

# VISALIA ELKS

# 1298 BULLETIN | "The Herd"

Visalia, California – March 2024 Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks



## Lodge Meetings

Wed March 13, 2024 – Business

Wed March 27, 2024 - Initiations

## House Committee Meeting

Wed March 13, 2024

## Trustee Meeting

Wed March 13, 2024

(You must call or e-mail in advance to be on the agenda)

## Bunco Night

March 12<sup>th</sup> – sign in starts at 5:

## Taco Tuesday

March 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>

## Poker Night

March 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> - Seat Cards handed out at 6pm - Cards are dealt at 6:30pm

## Veteran's Breakfast –

March 19<sup>th</sup> – 8:30-11am

## Cook Your Own Steak Night

March 15<sup>th</sup> 6pm – 7:30pm

**Friday Lunches** – March 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>

## Visalia Elks Lodge Bulletin

Periodical of the;

Visalia Elks Lodge #1298

Volume 23/24 Edition #12

## News Submission Deadline

Submissions must be received on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month to be included in the next newsletter. **Send to:**

[kristy@rknstudio.com](mailto:kristy@rknstudio.com)

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK AT:

[FACEBOOK.COM/VISALIAELKSLODGE](https://www.facebook.com/visaliaelkslodge)



## "EXALTED RULER'S CORNER"

Dear Esteemed Members of the Visalia Elks Lodge #1298,

It is with a mix of emotions that I write to inform you that my year of Exalted Ruler is coming to an end. Serving in this capacity has been one of the greatest honors and privileges of my life.

During my tenure as Exalted Ruler, I have been continually inspired and humbled by the dedication, passion, and camaraderie displayed by our members. Together, we have worked tirelessly to uphold the values and principles upon which our lodge was founded, fostering a spirit of service, charity, and community that truly sets us apart.

I am immensely proud of the accomplishments we have achieved together during my time in office. From our numerous charitable endeavors and community outreach initiatives to the fostering of strong bonds of friendship and fellowship among our members, each achievement stands as a testament to the collective strength and commitment of our lodge.

As I reflect on the memories we have shared and the challenges we have overcome, I am filled with gratitude for the unwavering support and encouragement that each of you has extended to me throughout my tenure. Your dedication to our lodge and to the principles of Elkdom has been nothing short of inspiring, and it has been my greatest privilege to serve alongside you. As I transition into the position of treasurer, I have every confidence that our lodge will continue to thrive and flourish under the capable leadership of Kevin Colopy. I have no doubt that he will bring fresh ideas, energy, and enthusiasm to the role, building upon the strong foundation that we have laid together.

While I may be stepping down as Exalted Ruler, please know that my commitment to our lodge and to the values of Elkdom remains as steadfast as ever. I look forward to continuing to support our lodge in any capacity that I can and to contributing to its ongoing success in the years to come.

In closing, I want to express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you for your friendship, your support, and your dedication to our lodge. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your Exalted Ruler, and I will cherish the memories of my time in this role for the rest of my days.

With warmest regards and deepest gratitude,  
Russell McKinney  
Retiring Exalted Ruler  
Visalia Elks Lodge #1298

## Lodge Officers 2022/2023

Exalted Ruler	Russell McKinney
Leading Knight	Kevin Colopy
Loyal Knight	Joe Paddock
Lecturing Knight	Steve Williams
Esquire	Eva Rasmussen
Chaplain	Camille Fisher
Inner Guard	Pam Taves
Tiler	Keith Carlos
Secretary	Wendy O'Connor
Treasurer	Chuck Fishel

### Trustees:

1-Year	Rodney Jared
2-Year	Victor Perez
3-Year	Tom O'Connor
4-Year	Ron Marshall
5-Year	Scott Taves

### Past Exalted Rulers \*

Ronald Mathis	1976-77
Larry Paxton	1978-79
John Peters	1989-90
Jim Hay	1991-92
Robert Casey	1992-93
Al Hack	1995-96
Rob Van Wagoner	1999-2000
Joe Alberti	2004-05, 05-06, 15-16
Ted Donald	2006-07
Jan Lee	2016-17, 17-18
Ray Lewis	2018-19, 19-20
Ron Marshall	2020-21
Eli Ledesma	2021-22
Mike Saulque	2022-23

\*Active in Good Standing

Past Exalted Rulers from other lodges:

Ken Bridges	Tulare # 1424
Pat Dugan	Tulare #1424

## Member News:

### Orientation and Initiation. Next Orientation is March 27, 2024 at 5:30pm. Ball Room #2

Orientation is MANDATORY for all candidates. Because of our current situation, only candidates and sponsors will be allowed to attend.

This is the beginning of the learning process of the BPOE and what we are all about.

Dinner will be served at 6:30pm and candidates will have dinner on us.

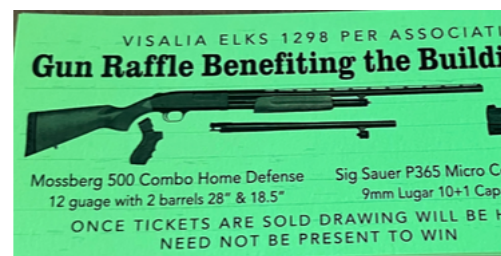
Only members and candidates are allowed in the lodge room. The members lounge will be closed during the initiation and lodge meeting. Expect about an hour. No beverages are allowed in the lodge room.

**Note to Sponsors:** Please make reservations for your candidates and notify them of the above listed times. Sponsors should escort their candidates to orientation, dinner and initiation. **Attire is business casual.**

**NO SHORTS, FLIP FLOPS,  
"T-SHIRTS OR JEANS  
DURING THE INITIATION...**

## Candidates for voting this March 13, 2024

**Tammy Brassart** by Bryan Tenhet  
**Troy Brassart** by Bryan Tenhet  
**Lisa Colburn** by Cissy Archuleta  
**Oswaldo (Ozzy) Gallardo** by Miguel Vasquez  
**Laura Bullene Jacobo** by Rebecca Peterson  
**Nancy Luhdorff** by Laura Crawford  
**Cynthia Montuno** by Jane Donald  
**Richard Rose** by Melanie McKimmons  
**Elijah Soto** by Thomas Higgins  
**Wayne Tilley** by Julie Sayre  
**Steven Zeibak** by Louie Cantu  
**Jack Hamlin** by Carolyn Fabry



### VISALIA ELKS 1298 PER ASSOCIATION

### GUN RAFFLE BENEFITING THE BUILDING FUND

Tickets for the raffle are \$20 each. Please see Mike Saulque at reach out to him at 559-679-7013 for more info. As of 3/1/24 there were less than 100 tickets left for purchase.

## KNOW SOMEONE WHO'S NOT GETTING THE BULLETIN?

Help them get the info they need by visiting our website: [www.visaliaelks.org](http://www.visaliaelks.org) and subscribing to the mailing list (on the home page on the right side). You can even do this from your phone. Once they enter their name/email into the subscription form, they'll get an email to confirm their subscription. After it's confirmed, they'll receive the monthly bulletin and the weekly **What's Happening This Week** email that is sent out on Mondays.

CONGRATULATIONS to Jordynnn Hildago of CLOVIS LODGE who will be representing the 8-9 year old girls at the National Hoop Shoot in Chicago. This young lady persevered through contests in Clovis, Delano, Modesto, and Las Vegas to earn this trip. To send your personal note of support, so Jordynnn gets it in Chicago go to [elks.org/hoopshoot](http://elks.org/hoopshoot) Best Swishes

## **VISALIA ELKS COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**

Auditing Accounting	Ray Lewis PER
Americanism	Richard Grissom
Beqs. & Living Trusts	Melanie McKimmons
Business Practices	Wendy O'Connor
Drug Awareness	Thomas Higgins
Government Relations	Ray Lewis PER
Hoop Shoot	Suzanna Aguilera-Marrero
Insurance & Safety	Ron Marshall / Rodney Jared
Lodge Activities	Wendy O'Connor
Membership Retention	Ron Marshall
National Foundation ENF	Melanie McKimmons
National Foundation Grants	Kevin Colopy
Nat Vets Service	Rebecca Peterson
Officers Training	Eli Ledesma PER
Public Relations	Stacey Marshall
Major Project	Melanie McKimmons
Ritual Training	Ray Lewis PER
Scholarships	Bill Flores
Youth Activities	Diane Rouse

---

## **Kitchen & Event Volunteer Thanks**

### **02-07-24 Wednesday Night Dinner**

**Team Leader:** Lori Jackson

**Crew:** Scott Reeder, Pam Nelson, Jeff Turner, Erik Bush, Tina and Tony Aguilar, Cindy Ward, Marco Vega, Laurel Flores

### **2-11-24 Veteran's Breakfast - Served 298 guests**

**Team Leader:** Tom Hansen

**Saturday Prep Crew:** Ed & Jane Shields, Rae Crawford, Ron Vasquez, Eric Bush, Scott Reeder, Reuel Stevens, Eva Rasmussen and Phil Maroney

**Sunday Breakfast:**

**Hostesses:** Judy Staley, Michelle Nelson and Melanie McKimmons

**Front Lounge:** Eric Fishel and Chuck Fishel

**Omelet Cooks:** Janie Donald, Lori Jackson, Scott Nelson, Kevin Colopy, Ron Marshall and Mike Saulque

**Kitchen Cooks:**

Scot Reeder & Jeff Turner – Gravy

Phil Fortney - Bacon

Russell McKinney and Brian Fishel – Sausage, Potatoes

**Servers:**

Sark Davidian (Bacon)

Amy Gordon & Rae Crawford (Sausage & Potatoes)

John Kennedy (Pancakes & French Toast)

Maria Silva (Biscuits and Gravy)

**Dishwashers:** Nick Gordon, Richard Break, Shane Souza & Ted Donald

**Back up Cooks:** Eric Bush, Rodney Jared, Ron Vasquez & Phil Maroney, James Silva and Eva Rasmussen

**Bussers:** Girl Scouts

### **02-14-24 Wednesday Night Dinner**

**Team Leader:** Kim Burchett

**Crew:** Debbie and Harry Buckner, Gerrie Giotta, Christina Ritchie, Jane Shields, Rae Crawford, Phil Moreno, Mindy Morgan, Don Smith, Danny Ludlum, DeeDee Raines, Camille Fisher, Laurel Flores

## **Kitchen & Event Volunteer Thanks (cont.)**

### **2-21-24 Wednesday Night Dinner**

**Team Leader:** Ruckin' Fidiculous

**Crew:** Scott and Michelle Nelson, Bobby and Debbie Chavez, Russell McKinney, Pam Taves, Chuck Fishel, Joe and Anna Paddock, Rodney and Stacy Jared, Laurel Flores

### **2-25-24 Kitchen Clean-Up Crew**

**Work Crew:** Eva Rasmussen, Matt and Laura Crawford, Russell McKinney, LaRea Rivera, Cristy Hoff, Heather Cornelius, Lisa Morehouse, Sam Castillo, Phil Moreno, Lori Jackson, Steve Mulrooney, Leslie Cavigilia

### **02-28-24 Wednesday Night Dinner**

**Team Leader:** Danny Carrell – Smokin' Hot

**Crew:** Danny Carrell, Lori Carrell, Cheyenne Carrell, Kelsey Furtado, George Gambill, Jelenia Crenshaw, Nathan and Kimberly Stoll, Bill and Robin Meyst, Jose Marquez, LaRea Rivera, Jonathan Meeker, Cissy Archuleta, Patty Meeker, Laurel Flores

**Please note:** If you'd like your cooking team to get credit in the bulletin, please be sure to fill out the form and turn it into the office. We only publish what we get submitted.



*A Coin a Day so they can  
Walk, Talk, See and Play!*

## **PURPLE PIG THANK YOU'S**

### **Major Project/Purple Pig**

THANK YOU and a Tip o' the hat from the Purple Pig

" A coin a day so they'll walk, talk, see and play "

---

### **Spotlight Grant update:**

3-2-1 and done. 3rd Little Free Library installed and kids book parties held at all 3 sites. Kids received snacks, juice packs, new reading books, Elks Drug Awareness coloring books and crayons. Parents received monetary help with laundry. 45 families were served. Hugs and thank you to Marian Barriier and Kathi Hash for all their help.

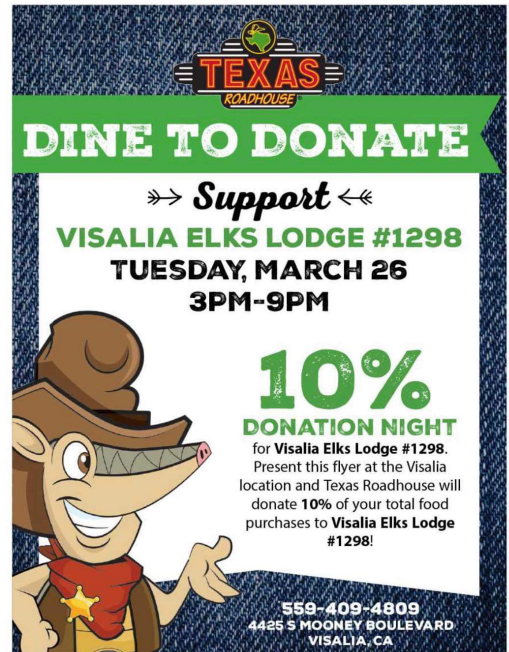
**Upcoming events:**



*Veteran's Breakfast  
- 8:30-11:00am*

**Veteran's Breakfast – March 10<sup>th</sup>**

Eggs/Omelet bar, Potatoes, Bacon, Sausage, French toast, Pancakes, Biscuits and Gravy  
8:30 to 11:00am  
Adults - \$15.00 | Kids under 12yrs - \$12 | Veterans - \$8.00



**TEXAS ROADHOUSE - DINE TO DONATE –  
March 26, 2024**



**Bunco Night – March 12<sup>th</sup> check-in starts at 5:30pm**



**Kid's Easter Party – March 30<sup>th</sup>**



**1298 Cigar Club – March 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**

If you enjoy a good a cigar or you're just curious about cigars, this will give members an opportunity to meet at least once a month. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 6:30pm.



**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Visalia Elks Tea Party – April 6<sup>th</sup> –  
SOLD OUT**

# Where do your ENF (Elks National Foundation) dollars go?

## FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET OVERVIEW

**\$45.3 MILLION**

### COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS PROGRAM

**\$16.3 MILLION (+2.4%)**

Puts grants directly into communities with up to \$10,000 available to every Lodge in FY2025.

### STATE GRANTS

**\$11.2 MILLION (+4.6%)**

Supports state association charitable programs.

### ELKS NATIONAL VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION

**\$5.7 MILLION (+11.4%)**

Provides aid and comfort for America's veterans in need with initiatives to end veteran homelessness.

### COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

**\$5 MILLION (+1.4%)**

Builds relationships with the next generation of Elks through three scholarships: MVS, Legacy and EEG

### FUNDRAISING & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

**\$3.7 MILLION (+10.7%)**

At 8 percent, our fundamental expenses are far below the Better Business Bureau's standard for charities of no more than 35 percent of total spending.

### ELKS HOOP SHOOT FREE THROW PROGRAM

**\$1.5 MILLION (+3.8%)**

Unleashes gritty kids through free throw competitions at Lodge, District, State, Region and National levels.

### MEMORIAL BUILDING MAINTENANCE & SPECIAL RESERVE FUND

**\$1 MILLION (+7.4%)**

Maintains the Elks Veterans Memorial in Chicago, which is open to the public from April 15 through November 15.

### DRUG AWARENESS COMMISSION

**\$906,000 (+1.7%)**

Promotes constructive and collaborative solutions to youth substance abuse.



Elks National Foundation, Inc.

## VAGABONDS TRAVELS



Hello Spring! The Vagabonds are loading their rigs and will soon be heading down the highway. See the calendar below that shares the rallies that are in the works for fun times with fellow Rvers.

Vagabonds – **Get your calendars out and mark the rally dates:**

- (1) Annual Casa De Fruta Rally **March 13-17.**
- (2) Orange Grove RV Park **April 11-15.**
- (3) San Lorenzo Park in King City **June 20-24**
- (4) Orange Grove RV Park in Bakersfield **October 16-21.**

May you always find three welcomes in life – in the garden in the summer, at the hearth during the winter and in the hearts of friends throughout all your years.  
Happy St. Patrick's Day to all!

Frank and Kathy Kelly

**JOIN THE FIDELITY CLUB!**

- Easy
- Eco-Friendly
- Convenient
- Flexible
- Secure



Elks National Foundation, Inc.

The Fidelity Club is the ENF's monthly giving program that recognizes automatic, regularly scheduled donations through your bank account or credit card.



# BPOE VISALIA LODGE #1298 NEWSLETTER SPONSORS



NEWSLETTER  
SPONSORS

**VISALIA  
TIRE & WHEEL**

Shop: 15445 Ave. 296 • Visalia, CA 93292  
Mailing: P.O. Box 509 • Visalia, CA 93279

- Front-end Alignment
- Brakes • Suspension

**DAN HELZER**  
www.visaliatireandwheel.com

**24 Hour Tire Service: 559.627.3100**

Kristy Cooper  
Principal

**RKN Studio**  
Responsive Knowledge Now

Website Design & Marketing  
www.rknstudio.com

818-679-6658  
kristy@rknstudio.com

**MILL CREEK  
MANAGEMENT, INC.**  
REAL ESTATE SALES  
Since 1980

**JASON HUTTON, GRI, CRS**  
General Manager/Broker

559-733-3385 EXT. 12  
FAX 559-733-5366

300 W. SCHOOL AVENUE  
VISALIA, CA 93291  
LICENSE #01793843

EMAIL: JASON@MILLCREEKMGT.COM  
WWW.MILLCREEKMGT.COM

Over 30 Years  
in Visalia

**Dance-artists**

Teresa Vidak  
242 East Oak  
Visalia, California 93291  
559.733.9414  
(Corner of Garden & Oak)

Pre-Ballet • Ballet  
Tap • Jazz • Hip Hop  
Theatre Dance Class  
Competition Group

- Beginning •
- Intermediate •
- Advanced •

3 Years through Adult

Elk member Norm  
**Blackwell** invites you to  
shop locally for **PISTACHIOS**,  
the green healthy nut

**COUNTER TOPS**  
by Chet

Rick Allen  
Angie Allen

(559) 738-0600  
FAX (559) 738-1879  
Cont. Lic. #382609

For All Your Counter Top  
& Cabinet Needs

32536 Road 124 • Visalia, California 93291

Burglar Alarm/Video Surveillance Services & Repair  
Long-Range Wireless Data Communications

**Kris Herd**  
President

559-684-9112  
1425 Lewis Lane  
Tulare, California 93274  
kris@istconsulting.net

**IS&T Consulting**

Serving the Central Valley Since 1996  
CA Contractors License 878571; ACO 6925

TOUCHTUNES  
& AMI MUSIC

COUNTER TO GAMES

**Marks Vending CO.**

Jamie  
(559)731-1045

TOYS CRANE &  
CANDY CRANES

MARKVEND2@YAHOO.COM

**THE LAW OFFICE OF  
RALPH F. KAEUBLE**

4125 W Noble Ave Suite 239  
Visalia, CA 93277

Phone: (559) 732-1825  
Email: rkaeuble@kaeublelaw.com

**Josef J. Greene**  
Area Director of Community Development

CELL: (559) 476-0886  
TEL: (559) 741-7220  
FAX: (559) 635-4869  
joe.greene@bristolhospice.com

Bristol Hospice - Visalia  
2439 West Whitendale, Suite B  
Visalia, CA 93277  
www.bristolhospice.com

**Bristol Hospice**  
embracing a reverence for life

**PRESIDENTS CLUB**

**CVBF.COM**  
CENTRAL VALLEY BUSINESS FORMS  
PRINTING \ DESIGN \ MARKETING

GARY AMON  
O. 559.651.3595 X 128  
C. 559.679.4528

- Promotional Products
- Presentation Folders
- Vehicle Graphics
- Business Cards
- Graphic Design
- Door Hangers
- Direct Mailing
- Letterhead
- Brochures
- Envelopes
- Banners
- Invoices
- Tickets
- Checks
- Signs...

...And so much more!  
559.651.3595 • sales@cvbf.com

**Pacific Crane Service**

David Smith  
President

We are committed to your lifting needs.

To Schedule Call or Text  
559-805-5324

E-mail: pacificcrane@sbglobal.net  
Website: PacificCraneService.net  
Fax: 559-733-5961

Serving The Central Coast &  
The Central Valley

**Danielle Nunes**  
REAL ESTATE AGENT

559.303.1801 cell  
daniellenunesrealestate@gmail.com

1303 E. Grand Ave. Ste 123,  
Arroyo Grande CA 93420

**BIGBLOCK REALTY**

**John Parker, CEO**  
Diversified Equities, Inc.

Visalia: 559-734-7463  
Bakersfield: 661-396-7463

feelforlife@att.net  
www.feelforlifeshoes.com

**WORLD OF COMFORT**  
**feel for life**  
The Comfort Footwear Store  
GRAB THE WORLD'S BEST SHOES

**VISALIA MALL  
BAKERSFIELD VALLEY PLAZA MALL**

**COBY'S**

Please show your current  
Elks Membership Card  
to receive a **12.98% DISCOUNT**

221 E Main St. Ste B Visalia, CA 93291

**ROLLING JOHN**  
LUXURY  
RESTROOM  
TRAILERS

559.333.3234  
www.rollingjohn.com

**ROBERT CASEY**  
559-280-7280

**BH REALTY**

COPI: DRE 0188666

## “OUR BULLETIN SPONSORS”

These good folks have donated to help keep our monthly newsletter coming to each and every one of our members. We appreciate their consideration. If you are interested in being a sponsor in future bulletins, please contact the office. The cost is \$100 a year and it can be prorated if needed.

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Members with a birthday this month get a FREE dinner on any dinner of the month, including Friday Steak Night. (Excludes Prime Rib, Rib Nights, Fireside Dinners, Crab and Shrimp Feeds. Get A Free Beverage on your birthday in the lounge.

- 1 Robert Geels  
Margaret Lawson  
Pepe Maxwell  
Melissa Sandman
- 2 Dennis Adamson  
Ronald Vasquez
- 3 Jennifer Cawley  
Beverly Keith  
Janice Pineda
- 4 Deven Romero  
Wallace W Wicks
- 5 Leon De Asis  
Chuck Fishel  
Wayne Koens  
Scott Lawrence  
Bernie Van Tol  
Jeffrey Wilson
- 6 James Abercrombie  
Alex Hovannisian  
Jason Joaquin Mattos  
Clifford James Miller  
James Russell
- 7 Nick Adam  
Thomas Goulart  
Richard Grissom  
Tony Keller  
Alan Rodriguez  
Nancy Stovall  
Barbara Summers  
Chris Vicars
- 8 Brent Main  
James R Millar  
John L Rocha
- 9 Bob Ausherman  
Sherry Maze
- 10 Steven M Belk  
Sherry Wheeler
- 11 Jonathan Meeker  
Timothy Sarver
- 12 Iris Feaver  
John J Kinderknecht  
Derek Nelson  
Gregory Phines  
Herman Sandman
- 13 Craig Allen Russell  
Carl Sousa
- 14 Brad Pendergrast  
Jens Quintyn
- 15 Keith Bridges

- 15 Amy Goulart  
Daryl Haarberg  
Michelle Nelson  
Todd Soares  
Ryan Sullivan  
Lawrence H Velasquez
- 17 Frank Chesser  
Chris E Christiansen  
Steve Egbert  
Leonard Mayer Jr.  
Tanya Miller  
Russell Notturmo  
William Pine  
Brandon White
- 18 Mona Lisa Esquival  
Sue Hamilton  
Erick Hopkins  
Scott W Nelson  
Mike Saulque
- 19 Camille F Fisher  
Deborah June Parlier  
LaRea Rivera
- 20 Melissa Ann Martin
- 21 Shelli Giles  
Tim Miller
- 22 Eddie Ausherman  
Moses A Garcia  
William C Holvik  
Jonathon Hornburg  
Art Madrigal  
Shanyn Parish  
Donald R Smith
- 23 Kathy Page  
William Schene
- 24 Dennis Brown  
Brock Steven Robertson
- 25 Joseph J Arciniega  
Timothy Ronald Johnson
- 26 Karen Ann Schubert
- 27 Matthew Allen Andrade  
Judith Landers
- 28 David M Correa  
Jon Haggstrom  
Felipe G Moreno  
James Tucker
- 29 Denney D Anderson  
Nick Castaneda  
Robert Lizardo  
Kevin Nugent

- 29 Kyran John Wiley
- 30 Barbara Ann Koberstein-Davis  
Todd Lewis
- 31 Juanita Carmena Jones  
John Mark  
Ernesto Jose Neria  
Dorothy Van Wagoner



BPO Elks  
VISALIA LODGE NO 1298  
3100 WEST MAIN  
STREET  
VISALIA, CA 93291

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Visalia, CA 93277  
Permit No. 197