



February March 2022

NCSEA Members Meet for Leadership Seminar

On the last Saturday in February 100 members from North Carolina Lodges met in Greensboro for the annual Leadership Seminar. Also in attendance were State Sponsor PGER Jack Frost and SDGER John Boyd. Presentations included Leadership & Officer duties, Membership & Marketing, House Committees, and many more.

A separate Zoom meeting was held on March 12 for Secretaries and Treasurers which included discussion on FRS.

All presentations are available for viewing at ncelks.org.



Message from State President Frank Brady



The NCSEA Spring Convention will be held at the Canopy by Hilton—Charlotte South Park on May 6th-8th, 2022. This is a beautiful hotel with shopping and restaurants within walking distance. In addition, the District hospitality rooms and accommodations are first class. The Elks will have free parking which reduces the overall cost, making this hotel very competitive in a downtown setting. Sandy and I are looking forward to seeing and socializing with our friends during our off hours. The Eleven O’Clock Toast, when recited in our hospitality rooms, is always the time for the very best of our members to show off what version of the Toast they have mastered.

This will be my last news article as your State President; and I must say what a year this has been. However, every journey has an ending; and although the supporters that made this year possible for me are too numerous to list, I must thank John Lawrence, President-Elect; John Boyd, SDGER; Ashley Buckwell, PSP; Lee Littiken, PSP; Michael Bryant, PSP; Gary Plough, PSP; Steve Clarke, PSP; Steve Johnson, PDD; and Michael Curran, PSP. From the beginning, Hendersonville Elks Lodge members supported my journey to become North Carolina State Elks Association President, starting with Bill Devine, PER; Shane Cook, PDD; Connie Stewart, PER; and Kelly Cook, PER.

The Vice Presidents have done a great job carrying my message “Elks moving forward, one challenge at a time”: Debra Welch, East; Michelle DeLaire, East Central; Toni Deal, West Central; and Gary Gantt, West. Membership! Membership! This was my main goal; but the financial well-being of each lodge and the ability to serve their communities with Elk programs that can truly change lives, I believe, are what our lodges are all about.

The Committee Chairs have been performing outstandingly in doing the tasks assigned to their committees: Randy Zigmund, Americanism; Dean Chaeffer, Camp Carefree; Robert L. Miller, Drug Awareness; Ron Delzer, Elks National Foundation; H. Lee Littiken, Elks National Veterans Service, NCSEA Convention Committee and Disaster Relief; John Boyd, Communications, Membership/Lapsation and Long Range Planning; Richard Penk, Grants; Mark Alderman, Hoop Shoot; Shari Driscoll, Leadership Training; Joe Clancy, Lodge Activities and Financial Reporting System; Michael Bryant, Long Range Planning; John Evans, Public Relations; Bruce E. Kinnaman, Scholarships; and Derrick Sims, Youth Activities. Great job!! Well done!!

Continued on next page!!!

President's Message Continued

Lodges across North Carolina, with the help of ENF and the North Carolina Charitable Trust, are supporting their communities with programs such as State Veterans Nursing Homes; Camp Carefree; providing food banks for the less fortunate; backpack food programs for children; providing safe places for mentally and physically challenged individuals to enjoy Christmas and other social events; and so many more.

ENF has provided over \$216,590 for North Carolina State Charities efforts including Grants/Scholarships, \$83,560; Special Projects Grants, \$59,000; Bonus Grants, \$15,690; Scholarship's Most Valuable Student, \$28,000; Legacy Award, \$16,000; and Veterans Funding VAVS, \$14,340. This represents Community Investment Programs totaling \$216,590.

In February I traveled to Greensboro to participate in the Leadership Training Session along with other presenters: John Boyd, SDGER; John Bullock, PSP; Michael Bryant, PSP; Shari Driscoll, PSP; Michael Curran, PSP; Michael Doherty, PDD; Kevin Black, PDD; and John Lawrence, President-Elect.

The winners of the North Carolina State Hoop Shoot Contests were: Girls 8-9 – Skylar Sidberry from Raleigh; Boys 8-9 – Mason Hurdle from Roxboro; Girls 10-11 – Emily Bridges from Hickory; Boys 10-11 – Jason Womble from Lake Norman; Girls 12-13 – Aunica Tomlinson from Morganton; and Boys 12-13 – Bryant Davis from Salisbury.

In mid-March Sandy and I traveled to Frederick, Maryland, to observe the Regional Hoop Shoot Contest with Mark Alderman. After an exciting competition on March 12th, the following North Carolina shooters moving onto the National Finals in Chicago are: Mason Hurdle, Roxboro (21 of 25); Jason Womble, Lake Norman (22 of 25); and Emily Bridges, Hickory (19 of 25). Congratulations to all of our competitors!!

The DDGER sessions in March were informative; and I enjoyed meeting and participating with the many Elks who attended.

Sandy and I want to wish President-Elect, John Lawrence, and his wife, Cheryl, the very best as they preside over the 2022-2023 year as President and First Lady. They are very special people; and we wish to thank them for all of their help and support this past year.

In closing, make your tomorrows as productive as the past because the growth of Elkdom is in your hands.

Respectfully,

Frank T. Brady, NCSEA President

Regional Hoop Shoot Pictures



Left:

The Mason Hurdle family
from Roxboro, NC



Right:

The Emily Bridges family from
Hickory, NC.



Left:

The Jason Womble family from
Lake Norman, NC

Right:

Picture of all of the
participants.



Message from GER Keith Mills



First, congratulations to all newly installed Exalted Rulers and Lodge officers.

Thank you for making the commitment and accepting the duties and responsibilities of the office for which you have been chosen. You are about to take part in, I hope, one of the greatest experiences in your Lodge career, becoming a Lodge officer. Do not take this experience and responsibility lightly. By accepting your office, you will guide the direction your Lodge will pursue for the next Lodge year and continue "Meeting the Challenge." Newly elected Exalted Rulers need to reach out to committee appointees to ensure they are prepared to perform their assignments. Show them how to get the information for their committee on elks.org. It is your job to help remove obstacles they may encounter along the way to better perform their duties. Make sure they report all charitable hours and mileage to the Lodge Secretary so they may be entered into CLMS. One suggestion is to assign important committees to different chair officers to oversee and ensure committees are working to the best of their ability. Then, during your monthly officer meeting or Lodge meeting, have committee chairs or chair officers give updates on that committee. In relation to finances, the budgets for your Lodge should be ready to be presented to the membership for approval before the last regular Lodge meeting in April. The Annual Report for the previous year is also due May 1. Make sure that your Financial Reporting System (FRS) is up to date and be sure to submit your end of year financials to your accounting personnel so they may prepare your 990s and 990Ts for your Lodge shortly after April 1. Once completed, you will need to upload them to elks.org and file them with the Internal Revenue Service. I know that all Lodges are actively involved in their communities. You are encouraged to establish at least one community project that emphasizes the charitable work of our Order. The Grand Lodge Activities Committee also has a Community Projects Contest. The Committee will award first, second, and third place within the six membership categories. This award will give your Lodge national recognition to show your Lodge is actively supporting your community. You have done the work, now fill out the form and submit before the May 1 deadline. By this time, your District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler should have informed you of the place and time for their Spring District Deputy Clinic. This is a great learning opportunity to gather with other officers within your district. It is also the time that your District Deputy will help you and your officers get the year off to a good start. Finally, good luck to you during this Elks year. Being a Lodge leader has some work involved. However, it can be lots of fun and a truly rewarding experience for you and your Lodge. If you need anything, your Past Exalted Rulers, local District Deputy, State leaders, and other Grand Lodge committee members are there to help and guide you. You just need to ask.

Annual Spring NCSEA Meeting in Charlotte

The Spring meeting of the North Carolina State Elks Association is only one month away in Charlotte. Registration forms are available on ncelks.org. Welcome our guests, the State Presidents from Virginia and South Carolina and enjoy spending time with your fellow Elks in the hospitality rooms. Highlights include the swearing in of your State Association Officers for the 2022-2023 year, Ritual Contests, the Past Exalted Rulers Auction, and for those who play golf a Friday outing at a nearby golf course.

We hope to see y'all in the Queen City!!!



Mark your calendar!!!

**This fall we will be returning to the Village Inn
in Clemmons NC, just west of Winston Salem.**

October 27th-30th.

PAST EXALTED RULER ASSN.

AUCTION

Attention all Lodges:

The NC Elks Past Exalted Rulers Assn. will again hold their annual auction to raise money for Lodge Grants. Each Lodge and or Convention attendees are requested to bring a new or valued item to be auctioned off.

The Auction will be held on Saturday afternoon following the luncheon.

Bid high and bid often!!!



North Carolina Elks Charitable Trust

The Charitable Trust Board of Directors have approved increasing the Community Grant amount from \$1,000 to \$1,500. These grants are provided to the first 20 Lodges who apply starting 5/15/22 and meet the grant criteria. These grants can once again this year be used for direct donations to organizations dealing with Covid relief efforts.

Lodge projects are encouraged as well.

Also, new documents have been added to the Charitable Trust link on ncelks.org. Updated Bylaws, updated list of Directors, Lodge Chairpersons and donations totals by Lodge are now available on the website.

A reminder, there will be a Parade of lodges for Charitable Trust donations at the Spring meeting in Charlotte.

HOW CAN I DONATE?

- Mail a check to: NC Elks Charitable Trust -PO Box 29452, Greensboro, NC 27429-9452.
- Give cash, credit card or check to Lodge Secretary.
- Online at ncelks.org. Click on Charitable Trust link.
- Scan code on mobile device.



A Message From Your Membership Committee

It's a new Lodge year, lets keep up the pace from last year and have a banner year initiating new members into your Lodge.

Should you want a copy of this poster to post in your Lodge please send me an email me at ashbuc@atmcnet and I will forward a copy.



Ritual Contest at the NCSEA Spring Meeting

The state ritual competition will be conducted during the spring state convention in Charlotte on May 7, 2022. **There will be two competitions this year.** The winners of both competitions will have the honor of representing North Carolina at the Grand Lodge in Atlanta in July.

There is a new ritual competition this year. This competition is the “**Flag Charge Presentation.**” The Flag Charge competition is open only to Exalted Rulers and Past Exalted Rulers. What the contestant will present during this competition can be found in the Ritual of Local Lodges (511500) beginning at the bottom of page 57. The contestant will hear 3 raps from the competition chair and will begin by saying “Please salute our flag.” The competition ends when the ER returns back to the station of the ER (as stated near the top of page 59).

The 11 O’clock Toast competition will be as in years past. There will be an Exalted Ruler Division and an Open Division. Any member can compete and all are welcome! The Grand Lodge competition is limited to ERs and PERs, so the highest scoring ER/PER (regardless of division) will represent North Carolina at Grand Lodge.

Start practicing your Flag Charge and Toast! Both members selected to represent North Carolina will receive a stipend of \$100 from the PER Association to help defray their expenses. Please contact David King, NCSEA Ritual Chair, if you have questions.



You have heard the tolling of 11 strokes.

This is to remind us that with Elks, the hour of 11 has a tender significance.

Wherever Elks may roam, whatever their lot in life may be, when this hour falls upon the dial of night, the great heart of Elkdom swells and throbs.

*It is the golden hour of recollection, the homecoming of those who wander,
the mystic roll call of those who will come no more.*

Living or dead, Elks are never forgotten, never forsaken.

*Morning and noon may pass them by, the light of day sink heedlessly in the West,
but ere the shadows of midnight shall fall, the chimes of memory will be pealing forth
the friendly message,*

"To our absent members."

Leadership Seminar Pictures



Pictured Left: PSP Shari Driscoll

Pictured Below L-R: PSP's Michel Curran, John Bullock, and SDGER John Boyd





Get ready for exciting changes in the Freedom Grant process in 2022-23!

This year, Lodges will have two options when applying for a Freedom Grant. Lodges can apply for a \$3,000 grant (Freedom Grant Classic) to hold an active project that directly serves veterans in need, or Lodges can apply for a \$1,000 grant (Freedom Grant Spark) to hold a smaller project with more flexibility.

Applications are available online from April 1 through April 15. Print up this [one-page flyer](#) to share with your Lodge.

Visit the [Freedom Grant webpage](#) for details and a list of FAQs.



NEWS FROM THE LODGES

North Wilkesboro Elks Donate Paintings To The New Kernersville Veterans Home



The North Wilkesboro Elks Lodge Secretary Larry Pendry and Exalted Ruler Bert Hall inventoried the more than 30 paintings and prints club members and others donated for the new N.C. State Veterans Home in Kernersville, which were delivered to the facility on Friday, Feb. 4.

NC★4VETS

Calabash Lodge Charitable Trust Grant and Golf Tournament Proceeds Assist Local Families in Crisis



The Calabash Lodge donated a \$1000 Charitable Trust Grant and \$1500 from their Charity Golf Tournament to Brunswick Family Assistance. BFA provides families in crisis with emergency assistance, including food pantry, prescription, and utility supplements.

Pictured above L-R: Exalted Ruler Shorty Denny, BFA Program Administrator Elle Thomas, and Trustee Mark Kerr.

Pictured below L-R: BFA Program Administrator Elle Thomas and Golf Committee Co-Chair Ed Sackel.



Morehead City Beaufort Delivers Hats to Veterans



Morehead City/Beaufort Elks Lodge #1710 delivered 200 service hats to the NC Veterans Home in Kinston on February 18th. Lets protect those whom protected us.

The Hats were delivered by PER Gary Melillo on the left.

Morehead City Beaufort Elks and Santa Visit Day Care

Morehead City/Beaufort Elks #1710 visited Swansboro Day Care and Santa (PSP Ron Delzer) read a Christmas Story to 25 children and parents.

Santa and his Helper Lisa Delzer gave out a little Christmas cheer and books to the children.



High Point Elks Give Veteran A Welcome Home Kit

The High Point Elks provided a local veteran from the Cassell Transitional Home with a Welcome Home Kit to help get him started in his new home.

Pictured is PSP Shari Driscoll with the veteran."



Goldsboro Elks Host Christmas Event for Needy Families



The Goldsboro Elks Lodge donated our Beacon Grant to Kriquette's Kidz Christmas Event to ease the financial burden of families living in poverty and to bring the spirit of Christmas into the lives of children living within our community. On the day of the event, parents received Visa gift cards and were taken shopping by Elks lodge members and other community volunteers. While parents shopped, their children attended a Christmas party at a partner church that included lunch and a visit from Santa. At the end of the event, families received a Christmas box that included a turkey and all fixings for Christmas dinner, as well as household and personal hygiene essentials. In total, this event helped over 400 local families have a joyful Christmas.

Pictured Esteemed Loyal Knight Shelby Ostendorf, Kriquettes Kidz Director Dawn "Kriquette" Laurent Davis, and Exalted Ruler Alex Wingate

Goldsboro Elks Honor Air Force Major



Major Erick Ferguson, aviator with the 77th Air Refueling Squadron and Goldsboro Elks Member, presents the United States Flag and certificate to Exalted Ruler Alex Wingate. The flag was flown in the KC-46 Pegasus on a mission to commemorate the innocent lives lost 20 years ago in the 9-11 terrorist attack.

Goldsboro Holds Annual Hoop Shoot

The Goldsboro Elks Lodge held their annual Hoop Shoot competition at our local Girls and Boys Club of Wayne County. The Hoop Shoot was open to all local girls and boys, aged 8 to 13 years old, and tested their accuracy and speed in shooting baskets. All our local winners went on to the district level competition and two advanced to state (and a chance to compete nationally)!



Pictured are Elks members and Hoops "officials" (from back row, L to R): Eric Ostendorf, Charlie Waters, Erick Ferguson, Mike Price, and Danny Kennedy

Salisbury Elks Raise Money for Special Olympics With Polar Plunge

It was a very special day at the Salisbury Elks River Park. The 2022 Rowan County Special Olympics Polar Plunge was Saturday, March 5th. Beautiful day with a great turn out. Total Raised for the Special Olympics was \$11,010.00, way over the goal of \$7000.00. Our own Salisbury Elks Plunge Team won trophies for both most team members and most money raised by an organization. This is the 7th time the Salisbury Elks have hosted the Polar Plunge and we look forward to it every year. It's what Elkdom is all about! **ELKS CARE, ELKS SHARE, ELKS PLUNGE!!!!**



Pictured above: Archie Blythe, Exalted Ruler; and Debbie Martin, Secretary



Calabash Elks Donate to Local Non Profits Helping Those in Crisis

The Calabash Lodge donated \$1500 from their Charity Golf Tournament to North Strand Helping Hands. They provide the North Strand of Horry County, SC with life's basic necessities, providing assistance with the essentials of life: food, utility bills, transportation for stranded families, clothing and household articles .



Pictured L-R: Ed Sackel; Kelly Johnston General Manager of North Strand Helping Hands Longs SC; and PER Al Harms.

The Calabash Lodge donated \$1500 from their Charity Golf Tournament to The Lords Pantry. The mission of the The Lords Food Pantry is to improve the quality of life for our community by meeting basic human needs, under the direction of the South Brunswick Interchurch Council, a partnership of congregations.

Pictured L-R: Dave Foulds, Lodge Treasurer; Mary Pritchard , Coordinator and representative of South Brunswick Interchurch Council; and Ellie Allen and Bill Allen, Elks Golf Committee Members.



Goldsboro Elks Host Benefit for St. Baldricks

Goldsboro Elks Lodge #139 hosted their annual Kevin's Kuts For Kids to benefit the St. Baldricks Foundation. Elks members, city employees, local business owners, and community members volunteered to be shaved for the cause and their efforts raised over \$12,000 to help find the cure for childhood cancer.



Pictured Left: Honorary barber Becky Edgerton, shavee and Elks member Kurt Jarret, and Elks member Tonya Jarret.



Pictured above: Elks member Kurt Jarret and Honorary barber Becky Edgerton.



Pictured Left: Auctioneer/MC Exalted Ruler Alex Wingate, Honorary barber Becky Edgerton, and Elks Member Doug McGrath

Morehead City Beaufort Elks Donate Puppets to Help Kids in Time of Need



On March 15, 2022 Morehead City/Beaufort Elks Lodge donated 30 Puppets to the Morehead City Police Dept.

These puppets are to be used by the Police Officers to give to children at time of need. PSP Ron Delzer and Lisa Delzer delivered the puppets.

Calabash Lodge Donates to First Tee

The Calabash Lodge donated \$1500 from their recent charity golf tournament to First Tee of Coastal Carolinas. First Tee is a youth development organization that enables kids to build the strength of character that empowers them through a lifetime of new challenges. By seamlessly integrating the game of golf with a life skills curriculum, we create active learning experiences that build inner strength, self-confidence, and resilience that kids can carry to everything they do.



Calabash Veterans Committee Donates to Tiny Home Project

The Calabash Elks Veteran's Affairs Committee recently made a **\$11,500.00** donation to the Veterans Welcome Home and Resource Center located in Little River, SC. This donation, combined with their October 2021 donation of \$3,500, completes their pledge of **\$15,000.00** to sponsor a "Tiny Home" as part of the VWHRC campaign to build housing for homeless veterans in our area. The "Tiny Home" project is an ambitious plan to develop a series of "Tiny Home" housing communities to support and assist homeless veterans as they work to find jobs and housing, and transition back into being contributing members of the community.



Pictured above L-R: Elks Tom Dorsa and Rae Snyder; Jerry Kimble, Veterans Committee co-chair; Scott Dulebohn, Director, Veterans Welcome Home & Resource Center; John Corbett, Veterans Committee Co-Chair; and; Elks Norm" Morelli and Joyce Dorsa.

This publication is produced for and by the
North Carolina State Elks Association.
The NCSEA Communication Committee
encourages all member Lodges and
Committee Chairmen to submit articles
to be included in future issues.

All submissions may be forwarded to
Ashley Buckwell, Editor at ashbuc@atmc.net

North Carolina Elks A Beacon of Light

