



**THE**

# ANTLERS

## SPEAK



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MERCED B.P.O.E. NO. 1240  
PUBLISHED MONTHLY

Vol. 54, No.6

The Antlers Speak

June 2024

### MERCED ELKS LODGE # 1240

Central District Association  
Vice President Visitation,  
Honoring Jim Akers and his wife Irene

Thursday, June 6, 2024

Welcome and Arrival: 5:00 PM  
Appetizers & No Host Cocktails: 5:30 PM  
Dinner Served 6:30 PM

Rib Eye Steak, Green Beans, Baked Potatoes,  
Green Salad with Dressing, Rolls and Dessert

\$20.00 per Person

### Father's Day Breakfast @ The Lodge

Sunday, June 16th, 2024

From 8:30 to 11:30

Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage and Fruit  
All members and guests are invited  
Breakfast is complimentary



**Elks FIREWORKS BOOTH**  
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June 30th thru July 4th!!  
12pm till 10pm

**R Street and Olive Avenue**

Volunteers Needed!!!! Call the office @ 723-1240



### Flag Ceremony

Friday June 14th, 2024  
6:00 pm in the Lodge Room  
Open to the Public

### Past Elk of the Year & AVP Visitation

Thursday June 6th, 2024  
Chairman: Mark Leigh

### Merced County Night & Initiation

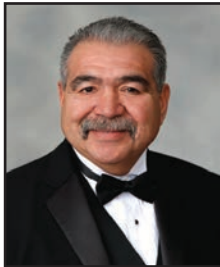
Thursday June 20th, 2024  
Chairperson: Janet Appling-Kasper

**THE ANTLERS SPEAK**

published by  
Merced Elks Lodge #1240 B.P.O.E.  
1910 "M" Street  
Merced, CA 95340  
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Exalted Ruler  
Jeff Horta



Leading Night  
Jim Pacheco



Loyal Knight  
Patty Brown



Lecturing Knight  
Vickie Munson

**OFFICERS FOR 2024-2025**

- Exalted Ruler ..... Jeff Horta
- Leading Knight ..... Jim Pacheco
- Loyal Knight ..... Patty Brown
- Lecturing Knight ..... Vickie Munson
- Esquire ..... Bart Ramirez
- Chaplain ..... Miranda Hendrickson
- Inner Guard ..... Dawn Williams
- Tiler ..... Ken Working
- Secretary ..... Jane Lozano
- Treasurer ..... Len Samuelson
- Organist ..... Joyce Avila
  
- Trustee 1 ..... Ryan Williams
- Trustee 2 ..... Donovan Sizemore
- Trustee 3 ..... Leonard Redwine
- Trustee 4 ..... Cyril Lawrence
- Trustee 5 ..... Nancy Kissack
  
- Bulletin Editor ..... Bill Gray
- Club Manager ..... Jesse Reynolds

**EXALTED RULER’S MESSAGE**

Hello Merced Elks,

As we near the end of May, I can report that we have held a successful Mother’s Day brunch, served 460 people and handed out nearly twenty dozen roses. My thanks go out to the Officer Corps and especially Nancy Kissick for organizing and directing kitchen operations. We received many compliments on breakfast. It was great to meet so many members and Moms. We ended the day with the Mother’s Day Ritual in the lodge room.

Our officers and ritual team have just returned from the Convention in Fresno. Our team competed at the state level for only the second time in thirty-eight years (two consecutive years!). While we did not bring home a trophy, our team scores are improving. These are building years for us.

You may well be proud that our lodge was awarded a special citation for the most successful Leading Knight Challenge of California or Hawaii in Division V (lodges with 1000-1500 members). Let’s put this in perspective, of more than one hundred and seventy lodges in both states, exactly six received this award. To your credit, it is truly amazing to see how Merced Lodge #1240 continues to excel in Elkdom.

Mark your calendars for our Association Vice President visitation on June sixth, and our Father’s Day breakfast on the sixteenth. June twentieth will be our last meeting and initiation before we go dark for the summer.

There is one more item I must mention. Our usual chairman for Cattlemen’s night was unable to carry on this May. Scott Sakugawa, AKA “Maui”, volunteered to take over. However, he was overtaken by a serious health emergency requiring surgery. Corey Bates took the reins at the last minute, saving the day. To Maui we wish you Godspeed in your full recovery. To Corey Bates.... Well, **Elk of the Month** seems appropriate!

Fraternally yours,

Jeff Horta  
Exalted Ruler

**FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY**

*“Summer is what dreams are made of” ...*

There will be events going on in June; Father’s Day Brunch, Fireworks booth, Flag Day Ceremony and Drug Awareness at Kiddieland. Luau will be July 13th this year. Hope everyone will have a great summer.

Reminder to all members - if you have any drink cards from PER Sara Rosenthal, they have expired. Only Blood Bank drink cards and Birthday drink cards do not have expiration dates. Thank you.

Jane Lozano  
Secretary



### PURPLE PIG



**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 Purple Pig Project in May:

- |                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Brian Williams         | Gary Frago     |
| Tom & Debbie Clendenin | Julie Tanzillo |
| Michael Hernandez Jr.  | Tim Lopes      |
| Ed Chambers            | Donna Jones    |

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

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project Inc. has been helping children with disabilities since 1950. "A coin a day, they'll walk, talk, see and play." Your past donations are greatly appreciated, now let's build up the future!

When dropping off your Purple Pig Bank, please make sure your name is inside so the office can give credit to the right person. Thank you for all you do!

Jeannette Pacheco,  
Chairman

### BLOOD DRIVE

The April Blood Drive was successful. I am working on setting up dates for the rest of this year. Girl Scout Troop 3019 was very helpful handing out cookies and drinks to the members that attended. Thank you for everyone that donated!



Jane Lozano  
Secretary

### STAG PICNIC

Stag Picnic was a huge success with the help of the officers. The members received a nice lunch with steak, garlic bread, beans and salad with refreshments and dessert. There were raffle prizes, music and lots of fun. Next year, Stag Picnic will be on Saturday, April 12, 2025. Mark your calendars!



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### CENTRAL DISTRICT DD MEETING

On Sunday April 28, 2024, at the DD Clinic, the Merced Lodge received awards for the State Major Project, Lodge Activities, Protocol, Ritual Contest, and the Central District Visitation Award.



Exalted Ruler Jeff Horta and Leading Knight Jim Pacheco.



Walt Getz, PDDGER of Modesto, Exalted Ruler Jeff Horta, Leading Knight Jim Pacheco and Linda Valenty DDGER of Livermore-Pleasanton.

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### ELKS PARK NEWS

by Mark Theofanides

Well, summer is here, and the park is busy with lots of Happy Campers. We have been having a lot of local members get together for small campouts. Bring your friends out for a short stay.

The Host and workers have been busy keeping the weeds down and trees trimmed. We have taken down a tree and planted 4 new ones. We are getting ready to have our driveway re-paved.

For those of you that play pickle ball, we now have a court and net. Check with the Host if you need to borrow paddles and balls.



Remember you are always welcome to come out for a cup of coffee on Thursday mornings at 8:00 AM, meet the crew and see the Park. We are also out there almost every Monday.

I regularly get asked about RV storage, and there is no availability at this time. If you need a place to store your RV, call the Host and he can put you on the list.

For more information, call Mark Theofanides, 209-777-5011.  
 For RV reservations and storage, contact Mark or Annie at 209-500-7352.  
 To rent the pavilion, contact Dee at 209-658-0505.

**No PER Backdoor Feed this month,  
 PER Chicken Backdoor Feed will  
 return in September.  
 Thank you for your continued support.**

# HEAD START PROGRAM TURLOCK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

On Tuesday, April 30, 2024, the Lodge Chairs for the Bingo and the RV Park Committee, presented 2 checks totaling \$2,000 to the Director of Turlock Unified School District Head Start Program. Head Start is a program of the United States Department of Health & Human Services that provides comprehensive early childhood education, health, nutrition and parent involvement services to low-income children and families.

Funds were distributed between 6 classrooms at the Wakefield & Osborn Head Start Schools for teachers to supplement their classrooms with supplies and items for their students. A banner was presented, along with several others, to the Elks as a gesture of their thankfulness.



*Pictured from left to right are as follows: Mark Theofanides, Chair of the Merced Elks RV Park Committee; Judy Huerta, Director TUSD Head Start Program; Mais Alhamdani, Senior Health Services Manager of the Stanislaus County Office of Education; RaeLene Pritchard PER, working for the Head Start Program and Len Samuelson, PER, Chair of the Merced Elks Bingo Committee.*

RaeLene Pritchard, PER

# MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

The annual Mother's Day breakfast at the Lodge was a great success. Almost 500 people came through the doors and were treated to a delightful breakfast prepared by the Lodge officers and some Elks volunteers. Guests were greeted by Exalted Ruler Jeff Horta, and Moms were presented with a rose and a free breakfast. This is the biggest event of our Lodge year and as always, a wonderful gathering place for families! Thank you to all the volunteers that made this a Great Day!



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### JUNE FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER

- June 7th – Chicken Fried Steak & Basa
- June 14th – Parmesan Calamari & Meatloaf
- June 21st – Salmon & Chicken Cordon Bleu
- June 28th – Baby Back Ribs & Tilapia



For Friday Night reservations, call Jesse Reynolds at 209-769-8068. Please Do Not Call the Office. **Deadline For Reservations are to be made by NOON on Friday that week.**

### ELKS STATE CONVENTION



*Back row: CHEA Vice Chairman of Business Practice/PDDGER Dave Wells, Trustee Ryan Williams, Inner Guard Dawn Williams, Exalted Ruler Jeff Horta, Loyal Knight Patty Brown, Esquire Bart Ramirez, PER Cliff McGhee, and PER Len Samuelson. Front row: Leading Knight, Chairman Jim Pacheco, Chaplain Miranda Hendrickson, and Lecturing Knight Vickie Munson.*



*Secretary Jane Lozano, State Major Project Theme Child "Rudy" and PER/Trustee Paul Atilano of Modesto.*

**SAVE THE DATE**

July 1 - 4th ~ Fireworks Booth  
July 13th ~ Luau  
July 13th ~ AVP Homecoming - Tracy Lodge  
August 17th ~ Steak at the Lake

*In Memoriam...*

**Ernest W. Conner**  
Date of Birth: July 17, 1937  
Deceased: May 10, 2024  
Initiated: April 19, 2007  
Proposer: Kenneth Wenrick

**John Quinn**  
Date of Birth: October 9, 1940  
Deceased: May 10, 2024  
Initiated: April 10, 1975  
Proposer: Unknown

**Sandy Walker**  
Date of Birth: October 14, 1946  
Deceased: May 3, 2024  
Initiated: April 21, 1988  
Proposer: Chester Branco

**BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE**

**1**  
Edward Harvey  
Debbie Hirata  
Kristi Newman  
Nancy Schertz

**2**  
George Deane III  
Jeffrey Deldotto  
Christopher Machado  
Michael Mondo

**3**  
Magally Cross  
David Ichord  
Andrew Krotik  
Lynn Stapp

**4**  
Lincoln Clendenin  
Bruce J. Gabriaault  
Ronnie R. Harkreader  
Andrew F. Murphy, Jr  
Dailann Parker  
Raul Saldivar

**5**  
Jared Goodin  
Donald Rozas  
Tom Zeiner

**6**  
Gerald Harrison  
Chuck Herman  
Ronald E. Johnson  
Clinton Moore  
Shelbi Perino  
Cipriano Solis

**7**  
Barbara Hefner  
Renee Lopez  
Chris Munden  
James Spencer III  
Louis J. Steiner  
Michael Vierra

**8**  
Lori Ramirez

**9**  
Andy Lewis Fagundes  
David Silva

**10**  
Brian L. McCabe  
Tyler Norris  
Larry O'Daniel  
Paul Roseman  
Daniel H. Sabol

**11**  
Richard Caldie  
Jim Jordan  
Michael Rivera  
David Scheurich  
Pat Trieweller  
David F. Tucker

**12**  
Brad Buttrely  
Ron Grissom  
Kim Kahl  
Cordell Preston Ruiz  
Tawny Jo Suffecool

**13**  
Eric Bocks  
Jane Murphy  
Anthony Smullen

**14**  
Randell S. Brown  
Larry E. Robbins

**15**  
Christie Chaney  
Donald A. Kramer  
Don P. Spiva

**16**  
Robert S. Acker  
Danny Ambriz  
Laura Bazan  
Randy Brower  
David A. Cardella  
David Garland, Jr.  
Cindy Lauritzen  
Stephen A. Lucich  
Chris Nocera  
Ronald Stapp  
LaDona Sullivan

**17**  
Kevin Bernstein  
Lawrence L. Bowers  
Jamie Pangelina  
Denny Snyder  
Larry S. Thompson

**18**  
John Cale  
Donald Smith  
Robert Williamson

**19**  
David Amaral  
Laurie Chapman  
Dennis L. McComb  
Raymond Sanchez

**20**  
Albert E. Bardini  
Miranda Gillard  
Douglass F. Perry

**21**  
Kelly Dicarlo  
Richard D. Dodson  
Wilfred Butch L. Hinson  
Katy Whitmire

**22**  
Joe Foster  
Suzanne Garrity  
Steven Gossett

**23**  
Paul Jones  
Keith C. King

**24**  
Mary Johnson  
Joe R. Lial  
Danielle Smith

**25**  
Corey Bates  
Amy Espino-Lopez  
Christopher Thomas Mizener

**26**  
Hillary Mansur  
James L. Pacheco  
Thomas J. Wilkins

**27**  
Joseph Campos

**28**  
Tammy Astorino  
Robert Davenport  
Jennifer Keith  
Graham Porter  
Robert E. Quaglia  
Kevin Silva  
Joe B. Silveira  
Juan F. Sufuentes  
Robert S. Weston

**29**  
Andrew Garcia  
Daniel P. Hong  
Bob Pedrelli  
Bill Tilley  
Rickey L. Treat

**30**  
Howard Knapp  
Tomas Legg  
Lorin Mann  
David Porter  
Manuel Salacup  
Eric Wayne Smiley

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Elks Memorial Day Committee	Clint Moore	209-761-6801
Elks National Foundation Committee	Miranda Hendrickson	209-720-6705
ENF Grants	Len Samuelson	209-261-9187
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Historian Committee	John Cale	209-261-7770
Hoop Shoot Committee	Jane Lozano	209-617-9677
Lodge Activities Committee	Jeff Horta	209-777-0074
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Soccer Shoot Committee	Sara Rosenthal	209-777-8527
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Youth Activities Committee	Vacant	
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	Jeannette Pacheco	209-564-2138
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**JUNE 2024**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday <i>(No Lunch Served)</i>	Saturday
						1 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM
2 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM	3 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM  PER MEETING	4 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM LIVERMORE/PLEASANTON AVP VISITATION BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM	5 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM	6 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM  AVP VISITATION/ LODGE MEETING 8PM PEOY - CHAIRMAN MARK LEIGH	7 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00-8:30 PM  CHICKEN FRIED STEAK & BASA	8 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM
9 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00 AM-4:30PM	10 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM	11 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM LOS BANOS AVP VISITATION	12 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM  SONORA AVP	13 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM TRUSTEE MEETING AT 6:00 PM, HOUSE MEETING AT 7:00, BOARD MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HOUSE MEETING	14 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00-8:30 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM  PARMESAN CALAMARI & MEAT LOAF FLAG DAY CEREMONY OPEN TO THE PUBLIC	15 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM
16 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM  FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH	17 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM	18 LUNCH 11:00AM-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM  MODESTO AVP VISITATION  BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM	19 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM MIXOLOGY	20 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM  MERCED CO NIGHT CHAIRMAN JANET KASPER-APPLING LODGE MEETING 8PM	21 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00-8:30 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM SALMON & CHICKEN CORDON BLEU DRUG AWARENESS KIDDIELAND	22 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM
23 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM	24 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM BLOOD BANK DRIVE JULY 2024	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 11:30AM LODI VISITATION	27 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM  TRIVIA NIGHT	28 FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER 6:00-8:30 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM BABY BACK RIBS & TILAPIA	9 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM
30 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM  FIREWORKS BOOTH	1 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM  PER MEETING FIREWORKS BOOTH	2 LUNCH 11:00AM-2:00PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM FIREWORKS BOOTH  BINGO EARLY BIRD 6:30PM REGULAR 7:00PM	3 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM  FIREWORKS BOOTH	4 KITCHEN CLOSED SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM  FIREWORKS BOOTH	5 KITCHEN CLOSED  SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM  CHICKEN FRIED STEAK & BASA	6 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM  KITCHEN CLOSED
7 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM  KITCHEN CLOSED	8 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30AM	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 AT 6:00 PM, HOUSE MEETING AT 7:00, BOARD MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HOUSE MEETING LODGE MEETING 8:00PM	12 LUNCH 11:00-2:00 PM SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:30 AM  PARMESAN CALAMARI & MEAT LOAF	13 SKY LOUNGE OPEN 11:00AM-4:30PM  LUAU AVP HOMECOMING TRACY LODGE