HERD TALK

Published since 1901 in Eureka, California Volume MMXXVI, Issue 2 February 2026

January was another busy month for us here at the lodge. We had the most wonderful Weekend in the Redwoods! A lot of our district members came to see us this year and had a lot of fun at Friday's Cook Your Own Steak, Saturday's Crab Feed and Sunday's breakfast. It was so nice to have so many people back at our lodge. We are looking forward to next year's event on the third weekend in January 2027. We could not have had such a wonderful event without our fantastic volunteers. GREAT JOB!!!

We have some new volunteers coming into the fold. So, when you see any of the volunteers around the lodge, make sure to tell them what a great job they are doing. Remember, we are a volunteer lodge and that is what makes us such a great place to be. Our cooks are the best around, in my humble opinion. Our bartenders are top-notch, also. Our servers, greeters, cashiers and fundraising crew are always busy doing great work, and our Roamers are always taking such good care of our RV lot and surrounding area. Thank you, every one of you!

We are looking forward to February. Valentine's Day is just around the corner. Make sure to make your reservations for Friday's dinner, on February 13, and celebrate (early) Valentine's Day with us! Watch your calendars for more upcoming events.

If you have never attended the Installation of Officers of the Eureka Emblem Club #298, you can come see how they do their Installation. They are holding this event on Saturday, February 28, at 1 p.m. in the Lodge room. Dinner will be served at 4 p.m.; please sign up at the bar. I hope to see you there.

Remember, together we can do anything that would be impossible to do alone.

Nina Strang, Exalted Ruler

A Special Thank You To Our Sponsors for Making This Herd Talk Possible

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Eureka Lodge #652

Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks
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707-442-6652 www.elks652.org

Articles & Advertisements

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www.facebook.com/ElksLodge652

Lodge Officers

Nina Strang .....Exalted Ruler
Patrick Gillmore.....Leading Knight
Brian Smith.....Loyal Knight
Jerry Stewart.....Lecturing Knight
Brad Smith.....Secretary
William Lambo.....Treasurer
Dana Harris.....Esquire
Ann Schuler.....Chaplain
Janet Humble... .....Inner Guard
Sharie Thomason.....Tiler
TBD.....Organist

Board of Trustees

Jim Olson.....5-Year Trustee & Chairman
Brett Engel.....4-Year Trustee
Scotty Thomason 3-year Trustee & Secretary
Alan Bobillot.....2-Year Trustee
Dan Rickman.....1-Year Trustee

House Committee

Brian Smith, Chair, Jan Belarde, Rena Forbes
Debbie Stewart, Diane Viale, Jimia Chapman
Lori Fitzgerald

Lodge Office

Angela Toland.....Accounting
accounting@elks652.org
Emily Vineyard.....Clerk
elksclerk652@gmail.com

Lodge Committees

Auditing and Accounting = Chair-Dennis Hunter, Sherie Bialous, Marta Martinez, Ernie Nunes
Events Coordinator = Emily Vineyard
Drug Awareness, Veterans = Jack Harris
Hoop Shoot = Brian Smith
Scholarship Committee = Dale Stockly
Public Relations = William Lambo

Membership and Lapsation = Patrick Gillmore
Americanism= Jerry Stewart
Activities = TBD

Fraternal = Chair Sherie Bialous, PER, Kurt Bialous, PER & Kathy Payne, PER

Safety = Brett Engel

Youth Activities = Sherie Bialous, PER

PER Association = Dennis Hunter, President

RV Park = Dan Rickman,host

Redwood Roamers = Wagon Master Dan Wilson

Bar Manager = Rena Forbes
Assistant Bar Manager = Jan Belarde
Kitchen Manager = Kathy Payne
Kitchen Purchasing Agent = Monica Marinez

01 Conn, Jesse
01 Dimmick, John
01 Downey, Denise
01 Giottonini, Bette
02 Lima, Ramona
03 Adams, Dean
03 Flores, Everett
03 Mathieson, Luke
04 Nolan, Jesse
04 Sharp, David
05 Swiefelhofer, Gerald
06 Tanenhaus, Rebecca
06 Zeck, Rudolph
07 Hulsebus, James
07 Villarreal, Celeste
08 Johnson, Robert O
08 Kirtley, Sondra
08 Morais, Tiffany
09 Dimmick, Tia
09 Harris, Richard A
09 Portalupi, Brigitta
09 Priest, Kenny
10 Fusi, Linda
10 Hickcox, Kirin
10 Smth, Jeff
10 Vrieze, Jannetje
10 Wilhelm, Wayne
11 Dutra, Troy
11 Holt, Robert
11 Petrusha, Charles E
12 Beauchamp, Janine
12 Carroll, Aimee
12 Lasell, James
12 Stearns, Bradley
12 Terkelsen, Eric
13 Baird, Jordan
13 Griffin, Mike
13 Kaska, Mike
13 Pangburn, Richard
13 West, Linda
14 Ennis, John
14 Gibson, Richard L
14 Harper, Harvey Trevor
14 Harris, John Willard
14 Morris, Gary G
14 Salazar, Kim
14 Sample, Melvin
14 Wilson, Edward
15 McCarthy, Royal B
15 Mengel, Ward
15 Rabago, Robert
15 Wilson, Loretta A
16 Avila, Laura
16 Christensen, Paul
16 Day, Norman
16 Velasco, Crystal
17 Catanach, Burrill
17 Del Biaggio, Dennis
17 Fields, Barbara Jean
17 Kimball, William F
17 Palmire, Judith Lynn
17 Pool, Douglas
18 Akana, Jason
18 Biasca, Janet
18 Colivas, Jerry
18 Durfee, George
18 Miller, Doris
18 Rotherham, Scott
18 Silveira, Emily
19 Eubanks, Jim
19 Pidgeon, Harold
19 Valadao, Tony Jose
20 Jacoby, Kathleen
20 Kolshinski, Jack
22 Morris, Marilyn
22 Owsley, Quentin
22 Pedro Jr, Oliver "Pete"
23 Cooper, Ron
24 Bradbury, Sue
24 Rorbes, Rena
25 Bobillot, Shawna
26 Cruz, Daniel
26 Nichols, William
26 Smith, James
27 Collins, Jack H
27 Stewart, Michele
27 Vogel, Chris
28 Wilson, Carol

Introduction to Antlers Program

New things are happening in 2026 for our Elks youth!

Jeanette Bartley and Linda West, with the support of Nina and others, are helping to grow the new Antlers Program for our Lodge.

We will have more information and sign-ups at the Children's Easter Party on March 21.

Please reach out to learn more and share your ideas on how you can help our new program, which focuses on youths ages 8 to 12 years old.

Contact Information:

Linda:
ziggylwest@gmail.com

707-227-9962

Jeanette:
Jeanettelbartley@gmail.com

Elks Clerk / Emily:
elksclerk652@gmail.com

707-442-6652

(See Page 10 for more information about Antlers)

Leading Knight

Keeping the Momentum Going

January continued to be a busy and exciting month at the Lodge, filled with holiday parties, and capped off by a fantastic Weekend in the Redwoods event with Elks from many neighboring lodges. It was wonderful to see so much fellowship, laughter, and participation, and it truly set the tone for a strong start to the new year.

February is shaping up to be just as active. We will kick off the month with a Super Bowl party on Sunday, February 8, and the calendar stays full from there. I encourage everyone to check the schedule and come out to support these events — your presence makes all the difference.

I would also like to renew my challenge to all Lodge members to participate in the **Recycling Challenge and Cans for Kids fundraisers for Major Projects.** We are headed into the homestretch, and anything you can do — large or small — will help increase the total I will be proud to announce when I walk across the stage in Palm Springs this May. Let's finish strong!

Looking ahead, I am still seeking a couple of officers to fill positions for the **2026–2027 fraternal year.** If you have any interest in serving, please see me — leadership begins with stepping forward.

I am also continuing to look for Lodge Greeters to help work the front door during Lodge events. This is a great way to meet members and be part of the welcoming spirit that defines our Lodge.

Big News
Purple Pig Dinner Coming Up!

I'm excited to announce that we are planning a Purple Pig Dinner on Saturday, March 7. Menu to be announced soon. Bring in your pigs and compete for prizes including:

- Heaviest
- Cutest
- Most $

We will also have a Dutch raffle and a 50/50 drawing, so it promises to be a fun and rewarding evening in support of Major Projects.

As always, we are looking for volunteers. If you have a talent or skill you would like to share, please reach out to any officer or current volunteer — I am confident we can find a place where you'll feel right at home. Being involved is one of the most rewarding parts of being an Elk, and it truly strengthens our Lodge.

Have a wonderful month, and I look forward to seeing you at the Lodge.

Fraternally,
Patrick Gillmore
Leading Knight 2025–2026

NOTICE:

The proposed Bylaws changes that were posted in December's bulletin were read at the lodge January 7, 2026, and voted on the floor January 21, 2026. All proposed changes passed. The membership renewal statements should be arriving soon.

The door lock will be changed April 15, 2026.

Secretary's Corner

My thanks to the House committee for stepping up and making positive changes to address the high Cost of Goods (COG). I thought I would recap the past year as far as the relatively new Point of Sale System (POS) is concerned. We have two full months worth of data, as follows:

- November sales totaled $26,186.00
- December sales totaled $70,387.89
- The yearly total was $98,083.80, which included part of October
- There were 4,557 transactions
- Our average daily sales was $1,751.50, with Friday being the busiest at $6,911.50
- We sold 797 well vodka drinks

We are keeping track of daily sales from now on, which gives the House Committee a tool to use in planning for events during the year. This information is available because of the installation and use of our POS system.

Overall the fiscal year, which ends March 31, looks like it will financially end okay for the Lodge especially since the House Committee has addressed the financial loss the Lodge was experiencing in food sales. **Frankly, you can't get a 16 ounce steak, a salad bar, dessert, and a dance band anywhere else for $32 per person.**

Our membership numbers look good for this time of the year. We will probably lose about 5% to 6 % of our members for various reasons. We should end the year with a gain over last year's ending number. Right now we are at 1,372 with about 30 people in line to be initiated. I am hoping to go over 1,400 members for the year.

Respectfully,

Brad Smith

PDDGER, District Leader, Lodge Secretary

Veterans' Corner

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

The Lodge's All Veteran's Memorial was established by the Past Exalted Rulers to honor veterans who have served our nation. It was dedicated by the Grand Exalted Ruler on the Lodge's 100th Anniversary. For a donation of $100 or more the Veteran's name will be placed on a redwood burl plaque that is on display in the lodge.

For a donation of $30 the Veteran's name, rank and branch of service is engraved on a brick that will be placed on the memorial. At present we have nine brick applications on file. Our vendor has established a new ordering process which requires a minimum of 15 bricks per order. If you are considering honoring a family member or a close friend who served in the military or Merchant Marines by adding a brick to the wall in their name, please pick up an order form at the Lodge or contact the Lodge Secretary at elksclerk652@gmail.com or 707-442-6652, ext. 0, and one will be sent to you.

Veterans Committee meetings are held at the lodge on the second Monday of the month, 5:30 p.m. We encourage you to join us. One does not have to be a veteran to serve on the committee. Please contact Jack Harris at jacknlou71@sbcglobal.net or 775-722-1778.

Loyal Knight

From the House Committee

We deeply value the time, energy, and passion that our volunteers bring to our Lodge. Your commitment makes everything we do possible, and we are truly grateful for your continued support.

Recently we introduced a policy change regarding volunteer meals that has caused concern among our volunteers. After listening to your feedback, and considering all our options, the House Committee has decided to retract the (new) policy regarding complimentary meals for volunteers. We recognize how important this gesture is in showing appreciation for your efforts.

At the same time, our monthly food service budget deficit remains. Rising food costs have impacted our overall food service. To sustain quality and service, we will be adjusting meal prices for paid meals.

Beginning March 1, 2026, meal prices will be adjusted as follows:

Friday Cook Your Own Steak

- Steak $32
- Chicken $24
- Steam Table $18 (no change)

Wednesday Night Dinners

- Usually $20 (may be adjusted based on menu)
- Rib Night $22

Other meal prices to be determined by menu

Elks National Foundation

I am nearing my goal of $10,000 for our lodge with over $9,000 donated. Please consider helping me get over the finish line. Tax deductible donations can be made at: https://www.elks.org/ENF/supportENF.cfm

Remember, Elks lodges typically receive $1.85 in grants for every $1 donated. That money is used to fuel projects that support our veterans, youth, and community right here in Eureka. Thank you for your consideration of a donation.

Respectfully,
Brian Smith
Loyal Knight 2025-2026

New Year, New Wagon Master, New Roads to Roam!

Happy New Year, from the Redwood Roamers! As we roll into a brand-new year, we're excited to welcome Crystal Arbuthnot as our new Wagon Master, along with Sharie Thomason as Secretary and we continue to have Charlie Blunk as our very valued Treasurer.

Our 2026 outing discussion was packed with great ideas, and wow…we may need extra tread on those tires. Here's a sneak peek at some of the trips being tossed around, along with the awesome folks helping lead the way:

- Go Nowhere Rally – March 27–29 (Perata's & Ritters)
- Pismo Beach – April (Ledbetter)
- Newport, OR – June 2–5 (Ventuleth & Ritter)
- Sisters, OR – June 5–8 (Ventuleth & Ritter)
- Kimball Creek, OR (near Gold Beach) – July 13–17 (Thomason & McCormick)
- Benbow – August
- Klamath – September 11–13, weekend after Labor Day (Ritters & Arneys)
- Piercy – October (Arbuthnot)
- Brookings Christmas Trip – Ho-ho-ho on wheels! (Arbuthnot)
- Lewiston (Blunk & McCormick)
- Napa – Happy Valley Fairgrounds (Beck)
- Gold Beach
- Ancient Redwoods (Pancost)

From beach breezes to towering redwoods, wine country to winter lights, 2026 is shaping up to be one fantastic ride. Stay tuned as plans firm up—and start clearing space on the calendar. Here's to new adventures, old friends, and plenty of happy miles with the Redwood Roamers!

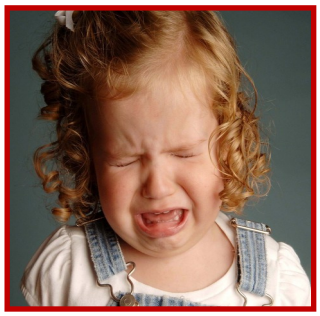
Submitted by

***Crystal Arbuthnot**, Wagon Master*

Crying Towel

Scotty Thomas was present and won $200!

Josh Reed, Mark Taylor, Larry Nichols, Geraldine Tollefson, Ken Nielsen, Christopher Socha, Li Elder



The "GREAT" Northwest District extends

Congratulations to the Endorsed Candidate for Grand Exalted Ruler

Mr. Timothy Jaeger
PGT PSP DL

The "Great" Northwest District Triva Contest
and
Napa Elks Lodge Fundraiser
March 7th

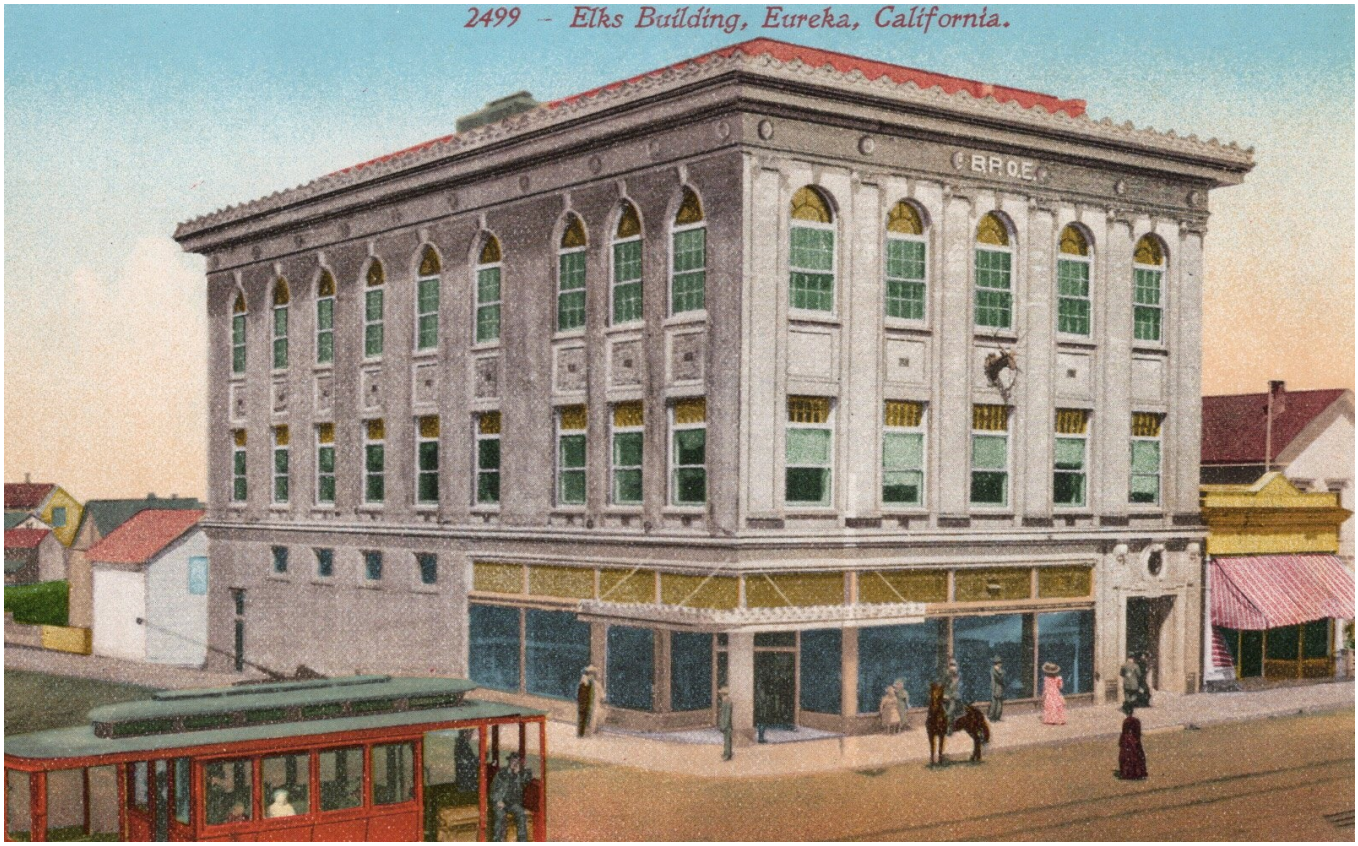
Trivia contest entry fundraiser forms are in the mail, play along for fun. Just fill out the entry form, include your donation and win up to $2500 in the drawing held at the Napa Lodge March 7th. Entry forms must be received by March 1st Questions? Call Eureka Elks Lodge (707) 442- 6652

No purchase necessary to win, need not be present to win, suggested donation $20

A Benefit for Endorsed Candidate for GER Timothy (Tim) Jaeger PGT PSP DL

125th Birthday Celebration

Original Edward H. Mitchell Post Card Of The Eureka Elks Lodge From 1910



THIS SPACE FOR CORRESPONDENCE

Please come and help us plan Our 125th Birthday Celebration

Next Meeting Is:

February 10, 2026 @ 4:30pm In The Lounge

PUBLISHED BY EDWARD H. MITCHELL – SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

Post Card

POSTAGE:
UNITED STATES AND POSSESSIONS, CANADA, MEXICO 1¢
FOREIGN 2¢

THIS SPACE FOR ADDRESS ONLY

Things To Know

Super Bowl Party!!!

Come join us in the Lounge on Sunday, Feb. 8 at 3:30 p.m. or earlier to watch the Super Bowl! Jerry and Debbie are preparing a buffet: Chili, cornbread, queso, chips, guacamole, salsa, 8-layer bean dip, honey chipotle chicken bites, sour cream, jalapenos & onion! **$15 per person** — We will have a Pool going, so come in and buy a square or two! Hope to see you there! *Jan & Chris*

Trivia Contest Fundraiser for Endorsed Candidate Timothy (Tim) Jaeger for Grand Exalted Ruler

are currently being mailed to all Elk Members in the "Great" Northwest District — Instructions Are Included!

This is an important fundraiser for Tim and an opportunity for

You to Win up to $2,500!

The Past Exalted Rulers Night And Nomination Of Officers Will Be February 4 In The Lodge Room @ 7:00 p.m.

Mark Your Calendars!

Installation Of Officers Is March 28

Check March Herd Talk For More Information

Welcome to Our New Elks Lodge Members!

(Listed alphabetically) William P. Arney, Michael L. Briggs, Rosanna Darro, Jerry Derryberry, Dave Lawrence Gaddis, Thomas F. Ghidinelli, Wade Travis Green, Barbara S. Lake, Dennis Magness, Ronald Martin, Kimberly Jewell McClahanan, Philip Milton Perez, David F. Richardson, Gary Robertson, Logan Simoni — All were initiated in January 2026.

Help Us Grow Our Antlers!

Antler History

The Antler Program initially started in the 1930s, to encourage young folks, ages 12-20, to grow up and be outstanding members of society. They had goals of developing service-oriented minds. When WWII broke out, the Antlers program was unable to maintain active status. Eventually, it was terminated in the early 1960s by the Grand Lodge. In 2002, Elks members were eager to restart the program and work on engaging the youth in service and community projects. **(Also see Page 2.)**

Ways To Get Involved

- **Community Service**

Assist in organizing events, food drives and outreach programs

- **Mentorship & Tutoring**

Help students and young adults with education and career guidance

- **Social Sessions**

Antlers can attend any Elks event as well as have their own social events

- **Friendship & Impactful relationships**

Make new friends, learn about community and connection.

Goals of the Program

- Instill respect for family and love of home
- Inculcate the fundamentals of good citizenship
- Educate on the spirit of American Patriotism
- Establish the foundation of character
- Aid in worthy causes
- Promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of members

February 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 House Committee Meeting 4:30 p.m.	3 Trustees Mtg. 5 p.m.	4 Cajun Chicken Monica & Crew 6 p.m. Redwood Roamers 5 p.m. Lodge Mtg 7 p.m.	5 Cribbage 1 p.m.	6 CYOS Kurt & Crew 6:30 p.m. Band: Austin Alley	7 Bar till 8 p.m. 6—8 p.m. presale Troop 54 Boy Scouts
8 ***Super Bowl Party!*** 3 p.m.—Buffet $15 Jerry & Debbie Bingo 3-5 p.m.	9 Veterans Committee 5:30 p.m.	10	11 PERS Dinner 6 p.m. French Dip Orientation—7 p.m.	12 Cribbage 1 p.m.	13 Pork Loin 6:30 p.m. $40/person Debbie & K.Heads Band: Dr. Squid	14
15 ESE/COL 1-4pm	16 House Comm. 4:30 p.m.	17 125th Birthday Meeting 4:30 p.m. Trustees Mtg. 5 p.m.	18 Fiesta Dinner 6 p.m. Silvia & Crew Lodge Mtg. & Initiation 7 p.m.	19 Cribbage 1 p.m.	20 CYOS Silvia &Crew 6:30 p.m. Band: Nighthawk	21
22 Bingo / 3-5pm Burger Baskets $10 Debbie & Jerry	23	24	25 Rib Dinner Nelson & Chris Jenga 7 p.m.	26 Cribbage 1 p.m.	27 CYOS Jim Olson & Crew 6:30 p.m. Band: Almost Dangerous	28 Emblem Club Installation of Officers—1 p.m.
		Bar Food @ Bingo Hot Dogs, Nachos French Fries	Wednesday Night Dinner $20 Rib Night $22	CYOS Steak $28 Chicken $22 Steamer/Salad Bar $18		

Eureka Elks Lodge No. 652
Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks
445 Herrick Avenue
Eureka, CA 95503

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February 2026

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WIN $200

Each Regular Meeting has an attendance drawing where two members are randomly drawn by computer. Each winner receives $200.00 if they are present.

Come Play Bingo With Us!

Photos submitted by Howard Ritter

February Dates:
Sunday, Feb. 8
Sunday, Feb. 22

Time:
3—5 p.m.
In the Lounge