

#### WEST COVINA ELKS LODGE #1996

Committee Chairman 2022 - 2023

Accident Prevention Manager         Sandie Sesanto         626-675-6565           Activities Reports         Robert Leon         626-827-6726           Alternate Delegate         Dannie Parker, PER         818-371-5232           Americanism         Julie Walker         626-222-2935           Audio/Lighting         Rhiannan Britney         626-206-2832           Bingo         VACANT         Bulletin Director/Editor         Ben Ortega, PDDGER         626-926-4801           Charity/Major Project         Dana Williams, PER         714-240-1647           Christmas Tree Lane         Vacant         Community Public Relations         626-827-6706           Crab Crack         Ben Ortega, PDDGER         626-926-4404           Crab Crack         Mike Salazar, PER         626-827-6700           Cribage Club         VACANT         VACANT           Drug Awareness         Nancy Lucero         Elks Mational Foundation         Robert Leon         626-827-6700           Elks Memorial Service         Olivia Pompa         626-827-6700         626-827-6700           Flag Day         Ceci Avila         626-827-6700         626-827-6700           Golfing         Bill Schmko         626-827-6700         626-827-6700           Flag Day         Ceci Avila         626-827-6703 <th>Assident Books at the Adams and</th> <th>Canalia Cananta</th> <th>COC CZE CECE</th>	Assident Books at the Adams and	Canalia Cananta	COC CZE CECE
Alternate Delegate Dannie Parker, PER 318-371-5232 Americanism Julie Walker 626-222-2935 Audio/Lighting Rhiannan Britney 626-222-2935 Audio/Lighting Rhiannan Britney 626-206-2832 Audior Joanna Howard, Ben Ortega Bingo VACANT BILT Judith Lumbreras, PAVP 626-587-6489 Bulletin Director/Editor Ben Ortega, PDDGER 626-926-4501 Charity/Major Project Dana Williams, PER 714-240-1647 Christmas Tree Lane Vacant Community Public Relations Robert Leon 626-827-6726 Crab Crack Mike Salazar, PER 626-926-4046 Crab Crack Mike Salazar, PER 626-827-6700 VACANT Drug Awareness Nancy Lucero Eliks National Foundation Robert Hollis-Brau PDDGER 626-827-6700 VACANT Drug Awareness Nancy Lucero Eliks National Foundation Robert Hollis-Brau PDDGER 626-827-6700 Golfing Bill Schmko 626-862-6533 Grants Coordinators Dee Varela 626-827-6700 Golfing Bill Schmko 626-862-6533 Grants Coordinators Dee Varela 626-709-2763 Grants Coordinators Veronica Aslan 323-646-3317 Greeters Christina Carter 626-646-3490 House Rules Chuck Dalool, PDDGER 626-827-6700 Investigations Maria Ortega 626-807-600 Indoctrination Michael Salazar, PER 626-827-6700 Investigations Maria Ortega 626-807-607-2763 Houge Rules Chuck Dalool, PDDGER 626-832-6900 Investigations Michael Salazar, PER 626-827-6700 Investigation Membership Dee Varela 626-705-2763 Major Project Dana Williams, PER 714-240-1647 Michael Salazar, PER 626-827-6700 Pee Varela 626-627-64046 Membership/Lapsation Dee Varela 626-705-2763 Michael Salazar	_		
Americanism         Julie Walker         626-202-2935           Audio/Lighting         Rhiannan Britney         626-206-2832           Auditor         Joanna Howard, Ben Ortega         818           Bingo         VACANT         826-26-876-6489           BLT         Judith Lumbreras, PAVP         626-587-6489           Bulletin Director/Editor         Ben Ortega, PDDGER         626-926-4501           Charity/Major Project         Dana Williams, PER         714-240-1647           Christmas Tree Lane         Vacant         626-827-6726           Community Public Relations         Robert Leon         626-827-6726           Crab Crack         Mike Salazar, PER         626-827-6700           Crab Sala         Vacant         626-827-6700           Elks Memorial Service         Olivia Pompa         626-837-6700           Elks Memorial Service         Michael Salazar, PER         626-833-9756           Funeral Service         Michael Salazar, PER         626-827-6700           Golfing         Bill Schmko         626-827-6702 <t< td=""><td>•</td><td></td><td></td></t<>	•		
Audio/Lighting         Rhiannan Britney         626-206-2832           Auditor         Joanna Howard, Ben Ortega         Ce-206-2832           Bilingo         VACANT         Co-926-4501           BLIT         Judith Lumbreras, PAVP         626-587-6489           Bulletin Director/Editor         Ben Ortega, PDDGER         626-926-4501           Charity/Major Project         Dana Williams, PER         714-240-1647           Christmas Tree Lane         Vacant         626-827-6726           Community Public Relations         Robert Leon         626-827-6700           Crab Crack         Mike Salazar, PER         626-827-6700           Cribage Club         VACANT         VACANT           Drug Awareness         Nancy Lucero         Elks Mational Foundation         Robert Hollis-Brau PDDGER         626-827-6700           Elks Memorial Service         Olivia Pompa         626-377-2767         626-837-72767           Flag Day         Ceci Avila         626-839-9756         626-837-6700           Golfing         Bill Schmko         626-862-6533         626-827-6700           Golfing         Bill Schmko         626-862-6533         626-827-6700           Grants Coordinators         Veronica Aslan         323-646-3317         626-822-2935         626-822-2935	Alternate Delegate	Dannie Parker, PER	818-371-5232
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Bulletin Director/Editor         Ben Ortega, PDDGER         626-926-4501           Charity/Major Project         Dana Williams, PER         714-240-1647           Christmas Tree Lane         Vacant         Vacant           Community Public Relations         Robert Leon         626-926-4046           Crab Crack         Ben Ortega, PDDGER         626-926-4006           Crab Crack         Mike Salazar, PER         626-827-6700           Cribbage Club         VACANT         VACANT           Drug Awareness         Nancy Lucero         Elks National Foundation         806-118-874           Elks Memorial Service         Olivia Pompa         626-337-2767           Flag Day         Ceci Avila         626-827-6700           Golfing         Bill Schmko         626-826-76533           Grants Coordinators         Dee Varela         626-705-2763           Grants Coordinators         Veronica Aslan         323-646-331           Greeters         Christina Carter         626-646-4490           Government Relations         Maria Ortega         626-827-2703           House Rules         Chuck Dalool, PDDGER         626-322-2935           Indoctrination         Michael Salazar, PER         626-827-6700           Investigations         Michael Salazar, PER </td <td>Bingo</td> <td>VACANT</td> <td></td>	Bingo	VACANT	
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Cribbage Club         VACANT           Drug Awareness         Nancy Lucero           Elks National Foundation         Robert Hollis-Brau PDDGER         909-622-9861           Elks Memorial Service         Olivia Pompa         626-377-2767           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         626-802-7090           House Rules         Chuck Dalool, PDDGER         626-332-6945           Indoctrination         Michael Salazar, PER         626-322-6945           Indoctrination Membership         Dee Varela         626-705-2763           Laughlin Trip         Ben Ortega, PDDGER         626-926-4046           Co-Chairman         Joana Howard         90-392-2685           Lodge Activities         VACANT         Mail Out         Chuck Dalool, PDDGER         626-332-6945           Major Project         Dana Williams, PER         714-240-1647 <td>Crab Crack</td> <td>Ben Ortega, PDDGER</td> <td>626-926-4046</td>	Crab Crack	Ben Ortega, PDDGER	626-926-4046
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Elks Memorial Service         Olivia Pompa         626-377-2767           Flag Day         Ceci Avila         626-893-9756           Funeral Service         Michael Salazar, PER         626-893-9756           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         Chuck Dalool, PDDGER         626-332-6945           Indoctrination         Michael Salazar, PER         626-827-6700           Investigations         Michael Salazar, PER         626-827-6700           Investigation         Dee Varela         626-705-2763           Laughlin Trip         Ben Ortega, PDDGER         626-926-4046           Major Project         Dana Williams, PER         714-240-1647	Drug Awareness	Nancy Lucero	
Flag Day         Ceci Avila         626-893-9756           Funeral Service         Michael Salazar, PER         626-827-6700           Golfing         Bill Schmko         626-827-6700           Golfing         Dee Varela         626-862-6533           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         Chuck Dalool, PDDGER         626-332-6945           Indoctrination         Michael Salazar, PER         626-827-6700           Investigations         Michael Salazar, PER         626-827-6700           Investigations         Michael Salazar, PER         626-827-6700           Lapsation/Membership         Dee Varela         626-705-2763           Laughlin Trip         Ben Ortega, PDDGER         626-926-4046           Co-Chairman         Joanna Howard         909-392-2685           Lodge Activities         VACANT           Mail Out         Chuck Dalool, PDDGER         626-332-6945           Major Project         Dana Williams, PER         714-240-1647           Mediator <td< td=""><td>Elks National Foundation</td><td>Robert Hollis-Brau PDDGER</td><td>909-622-9861</td></td<>	Elks National Foundation	Robert Hollis-Brau PDDGER	909-622-9861
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Asst: Ritual Coach  Roamin Elks  Bill Zeason  951-903-4192  Saturday Night Entertainment  Sandie Sesanto  626-675-6565  Scholarships  Michael Salazar, PER  626-827-6700  Scouting Boys/Girls  Don & Patricia Best  626-272-5799  Sickness & Distress  Dana Williams, PER  714-240-1647  Super Bowl  William Salinas, PER  VACANT  Volunteers  Vacant  Veb Site  Carmen Gabaldon  626-264-0007  Web Site		O .	626-780-5712
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Youth Activities Christina Carter 626-646-3490		<b>o</b> ,	
	Youtn Activities	Christina Carter	626-646-3490



#### Elks Tracks Newsletter

NonProfit 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

#### Hall Rental & Lease Info:

Contact Alex at Office (626) 338-2119 Cell (626) 478-4351

alex.manager.elks.1996@gmail.com

#### 2022-2023 LODGE OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler	Vivian Salinas	562-298-3247
Leading Knight	Dana Williams	714-240-1647
Loyal Knight	Christina Carter	626-646-3490
Lecturing Knight	Trish Gonzalez	909-268-4137
Treasurer	Veronica Aslan	323-646-3317
Secretary	Dee Varela	626-705-2763

#### **LODGE TRUSTEES**

1st Year	Gerardo Pompa	626-674-7364
2nd Year	George Alcala	626-472-3485
3rd Year	Angel Vasquez	909-210-3707
4th Year	Lou Aguilar	626-404-4999
5th vear	Sandie Sesanto	626-675-6565

#### APPOINTED OFFICERS

Esquire	Michael Salazar	626-827-6700
Chaplain	Olivia Pompa	626-377-2767
Inner Guard	Ceci Avila	626-485-6285
Organist	VACANT	
Tiler	Charlene Rasmus	sen 626-622-8485

#### 2021-2022 HONORED ELKS

Elk of the Year - Olivia Pompa
Tall Elk - Terry Ortega
Officer of the Year - Angel Vasquez
Citizen of the Year - Robert Leon
Spirit of Elkdon - Grace Capp, Carlos Virgen,
Martin Resendez,

Exalted Ruler Award - Veronica Aslan, Delia Varela



ello Members I would like to start off by saying I am honored to be your Exalted Ruler and I am looking forward to the coming year and working with our New BOD to make this a Great Year for us.

We will be working on bringing back Bingo as well as continuing to have our dinners and dances along with some new events.

To do more at our Lodge we need volunteers, Carmen Gabaldon will now be heading the Volunteer group, so please Contact her if you can

I would like to thank PER Dan and Shirley Parker along with their committee for a wonderful Inaugural Ball.

In closing I would like to reach out to you our members as I do need to fill some committee positions so if you would like to get involved more please contact me

Thank you,

Vivian Salinas Exalted Ruler



#### Leading Knights Station

Happy April and the beginning of our new lodge year. A special thank you to Exalted Ruler Dan Parker and First Lady Shirley. They started last year during a very difficult time. Being mindful of our situation, they, with the efforts of our officers and membership resulted in a fantastic year. A very big "Thank

You" to you all.

I am proud to represent you this year as Leading Knight. One of our main objectives this year is to get our lodge open 100% for the first time in 2 years. Covid has kept a lot of our members away and rightfully so. As things are beginning to open, we will be ready. It will take a great effort from our corps of officers and you, our great membership. Officers will have operations in place including events and entertainment designed to the interests of you and the well being of the lodge. We ask that our members support fully these festivities, our restaurant and lounge so our lodge will continue to grow and pro-

Our ritual team will be competing against the other 4 lodges in our district for bragging rights and keeping the District Trophy right here in West Covina. Please come out to support our team and lodge on April 30 th at the Elks

Pasadena lodge.

As being a representative, we have an open-door policy to all members. If you have a question or concern of any matter concerning the lodge, please feel free to call or meet with us in person at the lodge. All inquires will be treated fairly with the upmost consideration. Let's get this year started out strong!

Dana Williams, PER Leading Knight



#### Loyal Knights Station

T would like to thank everyone who has helped and supported me this past year as your Lecturing Knight, it has been a great adventure and I have much more to learn but most importantly I want to thank all the Elks members who have help me along the way.

Coming into my new roll as your Esteemed Loyal Knight, it will be a challenge and I will do my best to meet the expectations of the position. I ask for your help, support, and patience. I'll do a good job thank you everybody and hope to see you at one of our events soon.

Christina Carter Loyal Knight



#### **Lecturing Knights** Station

ello friends, I cannot begin to express how honored I am to be part of the new corps of officers supporting our Exalted Ruler. This is my 3rd year being a member. I have met so many new friends and I am blessed to have reconnected with childhood friends. I know this year will bring new experiences and responsibilities. I accept them with dedication. . One of the meanings of Brotherly Love is we are here to be supportive of each other. As part of the new corps of officers, one of our first endeavors is the Ritual Competition. It is just around the corner. Please send positive vibes our way. May has 5 Tuesdays! This will be my first time to plan a family fun night. Be on the lookout for more information. With your support we can make this a fun and successful event. I am looking forward to meeting more of you as we work alongside

In Brotherly Love,

each other.

Trish Gonzalez Lecturing Knight





# KARAOKE WITH KJ DON EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT 6 · 10 PM. DINNER & DRINK SPECIALS AVAILABLE

#### 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 Reccuring Donations!
All Major Project "Purple Pig" Donations are

Carmen Enciso
Christina Carter
Helen Genis
Christopher McMahon
Kelli Ishikawa

Dee Varela Linda Ruelas Amador Santoyo Charles Sawyer Mike Salazar

William García

Thank You For Your Donations



#### In MEMORIUM

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

Blas Chavez - Member #5851 Birthdate- February 3, 1936 Initiated - January 26, 1993 Passed Away - August 21, 2021

William E. Miller - Member #202 Birthdate - October 5, 1934 Initiated - June 2, 1956 Passed Away - January 29, 2022

Charles Aguirre - Member #4999 Birthdate - April 19, 1938 Initiated - June 26, 1984 Passed Away- February 17, 2022



#### 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 I. 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 Moselev\* 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 Lumbreras 2014-15 Mario Arellano 2016-2017 Dana Williams 2015-16, 17-18, 19-20 Sandra Mendoza\* 2018-19 William Salinas 2020-2021

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

Dannie Parker 2021-2022

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

Sandra Lara
Martin Espinosa
Danny Ray Lawhorn
Martha Saldana
Jose A. Cuadra

PROPOSER

Robert Leon
Angel Vasquez

Merle Palomera
Alex Lindsay
Chris F. Guerrero

#### Sickness and Distress

Rick Dana's daugher, Leigh (Past Emblem President) had surgery for breast cancer. Is home recovering.

Steve Martin's mother-in-law, Maxine Matthews, passed away. Our prayers and condolences go out to their family.

Please keep our members and their families in your prayers. If you know of any member who is ill, please notify the Lodge Office (626) 962-0113.



#### Annual Awards Night March 1st 2022

Past Grand Exalted Ruler Robert Duitsman awarding Past Exalted Ruler Willie Koskela with his 60 Year member Pin.

Congratulations Willie!

# ATTENTION GOLFERS WEST COVINA GOLF CLUB NEWS

Attention Golfers

West Covina Elks Golfers we are planning a golf outing to Los Serranos GC, April 11th. All golfer's, friends, beginners, pro's, are welcome. Contact me to confirm course and tee time.

Bill Schimko ph#626 862 6533
email address: wfs19511@yahoo.com
Hit'em long and straight !! Bill
WEST COVINA FLKS

WEST COVINA FLKS
GOLF CLUB





#### WEST COVINA BENEVOLENT & PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS LODGE #1996

Cordially invites you to attend

# The Installation of Exalted Ruler Elect Vivian Salinas

and her newly Elected Corps of Officers for Fraternal Year 2022-2023

#### Tuesday March 29th, 2022

No-Host Cocktails~5:30 PM

Dinner~6:30 PM

\$20.00 Donation, Choice of

N.Y. Steak, Salmon or Stuffed Chicken Breast

With all the Trimmings

Installation of Officers~7:30 PM

RSVP by Monday March 28th Pre-Paid Dinner Reservation Lodge Office (626) 962-0113

# GRAND EXALTED RULER & MASTER OF CEREMONY CHARLES "CHUCK" DALOOL, PDDGER



Rhonda Lynn Henry	1
Glenn Kennedy	3
Phillip Bribiesca	4
Gilbert Castello	4
Fred Hermosillo	4
Fred M. Palmer	5
Nick Cadena	8
Juanita Deluna	8
Adeline Miranda	8
Marina Salazar	8
Stephen Bledsoe	9
Jack E. Coiner	9
John B. Rafferty	10
Antoinette Toni Harmonson	11
Elizabeth Zook	11
Valentina Romo	12
David Caro	13
Robert P. Fitzgerald Jr.	16
Connie Kielsmeier	16
George G. Riesgo	18
Esther O Sapien	18
Patricia Soderblom	18
Vince McCauley	19
Joseph C. Palazzolo	20
Adrian Pompa	20
Jay Lindsay	21
Robert L. Agee	22
Dawn M. Hines	22
Steve Rollman	22
Scott L. Matthews, PER	23
Cindy Nobili	23
Arthur D. Ayers	24
Irene Phillips	26
Jerald R. Whippie	26
John R. Kemp	27
Araceli Maloney	27
Debra McMillen	27
Anthony Ramirez	28
Debra Dennis	29
Larry Mahrenholtz	30
Line Colores	2.0

#### Veterans Corner March West Covina Elks #1996 Veterans Committee



Well, this has been a very busy year for us, as you all know. All Grants have been completed. We assisted a total of 50 Veterans this year. 25 Senior Disabled Veterans at Palo Verde Apartments, El Monte, CA. Funded with the Focus Grant. 25 Homeless Veterans with the Welcome Home Program, in partnership with Team AmVets, funded with the Spotlight/Beacon Grant. Finally, the Gratitude Grant was shared with families and the Veterans at Palo Verde Apartments, which is a low-income facility. Gift Cards of \$25.00, presented to assist with a Turkey or a Ham for Christmas Dinner, groceries for the Veterans, candy bags for the children along with school supplies for this coming school year. Bingo Charity supplied 50 Backpacks for all the children. Teamwork at its best! Approximately total cost for all \$17,200.00.

On March 8, 2022, Committee brought forward 2 donations requests from the Veterans Account, 1) \$2,000.00 to the Bob Hope USO, Ontario Airport CA. 2) \$4,000.00 to Team AmVets, assist in furniture purchase for those Homeless Veterans placed in housing, still awaiting furnishings. It was motioned and approved.

I am so very proud of our Veterans Committee accomplishments throughout the years that we have been together, we always pulled together and made it a fun adventure. We have been blessed to serve so many Veterans, assisting their needs, visiting and welcoming them into their new homes. Our pleasure to serve the 25 Disabled Veterans at the Palo Verde Apartments, the smiles, hugs, touched our hearts.

Linda and I would like to thank the membership for allowing us serve on this wonderful committee for the past 6 years, an experience that we will never forget. We have respectfully resigned effective 3/31/2022. The support has always been overwhelming by many. Best wishes to the next Veterans Chair.

Sincerely,

Chris Abeyta Lodge/District Chair Committee Linda Abeyta Kelli Ishikawa Lucy Ibarra Dana William, PER Robert Hollis-Brau, PDDGER Angel Vasquez Keith Kellev Mike and Beth Zook



1946-2021

#### New Freedom Grant options suit range of project sizes

By HANNAH GRABER **ENVSC Programs Coordinator** 

This year, we're making big changes to the Freedom Grant! We're excited to offer more flexibility than ever. We're also increasing the number of Freedom Grants to 600.

Freedom Grant applications will become available on April 1 at 12:01 a.m. (Central Time) and will close on April 15 at Noon (Central Time). Grant recipients will be notified in mid-May. Freedom Grants are competitive, and applications will be evaluated based on the type of project proposed and the quality of each Lodge's plan.

that best fits their project.

The Freedom Grant Classic, at \$3,000, is for active projects and requires direct service to veterans. Projects with a high level of Elks involvement will qualify for this grant. Consider this option if your Lodge is planning a large event or has experience with an ongoing project.

The Freedom Grant Spark, at \$1,000, in need. Involvement is encouraged when possible. This option has fewer be found at elks.org/vets.

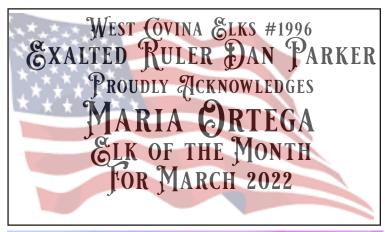
Each Lodge will have the choice to restrictions and is an excellent choice for apply for the type of Freedom Grant Lodges just getting started with service to veterans, or for smaller Lodges

in rural areas.

All Freedom Grant projects must serve veterans and/or military members and their families. Grant projects must focus on one of these five areas of need: employment, homelessness and housing,

military families, health, and educational support.

More information about the Freedom is for projects that serve veterans Grant and how to decide which version would be the best fit for your Lodge can





### Momentum builds for membership gain as year closes

By Rick Gathen

Membership Marketing Manager

The last two years have been a serious test of the Order's resilience—but based on the results so far in the 2021–2022 Lodge year, we have been more successful than we could have hoped.

Throughout the fraternal year, we responded, recovered, and renewed, and we have generated some remarkable momentum toward a gain in membership. We are in the final stretch of the year: the final numbers for the 2021–2022 Lodge year will be recorded on May 31. We are projecting 85,000 members will be added to the rolls this fraternal year, combined with lower-than-average cancelations. Our new Grand Lodge Billing System has also made it easier than ever for people to pay their dues. If this all pans out, we will be in a strong position for a gain in membership.

Part of this success is owed to the membership tools available at elks.org and join.elks.org, which provide helpful, positive messages for reaching out to new Members and retaining the Members we have. However, growth in numbers doesn't come from any one special marketing trick. Instead, it reflects the way Elks have made their Lodges attractive places for people to join.

We can achieve growth by continuing to be loud and proud about Elkdom, by ensuring our Lodges are inviting to all visitors, and most importantly, by continuing to be the Best People On Earth.

I am thankful for all of those who said NO to me.
It's because of them
I'm doing it myself.

- Albert Einstein

#### Emblem Club #299 Corner

Just to introduce myself, my name is Maureen Miles, and I am serving as President of the West Covina Emblem Club#299 for 2022-2023. My President's Project this year is "Shepherd's Pantry". We will be having functions and fundraisers this year to support the President's Project and many other Charities and Other Organizations.

Looking to the future, our 19th #Annual "Fore the Kids "Golf Classic will be held on October 14th, 2022. Hope all golfers will be ready to play. We had a great time and successful tournament in 2021.

My main topic this month is "Attendance." We really need our Emblem Members to attend our monthly Meetings and Socials. The Monthly Business Meeting is held on the 2nd Monday of the month and the Social is held on the 4th Monday of the month. The February Business Meeting was very poorly attended. I know that the last two years have been very hard on all of us. A lot of us have gotten used to the idea of not leaving our homes. I am guilty of this myself. Let's all make a big effort to attend April 11th Business Meeting. I have already decided to make the effort. I am going to be West Covina Emblem President, 2022-2023. (Again, my choice, I am not expecting anyone else to make the same choice)

I am following some big footprints! Olivia Pompa has gone far beyond the call of duty. Olivia has kept this Club together by phone, Zoom, and finally meetings back in the Hall. Let's thank Olivia by attending Business Meetings and Socials.

Thank you, Olivia, for a job very well done!!

Maureen Miles President, 2022-2023

"Emblem and Angels, Serving our Community – It's what we do."



Olivia Pompa (pictured second from the left) Awarded the Elk of the Year Honor for 2021-2022. Pictured is PGER Robert Duistman and West Covina Past Elks of the Year.

# WEST OVINA ELKS JODGE APRIL FRIDAY NIGHTS



April 1st	Membershi
Entertainment – Thief Band	Price
Prime Rib	\$24.00
Baby Back Ribs (1/2 Rack)	\$20.00
Salmon	\$20.00
Fettuccine Shrimp Alfredo	\$20.00
Rotisserie Chicken	\$15.00
Asian Chicken Salad	\$15.00

#### April 8th

#### Entertainment – US 99 Band

Walk In and order your own food / No Pre ordering Call in to reserve tables for parties of 4 and up

#### April 15th

#### Entertainment – Lou Apadoca

T-Bone Steak	\$25.00
Mahi Mahi	\$20.00
Crispy Chicken Salad	\$15.00
Chicken Marsala	\$15.00

#### April 22nd

#### Entertainment – DJ Dana

Walk in and order your own food / No Pre ordering Call in to reserve tables for parties of 4 and up

#### April 22nd

#### Entertainment - Bobby Z

Entertainment – Bobby Z	
New York Steak & Lobster	\$52.00
Lobster	\$35.00
New York Steak	\$25.00
Salmon	\$20.00
Cobb Salad	\$15.00

THIS MONTH WE WILL BE TRYING A NO PREORDERING FOR DINNER, MEANING YOU DON'T
HAVE TO CALL IN ADVANCE TO ORDER AND
PAY FOR YOUR MEAL.

DINNER MENU ITEMS ARE LIMITED. CALL TO RESERVE TABLES OF 4 OR MORE CALL ALEX AT (626) 338-2119 OR (626) 478-4351

#### March 1st Awards Night Pictures



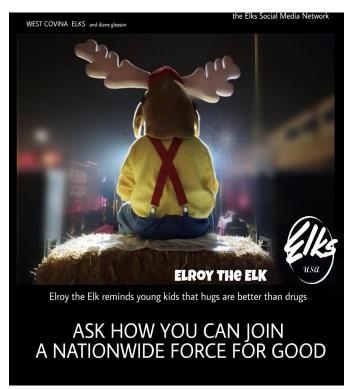
Robert Leon Awarded "Citizen of the Year" by Exalted Ruler Dan Parker



West Covina Past Exalted Rulers Associations selection for Officer of the Year Angel Vasquez



Tall Elk Award being awarded to Terry Ortega by Exalted Ruler Dan Parker





Charles & Carole Dalool along with his family after Chuck recieved his 50 Year





Lodge
Treasurer
Veronica Aslan
and Lodge
Secretary
Dee Varela
receiving the
Exalted
Rulers Award
by Exalted Ruler Dan Parker.

#### PANCAKE CREW SCHEDULE



All Volunteers Always Welcomed. Come and give us a couple of hours of your time. Contact Vince: (626) 422-2812

Your job is not to judge. Your job is not to figure out if someone deserves something. Your job is to lift the fallen, to restore the broken, and to heal the hurting.



#### **Drug Awareness Program**

#### **DEA plan addresses ODs, violence**

Bv WILLIAM J. BRYAN Assistant National Director

The Drug Enforcement Administration announced a new initiative, Operation Overdrive, aimed at fighting the rising rates of drug-related violent crime and overdose deaths plaguing American communities.

Last fall, DEA used national crime statistics and CDC data to identify hot spots of drug-related violence and overdose deaths across the country, in order to devote its law enforcement resources to where they will have the most impact: the communities where criminal drug networks are causing the most harm.

Overdrive uses a data-driven, intelligenceled approach to identify and dismantle criminal drug networks operating in areas with the highest rates of violence and overdoses. DEA, working in partnership with its fellow federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, has mapped the threats and initiated enforcement operations against those networks in 34 locations across 23 states in the initial phase of Operation Overdrive.

claiming 275 lives every day. Violence, often associated with drug-related in 2020, homicides increased a record 30 involved." percent, and 77 percent of the murders in the United States were committed Overdrive can be found at dealgov.

with a firearm. In 2021, DEA and its law enforcement partners seized more than 8,700 firearms connected to investigations of drug trafficking organizations.

Operation Overdrive revealed alarming trends about the networks that DEA has mapped. The vast majority of identified criminal drug networks are engaged in gun violence. A majority of identified criminal drug networks sell fentanyl or methamphetamine. And almost all of the identified criminal drug networks that sell those deadly synthetic drugs (fentanyl or methamphetamine) are also engaged in violent gun crimes.

"DEA's objective is clear," said DEA Launched in February, Operation Administrator Anne Milgram. "DEA will bring all it has to bear to make our communities safer and healthier, and to reverse the devastating trends of drugrelated violence and overdoses plaguing our nation."

Kent Gade, National Director of the Elks Drug Awareness Program noted: "Last year, the DEA confiscated enough fentanyl off the streets to kill each and every American citizen. If this doesn't scare you, nothing will. There's still so Today, the United States faces an much more on the streets. We applaud unprecedented overdose epidemic the effort of the DEA and if your city or Lodge is located in one of the 34 locations, you need to sit up and activity, is also rising sharply nationwide: take notice. Get your DAP committee

More information on Operation

#### National Prescription Drug Take Back Day Saturday, April 30, 2022 - 10:00 am to 2:00 pm



National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is a safe, convenient, and responsible way to dispose of unused or expired prescription drugs at locations in communities throughout the country. National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is held two times during the year. This spring, National Prescription Drug Take Back Day will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2022.

The October 2021 Take Back Day brought in 744,082 lbs. (372 Tons) of medication. Get more details about the most recent Take Back Day numbers.

This brings the total amount of prescription drugs collected by DEA since the fall of 2010 to more than 15.2 million pounds of medication. The next Take Back Day will be in the Spring of this year. But in the meantime ..

#### What Should You Do With Your Unused Meds?

Most people who misuse prescription drugs get them from family, friends, and acquaintances. You can make a difference by keeping track of the medicine you have, by rethinking where and how you keep your medications in your home, and by safely disposing of any unused medications.

> Visit the following websites for Disposal Instructions: http://www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org/NoDrugs/disposal.asp https://www.takebackdrugs.org/

Please do not bring your unused prescription drugs to the lodge. If you still have questions regarding the National Prescription Take Back Day, please feel free to contact your Lodge/District Drug Awareness Chairman and/or CHEA Drug Awareness Program Vice-Chairman, John D. McEntire, Jr., PDDGER.

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



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PERMIT NO. 626

#### **Electronic Service Requested**







Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Lodge Office Open Tuesday - Friday 10AM - 5PM (626) 962-0113	CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE EVENTS MAY BE ADDED CHECK WWW. WESTCOVINAELKS. ORG				1 Dine & Dance Lounge Opens 4P Thief Band	2 Inaugural Ball Rhythm Jukeboxx Ruben Cantu DJ Cesar \$40 Includes Dinner
3 Lodge Closed Lease Out	4 Investigations 6:30 PM	5 Lounge Open 4:00 Lodge Meeting 7:30 PM	6 PER Meeting 7 PM Karaoke 6 - 10 PM JOS 8:00 PM	7 Lodge Closed	8 Dine & Dance Lounge Opens 4P US 99 Band	9 L/O Hall & Lounge
10 Lodge Closed	11 Emblem Club Meeting 7:00 PM	12 Lounge Open 4:00 Lodge Meeting 7:30 PM	13 BOD Meeting 6:30 Karaoke 6 - 10 PM JOS 8:00 PM Dinner Specials	14 Lodge Closed	15 Dine & Dance Lounge Opens 4P Lou Apodaca	16 Lodge Closed
17 Lodge Closed Happy Easter	18 Indoctrination 6:30 PM	19 Lounge Open 4:00 Lodge Meeting 7:30 PM	20 Karaoke 6 - 10 PM JOS 8:00 PM Dinner Specials	21 Lodge Closed	22 Dine & Dance Lounge Opens 4P DJ Dana	23 Birthday Bash Entertainment by Night Groove Doors Open 6:00 PM BYOF Event
24 Lodge Closed	25 Emblem Club Social 7:00 PM	26 Lounge Open 4:00 Lodge Meeting 7:30 PM Initiation	27 Karaoke 6 - 10 PM JOS 8:00 PM Dinner Specials	28 Lodge Closed	29 Dine & Dance Lounge Opens 4P Steak & Lobster Bobby Z	30 Lodge Closed

www.westcovinaelks.org