



## JOHN LOZANO - ER of Lodge#2117

### July 2024 Message

Welcome to July-

We hope that you are finding your lodge an active, engaging and exciting place to call home. Over the past 3 months we have been trying various opportunities for all members to choose from. We have brought back Tuesday night dinners, we are trying out Thursday night meal/social, now offering a 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday night Interactive event and continuing our Friday night member's lounge! This is YOUR lodge, so please feel free to offer suggestions and your comments on what YOU want to see happening.

The next few months we will be focusing on our committees such as Lodge Activities, Drug and Awareness, Americanism, Youth, Veterans, just to name a few. We ask that you inquire and join a committee as this is the best way to get to know ELKDOM. If you are interested in committee, please reach out to that chairperson or myself and we can begin that journey together. All

committees and their chair details can be found on page #13 of this newsletter.

You ask what we are doing right now??

July is our auditing month, and our Auditing and Accounting Team is impressively working on ensuring that YOUR lodge is in compliance with Grand Lodge requirements.

Our Board of Trustees presented the 2024\_2025 Lodge budget for member approval this past June 18<sup>th</sup>, members approved it and now its time to stay in the black. If you are interested in learning more about the budget, we encourage you to talk to one of our trustees.

Public Relations is in full swing and getting OUR Lodge recognized. We recently joined the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce and are about to show up strong to their invites, events and mixers. We have a new banner (thanks Roger Harris), that proudly shares our accomplishments as recipient of the 2023\_2024 "All American Lodge" contest. Our "MyELKS" mobile app will be headed by Lisa Seivers and activation will begin shortly and we will continue looking into utilizing this technology to provide quicker information with a sense of ease.

Upcoming public events to look out for that you should be excited to talk about, share, invite your families', friends, neighbors and co-workers are as follows. ELVIS is coming to the Lodge on July 15<sup>th</sup> and will be headed by our very own Sherry White, so please reach out to her for details if you want to help out or make a reservation. In August, our amazing Hawaiian Luau is returning to the lodge thanks to Al Vigil. Save the date of Saturday August 10<sup>th</sup>. This is another opportunity to get involved and help make this a memorable afternoon so please reach out to Al and get your name on his volunteer list.

Then in September, we will host a lodge favorite "Tom Rigney". This is an evening of Cajun music, dancing and great food. Linda Vigil (PER) is spearheading this event so please connect with her as this is a great but large event and volunteers are greatly appreciated.

When we think about membership, the heartbeat of all lodges, you should all be impressed and feel proud of the accomplishments so far. Since April 1<sup>st</sup>, Lodge No 2117 has initiated 11 new members! This shows that you are proud of what we do, what we stand for and what we give back to our communities. We are now displaying a new member progress chart in the members lounge area for everyone to see how we are trending to the goal of 20% increase this fraternal year! So, please keep spreading the words of ELKDOM and as our new STATE California Hawaii president says "Elkdom, Love It, Live It, Promote It".

In closing, I will be in Austin Texas from June 29<sup>th</sup> through July 3<sup>rd</sup> to represent OUR lodge at the National Grand Lodge Yearly Convention. This is intended to gain stronger knowledge of our programs, future charters, fundraising opportunities and .... Upon return, the plan is to share with everyone what was learned.

Genuinely, John Lozano, Exalted Ruler *John Lozano*

