

North
Carolina



February March 2024

North Carolina Elks Hold Leadership Seminar

Over 100 members from Lodges across the state met at the Greensboro Lodge on February 24th for the annual Leadership Seminar. Speakers spoke on several topics to inform new, present and future Officers on the duties of their office, membership, Grand Lodge programs, upcoming conventions and many other topics.





Message from State President Mark Alderman

Amazing, describes the adventure Mary and I have been on this past year. From being installed as your State President last May in Asheville to having the Honor to present the North Carolina Flag at the Grand Lodge Convention in Minneapolis along with visits to our Elk family in Virginia and South Carolina, what an adventure. The best part of our adventure was traveling to Lodges here in North Carolina, making new friends in local Lodges and reacquainting with long time friends. Learning and hearing of the work that is being accomplished by members in their communities across our state, makes me proud to have served as your President. Your support of our Youth, Veterans, Veterans Homes and Hospitals, to the homeless in your communities, Soup Kitchens to Camp Care Free and many other local projects, is unparalleled. North Carolina Elks should be proud of what your Lodges are doing to make life better for the less fortunate!

I am very proud of all our programs. Americanism, Drug Awareness, Elks National Foundation, Hoop Shoot, Scholarships, Soccer Shoot, and other programs that assist our youth in our communities. The Grants Program, Disaster Relief and supporting our Charitable Trust continues to assist others in our state and other locations. The Leadership Committee along with the Convention Committee continues to improve our programs and the way we do business here in North Carolina. The Ritual and Protocol Team continues to encourage members to participate in their contests. The Government Relations Committee continues to keep us up to date about regulations that could affect our Lodges. The Thad Eure Award is the highest honor an Elk in North Carolina can receive, and we continue to have worthy applicants each year.

Membership, Membership we hear it and hear it but it is the life blood of our organization. I am happy to say North Carolina Elks have another year of increase in membership thanks to all the hard work that each and everyone of you continue to do in your Lodges. Thank you John Lawrence and his Committee members for leading the way. We can not stop now, continue to increase our membership and we will continue to accomplish great things here in North Carolina.

It does not seem possible that this is my last message as your State President, I first must thank God for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your State President. I want to thank some special people who have assisted me and Mary on our adventure. It started with learning many things last year as President Elect while traveling with PSP John Lawrence, thank you John and Cheryl. I want to thank Joe Clancy and Yenly for all their assistance this past year. North Carolina Elks will be in good hands with him as your next State President. I want to thank my Vice Presidents, Robert (Shorty) Dennany, Chris Setzer, Jerry Peters and Robert Arrington for all their assistance. I must thank Mike Curran, Gary Plough and John Boyd for their assistance this year and for many years. My Mount Airy Lodge (Mayberry) for all their support over many years. The Mount Airy Elks Motorcycle Committee for all their support. The Leadership Team, Convention Committee and all Committee Chairmen and members thank you. To all North Carolina Elks, thank you for without you it would not have been a successful year. I cannot thank my wonderful friend and First Lady Mary enough for all her help and assistance. She has done amazing, for being thrust in this adventure without past experience. I am proud of you Mary and so blessed to have you by my side.

FINALLY KEEP EMBRACING THE PRINCIPALS OF OUR ORDER CHARITY, JUSTICE, BROTHERLY LOVE AND FIDELITY in all your endeavors within in your Lodges and communities. Thank you all, it has been an honor to serve as your 2023/2024 North Carolina State Elks Association President!

We are **THE** *Elks*



Message From Grand Exalted Ruler Randy P Shook

Teamwork Relies on Communication and Cooperation

Officers, you are now part of the team. Strengthen it by building relationships with one another. This is an opportunity to make new friends and learn from experience during your service to your Lodge. The Exalted Ruler cannot do everything alone; you should be proactive by seeking opportunities to contribute to the advancement and success of your Lodge. Those opportunities will allow you to develop your own leadership and management skills. Approach all your activities with a positive frame of mind. Goodwill towards others will be extremely invaluable in the coming years when you may be relying on them to help. The diverse skills demonstrated by you and your fellow Officers will enable your Lodge to succeed and prosper. As you lead and support Lodge activities, please remember that your actions create a perception of who we are. As Officers, we must be exemplars of Brotherly Love. Embrace these concepts when working alongside other Officers and Members, and you will advance the interests of your Lodge within your community. Use the resources provided by Grand Lodge, your state association, and your district. April begins with change. New Officers must get to work at once. It is time to plan and pass a budget for your Lodge that each committee can work with. This budget must keep your Lodge financially sound throughout the new Lodge year. Get all the Officers, Board of Directors, and committee members together to review your Lodge budget. Discuss any ideas to make your Lodge programs even better. Plan your goals for the Elks National Foundation, your State Major Project, and any other community activities that your Lodge may be involved with. Brainstorm with your Members and listen to suggestions. Membership is the life blood of our Order. Work with your appointed Membership Retention Chair as a team. All Members are a part of your membership committee. It is important to reach out to delinquent Members to bring them back into your Lodge. It may only take one phone call. There is a chance that by speaking with that person, you may get them to renew their dues and become an active Member again. The Lodge Secretary plays a very important role for Members who were dropped for non-payment of dues. I encourage you to review Statute 14.180. This Statute is very clear that your Lodge Secretary shall advise the unaffiliated of his/her right to re-affiliate within 60 days. Make +1 in membership a priority during your term. Finally, appoint statutory committees. Budget to be posted by second meeting of the month. Remember, “Elks Care—Elks Share” and “We Are THE Elks.” God Bless our great Order, our troops, and the United States of America.



**NORTH CAROLINA STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION
SPRING 2024 CONVENTION
MAY 2nd—4th 2024
HOTEL BALLAST, WILMINGTON NC**

We look forward to seeing YOU!!

PER Auction and Ritual Contest

Breakout sessions for ER's, Secretary's & Treasurers

Breakout session for Lodge activities & fundraisers

On the Wilmington Riverwalk

Close to shopping and restaurants

Go to ncelks.org to register



**NC STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION, INC.
2024 SPRING CONVENTION, WILMINGTON**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

NC Elks Welcome

South Carolina State President Jody Patterson

Virginia State President Dennis Henline & First Lady Linda

Friday May 3, 2024

8:00 AM	NC Elks Golf Outing
10:00 AM – 7:00 PM	NC Elks & Guests Registration
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM	Charitable Trust BOD's Meeting
2:30 PM – 3:30 PM	PSP Advisory Board Meeting
3:30 PM– 4:30 PM	NCSEA BOD's Meeting
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM	Long Range Planning
3:00 PM – 11:00 PM	District Hospitality Rooms 3 rd floor Mezzanine (Admittance by Convention Badge Only)
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Advisory Board Social (by invitation only)
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Advisory Board Dinner (by invitation only)

Saturday May 4, 2024

7:00 AM – 12:00 Noon	NC Elks & Guests Registration
9:00 AM – 11:30 AM	NCSEA Business Meeting
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Ladies & Spouses Social
12:30 AM – 2:00 PM	NCSEA Luncheon
2:30 PM	State Sponsor Frost Meetings
2:30 PM	Educational Breakout Sessions
2:30 PM	Ritual Contest
3:30 PM	PER Auction
4:00 PM – 11:00 PM	District Hospitality Rooms

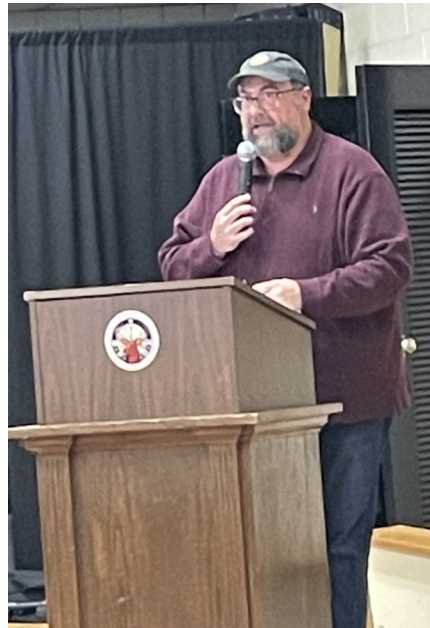
Sunday May 5, 2024

8:30 AM	NCSEA PER Members & Guests Meeting & Breakfast
---------	---------------------------------------------------

LEADERSHIP SEMINAR 2024

On February 24th, 130 Elks from 26 North Carolina Lodges met in Greensboro for the annual Leadership Seminar. The seminar goal is to give new and present Officers information and guidance to assist them through the coming year. Topics ranged from the duties of the Lodge Officers, Membership, Budgets, Communication, and many more.

Pictured below is Toni Deal dressed as Membership Man, discussing what else “Membership” and Kevin Black discussing Communication and Teamwork.





Attention all Lodges!!!

Saturday at the Spring Convention in Wilmington the Charitable Trust will be accepting donations during the Parade of Lodges during the business meeting. Each Lodge is requested to bring a donation.

Remember, this is an investment in our future!!!

Your donation helps support NCSEA projects and programs.

North Carolina Veterans Homes

Camp Carefree

Community Grant Program

Can't make the convention?

Click on the QR Code to make your donation today. Remember your donation is tax deductible .



PAST EXALTED RULER

AUCTION

The Past Exalted Rulers Association invites you to attend their auction on Saturday afternoon at the Convention in Wilmington.

Proceeds from this fun event will go toward Community Service Grants to North Carolina Lodges.

Each Lodge is requested to bring a new or item of value to be auctioned off. Convention attendees are also asked to donate an item.



RITUAL CONTEST

Start practicing now!!!

At the Spring meeting in Wilmington, the NCSEA will be conducting ritual contests for the Eleven O'clock Toast and the American Flag Charge. The Toast competition will have two divisions. One division will be for current Exalted Rulers and the Open Division will be for anyone else. The Flag Charge competition will be for all comers.

Reminder, there is now only one version of the Toast, which reads

“This is to remind us that with Elks the hour of eleven has a tender significance.”

The highest scoring ER or PER in the contests will have the privilege of representing North Carolina at the Grand Lodge competition in Austin TX.

Start working on your Toast and Flag Charge!

David King, NC Ritual Chair.



P.E.R GOLF TOURNAMENT



May 3, 2024

**Starts 9:00 am / \$100 Per Player
Wilmington Municipal Golf Course**

Register through the NCSEA Convention process

***Tee Busters and Mulligans
\$10 per person (Pay Upon Arrival)***

Lunch & Beverages will be provided

NORTH CAROLINA STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION

YEAR 2024

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

**The NCSEA Scholarship Committee announces the following
2024 winners!**

MVS NATIONAL FINALIST (Minimum \$1,000 each year for 4 years)			
Male National Finalists (3)		Female National Finalists (4)	
Student Name	Lodge Name & No.	Student Name	Lodge Name & No.
Anish Patel	High Point-1155	Rou Yu Tan	Goldsboro-602
Winford Batten	Newton-2042	Elizabeth Furlough	Kinston-740
Daniel Perkins	Raleigh-735	Rachel Heggie	Lake Norman-392
		Anika Raburn	Raleigh-735
STATE ALLOCATED (40) – (\$1,000 one year award)			
Male Winners (20)		Female Winners (20)	
Student Name	Lodge Name & No.	Student Name	Lodge Name & No.
Caleb Smith	Fayetteville-1081	Larkin Baxley	Fayetteville-1081
Joshua Lee	Goldsboro-139	Merry Wang	Fayetteville-1081
Davis Crymes	Hickory-1654	Lauren Zuravel	Fayetteville-1081
Jack Thompson	Lake Norman-392	Madison Bunch	Goldsboro-139
Zander Russell	Mt. Airy-2061	Shashwati Kadge	Hickory-1654
Braxton Reinhardt	Morganton- 852	Allison Oberlin-Pope	Hickory-1654
Benjamin Heath	Newton-2042	Gracie Bowling	High Point-1155
Eric Cheng	Raleigh-735	Cassidy Delia	Lake Norman-392
Neil Shah	Raleigh - 735	Maggie Ray	Mt. Airy-2061
Clinton Efird	Salisbury-699	Hannah Khuri	Mt. Airy-2061
Adler Rice	Shalotte-2854	Lamees Sohail	Morganton-1852
Avery Brooks	Shelby - 1709	Abigail Gonzalez	New Bern-764
Connor Cuthrell	Southern Pines-1692	Netra Parikh	Raleigh-735
Adam Knosky	Wilmington-532	Annalise Nguyen	Raleigh-735
Matthew Barghout	Winston-Salem-449	Ella Jones	Salisbury-699
Daniel Bryant	Winston-Salem-449	Maggie Moss	Southern Pines-1692
Emmerson Guldborg	Winston-Salem-449	Kendyl King	Statesville-1823
Nathan Hoang	Winston-Salem-449	Shreya Karumuri	Statesville-1823
Pierce Irwin	Winston-Salem-449	Chloe Webster	Winston-Salem - 449
William Pfefferkorn	Winston-Salem-449	Kyndall Williams	Winston-Salem - 449
NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS (10) – (\$1,000 one year awards)			
Student Name	Lodge Name & No.	Student Name	Lodge Name & No.
Reece A. Cribbs	Calabash-2679	Harlem M. Jones	Salisbury-699
Kaylee E. Waggle	Calabash-2679	Tyler C. Morrison	Salisbury-699
Maria D. Urena	Goldsboro-139	Arija J. Boin	Southern Pines-1692
Emma Ring	Mt. Airy-2061	Payton Jade Howell	Winston-Salem - 449
Niya S. Smith	Mt. Airy-2061	Addie H. Kistemaker	Winston-Salem - 449

Bruce Kinnaman, Chairman Dorothy Kinnaman, Technical Support

News From the East District

CALABASH LODGE USES GRANT TO PURCHASE BEACH HANDICAP WHEELCHAIR



The Calabash Elks Lodge donated an all terrain beach handicap wheelchair to the Town of Sunset Beach. The handicap wheelchairs are available for residents and visitors to reserve for use on the beach.

Pictured L-R; Elk ENF Chair Neal Floor; Public Works Director Matt Sorrel; Lodge Exalted Ruler Juanita Adams.

OAK ISLAND ELKS USE GRANTS TO PURCHASE SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND FUND SAFE SHELTER FOR WOMEN



The Oak Island Elks Lodge recently donated \$500 to the Southport Christian School.

The donation will be used for students in need to purchase books and supplies.

Pictured L-R; Lodge member Alan McWhirter and Principal Lisa Kjome

The Oak Island Elks Lodge recently donated \$2000 to Hope Harbor Home of Brunswick County. Hope Harbor Home strives to break the cycle of domestic and sexual violence in Brunswick County with safe shelter, advocacy and education.

Pictured are Donna Varnum from Hope Harbor and Lodge Member John Borklund.



CALABASH LODGE USES GRANTS TO ASSIST LOCAL CHARITIES

The Calabash Elks Lodge donated \$1000 to the STARS program of Seaside Methodist Church. The STARS program is a summer literacy program designed to improve early childhood literacy in 2nd and 3rd grade students in rural communities.

Pictured L-R; Neal Floor, Elk National Foundation Chair; Barb Duclos, STARS program director; and Juanita Adams, Exalted Ruler.



The Calabash Elks Lodge donated \$1000 to the Christian Recovery Center in Shallotte. The Christian Recovery Center provides spiritual and educational tools for a long term recovery from addiction.

Pictured L-R; Neal Floor, Elk National Foundation Chair; Ashley Kidwell, Assistant Director of Rose House; Taylor Murphy, Development Manager; and Juanita Adams, Exalted Ruler.



CALABASH LODGE ASSISTS VETERANS THROUGH PROJECT LIFESAVER

The Veteran's Affairs Committee of the Calabash Lodge recently made a \$2,000.00 donation to the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office in support of their "Project Lifesaver," a rescue program for individuals with "Wandering Syndrome," a symptom common to many Veterans with brain related disorders. "Project Lifesaver" is a national, proactive, electronic tracking program used to assist in locating missing people.



Pictured (Left to Right), - VAC member Shirley Turlington; VAC Chairman John Corbett; Project Lifesaver representative BCSO Deputy Bryant Holden, VAC members Karen Reynolds and Glenn Hasula.

OAK ISLAND LODGE HOLDS TEAM BUILDING CRUISE

Oak Island Elks Lodge held a team building event on the Carnival Elation recently.

The gang discussed all things Elks while enjoying a cruise to the Bahamas!



CALABASH ELKS CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

SUPPORTS LOCAL CHARITIES



\$2350.00 was presented to Sea Haven for Youth. Presenting the check on behalf of the Calabash Lodge Golf Committee were Ellie and Bill Allen.

Pictured Left to Right Representing Sea Haven: Kate Tierney, Coordination; Laura von Herrmann, Development Director; Calabash Elks Ellie and Bill Allen.

Mike Claxton, President (left); and Dan Shaw, Fundraising Chairman, of SBIC (right); of the Lords Food Pantry gratefully accept the Golf Committee's donation of \$2,350.00 from Bill & Ellie Allen.



A check for \$2,350 was presented to Brunswick Family Assistance to be used for housing assistance.

Pictured L-R; Edward Sackel, Golf Committee Co-Chairman; Stephanie Bowen, Executive Director, Brunswick Family Assistance; Jack Bendy, Golf Committee



The Calabash Elks Golf Committee presented a check for \$2350 to the Brunswick County Homeless Coalition to assist families at risk of becoming homeless.

Pictured L-R; Ed Sackel, Golf Committee Co-chair; Joe Staton, BCHC; Chuck Scott, Elk Member; Ron Binetti, Gif Committee Co-chair.



CALABASH LODGE DONATES TO HONOR FLIGHT OF CAPE FEAR

The Calabash Elks Lodge Veteran's Affairs Committee recently made a \$500.00 donation to the "Honor Flight of the Cape Fear Area," a non-profit organization dedicated to transporting United States military veterans to Washington DC to see the memorials of the respective wars in which they fought. HFCFA is one of over 130 Honor Flight "hubs" in 45 states. Honor Flight was founded early 2020 as a 100% volunteer nonprofit with the mission of flying WWII, Korea, and Vietnam era Veterans to Washington, DC for an all-expense paid day of recognition and remembrance.



Pictured left L—R; VAC Member Gary Dobratz; VAC Chairman John Corbett; Lisa Toohey, Volunteer Coordinator for Honor Flight Cape Fear Area; and VAC Member Ed Hanson.

CALABASH ELKS DONATE TO VETERANS WELCOME HOME RESOURCE CENTER

The Veteran's Affairs Committee of the Calabash Elks Lodge recently made a **\$6,000.00** donation to the "Veterans Welcome Home and Resource Center" located in Little River, SC. With this donation we have achieved our goal of funding \$13,000.00 to sponsor a second "Tiny Home"; as part of the 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 (Left to Right) are: Frank Eberhart and Gary Reynolds, VAC Members; John Zschoche, VAC Vice Chairman; August Savello, CEO, Veterans Welcome Home & Resource Center; John Corbett, VAC Chairman; Frank Fitzgerald and Joann Hasulak, VAC Members.

SHALLOTTE LODGE TEAMS UP WITH AMERICAN LEGION TO PROMOTE VETERANS WELCOME HOME KITS



Several Shallotte Elks met with the American Legion Post #550 Auxiliary at their meeting to discuss the Elks National Veterans Service Commission Welcome Home Kit project as well as other ways to help veterans.

Pictured are Elks Frank Burgess, Lecturing Knight and Carolyn Garramone, Secretary and Barbara Votik, President of the AL Auxiliary with the Auxiliary's newly received Charter.



News From the East Central District

RALEIGH ELKS PROVIDE FURNISHINGS AND FLAGS FOR VETERANS

The Raleigh Elks have provided furnishings to 24 Veterans who are no longer homeless, because of The Welcome Home Project. Our member and Veteran, Jim Pendergast, has worked with several flag companies to provide flags to each of the Veterans we have assisted through the program. So far, 20 3'X 5' flags have been donated by The Allegiance Flag Company in South Carolina. Each Veteran will receive a flag as a Welcome Home gift.



Pictured: Lodge member Yvonne Tucker presenting flags to two of our recent Welcome Home recipients



WELCOME HOME
A COMMUNITY FOR VETERANS

RALEIGH ELKS DONATE TO VETERANS THROUGH WELCOME HOME PROJECT



February 17 was Donation Day for the Veterans the Raleigh Lodge continues to help through the Welcome Home Project. A big thanks went out to all the volunteers who donated furniture, microwaves, TVs, kitchen supplies, lamps, and so many things needed when setting up a new home! Also thanks to the members who offered and filled their trucks and trailers!



RALEIGH YOUNGSTER MOVES ON TO NATIONAL HOOP SHOOT FINAL IN CHICAGO

At the Elks Regional Hoop Shoot Competition on March 9th in Charlottesville Va, Raleigh Elks Lodge's Daraji Harris won with a score of 21 out of 25 baskets. She represented girls 12-13 years old.

Daraji will advance to the National Hoop Shoot Finals April 20-23 in Chicago, IL.

Good Luck in Chicago Daraji!!!

Pictured: Daraji and NC State President, Mark Alderman



SOUTHERN PINES LODGE SUPPORTS MEALS ON WHEELS

Southern Pines Elks, recognizes the importance of the Meals on Wheels of the Sandhills organization (MOW). Elks designated the month of June 2023 as MOW month and made a \$500 contribution for the purchase and delivery of 100 meals to local elderly residents and shut-ins. This has been an annual charity for the lodge for many years. As of late, the Elks, through a Spot Light Grant have provided \$2,000 to further support the MOW and expand their reach to include six communities: Aberdeen, Southern Pines, Pine Bluff, Whispering Pines, parts of West End, Carthage, Vass with hopes of expanding into Seven Lakes area. The Elks have formed additional partnerships with The United Way of the Sandhills, The Village Chapel of Pinehurst and other Moore County area churches in order to fight local hunger. The new Executive Director of MOW, Penny Jeffrey, stated that they plan on joining the MOW National Organization later in 2024 to help fund their new delivery routes out to Seven Lakes. What a great organization! To be successful with their mission, volunteers are always welcome.



Pictured L-R; Paul Spadafora, Southern Pines Elks Secretary/Grants Coordinator ; Penny Jeffrey, Meals on Wheels Executive Director ; Tom Albanese, Southern Pines Elks Lodge Exalted Ruler .



SOTHERN PINES LODGE SUPPORTS SANDHILL WARRIORS BASKETBALL

Southern Pines Elks , through a Gratitude Grant, have presented the Sandhills Warriors Basketball program \$2,000. Coach Garrye Chavis, who founded the program in 1991 which seeks to address issues facing youths and their family in a fragmented society where many families lack direction and young people are drifting into negative behaviors. Participants are required to maintain a minimum grade point average, practice good citizenship, and refrain from negative behaviors in the community. The funds are used for tournament registration, transportation, lodging for coaches and players, and uniforms. The team has been to the national championships three times in the past five years! A most deserving program indeed.



RALEIGH ELKS WELCOME HOME COMMITTEE HELPS FAMILY OF VETERAN



The Raleigh Lodge is thrilled to share some incredible news with you all! On March 3rd, their Welcome Home Kit Committee achieved something truly extraordinary. Through their hard work and compassion, we helped make an immediate and direct impact on the life of a veteran and his five children.

We delivered a brand-new queen-sized bed with sheets and pillows, alongside a full-size mattress and bed frame, and two twin-sized mattresses with frames. The kit also included essential household items like chairs, dishes and silverware for up to 8 people, towels and washcloths, plus a TV with antenna, and no joke—a black Chevrolet Suburban!

Pictured with the family, Raleigh Elks Yvonne and Bryant Tucker.

News From the West Central District

SALISBURY LODGE HOLDS HOOP SHOOT

The Salisbury Elks Lodge #699 and Salisbury Parks and Recreation teamed up to host the annual Hoop Shoot free throw contest at Hall Gym. The event drew a great crowd on Sunday afternoon, January 14 to support the 20 boys and girls and 15 volunteers.



SALISBURY LODGE PARTICIPATES IN WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Members of Salisbury Elks Lodge participated in the annual Wreaths Across America at the Salisbury Veterans National Cemetery.



SALISBURY ELKS BECOME BELL RINGERS FOR THE SALVATION ARMY

**SALISBURY ELKS
RINGING IN
A SAFE &
JOYFUL 2024!**



News From the West District

MORGANTON LODGE HOLDS DINNER TO HONOR VETERANS

On Tuesday, November 7th, the Morganton Elk's Lodge hosted a dinner and tribute to a number of local veterans and their spouses. We were privileged to have the Color guard of Freedom High School JROTC and the Disabled American Veterans Chapter #43 to assist us with our presentation. We honored all veterans who served with the U.S Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard. The total number of members of our Lodge that were honored was 46. Following the ceremony, each veteran was presented with a token of our appreciation, an Elk's Veteran Pin. Our pledge remains "So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them".



DRUG AWARENESS CHAIR SPOKE TO PARENTS AND CHILDREN AT NORTH CAROLINA HOOP SHOOT

Seeing the opportunity to talk to parents and children at the Elks Annual Hoop Shoot, Brenda Wronek, the Drug Awareness Chair for Western NC Elks spoke about the importance of locking up your medications. There was also a table setup with information for parents and free coloring books, rulers, pencils and bracelets for the children.



MORGANTON ELKS RAISE \$10,000 FOR DAV POST 43 THROUGH WINTER JAM EVENT

The Morganton Elks Lodge proudly announces the success of its recent Winter Jam event, which raised an impressive \$10,000 in support of Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Post 43. The event, held on January 27th brought together members of the community for an evening of live music by Mason Jar Poets and Almost Vintage, food, and fundraising.

The Winter Jam event, organized by the dedicated members of the Morganton Elks Lodge, aimed to provide crucial support to DAV Post 43, an organization committed to empowering disabled veterans and their families. Through generous donations and sponsorships, the Morganton community rallied behind this noble cause, demonstrating their unwavering support for those who have served our country.

"We are thrilled by the overwhelming generosity and support shown by the Morganton community," said Kolby Watts, Leading Knight of the Morganton Elks Lodge. "The success of the Winter Jam event exemplifies the spirit of camaraderie and compassion that defines our community. We are honored to stand alongside DAV Post 43 in their mission to provide vital resources and assistance to our nation's heroes."

The funds raised through the Winter Jam event will enable DAV Post 43 to continue their vital programs and services, including transportation assistance, advocacy, and outreach efforts for disabled veterans and their families. This significant contribution will make a tangible difference in the lives of those who have sacrificed so much for our country.



HICKORY AND NEWTON LODGES HOLD HOOP SHOOT

The Hickory and Newton Elks Lodges held their annual basketball Hoop Shoot on January 21, 2024 at the Hickory High School Gym. Each year, children ages 8-13 participate in this event. This year, there were 58 children from 15 of our local elementary and middle schools that participated.

The winners and their families will be invited to a recognition dinner in April at the Hickory Elks Lodge. T-Shirts were provided to all participants and trophies were given to first and second place winners.

This year's winners were:

Age:

8/9 Girls Division: Paisley Williams

8/9 Boys Division: Grant Harline

10/11 Girls Division: Ellery Johnson

10/11 Boys Division: Talan Wheeler

12/13 Girls Division: Cylee Robinson

12/13 Boys Division: Preston Taylor



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