



THE PURPLE PIG GAZETTE

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project Inc.

July/August, 2013



From the Piggy Bank Newsletter
Editor: Piggy Bank Chairman, Bob Farrens



Articles can be provided by PGERs; District Leaders; PDDGERS; DDGER; PSVP; SVP; District Chairmen; Exalted Rulers; Leading Knights; and anyone who has something of Piggy Bank interest. Deadline for the September/October newsletter is **August 22, 2013** and articles can be sent by email to robertfarrens@msn.com. The newsletters come out every other month.

Exalted Rulers March 2013

\$3,023,326.83

I want to thank all the members of the California – Hawaii Elks Association for their generous donations this past year. We topped the three million mark! I want to thank Bill Williford who finished his tenure as the Piggy Bank Chairman with an outstanding year. Bill and Marilyn dedicated five years to helping raise funds for the children

The Five Highest Lodges (per-Capita)

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| 1. Riverside Lodge # 643 | \$187.03 |
| 2. Glendale Lodge #1289 | \$65.15 |
| 3. Placerville Lodge #1712 | \$62.50 |
| 4. Pasadena Lodge #672 | \$62.42 |
| 5. Hanford Lodge #1259 | \$60.43 |

The Five Highest Lodges (dollars)

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Honolulu Lodge #616 | \$118,610.43 |
| 2. Riverside Lodge #643 | \$83,417.48 |
| 3. Pasadena Lodge #672 | \$43,503.52 |
| 4. Santa Maria Lodge #1538 | \$38,424.35 |
| 5. Placerville Lodge #1712 | \$35,251.40 |

The Five Highest Districts (dollars)

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Southeast District | \$225,780.84 |
| 2. West Central Coast District | \$203,905.14 |
| 3. Orange Coast District | \$194,731.29 |
| 4. West Central District | \$166,627.11 |
| 5. Hawaii District | \$137,256.87 |

Winners of the Chairman's Challenge were Martin Barros of the South Coast District and Terry Gicking of the West Central Coast District.

The Leading Knight's Challenge produced the following winners: Best District, West Central Coast with \$24,582.94 and Best Lodge, Oceano-Five Cities #2504 with \$10,600.00



DATES TO REMEMBER

July 28, 2013	South Coast District Purple Pig Picnic
October 10, 11, 12, 13, 2013	Hemet Rally
November 1-2, 2013	Mid-Term
February 7, 8, 9, 2014	Southeast Bowling Tournament
February 27-March 1, 2014	Homecoming

45th Annual California Elks Rally



October 10, 11, 12, 13, 2013
Golden Village Palms RV Resort
Hemet, CA 92545

You don't have to be a camper or an Elk to attend. Come and enjoy a weekend of food, fun, games, tournaments and just plain old camaraderie, while we raise money for the kids.

The objective for the weekend is to raise money for the California-Hawaii Elks Association Major Project. Last year the Rally raised a total of \$30,000. The goal this year is to raise even more money for the kids. Come help us make some children's **Dreams Come True**. For more information go to www.elksrally.org or contact your Lodge purple Pig Chairman.

South Coast District Purple Pig Picnic



Pig Races
Pig Auctions
Bocce Ball
Tournament

Sunday July 28, 2013 11 am – 4 pm
\$10.00 for Adults \$6.00 for Kids 10 & Under

**Contact the Chula Vista Elks Lodge For
More Information: (619) 421-2011**

Chula Vista Elks Lodge #2011
901 Elks Lane, Chula Vista, CA 91910
RV Parking Available: Call (619) 216-9879

Meet our 2013 Theme Child – Andrew



On Dec. 11, 2010 Andrew joined the Bowring family – James, Erin and 20 month old sister, Macie. Erin's pregnancy had been complicated by premature labor at 20 weeks. Even though the doctors gave the family no hope for the

baby's survival, Erin went home and they hoped for the best. Erin cautiously withstood the rest of her pregnancy and they were rewarded with a healthy, "bouncing" baby boy, weighing in at nine pounds, five ounces.

After several months of age, Andrew's grandmother noticed that he was behind in his motor skills and this was confirmed when she did a Denver Developmental Test. The Bowring family lives in Tehama County where services for children are very limited, especially physical therapy. Because of this, Andrew was referred to the Elks program. Treatment was started at eight months of

age with Denise Wilson, Physical Therapist. Mom states, "When we were first referred to the Elks, I was alarmed at how fast Denise was able to see Andrew. It was only two weeks after he was referred that we were having our first sit down with Denise and we were able to start therapy right away." At that time, Andrew could not sit alone. He crawled by pulling with his arms only. When held in a standing position, Andrew's legs were rigid and his toes curled. At times, his hands were fisted. Andrew's parents were given exercises to loosen up his muscles and to help him achieve his motor milestones.

Immediately, Denise observed Erin accurately demonstrating the activities that she had been instructed to do. Both parents were actively involved in Andrew's therapy and home program exercises. Being a very strong-willed and determined little boy, he did not always appreciate some of the activities that were beneficial for him. This was especially true toward the end of a very busy day. Despite James and Erin's busy schedules, physical therapy was always a priority and appointments were kept on a regular basis. Andrew made rapid progress and soon began sitting on his own, then crawling on his hands and knees. When he started pulling himself up into a standing position, it was apparent that his right leg was weaker than his left. Andrew was very motivated to walk, but did not have the balance or stability to walk on his own. A "reverse" walker was loaned to him at 15 months of age. He immediately took off with it. After daily practice with the walker, Andrew was able to discontinue its use and take steps on his own at 19 months of age.

Soon after this, Andrew was diagnosed as having mild Cerebral Palsy. Being the very active toddler that he is, it is barely discernible to most people. He wears braces to help position his feet and to prevent him from dragging his toes on the right side. Andrew does fall more than most children his age, but this does not stop him. He is definitely "ALL BOY" as he loves anything with wheels and all kinds of balls. His hand-eye coordination is so good that he can throw a ball up and hit it with a bat all by himself!

Recently, mom's college schedule conflicted with Andrew's therapy schedule, so visits take place on the preschool playground with the supervision of his teachers. This has worked quite well, since there is a variety of equipment and structures that can be used to help Andrew. For example, there are large stepping stones cut out of wood that he cannot navigate independently yet. Other activities include side-stepping along the sand-box border, or throwing the basketball overhand to help with his balance. Denise contacts mom after each visit to give direction on what to work on throughout the week. Mom states "The Elks program has been phenomenal when it came to adjusting therapy to our family's busy needs. Having the program there for us has made life so much easier and has made accepting Andrew's diagnosis of cerebral palsy easier to handle. We really want to say thank you very much for helping our family so much. The program has positively influenced our lives and we truly want to say thank you."

Those who are able to meet Andrew and his family are likely to agree that it is a privilege. Andrew's sparkling eyes and huge dimples, as well as his lively personality are sure to win you over!

*This information is from the California-Hawaii Elks Association Web Site: www.chea-elks.org/

**Article by Patricia Beyer
Retired CHEMPI Therapist**

During the turbulent 1980's I had the best job of my career, one of the great adventures of my life, as an occupational therapist for the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, known affectionately by its employees as CHEMPI. The first inkling I had as to the originality of this organization was my initial job interview, that took place with Ada Granger, OTR, then the occupational therapy manager. We met for the first time at LA International Airport while Ada was waiting to change planes. Not having seen each other before, I asked her to identify me by the yellow pantsuit I would be wearing. Remember this was the 1980's and bright and bold was the norm. From the first moment I found Ada to be both engaging and inspiring. She was a pioneer in the provision of pediatric occupational therapy services in the home.

My work area covered much of the Inland Empire and the Coachella Valley, with the vast majority of my caseload consisting of infants and toddlers under three who were isolated from access to medical therapy services for a variety of reasons. Having worked for a number of years for Riverside County California Children Services as both a staff occupational therapist and therapy unit supervisor, the referring agencies were well acquainted with me already, and pleased to refer their high risk infants for home Occupational Therapy Intervention. The packets with OT service prescriptions and medical histories came into my home mailbox in Banning for a wide range of medical diagnoses and varying family circumstances in such locations as Thermal, Big Bear City, Muscovy, Joshua Tree, San Bernardino or Twenty Nine Palms.

I dedicated a room in my home to the Elks for a home office, kept and maintained charts and records, initial occupational therapy evaluations, follow-up reports to the prescribing physicians, and running notes on each home visit in my file cabinets. I put considerable effort into maintaining the CHEMPI vehicle to a high standard and finding places that did good auto maintenance for an economical price. I visited Elks Lodges when requested, and brought a child in treatment with his or her family to Piggy Bank nights. I was a guest at the Redlands, Banning, Palm Springs and Twenty Nine Palms Lodges on a number of occasions to share the value of the great programs they were funding within their membership. I often brought my husband Doug Beyer along as my audio-visual assistant for slide shows.

I am flooded with memories of the fine families that I worked with in their homes, under many circumstances that were difficult, challenging and sometimes heartbreaking. I usually visited once a week or every other week, working with the child, assessing progress, reviewing and changing the home program as needed. To help these tiny people feel comfortable with me and allow me to both move them physically, and challenge them to move in developmentally appropriate ways, I had to find a way to meet them on their level. I carefully prepared developmental toys, balls and

bolsters and placed them in a see through plastic canvas bag for each visit. On entering the home and greeting the family I would sit down in the middle of the living room floor, make eye contact with the child and wait for him or her to approach me if physically able. Those who were extremely limited in their movements would be approached, by me as I gained their trust.

Many of these adorable children would roll, crawl on their tummies, or creep on their hands and knees to come and climb all over me in greeting and get to the bag of toys for their special time. Work was never so much fun. They usually didn't realize how much effort they were putting into moving from tummy to sitting, or reaching across their bodies to grasp an object that would rattle, or climbing over a bolster, while gaining strength against gravity. Sometimes food, a bottle or a sippy cup was part of the therapy fun in a seat or high chair to assess their oral motor or daily living skill levels. These children usually only saw that my coming brought special play time and attention.

So many memories. There was one young mother that I visited who lived in a tiny trailer near Coachella whose baby son was significantly developmentally delayed. I left her a long list of movement activities to stimulate him developmentally, with stick drawings as illustration, but in my own mind doubting she could accomplish very much. This mother very carefully stuck the instructions to her small refrigerator with a magnet. By the next visit she had accomplished several of the activities on the list with her child, and we had to move outside on the lawn on a blanket to accommodate his increased activity level. She was thrilled and motivated. And like her, so many of the mothers would follow me to the car when it was time to leave, reluctant for the therapy session to end, having found new hope in their children's potential.

There were so many more adventures, family stories, professional conferences, meetings twice yearly with the entire staff in Fresno and during convention week, and visits by therapy managers to ride along to visits for several days. This was so

much more than a job. It was a calling, a way of life.

There were, and remain in this very varied geographical area many challenges to get to the homes to see the children. I experienced severe heat waves, sand storms, snow storms, extreme rainstorms, and sometimes had to cross dry and sometimes not so dry washes. There was one blizzard in which I made an unexpected stay of two days in Big Bear Lake. There were road and traffic hazards that I still shake my head at today.

And here is where I would like to interject my new role some twenty plus years later. I joined Elks Lodge #583 in January of this year, sponsored by Wes Hayden, currently CHEA Business Practices Vice Chairman. He very persuasively convinced me to join in order to help promote the Major Project now, so many years later, in these lean economic times. I have never forgotten the challenges and rewards of working for this fine organization.

On the day of my initiation, I began to learn of the view from the other side, the membership side of the Major Project. I learned that the Major Project therapists in my experience truly embodied the themes of the words "Brotherly Love", "Charity" and "Fidelity" as they worked week after week with the children, their families, and the wider community. It struck me that lodge members rarely have the opportunity to see the benefits to the children that their generous donations bring about. My thanks to all of you for this extraordinary experience, seeing firsthand the progress that can be made in home based programs that engage the entire family in the child's natural environment.



**Article by Gerry Gouveia
Vice Chairman Piggy Bank**

Fundraising is the best way to raise money for the Purple Pig. The regular income of money is vital to our organization to supply funds. The main motive behind our charity events is to spread awareness about the Purple Pig and the great work it does.

Most fundraisers are able to raise money during these events but they fail to spread the awareness of the cause. However, a few smart steps taken can not only raise money, but also strengthen our cause by raising awareness of it.

- **Stamp your cause** – While selling the fundraising product/events, try to stamp Purple Pig on it. The product/event should clearly carry the message. Prominently place the name over the product/event and have a catchy tagline to attract donors. Remember, we need to raise funds for the program again and again and we have to [go back](#) to the same donors.
- **Be creative** – Gone are the days when charity events used to be boring; you need to think out of the box and do something exciting to promote the program.
- **Be imaginative** – Be imaginative with your fundraising product/event so the donors find it attractive and want to give.
- **Theme your product/event** – Try to theme your product/event with the Purple Pig. This will be one of the best ways to spread awareness for it. Order the Purple Pig Candy wrappers from Fresno, as an example.
- **Product/event quality is important** – Choose your fundraising product/event well and it should never be taken for granted. Remember, the product/event should be high on quality, just like our program.
- **Promote your charity events** – It's important to promote your charity event at least three months in advance to draw maximum attention. Place Sammy the Piggy Bank at strategic places at the event venue.



- **The Pigs should remind attendees of the cause.** Don't be afraid to get on the mike and point the Pigs out and ask that they be fed.

The California-Hawaii Elks Association Website

is a resource that has many articles about the children served by our Major Project. The articles are for your Lodge to use. Suggestions for use would be to:

- Give to your Lodge Piggy Bank Chairman
- Print in your Lodge newsletter/bulletin
- Use the stories during Piggy Bank fundraising events
- Give to the Auxiliary Club President, such as Bowling, Emblem, RV, etc.
- Display on your Lodge bulletin board

Thank you for your efforts to spread the “news!”
Check the CHEA Website often at:
www.chea-elks.org.

Yucaipa Elks Lodge uses local talent to raise funds for the Purple Pig

Dan and Laura Dotson, members of the Yucaipa Lodge, and auctioneers on the hit TV show “Storage Wars” held a charity auction during the Southeast District’s Vice President’s visit to the Yucaipa Lodge. Over \$4,000.00 was raised that evening for the Major Project, with the Dotson’s making a personal donation on top of that.



Dan Dotson

Laura Dotson



Bob Farrens, Laura Dotson, SVP Diane Farrens, and Dan Dotson

And yes, we did hear those famous words, “don’t forget to pay the lady”.

BLT



Bequests and Living Trusts

Ensuring Better Living Tomorrow for the children served by the California Hawaii Elks Major Project

I have always ordered my BLT with mayo, but at the BLT Seminar I attended at the State Convention this year I learned a new meaning;

BLT – The Best Little Thing You Can Do

BLT stands for Bequests and Living Trusts made to the Elks. It also stands for the best little thing you can do to support the many worthwhile programs carried out by our organization. Depending upon your tax situation it may be possible to make a charitable donation now and draw income for the rest of your life. Talk to your estate planner or your Lodge or District BLT chairperson to find out how easy it is to make a charitable gift to the BPOE.

Hemet Poker Run For Major Project



On May 1, 2013, the Hemet Elks Lodge held a Poker Run. 47 riders and passengers raised a total of \$1,000.00 for the Major Project. Pictured are riders arriving at the Fontana Elks Lodge. The riders also visited the Yucaipa and Redlands Lodges. Having fun raising funds.

California - Hawaii Elks Association

BEQUESTS & LIVING TRUSTS

Learn how you can give a testamentary gift of love to the CHEA Major Project to help children by adding a codicil to your will, an amendment to your living trust, or by an income-producing Commitment Trust.

We can show you how to **REDUCE TAXES, GENERATE INCOME, AVOID PROBATE, AND STILL PROVIDE FOR YOUR HEIRS!**

PLEASE CALL OR WRITE:

The BLT Committee
c/o The Major Project
5450 E. Lamona Ave.
Fresno, CA 93727

or
Call: 1-800-742-1907
Visit: www.chea-elks.org



*Andrew Bowring
2013 CHEMPI Theme Child*

Central District Cruise



Alaska has long been the last outpost of the wilds of the United States. Recently travelers from the Central District Elks and guests journeyed to the United States northernmost state onboard the Sea Princess for breathtaking scenery, mouthwatering seafood, and helped raise funds for the Purple Pig. There were 32 couples cruising from San Francisco through the Inland Passage stopping at ports in Alaska and Canada. The cruise line donated one fare for every 8 cabins booked back to the major project. The group of Elks raised \$3000.00 plus had a great vacation and saw many of Alaska's wonderful sites and visited the Lodges of Alaska where they were given a warm welcome.

Walnut Creek Lodge 1811 held a sold out Crab Feed and served 900 lbs of fresh cracked crab to 220 members and guest. "Being able to eat all you can, for \$40 was just too good of a deal to pass up," reported Frank Crua, PER. "You're able to eat it pretty much until you're ready to pop." There's more to a Crab Feed than just crab, however, there was steak or chicken for those who do not care for crab plus an all you can eat buffet of pasta, salad and bread. The tables were served trays of crab by the Rainbow Girls from Pittsburg Lodge 1474.

The Diners bid on 50 donated raffle prizes, with the proceeds of \$933.00 going to the Major Project.





Special Citations

A very special thank you goes out to the Corona, Riverside, and Yucaipa Elks Lodges. Through December 31, 2012 these three Lodges had already exceeded their last year's total donated at the Exalted Rulers March in May 2012.

Out of the 79 Lodges in the CHEA South Division only these three Lodges accomplished this. Piggy Bank Vice Chairman Bob Farrens presented each of the Lodges with a Special Citation recognizing their accomplishment.



Bob Farrens with
Patty Trask ER
Yucaipa Elks Lodge



Joyce Nohavec, ER Corona
Elks Lodge with Bob Farrens



Dan Orvananos ER
Riverside Elks Lodge
and Bob Farrens

Purple Pig Recurring Donations

Would you like to see the children walk, talk, see, and play?

You can contribute to the Major Project more often without writing a check, buying a stamp and addressing an envelope each time?

It's simple by signing up to be a recurring donor! We'll automatically charge a credit card on a recurring basis for a set donation amount. There are no checks to write or envelopes to mail. It's safe, reliable, and allows Fresno to spend less time on administration and more time on our charitable mission. Recurring donors are very important and are special donors who will be recognized in each CALIFORNIA-HAWAII ELK MAGAZINE. Keep it simple – become a recurring donor for the major project! You can still fill the Pigs and turn them in!

Company Charity Contributions

If you own a business or your business has payroll deductions for charity contributions and you would like the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization listed, please contact the Major Project office at:

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc.
5450 E. Lamona Avenue, Fresno, CA 93727-2224
Phone: 559-255-4531
Fax: 559-456-2659
E-mail: chea@chea-elks.org
Web: www.chea-elks.org and we will provide you with the necessary information.

The newsletters come out every other month. Please share your Purple Pig activities with the other Lodges in the California-Hawaii Elks Association. Send your articles and photos by email to robertfarrens@msn.com or call Bob Farrens at 951-704-3603, if you have any questions.

