, 1968 Deceased: August 26, 2025 Initiated: November 17, 2022 Proposer: Dave Wells</p>	<p>Ray E Flores Date of Birth: March 9, 1943 Deceased: August 25, 2025 Initiated: February 15, 1990 Proposer: Leroy Cromwell</p>
<p>Richard M Fragnito-Lira Date of Birth: January 15, 1947 Deceased: September 7, 2025 Initiated: February 2, 2017 Proposer: Leo Regalado</p>	

A FUNDRAISER FOR
CHEA 1ST VICE PRESIDENT LYNN GLICK

THE WITCHING HOUR

MURDER MYSTERY

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 25TH**

DOORS OPEN
5:00PM

PLAY STARTS
5:30PM

**\$25
PER PERSON**

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645 CHARITY WAY
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DINNER
LASAGNA
GARLIC BREAD
SALAD & DESSERT

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

VETERANS DAY

2025 Veteran's Day Dinner

When:
Tuesday, November 11, 2025

Where:
Merced Elks Lodge
1910 M St., Merced

Time:
Doors open at 2:30 pm
Chow served 3 - 5 pm

*Take out option available

For more information contact -
Matt Woods (559) 223-0241

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BRISKET & BOURBON

We wish to extend our appreciation to all the amazing people who helped make our Brisket & Bourbon event a huge success. Their time and energy were the key ingredients that brought this event to life. Thank you to our co-chairs—Ellen Burk, Jesse Reynolds and Paul Bellamontes, Sr.; and the volunteers and contributors—Rick and Melissa Eason, Ryan and Dawn Williams, Miranda Hendrickson, Jane Lozano, Jim and Jeannette Pacheco, Jon Anderson, and Ted and Holly Werner. Shout out to the extra efforts of our bar and kitchen crew—Gabe, Paul Jr., Noah, Holly, David, Isaiah and Michael. To everyone who joined us, thank you for being part of this great event. We're grateful you chose to spend your evening with us!



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OCTOBER FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER

- October 3rd – Chicken Fried Steak & Basa
- October 10th – Parmesan Calamari & Meatloaf
- October 17th – Salmon & Chicken Cordon Bleu
- October 24th – Baby Back Ribs & Tilapia
- October 31st – Red Snapper and Fish & Chips



For Friday Night reservations, call Jesse Reynolds at 209-769-8068.

Deadline For Reservations are to be made by NOON on Friday that week.

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2025 - 2026
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Learning
Seminars

SEPTEMBER
27

Arcadia # 2025
27 W. Huntington Dr.
Arcadia, CA 91007
8:30AM - 3:30 PM

OCTOBER
18

Stockton #218
8900 Thornton Rd.
Stockton, CA 95209
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

NOVEMBER
22

Santa Barbara #613
150 N. Kellogg Ave
Santa Barbara, CA 93111
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

JANUARY
10

Chico #423
1705 Manzanita Ave.
Chico, CA 95926
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

JANUARY
24

Vista #1968
1947 E. Vista Way
Vista, CA 92084
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

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<https://tinyurl.com/2026learningseries>

Or scan this QR code to register

BIRTHDAYS IN OCTOBER

1 Ann Kelley Robert Lanz Craig Lawson Thomas Mount Sean Odom Jessica Spielman	9 Kelly Hart Elena Hernandez Lonnice Moss Danny Peterson Ramie Stone	17 Johnny Avila Mary Fryar Michael Rivera	23 Miranda Hendrickson Ysidro Reyes Matthew Sherman Anthony Vazquez Jr.
2 Lacey Palmberg Christina Santos	10 Vicky Banaga Michael J. Crowley Amanda Duran Corey Gibson Darryl Lopez	18 Timothy Drury Douglas Stabefeld Noah T. Williams	24 Gary D. Southerland
3 Bachitar Singh Steven E. Tatum Roger Wyan	11 Erik Ekizian Clara Tresos Joe Xavier	19 Janet Appling-Kasper Jeff Ballard John L. Chapman Mike Minor Mandeep Samra Taylor Silva Mark Souza, Jr.	25 Efrain Covarrubias Donald Gumm Jeannette Pacheco
4 Scott McDonald Hunter Barry McAuley Justin Pinasco	12 Jeffrey Branion Michael Fagundes Robert V. Gilbertson Matthew Alan McAuley	20 Craig Chastain Luke Marvulli Lloyd Pareira Jr.	26 Robert A. Dal Porto David Loomis Robert John Monroe Darren Peguero Richard J. Seymour Bill Yasin
5 Erica Machado Anthony Macias Jeffrey Tomerlin	13 Andrew Blaylock Craig Cook Butch Kelly, Jr. Anthony Mondo Brian Silva Brian Wheeler	21 Richard Cuellar Phillip May Brian Reid Arlan Thomas Dawn Williams James Williams	27 Johnny Bega Mark McAuley Anthony Vazquez
6 Gerald R. Boyer, Jr. Kara Hoines Tyler Mora Timothy Rego Richard Leon Suffecool	14 Jim Gates Arcenio Mello Keith Warketin Hugh Yamshon	22 David Bankson Jerry Crews David P. Flores Allyn Hailey William Mattos James Lopez Pacheco Richard Regalo Loren Borges Scotto Randall Teran Martin K. Vacca	28 Derek Daley Thomas Franklin Tim Simmons
7 Shawn Dwyer Tony Ferrario John Martens Hubert L. Morgan, Jr. Robert J. Salles Fernando Torres	15 Meg Arzamendi Hector Centeno Paul Da Silva David John Rogina		29 Tony Galan Dillon Hughes Mahinder Singh Kajla Jose Ramos Nicolas R. Westenberg
8 Aaron Abril Bill Osmer	16 David Melin		31 Steve Bassi Christopher Burrola Kelli King Joel Warkentin Larry Whitney

LODGE COMMITTEE DIRECTORY

Accident Prevention Committee	Ryan Williams	209-769-2639
Activities Committee	Jane Lozano	209-617-9677
Americanism Committee	PER Raelene Pritchard	209-380-4214
Auditing Committee	PER Raelene Pritchard	209-380-4214
Bequest Living Trust Committee	PER Clint Moore	209-761-6801
Drug Awareness Committee	PDDGER Dr. Donald Gumm	209-723-1240
Elks Memorial Day Committee	Bart Ramirez	209-617-1800
Elks National Foundation Committee	Len Samuelson	209-261-9187
ENF Grants	Len Samuelson	209-723-1240
Flag Day Committee	Kenn Working	559-362-5556
Fraternal Committee	ER Jim Pacheco	209-631-0868
Government Relations Committee	PER John Cale	209-261-7770
Historian Committee	PER Jeff Horta	209-777-0074
Hoop Shoot Committee	Patty Brown	209-631-2316
Lapsation Committee	PER Candy Soares	209-481-3215
Lodge Activities Committee	Jane Lozano	209-617-9677
Membership Committee	Ryan Williams	209-769-2639
PER Association	PER Jeff Horta	209-777-0074
Public Relations	Jane Lozano	209-617-9677
Ritualistic Committee	PDDGER Dave Wells	209-756-3070
Scholarships Committee	Harlan Dake	209-769-0930
Soccer Shoot Committee	Vacant	
Standing Relief Committee	Jeff Horta	209-777-0074
State Major Project Committee	Jeannette Pacheco	209-564-2138
Veteran's Service Committee	PER John Cale	209-261-7770
Youth Activities Committee	PER Clint Moore	209-761-6801

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OCTOBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday <i>(No Lunch Served)</i>	Saturday
			1 LUNCH 11:00AM-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM ORIENTATION DINNER	2 LUNCH 11:00AM-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM FIREFIGHTER'S NIGHT CHAIRMAN JEFF HORTA LODGE MEETING INITIATION	3 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00-8:30 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM CHICKEN FRIED STEAK & BASA CENTRAL DISTRICT JAMBOREE/CHILI COOKOFF LIVERMORE/PLEASANTON LODGE	4 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM
5 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 9:00AM-7:00PM TAILGATE FOOTBALL SUNDAY	6 LUNCH 11:00-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM PER MEETING MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL	7 LUNCH 11:00AM-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM	8 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM	9 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM TRUSTEE MEETING 6PM HOUSE MEETING 7PM BOARD MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HOUSE	10 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00-8:30 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM PARMESAN CALAMARI & MEATLOAF	11 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM
12 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 9:00AM-7:00PM TAILGATE FOOTBALL SUNDAY	13 LUNCH 11:00-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM COUNTRY LINE DANCING MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL	14 LUNCH 11:00AM-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM LOS BANOS DDGER VISITATION BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM	15 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM MIXOLOGY	16 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM PITTSBURG DDGER VISITATION MID NIGHT CHAIRMAN - ED DEL DOTTO LODGE MEETING	17 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00-8:30 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM SALMON & CHICKEN CORDON BLEU	18 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM OKTOBERFEST
19 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 9:00AM-7:00PM TAILGATE FOOTBALL SUNDAY	20 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM BLOOD DRIVE DONATION MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL	21 LUNCH 11:00AM-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM	22 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM LODI DDGER VISITATION	23 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM	24 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00-8:30 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM KIDS HALLOWEEN FRIGHT NIGHT BABY BACK RIBS & TILAPIA	25 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM
26 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 9:00AM-7:00PM TAILGATE FOOTBALL SUNDAY	27 LUNCH 11:00-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM COUNTRY LINE DANCING MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL	28 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM	29 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM	30 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM KARAOKE NIGHT 6:00PM-10:00PM	31 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00-8:30PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM RED SNAPPER & FISH & CHIPS	NOVEMBER 2025 1 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM POKER RUN
2 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 9:00AM-7:00PM TAILGATE FOOTBALL SUNDAY	3 LUNCH 11:00-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM PER MEETING MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL	4 LUNCH 11:00-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM LIVERMORE/PLEASANTON DD VISITATION BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM	5 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM	6 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM VETERANS NIGHT CHAIRMAN MATT WOODS LODGE MEETING VOTING ON CANDIDATES	7 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00-8:30 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM CHICKEN FRIED STEAK & BASA MID TERM	8 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM MID TERM
9 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 9:00AM-7:00PM MID TERM TAILGATE FOOTBALL SUNDAY	10 LUNCH 11:00-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM COUNTRY LINE DANCING MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL	11 LUNCH 11:00AM-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM VETERANS DAY DINNER	12 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM ORIENTATION DINNER	13 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM	14 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00-8:30 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY PARMESAN CALAMARI & MEATLOAF	15 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM DDGER HOMECOMING MODESTO