

North  
Carolina



October November 2022  
State & National News

## Grand Exalted Ruler Hidley Addresses NC Elks “With Enthusiasm”



GER Bruce Hidley attended the Fall meeting of the NCSEA, attending our business meeting, enjoying the hospitality afforded by North Carolina Elks, and visiting the Kernersville Veterans Home, one of our major charities. He applauded NCSEA Elks for membership growth, ENF donations, and our work with Veterans.

## Message From State President John Lawrence



Now that Fall is here, we can set our sights on preparing for the Holidays ahead. By the time you read this Veterans Day will have passed but many of our Lodges have held special events to remember our Veterans and I want to thank all of the Lodges that have done something special for those Veterans. During our recent Convention in Clemmons, I had the privilege of accompanying our visiting Grand Exalted Ruler, Bruce Hidley, on a tour of the new Kernersville Veterans Home. Wow! What a beautiful facility that is! The Veterans that will be staying there are in for a real treat! The staff is remarkable and totally dedicated to serving the Veterans that will soon be moving in. The new bus that the NC Elks purchased for the home was on display and what a fine vehicle it is. We should all be proud of our Veterans and the services provided by the now five Veterans Homes across the State. Remember, as long as there are Veterans, the Elks will never forget them!

If you missed the Fall Convention, you missed a good one! Our Grand Exalted Ruler Bruce A. Hidley and his wonderful wife Helen were in attendance and Bruce was truly "Promoting Elkdom with Enthusiasm". The hotel rooms had been very recently renovated and the food was really good. The hotel staff was amazing and went out of their way to see to our every need. During the Saturday business session, the attendees noted that the Convention format had changed. After the required business and roll call, there was a presentation by A.L.E. Special Agent Chess McQueen who talked of changes to some of the A.L.E. regulations and how Lodges could prevent from having undesirable outcomes from an A.L.E. visit. The Committee reports were fewer than in the past and each presenter was encouraged to keep their presentations brief. The Vice Presidents reported on one thing that they have learned during their time as VP instead of the same old I went to this Lodge, did this, did that etc. Later in the morning Toni Deal gave a presentation on how best to communicate with your Lodge members. PSP Ron Delzer and GER Hidley held a Parade of Lodges for ENF and \$3,000.00 was collected. Thank you to all who participated in that Parade. During the business luncheon Kevin Black and Toni Deal kept us entertained with a presentation on how the new Convention Survey Feedback system works and how to fill it out online. Look for many changes to be made to the Convention format in the coming years with more emphasis on training. The Convention Committee has been revised and expanded and is now headed up by Michael Bryant as Chairman and Shari Driscoll as Vice Chairman. Kevin Black is the Treasurer and Ashley Buckwell is the Secretary. There will be at least two representatives from each district on the Committee. Past State Presidents Lee Littiken and Steve Clarke will remain as active advisors to the Committee. At the Convention Lee and Steve were recognized for their many decades of service to the Committee and each received plaques commemorating that achievement!

**Continued on next page.**

## State President Message Continued

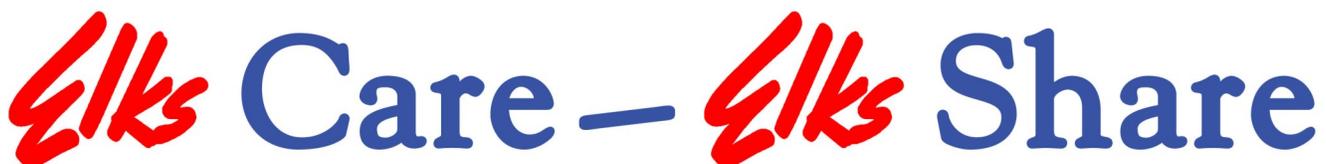
Our State Association Newsletter was recognized with the Five Star Award which is the highest award given to any State newsletter and it was presented to the Editor, Ashley Buckwell. What a great job he does with this newsletter, year after year! The tenth place Membership Award was presented to Membership Chairman Al Harms for all of the hard work he and his dedicated team have done to get NC Elks to that ranking. Thank you Al! The State Major Project Fundraiser drawing took place at the Convention as well. Over \$27,000.00 was raised and after expenses the remaining balance will be split between our two major projects, the Veterans Homes and Camp Carefree. I want to thank your President Elect, Mark Alderman for heading that up and for Kyle Puryear for receiving all the tickets and handling the deposits. And thanks to all who contributed to that important event!

We currently have over 10,400 Elks on our rolls, but we have many delinquents and others in waiting to be initiated. So, get out there and initiate and get the delinquents back into the fold as well. Members are what Lodges are all about. Without members, we have no Lodges, and without Lodges none of the great benevolent work that we do would get done!

The MVS Scholarship deadline is fast approaching so don't delay in getting those graded by your Lodge Scholarship Committee. Lodge scoring of the applications lends to higher scores in the overall ranking of the scholars. Don't forget about the Legacy program for High School Seniors that are related to Elk members. Those scholarships are open to children and grandchildren of Elks even if they do not reside in the same State as the member. The Nursing Scholarships are graded by the State Scholarship Committee and the application for those can be found at [ncelks.org](http://ncelks.org).

In closing I hope all of my NC Elks had a very Happy Thanksgiving and wish you a very Merry Christmas! And remember to "Choose Wisely" over the Holiday Season! May God Bless America and God Bless the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks!

John W. Lawrence, State President

The logo features the word "Elks" in a stylized red font with a white outline, followed by "Care" in a blue sans-serif font. A red hyphen connects "Care" to another "Elks" in the same stylized red font, which is followed by "Share" in a blue sans-serif font. The entire logo is enclosed in a blue rectangular border.

**Elks Care — Elks Share**



# VETERANS DAY 2022

## KINSTON VETERANS HOME

Members of New Bern, Kinston and Goldsboro Lodges visited the Kinston NC Veterans home to celebrate Veterans Day along with Terry Westbrook of the NCDMVA.

Pictured left to right; NC Elks State President John Lawrence; Terry Westbrook; New Bern Lodge member Doug Foster; Goldsboro Lodge PER Doug McGrath; New Bern Lodge member John Serumgard and Kinston Lodge PER Jack Strickland.

Not pictured from the New Bern Lodge is Cheryl Lawrence and also George Burens and his wife Sharon who came portraying Santa and Mrs. Claus. During the event the Washington DC Capitol Christmas Tree arrived for display on its way to the Nation's Capitol.



# Message from Grand Exalted Ruler Bruce Hidley



t's hard to believe the end of 2022 is here. There are so many ways to reflect upon the month of December. On Sunday, December 4, we Elks pledge Fidelity to our Members who have entered into the realm of eternity. Lodges across our great country will pay a just tribute of affection and honor to all the Members who no longer answer when their names are called. The Elks Memorial Service is a very solemn day when we hear the chimes of eleven rings in honor of our deceased Members. The Members who we honor on Memorial Sunday spent many hours of dedicated service to their Lodges. It is a fitting tribute to them to have their families with us at this memorial ceremony. Their names shall endure forever in our

tablets of love and memory. We thank the Jolly Corks who found the need for a formal memorial service as fellow Members passed. Through their insight, a formal designation took place in 1889 at the Grand Lodge Convention proclaiming the first Sunday in December would be designated as Memorial Sunday. "An Elk is never forgotten, never forsaken." May all our deceased Brothers and Sisters rest in peace and may they all be enjoying that great Elks Lodge above. Let us not forget Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day on December 7. It is a day to remember and honor all who died in the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. I have personally toured Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. It is an absolutely solemn experience to visit the memorial above the USS Arizona and see the names of over 2,400 Americans who were killed that day. In addition to the lives lost, more than 1,100 troops were wounded during the attack. In a speech to congress, President Franklin D. Roosevelt stated that the bombing of Pearl Harbor was a date which will live in infamy. There were no truer words spoken. Please take the time at your Lodge to lower the Flag to half-staff on Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day to honor all the military personnel who were killed in this attack. May they all rest in peace. December is also a time when we celebrate the Christmas holiday with family and friends. Christmas is a very busy time of the year as we decorate our homes and Lodges, put up and decorate Christmas trees, and shop for our loved ones. Christmas is when we as Elks must practice one of the Cardinal Principles of our Order, Charity. What better way of "Promoting Elkdom With Enthusiasm" than to have your Lodge membership work together to collect food items for your local food pantry and host children's Christmas parties with Old Saint Nick himself, Santa Claus. I encourage Lodges to participate in your local Adopt-A-Family Program to help a family who may not otherwise be able to enjoy the Christmas season. Let's also not forget our veterans who fought for the freedoms we enjoy today. When you host your Lodge Christmas party, ask every Member to bring a gift for a veteran at your local VA Hospital. COVID-19 has changed our way of life and our interaction time with the veterans at the VA Hospitals. I encourage you to contact your VAVS Representative to coordinate the delivery of the gifts to our veterans. Helen and I wish each of you and your families a very Merry Christmas. May the joy and happiness of the Christmas season be with each of you throughout the year. Have a very safe holiday season.

# GER Bruce Hidley Visits Veterans Home



Above; SP John Lawrence; GER Bruce Hidley; Veterans Home Administrator Kathleen Banks; PGER Jack Frost; and SDGER John Boyd at the Kernersville Veterans Home in front of handicap bus donated by North Carolina Elks.

Below; GER Bruce Hidley points to a wall in the Kernersville Veterans Home that was signed by Veterans who helped build the facility.



# *In Vain We Call*

**Past State President Robert “Bob” Green**

**3/18/1944— 10/5/2022**

**NCSEA President 2009-2010**



**Past State President David Cockman**

**10/27/1928—2/22/2022**

**NCSEA President 1974-1975**



## North Carolina Elks Grand Lodge District Deputy Clinics

### East District: Jody Pascarella, District Deputy

New Bern Lodge      January 29, 2023

Calabash Lodge      April 16, 2023

### East Central District: Derik Sims, District Deputy

Sanford Lodge      January 8, 2023

Roxboro Lodge      April 2, 2023

### West Central District: Richard Penk, District Deputy

Salisbury Lodge      January 22, 2023

Winston Salem Lodge      April 23, 2023

### West District: Mark Couch, District Deputy

Hickory Lodge      February 5, 2023

Asheville Lodge      April 30, 2023

## NCSEA Spring Convention in Asheville

Mark your calendars and make plans to attend the annual meeting of the North Carolina State Elks Association in Asheville May 5,6,7<sup>th</sup> 2023 at the Crown Plaza Resort.

More details and reservation information will be published in the next issue.



# NCSEA Charitable Trust Update

The following information was shared at the Fall Convention highlighting the great work of the Charitable Trust.

As a reminder the Trust is a separate Corporation with its own BOD and Bylaws. Your donations are invested in our Endowment Fund and only the earnings from our investments are used to support the NCSEA programs and projects. This allows long term continuity of our funding resources.

This year, the CT funded \$6,000 in additional Scholarship money for the State Association and provided 15 Lodges with \$1,500 Community Grants for a total of \$22,500.

As of the Convention, there were still (5) \$1,500 grants available! Applications are on ncelks.org. It's an easy way to support a local nonprofit in your community.

## Top 3 Lodges in the State for Donations as of 9/30/22:

<u>Total Dollars Donated</u>		<u>Highest Per Capita</u>	
Calabash	\$3,000	Lake Norman	\$8.33
Raleigh	\$2,713	Raleigh	\$8.15
High Point	\$1,979	Morehead City	\$6.25

## Number of Lodges that donated to the Charitable Trust:

East – 8/9 West Central – 6/8 East Central- 5/7 West – 3/8

Other updates included:

Parade of Lodges last convention raised \$5,960. Thanks to all Lodges who donated.

Annual Charitable Trust Shootout Ticket Sales - \$12,890. Great job!

We also support the Patriot Foundation Air Force Family Scholarship Program.

The Patriot Foundation selected our Goldsboro Lodge to administer this program.

They provided 5 scholarships (\$23,000) this year and since 2020 has given out 15 scholarships totaling \$60,500.

Special thanks to the Goldsboro Lodge for administering this program.

**One final note is please make sure your Lodge has a Charitable Trust Chairperson.**

Phil Driscoll, Charitable Trust President

# Convention Pictures



Left; ALE agent Chess McQueen updates the members on alcohol and gaming in Lodges.



Right; GER Hidley with a picture of the Kennedy Rocker the NCSEA presented to him.



Above; Members of the SAR who presented the colors at the opening of the business meeting.

Below; Steve Clarke receiving a plaque in recognition of his years of dedicated service to the Convention Committee.



# Convention Pictures



Left; Communications Committee members Toni Deal gave a presentation on usage of Social Media by Lodges.



Right; Membership Committee Chair Al Harms with a plaque presented to North Carolina for a membership gain of 729 members last year.



Left; Michele Delaire, who headed up the Adopt-A-Bear project, with a check for \$2430 for Crossing Borders Ministry. Michele presented Bears to SP John Lawrence and to Goldsboro ER Alex Wingate and Raleigh ER Gary Bush for most sales of Bears. In all 400 Bears were shipped to the Ukraine.



## The ENF Fidelity Club

Do you contribute to the Elks National Foundation often? What if you could donate without having to think about it? Well, you can! Enroll today and become a member of the Fidelity Club—the ENF’s monthly giving program.

### Why Join the Fidelity Club?

- **Ease:** The ENF Fidelity Club recognizes automatic, regularly scheduled donations through your bank account or credit card. These donations occur monthly (minimum \$5).
- **Eco-Friendly:** Save a tree and save time with paperless donations!
- **Convenience:** No need to purchase stamps or mail a check. It takes just five minutes to sign up, and you’re good to go!
- **Flexibility:** You can increase, modify or cancel your gift at any time.
- **Security:** It’s safe, reliable and allows the ENF to spend less time on administration and more time on our charitable mission.

### Ready to Join?

Becoming a member of the Fidelity Club is simple! Enroll online at [enf.elks.org/recurring](http://enf.elks.org/recurring) and start your gift today! If you prefer to sign up through the mail, go online for an enrollment form.

## Why Donate to the Elks National Foundation?

**In the 2020—2021 year the ENF donated over 30 million dollars in grants to Lodge charities, State Association major projects, scholarships, Veteran Services, youth programs, and more.**

**Your donations make a difference.**

# Red Shirt Friday

**RED** “Remember Everyone Deployed”

PGER and State Sponsor Jack Frost has challenged all NC Elks to wear **red shirts** on Fridays at our conventions and in your Lodges, to show that you respect and support our troops and veterans. Lets see a sea of **RED** on Friday at our next convention in Asheville next May.



## NCSEA

# LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25th

At the High Point Lodge

Please notify all current and incoming  
Officers to make plans to attend.

## Elk Crossing Signs Installed in Western NC



A winding stretch of road in western portions of North Carolina is safer for both elk and human alike thanks to behind-the-scenes work by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and its volunteers.

“U.S. Highway 19 crossing Soco Mountain from the Jackson-Haywood County Line and the town of Maggie Valley was the most critical roadway regarding deaths of elk due to an encounter with an automobile,” said Joyce Cooper, long-time co-chair of the RMEF Great Smoky Mountains Chapter. “This winding two-lane road down the steep mountain gives elk and the drivers a minimum amount of time to evade each other.”

**Due to large amount of content the October November Local Lodge news is continued in another file.**

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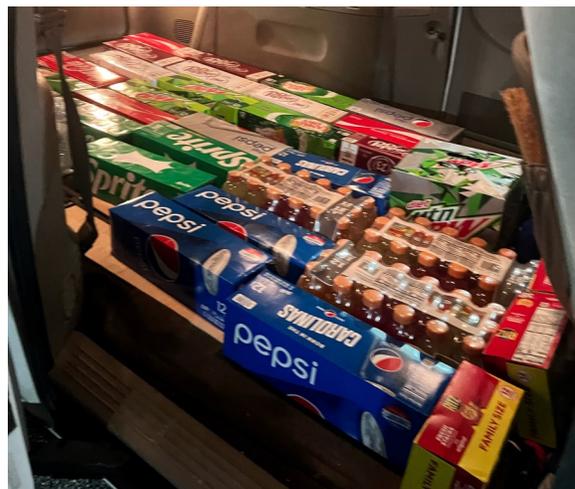
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## News from East District Lodges

### Kinston Lodge Sponsored Drink Drive for Veterans Home

The Kinston Elks Lodge sponsored a drink donation drive for the residents of Kinston Veteran's Home. In total, over 20 cases of water and soda were donated to the home which is still in lockdown due to Covid 19 concerns. The Kinston Lodge is a huge supporter of the Veteran's home and in the past has hosted bingo parties, BBQs, and other fellowship activities with the residents.

Pictured is Kinston Lodge Secretary Mr. Jack Strickland picking up the drinks for delivery to the Kinston Veteran's Home.



## **Goldsboro PER Doug McGrath Receives DOD Spirit of Hope Award**

Goldsboro Elks member and past Exalted Ruler Doug McGrath, was chosen as the Air Force's nominee and winner of the Department of Defense's Spirit of Hope Award.

The Spirit of Hope award is a military award named in honor of Mr. Bob Hope and recognizes civilians who exemplify Mr. Hope's legacy of service to military members and their families. Past recipients include The Fisher House and Gary Sinise.

Doug was nominated for his many years of service to Seymour Johnson AFB to include establishing a scholarship fund for the spouses and children of fallen and disabled Airmen, raising over 100k in money and goods to help support base led operations in support of Afghan refugees, and spearheading NC Freedom Fest, an annual music festival celebrating local Airmen and their families. Doug is also a huge supporter of the Veteran community and has led numerous donation drives and outreach events for the Kinston Veteran's Home.

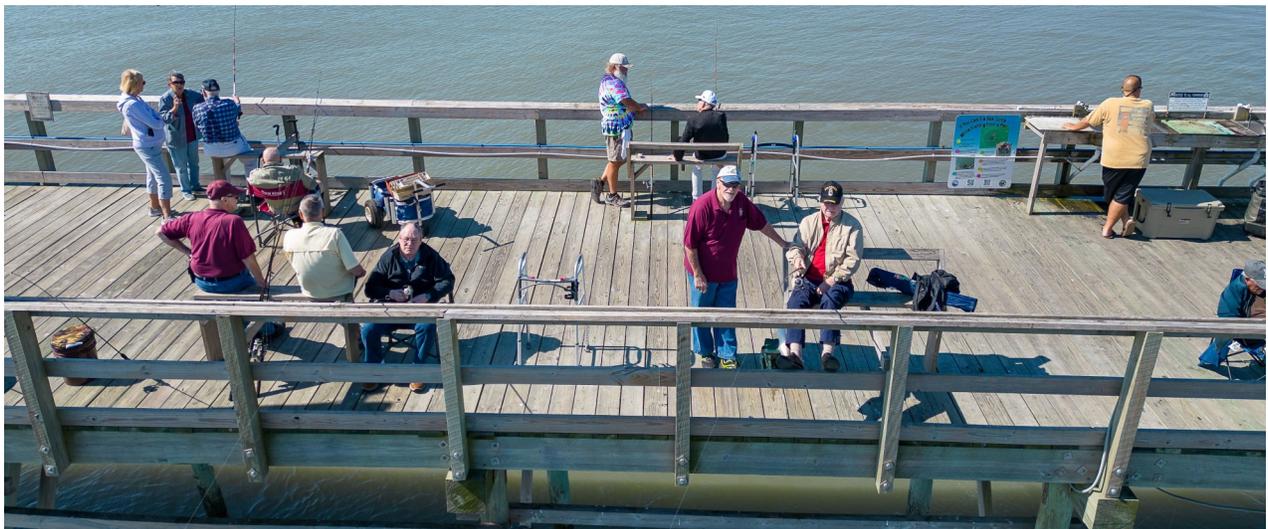


**Pictured; Doug McGrath being presented the award from Secretary of the Air Force Mr. Frank Kendall**

## Calabash Veterans Committee Treats Veterans to Fishing Outing

On Oct 14, the Calabash Elks Veterans Affairs Committee (VAC) hosted 6 veterans and 2 aides from **River Park Senior Living** in Little River to a morning of fishing at the Sunset Beach Pier. The fishing was followed by lunch and socializing back at the Elks Lodge.

On Oct 27th, the VAC again hosted 7 veterans and 4 aides from the **Fayetteville Veterans Home** for fishing and lunch back at the Elks.



## Shallotte Lodge Donates to Lords Food Pantry



The Shallotte Elks Lodge donated \$1500.00 from a NCSEA Charitable Trust grant to South Brunswick Interchurch Council, The Lords Food Pantry.

Pictured from left to right LEADING Knight John Olear; Mike Claxton President SBIC; and Exalted Ruler Robert Kordiak.



## Shallotte Elks Donate to Field of Honor

Kiwanis of Shallotte-SBI held an opening ceremony on Saturday, November 5, 2022, for their Field of Honor, Honoring Those Who Served past and present by displaying over 300 flags. Field of Honor will be on display through December 7, 2022 at Mulberry Park, Shallotte. The Shallotte Elks Lodge donated \$2926 towards the purchase of flags for the Field of Honor. The Shallotte Elks donated money last year and this year for about 137 flags. The Shallotte Elks concluded with their Flag Day Ceremony.

Picture from left to right Esquire Samantha Greene; Exalted Ruler Robert Kordiak; PER Paul Salerno; Michael Kirchner, Chair of Kiwanis Field of Honor; PER Walt Wilson; Leading Knight John Olear; and PER Sue Berardi. .



# Calabash Elks & Ladies Auxiliary Donate to Food Bank

The Lodge members and the Ladies Auxiliary, in a friendly contest, vied to see who could donate the most to a local food bank. The weigh in at Brunswick Family Assistance produced the winner. The Lodge members donated 412 lbs while the Ladies donated 223 lbs. However, the real winner was the food bank, with 635 lbs of groceries for those in need. In addition the Lodge donated \$1500 to support family assistance programs.

Pictured L-R; Tyffanie Paganello, Outreach Coordinator; ER Gene Bellando; Mark Kerr; and Ladies Auxiliary President Kathy Kelly



## News from East Central District Lodges

### Raleigh Lodge Supports Backpack Buddies



The Raleigh Elks Lodge volunteers go to Backpack Buddies on the second Wednesday of each month to fill family food boxes for those in need.

We have made donations of food and money to help support this program since 2018.



### Raleigh Elks Sell BBQ Chickens to Support Local Charities

On September 22, we had another successful chicken BBQ! We had to close for drive up sales because we SOLD OUT by 5:30! After expenses, we had a profit of \$2731.17!! This money will be split between The Army of Hope, The Durham VA, The Boys and Girls Club and The Disabled Veterans Fishing Program, and The Lodge of course!



## Southern Pines Lodge Donates Grants to Local Charities



Southern Pines Lodge used their Beacon Grant to assist “Military Mission in Action” With programs like “Fill The Footlocker” providing care packages to active-duty, homeless Veterans, and low-income active-duty with families, MMIA has global reach. Operation Building Hope modifies Veteran’s homes for safe, handicap-accessible, independent living. Construction of wheelchair ramps, widening doorways, or roll-in showers, help keep a Veteran in their home. The Homes For Healing program provides household goods to formerly homeless Veterans.

Pictured: James Pederson, ER David Griener



Southern Pines Lodge donated their Gratitude Grant to Sandhills Warriors Basketball. Founded in 1991 by Coach Garrye Chavis in response to the local concerns of rising crime, health problems, and drug abuse among area youths. The program 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. Requiring a minimum grade point average, practice good citizenship, and refrain from negative behaviors in the community. 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 last five years.

Pictured: Garrye Chavis; David Griener, Exalted Ruler; and two team members.

**Southern Pines donations continue on following page.**

## Southern Pines Donations Continued



Southern Pines Lodge donated \$2000 of their Beacon Grant to Linden Lodge. Dedicated to the recovery of men and women with a serious and persistent mental illness by providing opportunities for our residents to live, work, and learn. Serving individuals with severe mental illness that are currently receiving Social Security, Social Security Disability, and Medicaid/Medicare benefits. Providing on-site access to recreational, art, and music therapy, physical fitness and wellness opportunities, and if possible meaningful employment, or volunteerism in the local community.

Pictured; Beth Stevens, David Griener, Exalted Ruler

Southern Pines Lodge donated their Spotlight grant to Tessa Davis, Social Worker for three Moore County schools. Servicing over 1100 students, and needing to stock three offices full of supplies, Tessa reached out for assistance via the Moore County Ask Your Neighbor Facebook page, and presented us with an Amazon wish-list registry. Primarily in need of bookbags to be filled with specific items related to her interaction with students via social work.

Pictured; Tessa Davis and David Griener,  
Exalted Ruler



## Raleigh Elks Host Veterans

On November 13, the Raleigh Elks hosted 100 Veterans and their significant other for a beautiful luncheon prepared and served by volunteers from the lodge.



## Roxboro Elks Lodge Holds its 1st Soccer Shoot



## Raleigh Elks Support Meals on Wheels

The Raleigh Elks Lodge #735 packed and delivered 1350 breakfast bags for Meals on Wheels of Wake County. Funding was provided by the ENF Spotlight Grant.



# News from West Central District Lodges

## Greensboro Elks Hold Fundraiser for Tunnels to Towers Foundation

The Greensboro Lodge recently held a "Let's Roll Tunnels For Towers" Fundraiser on 9/11 at our Lodge. Our Veteran's Committee, chaired by Nancy Brown served as the Welcoming Committee for this well attended family event! First Responders were provided with a complimentary lunch, while Greensboro Fire Department provided an official "Arch Detail", in honor of 9/11.

Representatives of Irreverent Warriors and Folds of Honor attended and performed. In addition, there was live entertainment and vendors.

This commemorative 9/11 event raised an outstanding total of \$15,000 for the Tunnels To Towers Foundation from participating Elks Members and Guests.



Pictured Left; Exalted Ruler Debbie Barrow (blue shirt )with First Responders.

Pictured Right; Nancy Brown (red shirt )and Veteran's Committee volunteers



## Mt Airy Donates Grants to Local Charities

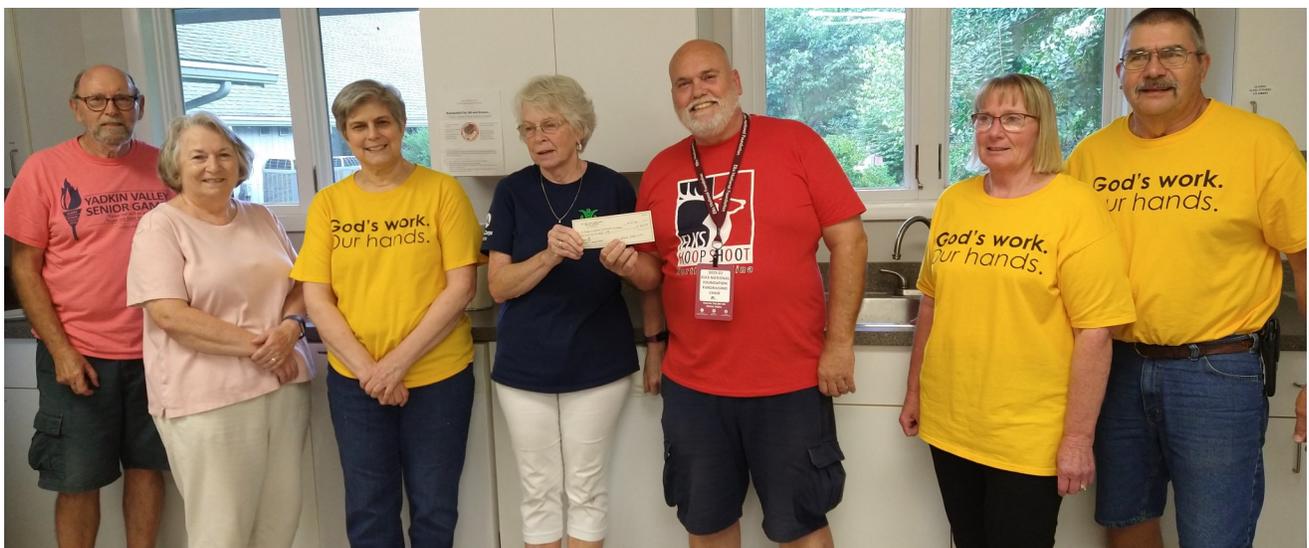


Left; Mark Alderman Grants Coordinator for Mount Airy Lodge presents a check from the ENF's Gratitude Grant to The Shepherd House so they can continue to provide direct resources for families that are provided temporary housing.



Right; Mark Alderman Grants Coordinator for Mount Airy Elks Lodge presents check from the ENF's Gratitude Grant to Maranatha Homeless Outreach Ministries so they can provide weekly meals to the homeless and needy.

Below; Mark Alderman Grants Coordinator for Mount Airy Lodge present check from the ENF's Gratitude Grant to the Saint Andrew Lutheran Church Out reach Ministries who provides a weekly hot meal to the homeless and needy.



## Greensboro Lodge Provides Dinner for Veterans on Veterans Day

The veterans committee of the Greensboro Elks Lodge provided dinner for 185 veterans on November 11. It was a special event to celebrate and honor these fine people. Each veteran was given a goodie bag and a flag.



Pictured above; Exalted Ruler Debbie Barrow and our Veterans Committee Chair Nancy Brown.

## Mt Airy Elks Uses Freedom Grant for Veterans Fishing Mission Project

The Mount Elks Lodge used the ENF Freedom Grant for their Veterans Fishing Mission project, in conjunction with 22 One Cast At A Time Veterans Commit Suicide Everyday, they helped provide two days of fishing at Cedar Springs Fish Farm for 125 Veterans included a meal for all Veterans one day, they also gave out several fishing rods & reels as door prizes. The Veterans really enjoyed their time fishing.



## News from West District Lodges

### Hickory Elks Donate Golf Equipment to Veterans

The Hickory Lodge Veterans Committee donated a collection of golf equipment to be used by wounded and disabled Veterans. Operation North State benefits Veterans throughout North Carolina. Special thanks to Jim Betton for collecting items.



### Hickory Lodge Supports Scouting



The Lodge Youth Committee presented a check of \$500 to help sponsor the 41st Annual Piedmont Council Scouting Invitational that was held on October 13 at Catawba Springs golf course. The Hickory Lodge was a Silver Sponsor.

Pictured left to right; Frank O'Keefe, Youth Committee; Scout Director, Chris Scruggs; and ER, Robert Brisben.

## Hickory Elks Hold Breakfast for National Guard and Families

The Hickory Elks Lodge Veterans Committee recently held a Ham Breakfast for National Guard Soldiers. 30 military families & or spouse who are deployed or who are deploying within the next month. Thanks to the “Elks National Spotlight Grant”, each family received a Love Box, which contained laundry & bath soap, canned goods, rice, beans, cereal and toiletry products. Families with babies were given wipes, sippy cups & snacks. 68 children also received a \$15.00 gift card thanks to “The Lady Elks”. The House Committee and Elk members cooked and served for event.

Pictured left to right, Veterans Committee member, Tracy Gantt,; PER Carol Anderson; ER Robert Brisben; member, Billy Pernell; Veterans Committee Chair, Samantha Bowman; PER Gary Gantt; PER Mickey Lail; and Francis Johnson, North Carolina National Guard Soldier and Family Readiness Specialist.



## Hickory Veterans Committee Raises Funds for Equine Therapy



The Veterans Committee along with help from Lodge members raised \$1368 to fund veterans participation in weekly equine therapy to assist with mental and physical recovery. Lodge members participated in the 5K trail run fundraiser at Shining Hope Farms.

Pictured L-R,; Leading Knight Cary Bowman: Lodge member Karl Kuehn and Veterans Committee Chair Samantha Bowman



**On behalf of the Officers and  
Committee Members of the  
North Carolina State  
Elks Association**

**We wish You and Yours  
a safe and enjoyable  
Holiday Season.**

**May the New Year keep the  
Spirit of Elkdom alive and  
well in your Lodge.**

**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](mailto:ashbuc@atmc.net)**