



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**Benevolent and Protective Order of ELKs ~ Lodge 2679**  
**937 Carter Drive, Calabash, NC 28467**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

By Michael Trescak

**“ELKS CHARITY BINGO DONATES \$7,500 AMONG TEN LOCAL CHARITIES”**

*“Elks Care ~ Elks Share”*

The motto of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (B.P.O.E.) is . . . “Elks Care – Elks Share,” and – this motto was exemplified this week when the Charity BINGO Committee of the Calabash Elks Lodge ended their fiscal year by donating \$7,500.00 of the monies garnered from their Charity Games among 10 local charities. This is significant, as the BINGO events were only held for 6 of the 12 months in 2021 because of the COVID pandemic. Recipients of the Benevolent Donations were (In alphabetical Order):

- The “Boys & Girls Home of North Carolina, Inc.,” at Lake Waccamaw, NC
- The “Brunswick County Sheriff’s Animal Protective Services,” Supply, NC
- The “Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity,” Southport, NC
- “Brunswick Family Assistance,” Shallotte, NC
- The “Calabash Fire Department,” Calabash, NC
- The “Hope Harbor Home,” a home for Battered women in Brunswick County, NC
- “Little River Volunteer Fire Dept. & Horry County Station #2,” in Little River, SC
- The “Lower Cape Fear Life Care” in Bolivia, NC
- The “Providence Home of Family Emergency Teen Shelter,” Southport, NC
- “Sea Haven Shelter Home for Youth,” Little River, SC

A Charity BINGO event, open to the public, is held every Tuesday evening at the Elks Lodge located at 937 Carter Drive, in Calabash, North Carolina. During the night of BINGO, one Game is selected every evening on which the event is held, and - the monies garnered from that game are set aside to be donated to local charities. The BINGO Committee has 22 local charitable organizations on their list of potential organizations to which to donate, and then – a group of volunteer lodge members, along with a group of regular BINGO patrons, meet and select the charities from the list to which donations will be made. The committee makes 10 donations each year.

The Calabash Elks Lodge has been a local landmark of the area since 1984. With over 700 members, the lodge has become a cornerstone of the local community for the past 38 years. The emphasis of the Elks Lodge is on conducting Youth Programs, Serving our Veterans, and doing Charitable Work in the community in which they live and work. Since 1984, the Calabash Elks have generously contributed nearly \$500,000 to local charities and Community projects. To learn more about the Calabash Elks Lodge, or to find out how to become an Elk, visit their web page at <https://www.calabashelks.org/>

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Photo Follows



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### **“ELKS CHARITY BINGO DONATES \$7,500 AMONG TEN LOCAL CHARITIES”**

*Pictured above with all Smiles, each having received a \$750.00 Donation from the Calabash Elks Charity BINGO Committee are (Back Row Standing L to R): Thomas “Tom” Ditzler, Chairman, Calabash Elks Charity BINGO Committee; - Robert “Shorty” Dennany, Current Exalted Ruler (President), 2021-2022, Calabash Elks; - Ray Cockrell, Chief Mission Officer, Boys & Girls Home of North Carolina; - John “Mr. BINGO” Goryance, Calabash Elks Charity BINGO Committee; Randall T. Bork, Chief, Calabash Fire Dept. - Warren Mortley, Executive Director, Providence Home of Family Emergency Teen Shelter; and – Diana Rettig, Assistant Chair, Calabash Elks Charity BINGO Committee. (Seated Front Row L to R) is: Julie McGorty, Development Director, Sea Haven Shelter Home for Youth, Inc., Sandra Salinas, Manager, Ocean Isle Beach, NC Restore, Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity; Vickie Peters, Restore Director, Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity; - Stephanie Bowen, Executive Director, Brunswick Family Assistance; and – Ann Hewett, Donor Advisor, Lower Cape Fear Life Care. - NOT Shown in the Photo are Representatives from: The Horry County - Little River Volunteer Fire Dept. Station #2; - The Brunswick County Sheriff’s Office Animal Protective Services; and - The Hope Harbor Home (Brunswick County).*

*Photo by Michael Trescak*

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