



GILROY ELKS LODGE #1567

2765 Hecker Pass Hwy., Gilroy, CA 95020

MAILING ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 488, Gilroy, CA 95021-0488

Membership Website: gilroyelkslodge.com

Catering Website: gilroylodgeonthehill.com

Lodge Email: GilElkOffice@garlic.com

MARCH 2026

TEL: (408) 842-9397

FAX: (408) 842-6206



SOCK HOP FASHION SHOW FUNDRAISER

Step Back Into the Fabulous 50s!

MARCH 7, 2026

Ticket Price: \$45.00

Doors Open: 11:00am

Lunch Served: 12 Noon

MENU

Teriyaki Chicken sliced over Asian Noodles, Green Salad and Hawaiian Rolls followed by an assortment of tarts, lemon, chocolate, custard, and fruit.

ENTERTAINMENT

Models showing many fashions from different stores, Classic 50's Music, Reward Prizes and Raffle, Playhouse Auction

Advance Ticket Sales available on Saturday, February 7, 2026 at the Lodge

2765 Hecker Pass Highway from 10:00am to 12:00 Noon.

Call the Lodge Office (408) 842-9397 for reservations after that date.

ALL PROCEEDS HELP FUND OUR MAJOR PROJECT AS WELL AS THE GILROY ELKS LODGE



Gilroy Elks Lodge # 1567 & Pinnacle Bank 8th Annual Benefit Concert



featuring the *Pacific Brass Band*

Sunday, March 15, 2026

Gilroy Elks Lodge, 2765 Hecker Pass Highway, Gilroy, CA

2:00 PM: Hosted "Bubbly & Appetizers" Reception

3:00 PM: Concert



Silent Auction - - Surprise Guest Conductor

Open to Elks Members and Guests

\$40 / Person - - - Sponsored Table of 10 / \$450

Tickets through Gilroy Elks Lodge office, 408-842-9397, payable at time of reservation

Proceeds go to the Gilroy Elks & the Lodge Scholarship Fund



A Message from Your Exalted Ruler:

My Brother and Sister Elks. This is my final ER message reflecting on this past lodge year at the Gilroy Elks Lodge. As I will finish my term as Exalted Ruler in the Gilroy Lodge, I took a moment to reflect back on our Lodge accomplishments during this past year. Along this same line, I was amazed to discover how many things have changed since my first time as the Exalted Ruler of our Lodge 20 years ago.

Sure, we may not have agreed on everything, but I would like to think that we made positive strides to support Elkdom and "Be the Difference". As of right now we do not have anyone nominated or step up to be the Exalted Ruler. We need an Exalted Ruler along with the corps of officers who will take on the thankless and often times underappreciated leadership tasks as they take over the reins to lead and guide our Lodge for the year 2026-2027. On this note, if you are displeased with how the lodge is being run and want to see changes made, please consider volunteering to be an officer. Without an Exalted Ruler at the helm, we also stand a very good chance of being put on probation, be taken over by a special rep, or still worse, have our charter revoked. Do you want that to happen? I certainly do not.

Before this Lodge year ends, we do have 2 events. On **Saturday, March 7 there is the Ladies Fashion Show** and on **Sunday, March 15, there is the Benefit Concert by the Pacific Brass Band**. Please come out and show your support at one or both events.

To recap some of our accomplishments and events from this past Lodge year, I recall are;

At the Purple Pig Night that was combined with the Rib Night dinner that was held in January our Lodge raised \$3,000 before expenses. I also list the weights and dollars that were raised from the Purple Pigs that were turned in. **A whopping \$832.35 was raised!!**

Robert Long 5#8.7oz	\$70.74	Danny & Nita Mitchell 10#2oz	\$200.00	Steve Johnson 2#5.2oz	\$19.56
Garry Stutheit 5#3oz	\$69.02	Doc McCarn 4#6.8oz	\$ 75.82	Frank Alves 3#5.6 oz	\$39.97
Patrick Psaila 6#5.7oz	\$108.05	Dexter Reeder 8oz	\$ 13.07	Bruce Parker 24#6.8 oz	\$236.07

A new caterer, Troy Garcia, has been brought onboard and started on January 1, 2026.

We installed two new convection ovens that were donated in the kitchen to replace the pizza oven, which we hope will help increase the number of guest meals that we can prepare and serve piping hot

We applied for and received 4 ENF Grants totaling \$10,000 that we have reinvested in our community.

Under Youth Activities, we held our successful 19th Annual Soccer Shoot. We had 4 of the 60 young athletes who participated in the Hoop Shoot who advanced to the State final, but the road to the finals in Chicago ended for them. Either way, they are still winners.

Under Service to the Community, we had a successful Italian Theme Night Dinner. Some of the net proceeds from this event were donated to the Gilroy Library to help fund the Storyboard Walk that will be located along a path in one of the Gilroy City Parks.

Under Scholarships, we received 19 applications, the largest number of applications that any of the old-time members could recall. Six of the nineteen met the criteria and have been selected to receive the Gilroy Elks Lodge scholarship.

Scouting, we have a newly minted Eagle Scout, whose Eagle project was to improve our RV parking area.

On that closing note highlighting our past Lodge Year, with all sincerity, I thank you for entrusting me as your Exalted Ruler. I wish all the best for the Gilroy Elks Lodge and to each and everyone of my brother and sister Elks, in the year to come.

Yours in Gods Loving Service. God Bless You and this Great Nation.

Fraternally, *Bruce W. Parker ER / PER*

Elks Care - Elks Share



**The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the USA
has joined forces with Donate Life America to increase donations of
organs, eyes and life-saving tissue.**

Nomination for Honorary Life Membership

Angela Moore, AVP & PER, along with David Marano, PER, hereby do nominate **Mitch Marinovich, PER, for Honorary Life Membership** as recognition for the many contributions he has made to the Gilroy Elks Lodge and Elkdom. A summary of the accomplishments and involvement that merit this nomination includes successfully securing over \$ 45,000 in ENF Grant Funds, which are reinvested in our community, Chairman of the Soccer Shoot for 19 years, and, as the editor of the full-color and award-winning Garlic Press Newsletter, received first-place awards. Through his efforts, was instrumental for the Gilroy Elks Lodge to be named an All-American Lodge at both the State and National Levels. He has had numerous articles published in the Elks State, National Magazines and local publications, helped Gilroy Elks Lodge be named the Gilroy Chamber of Commerce Non-Profit of the Year in 2017, He has served the Lodge as Past Exalted Ruler, Loyal Knight, Secretary, Trustee, and Chaplain. He has chaired the following Lodge committees: Americanism, Public Relations, Soccer Shoot, and Youth Activities. Please join me in an affirmative vote to advance Mitch Marinovich to Honorary Life Member of Gilroy Elks Lodge. **Vote will be taken at the meeting of April 22, 2026.**

Fraternally, Steven G. Mayne DDGER, Lodge Secretary and Advisor

GILROY LODGE HOOP SHOOT PARTICIPANT RESULTS ARE IN

Gilroy Lodge had 5 young athletes from sixty young athletes from our Lodge who demonstrated their basketball free-throw shooting skills advance to the District Hoop Shoot that was held in Santa Clara. Then on Saturday, January 31, four of the five athletes traveled to Modesto for the State Hoop Shoot, which was the next step after the District Hoop Shoot. The next step in the Hoop Shoot competition would be Regionals, which is being held in Las Vegas. Unfortunately, none of the four young athletes from our Lodge qualified to advance from the State Hoop Shoot to the Regional and to the National Hoop Shoot challenge to represent Gilroy Lodge.

Please join me in extending a thank-you to **Dr. Guy Bostock** for his dedication and "being the difference" in making the Hoop Shoot a very popular youth activity at our Lodge.

*Fraternally, Mitch Marinovich PER and
Lodge Youth Activities Chair*

Pictured (L to R)

Back Row Angela Moore AVP, Matt Dutra PER & District Hoop Shoot Chair.
The youth athlete in the red shirt is from Palo Alto and to the right of Matt is
Girls: 8-9 girls Ryan Flood, 10-11 Amara Marucut, 12-13 Audrina Salinas
Boys: 12-13 Elijah Marucut





Old Timers' Night



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026, IS OLD TIMERS RECOGNITION NIGHT AT THE LODGE.

You are cordially invited to join the officers and members of Gilroy Lodge for dinner and help celebrate these members for their many years supporting the various events and activities at your Lodge. Come to the Lodge for dinner and cheer your brother and sister Elks who have reached membership milestones in Elkdom. The Lodge Secretary will be handing out the Years of Service Pins. Please RSVP your reservation to the office at (408) 842-9397 that you will be attending so the caterer can plan accordingly.

Thank you Steve Mayne PDDGER & Lodge Secretary

65 YEARS

Walden Hogue

60 YEARS

Angelo Benassi
Joseph Filice
William Gates
Michael Mondelli
Don Sanches

50 YEARS

Albert Pacciorini

45 YEARS

John Tomasello
Dan Vogt

40 YEARS

David Flores
Gino Fortino
Albert Guerini
Darryl Manson
David Marano
William Miner Jr.
Robert Smith
Mark Tamura
John Tognetti

35 YEARS

Tom Finkemeier
James O'Dell
Lawrence Orlando
Duane Rasmussen
Robert Reinhardt

30 YEARS

Don Roberts
Christopher Vanni

25 YEARS

Joseph Giancola
Don Harris
David Jeter
Randy Moen
Sam Nijmeh

20 YEARS

Jim O'briant

15 YEARS

John Borofka
Frank Bozzo
Joe Cardoza Jr.

John Fancher
Tommy Goettch
Alex Hernandez
Karen Vonderwerth

10 YEARS

Mike Benson
Mike Blake
Sal Campagna
John Ceballos
Adalberto Gonzalez
Mark Good
Steve McGinnis
Ryan Miguel
Danny Mitchell
Tom Mozzone Jr.
Glenn Roberts
Jill Toler

5 YEARS

Ron Ayala
Earl Eubanks
Hilario Guel
Mike Hughes
Zachary Johnson
Lawrence Larson
Dennis Nasont
Carlos Tovar
Joeph Vergara
Lenny Welch
Steven Welch
Mark Wells

2025 AMERICANISM ESSAYS

The theme for this year's Elks Americanism Essay Contest, *"What Does Service to Your Country Mean to You,"* was the challenge. This year we received a total of 40 essays, thirty-nine 5th graders and one 7th grade student. Thank you to the volunteers, **Betty Reeder, Bruce and Caroline Parker, John Fancher, and Diana Blea,** who made time in their busy schedules to read each of the forty essays we received. Now, for those Elks who cannot make it to the lodge and hear these writers read their essays, I present to you on page 5 of the Garlic Press the 4 essays that have now advanced to the district competition.

Mitchell Marinovich PER & Lodge Americanism Chairman

2025 AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

Linda Diakova

What Does Service to Your Country Mean To You?

John F. Kennedy once told his people, "Ask not what your country can do for you-ask what you can do for your country." When you think of aiding our nation, the first thing that will likely come to your mind is military service. I agree that the highest form of service is found in our military, veterans, and first responders. These heroes deserve the most respect we can give them, especially those who never make it home. But service also includes activities such as voting, volunteering, and community involvement. As long as an act is rooted in commitment to our country's ideals and collective good, it can be considered as service, however big or small it is.

What have I done to serve our nation? I am only in 7th grade, not even old enough to vote or actively participate in my community. However, I am learning and preparing to serve my country by partaking in community service projects and joining leadership roles at school. Waving flags in the Veterans' Day parade or laying wreaths on the graves of fallen heroes is also my way of thanking soldiers and ensuring their service is never forgotten.

I want to be a citizen who doesn't just watch from the sidelines, but gets involved to make things better. My family also helps out; my mom serves our community as a Rotarian, whose slogan is "Service Above Self", while my sister serves at the police department as a Police Explorer and contributes to our community as a Gilroy Youth Commissioner.

To me, service to my country isn't something that starts when I get a job or reach a certain age; it is a mindset, a serving heart, and commitment beginning from childhood.

Ivan Cardiel Cortes
5th Grade – Rucker Elementary
Gilroy Elks Lodge #1567

What Does Service to my Country Mean?

Service to my country means to help people that need things like homes, food, water, and money. This is done by ordinary people who want to help others. This is called public service, those who want to make a difference, and the world a better place. Some people volunteer their time to help by being helpful to the community. If you do this kind of service you are making the country a better place. This will inspire others to look at all your good work, and want to do the same. To help people who are homeless so that they can have a better life.

Some people help by being in the military to stop the wars and by protecting the country. Service men, and women enlist in the United State of America to defend our country, our rights, and our freedom. Some of the branches that we have are the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force, and Coast Guard. They are all very important because some of them protect us in the air, others on land, and others in the water. Other people who serve the country are policemen, firefighters, and first responders. All of these people put their lives in danger so that we can all have a safe home, and good lives.

I feel like service to my country is important because you have to love your country, and all the people who live in it. Also because we have to keep our country clean, and safe. There are a lot of ways that someone can help, and do service to our country. Ensuring that all have equal rights, and have good homes and that they feel like they are safe and protected.

Molly Brinan
Grade 5– Rucker Elementary
Gilroy Elks Lodge #1567

What Does Service to Your Country Mean To You?

After this paragraph, you'll see what I think service to our country is. I hope you're ready to find out. So are you ready? I am, and you should be too!

People in the army, just think about it. People 18+ are fighting just for us; people are doing this, risking their lives, animals are dying, men are dying, and women are dying for us. This service is the best service ever, dying for people you may never meet. This service is amazing to me, and my heart as well.

Donation drives are just amazing. You are giving food, clothes, blankets, and books etc. to people you may never meet. You will feel better about yourself, and the world as well. A lot of people, schools, and cities do this as well, this shows that many people will do a good deed. If it means helping somebody you may never meet.

Did you know that short, tall, old, and young people are starting companies for picking up trash? I bet you didn't know that. Well they are, and it's so kind to the world for people to do that. People who do that care for the world no matter what happens to it.

Now after the end of this sentence, you'll find yourself at the end of this essay, and that's fine, maybe I'll come back, maybe I won't, but that's fine too, now on you go to my last paragraph.

In the end, service to me means that you're taking a risk small, big, or huge. It's still a risk people take, and that makes me feel amazing about things, which very few have feelings like that too. That's what service to my country means to me.

Sarahyee Garcia
5th Grade
Rucker Elementary
Gilroy Elks Lodge #1567

What Does Service to Your Country Mean To You?

Service to my country means helping the place where you live. It shows that you care about your community.

One way people serve is by keeping others safe. Soldiers, police officers, and firefighters work hard to protect us and the country.

Another way to serve is by helping your community. Kids can help by picking up trash, being kind and following rules.

People also serve their country by doing what is right. They make good choices and stand up for fairness.

In conclusion, service to your country means helping others and making your community better. Anyone can serve, even in small ways.

THE GARLIC PRESS - MARCH CALENDAR

MARCH 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1	2	3 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM	4 SOCIAL NIGHT MENU: STEAK	5 SCOUTS MEETING	6	7 FASHION SHOW 
8 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS 	9	10 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM OFFICER, HOUSE & TRUSTEE MEETING	11 LODGE MEETING MENU: CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE	12 SCOUTS MEETING	13	14 PII DAY 
15 BENEFIT CONCERT 	16	17 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM ST. PATRICK'S DAY OFFICIAL 	18 SOCIAL NIGHT MENU: CALAMARI	19 SCOUTS MEETING	20 FIRST DAY OF SPRING 	21 BUDGET MEETING 9AM LODGE YEAR 2026-2027
22	23	24 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION	25 LODGE MEETING INITIATION (TUXEDO) MENU: MEAT LASAGNA RIB NIGHT RESERVATION CUTOFF 12:00 NOON	26 SCOUTS MEETING	27 RIB NIGHT 	28
29 PALM SUNDAY 	30	31 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM	APRIL 1 SOCIAL NIGHT MENU: STEAK APRIL FOOLS DAY FIRST DAY OF NEW LODGE YEAR	2 SCOUTS MEETING	3 GOOD FRIDAY 	4

WEEKLY DUTY OFFICERS:

- 3/1 TO 3/7 - JENNY JUD
- 3/8 TO 3/14 - BRUCE PARKER
- 3/15 TO 3/21 - MITCH MARINOVICH
- 3/22 TO 3/28 - SAM BOZZO

Special Notes:

1. **When reserving a table of 6 or more prepayment of whole table must be done by one party. Lodge Phone (408) 842-9397.**
2. Some events listed on the calendar may be purchased in advance by cash, check or credit card.
3. Duty Officers are responsible to find replacement officer if you cannot cover your week.

"SUBJECT TO CHANGE"

HIDDEN NUMBER

If you find your membership number hidden somewhere in this issue of the Garlic Press, you will receive one free dinner during the month. It is identified by the # sign. **February hidden number reveal is #2821 - Pete Anello.** See the Lodge Secretary for your dinner ticket.

BERNAL RANCH PARADISE VALLEY

ANGUS BEEF Mike Bernal
Whole, Half or Quarter (408) 779-2684

Grass Fed
No Antibiotics Mark Bernal
Free Range (408) 607-3238

habing family funeral home 847-4040
129 Fourth Street Gilroy



Gavilan Hills Memorial Park
Owned and Operated by the Habing Family
Cemetery • Mausoleum • Crematory
Memorial Markers • Monuments

129 Fourth Street, Gilroy, California (408) 847-4040

BEST OF GILROY

The Best of Gilroy 2025 survey by the Gilroy Dispatch, The Lodge on the Hill, Home of the Gilroy Elks Lodge was named as one of the top venues in Gilroy to hold weddings.

LJB FARMS

Garlic, Garlic Braids, Corn, Tomatoes, Peppers, Bartlett Pears, & other Fresh Fruits and Vegetables



(408) 842-9755
(408) 842-3124 FAX

585 Fitzgerald Ave.
San Martin, CA 95046

THE GARLIC PRESS - APRIL CALENDAR

APRIL 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
MARCH 29	30	31 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM	APRIL 1 SOCIAL NIGHT MENU: STEAK APRIL FOOLS DAY FIRST DAY OF NEW LODGE YEAR	2 SCOUTS MEETING	3 GOOD FRIDAY 	4
5 EASTER 	6	7 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM OFFICER, HOUSE & TRUSTEE MEETING	8 LODGE MEETING MENU: CHICLEN MARSALA	9 SCOUTS MEETING	10	11
12	13	14 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM	15 SOCIAL NIGHT MENU: CALAMARI TAX DAY	16 SCOUTS MEETING	17	18 DDGER CLINIC AT SANTA CLARA LODGE @ SUNNYVALE 9AM
19	20	21 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION	22 LODGE MEETING INITATION (TUXEDO) MENU: CHILI VERDE RIB NIGHT RESERVATION CUTOFF 12:00PM	23 SCOUTS MEETING	24 RIB NIGHT 	25 NATIONAL DRUG TAKE BACK DAY
26	27	28 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM	29 SOCIAL NIGHT MENU: BEEF STEW	30 SCOUTS MEETING	MAY 1	2

WEEKLY DUTY OFFICERS:

- 3/29 TO 4/4 - DANNY MITCHELL
- 4/5 TO 4/11 - STEVE MAYNE
- 4/12 TO 4/18 - LARRY BRAGER
- 4/19 TO 4/25 - PATRICK PSAILA

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"SUBJECT TO CHANGE"

WELKOME NEW MEMBERS

Julia Jones and Dylan Mapel are the two new members who were initiated into Gilroy Elks Lodge, along with one member, Mike Blake, who reinstated their membership on Wednesday, January 28. When you see these new members at the Lodge, please take a moment to introduce yourself and give these new members a warm Gilroy Lodge welcome and encourage them to participate in Lodge events.



In Memoriam JAY JOHNSON

Born: September 10, 1957
 Init: February 28, 2024
 Died: January 30, 2026
 3 Year Member

*The clock of their last day has stopped.
 'Tis the hour of eleven."
 Remember, the faults of our members
 we write on the sand;
 Their virtues upon the tablets of love and memory.*



Announcement

- March 4 Social Night
- March 7 Fashion Show
- March 10 Officer House & Trustee Meeting
- March 11 Lodge Meeting
- March 15 Benefit Concert
- March 18 Social & Old Timer's Night
- March 24 New Member Orientation
- March 25 Lodge Meeting & Initiation (Tuxedo)
- March 27 Rib Night

Planning A Party, Reunion, Anniversary, Wedding or Special Event?

Our Lodge has so many possibilities. From weddings, to conferences, to luncheons, our facility can be perfect for you. Renting our venue will not only give you outstanding food and excellent service, but also memorable views for miles. We will make your event a lasting memory for everyone to treasure.

PLANNING A PARTY...

For more information call our Event Coordinator, Jenny Jud at (408) 842-9397, Monday through Friday, 10:00am - 3:00pm. See you at your next event!!!

REMINDER:
Reservations are requested: Call (408) 842-9397
AD SPACE AVAILABLE
 Contact Lodge Secretary

Gilroy Elks Lodge No. 1567
 P.O. Box 488
 Gilroy, CA 95021-0488

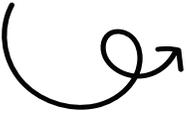
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*Addressed to a
 Very Important Elk*



LODGE OFFICE HOURS

BUSINESS OFFICE
Monday - Friday
Weekdays
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Calls after 3:00 PM will be returned the next business day.



GILROY ELKS LODGE

Presents

Rib Night Dinner at the Lodge on the Hill

Want a great BBQ Rib Dinner with Salad, Baked Potato, Baked Beans, Garlic Bread and Ice Cream for dessert prepared by the World-Renowned Gilroy Elks Lodge Rib Night cooking crew?

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2026

Doors Open at 5:00 pm Dinner Served 7:00 pm
Dinner price is \$30.00 per person

Reservations are required by **March 25th** so the rib crew can prepare enough rib dinners. **Limited to 200 guests.**
Chicken is available by special request.
By special request during Lent, Salmon is available for an extra \$5.00

Call the Lodge office 408-842-9397 to make your reservations
 (Open to Elk Members & their Guests)