

WEST COVINA LODGE No. 1996

# ELKS



# TRACKS

West Covina Elks Lodge #1996

841 W. Merced Ave., West Covina, CA 91790

West Covina Elks Lodge  
Presents

## VALENTINE'S Dance

TICKETS \$60 PP

Saturday, February 10th

Performance in the Hall by  
California Soul Tones 7:30pm - 11:30pm

DJ Dana 5:30pm to 12am

In the Lounge we have  
Impulse Band 7:15pm to 11:00pm

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30pm \* DINNER 6pm TO 7pm

Menu: New York Steak & Chicken, Roasted  
Potatoes, Veggies, Dinner Roll & Side Dinner Salad

Tickets Go Sale Wednesday, January 10th @ 4:00pm

WEST COVINA ELKS LODGE INVITES YOU TO

**SUPERBOWL SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 11TH, 2024**



\$15 - admission Fee  
\$10 - Kids 6-12 years old  
Kids under 5 yrs old FREE



Admission fee includes "taco man" plate for the first 200 people.

Those who purchased a square on the Superbowl board:

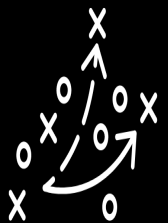
Admission is included

1 taco plate with \$50 purchase

2 taco plates with \$100 purchase

Tacos served 1pm - 3pm

OK to bring your own food and snacks.  
NO OUTSIDE BEVERAGES ALLOWED.



Get there early  
and  
grab your SEATS!!



Doors open at  
12PM

GAME STARTS AT  
3:30 PM

For more information, please contact  
George Mack 562-641-3797



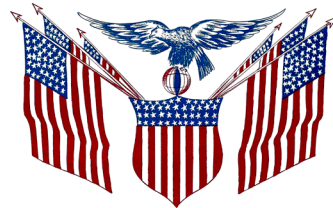
## Come Join Us For Bingo on Thursday Evenings

WWW.WESTCOVINAELKS.ORG

# WEST COVINA ELKS LODGE #1996

## Committee Chairman 2023 - 2024

Accident Prevention Manager	Irma Valdez Trotter	
Alternate Delegate	Vivian Salinas	562-298-3247
Americanism	Julie Walker	626-222-2935
Antlers Youth Group	Carlos Virgen	626-780-5712
Audio/Lighting	Rhiannan Britney	626-206-2632
Auditor/Accounting	Joanna Howard, Ben Ortega,	
	Carmen Gabaldon	
Bingo	Maria Ortega	626-806-7003
BLT	Judith Lumbreras, PAVP	626-587-6489
Bulletin Director/Editor	Ben Ortega, PDDGER	626-926-4046
Charity/Major Project	Joe Chavez	213-500-3216
Christmas Tree Lane	Ben Ortega, PDDGER	626-926-4046
Community Public Relations	Robert Leon	626-827-6726
Crab Crack	Ben Ortega, PDDGER	626-926-4046
Crab Crack	Michael Salazar, PER	626-827-6700
Decorating	By Event Chairperson	
Drug Awareness	Maria Ortega	626-806-7003
Elks National Foundation	Robert Hollis-Brau PDDGER	909-622-9861
Elks Memorial Service	Olivia Pompa	626-377-2767
Elks of the Year President 23-24	Olivia Pompa	626-377-2767
Entertainment Friday & Saturday	Alex Lindsay	626-478-4351
Family Fun Night	Christina Carter	626-646-3490
Flag Day	Ceci Avila	626-893-9756
Funeral Service	Michael Salazar, PER	626-827-6700
Golfing	Bill Schmko	626-862-6533
Grants Coordinators	Dee Varela	626-705-2763
Grants Coordinators	Veronica Aslan	323-646-3317
Greeters	Christina Carter	626-646-3490
Government Relations	Maria Ortega	626-806-7003
Hoop Shoot	Julie Walker	626-222-2935
House Rules	VACANT	
Indoctrination	Michael Salazar, PER	626-827-6700
Investigations/Interviews	Jill Murphy	562-652-3873
Lapsation/Membership	Dee Varela	626-705-2763
Lodge Activities	Trish Gonzalez	909-268-4137
Mail Out	Chuck Dalool, PDDGER	626-332-6945
Major Project	Joe Chavez	213-500-3216
Major Project 50/50	Dee Varela	626-705-2763
Mediator	Ben Ortega, PDDGER	626-926-4046
Membership/Lapsation	Dee Varela	626-705-2763
Mobile Pancake Maker	Vince McCauley	626-422-2812
Mothers Day	Olivia Pompa	626-377-2767
Newsletter Elks Tracks	Ben Ortega, PDDGER	626-926-4046
New Years Eve	Trish Gonzalez	909-268-4137
PER Association Pres.	Dannie Parker, PER	818-371-5232
Photographer	Robert Leon	626-827-6726
Presiding Justice	Michael Salazar, PER	626-827-6700
Public Relations	Carlos Virgen	626-780-5712
Ritual Coach	Rick Dana PER	626-484-4165
Asst: Ritual Coach	Chuck Dalool PDDGER	626-332-6945
Roamin Elks	Bill Zeason	951-903-4192
Scholarships	Coleen Rozatti	626-384-8126
Scouting Boys/Girls	Christina Carter	626-646-3490
Sickness & Distress	Joe Chavez	213-500-3216
Super Bowl	Trish Gonzalez	909-268-4137
Veterans	Angel Vasquez	909-210-3707
VAVS Representative	Ben Ortega, PDDGER	626-926-4046
VAVS Deputy	Veronica Aslan	323-646-3317
Volunteers	Ceci Avila	626-485-6285
Web Site	Ben Ortega, PDDGER	626-926-4046
Youth Activities	Christina Carter	626-646-3490



## ELKS TRACKS NEWSLETTER

Non-Profit Bulletin Published monthly by  
West Covina Elks Lodge No. 1996  
841 W. Merced Ave., West Covina Ca. 91790  
Lodge Lounge Bar (626) 338-8111  
Lodge Office: (626) 962-0113  
Lodge FAX: (626) 960-3512

## Lodge Office Hours

Tuesday through Friday. 10:00am-5:00pm

Lodge Office Email:

[1996wcelks@gmail.com](mailto:1996wcelks@gmail.com)

## Hall Rental & Lease Info:

Contact Alex at Office (626) 338-2119

[alex.manager.elks.1996@gmail.com](mailto:alex.manager.elks.1996@gmail.com)

## 2023-2024 LODGE OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler	Dannie Parker	818-371-5232
Leading Knight	Joe Chavez	213-500-3216
Loyal Knight	Trish Gonzalez	909-268-4137
Lecturing Knight	Christina Carter	626-646-3490
Treasurer	Veronica Aslan	323-646-3317
Secretary	Dee Varela	626-705-2763

## LODGE TRUSTEES

1st Year	George Alcala	626-472-3485
2nd Year	Angel Vasquez	909-210-3707
3rd Year	Lou Aguilar	626-404-4999
4th Year	Sandie Sesanto	626-675-6565
5th year	Irma Valdez Trotter	626-482-6397

## APPOINTED OFFICERS

Esquire	Jill Murphy	626-330-0669
Chaplain	Olivia Pompa	626-377-2767
Inner Guard	Ceci Avila	626-485-6285
Organist	VACANT	
Tiler	Charlene Rasmussen	626-622-8485

## 2022-2023 HONORED ELKS

Elk of the Year -----Terry Ortega

Tall Elk -----Grace Capp

Officer of the Year ---Veronica Aslan

Citizen of the Year ---Carmen Gabaldon

Spirit of Elkdom - George Alcala, Trish Gonzalez  
Carlos & Angelica Virgen, Gerardo Pompa,







## Exalted Ruler's Message

Hello and happy holidays to all of my Elks brothers and sisters. I hope everyone is doing well during this holiday season. Robert Leon and his crew of volunteers did a great job on the Covina Christmas parade float. This year we came in 3rd place. Congratulations. We have had some great events during the month of December and we're going to continue through January. Remember we are the Brotherhood of Elks and we should treat each other with Brotherly Love. Let's all try to get along and work together to make our lodge the very best it can be. The first week in January we will be working on upgrading the Hall restrooms. This is a project that we have been working on for a long time. We are going to need volunteers for this project. Bingo is up and running. We always need volunteers to help with bingo to do the many different jobs. Talk to Maria Ortega and she'll be happy to use your services. Bingo is not quite up to what it was before Covid but Maria is working very hard to build it up and get it back as close as we can to the way it used to be. We do have food on Thursday nights for bingo and the bar in the lounge is open for members and guests only to come and enjoy. Bingo players are not allowed in the bar. The time to nominate our new core of officers is getting close. Now is the time to start thinking what can you do for our lodge. Think about taking that step and become an officer of the lodge. If not think of who you may want to nominate for a position.

God Bless All Stay Safe and Healthy  
Dan Parker, PER  
Exalted Ruler  
West Covina Lodge 1996

## Leading Knights Station

Happy New Year and welcome to 2024 members at West Covina Elks Lodge 1996.

I hope your holidays were memorable with family and friends. After all the exiting parties, we will begin the upgrades of the bathrooms and lounge area.

The Elks had many exiting events to end the year 2023. We had a great event at the Ronald McDonald house in LA, supplying toys and food to the kids and their families. We participated in the annual Covina Christmas parade. There was a fabulous turnout with various floats representing entities around the city. Our Christmas tree lane had the most trees in years and was a joyous event. We brought in the New Year with the WC New Years party that was sold out.

Let all the Elks reflect on the past year, the great times, the new friends and members, and the members that have passed. We should look to 2024 and the future of the lodge. Continue to add new members, work on the lodge finances and plan on the sustainability in the long term for the lodge.

I would like to extend my appreciation to our ER Dan Parker and all the officers of this lodge. Thanks to all the volunteers for the countless hours of time they have put in to make all the events successful. To all the Trustees for the work you do that sometimes goes unnoticed. WE appreciate all the hard work that is done to keep this lodge up and running like a well-oiled machine.

Please review your newsletter and any E mails for upcoming events. Remember the lodge has had many sold-out events, so get your tickets early. Remember Elks support the lodge by attending the events.

We have a great core of volunteers, but we are always in search of new volunteers to assist in all events. This is a terrific way to meet other Elks and make an impact at our lodge. PURPLE PIGS are available in the office for members. Fill the piggy bank and continue the great charity work this organization does in the community.

Please remember to check in on your fellow Elks members that may be fighting an illness, or you have not seen at the lodge in a few months. A phone call or a visit may be what the doctor ordered to assist them in recovery.

Fraternaly,

Joe Chavez  
Esteemed Leading Knight

## Loyal Knights Station

As we step into 2024, I wish you happiness in the year to come. Monday Night Football has ended for the season. We had a lot of fun this year.

My MNF volunteer crew is simply the best group of friends that helped make this season successful. Thank you Sandy D, Carlos, Louie-Louie, Mando, Joanne, Yolanda, Compadre Lou, George Alcalá, Debbie M, Beverly, Fernando, Jaime, Eva, Angel, Martin and a huge thank you to Ceci Avila who cooked for us all. I cannot forget our patrons...THANK YOU!! See you next season.

Officer Nominations and Elections take place in February. There are many of our Elk brothers and sisters who can make a very positive change in our lodge. Please encourage them (or yourself) to run. There are many of us who love this lodge. Keep that in mind as you vote for the officers. It will be up to each and every one of us to become part of the solutions to continue to prosper our Lodge. Throughout 2024, I look forward to our members donating some time, since time is the greatest thing we have to give.

Here's to a positive New Year. As the saying goes...

„May we always be grateful for the past, find joy in the present, and remain excited for the future.“

Trish Gonzalez  
Esteem Loyal Knight

## Lecturing Knights Station

Greetings, Happy New Year; where did all the time go this past year, 2023? It is so fast and unbelievable, but this shouldn't stop us Elks from going on to a new, better new year, 2024; we have so much in store for the next few months. We are back to no-frills dinners, Super Bowl parties, karaoke on Wednesdays, Friday nights, dinners, and birthday bashes. Don't forget our Saturday night dancing parties, but most of all, don't forget January is family fun night, and the Theme is Loteria fun games. Don't forget the Valentine's Day dance. I want to say that I appreciate all the volunteer work that the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, and the Antlers helped out in my family, fun nights, and some of the other events that we have shared, and especially to the Elk members that have helped me put this together and making it a great success. Thank you, Alex, for doing a great job and maintaining the lodge events, dinner events, and entertainment we have had throughout the year. Thank you. Ben Ortega. You're inspirational, giving us a great lecture, putting everyone on, and ensuring they get the message through. I hope it works for the future. Teamwork is all about working together, not against each other; two heads are better than one. To one of the best Exalted Rulers I have ever had the pleasure of being an officer and working with, thank you so much for all your kindness and lectures and teaching and guiding all the advice. I couldn't work for a better Exalted Ruler, and being your officer has been a pleasure, Dan Parker. Everybody looks forward to seeing everyone soon and with great smiles and warmth.

God bless you all and have a very Happy New Year coming up and a safe one, and healthy one; see everyone soon.

Christina Carter  
Esteemed Lecturing Knight



## Antlers Corner

Happy New Year wishes to all. We hope 2024 brings many good tidings and blessings to everyone. The Antlers ended 2023 with

one last community event this past December, delivering new toys to the Queen of the Valley Hospital pediatric unit. With the success of our shoe drive last year, the Antlers were able to take your donations and turn them into smiles and a room full of new toys for children on the mend. We thank you, ELKS, for your support! We look towards 2024 with a sense of "Unity and Community" and begin the year having 3 of our Antlers on the 2024 ELKS Rose Float. Please ask how you can further assist our Antlers in making a difference in our community.

You can contact us directly for more information.

Thank you,

Carlos & Angelica Virgen  
626-780-5712



**MAJOR PROJECT PURPLE PIG DONORS**  
Fill your Piggy banks up & bring 'em in!  
California-Hawaii Elks - Major Project, Inc.  
Helping Children Since 1950  
Ask About Recurring Donations!  
All Major Project "Purple Pig" Donations are  
100% Tax Deductable

*We would like to thank all our recurring donors.*



## In MEMORIUM

*The Faults Of Our Members We Write Upon The Sands, Their Virtues Upon The Tablets Of Love And Memory....*

NONE TO REPORT



**WEST COVINA ELKS**  
**EXALTED RULER**  
**DANNIE PARKER**  
PROUDLY ACKNOWLEDGES  
**MARIA ORTEGA**  
ELK OF THE MONTH FOR  
DECEMBER 2023

## OFFICERS DUTY JANUARY 2024

Friday, January 5 - Irma Valdez-Trotter  
Saturday, January 6 - Dee Varela

Friday, January 12 - Olivia Pompa  
Saturday, Jan. 13 - Charlene Rasmussen

Friday, January 19 - Ceci Avila  
Saturday, January 20 - Jill Murphy

Friday, January 26 - Joe Chavez  
Saturday, January 27 - George Alcala

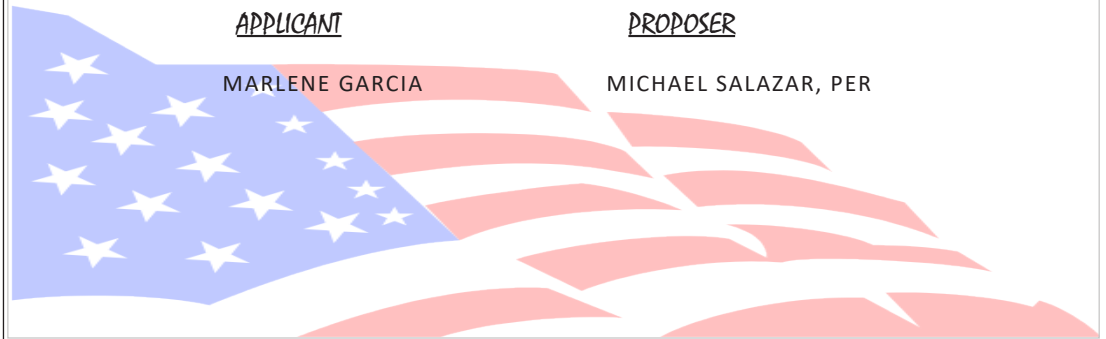


## PAST EXALTED RULERS

Ralph Gaither\* 1956-57  
 Hugh M. Bagley\* 1957-58  
 William T. Tanking\* 1958-59  
 Albert E. Lindbeck\* 1959-60  
 James R. Yost\*, Jr. 1960-61  
 James L. Morgan\* 1961-62  
 Harold Z. Dobbs\* 1962-63  
 Laurence R. Tillman\* 1963-64  
 Enrico (Hank) Salvo\* 1964-65  
 Thomas E. Curtis 1965-66  
 Jack Cleveland\* 1966-67  
 J. Paul Studer\* 1967-68  
 Roy Williams, Jr.\* 1968-69  
 Raiden V. Peterson\* 1969-70  
 Donald M. Huff 1970-71  
 Albert D. Davis\* 1971-72  
 Milo G. Summerhays\* 1972-73  
 Robert E. Carlson \*1973-74  
 H. Richard Harbert\* 1974-75  
 James J. Andert\* 1975-76  
 Anthony R. Mickols\* 1976-77  
 John Asmundson\* 1977-78  
 James E. Smith\* 1978-79  
 Larry Henderson\* 1979-80  
 Frank Rehor\* 1980-81  
 Carl Mou 1981-82  
 Richard Marble\* 1981-82  
 Robert E. Gubrud 1982-83  
 James Moseley\* 1982-83  
 Al Putman\* 1983-84  
 Dick Delauder \*1983-84  
 Manny Zamudio\* 1984-85  
 William Heller\* 1984-85  
 Art Willard\* 1985-86  
 Renee LaRose\* 1986-87  
 Fidel Nieto Jr.\* 1986-87  
 Charles Dalool 1987-88, 2011-12  
 Michael Sirchia 1987-88  
 Walt Doran\* 1988-89  
 David La Sage\* 1988-89  
 Bob Hollis-Brau 1989-90  
 Jerry Kober 1989-90  
 Ernie Gilbert 1990-91  
 Pat Shea\* 1990-91  
 Ron Conger\* 1991-92  
 Dave Southard\* 1991-92  
 Gary Holmes\* 1992-93  
 Roy Simes 1992-93  
 Bob Schachner\* 1993-94  
 WM Ziegenbein \*1993-94  
 Rick Dana 1994-95  
 Matt Jessup 1994-95  
 Roy Long\* 1995-96  
 Tim LaMarca 1995-96  
 Ed Lima\* 1996-97  
 Bernie Auld\* 1997-98  
 Benjamin L. Ortega 1998-99, 2012-13, 13-14  
 Vern Campion\* 1999-00  
 George Lunsford \*2000-01  
 Phil Hawkins 2001-02  
 Don McMahon\* 2002-03  
 Scott Matthews 2003-04  
 Ralph Garcia 2004-05  
 Willie Koskela 2005-06  
 Juan Diaz\* 2006-07  
 Lisa Ryken\* 2007-08  
 Patricia Gilliland 2008-09  
 Michael J. Salazar, Jr. PER 2009-10, 11, 18-19  
 Judith Lumberreras 2014-15  
 Mario Arellano\* 2016-2017  
 Dana Williams 2015-16, 17-18, 19-20  
 Sandra Mendoza\* 2018-19  
 William Salinas 2020-2021  
 Dannie Parker 2021-2022  
 Vivian Salinas 2022-2023

By Affiliation: Judge Al Miller\*, Orville Miller,  
 Robert Cortez\*, Joe Lozier, Frank Berry PER,  
 Jess Nelms, Charles Lein  
 (\*Deceased)

## Propositions For Membership / Affiliation / Transfers Demits / Reinstatements / Life Membership



## Sickness and Distress

Dale Walker is recovering from shoulder surgery  
 Don Naverrette is undergoing treatment

Please report any sickness & distress to the Lodge Office.  
 Keep the above members and their families in your prayers.

## MESSAGE FROM THE G&R



### The final stretch of Lodge year starts in January

Wanda and I want to wish each of you a very happy new year as we welcome in 2024. New Year's Day is a time when we reflect upon the events of the past year and plan for the upcoming year. New resolutions are made to improve health, diet, and other ambitions. For us as Elks, it should be our resolution to improve our Lodge and our Order.

January is the beginning of the last quarter of the Lodge year. Get your membership retention and arrears program into full stride. Have your committee reach out to delinquent Members. This personal contact could very well bring that Member back into our folds. Remind them of why they joined and how much they mean to the Lodge. It would be great for your Lodge to have a +1 membership gain in 2024.

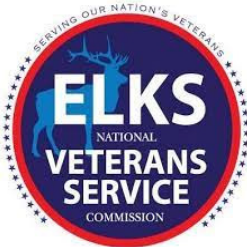
You and your Lodge Officers should be reviewing how and where you stand with your Local Lodge goals for the year. Should you see you are falling short, make January, February, and March your last big push to meet those goals. Your Lodge has all the assets needed to meet those goals with the right plans. Use your Past Exalted Rulers Association, Board of Directors, and Lodge committees to analyze what is needed to declare victory.

This is also a great time to review your hard-working Members and decide who deserves an award for the great work done for your Lodge. Some of the awards you can present to a Member and Officer who has done so much to promote the Order are Elk of the Year, Officer of the Year, and Citizen of the Year. There is no better way to say thank you for the hard work and dedication they have demonstrated. You may involve other Members to promote the good work that your Lodge does in your community.

Finally, the Auditing and Accounting Committee should review Lodge books and report at the last meeting of the month.

Remember "Elks Care — Elks Share" and "We Are THE Elks."

God Bless our great Order, our troops, and the United States of America.



## THANK YOU VETERANS



Wishing all our Veterans, and those serving near and abroad a Happy New Year.

**God Bless Our Men & Women in uniform.**



### 5th Tuesday Family Fun Night Loteria

Tuesday January, 30th,  
Everyone is invited.



More information forth coming. Lecturing Knight Christina Carter will be chairing this event. Easy to play just like Bingo.



[www.westcovinaelks.org](http://www.westcovinaelks.org)

## Roamin' Elks RV Camping Group



The Roamin' Elks Camping Group would like to extend an invitation to any West Covina Elks member that has an RV to join the group if they would like to travel and camp with other Elks.

A little history of the Roamin' Elks:

From the information I've been given, this is a group which has been around since 1973, and had a membership of 58 or more rigs. Over the years, members stopped RV'ing as they got older or passed away, and at this point there are only 16 paid memberships. Most of the time, when the group would go out, about 15-25 rigs would participate depending on where they were going. The group has gone as far as Santa Barbara, Lake Tahoe, & even Arizona. The group is well known at several campgrounds. The latest campout was at Newport Dunes, where the group voted in a new treasurer Steve Weisberg, and is planning to move forward with newcamping destinations.

If you have an RV, and you are interested, please contact:  
**Vince McCauley at 626-422-2812.** We could use new members and new ideas!

Vince McCauley

## JANUARY

## BIRTHDAYS

Leslie Crowell	1
Judith Lumbreras, PER	1
Linda Moncada	2
Lupe Pedersen	2
Allen Maes	4
Steve Robles	4
Yolanda Chavez	5
Apolonia Oronoz	5
Milon C Anger	8
Jack E Figueroa	8
Melissa Hamilton	8
James L Wicker	8
Peter A Grant	9
Vasken Maghakian	9
Deborah Millan	9
Michele Wilson	9
William Zeason Jr.	9
George Leiva	11
Christine Mead	11
Alexander Castro	12
Jose E Soto	12
Edward Aguilera	14
Richard J Robinson	14
Lydia Marie Gonzalez	15
Carlos Sanchez Jr.	15
Charles K Savoie	15
Edward Holguin	16
Dean H Sheldon Jr.	16
Jorge Azpeitia	18
George G Nguyen	18
Kennith G Armour	19
Luz Esparza-Rey	19
Ramiro L Quintero	19
Thomas A Galvery	20
Colleen Rozatti	20
Linda Ruelas	20
John Brittain	21
Isabel Marie Carrier	22
Rosie Rivera	22
Robert J Caldera	23
Emma Wilson	23
Janet Tasha Ricardez	24
Tracey Russell	24
Lillian S Torres	25
Luis A Aguilar	26
Robert Cardenas	26
Michael J Perrow	26
Lillian Olivia Guirado-Pompa	26
Christine Stafford	31



WEST COVINA LODGE LET'S GET TOGETHER & CELEBRATE EVENTS

West Covina Elks  
Lodge Presents



DOORS OPEN AT 5PM

# JANUARY 6

## Birthday Bash

PERFORMANCE BY

**RATT BLASTERS BAND**

Entry \$10 for non-members / Dinner served from 6 PM to 7 PM

**New York Steak \$25 or Chicken Cordon Bleu \$16**

Served with a Baked Potato, Veggies, Dinner Roll and Side Salad

**Prepaid Dinner Reservation require by  
Wednesday, January 3, by 11:59 PM**

WEST COVINA ELKS LODGE

20  
JANUARY



*Music Party*  
**SATURDAY**

*Guest Star* **DJ MOEGICZ**

DOOR OPEN AT 5:30 PM

**BRING YOUR OWN FOOD NIGHT**

ENTRY \$10 FOR NONMEMBERS

WEST COVINA ELKS LODGE  
PRESENTS



JANUARY  
12

DOORS  
OPEN AT  
4 PM

# FRIDAY NIGHT *Party*

DJ CESAR 7PM TO 11 PM

BRING IN YOUR OWN FOOD NIGHT

ENTRY \$10 FOR NONMEMBERS

West Covina Elks Lodge Presents

# Give Thanks

## 2024 ELK'S POTLUCK PARTY

Hosted by Jay & Alex

On 20th Jan at 6:30 PM

**LET'S EAT, DRINK & BE THANKFUL**

Bring your favorite dish to share.  
Sign up sheet so we don't have  
many duplicate dishes.

RSVP: (626) 478-4351

Text or Leave Message



# SPECIAL EVENTS SAVE THE DATES

Don't forget to save the date for the Saint Patrick's Dance, which is happening on  
Saturday, March 16th, 2024.

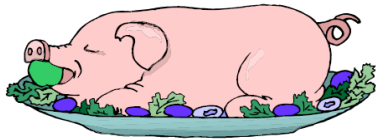


Details Coming Soon!



**West Covina Elks Lodge  
OFFICERS ANNUAL DEEP PIT**

## PORK-E-QUE



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Sunday, MARCH 10th, 2024**  
West Covina Elk's Lodge  
**FEATURING**  
Live Entertainment  
Generous Portions of Deep Pit  
Roasted Pork Dinner with all the Fixings!  
Plus Lots of Dancing!

## CHRISTMAS TREE LANE

We wish to extend a great big thank you to all the members and friends that attended the 30th Annual Christmas Tree Lane event on December 10th. It was a tremendous success and I believe everyone had a great time and experience.

I would like to thank all the Christmas Tree Lane Sponsors, for without you and your groups generosity we would not have had the success this event. Again you made this event shine!

**Below is the list of Tree Sponsors and the Winners.**

### Christmas Tree Lane Winners

DIY Tree – Jaime Garza

Sponsor – Elks Veteran's Grp – Angel Vasquez

Money Tree – Rosalie Leon

Sponsor – La Ramada Veteran's Grp

Back to Nature Tree – Jonathan Fallos

Sponsor – Mike Salazar and Fellow Alumni

Funk, Soul & Rock-n-Roll Tree – Athena Torres  
Sponsor – Friends of Live Music

It's Time For Dodger Baseball Tree – Cherie Rollman

Sponsor – Nancy Oroz

Money Tree – Nora Camerano

Sponsor – Past Exalted Ruler's

Disney & Mickey Magic Tree – Elizabeth Snodgrass

Sponsor – Veronica Aslan

Finding the Missing Money Tree – Maria Ramos  
Sponsor – Steve & Cherie Rollman

Disney Theme Tree – Evelyn Aleman

Sponsor – Carol Avila & Mario

Barbie Tree – Sue Parra

Sponsor – Rolling Deep 4 Charities

Tool Tree – Rosie Vargas

Sponsor – Elk of the Year Grp

Toy Tree – Evelyn Jimenez

Sponsor – Emblem Club #299

\$500 Money Tree – Louie Ramirez

Sponsor – Joann Redd & John Hughes

**Elks of the Year Committee Thanks You**

### DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM



Actress Jodie Sweetin and clinical social worker Amy McCarthy lead the discussion in season 3 of *Awkward Conversations*. The hosts bring on guest experts to talk about parenting and substance abuse prevention.



## Emblem Club #299 Corner

Dear Elk Sisters and Brothers,

Dear Elk Sisters and Brothers

TO QUOTE OUR Supreme Emblem President Joyce Allison;

“May the New Year 2024, bring a renewed breath of life to the Supreme Emblem Club, at every level, for every member and for every person our Organization touches. May the Year 2024 bring to your families, Peace and Joy, Contentment and Satisfaction, and a Sense of Well-being. May the New Year bring Hope and Growth to our Clubs.

May the New Year bring blessings in abundance of Joy, Health, Peace, Prosperity and Friendship, with enough to share and spare in the Circle of Emblem and Beyond.”

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!

Emblem Love  
Charlene Rasmussen  
Emblem President

“Come Fly With Emblem”



Cans & Bottles

## Recycling Is Back at West Covina Lodge

We have started bottle and can recycling on a regular basis here at the Lodge.

If you have any glass bottles, plastic bottles or aluminum cans that you would like to donate, please bring them with you to our Tuesday meetings. A container located in the enclosed patio area will be available to place your donations there.

We will also be collecting on the last Saturday of each month in the parking lot by the kitchen of the Lodge, from 8am-12pm. All recycling money will be going towards the Lodge's operating fund.

Thank you!  
Carlos and Sandy Duarte  
(909)702-2855



## WEST COVINA ELKS LODGE JANUARY FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHTS



Menu



&  
ENTERTAINMENT  
9.5% TAX INCLUDED

FRIDAYS SERVE TIME 5 - 7 PM  
SATURDAY SERVE TIME 6 - 7 PM

ALL DINNER RESERVATIONS MUST BE ORDERED  
ONLINE OR IN PERSON BY WEDNESDAY BY 11:59 PM

### JANUARY 6 / RATT BLASTERS

NEW YORK STEAK	\$25
CHICKEN CORDON BLEU	\$16

### JANUARY 12 / DJ CESAR

BRING YOUR OWN FOOD EVENT /  
DOORS OPEN AT 4:00 PM

### JANUARY 20 / DJ MOGIGZ

BRING YOUR OWN FOOD EVENT /  
DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM

### JANUARY 26 / BOBBY Z

NEW YORK STEAK & LOBSTER	\$46
LOBSTER	\$35
NEW YORK STEAK	\$26
SALMON	\$20

**MEMBERS ONLY SCAN QR CODE TO ORDER**



## RONALD McDONALD HOUSE THANKS YOU

The West Covina Elks Ronald McDonald House committee would like to thank all the members and friends who donated, supported, and assisted with their culinary skills to make this year's fundraisers to help „Bring The Holidays to the Ronald McDonald House in Los Angeles.

With the generosity of the West Covina Elks, the committee members held two events. One event was on November 4th, in which they hosted a Halloween-themed Meal of Love Dinner Event. On December 9th, the committee, with your generosity, held a Christmas-themed Meal of Love event.

The West Covina Elks Ronald McDonald House Committee, thank you for all your kindness and generosity. We look forward to more future events.



Nadine Avila, Chairperson

# THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU



AS THE MONDAY NIGHT  
FOOTBALL SEASON COMES TO  
AN END, I WOULD LIKE TO  
THANK ALL WHO CAME AND  
ENJOYED THE GAMES WITH US.  
SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!!

### ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION

## New SAB members form connections, empower peers

By **PATRICK ROELOFS**  
ENF Communications Coordinator

Service is at the heart of what it means to be an Elks scholar. Whether it's serving locally or across the country, Elks scholars are dedicated to building stronger communities. Through the Scholar Advisory Board, the SAB, this commitment to service is embodied every day. Meet a few of its newest members.

Marisol Cruz Velasco, a 2022 Most Valuable Student scholar sponsored by Gilroy, CA Lodge No. 1567 and sophomore at University of California, Berkeley, received an Elks Service Grant to make an impact on her campus. According to a study done by the University of California Global Food Initiative, 39% of undergraduates at UC Berkeley experience food insecurity. To combat this, Cruz Velasco used the grant to organize food funds and deliver food sacks, while also teaching students how to budget.

In addition to her Elks Service Grant, Cruz Velasco gives back by using social media to provide information on scholarships and college access to other students. With more than 14,000 followers on TikTok, Cruz Velasco feels a responsibility to help others on their academic journeys.

"As an Elks Scholar," Cruz Velasco said, "I understand the importance of

investing in the education of young people, empowering them to reach their full potential and make positive contributions to society, which is why I make engaging videos on my TikTok page."

Cruz Velasco is excited to use her skills to serve her fellow scholars as a SAB member.

"I am grateful for the impact the Elks National Foundation has had on my life," Cruz Velasco said, "so I hope to use my creativity and voice to truly demonstrate that I care for my Elks family."

After Tanner Christensen, a 2020 Most Valuable Student scholar sponsored by Provo, UT Lodge No. 849 and senior at Stanford University, attended the virtual 2020 Top 20 Leadership Weekend, he knew he could find connection in the #ElksFamily. He immediately got involved in the Elks scholar virtual programming, from hosting clubs to meet-ups, and attended the 2022 Summer Service Trip in Atlanta. When he was asked to serve as a scholar leader for the 2023 Leadership Weekend, he was excited to convey to a Top 20 what it means to be a part of a community of changemakers who are motivated to give back to the community.

"Despite everyone's different interests and backgrounds," Christensen said, "Elks scholars share so many beliefs and passions, like serving others and making the world a better place."

The relationships Christensen made during the 2023 Leadership Weekend, especially with former SAB President Kat Nakamura, represent the bond that Elks scholars share.

"I will forever cherish the bond between Kat and me," Christensen said. "It exemplifies how Elks scholars share an almost unspoken, built-in friendship and connection with one another."

*In 2023-24, the Elks National Foundation will award nearly \$4.2 million in college scholarships, ensuring a bright future for our nation's youth. As important members of the Elks family, Elks scholars receive many social and service opportunities with the Elks and one another. For more information about our scholarship programs and ways Lodges can get involved with Elks scholars, visit [elks.org/scholars](https://elks.org/scholars).*

### JOIN THE CLUB!

Start a monthly gift to the Elks National Foundation at [enf.elks.org/FC](https://enf.elks.org/FC) or learn more by scanning the QR code.





## Top Lodge difference makers deserve recognition

By THOMAS W. FRAKER

Committee Member

With only three months left in the Lodge year, Exalted Rulers are looking at their successful year and the team that helped them. Rewarding the team builds on the established framework and ensures continued support to our communities, our veterans, and our youth.

Exalted Rulers have many avenues at the Grand Lodge level to achieve this. The most common are the Elk, Officer, and Citizen of the Year. Requests for these certificates must be sent to the Grand Secretary's Office prior to March 31.

Each year our Grand Exalted Ruler establishes goals for each Lodge to strive. To recognize the achievements of the Exalted Rulers and Lodges in reaching those goals, Grand Lodge has "Making A Difference" citation awards. These may be awarded to Exalted Rulers who participate in six of the nine required programs during the year and to each Local Lodge that participates in six of 11 required programs during the year. The



required programs are outlined in the Grand Lodge Program booklet on page 38. The criteria for each award is specific and requires supporting documentation.

These awards are available through your area Grand Lodge Committee member. Entry forms are listed in the Fraternal Committee area on [elks.org](http://elks.org). Go to "Forms and Contests" and find the link for "Outstanding Members – Certification Request for GER Special Commendation Award." The forms were also made available to each ER on the thumb drive distributed during the Grand Lodge Session. All awards can be submitted for approval starting

January 1 and must be postmarked by March 31.

Other certificates are available to each Exalted Ruler. The "Grand Exalted Ruler's Outstanding Service Commendation" certificates are used to recognize two persons performing good works for their Lodge. These team members are always on hand and make the ER's job easier.

Every Lodge that shouts out GER Shook's motto "We Are THE Elks" should have more than enough Members to recognize. Your Area Fraternal Committee member is ready to assist and make it simple to pat them on the back.

## GRAND LODGE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

## Building character, community spirit through Antlers

By RONALD A. MANGONE

Committee Member

Community service plays a key role in building strong, connected, and vibrant societies. In today's fast-paced world, it is imperative to get our youth actively involved in serving their communities. Encouraging our young people to participate not only benefits the community, but it also has an impact on their growth and development.

Today more than ever, our youth are bombarded with everyday distractions. Encouraging them to engage in their community helps to instill a sense of responsibility and belonging. It is an excellent opportunity for our youth to develop essential skills such as communication, teamwork, and problem solving. In addition, they are exposed to many diverse backgrounds.

This is why the continuation of our Antlers Program is so important. Our Antlers bring a new energy and a fresh perspective in recognizing and addressing the issues in their community while keeping with Elks' traditions and virtues active.

New Antlers Lodges have been instituted, and several more have been reinstituted. Welcome and congratulations to the following new Antlers Lodges:

- Amarillo, TX No. 923
- Berwick, PA No. 1138
- Hanford, CA No. 1259
- West Covina, CA No. 1996
- Paramus, NJ No. 2001
- Greenwich, NY No. 2223
- Cocoa Beach, FL No. 2387
- Zephyrhills, FL No. 2731

I continue to offer assistance in establishing Antlers Lodges. I encourage your Members to check out our Lodge Activities website at [elks.org/grandlodge/activities/](http://elks.org/grandlodge/activities/).

I would like to thank everyone who stopped by the Lodge Activities Booth in Minneapolis, especially those who I had spoken with prior to going to Grand Lodge. I was happy to put a face with your name and to hear about your Antlers Lodge. Please continue to let me know the types of events your dedicated

Antlers have planned and share photos with me. At next year's Grand Lodge Convention your Antlers photo might be featured on our wall.

Finally, I leave you with these words: Empowering our youth can create a society where the spirit of service is ingrained in their hearts. Our involvement with our youth is just another example of who we are and what we stand for, because "We Are THE Elks."



WEST COVINA ELKS LODGE #1996  
841 W. MERCED AVE.  
WEST COVINA CALIFORNIA, 91790-4902



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Electronic Service Requested



# January 2024 Elktivities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 NEW YEARS DAY LODGE CLOSED	2 Lodge Mtg. 7:30 PM	3 PER Meeting 7:00 PM KJ DON Karaoke 6-10 Dinner Available	4 BINGO Thirsty Throwback Thursday Lounge	5 LODGE CLOSED	6 Ratt Blasters Birthday Bash Pre-Order Food Available
7 LODGE CLOSED	8 Lounge Open 4:00 PM Investigations Emblem Club Mtg. 7:00 PM NO FRILLS	9 Lodge Mtg. 7:30 PM Balloting	10 KJ DON Karaoke 6-10 Dinner Available BOD Mtg. 6:30	11 BINGO Thirsty Throwback Thursday Lounge	12 LODGE CLOSED	13 DJ Cesar „Bring Your Own Food“
14 LODGE CLOSED	15 Lounge Open 4:00 PM INDOCTRINA- TION NO FRILLS	16 Lodge Mtg. 7:30 PM	17 KJ DON Karaoke 6-10 Dinner Available	18 BINGO Thirsty Throwback Thursday Lounge	19 LODGE CLOSED	20 DJ Moegigz „Bring Your Own Food“ also Elks Potluck
21 LODGE CLOSED	22 Lounge Open 4:00 PM EMBLEM SOCIAL 7PM NO FRILLS	23 Lodge Mtg. 7:30 PM Initiation	24 KJ DON Karaoke 6-10 Dinner Available	25 BINGO Thirsty Throwback Thursday Lounge	26 Steak & Lobster Bobby Z	27 Bottles & Cans Recycling 8AM - 12:00
28 LODGE CLOSED	29 Lounge Open 4:00 PM NO FRILLS	30 FAMILY FUN NIGHT LOTERIA	31 KJ DON Karaoke 6-10 Dinner Available			