



John Rivetti was born in Whittier, California. His family moved to the San Fernando Valley where he spent his childhood. After graduating from high school, John attended California State University at Northridge, completing a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting Information Systems and an MBA in Information Systems at California State University at Los Angeles.

Since 2004, John has been managing application software development for an electrical connector and aerospace parts manufacturer in Glendale. John was also a certified tax preparer for ten years.

While working through school at a large local grocery chain, John met his future wife, Terri, and were married in 1981. They have three children – Amber (a stay-at-home-mom in Montclair NJ), Amanda (a flight attendant in Denver), and Anthony (who manages a crew which maintains the LA River, and lives in Santa Clarita). The four grandchildren are – Dylan, Josephine, Matteo, and Theo. John and Terri have resided in Agua Dulce since 2007. Currently, John is active in a hiking club, and a running club, with his co-workers. John and Terri’s favorite activities include camping, and traveling with friends, and family..

John’s association with the Elks started in 2010, when he was initiated into the Santa Clarita Elks Lodge,. He joined the officer corps, and moved through the chairs, becoming Exalted Ruler for the 2015-2016 year. Besides bingo, John has been active in the Lodge’s RV Club, the Lodge’s Golf Club, has been Americanism Chairman, ENF Chairman, and a Lodge Trustee. As ENF Chairman, John is proud that he helped procure the Lodge’s first Beacon Grant, to support the ongoing backpack, and counselor appreciation program for the local Child & Family Center. Twice he was selected Tall Elk of the Year. John became a Jolly Cork in September 2013. ...

John appreciates the tradition of the Elks Initiatory Ritual. He is a Certified Floor Judge ... He is proud that he was the Exalted Ruler for the CHEA Ritual Contest Championship team, which represented CHEA at the Grand Lodge Convention in 2015. During his years, John was All-State Exalted Ruler, winner of the Gerald Strohm Award, for the Exalted Ruler with the highest score for impressiveness in the Final Four at Association Convention, All-State Esquire, Most Impressive Esquire in the Final Four, All-State Chaplain, and All-American Chaplain. John was the Association Vice President for the Metropolitan District 2021 – 2022, serving CHEA President Jay Larkins.



VAN NUYS/  
RESEDA ELKS  
#2790



ELK HORN  
NOVEMBER, 2024

## Lodge Officers

Exalted Ruler-Bruce Troe PDDGER  
 Leading Knight-Jerrold J. Rhee  
 Loyal Knight—William Ted Mayor  
 Lecturing Knight—Angela Mickunas  
 Secretary-Mike Gaglio, PER  
 Treasurer-Nicole Williams  
 Tiler –Elan Menkin  
 Esquire-Tyler Montgomery  
 Inner Guard-Anna Wilborn  
 Chaplain—Lorraine Salcedo  
 1st Year Trustee -Dean Kiel PDDGER  
 2nd Year Trustee— Cleve de Peralta  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Trustee—Vincent Adams

## Lodge Chairpersons

Accident Prevention: Cleve De Peralta  
 Americanism: Bruce Troe, PDDGER  
 Auditing/Accounting: Elan Menkin  
 Bar Manager: Stefanie Olsen  
 Holiday Baskets: Angela Mickunas  
 Community Projects: Angela Mickunas  
 Drug Awareness: Nicole Williams  
 ENF: Michele Werbeck PER , Bruce Troe  
 Major Projects: Bruce Troe PDDGER  
 Flag Day: Tyler Montgomery  
 Hoop Shoot: Jerrold J. Rhee  
 Indoctrination: Kathy Rogers, PER  
 Kitchen Manager: Bruce Troe, PDDGER,  
 Lapsation: PER Association  
 Lodge Activities: Dorothy Mutaw  
 Membership: PER Jerrold J. Rhee  
 Elks Memorial & Mother's Day:  
 Tyler Montgomery  
 PER Association: Bruce Troe PDDGER  
 Picnic: Jerrold J. Rhee  
 Public Relations: Mike Gaglio, PER  
 Rentals: Mike Gaglio, PER  
 Ritual: Kathy Rogers  
 Rummage Sale: Florie de Peralta  
 Scholarships: Bruce Troe PDDGER  
 Stray Elks: Angela Mickunas  
 Veterans Services: Bruce Troe, PDDGER



**Lodge Meetings**  
**Mondays-7:30**



**Lodge Meetings**  
**Mondays-7:30**

## Past Exalted Rulers

Van Nuys #2028

Reseda #2443

Elmer Meyer*	Charles Longan
Glen Wyatt*	Gerry Purdy
Bob Gribble*	Edward Napor*
Louis J. Miller*	Bill Herbst*
John Pulskamp*	Dick Collins*
Dan Davis*	Dave Worden*
George Kovacs*	Robert F. Smith*
R. Ted Dodson*	Joseph Coleman*
Harry Lamphere*	James McCracken*
Richard Benjamin*	Robert L. Smith
Richard D. Smith*	James McConnell
NG "Bill" West	Wally Amberger
George Schneider	Ray O'Doul*
John Kanavos*	Bud Flynn*
ER Schultz*	Ray Gantebein*
Leroy Lucas*	Dick Stine*
RL McDonnell*	Rich Hacia
William "Bill" White*	Jim Leister

### By Affiliation

Joe T. Kohler*	John Rygh*
Ralph Burson*	Manny Mende*
Lee Faust*	Lou Flores*
Bob Vinson*	Ray Price*
Luis Flores	Larry Almen
Bob Reimann	Mike Siwula
Ed Werbeck	Rob Benjamin
Mary Wigton	
Dennis Dionne	
Tim Carr	
Jeff Schoenherr	Dean Kiel PDDGER
Bill Haitp*	
Steven Duchscherer	
Eddie Llanos	
George Aguilar	
Roy Minell	
Francisco Solórzano	

Van Nuys-Reseda #2790

Jim Leister	Tiffany Lace
Eddie Llano	Bruce Troe PDDGER
Jim Meech	Jill Lace
Dick Stine*	Mike Gaglio
Rod Fischer*	Meredith Thomas
Bob Porras	
Diane Brennan*	
Gert Litvinoff*	
Nancy Kephart PAVP	
Kathy Rogers	
Michele Werbeck	







## The Elks Luncheon Club!

*It meets on every Friday at the Glendale Elks Lodge #1289 located on Colorado Street just east of Brand Blvd. Chairman is Bob Medellin, San Fernando Lodge #1539; Vice Chairman is Ben Ortega;*

*West Covina Lodge #1996; Treasurer is Kathy Rogers Van Nuys-Reseda Lodge #2790; Sergeant of Arms is Larry Lawrence Burbank Lodge #1497; and Chaplain is Dorothy Mutaw Van Nuys-Reseda Lodge*

### Our Bulletin printed by our friends at:



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**Elks  
National  
Foundation**

For every dollar donated to the  
Elks National Foundation,  
\$.13 is returned to the  
California-Hawaii Elks Association!

**Patrick Giraudi**



**SOUND DESIGNER**

**AUDIO PRODUCTION & POST PRODUCTION**

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November begins the season of caring and sharing

The Order of the Elks has designated November as Veterans Remembrance Month, the month of Veterans Day. Every Elk should know our solemn pledge of "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."

Veterans are our heroes!

Please find a way to honor veterans in your Lodge and in your community. Some ways to say you care would be by hosting a veterans' dinner at your Local Lodge, distributing care packages, and attending local events that coincide with your community's recognition of veterans. Remember, our organization led the way in 1917 to fund and later establish the first veterans' hospital.

Thank you to all the state and Lodge veterans chairpersons and the volunteers who help make our program for our veterans a priority and success.

Speaking of recognizing other important people, it's time to make sure the youth in your local schools are getting the essay contest information they need. Their essays should be submitted for judging by December 15.

November also marks the need to be active citizens by voting in the election, always held the first Tuesday of the month during November.

Thanksgiving is the hallmark of the month, a time for families to come together and fellowship and give thanks to God. I wish you and your loved ones a blessed holiday season as you show "Elkdom's Heart For America."



## Message from the Past Grand Exalted Ruler Randy Shook

### Elks remain committed to serving veterans in need

November brings to mind a couple of very special days. On November 11, Veterans Day, we honor our veterans, past and present. There are so many ways to say thank you to our nation's veterans. Hosting dinners in our Local Lodges, sending care packages, and participating in events at Veterans Administration hospitals are just a few ways.

The Elks are committed to their mission "So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them." The Elks National Veterans Service Commission takes that pledge one step further and promises to render aid to our nation's veterans and military members with a special focus on those in need. The ENVSC empowers local communities by giving them the resources to directly serve veterans, military members, and their families.

The ENVSC supports a vast network of Voluntary Service Representatives, providing local outreach support to our veterans in need all over the country. This network is only successful because of the hard work performed by individual Lodge Members.

In 1946, the Commission formalized a commitment that was evident since the earliest days of Elkdom to serving veterans. Though much has changed since then, the Elks' dedication to serve veterans and military members in need has never wavered. In VA Clinics, veterans' homes, USOs, homeless shelters, and elsewhere, thousands of Elks volunteers generously give their time, energy, and resources to serve veterans and military members each year. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers, who are reminding our communities, "We Are THE Elks."

November 23 is Thanksgiving, a day for us to thank God for all the blessings that have been bestowed on each of us, our family, our friends, our Order, and our great country. It is also a day we ask for the blessings of God to guide us and show us ways to help those who are less fortunate so we may make their life better, proving "Elks Care — Elks Share." Happy Thanksgiving.

## Volunteers, donations help to fulfill Elks' pledge

By Mary K. Morgan, Commission Director

"So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them."

Thanks to all of you, that pledge is as true today as it was in 1918, when the Elks built a 700 bed hospital in Boston and donated it to the government, helping to create a precursor for today's VA Medical Centers.

It's good to recognize our impressive past. This Veterans Remembrance Month, be sure to also celebrate the amazing things Elks Members do to serve today's veterans.

Elks have been actively involved in the VA Voluntary Service since shortly after the program began in 1946. Today, through the Elks Voluntary Service Program, we have 607 Elks Representatives and Deputy Representatives stationed in more than 360 VA Medical Centers, State Veterans Homes, veterans shelters, and clinics across the country. We spend hundreds of thousands of dollars each month in support of these veterans, hosting activities, buying supplies, improving access to healthcare, and offering friendship and support.

Since we launched the Welcome Home program in 2015, we've helped more than 11,000 veterans exiting homelessness and moving into new homes by providing them with beds, furniture, dishes, and other needed home supplies. We've served thousands more veterans in shelters and in communities by offering wraparound support like food, job training, educational assistance, and other needed services. In partnership with VA social workers, we've granted more than \$6.1 million in emergency financial assistance to 3,719 veterans to help them exit or prevent homelessness. Each of these veterans received an average of \$1,656 in assistance with rent, security deposits, or utilities, demonstrating that a relatively small amount of money at the right time can make a world of difference to a veteran in need.

For nearly 75 years, Elks have been partnering with hunters across the country to collect hides for veterans through the Veterans Leather Program. The finished leather is then used for wheelchair gloves, craft kits, and recreation therapy programs. Last year, Elks collected 16,229 hides. We distributed 1,378 pairs of wheelchair gloves to veterans, often at Elks-sponsored adaptive sports events. We also donated more than 64,587 square feet of leather to our partner Help Heal Veterans, which turns this leather into craft kits to help recovering veterans.

Altogether, the value of Elks service to veterans last year was more than \$36 million, which is an incredible number. Our past is impressive, but so is our present-day service. This Veterans Remembrance Month, let the Elks' history of service inspire you to continue the tradition into the future.



From the Station of The Esteemed Leading Knight  
**Jerrold J. Rhee**



On October 26th our lodge will be holding this year's Hoop Shoot event. I've been blessed in being able to work with the Mid Valley YMCA again. This year the YMCA held two free throw clinics leading up to our event in order to help spread the word to their community and beyond. The staff who ran the clinics were great and numerous children signed up. We look forward to many more years and further growth with our local YMCA and community. .

From the Station of The Esteemed Loyal Knight  
**William "Ted" Mayor**



**THE VAN NUYS - RESEDA ELKS LODGE 2790**



# COMEDY NIGHT



**FRIDAY NOV. 1<sup>ST</sup>  
 6:30-9PM**

**\$10 for Members & Guests  
 CASH ONLY**

Profits will be donated to ENF  
 Includes hot dogs, hamburgers & dessert  
 14440 Friar St. Van Nuys, CA 91401

**MATT  
 PAYTON**



**PAIGE  
 BRYAN**



**SHERRY  
 BRIGHT**



**STEPHEN  
 CHA**



**JON  
 DUNN**



**JOSH  
 EDELMAN**



**LESLIE  
 LIAO**



**ALL VETERANS AND FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE  
 INVITED ON NOVEMBER 7- TO A SPECIAL ASSEMBLY AT  
 LAWRENCE MIDDLE SCHOOL WHICH WILL INCLUDE A  
 RECEPTION IN THE LIBRARY AND STUDENT  
 PERFORMANCES ON STAGE IN SONG AND BAND  
 COMPLEMENTARY LUNCHEON PROVIDED BY  
 VAN NUYS-RESEDA ELKS LODGE  
 IN RECOGNITION OF OUR VETERANS.**

**ERNEST LAWRENCE MIDDLE SCHOOL  
 10100 VARIEL AVENUE  
 CHATSWORTH, CA 91311**

**RSVP TO BRUCE TROE PDDGER VAN NUYS-RESEDA ELKS  
 LODGE #2790 (818) 362-8784**





**HALLOWEEN**  
**SPOOKTACULAR**  
**KARAOKE PARTY**

Featuring  
**DJ Otto-Matic**

**VAN NUYS RESEDA ELKS**  
**OCTOBER 25TH 6:30-9:30PM**  
 Haunted Happenings, Food and Fun!  
**\$10 Donation (per person)**  
 Cash Bar Available

• 14440 Friar St. Van Nuys 91401 •

My name is Angela Mickunas and I am the Lecturing Knight at Van Nuys Reseda Elks, Lodge 2790 and I work in youth activities and specifically with young people who have special needs.



Since Fall of 2023, when my son Otto, who has Down syndrome, was first invited to bring his karaoke machine over to the Van Nuys Reseda Elks, I had no idea what was in store for us. Initially we invited our group of ‘special’ friends throughout and San Fernando Valley and adjacent to join us for a karaoke party and maybe 35-50 folks (parent, caregivers, brother and sisters, singers and dancers) showed up.

Next month more people showed up, some we had never met but they learned about our event and expressed to me that their person had never had a social activity/experience with peers where they had so much fun. Some parents expressed that their child wouldn’t get on stage and sing but then something happens and that shy, timid girl is on stage singing her favorite song and her mom is tearing up. It is truly magical to watch these things play out and these individuals develop before your eyes in a safe, free, fun, peer group setting. I am filled with joy for each triumph of each of these people no matter how big or small, a triumph is a triumph and being part of that is very exciting.

Our group ranges in ages which never matters and if you look around the room, there are smiles for miles and lots of hugging. Having technical difficulties, no problem, you are met with understanding, singing off key, you are met with cheers and clapping, shyness or timidity, you are met with back up dancers... honestly the acceptance of this community is truly astounding; they rush to take care of anyone/ everyone in need! It’s their special needs special gift. ☐☐

Otto has since turned 21 and joined the Elks. He is getting more involved with youth activities starting with the hoop shoot this weekend (October 26th) as a scoring judge and will make the music for our SPOOKTACULAR KARAOKE event on Friday October 25th from 6:30-9:00.

It has truly been a joy-filled experience creating events and opportunities that support the youth and special needs community



Please come and Join our Elks and the Girl Scouts and their parents for a Special Potluck Thanksgiving Dinner on Monday, November 25. Turkey and Ham are provided by the Lodge, Bring a favorite Dish to share!



And as Always, Remember that on November 11th and every day,  
Please reach out and Thank a Vet!

A very special thanks to Michele who always is so great at sending packets after packets of the comic strips and crossword puzzles every month. Thanks also for all the rest of Elks and Friends led by Lorraine Salcedo who are contributing to our Veterans that are in Sepulveda Care Facility and can still use these kind of things that keep their minds active and bodies healthy and warm through these winter months. Reminder that Canned Food and all food is still being accepted by our Veterans Pantry that shares with all of our Veterans.. So please Keep on sending these! Thank You!

**THE KNIGHTS:** Your responsibilities are set forth in Section 12.040 of the Laws of the Order. As Chair Officers, you are properly involved in the Lodge activities. Your duties include:

- n Reviewing the Opening, Closing and Initiatory Rituals applicable to your stations and sufficient familiarization with other rituals to permit impressive rendition of them.
- n Studying the Laws of the Order, its Rituals, the By-Laws of the Lodge, this and other manuals of the Order and Robert's Rules of Order.
- n Assisting the Exalted Ruler in conducting the affairs of the Lodge.
- n Acting in the absence of the Exalted Ruler in the order of your rank, including presiding at Lodge meetings, unless a Past Exalted Ruler has been designated for the occasions.
- n Observing proper protocol as set forth in the Grand Lodge Manual On Protocol (Code 510600). Download at: [www.grandlodge/manuals/grandlodge](http://www.grandlodge/manuals/grandlodge).
- n Proper discharge of duties assigned to you. Leading Knight must attend the Clinics of the District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for the District in which the Lodge is located unless excused for good cause. (Every effort should be made to avoid any conflict with this duty). The Monthly Checklist—Reporting and Activities Calendar (Appendix EXHIBIT G) itemizes administrative requirements in conducting Lodge affairs. It should be a constant reference.

1. Attend and participate in all Lodge meetings.
2. Attend and participate in all Governing Board and Trustee meetings.
3. Attend and participate in all Monthly Knight/ER meetings.
4. Participate and take active roles in mandatory Grand Lodge programs such as Flag Day, Elks Memorial, etc..



## Veterans remembrance is not only for November

By Mary K. Morgan

We received this thank you letter in the mail at the Elks Headquarters in Chicago, from a veteran who'd received assistance with a security deposit on a small apartment:

"I wish to express my overwhelming gratitude and thanks to you. I can't completely put into words how it feels to have a beautiful, secure place to live and to know that there are people in the world like you and everyone you work with, who are concerned about the rest of us and are taking action to ensure their well-being. I'm wishing you, your colleagues, and your loved ones the best possible quality of life existence has to offer."

Thanks to the Elks, this veteran is no longer scrambling to find a space at a crowded shelter or worrying about where to get clean water. This veteran is now safely home.

During a workday, letters like these can make you stop in your tracks and appreciate the moment. As we celebrate Veterans Remembrance Month, people all across the country will be attending ceremonies, distributing flags, and dedicating their time to honoring this nation's veterans. Those displays are important.

But service to veterans is a year-long pursuit for the Elks, and celebrating Veterans Remembrance Month is only one chapter in a much longer story. The story is Voluntary Service Representatives caring for State Veterans Home residents every month of the year. The story is thousands of Members sending a few extra dollars with their dues to ensure that veterans have homes. The story is Lodges using grants to fund veteran job training programs and host summer camps for children of fallen service members. The story is making sure that once veterans are done with their service, they are safe and supported.

For Elks, November is a month to remember our veterans, but it's also a reminder to keep them in our hearts and in our actions all year long.



THE VAN NUYS - RESEDA ELKS LODGE 2790



# COMEDY NIGHT



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6:30-9PM

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14440 Friar St. Van Nuys, CA 91401

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SHERRY  
BRIGHT



STEPHEN  
CHA



JON  
DUNN



JOSH  
EDELMAN



LESLIE  
LIAO







## HOLIDAY BASKET TIME

This has been a year of many changes and our lodge has been proactive in keeping our members welcomed and safe, while continuing our good work.. Whatever you can donate would be much appreciated. We will once again focus our donations to Food Banks and Veterans. Their needs are different, so please read on and find out how you can do your part as Elks.

### Our Local Food Banks/Food Pantry s

Help families and individuals in need! We appreciate any monetary donations or bring over physical cans! Food banks accept dry and canned food donations that has not reached its “sell-by” date.

### Food banks often need items like:

Canned Fruit, Tuna, Stew, Soup, Vegetables, Peanut Butter & Jelly; Cereal , Macaroni & Cheese, Pancake Mix, Pasta and Pasta Sauce, Beans (dry or canned), Rice, Chicken or Beef Broth

### Our Local Veterans: Sepulveda Care Facility

Our year-round focus has been helping our Veterans and we continue to help during the holiday time with any monetary donations as well as new clothing items (large or larger) for men and women such as:

sweatshirts sweatpants undershirt underwear socks

### What Do I Do When I Have These Items?!

Please bring the items to the lodge Monday or Friday after 6:00 pm or call 818-903-6815 if you want a member to come and pick it up from your house. Monetary gifts can be mailed directly to the lodge. 14440 Friar Street, Van Nuys Ca 91401



Van Nuys /Reseda  
Elks Lodge #2790  
Cordially invite You & Guest to the  
Visitation & Dinner of

### DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND EXALTED RULER

# JOHN RIVETTI

& First Lady Terri

&

His Corps of Officers

Esquire: Ron Esquibel, PER

Auditor: Mike Gaglio, PER

**Monday, November 4, 2024**

Social Hour: 5:30

Dinner: 6:30

Program: 7:30

Dinner Donations for ENF

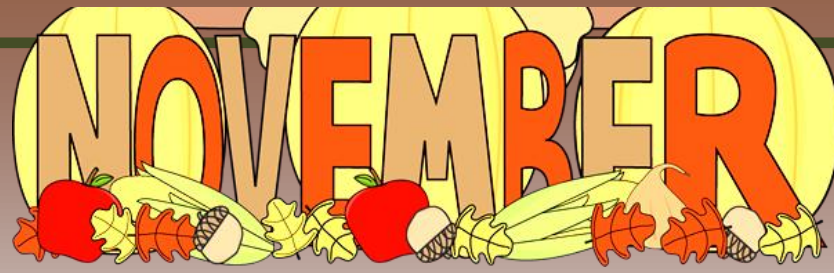
**Bruce Troe, PDDGER Chairperson**

PLEASE **RSVP** by Wednesday, October 30

**Bruce Troe PDDGER**

**(818) 362-8784**

**Non-member spouses are invited to Dinner and will be entertained by Karen Kiel while the Lodge is in session.**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Special Comedy Club 6:30-9:30	2
					State-Midterm-Riverside-November 2-November 4	
3 NFL Sunday Football 10:00-4:00	4 DD John Rivetti Dinner & Visit	5 Cleve de Peralta Birthday	6 Hugo Gustin Birthday Al Medina Birthday November 77	7 Veteran's Luncheon at Lawrence Middle School 10:30	8 Doors open at 5:00  Dinner-6:30	9
10 NFL Sunday Football 10:00-4:00	Frank Alvarez Jerold Rhee Birthdays 	12	13	14	15 FNL  Summera's Band performs 6:30- 10:00	16
17 NFL Sunday Football 10:00-4:00	18 5:00 Doors Open  6:30 Dinner 7:30 Meeting	19 Jacob Ashercraft Birthday	20 Ed Werbeck John Wildroudt Birthdays	21	22 Doors open at 5:00 Dinner-6:30 Game Night 7:30	23
24 Debra Lamb Birthday NFL Sunday Football 10:00-4:00	25 Lodge Thanksgiving 	26 Cynthia Clark Birthday 	27		29 Gabbi Katch Birthday	30 Kenneth Bacchus Birthday