

VISALIA ELKS

1298 BULLETIN | "The Herd"

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



Lodge Meetings

Wed April 14, 2021 – Business

Wed April 28, 2021 - Initiations

House Committee Meeting

Wed April 14, 2021

Trustee Meeting

Wed April 14, 2021

(You must call or e-mail in advance to be on the agenda)

P.E.R. Assn Meeting

Mon April 5, 2021 - 5:30pm

Poker Night

April 1st and 15th - Seat Cards handed out at 6pm - Cards are dealt at 6:30pm

Veterans Breakfast Drive-Thru

Sunday, April 11, 2021

8:30 to 11:00am

Adults \$10.00 Veterans & Kids \$8.00

Visalia Elks Lodge Bulletin

Periodical of the;

Visalia Elks Lodge #1298

Volume 21/22 Edition #1

News Submission Deadline

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

kristy@rkstudio.com



"EXALTED RULER'S CORNER"

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve our Lodge and its membership as your Exalted Ruler.

I would like to take a moment and thank our outgoing ER Ron Marshall, last year's House Committee Members and all the countless volunteers that stepped up and got us through a wild and unforeseen difficult year.

As a Lodge, you all stepped up and found ways to keep our doors open, remodel our lounges, upgrade our patio, deal with costly plumbing repairs, all while giving back to our community wherever and whenever possible. I'm sure you're all as excited as I am for this coming year as we begin to find positive and creative ways to keep our Lodge active and open for our great members and guests.

We cannot guarantee what this upcoming year holds for us, but we can all do this together..... Extend a hand to a fellow Elk, in a true act of Friendship. Volunteer for an event or two, help in the kitchen, join, or put together your own cooking crew, go "all in" on Poker Night, join the Vagabonds if you are an Rv'er, or attend a monthly meeting (we have two of them 😊). Just a few examples of the countless great things our Lodge offers. The main thing is to challenge yourself this year to do something new, something out of the ordinary, something exciting.

Fraternally Yours,
Eli Ledesma
Exalted Ruler

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

Lodge Officers 2019/2020

Exalted Ruler	Eli Ledesma
Leading Knight	Mike Salque
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 Oswalt	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:

Upcoming meetings:

It's important that you RSVP with the office if you will be at one of the meetings in advance so that we can determine what room we will need to have the meeting in.

Orientation and Initiation.

Next Orientation is April 28, 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 March:

Devan Romero by John Threadgill
Matthew Crawford by Laura Silva
Kirk Ray by David Antoini
Greg Baskovich by Dennis Clevenger
Michelle Florez by Starla Harlow
Bobby Hentry by Lisa Ledesma
Jerry Moe by Frank Belk



From the Secretary's Desk

Reminder: April 1st your dues need to be paid. The new cards are green in color, if you still have yellow that card is old! Also, if someone has dropped their membership they may not be signed in as guests. They may choose to reinstate with an application but until that has gone through, they are not able to come into the members lounge and may not be signed in as guests.

We would like to thank all of you who have already paid! If you haven't paid your dues we are here until 11 am each day or you can go on our website to pay www.visaliaelks.org.

Thanks go out again to our outgoing ER Ron Marshall. He did a great job with all the craziness of the year and was as hands-on in helping get us through all of this and get reopened as you can get! I'm sure Eli will continue to do an outstanding job and hopefully get us back to normal (whatever that may be). I would also like to thank all the volunteers that have stepped up in the kitchen, working around the lodge and participating in events, such as our drive through dinners.

We hope that everyone stays healthy and we can all get back on track soon.

KNOW SOMEONE WHO'S NOT GETTING THE BULLETIN?

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

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 Deiterich
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.	Judy Staley
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

Dorothy VanWagoner

As our lodge starts opening again, please bring your purple pigs in so we start out with a bang with our donations.

Continue to look for all the pigs scattered about the lodge and give them some change. We appreciate all your donations to our Major Project. Remember, all the money raised goes to help a child with needed therapy.

"Be positive. Better days are on their way." unknown

LaRuth Chance

Please keep an eye on our Members Group FB page and the **What's Happening at Elks** email. If you are not signed up to receive emails yet, follow this link and put your info in the right column of our home page to subscribe: <http://visaliaelks.org/>

Upcoming Events

Poker is Back!



Starting April 1st

- Games are for MEMBERS ONLY
- You will need to show your current membership card to play
- Have fun and enjoy the game as we start getting back to normal

Check in / Seat Cards are given out at 6pm and
Cards are dealt at 6:30pm



Sunday Veterans Drive-Thru Breakfast April 14, 2021

Menu: Eggs, potatoes, bacon/sausage, french toast,
biscuit/gravy

Price: \$10.00
drive through from 8 to 10am

**Please make reservations by calling 559-734-6762
by Saturday afternoon**

Continued on the next page ...

Upcoming Events (continued)



Saturday, May 1st 3rd Annual Kentucky Derby

It's back!! The BPC and Friends have been meeting the past couple of weeks to put together our first come-back event. This year we will have music, raffles, food booths, games, specialty drinks, a photo area, stick horse races and of course the Derby Hat and Bow Tie / Snazzy Sock Contest with Prizes.

There will also be a Shuffleboard tournament on that day!

More information coming soon!

The New Grant Year is Here

One year ends, and another begins. The 2021-22 fiscal year kicks off on April 1st with the launch of the Gratitude Grant.

Ranging from \$2,000 to \$3,000, these grants are the ENF's way of thanking Lodges that reached the National President's giving goal in the previous year. In 2020-21, the goal was \$4.80. If your Lodge achieves that goal, it will be eligible for a Gratitude Grant.

Last year, the CIP added more flexibility for Lodges to meet pandemic-related needs, and the same flexibility will be in place for this next round of Gratitude Grants. Become a Fidelity Club donor to Elks National Foundation at enf.elks.org

“
The sun was warm
but the wind was
chill. You know
how it is with
an April day.

”
- Robert Frost



VAGABONDS TRAVELS

Spring is here. Maybe this will mean in April or May we will be able to have our Vagabond meetings. Cross your fingers and toes that this will happen in the not too distant future. Hope, hope, hope!

I bet the first meeting everyone will be so happy to see friends that the talking will be non-stop. Don't you agree?

Along these lines, a month or so ago our Wagon Master, Neville, requested I send an email to all to see if there was any interest in a rally somewhere in April. The response was "yes". He followed through and found 15 sites at River Run for Thursday, April 22, to Sunday, April 25. A second email was sent to the individuals who said "yes" to a rally and 15 rigs will be heading Bakersfield way for that rally. This is just a start, I hope, to many more rallies to come and to our monthly meetings.

There are still many Vagabonds in need of encouragement and positive thoughts as they face health challenges – Joyce O'Rafferty, Frank Weekly, Diane Hill, Bill and Linda Lawley. If I missed someone, please know it isn't intentional, just maybe I haven't heard what is happening with you.

In closing, may the dreams you hold dearest be those which come true and the kindness you spread keep returning to you. Happy Easter to all.

Until next month,
Frank and Kathy 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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APRIL 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 Jeffery Staley
2 William Palmer
3 Dan Eastham
4 Phil Fortney
5 Ron Crispin
William D Sanders
James Shaw
6 Janice Crosson
7 Cristie Clements
Cynthia Lynch
Paul McDonald
Joe Paddock
8 Jared Whaley
9 Brooke Clevenger
Jason Teeples
Larry L Yocum
10 Joe Andrada
Kayla Brown
Robert Reyes
11 Michael Paul McLennan
12 Judi Ellebracht
13 Tony Perez
14 Bob Ausherman
Chuck Lovenburg
Robert Tays
15 Mario Marquez
Kevin R Wood
16 Kevin Macintosh
17 Joao Dinis
Kiaas Steven Wasse
Mathew Wells
Randy Wheeler
18 Arthur Graf
Tim Mathos
Ronald A Radish
20 Paula Jean Ausherman
Jason Jasso
John C Rivera
Aaron Swain
David Vidrio
21 Tony Aguilar
Scott Cordes
Pedro Ferreria

23 Steven DeLao
Seng Saephan
24 Thomas Clevenger
Jacob Donald
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Kris Herd
Lorraine Swain
25 Richard H Clevenger
26 Rodney A Serpa
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Henry Van Heeringen
27 Jeffery B Fenske
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Larry Owsley
Philip W Shannon
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Dan Helzer
Dirk Temmerman
Frank H Velasquez
30 Edward Vincent Alvarado
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