

Greenwood News Notes

Published by the Elk Altar Society

118th ANNUAL SAINT PATRICK'S PARTY

The 118th annual Saint Patrick's Party is rapidly approaching! Don't miss this annual event!

The party begins with Matthew Tyson singing Irish ballads at the Blessed Sacrament Church starting at 12:30pm followed by Mass at 1:00pm celebrated by Fr. Lou Nichols. After Mass, the Love Choir will perform some great gospel music. Then the party moves to the Greenwood Community Center where corned beef and cabbage with all the trimmings topped off by a delicious chunk of rum cake will be served from 3pm-8pm. Dancing begins at 9pm to the music of Jim Corbett and his band and will last until midnight. Prices are \$15 for adults (includes dinner and dance) and \$6 for youth under 12. Fee for the dance only is \$6. Door prizes will be drawn every 1/2 hour. Tickets for the grand raffle prizes will be drawn at 10:00pm. There is also a silent auction this year with some wonderful items to bid on.

Last year's raffle winners were: Laura Lambdin (Cedar Chest), Ernie Rodriguez (toaster oven), Cheryl Buscoglia (tabletop BBQ), Carol Ann Walton (ladder), Margo Hillman (afghan), Wanda Lee (bicycle), Eleanor Sanini (sawzall), Marcia Popper (\$100 Safeway gift certificate), Clytieann Potter (flower pot), Burney Sjolund (collectible mugs), Anita Galletti (one-touch lamp).

While in Elk/Greenwood for this exciting event, take time to visit our wonderful little museum across from the Elk Post Office as well as the Greenwood Art Gallery which features paintings, sculptures, handmade cards, etc. by local artisans.

PARISH NEWS

This past year the bell tower and related roof area were repaired for a total of \$3,593. There were also some additional expenditures on the grotto totaling \$665. This totals \$4,258. Since 1995 the collective total of expenditures on the church complex plus the cemetery now comes to: **\$286,019.00.**

Additional work remains to be done. Currently the exterior painting of both Church and Rectory are out for bid. Rehang-ing and repainting of the front Church doors is also pending. Drainage work needs to be done to protect the foundations of the Church and Rectory plus further work on the floor at the church entrance.

Our parish is both pleased and fortunate to have a priest attending our spiritual needs. Residing at St. Anthony Parish in Mendocino, Fr. Lou Nichols says Mass weekly in Elk and is always available for emergencies and visiting the sick. Our parish pays a small stipend to St. Anthony to offset a part of Fr. Lou's expenses. Still we are able to meet all operating expenses. We are blessed to be in a wonderful community, have a beautiful old church with a very active group of parishioners and have the financial support of the Elk Altar Society to maintain these historical buildings.

Much work remains to be done at the Cuffey's Cove

Catholic Cemetery such as repairing fences, some road work and consideration of the old archway which is crumbling and dangerous. There is also a significant safety issue at the cemetery. Under study is an effort to secure a new entrance and off highway parking for the two adjoining cemeteries at Cuffey's Cove which will be safe for those entering or exiting as well as the Highway #1 traffic. Willroth, LLC owns the property surrounding the three cemeteries. The Sonoma Land Trust holds a conservation easement. They were asked to grant an easement for parking in the area south of the Druid Cemetery. CALTRANS, representatives of the three cemeteries and local civic groups all joined in the request. While originally denied, the issue is still being discussed.

Cemetery plots are available: cremation plots are 4'X4' and sell for \$250. Standard plots are 4'X8' and sell for \$500. The funds are used for cemetery maintenance. The cemetery is mowed twice a year before Memorial Day and before Labor Day at which time American flags are placed on each veteran's gravesite. General maintenance includes weed control in and around the gravesites. Contact Gene Cady at (707) 882-2349 for information or purchase of a site.

Regulations for ownership of gravesites:

- 1) Owners or family members are responsible for headstones and site repair when required.
- 2) Low or flat markers are preferred to facilitate mowing.

(Cont'd pg. 2, col 1.)

(Parish News cont'd)

- 3) Curbing outlining the site should be installed within the grave borders.
- 4) Mounding of the grave is discouraged.
- 5) Shale or stones that are dug up during burial should be returned to the grave and covered with soil. When excess stone is encountered it should be removed.
- 6) Plastic or imitation flowers are discouraged as they damage the mower.

EAS SPONSORED SCHOLARSHIPS

The Elk Altar Society will provide two scholarships of \$500 each for graduating high school seniors living in the Elk zip code (95432) to attend a college, university or trade school. Applications may be obtained from your school's guidance counselor, or contact Ruth Cady at (707) 882-2349.

ELK ALTAR SOCIETY HOLDS 2 YARD SALES

Over the 4th of July weekend, the Elk Altar Society held its "colossal" yard sale on the church lawn. A second sale was held in October at the Greenwood Community Center. Both sales were a success. These fund raisers are instrumental in allowing us to continue to provide outreach to the community, such as scholarships, food for the needy, lodging for those passing through if necessary, grants to the Blessed Sacrament Church as needed for maintenance and repair of the church complex, etc. As usual a wonderful group of volunteers were on hand each day to carry out and assemble all of the items, man the cash registers and answer customer's questions. We could never have accomplished it without their support. This year the yard sale will once again be held over the July 4th weekend. We are expecting to have a large array of items which "you simply cannot live without." Once again we ask our friends to check garages and storage areas for any items that can be donated to us. In turn, we will send you a tax deductible receipt and our everlasting gratitude. If you need us to pick up furniture or other items, just give us a call and we will make the necessary arrangements. You may contact Gene Cady at (707) 882-2349 or Dorothy Cong at (707) 877-3275.

Elk Altar Society
P. O. Box 17
Elk, CA 95432 – 0017
