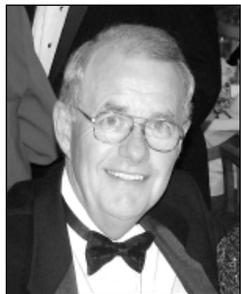




President Ashley Buckwell at the National Convention

State President's Message



We have an exciting year ahead of us. North Carolina Elks have the opportunity to showcase our state next year when we host the Grand Lodge Convention in Charlotte and some 8000 or more

Elks from around the country visit North Carolina. We will have many visitors dropping in on our lodges so let's work together and show them some good southern hospitality. Start planning now to spruce up your facilities not only for our guests but for your own membership. A Grand Lodge Convention also means a lot of work by many volunteers. Our Association is in need of over 100 Elks to step forward and volunteer their time to assist at the convention. If you

wish to volunteer please make the State Association aware of it by contacting a State Officer. Speaking of conventions, Linda & I attended the Grand Lodge Convention in Orlando where I had the honor of presenting the North Carolina Flag during the opening ceremonies. I would like to thank the many members who contributed to the success of our hospitality room at the Rosen Centre Hotel and to Mike and Melissa Curran who organized and managed the room.

As you know, several years ago North Carolina formed a fund called the Gerald & Lea Coates Endowment fund for the purpose of providing future funding for the charitable works of our Association. The fund has now grown to over two million dollars and I am pleased to say that this year the Charitable Trust has allocated \$40,000 which will be used for Camp Carefree, the Veterans Nursing Homes and additional scholarships.

Continued on page 2

Thad Eure Distinguished Service Award



Thad Eure Distinguished Service Award recipient Harry Tangen

In 2004-2005 Harry was installed as Grand Lodge Treasurer.

The highest honor the NC Elks Association can award to a member is the "Thad Eure Distinguished Service Award". At the May convention the Board of Trustees awarded this award to Harry Tangen of the Greensboro Lodge.

Harry, initiated in 1977, served as ER, State Vice President, District Deputy, and a Drug Awareness Committee member in New Jersey before moving to North Carolina.

Since becoming a member of the Greensboro Elks Lodge in 1991, Harry has served as the State Elks Youth Activities Chairman, Drug awareness Chairman, and Chairman of the Public Relations Committee. In 1995 he was asked to serve as Administrative Assistant to the Grand Exalted Ruler Gerald Coates. Following that he was appointed Assistant Director of the Elks National Drug Awareness Program and the next year became the Director for five years.

Hendersonville Elks Lodge receives the highest award the State Charitable Trust has to give.



For nine years the Hendersonville Elks Lodge #1616 have put in their budget a donation for the Charitable Trust's perpetual fund, the "Gerald and Lea Coates Perpetual Fund". Through all those years and nine different Exalted Rulers and a turn over in Trustees the goal has been the same, to get to the \$10,000 level. One

of the members of the Lodge has been on the Charitable Trust board for all that time and has been a reminder of the goal. "It was not always easy but we stayed the course", stated John Boyd, Trust Board member. "The state Elks have changed state projects and changed locations of the projects, but we still see the value of these projects and the importance of us staying the course. We are all proud of being the first to achieve this goal."



The Honorable Arthur H. (Jack) Frost, III was installed as the Elks Grand Exalted Ruler at the Grand Lodge Convention in Orlando, FL, in July, 2006. Frost will be joining the NC Elks at the Greensboro convention



Jack and Beth Strickland of the Kinston North Carolina, Lodge, received special recognition from the Elks National Veterans Service Commission for their service to America's veterans. The Stricklands (pictured at right) organized lodging, transportation, and support for the family of a marine who was in a coma. Presenting the award was North Carolina State Sponsor Gerald Coates.

MEMBERSHIP Are You Doing Your Part ?

How many new members have you recruited this year? How many delinquent members have you talked with about paying up their dues? How many past Elk members have you contacted and asked to re-join? How many stray Elks have you invited to visit your Lodge? Well.....

These are all ways to grow your Lodge membership numbers. Are you doing your part? Ask to be a member of your lodge membership committee and start working today. Ask your Lodge secretary for a list of all delinquent members, past Elk members and stray Elks in your area. Get their phone number and address and make contact with them. Ask them why they have not paid their dues or allowed their membership to be dropped. Invite the stray Elks to a social function at the Lodge. Ask your fellow Elk members to assist you in making these contacts.

We must reverse the trend of membership. Are you doing your part? We can no longer sit around

expecting someone else to do the work. We must all be membership committee members in order to successfully and repeatedly have membership gains. We encourage every member reading this article to get one new member or one reinstatement before the next printing of this newspaper. This is a very simple task. Please do your part and let's turn the numbers around.

The membership committee is totally committed to increasing the membership in North Carolina. Are you doing your part? Please feel free to contact any member of the state committee with any questions, concerns or suggestions. Our names and contact numbers are listed below. Please join us in our dedication to membership.

Again we ask, are you doing your part? If not, we hope this article will stimulate you to get on board and turn this membership trend of losing into a positive trend of continuous gains. Thank you in advance for stepping up

NCSEAI Membership Committee

Scott Pace - Membership Chairman (919)776-2623
 Jack Strickland - ED Chairman (252)523-3852
 Norman Brewer - ECD Chairman (919)776-3962
 Ralph Webber - WCD Chairman (336)292-2004
 Keith Miller - WD Chairman (828)687-0609
 John Boyd - GL Committeeman, NC Membership Advisor (828)693-5314

State President's Message

Continued from page 1

I encourage you to make a pledge to the Endowment Fund by contacting your local lodge. As this fund grows, future charitable works of our Association will certainly increase.

Membership continues to be a concern in North Carolina. We must have a drive to form new lodges all across the state. There is not a lodge that does not have a town or city close by that could not support a new lodge, therefore I am asking each lodge to form a New Lodge Committee, identify a site near them and work with the State New Lodge Committee in the planning and formation of a new lodge. If you are interested in forming a new lodge in a community in this state please contact me or a member of the New Lodge Development Committee. I believe we should have a goal of adding five new lodges over the next five years.

We should all congratulate Fayetteville Lodge #1081 for becoming an All American Lodge for the third straight year. What a great achievement! I also congratulate the Mount Airy Lodge for winning the State Ritual Contest and representing North Carolina at the Grand Lodge Convention where they made us all proud with their ritual performance.

It is an honor to serve the North Carolina State Elks Association as President this year. Remember that the Officers, Committeemen and PSP's of this Association are here to serve you and your lodge. If we can assist in any way please contact one of us. Together, we in North Carolina can have another banner year for Elkdom.

Ashley Buckwell
President

Elks--An Extreme Makeover!

If you were fortunate enough to see the the April 5 Today Show segment, "The New Elks Club," you would have been very proud to be an Elk.

As background, it was suggested that the image of the by-gone era of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was a "dusty hall and even older men inside." Also reported was the fact that Elks lodges across the country are losing 19,000 members a year due to old age. The Jackie Gleason "Order of the Royal Racoons" clip was shown!

So what was there about this Today segment to make you proud to be a member of our fraternity? Lots. Featured was the San Francisco Elks Lodge No. 3 which was dubbed "the best kept secret in town!" It has been experiencing an influx of new members including women, due in part, to their recent acceptance to membership in the national organization. Over half of the 800 San Francisco lodge members is under age 40! The lodge was described as "the hippest place in town!"

The clip showed the Exalted Ruler and other officers, in tux, performing a ritual on the floor of the lodge room. The impressive facilities include a business center, fitness center, pool and a beautiful bar. The San Fran Elks Lodge was touted as the place to meet and be seen and where "everyone knows your name."

Significantly, the BPOE was depicted as an organization that enjoys a rich legacy of service and brotherhood. It is a charitable and community organization that provides more scholarship money than any other private group.

The Today segment ended with Katie Couric remarking that the San Francisco lodge was apparently experiencing a comeback and Matt Lauer added that the \$45 a month dues was a bargain!

What a great promotion for the BPOE, in general, and the San Francisco Elks Lodge, in particular!

Dick Klotz
New Bern Elks Lodge 764

Subject: Laws

- Law of Mechanical Repair: After your hands become coated with grease your nose will begin to itch or you'll have to pee.
- Law of the Workshop: Any tool, when dropped, will roll or bounce to the least accessible corner.
- Law of probability: The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.
- Law of the Telephone: When you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal.
- Law of the Alibi: If you tell the boss you were late for work because you had a flat tire, the very next morning you will have a flat tire.
- Variation Law: If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you WERE in will start to move faster than the one you ARE in now. (works Every time)
- Bath Theorem: When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone rings.
- Law of Close Encounters: The probability of meeting someone you know increases when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.
- Law of the Result: When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, it will.
- Law of Biomechanics: The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.
- Theatre Rule: At any event, the people whose seats are furthest from the aisle arrive last.
- Law of Coffee: As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.
- Murphy's Law of Lockers: If there are only two people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.
- Law of Dirty Rugs/Carpets: The chances of an open-faced jelly Sandwich of landing face down on a floor covering are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet/rug.
- Law of Location: No matter where you go, there you are.
- Law of Logical Argument: Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.
- Brown's Law: If the shoe fits, it's ugly.
- Oliver's Law: A closed mouth gathers no feet.
- Wilson's Law: As soon as you find a product that you really like, They will stop making it.

North Carolina Elks on the Web at
<http://www.ncelks.org>



John Boyd Chairman of the March Of Dimes / Walk America of Henderson County presents ER John Hill with a plaque honoring the Hendersonville Elks Lodge for their participation in feeding all of the "Walk America" participants during the event

what's happening at the **convention**

NORTH CAROLINA STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION FALL 2006 CONVENTION Downtown Marriott, Greensboro, NC **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

Friday October 27th

8:30 am-9:30am
Charitable Trust Meeting
Triad West, 2nd Floor

9:30 am-10:30am
PSP Advisory Board Meeting
Triad West, 2nd Floor

10:30 am-11:30am
Trustee Meeting
Triad West, 2nd Floor

11:00am-8:00pm
Registration
Marriott Hotel Lobby

12:30 pm
Golf Tournament-Shotgun Start
Jamestown Park Golf Course

5:00 pm-until
Hospitality Rooms Open
3rd Floor

6:00pm-7:00pm
Advisory Board Social (by invitation)
TBD

7:00pm
Advisory Board Dinner (by invitation)
Triad Central & East, 2nd Floor

Saturday, October 28th

7:00 am-12:00 noon
Registration
Marriott Hotel Lobby

8:00 am-9:00 am
Membership/Public Relations Seminar
Carolina Room, 2nd Floor

8:30 am-11:00 am
Spouses Hospitality
West Central Hospitality Room, 3rd Floor

9:00 am-11:30 am
Business Meeting
Carolina Room, 2nd Floor

12:00 pm
Memorial Service
Carolina Room, 2nd Floor

1:00 pm-3:00pm
Business Luncheon (Members & Guests)
Southern Crescent Ballroom

3:00 pm
Eleventh Hour Toast Contest
TBD

3:00 pm-until
Hospitality Rooms Open
3rd Floor

8:00 pm-11:30pm
Dance and Social
Summit Room, 1st Floor

Sunday, October 29th

9:00 am
PER/Member/Guest Breakfast
Governor's Room, 1st Floor

Have a Safe Trip Home!



North Carolina State Elks Association, Inc.

Important Notice to the Elks of North Carolina

Fall Convention to be held in Greensboro, NC on October 27-29, 2006

Greensboro Lodge #602, High Point Lodge #1155, and Winston-Salem Lodge #449 have joined together to host the Fall Convention of the North Carolina State Elks Association, Inc. The Convention will be held at the Downtown Marriott, 304 N. Greene Street, Greensboro, NC.

Please make your plans early to attend as numerous activities and events have been planned for your information and enjoyment.

****** Highlights ******

- Grand Exalted Ruler Arthur H. (Jack) Frost and his wife Sharon will be in attendance.
- Past Grand Exalted Ruler Gerald L. Coates and his wife Lea will be in attendance.
- Virginia Elks State President Henry Deese and his wife Bobbie have been invited to attend.
- Golf Tournament on Friday afternoon with complimentary box lunch.
- Four free hospitality rooms.
- Membership/Public Relations Seminar conducted by John Boyd, GL Committeeman
- Business Meeting.
- Memorial Service honoring our departed Members.
- Eleventh hour toast contest. Winner announced during the Saturday night Dance.
- Dance with Shaggie Maggie on Saturday night (casual).
- NCSEA Fundraiser Raffle Drawing on Saturday night at the Dance.
- PER/Member/Guest Breakfast on Sunday morning.

****** Format Changes from Previous Conventions ******

- The banquet on Saturday night has been changed to a business luncheon on Saturday afternoon (coat & tie, guests welcome).
- PER/ER breakfast on Saturday morning has been moved to Sunday morning and is open to all attendees at no additional charge.
- Free dance on Saturday night is included in your registration.
- Free spouse hospitality continental breakfast on Saturday morning sponsored by the West Central District and the High Point Lodge.
- Golf outing has been moved from Friday morning to Friday afternoon.

Please bring a good representation from your Lodge to enjoy this fun filled and informative weekend. Meet the Grand Exalted Ruler and First Lady and the leader of the Virginia Elks Association, as well as other Elk members and guests from across the great state of North Carolina.

The members of the Greensboro, High Point and Winston-Salem lodges look forward to seeing you in Greensboro on October 27-29, 2006.

The Future is Youth

Fraternal organizations counter 'old folks' image

Mariana Minaya
Orlando Sentinel Staff Writer

For years, traditional fraternal service organizations have struggled with declining membership.

Two groups meeting in Orange County for their annual conventions are working on strategies to reverse that trend.

The Fraternal Order of Eagles has increased its membership in the past three years, growing from fewer than 1 million members to about 1.2 million this year in the United States and Canada. It is pushing to attract younger members and recently elected the second-youngest president in its history.

"We just took the bull by the horns," incoming President Bill Loffer, 46, said of the efforts.

About 10,000 members were scheduled to arrive in Orlando this weekend for the Eagles' annual convention at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort.

They follow on the heels of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, which wrapped up its convention at the Orange County Convention Center on Thursday. About 10,000 of its members also attended.

Loffer is the new face of an aging organization. The Eagles lost about 100,000 members this year, mostly to deaths. He represents the push for members younger than 50. More than 74,000 in that age range have become Eagles in the past year.

The Elks, too, have had some success. Although their membership declined from 1.6 million to about 1 million members in the past 20 years, they lost the fewest members this year.

They try to attract younger members by increasing the number of activities for families and encouraging members' sons and daughters to join.

Both groups admit women. The Elks began allowing women to join in 1995 -- which boosted membership -- and the Eagles have had female members since the 1950s.

For the Eagles, the youth push required a sea change in the attitudes of older members, Loffer said. They eventually realized that for their group to survive, they would have to cater to a younger audience.

"We were resistant to change, doing the same thing, same programs, not trying to attract younger members," he said.

They kick-started a few new initiatives. Two years ago, the Eagles decided to sponsor two NASCAR cars to attract some of the fans, who "get together and pray and sing the national anthem, which is what we do," Loffer said. They are also promoting a research center for juvenile diabetes in an attempt to connect to a youth cause.

Like the Elks, the Eagles are emphasizing family activities. They have expanded a program formerly restricted to military members that helps pay for medical bills and college

tuition of children who lose a parent.

In the past five years, the Eagles have also focused on Junior Eagles, a program for 7- to 17-year-olds who perform charitable activities in line with the Eagles' philosophy.

Florida has about 10 Junior Eagle orders; a few years ago there were two.

Many of their efforts have focused on increasing public awareness about the group, including hiring a marketing team to tout past achievements and notable members.

"We're really trying to let people know that there are social organizations like us," Loffer said.

Fraternal organizations are also combating the image of an old boys' club that has stuck since Jackie Gleason's *Honeymooners*.

"We were stereotyped as the bar on the corner where their grandpas went to play cards," Loffer said. "The young kids would say, 'I don't want to go to that old folks home.'"

About four years ago, they started functions for 20- and 30-year-olds. Aeries began inviting more modern entertainment, such as rock bands and pool tournaments.

In Orlando, the local aerie on Goldenrod Road has had open houses and a battle of the bands featuring rock, country and Latin groups for the public.

"We gain membership every time we have one," said Don Westfall, secretary for Orlando's aerie. These days, they are experiencing a net gain

from 30 to 50 members.

Similarly, the Elks' family activities include celebrations of holidays such as Halloween and Christmas.

In the past five years, their lodges have designated rooms for children to play under supervision, while parents go off to enjoy dinner or another activity, said their outgoing national president, or grand exalted ruler, Louis J. Grillo.

A suggestion to loosen their restrictions to lower the membership age from 21 to 18 was rejected because alcohol is served in Elks lounges.

Some things have remained unchanged, however, such as the appeal to socialize and perform community service.

"Young people seem to really have an interest in doing good in their community," Grillo said.

The volunteer opportunities attracted Meghan Morgan, 28, who joined the Chicago Northshore Elks Lodge four years ago with another small group of young people.

"A lot of young people are looking for vehicles to volunteer," she said. "There's no shortage of ways to help out." That devotion toward service has convinced the Elks and the Eagles their groups will endure.

"Seventeen hundred communities would be lost without us," Loffer said. "We give so much money locally, who else is going to do it? That's why we have to survive."

Lowell Hootman
GLPR Chairman

October, 2006 Veterans Message -

Please do your share for Remembrance Month



Remembrance Day is November 11th

As Elks, November is known to us as "Veterans Remembrance Month." Most lodges conduct activities to benefit our nation's Veterans from time to time throughout the year. All lodges should plan specific activities during November to remember those who gave so much, so we can enjoy our freedom of today. Veterans Day is observed on November 11th each year.

For many years it was known as "Armistice Day," for the signing of the Armistice that ended World War I on November 11, 1918. General John J. Pershing, an Elk, orchestrated the signing on the 11th day of the 11th month at the 11th hour, a just and lasting tribute to "those who will come no more."

At the Grand Lodge Session in New York City in 1946 the Elks National Veterans Service Commission was born and our pledge to never forget a Veteran began. Still today our Grand Exalted Ruler has

challenged each lodge to demonstrate during November that "So long as there are Veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them." Let's all do our share to remember our Veterans.

What better time is there to display to your community through your local media, the proclamation declaring November as "Veterans Remembrance Month," to "Adopt a Vet," to join our "Army of Hope" to provide "Comfort Care Kits," to provide entertainment or activities and more importantly to say THANK YOU because we want all Veterans to know that "Elks Care - Elks Share" and that, we as Elks will never forget them.

We ask that you do your share, to help our Veterans.

DWAYNE E. RUMNEY, PGER
Past Elks National Veterans Service Commission Chairman
Grand Lodge Newsletter

Number of Homeless Vets Called a National Disgrace

One of every three homeless males in the United States is a veteran, and each night as many as 200,000 men and women veterans go to sleep with no place to call home, according to the Department of Veterans Affairs. As Memorial Day approaches, the media has begun focusing on the problem.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported national studies showing 47 percent of homeless veterans served during the Vietnam era; 67 percent served three or more years and 33 percent were stationed in a war zone. The Wall Street Journal says about 1,200 veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan are seeking help from homeless service providers. Many newspapers are reporting on the work of the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV), a network of community-based groups and government agencies that provides housing, food, legal aid and other help to homeless veterans. Coalition members are building housing for homeless vets in major cities around the country.

ABC Television covered a forum on the issue by Democratic members of the House Veterans Affairs Committee. Representative Bob Filner (D-CA), who chaired the forum, called the situation a national disgrace. "If we spend a billion dollars every 2½ days in Iraq, we can spend a lot more for those who have served us but will be out on the streets tonight," said Filner.

In fact, the under-funded VA is the only Federal agency that provides substantial hands-on assistance directly to homeless persons. Although limited to veterans and their dependents, its major homeless-specific programs constitute the largest integrated network of homeless treatment and assistance services in the country. The VA provided health care services to more than 100,000 homeless veterans in 2004.

However, an estimated half-million veterans are homeless at some time during the year, with the VA reaching only 20 percent of those in need. According to the NCHV, this leaves

400,000 veterans without supportive services. The coalition's mission is to end homelessness among veterans by shaping public policy, promoting collaboration, and building the capacity of service providers. (On its website, www.nchv.org, you can find the number of homeless veterans reported in each state, along with other statistics and information for homeless veterans and for those who want to help.)

Peter Dougherty, the VA director of Homeless Veterans Programs, admits more needs to be done. "As long as there is a homeless veteran out there on the streets of America who is seeking services, we need to be there to provide those services," he said.

[From the Elks Government Relations Report]

Elks Care - Elks Share

ENF Online Giving... The ENF is pleased to announce online giving at elks.org. You can now support the ENF at any time, day or night, from the convenience of your own home. In four easy steps, 100 percent of your donation will begin working immediately to improve the lives of our program recipients. To make a gift, go to <http://www.elks.org/donate>. All donations will be applied to your existing donor records, and your gift will count toward your Lodge's fundraising goal.



Volunteers remember veterans to tune of nearly \$28,000,000

By National Veterans Service Commission

More than 175,000 Elks, spouses and friends worked a combined 1,037,932 hours to contribute nearly \$28,000,000 in money and services to Volunteer Veterans Service Programs in 2005-2006.

"These statistics don't tell the complete story," said Michael F. Manning, Director of the Elks National Veterans Service Commission. "A dollar value cannot be attached to the care and love our volunteers put into their work with those who served America in times of peril.

"We thank our wonderful volunteers as they continue 'Serving Our Nation's Veterans.'"

According to statistics of the Grand Secretary, April 1, 2005-March 31, 2006, a total of 992,463 people participated in the volunteer programs, including 113,472 Elks and 61,970 helpers. The Elks worked 699,698 hours, and their helpers, 338,234 hours.

The cash value of their work totaled \$18,724,293, based on an average of \$18.04 per hour for the federal government to provide similar work.

Elks members traveled 3,373,222 miles and helpers, 1,067,571 miles, totaling 4,440,793 miles worth \$1,998,357, based on 45 cents per mile.

The \$18,724,293 worth of donated hours and \$1,998,357 in miles, in addition to \$2,538,604 and \$4,218,252 in cash and non-cash contributions, amount to \$27,479,506 in total contributions.

"Several years ago, we started publishing statistics which reflect the generosity of our members and their spouses who work so hard to keep our pledge to the veterans of our Armed Forces," Manning added. "It is with a great deal of pride that the Elks National Veterans Service Commission lists the statistics for the 2005-2006 fraternal year."

ELKS NATIONAL VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION SEPTEMBER 2006 GRAND LODGE NEWSLETTER MESSAGE

Several years ago we started publishing statistics which reflect the generosity of our members and their spouses who work so hard to keep our pledge to the veterans of our Armed Forces.

It is with a great deal of pride that the Elks National Veterans Service Commission lists the statistics for the 2005-2006 fraternal year.

SURVEY OF VOLUNTEER VETERANS SERVICE PROGRAMS FOR FRATERNAL YEAR APRIL 1, 2005 - MARCH 31, 2006

Compiled by the Office of the Grand Secretary

Participants in Programs:	992,463	
Elks Who Worked	113,472	
Helpers	<u>61,970</u>	
Combined Total	175,442	
Hours Donated:		
Elks	699,698	
Helpers	<u>338,234</u>	
Total Combined Hours	1,037,932	
Cash Value of Donated Hours*		\$18,724,293.00
Miles Traveled:		
Elks	3,373,222	
Helpers	<u>1,067,571</u>	
Total Combined Miles	4,440,793	
Cash Value of Miles traveled**		\$1,998,357.00
Contributions:		
Cash		\$2,538,604.00
Non-Cash		4,218,252.00
Hours Worked		18,724,293.00
Miles Traveled		<u>1,998,357.00</u>
Total Contributions		\$27,479,506.00

*The Federal Government has determined that the cost of work done by charitable organizations like the Elks would average out to \$18.04 per hour if performed by social care and government agencies.

**Mileage computed at \$.45 per mile.

These statistics don't tell the complete story. A dollar value cannot be attached to the care and love our volunteers put into their work with those who served America in times of peril.

We thank our wonderful volunteers as they continue *Serving Our Nation's Veterans*.

Fraternally,
Michael F. Manning, Director
Elks National Veterans Service Commission

North Carolina 2006 State Convention held in Myrtle Beach



Ted Hess PGER recognizes award recipients



Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville, where the ladies were hanging out!



Ashley Buckwell, George Wheeler and John Boyd welcoming PGER Ted Hess

Past ER's having fun at the auction!



President Ashley Buckwell and Linda



Shopping trip? - What do you think?



George Wheeler saying goodbye as State President



Enjoying the evening



National and State Conventions



GER Louis Grillo takes a swing at the Sate Convention Golf Tournament

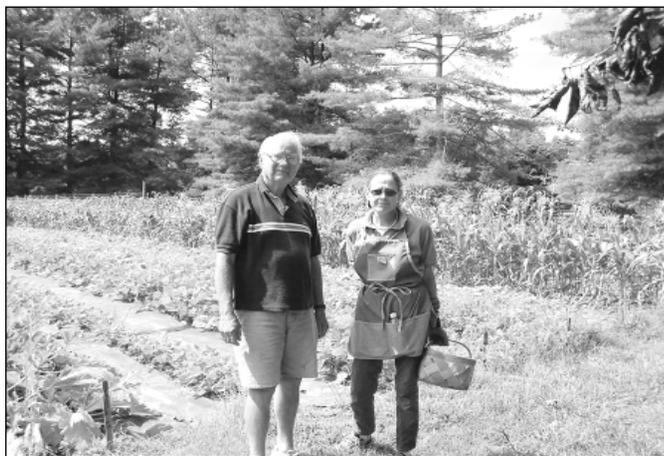
Joyce Clarke and Lee Litiken work the NC Elks booth at the National Convention in Orlando Fla.



Sanford Elks Lodge golf team playing in Southern Pines and the East Central District Golf Tournament to benefit National Convention in Charlotte



District Deputy Bob Green with Brevard Elks at the National Convention in Orlando Fla.



This is Muriel Inabnet and Billy Stowe who help tend the garden.

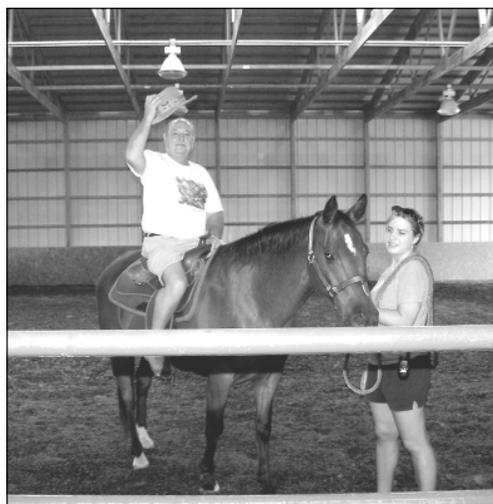
We recently met a lady, Muriel Inabnet, who is a member of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Greensboro. The Church leases some property to raise a very large garden called "Servant Garden Ministry". The garden was started so the food could be used to donate to area shelters and soup kitchens. Muriel has made it possible to donate

fresh vegetables to Camp Carefree as she has excess. In just two days, she has donated over 400 pounds of vegetables to the Camp during 4th of July week. The garden is off Highway 150 in Summerfield, about 22 miles from downtown Winston-Salem. Her

committee needs more help to work in the garden, to replant and harvest the vegetables. If anyone would like to help with this worthwhile project,

please contact David Leonard at 722-9693. This is a great opportunity for our Lodge to help our State's Major Project. Just in case you aren't aware, Camp Carefree allows seriously ill children and their

siblings to enjoy a week at Camp - just like healthy children - free from their cares. What a great organization!



That's Dave Leonard remembering what it was like to be a child with no cares. He is pictures in the indoor riding arena with one of the camp workers.

Charity Rides Nets Nearly \$25,000

A few weeks ago, this had seemed like a good idea. As I gazed out over the sea of gleaming motorcycles and veteran bikers on Saturday, Aug. 5, I wasn't so sure.

While doing an article on the second annual Camp Carefree Charity Ride and Raffle, I had been offered the opportunity to ride along as a passenger to actually experience the event first-hand. Event committee member Tammie Nichols had talked about her own experience as a passenger. "I felt like the first lady, waving at everyone as I went by," she'd said. Then there was the fact that all the proceeds went to Camp Carefree. Although I'd never been on a motorcycle, I decided to go for it.

Participants started congregating in the parking lot of Greensboro's Plum Krazy's Sports Bar and Grill before 11 a.m. In its first year, the event, which is sponsored by Plum Krazy's and the area Elks Lodge, had around 36 riders. This year the group had hoped to double that number. As the bikes kept pouring into the parking lot, that goal was quickly surpassed.

"The turnout is great. I love it," confirmed Bonnie Austin, a rider and former owner of Plum Krazy's. "The motorcycle community is always good about coming out and supporting a good cause such as this."

At noon, over 130 motorcycles and 14 Corvettes pulled out of Plum Krazy's and

headed to the Elks Lodge for lunch. I was riding with committee member and Oak Ridge resident Steve Barrow at the front of the pack. The fear quickly faded - this was fun!

When we arrived at the Elks Lodge, we registered and picked up our T-shirts. Due to the unexpected success of the event, the group ran out of T-shirts and had sold all the raffle tickets for the two mini-choppers and plasma TV that were to be given away later in the day. "The success is overwhelming," said Debbie Barrow, committee chair.

After a barbeque lunch, Anne Jones, Camp Carefree's founder, was presented with a framed shirt from last year's event. She, too, was overwhelmed. "This is wonderful," she told the audience. "There are no words to tell you what this means. It's not just the money but the publicity that something like this gives the camp. We need people to tell others about the camp and let them know that we exist."

That's exactly what the next portion of the event was all about - letting people know about Camp Carefree. By 2 p.m. riders, many of them clad in their new yellow T-shirts, were either on their motorcycles or in their Corvettes waiting to head down Highway 220 and out to Stokesdale for a tour of Camp Carefree. This is where the feeling like the first lady came into play.

With blue lights flashing and sirens blaring,

When School Starts the Waynesville Elks Begin Another Year of Sponsoring Youth Activities

Each year, when school starts and with the approach of fall, Local Elks Lodges prepare for the year's youth activities. Sponsoring and supporting the youth of each community is very important to all Elks.

Waynesville Lodge has always been dedicated to helping the youth in the Community. Throughout the years we have supported programs that are sponsored by the Elks National Foundation (ENF). Two programs that are very special to this Lodge are

The American Essay Contest and The Scholarship Program for our High School students

The Americanism Essay Contest gives the students a chance to write an essay using a prompt written by the National Essay Committee. Each year a different aspect of Americanism is focused on. Elementary and Middle School children compete at the Local Level. Winners go on to the District, State and National Organizations. Last year we had a student that won at the Local, District and State Levels. We can be proud of the children of Haywood County.

Soon after the Essay Contest information is sent to the Lodges, the information comes in regarding the Scholarships offered by the ENF. The best known is the MVS (Most Valuable Student) Scholarship which is available to any Senior in the County. Of special interest to Elks and their families is the Legacy Award which is given to children or grandchildren of Elks in good standing. At the State Level there is a Nursing Scholarship for any senior that has been accepted to a Nursing School.

We have partnered with Haywood County Schools to give students here an opportunity to participate in these ENF Programs. Each year our Scholarship Committee judges the applications. We can send on the top applications of 2 girls and 2 boys. The application are then judged at the State Level and sent on to the Elks National Foundation for judging.

Please share this information with friends and family. It won't be long until the application will be available in the schools, at our Lodge and on the internet at www.elks.org

Pictured: Tara Simmon, who entered the Essay Contest, accepts the framed, 1st Place Certificate from Waynesville Exalted Ruler, Randy Hinkley (right). District Deputy, Robert Green (left) presents Tara with \$100 Savings Bond for winning 1st Place at the District Level and a \$300 Saving Bond for winning 1st Place at the State Level..



members of the Guilford County Sheriff's Department escorted us to the Guilford County line. At that point, the Rockingham County Sheriff's Department took over and led us into Camp Carefree. Traffic stopped, people pulled over and waved us on. In Stokesdale, a dozen or so swimsuit-clad residents stood in their yard, waving frantically as we rode by. Others honked their horns and smiled as we passed.

At Camp Carefree, we were greeted by Jones, camp directors Scott and Michelle Richardson and their staff. They talked to the group about the 21-year-old camp and how it has become a haven for children with illnesses and disabilities such as cancer, Sickle Cell Anemia, epilepsy, Spina Bifida and even children who have chronically ill or disabled siblings or parents. They also pointed out that the camp is free for campers and that the camp's chief means of financial support comes from private donations.

Afterwards the group, complete with police



escort, headed back to Plum Krazy's, where a live band, food and a crowd of supporters awaited our return. As people poured into the establishment, committee members were at the door collecting more donations. By the time the event was over, the group had raised close to \$25,000 for the camp.

To learn more about Camp Carefree and how you can help, visit the Web site at www.campcarefree.org. Tax deductible donations can be sent to Camp Carefree, Inc., 275 Carefree Lane, Stokesdale, NC 27357. For more information, call (336) 427-0966.

**NORTH CAROLINA STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION
YEAR 2006 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

March 31, 2006

To: All B.P.O. Elk Lodges in the State of North Carolina
From: Norman Brewer, Chairman

The NCSEA Scholarship Committee announces the following winners for 2006 competition:

MVS NATIONAL FINALIST (Minimum \$1,000.00 each year for 4 years)			
Male National Finalists (4)		Female National Finalists (4)	
Student Name	Lodge Name & No.	Student Name	Lodge Name & No.
Rushil Patel	Cary-Apex #2798	Anna Barker	Greensboro # 602
Richard Pridgen	Goldsboro #139	Megan Smith	Morganton # 1852
Alan Toler	Goldsboro #139	Meagan Racey	Southern Pines #1692
Chad Brinton	Morehead City #1710	Rebecca Morgan	Wilmington # 532

STATE ALLOCATED (42) - (\$1,000.00 one year award)			
Male Winners (21)		Female Winners (21)	
Student Name	Lodge Name & No.	Student Name	Lodge Name & No.
Randall Hammond	Asheville #608	Xue Hu	Asheville #608
Tyler McCall	Brevard #1768	Jessica Luna	Asheville #608
William Hall	Brevard #1768	Sarah Chapman	Brevard # 1768
Matthew Swaim	Burlington #1633	Chelsey Baldwin	Calabash #2679
Lewis Gore	Calabash #2679	Amber Williams	Elizabeth City #856
Jonathan Mikkelson	Fayetteville #1081	Virginia Boyce	Gastonia #1634
Nicholas Piscatelli	Gastonia #1634	Jamie Mills	Goldsboro #139
Preston McKenzie	Greensboro #602	Laurel Gillespie	Greensboro #602
Elliott Maurer	Hendersonville #1616	Sally Sullivan	Hendersonville #1616
Ian Murdoch	Hendersonville #1616	Lindsey Jackson	Hendersonville #1616
Alexander Jones	High Point #1155	Kristen Rhinehardt	High Point #1155
Nicholas Brady	Lexington #2527	Christy Coates	Newton #2042
Joseph Miller	Mount Airy #2061	Emily Wayne	North Wilkesboro #1846
Kenneth Miller	Newton #2042	Margaret Stoner	Raleigh # 735
Caleb Pardue	North Wilkesboro #1846	Hannah Kirby	Salisbury #699
Thomas Mustian	Rocky Mount #1038	Alicia Womble	Sanford #1679
Phillip Bray	Sanford #1679	Annie Brooks	Sanford #1679
Jarred Morehead	Shelby #1709	Adriane Brackett	Shelby #1709
Brian Wenger	Statesville #1823	Claire Turini	Southern Pines #1692
Stephen Smith	Wilson #840	Megan Proctor	Wilson #840
Bradford Corriher	Winston Salem #449	Brittany Winfrey	Winston-Salem #449

NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS (8) - (\$1,000 one year award)			
Student Name		Lodge Name & No.	
Karlie Hardy	Brevard #1768	Melissa Morrison	Shelby #1709
Savannah Huffman	Newton #2042	Amber Rollins	Shelby #1709
Amber Cox	North Wilkesboro #1846	Mary Katalinic	Wilmington #532
Kristy Beaver	Shelby #1709	Brittany Cope	Winston-Salem #449

STATE COMMITTEE members participating in judging at Southern Pines Feb.17 & 18, 2006

Darius Lewellyn	Calabash #2679	Frank McLeod	Hendersonville #1616
Don Keller	Winston-Salem #449	Charles Campbell	Asheville #608
Rick Pridgen	Goldsboro #139	Sandy Hand	High Point #1155
Barbara Davis	Southern Pines #1692	Roger Hayes	Durham #568
		Norman Brewer	Sanford #1679

**North Carolina Elks on the Web
at
<http://www.ncelks.org>**

“Most Valuable Student” Competition

Applications for the Elks National Foundation’s 2007 Most Valuable Student contest will be available beginning September 1, 2006 at your local Elks Lodge, online or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Foundation. Applications for the 2007 contest have to be submitted to your local Elks Lodge by January 12, 2007.

The Elks National Foundation will award 500 four-year scholarships to the highest-rated boys and girls in the 2007 competition. Any high school senior who is a citizen of the United States is eligible to apply. Applicants need not be related to a member of the

Elks. College students are not eligible to apply. Applicants must be citizens of the United States on the date their applications are signed; resident alien status does not qualify.

Applicants will be judged on financial need, leadership and scholarship.

All scholarships are in the form of certificates of award conditional upon the enrollment of the winner in an accredited US college or university.

Applications must advance through local, district and state competition to reach the national competition. The Chicago office of the Elks National Foundation will announce the 500 national winners, and notify them in

**Flag Day 2006
Charlotte Lodge #392**



Saturday, June 10th, the Charlotte Lodge #392 once again performed our Flag Day Ritual for the fans of the Charlotte Knights baseball team. Presenting the flags were in order of appearance: Vince Aragona, Bill Spruill, Kathy Hulla, Al Nelson, John Hulla, Monty Keistler, and Exalted Ruler, Kimberly Millwood. Special thanks go out to Bill, for climbing through our HOT storage trailer to retrieve the flags and Vince for performing double duty as we were one Elk short. The Lodge would like to thank Monty Keistler, our Flag Day Chairman, and his wife, Melissa, for organizing this event, as they have done for the past several years. Without their dedication

to honoring our Flag, we would not be able to share our pride in “Old Glory” to the sold out crowd (10,000 spectators) at Knight’s Castle.



writing, around May 15, 2007. (Many local Lodges, districts and state Elks associations award their own scholarships through this program. These scholarships are not to be confused with the 500 Elks National Foundation Most Valuable Student Scholarships.)

To locate an Elks Lodge near you, try your phone book or <http://www.elks.org/LocalLodges.cfm>.

Ranging from \$1,000 per year to \$15,000 per year, Most Valuable Student scholarships are for students pursuing a four-year degree, on a full-time basis (minimum of 12 semester hours), in a US American college or university. Male and female students

compete separately.

Requests for additional information should be addressed to the scholarship chairman of the local Lodge or of the Elks association of the state in which the applicant is a resident.

Through this Most Valuable Student competition and its two other scholarship programs, the Elks National Foundation annually awards more than \$3 million in scholarships. In addition, many state Elks associations and Lodges offer scholarships. Contact your local Lodge for more information.

The Most Valuable Student program was established in 1931.

Hickory Elks Help Downtown Farmers Market

The Hickory Elks Lodge #1654 recently presented a check for \$500 to the board of the Downtown Farmers Market. The funds were donated to help defray the cost of replacing several tents that were stolen. Hickory Elk Chuck Crawford has been work-

ing with the Farmers Market manager, Stephanie Kennedy, over the past year to assist her in securing the remaining tents. Over this past winter the tents that had not been stolen were housed in the Hickory Elks Lodge and will be again this year.



Left to Right – Chuck Crawford (Hickory Elks), Farmers Market Board Members – Marc Swinner, George Beauvais, Al Spainhour, Donna Cullum (Chair), Carloyn Miller and Hickory Elks Exalted Ruler – Joe Elko.

Hickory Elks Lodge #1654 Charter Anniversary Ceremony

On July 20th, 2006 the Hickory Elks Lodge celebrated the 63rd anniversary of their initial charter on the lawn of the downtown lodge. The ceremony included the reading of the 1943 charter by past Exalted Ruler, Don Daniels, and a tribute in honor and memory of the charter members. Lodge manager, Gerry Frye, read the role call of the original officers and those members. This was followed by the lowering of the flag to half staff and a 21 gun salute by the Hickory High School Junior ROTC Firing Detail. Firefighter, Darlene Huffman, sounded the Eleventh Hour salute which

After the raising of the flag to full staff, and a closing prayer by Elks Chaplain Bruce Sigmon, the ROTC members were treated to pizza as the regular meeting of the lodge began. The meeting which followed included a presentation of West District Exalted Ruler of the 2005-2006 Year to Don Daniels by Greg England, a member of the past Exalted Rulers Association of North Carolina. There are a total of ten lodges in the Western District. The Hickory Elks are extremely proud of Don for receiving this award.

is done by the ringing of the bell eleven times. Current Exalted Ruler, Joe Elko, recited the Eleventh Hour Toast which honors all deceased members of the Elks organization.



Hickory Elks Lodge #1654



The Hickory Elks Lodge #1654 would like to congratulate Don Daniels on his being awarded the Western District Exalted Ruler of the Year for 2005-2006, and Charlene Walker for bringing to the Hickory Lodge the State Elks Public Relations Award.

The Hickory Lodge commends them on the work that they have done to make the Hickory Lodge a success over the past year.

Mike & Melissa Curran visited family in Washington DC over Memorial Day Weekend. One of their highlights was visiting the World War II Memorial situated near the grounds of the Washington Memorial. These photos cannot convey the beauty of the memorial itself. The Elks have had an instrumental part in raising the funds for this beautiful memorial to all the men and women who fought in World War II. It is a fitting tribute to the "Greatest Generation" and we thought you might like to see photos.



Greensboro Lodge #602

A new slate of Lodge officers were installed at the end of March. New officers are:

Exhaulted Ruler	Ed Cheshire
Leading Knight	Larry Shaver
Loyal Knight	Carey Morgan
Lecturing Knight	Ed Fox
Secretary	Ralph Webber
Treasurer	Fred Meyers
Tiler	Claude Derushia
Chaplain	Mike Hinkley
Esquire	Gayle Rollins
Inner Guard	Howard Noah

During the month of May Lodge #602 welcomed 47 new Elks. The tradition of 100% participation in ENF continued as each new Elk pledged \$100.00.

For the second year in a row Lodge #602 and a local mortuary hosted a special youth activity in the Lodge. It was "Escape School," a program designed to teach children how to recognize advances by strangers, the possible dangers and proper actions to avert tragedy. The program includes videos, children participating in exercises, bicycle giveaways. This has become a valuable and popular program both in Lodge families and

the Greensboro community.

The Lodge 602 annual summer kickoff Shrimp Fest and charity fundraiser took place June 17 by the pool. Members and guests were be treated to lots of boiled shrimp, chicken and the fixings. This event is popular, well attended and raises funds to support charitable activities for the current year.

Flag Day will observed with our Greensboro Mayor, The Honorable Keith Holliday, attending and participating in the ceremony. In addition several children will participate.

On June 10, our Lodge will make the first of two annual visits to the Veteran's Hospital in Salisbury, NC. There will be a cookout for patients. Participation by Elks and spouses provides a good labor force to feed hungry patients and have conversations and listen to their stories. We consider this to be one of our most important activities!

Again this year Lodge #602 is sponsoring a Palamino League baseball team. The team plays a slate of approximately 20 games during June and July. Depending on their success, they may go on into the playoffs.

West District's First District Deputy Clinic for Grand Lodge Year 2006-2007 Waynesville Lodge #17696

Sunday, August 13, 2006

Presentation of Citation of Merit Award for Net Gain in Membership



From left to right: Robert Green, DDGER, Frank Tamberelli, ER, PDDGER Gastonia #1634, John Boyd, Grand Lodge Membership Committeeman, PSP, Randy Hinkley, ER, Waynesville Lodge #1769, Keith Miller, PER, NCSEA Membership Committeeman Hendersonville Lodge #1616, Back Row: John Hill, PDDGER, ER, Hendersonville Lodge #1616, Mark Hooper, ER Asheville Lodge #608 and John Hutchins, ER, Morganton Lodge #1853. Not pictured is Joe Elko, ER, Hickory Lodge # 1654

Presentation of Citation of Excellence to John Hill now serving as ER of Hendersonville Lodge #1616



DDGER Robert Green presents John with the Citation of Excellence for serving as DDGER, Grand Lodge Year 2005-2006. To the right of DDGER Robert Green is District Auditor Cindy England West District Vice President

We had the pleasure and honor of having John Boyd NCSEA, Grand Lodge Convention Committee Chairman, Grand Lodge Membership Committeeman, Ashley Buckwell, NCSEA President, Mike Curran, NCSEA President Elect, George Wheeler, PSP, NCSEA Trustee and Ken Ey, West District Vice President.



Pictured left to right: PDDGER, ER, John Hill, PDDER, Walter McSwain, PDDGER Jim Saunders, State President Asheley Buckwell, State President Elect Mike Curran, State Secretary, Blayne Turner, PDDER, Greg Endgland, PSP, George Wheeler, PSP, Larry Wolfe, PDDGER, Frank Tamberelli, John Boyd, NCSEA Grand Lodge Convention Committee Chairman, Kenneth Simmon, PDDGER, Robert Green, DDGER

Texas Rancher

A man owns a small ranch in Texas. The Texas Hourly Wage Department claims he's not paying proper wages to his help and sends an agent out to Interview him.

"I need a list of your employees and how much you pay them," demands the Agent.

"Well" replies the rancher, "there's my ranch hand who's been with me for 3 years. I pay him \$600 a week plus free room and board. The cook has been Here for 18 months, and I pay her \$500 per week plus free room and board. Then there's the half-wit who works here about 18 hours every day and does About 90% of all the work around here. He makes \$10 a week, and I buy him a Bottle of bourbon every Saturday night."

"That's the guy I want to talk to - the half-wit," says the agent.

"That would be me," replies the rancher.

Charlotte NC, Downtown Skyline - Site of the 2007 National Convention. To sign up to work go to the web site ncelks.org and download the sign up form.



Charlotte in 2007

Charlotte North Carolina will be the location for the National Elks Convention in 2007. The North Carolina Elks are planning a great time for all visitors from across the nation. Besides the events at the Elks Convention there is great shopping, great restaurants and some wonderful things to do. You will hear about

mining for precious stones, NASCAR, a 30 million dollar water park, Carowinds, Discovery Place, golf, and much, much more. And did I mention shopping? You may even see a Panther or Bobcat around.

Downtown Charlotte is a beautiful place with water falls and fountains everywhere. More than forty restaurants are within a short walking distance. This is a

fast growing and fast moving city with the hospitality and charm of the South.

Make your plans now and come to the National Convention in Charlotte. If you are able and want to help out, look on the state web site "ncelks.org" and use the form to sign up for work and helping out. See you in Charlotte.

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- Articles should be no more than one page, preferably less than one page.

- Photos become the property of the NC Elks News or send SAS envelope.

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