



# 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](http://gilroyelkslodge.com)

Catering Website: [gilroylodgeonthehill.com](http://gilroylodgeonthehill.com)

Lodge Email: [GilElkOffice@garlic.com](mailto:GilElkOffice@garlic.com)

JANUARY 2026

TEL: (408) 842-9397

FAX: (408) 842-6206



## Save the Date Purple Pig Fund Raiser Friday Jan 9th, 2026



### Rockin the Ages Karaoke

Doors open 5:30 pm

Social 6-7 pm

Dinner 7 pm

Cost \$30.00

Dinner:

Cowboy Pork Chops

Roasted Potatoes

Veggie

Green Salad

Dinner Rolls



Raffle

Karaoke

Pig weigh ins

Most \$ in PIG

More fun to COME

**Reservations are**

**Required.**

408-842-9397



# Gilroy Elks #1567



## A Message from Your Exalted Ruler:

Hello Fellow Elks.

I hope you all had a great Christmas holiday. May I be the first to wish you all a **Happy and Prosperous New Year!**

To recap December, there were a lot of events. Starting with the Elks' mandatory Memorial Ceremony. The Tom and Jerry dinner and Ugly Sweater contest event was well attended, and we had a great time. Following up the New Year's Eve event to ring in the new year, and dancing to the music by Tsunami.

Looking forward to the new year, **Friday, January 9, will be our Purple Pig fundraiser Night**, with Karaoke and gift basket raffles. This year, we are combining Purple Pig night with the Leading Knight's Challenge. Our goal is to raise \$1,000 for the CHEA Major Projects from our Lodge and bring home another award. Please remember to bring your pig for the weigh-off. The heaviest pig in the weigh-off can win a prize that night. The pig with the most money can also win a prize. The other event to mention, on **Friday, January 23, will be our first Rib Night dinner of 2026.**

As part of the Elks Motto, Elks Care~ Elks Share, we applied for the ENF Spotlight Grant of \$2,000, which our Lodge reinvested the funds in our community to help reduce hunger. The grant funds were split equally between the food banks at St Joseph's Family Center and St Catherine's Reach Out.

The House committee has made a change and has selected a new caterer. Two of the popular dinner menus each month will be Steak and Calamari. The new caterer has also given us a list of different menu choices he will prepare each week.

The goal of raising the funds for installing the convection ovens has been reached, and I am hoping the installation will be completed and the oven operations will be tested before the first rib night in January 2026. Let me also take this opportunity to remind and encourage you to attend and support our Lodge events and dinners. The profits from these fundraiser events generate funds to pay for our charitable work, activities, and provide the funds for continual lodge improvements and asset replacements.

Looking into the crystal ball for upcoming events in February and March, we have the **Super Bowl Tailgater watch party**, the **Valentine's Dinner Dance**, and the **59th Fashion Show on March 7.**

The last item in my January Exalted Rulers message, have you given any thoughts about being part of the officer's corps? In **February, we will be nominating and voting for the 2026-2027 officers** who will be the leaders of our great lodge. This is your opportunity to help steer your lodge for the upcoming year. Whichever one we vote as the incoming Exalted Ruler, they will need your support.

Yours in Service

*Bruce W. Parker ER, PER*

*Elks Care - Elks Share*

We have some changes at the Lodge coming in 2026. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the new caterer at the Lodge on the Hill, who will be starting on January 1, 2026. Many of you may know **Troy Garcia**, who is the chef-owner of Heavy's Grill Catering. Troy is a self-taught chef who attended schools here in Gilroy. His culinary skills and passion were instilled by watching his grandmothers and mother preparing meals at a small Mexican restaurant that was in the DeBell Center on Church Street. In his career as a caterer, he has learned the ups and downs, but how you rebound defines you. He is looking forward to working with the members and management of Gilroy Elks Lodge to provide catering services to support the many different events and private parties here at the Lodge.

On behalf of the Gilroy Elks Lodge, I would also like to acknowledge and thank **Tony and Irene Altamirano, The Catering Angels.**

*Fraternally, John Fancher, House Committee Chair & Bruce Parker ER/PER*





## CHEA State President Visit

CHEA Association Vice President Angela Moore from Gilroy Lodge was host to the visiting CHEA State President Scott Stephens and First Lady, Mary Kay, at the Lodges of the West Central District. After attending the Mid-term Conference in Santa Clara the previous weekend, Scott Stephens and First Lady Mary Kay were treated to a jam-packed whirlwind tour of our district with lunch at Salinas Lodge, a lunch and the craft fair at Monterey Lodge, dinner at Hollister Lodge, a tour of the Old Mission at San Juan Bautista, and the main event, dinner at Gilroy Lodge, the home lodge for Angela Moore.

A bit of fun during the visitation that was a humorous highlight of the evening events, was when Angela Moore called for a costume change for the first vice president. Upon this announcement, several of the visiting vice-presidents and other dignitaries and West Central District Exalted Rulers donned a red nose for a group picture in the Lodge room. Who says that Elks do not have a sense of humor?



## Wreaths Across America

Many citizens including 6 Elks came out to cemeteries located in both Gilroy and Morgan Hill to participate in the Wreaths Across America to place a wreath at the final resting place for the men and women who answered the call of their country to protect our Freedoms. Placing a wreath at the final resting place is to remember the fallen, honor those who serve and teach the next generation the value of freedom our Veterans defended is truly humbling feeling.



*Fraternally, Rosemary Anderson  
(USAF Veteran)*



*Sunday,  
March 15, 2026  
2:00 PM  
Gilroy Elks Lodge*

*8th Annual  
Gilroy Elks  
Lodge Benefit  
Concert  
with the  
Pacific Brass  
Band*

*Save  
the  
Date*

#4307




**Valentine's Day Dinner Dance**  
**Friday, February 14, 2026**

**Doors open at 4 PM.  
Dinner at 6 PM.**

**Meat lasagna w/green salad, garlic bread**  
**Music is provided by DJ John Diaz.**  
**Tickets are \$40 each**


**Please RSVP (408) 842-9397  
February 10, 2026**

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**GILROY ELKS 59th**  
**ANNUAL FASHION SHOW**  
**March 7, 2026**

Ticket Sales start Saturday, February 7, 2026 10 to Noon  
In the lobby of the Lodge  
**\$45.00**





**COME WATCH SUPERBOWL 60  
AT THE GILROY LODGE TAILGATE WATCH PARTY**



**Super Bowl LX (60) in 2026**

**Sunday, February 8, 2026**  
**Doors open at 3 PM**  
**Kickoff 3:30 PM**

**Chicken Wings, Little Smokies, Meatballs,  
and Pizza Rolls will be served at halftime.**  
**\$20 per person.**

## DECORATING LODGE FOR HOLIDAYS

A warm thank you to those members who came out to help decorate our lodge for the holidays. The decorations at the Lodge on the Hill help project a warm feeling to everyone who comes into our home, our Lodge, as a member or visitor. The team of volunteers who decorated this year was: John Fancher, Elaine Lewis, Larry Brager, Bruce and Caroline Parker, and Helga Brooks. Undecorating is scheduled for Saturday, January 3 at 9:00 am, so if several members can volunteer for a couple of hours, as a team, we can quickly undecorate and get the new year off to a great start!

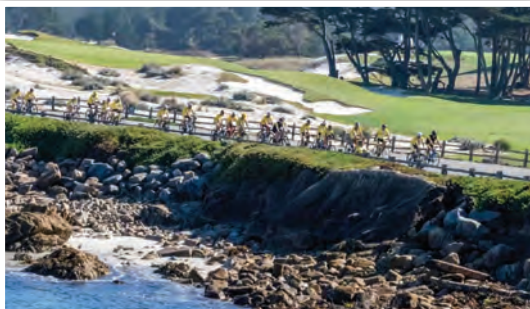
## PROJECT HERO 2025

Gilroy Lodge #1567 members teamed up with Santa Cruz Lodge #824 members to present two \$1,000 checks from their respective Lodges to Project Hero.

Both lodges applied for a Freedom Spark Grant from the Elks National Foundation Community Investment Program. The grant funds were then reinvested in our community with Project Hero Organization, which makes a difference in the lives of thousands of Veterans as well as their families and communities.

The funds from the grant go to support the different programs of Project Hero, one of which is the design and building of adaptive bicycles for injured veterans, along with organizing cycling events for hope, rehabilitation, and recovery programs to help our veterans and first responders who have various physical injuries, limitations, and disabilities, and overall improvement of their daily life functions.




Santa Cruz is the starting leg for the Project Hero California Challenge Bike Ride, a 400-mile multi-leg event that finishes 7 days later in Port Hueneme in Southern California.





## THE GARLIC PRESS - JANUARY CALENDAR

## JANUARY 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1 LODGE OFFICE CLOSED NEW YEARS DAY  NO SCOUTS MEETING	2 LODGE OFFICE CLOSED	3 UNDECORATE LODGE 9:00AM
4	5	6 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM GILROY ELKS 58TH ANNUAL FASHION SHOW MTG. 6:30PM	7 SOCIAL NIGHT MENU: STEAK	8 SCOUTS MEETING	9 PURPLE PIG NIGHT PULLED PORK 	10
11	12	13 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM OFFICER, HOUSE & TRUSTEE MEETING	14 LODGE MEETING MENU: CHICKEN TERIYAKI	15 SCOUTS MEETING	16	17 DD CLINIC MONTEREY 9:00 AM
18 RITUAL FLOOR TRAINING SANTA CRUZ	19 MARTIN LUTHER KING HOLIDAY	20 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM	21 SOCIAL NIGHT MENU: CALAMARI RIB NIGHT RESERVATION CUTOFF 12:00 NOON	22 SCOUT MEETING	23 RIB NIGHT - FIRST ONE IN 2026 	24
25	26	27 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM ORIENTATION	28 LODGE MEETING INITIATION (TUXEDO) MENU: PORK CHOP	29 SCOUT MEETING	30	31

## WEEKLY DUTY OFFICERS:

1/3 TO 1/10	BRUCE PARKER
1/11 TO 1/17	PATRICK PSAILA
1/18 TO 1/24	TINA MARTINEZ
1/25 TO 1/31	STEVE MCGINNIS

## Special Notes:

"SUBJECT TO CHANGE"

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.

## ELKS MEMORIAL



Thank you to the Lodge Officers who took part in this year's Elks Memorial Service Ceremony that is mandated by Grand Lodge to honor those members who will come no more.

*Their faults we write upon the sands, their virtues upon the tablets of love and memory.*



## THE GARLIC PRESS - FEBRUARY CALENDAR

## FEBRUARY 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
8 SUPERBOWL TAILGATE PARTY 	9	10 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM OFFICER, HOUSE & TRUSTEE MEETING	11 LODGE MEETING MENU: COWBOY PORK CHOP	12 SCOUTS MEETING	13	14 VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER
15	16 ELKS FOUNDING THIS DAY LODGE OFFICE CLOSED	17 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM	18 SOCIAL NIGHT ASH WEDNESDAY MENU: CALAMARI	19 SCOUTS MEETING	20	21
22	23	24 DINNER RESERVATION CUTOFF 2:00PM NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION	25 SOCIAL NIGHT ELECTION OF OFFICERS (TUXEDO) INITIATION MENU: TILAPIA RIB NIGHT RESERVATION CUTOFF 12:00 NOON	26 SCOUT MEETING	27 RIB NIGHT 	28

## WEEKLY DUTY OFFICERS:

2/1 TO 2/7 JOHN TOGNETTI  
 2/8 TO 2/14 JOHN FANCHER  
 2/15 TO 2/21 KAY SPENCER  
 2/22 TO 2/28 TREVOR ROCK

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"SUBJECT TO CHANGE"

## INFORMED


Did you know that the Elks National Foundation in 2025 increased the Gratitude Grant base amount from \$2,000 to \$3,000? Now there is a kicker as to how our Lodge can qualify to increase the Gratitude Grant from \$3,000 to \$5,000. The ENF Foundation has 4 different bonus opportunities that are listed below. The bonuses are dependent on the achievements from the prior fiscal year. The Gratitude Grant bonuses are in increments of \$500. Just a thought for you to ponder and consider, especially when you might be thinking about planning year-end tax-deductible donations. There are other programs in our community where we could have used these additional funds to increase the Gilroy Elks reinvestment in our community.

**FIDELITY CLUB BONUS** Lodges in which 10% of the prior year's donors were members of the Fidelity Club will receive a \$500 bonus.

**MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT BONUS** Lodges in which more than 15% of its members donated at least \$10 to the ENF in the prior fiscal year will be eligible for a bonus of \$500.

**CHAIR CHALLENGE BONUS** Lodges that attain a score of 550 points or higher in the prior fiscal year's Chair Challenge will be eligible for a \$500 bonus.

**FUNDRAISING INCREASE BONUS** Lodges in which 10% of the prior year's donors were members of the Fidelity Club will receive a \$500 bonus.

 It's **GREAT**  
to be an **ELK!**



**Are you a member of the ENF Fidelity Club?**

ENF's Fidelity Club is the **EASIEST** way to spread your donation throughout the year & make a bigger impact.

By donating even \$5/month through the Fidelity Club's autopay, your impact adds up to \$60 over the course of a year!

*Find out more / enroll online at*  
[enf.elks.org/recurring](http://enf.elks.org/recurring)

## 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. **Last month's hidden #4235 was Lawrence Larson.** See the Lodge Secretary for your dinner ticket.

# Announcement



January 3.....Undecorate Lodge  
 January 7.....Social Night  
 January 9.....Purple Pig Karaoke Fund Raiser  
 January 13.....Officer House & Trustee Meeting  
 January 14.....Lodge Meeting  
 January 17.....DD Clinic at Monterey Lodge  
 January 21.....Social Night  
 January 23.....Rib Night  
 January 27.....New Member Orientation  
 January 28.....Lodge Meeting & Initiation (Tuxedo)

## 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

**Time Dated Material  
 Return Service Requested**



Non-Profit Org.  
 U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Permit No. 176  
 Gilroy, Calif.



*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.

### BERNAL RANCH PARADISE VALLEY

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**Mike Bernal**  
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**Mark Bernal**  
 (408) 607-3238

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

**847-4040**  
 129 Fourth Street  
 Gilroy

## 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 one of the top three 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