



THE ANTLERS SPEAK



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MERCED B.P.O.E. NO. 1240
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Vol. 54, No.11

The Antlers Speak

November 2025



Please Volunteer to Help on
Saturday, November 22, 2025
at Boys & Girls Club!
615 W 15th Street, Merced, CA 95340

Helpers can arrive at 8am. The jobs that we need help with are registrars to register the participants at the front door, an announcer, judges, rebounders, scorers and all-around helpers. We are looking for a Spanish Interpreter as some of the participants may require this.

Anyone wanting to help, please contact Patty Brown at 209-631-2316.

Eligibility

1. A contestant may only enter one Lodge Hoop Shoot contest.
2. Contestants must be at least 8 and no older than 13 as of April 1, 2025, in order to participate.
3. Regarding eligibility, the Director is responsible only for ensuring that the contestant competes in the correct age group. Use the Age-Group calculator on the Hoop Shoot website elks.org/hoopshoot to verify age-group assignments before your contestants compete. Contestants who shoot in the wrong age group will be disqualified.
4. As the Hoop Shoot tournament progresses, contestants may not switch divisions and may not skip levels of the competition. In order to be eligible to advance to the next level of competition, a contestant must have participated in and won the previous level.
5. Contestants will compete in one of six divisions:
Boys, ages 8-9; Girls, ages 8-9; Boys, ages 10-11; Girls, ages 10-11; Boys, ages 12-13; Girls, ages 12-13.
If the contestant will be age 7 on April 1, 2025, he/she is too young to participate.
If the contestant will be age 8 or 9 on April 1, 2025, he/she shoots in the 8 to 9 age group.
If the contestant will be age 10 or 11 on April 1, 2025, he/she shoots in the 10 to 11 age-group.
If the contestant will be age 12 or 13 on April 1, 2025, he/she shoots in the 12 to 13 age-group.
If the contestant will be age 14 on April 1, 2025, he/she is too old to participate.

Attire

ALL CONTESTANTS:

- Gym shoes are required.
- A T-shirt and pants or gym shorts may be worn.



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



Lodge Night

Voting on Candidates

Veterans Night
\$20 November 6th, 2025
Chairman Kenn Working

Lodge Night

\$20

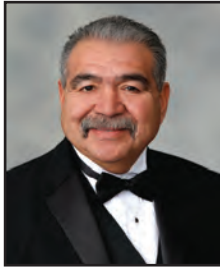
Initiation Night



Farm Equipment Night
November 20, 2025
Chairman Dennis Spurlock

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 RulerJim Pacheco
- Leading KnightEllen Burk
- Loyal KnightVickie Munson
- Lecturing Knight.....Dawn Williams
- Esquire Miranda Hendrickson
- ChaplainBart Ramirez
- Inner Guard Robert Romero
- TilerKenn Working
- SecretaryJane Lozano
- Treasurer Len Samuelson
- OrganistJoyce Avila
- Trustee1..... Nancy Kissack
- Trustee2..... Ryan Williams
- Trustee3.....Donavan Sizemore
- Trustee 4.....Leonard Redwine
- Trustee 5.....Cyril Lawrence
- Bulletin Editor..... Bill Gray
- Club Manager.....Jesse Reynolds

EXALTED RULER’S MESSAGE

Hello fellow Elks! November is a month to honor our veterans and give thanks for the many blessings we share as members of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

I will start by recognizing the chairman of our recent Lodge Nights. The chairman of our Young Elks Night was Jensen Pacheco, PER Jeff Horta and his crew handled Firefighter’s Night, and our MID Night was chaired by Ed Del Dotto. I appreciate each of you who contribute your time and energy to making our Lodge Nights a success.

We represented our Lodge with pride at the 2025 Jamboree! We competed in four divisions and placed in each one! Thank you to everyone who attended, purchased raffle tickets and/or participated in a cooking competition. Your contributions help support key district programs that benefit our Lodge in impactful ways.

Veterans Day holds a special place in our hearts. Elks have a proud tradition of serving those who served, and this month, our Lodge will continue that legacy with our Veterans Parade and lunch. I encourage each of you to take a moment to thank a veteran for their service and consider how you can contribute to our ongoing efforts to support them.

**Elk of the Month
Jeannette Pacheco**

I am proud to recognize our First Lady, Jeannette Pacheco, as Elk of the Month. This month, along with her duties as First Lady and Purple Pig Chairman, she represented our Lodge at the Club Mercedes BBQ Rib Cook-off and at the Jamboree BBQ Rib Cook-off and Cupcake competition. We placed 3rd in ribs and 2nd in cupcakes! Her outstanding dedication and service embodies the true spirit of Elkdom. Whether she is assisting with events or working for the Lodge, Jeannette continually goes above and beyond in service to our members. I am honored to celebrate her hard work, leadership and genuine commitment to Merced #1240.

As Thanksgiving approaches, I am thankful for all of our members. Each of you make our Lodge a place of friendship, service, and community. Happy Thanksgiving!

Fraternally,

Jim Pacheco
Exalted Ruler

FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY

Reminder to all Chairman of Lodge Events - all receipts must be turned in WITHIN 2 WEEKS of the event, and the office must have original receipts to be reimbursed for raffle prizes and any other expenses. Copies of statements are not acceptable due to the Audits. The office will provide to the Chairman’s prior year P & L’s, and the Chairman will have to provide a budget to the board in writing. This is a requirement that came across from our Audit.

This month, Initiation will be Thursday, November 20, 2025. During the holidays, applications will be accepted for the next upcoming initiation. Due date will be January 15, 2026, Orientation will be January 21, 2026, and Initiation will be PER Night on Thursday, February 5, 2026.

Reminder to all Elk Members - Please be careful when taking pictures at the lodge - NO Alcohol is allowed in any pictures!! Please be mindful when taking photos of members who might be in the background and posting on social media. Our lodge has Government Officials, City Council Members, First Responders, et al., who might not want their pictures on any social media.

Jane Lozano
Secretary

CENTRAL DISTRICT JAMBOREE CHILI AND RIB COOK-OFF

The Central District Jamboree Chili and Rib Cook-off was held at Livermore/Pleasanton Lodge #2117. The theme was Hoe-Down with a lot of new memories, friends and fun. Representing Merced Elks Lodge #1240 for the Elk Yeah Ribs Team: ER Jim Pacheco, First Lady Jeannette Pacheco, Leading Knight Ellen Burk and Trustee Ryan Williams. The team took 3rd place. Representing the Chili Cook-Off Team Merced All American Chili: Secretary Jane Lozano, PER Raelene Pritchard, Manuel Sanchez and Bridget White. The team took 3rd place. First Lady Jeannette Pacheco took 2nd place in the Cupcake Division. Merced booths took 3rd place in decorations. We can't wait for next year's theme!



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Holiday Craft Fair

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
 Saturday, November 29, 2025
 10am to 4pm
 FEE- \$30 for Vendors

Merced Elks Lodge #1240
 1910 M Street, Merced, CA

LOCAL MERCHANTS AND VENDORS

For Information, please contact:

Jane Lozano - (Please text)
(209) 617-9677
 or
Kathy Francis
(209) 201-9885

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PURPLE PIG NEWS

It was an honor to award John Strube for his dedication to our State Major Project Purple Pig for his donations. John received Certificates for Millennium pin, 6x Century Club (\$100) and 5x Fifty-Two Club totaling over \$6,000. He also won our Big Draw at the Lodge Meeting. Thank you, John, for all your help and donations.



PURPLE PIG REPORT



A COIN A DAY SO THEY CAN WALK, TALK, SEE AND PLAY!

Thank you to the following members for turning in their Purple Pigs and donating to the State Major Project in September and October:

- | | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Bill Gray | Richard Zeunges | Steve Brown | Larry Shankland |
| Chuck Frost | Tom and Debbie Clendenin | David Ichord | Stewart Haarberg |
| Rick Seymour | Mike Sanford | Donna Jones | Alan Arnold |
| Richard Pazin | Dwight Good | Tom Post | Wilfred Hinson |
| Bob Hinson | Mary Gonella-Wentz | Brian Silva | |

We also thank our Lodge members for their generous anonymous donations.

We are beginning our Leading Knight Challenge which is a spirited competition between lodges that supports the Purple Pig Project. This challenge calls on us to rally around our Leading Knight to help raise funds that benefit children with disabilities. The challenge runs from November 1, 2025, through January 31, 2026. The Leading Knight Challenge reminds us how small acts of kindness and giving make a lifelong difference for a child and their family.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributes and encourages others to feed the pig!

Fraternally,
 Jeannette Pacheco
 Chairman

Merced RV Park New Rates
 Please refer to the new Merced RV Park rates!
 Effective Now unless you have prior reservations!

Elks Members & Veterans	Non-Members
Electric & Water: \$30	Electric & Water: \$45
Full Hook-Up: \$35	Full Hook-Up: \$50

For any questions or concerns please contact
 RV Park Host: Mark or Anne 209-500-7352

MIXOLOGY NIGHT
 November 19th, 2025
 At the Downstairs Bar
 Price: \$25
 Starts at 6:00 PM
 Hello everyone.

We will be honoring the upcoming Holiday Season. We will be shaking up a Peppermint Bark, French Cranberry Celebration, and a Pumpkin Spice Espresso Martini. Our \$5 bonus shot will be the Drunk Snowman!

Please bring your shaker tin, muddler, and martini glass.
 Please RSVP to pbelmontes121@gmail.com.
See you there!



P.E.R. FIZZ BRUNCH
Sunday, November 16th, 2025
10:00 AM to 11:00 AM - Fizzes
 Mimosa's & Bloody Mary's
 available for \$5

11:00 AM to 12:30 PM - Brunch
 Raffle to follow brunch. Don't miss
 the opportunity to win Big!

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Cost is \$25

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New Year's Eve Gala

*Please join Exalted Ruler Jim Pacheco and First Lady Jeannette
 for their New Year's Eve Gala
 Bow Ties & Ball Gowns
 Wednesday, December 31, 2025*

*Price: TBD (to be determined)
 (8 People per table)*

*Appetizers and Cocktails 6:00 PM
 Dinner 7:00 PM
 Dinner Details to Follow
 Dancing to Meta-4 at 8:00 PM
 Champagne Toasts at 9:00 PM and 12:00 AM*

*Tickets Must Be Purchased in Advance!
 Tickets will be available at the bar in the evenings and weekends.
 Call (209)723-1240 for details or questions!
 No Tickets Sold at the Door!*

NOVEMBER FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER

- November 7th – Chicken Fried Steak & Basa
- November 14th – Parmesan Calamari & Meatloaf
- November 21st – Salmon & Chicken Cordon Bleu
- November 28th – Lodge Closed



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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Bill and Nancy Wims'
Homecoming
 Saturday, November 15, 2025
 645 Charity Way
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 Social Hour 5:00 pm
 Dinner 6:00 pm
 Dinner Menu:
 Savory Pork Chops, Fancy Red Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables,
 Roll, Dessert
\$25 per person
 Please RSVP by 10 November
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 Directions to our Lodge are on the reverse side
 Elks: Business Attire Guests: Business Casual

BIRTHDAYS IN NOVEMBER

1
John Chandler
Jessie Hawthorne
Rod Ivy
Hector Pulido
2
Denisa Minor
Ronald Wright
3
Paul Gonzales
Tom Roduner
Fred J. Sherman
Frank Toste
4
Carlos Fuentes
Jim Hicks
Kevin Kollmeyer
Ted Lindo
Michael Pires
John Pinnegar
William Ray
5
Kyle McMillin
Tom Post
6
Jorge Avelar
Michael J. Carpenter
Arturo Montanez
Javier Sanchez Jr.
Brett Spinelli
Brian Strong
7
Jerry Decknick
Jason D. Goins
John M. Toste Jr.
John Williams
8
Daniel Eckman
Teesha Gilbert
Carden Kalcevich
Michael R. Stevens

9
Andrew Carroll
Tim Durham
Cristi Johnson
Tom Mizener
Wesley Rentfrow
Thomas Souza, Sr.
10
Tom Ingram, Jr.
Jesse Penick
James Perry
11
Matt Anderson
Mario Avila
Suzi Balestra
Vivian Boland
Michael D. Gallo
Mark S. Hamrick
Thomas Janz
Donna Marie Jones
Cyril Lawrence
Pamela Toconis
Matthew Van Hagen
12
William J. Baker
Jorge Diaz
Ronald Mellow
Margaret Ortiz
Michael Stachowski
13
Russell Bryson, Jr.
William Effinger III
David Goodwin
14
Joe Corvello
Amber Franks
Mohammad Jawad
15
Clarence Eisberg
Amy Guerrero
Martha Martinez
Walter Weimer

16
James Pat Dayton
Robert Y. Dinuzzo
Paul A. Gomez
17
Erik Anderson
Elaine Cortez
Guy Essig
Daniel Flatt
Johne M. Lennon
Daniel Wentz
18
Joy Blaylock
Paul Pietrzyk
Bob Treanor
19
Diane Gannon
Tom Gomez
Michael Smith
Anthony Solis
20
Adam Atkins
George Harrison
Lucy Lopez-Lua
Debi Passadori
21
Aaron Cavallaro
Frank A. Fagundes
Jeffrey Houston
Cathie Lancaster
Richard Llamas
22
Kevin Andrews
John A. Borba, Jr.
Jeffrey Dolan
Pedro Hiort-Lorenzen
John Villanueva
Casey Wilson

23
Ernest Amezcua
Jonathan Anderson
Kristina Tau
24
Thomas Leach
Tanner Pellissier
25
Kevin Ballard
Dennis M. Clay
Scott Sakugawa
Victoria Trevino
26
Brandi Boland
Eleanor Carlos
William R. Midboe
Donald L. Thompson
27
Michael Arancibia
Richard Bohn
Gloria Livesey
Larry Newman
Joseph John Ortega
Richard Rentfrow
28
Brian Barnett
Sunny Bassi
Jeff Bubenchik
Benjamin Crane
John Livria
Anne Sharry Stevens
Matt Whittaker
29
Jennifer Beene
Joshua Randol
30
Samantha Murphy
Stephen Pietrzyk
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Sunday,
December 7, 2025

**2:00 PM Upstairs in the Lodge
Meeting Room**

Refreshments will follow after the Service in the Library

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MERCED LODGE 1240, B.P.O. ELKS






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NOVEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday <i>(No Lunch Served)</i>	Saturday
						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 11:00AM-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 KENN WORKING 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 CONVENTION SANTA CLARA	8 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM MID TERM SANTA CLARA
9 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 9:00AM-7:00PM  TAILGATE FOOTBALL SUNDAY	10 LUNCH 11:00-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM COUNTRY LINE DANCING 6:15PM - 7:15 PM MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL	11 LUNCH 11:00AM-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM VETERAN'S DAY PARADE & LUNCHEON	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 TRUSTEE MEETING 6PM HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING 7PM BOARD MEETING FOLLOWING	14 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00-8:30 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM FLAG RETIREMENT MEETING 6PM PARMESAN CALAMARI & MEATLOAF	15 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM DDGER HOMECOMING MODESTO
16 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 9:00AM-7:00PM FIZZ BRUNCH  TAILGATE FOOTBALL SUNDAY	17 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL	18 LUNCH 11:00AM-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM	19 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM MIXOLOGY	20 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM LODGE MEETING INITIATION OF NEW CANDIDATES FARM EQUIPMENT NIGHT CHAIRMAN DENNIS SPURLOCK	21 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00-8:30 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM CHALLENGE KIDS & ADULTS LUNCHEON SALMON & CHICKEN CORDON BLEU	22 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM HOOP SHOOT 9:00AM
23 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 9:00AM-7:00PM  TAILGATE FOOTBALL SUNDAY	24 LUNCH 11:00-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL DECEMBER 2025	25 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM	26 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM	27 LODGE CLOSED HAPPY THANKSGIVING	28 KITCHEN CLOSED SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM	29 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM VENDOR CRAFT FAIRE 10AM
30 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 9:00AM-7:00PM  TAILGATE FOOTBALL SUNDAY	1 LUNCH 11:00-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM PER MEETING MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL	2 LUNCH 11:00-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM	3 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM	4 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM THURSDAY NIGHT DINNER CONSTRUCTION NIGHT CHAIRMAN ACE GARCIA	5 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00-8:30 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM CHICKEN FRIED STEAK & BASA	6 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM
7 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 9:00AM-7:00PM MEMORIAL SERVICE TAILGATE FOOTBALL SUNDAY	8 LUNCH 11:00-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM COUNTRY LINE DANCING 6:15PM - 7:15 PM MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL	9 LUNCH 11:00AM-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM	10 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM	11 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM TRUSTEE MEETING 6PM HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING 7PM BOARD MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HOUSE	12 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00-8:30 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM PARMESAN CALAMARI & MEATLOAF	13 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM W/REATHS ACROSS AMERICA NOG PARTY