



In memory of John Dennis Sullivan, PSP
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State President's Message



The National Elks Convention in Reno, Nevada, July 8 - July 14 was one of the best things Marty and I have ever done. We thank our North Carolina Members for the opportunity to represent them

and our great NC Lodges. I was very proud to carry our State Flag onto the stage during the opening session of the convention. Marty and I attended several social functions and business meetings and the South Carolina Hospitality Room. North Carolina's Hospitality Room was honored to receive a visit from our GL Sponsor Gerald Coates, PGER; Harry Tangen, GL Treasurer; John Boyd, GL Public Relations Committeeman inductee and their wives

as well as Frank and Nancy Kinard, SC State President and First Lady.

President Elect Ashley Buckwell and Linda Whisnant did a SUPER job as host of our hospitality room and it can be counted as one of the best. I thank them and the District VP's and their helpers for making each day different. I also thank the Lodges and Members who contributed funds to continue the tradition of making our hospitality room "the place to be" at every convention.

Upon returning home Marty and I were invited to attend the South Carolina's State Elks Summer Convention in Walterboro, SC. We had a fine time, made new friends and renewed acquaintances with old friends.

We, as members of one of the major benevolent organizations in America, must not ignore the disaster and devastation that has occurred in the Gulf States. Those people and even some of

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1st Annual Camp Carefree Ride & Raffle A Success Story

On October 22, 2005, approximately 35 Harleys and other motorcycles, lead by a blue light flashing Sheriff's cruiser, rumbled onto the tranquil grounds of Camp Carefree. A second Sheriff's cruiser brought up the rear. The horses, llamas, sheep, goats, pigs and alpacas all stood and watched the procession as the



bikers slowly maneuvered the narrow roadway in route to the parking lot beside the indoor riding arena. Was this a group bust? No way! It was part of the 1st Annual Camp Carefree Ride & Raffle sponsored by the North Carolina State Elks Association and Plum Krazy's Sports Bar & Grille.

After arriving at Camp Carefree, the riders and other interested parties who made the trip in four wheeled vehicles, gathered in the riding arena and were greeted by Anne Jones, Camp Carefree founder and Executive Director, along with Michelle Richardson, Camp Director, and several volunteer counselors. Anne spoke about the history and mission of the Camp and the wonderful things they do for the children. She thanked the riders and others for their participation and support. Have you ever been in a room full of big, burley, black leather clad bikers and their ladies and seen them all crying or so choked up they couldn't speak? Well, you should have been there.

A tour of the Camp followed, and then the bikers were back on the road to continue the ride.

The Ride & Raffle was a day long event. Assembling at Plum Krazy's at 11 AM, the riders left Plum Krazy's and arrived at the Greensboro Elks Lodge around noon, where they enjoyed true Elk's hospitality and were treated to a BBQ lunch provided by the Lodge. At 2 PM, Guilford County Sheriff's deputies escorted the caravan of riders up US 220 to the Rockingham County line where they were met by Rockingham Deputy Sheriff's and escorted to Camp Carefree. From Camp Carefree, the Deputies escorted the riders down NC 68 back to Guilford County where the Guilford Deputies were waiting to escort them back to Greensboro and to Plum Krazy's for fun, fellowship and a celebration party and raffle. Two bands performed, free food was provided and dozens of items were raffled off including two mini-choppers. Frank Tamberelli won one of the mini-bikes and donated it back to be sold with the proceeds going to Camp Carefree.

Thanks to the hard work of a great group of people from Plum Krazy's, including owners Mike and Bonnie Austin, patrons

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Grand Exalted Ruler attends North Carolina Convention

During the last weekend in October, the Hickory Elks Lodge #1654 hosted the Fall State Convention which was held at the Hickory Metro Convention Center. Those in attendance represented 32 of the 37 Elk's lodges in North Carolina. It was particularly eventful as the Grand

Exalted Ruler, Jim Grillo and his wife, Lucia flew in from California. The two-day convention kicked off with a golf tournament on Friday at the Rock Barn Golf & Spa on the Trent Jones course. Earlier in the month this course was the site of the "Greater Hickory Classic" of the Champions Tour which was televised on the Golf Channel. There were also various meetings for state, district and national officers in attendance.

Saturday began with a general membership meeting which was opened by Hickory Mayor, Rudy Wright and the Hickory High School Color Guard. Mayor Wright is an active member

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Grand Exalted Ruler Louis J. Grillo, with his Honor Guard at the National Convention in Reno, was the guest of North Carolina Elks, October 28-30 in Hickory at the Fall State Convention. We shared with him and his wife, Lucia, North Carolina hospitality. He was hosted by PGER Gerald Coates and his wife, Lea, State President, George Wheeler and his wife, Marty.



The Practice of Cardinal Principles

This year has taken a toll on Elks, which have had a great impact on our Association. I lost a great friend on May 24, 2005 as I answered the phone in the early hours of that morning to learn that John Dennis Sullivan's travels through this life had come to an end. He had passed through the valley to rest with our Maker. His leaving has caused a void in the lives of his family, friends and our state association.

John had a deep impact on our Order as he has served the Southern Pines Lodge since his initiation in 1959. I testify to this as he served as their lodge secretary from 1975 until 2002. He served in all the chairs, including being Exalted Ruler in 1963-64. John served this Association with the same vigor. He was State President 1971-72. During his term the membership of North Carolina Elks reached its highest in our history. He was appointed State Secretary by then President Bill Allen in January

"Oldest Rat" in the party as he use to say. I was impressed at John's ease in carrying out his duties as State Secretary. His nature was to "help his fellow man". John lived this each day. He must have received the greatest indoctrination when he became an Elk



or what could inspire a man to have such qualities? Over the years I've decided that these principles of ours, Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity were the path which John lived his life. He practiced this philosophy each and every day. He encouraged other members to contribute to this Association.

There is little in our Order of Elks, which John was not a part of during his tour of duty. John did share with me that the greatest honor he was accorded was by his friend, Jerry Coates, as John was asked to give the seconding to the nomination of Gerald Coates for Grand Exalted Ruler in Las Vegas in July 1996.

I cannot impress upon you how much John Sullivan was such an important part of my involvement in our Order. During my last visit with John, I asked what I could do for him. John replied, "I've had a good life, tell my friends that."

Ever since that day I've prayed that the Lord will give me the wisdom and integrity that John possessed.

Arlie Loy
Past State President



1982. I'm sure Bill never thought he would appoint an Elk whose service would span twenty years. John was appointed to the Grand Lodge, Lodge Activities Committee in 1977. Our Association bestowed the "Thad Eure Distinguished Service Award" on John in May 1975.

My first memory is of John Sullivan seated at the Association's meeting next to the Honorable Thad Eure; the

State President's Message

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the Elk Lodges need our help. Please remember them in your prayers, and help them with your check books and even the possibility of help with reconstruction.

Our membership Chairman Scott Pace is working very hard to decrease delinquent and lapsed members. One of the best ways to increase membership is to ask the Grand Lodge for a Stray Elks List in your area. After all, they were active Elks once, why not again.

Another way to increase membership is to start a new lodge within your area. Your New Lodge Development Committee is ready to help in this endeavor, contact Steve

Gunter for information.

Some of our lodges are participating in the Students Dictionary Program. Every lodge in the state should look into this program. Youth Activities Chairman, Bob Gower will assist you. You can accomplish more than helping third graders, you will be gaining contacts at your local schools that can be used for other programs.

Please remember to support our major projects: Camp Carefree, two NC Veterans Nursing Homes and our Veterans in VA Hospitals. Remember, "Elks Care - Elks Share."

George Wheeler, Jr.
State President

William Bullock Receives 2005 Thad Eure Award

William Bullock received the Thad Eure Service Award at the Spring State Convention in New Bern. This is the State Association's highest award bestowed only on those Elks whose service and dedication to the order are outstanding.

William was born in the mid-40's and lettered while playing football in high school. He attended East Carolina University for four years and started working in his profession upon graduation. He has been married to his lovely wife, Charley, for almost 32 years, and has two children—Virginia and John. He has served his community well by being a coach in the youth football programs, serving on the county and city planning boards, being a past member of the Jaycees, has served on the Chamber of Commerce board and presently serves as vice-chairman of the board of directors of a local bank.

He was initiated into the Roxboro Elks Lodge in 1981 and has held all the chair positions in his lodge. His years of service to the NC Elks



include serving on the following committees: Elks National Foundation, Lodge Development, Better Business Practices, Audit Committee, Fund Raising, Charitable Trust, and the State Elks Newspaper. He was President Elect and State President and served four years as a state trustee, and he was chairman of the State Advisory Board in 2000-2001.

Grand Exalted Ruler attends North Carolina Convention

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the Hickory Elks Lodge. Gerald Coates, past Exalted Ruler and Grand Lodge sponsor for the event challenged the crowd of nearly 300 to make the recruiting of younger members their goal in order to continue the valuable work the Elks organization does for the youth of our country. A memorial service was held Saturday afternoon to honor members who had passed on this year. After the service, Jim Grillo, the national president, was able to visit the Elk's Lodge in downtown Hickory.

The event concluded with a formal banquet on Saturday night. Hickory

Exalted Ruler, Don Daniels presented GER Grillo with a token of his appreciation, a traditional "Hickory Stick" walking stick. The State Association also presented GER Grillo with a Kennedy Boston Rocking Chair. Lucia Grillo was presented with

a beautiful ring crafted by a local jeweler and member of the Hickory Lodge, Phil Razor. The highlight of the evening was an extremely inspirational speech by the Grand Exalted Ruler. He made everyone in attendance proud to be an American and a member of the Elk's organization. At its conclusion, the entire room jumped to their feet and gave him a standing ovation. All Elks attending the convention came away with renewed enthusiasm for the programs that can make their respective lodges more successful for the new year.



Grand Exalted Ruler, Jim Grillo, with Don Daniels, Exalted Ruler, at Hickory Lodge.

Message From The President Elect



It is a great honor to represent all North Carolina Elks as President Elect for the 2005-2006 year. My initiation for the position involved managing the North Carolina Hospitality Room at the Grand Lodge Convention in Reno, Nevada, and thanks to the many words of wisdom from President George Wheeler and his wife Marty and the dedicated help by volunteers from all four districts our hospitality room was a rousing success. Linda and I thank them for all their hard work. We had Elks from many states pay us a visit and enjoy the hospitality and Brotherly Love North Carolina is known for. If you have never attended a Grand Lodge Convention

you owe it to yourself to take the time to attend and learn more about the great Order of which we are members.

Last year North Carolina had an increase in membership, however this is not true throughout our Order. Our State Sponsor PGER Gerald Coates has issued a challenge to the State Association to add lodges in North Carolina. Last year South Carolina added two lodges in an area already served by large well established lodges. We in North Carolina can do the same. There is not a lodge in our state that is not close to a town or city that could support a new lodge. For the benefit of all Elks I ask each Lodge to take a close look at surrounding communities and find a willing member within their Lodge to work with the State New Lodge Development Committee in exploring the possibilities of establishing an Elks Lodge in that town or city. If

you need more information please contact your District New Lodge Development Committeeperson.

This year our Charitable Trust has, for the first time, set a goal of \$2.50 per capita for its fund raising goal. Our Endowment Fund is set up similar to the Elks National Foundation where the principle is invested and can never be touched; the interest will be used for the charitable works of our State Association. Donations today will pay great dividends in future years as this fund grows and we receive more in earnings from this fund. I urge all members of our State Association to make an annual pledge to the Gerald & Lea Coates Endowment Fund to assist with our charitable goals. Remember all donations are tax deductible.

Ashley Buckwell
President Elect

Benovelence Is Our First Name

North Carolina's Elks have a history of charitable giving. When hurricane Floyd flooded the eastern part of our state the Elks stepped up to provide relief. When flooding hit the Dakotas the Elks of North Carolina were there with donations to help those in distress.

We have always been in the top ten percent of giving to the Elks National Foundation. We were able to maintain this level of giving while also providing relief to those in need.

Just recently a service man was critically injured in a traffic accident. His family needed help to allow them to remain at his bed side while he recovered. The Elks of North Carolina provided the necessary funding to allow his loved ones to remain close.

In 1997 we established the Gerald and Lea Coates Endowment Fund for

the charities of the North Carolina's Elks Association. The intent of this endowment fund is to provide financial support to various charities in our state. This fund was set up with the intention that only the earnings of the fund would be used for out charities. Our goal was to build the fund until it reached a level of one million dollars before using the earnings. In 2004 our state association sold its camp which infused one point four million dollars to our trust. We are now in a position to use earnings from this fund to support our charitable works.

We still need to continue to contribute to our own trust to provide for the increased needs of our state charities. We can maintain our level of giving to the Elks National Foundation and still give to our own state trust.

At our state meeting we have had contributions from lodges in the state present their gifts to the trust. In addition to these contributions the Ladies of our state have also been very generous with their contributions to our charities. We also rely on individual contributions from our membership and their family members. We ask that every Elk in the state fill out a pledge form and donate on an annual basis to our charitable works. We have set a goal of \$2.50 per capita for each Lodge this year. Which Lodge will be the first to reach this goal? The trust will be awarding plaques to Lodges that report the highest level of per capita contributions to our trust.

Each individual who gives a contribution of at least \$10 will receive a lapel pin to signify their support of our charities. There are special pins for contributions of \$100, \$500, \$1,000 and a very special Diamond Award for donations of \$10,000 or more. We also encourage members to make bequests in their will to the trust. This can be done now with gifts being given in the future. What better way can we remember a deceased member by making contributions to the trust in their honor. This can provide a living memorial to our deceased members.

All of these donations are tax deductible the trust is covered by 501 (C) 3 of the tax code.

HAVE YOU FILLED OUT YOUR PLEDGE YET?

Harry Tangen,
Chairman Charitable Trust



John Boyd, Editor, of North Carolina Elks News, received the four star award for the fourth year in a row. GER Grillo presented Boyd with the award at the Fall State Convention in Hickory.

what's happening at the convention

NORTH CAROLINA STATE ELKS ASSOCIATION SPRING 2006 CONVENTION

Myrtle Beach Hilton Resort
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, May 5

12:30 p.m.
Golf Tournament
play at
Azalea Sands Golf Club

~
10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Registration
Lobby, Hilton Resort

~
1:30 p.m.
Charitable Trust Meeting
Hilton Resort

~
2:30 p.m.
Advisory Board Meeting
Hilton Resort

~
3:30 p.m.
Trustee Meeting
Hilton Resort

~
6:00 p.m.
Advisory Board Social
Hilton Resort

~
7:00 p.m.
Advisory Board Dinner
Hilton Resort

~
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Crab Cakes or Steak Dinner
Calabash Elks Lodge

Saturday, May 6

7:00 a.m. - 12 Noon
Registration
Hilton Resort

~
7:30 a.m.
ER/PER Breakfast
Hilton Resort

~
9:00 a.m.
Business Session
Hilton Resort

~
9:00 a.m.
Spouse/Ladies Breakfast &
Entertainment
Hilton Resort

~
12:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
President's Luncheon

~
1:30 p.m.
PER Auction
Hilton Resort

~
6:00 p.m.
Banquet Social Hour
Hilton Resort

~
7:00 p.m.
Convention Banquet
Hilton Resort



News From Camp Carefree

I hope this finds each of you doing outstanding in your new year as Elks Officers and Members. It was great to see so many of you in Reno at our Grand Lodge Convention and visit with you in the North Carolina Hospitality Room.

We are well into our 2005-2006 Elk Year, working on our various committee assignments. I hope to visit with many of you at our upcoming DD CLINIC to held Sunday, August 21st, 2005 at the Raleigh Lodge # 735.

I am writing to you, requesting your help for our Camp Carefree Projects. Camp Carefree is finishing up their many weeks of providing one week camping experience for youngsters from N. C. & neighboring states with specific health problems and disabilities.

Please see our current Wish List For Camp Carefree that our NC Elks are working to help the camp.

- 4 & 5 Draw dressers for the cabins
 - New folding tables (20 @ \$ 100. ea.) and new chairs (100-200 @ \$ 20. ea.) for Dining Hall
 - New chairs for the Pavilion (120 @ \$ 20. ea.)
 - Labor (Elks) for replacing horse/ animal fencing
 - Bobcat (new or used)
 - New paddle boat (\$ 700. – 800.)
 - New pool table for the Recreation Shed
 - Sofa & Chairs for Recreation Shed
 - Repair to tennis courts (Greensboro Lodge & Reidsville Lodge have promised, plus all other
- Lodges that would like to help)

- Remodeling at Arts & Craft Building
- Koi pond
- Landscaping improvements around the buildings
- Miscellaneous and general repairs to various buildings

It is not to soon to put in your lodge budget, sponsorship for a child per session to attend the camp (\$ 400. per child. We are suggesting that regardless of how else you get involved with Camp Carefree, each lodge in the District can sponsor at least one child during the 2006 summer session.

Please get on board, your lodge should get involved as soon as possible. Many have already began projects at the camp, some have already done numerous projects. I look forward to working with you. Please call me or contact me with any questions. Our Youth Activities Committee State Chairman Bob Gower has made many trips to Camp Carefree this summer, he can tell you about the grand experiences these special children are experiencing at the camp.

It is planned to hold our next Officers Training Seminar in February 2006 at Camp Carefree, please put this date on your calendar now, do not miss this great opportunity.

Camp Carefree is located just North of Greensboro, off Highway 220, at 275 Carefree Lane, Stokesdale, NC 27357.

Thank you for your support and donations to Camp Carefree, but most of all thank you for your help.

GREENSBORO ELKS LODGE #602 MAKES DONATION TO CAMP CAREFREE

At the annual Christmas Open House held December 18, 2005, the Greensboro Elks Lodge presented a check for \$10,000 to Camp Carefree to support their programs. Lodge President Jim Williams made the presentation to Anne Jones, Executive Director and Founder of the camp.

Camp Carefree, located in

Stokesdale, NC, offers free one-week camping experiences to chronically ill and disabled children, siblings of ill or disabled children, and children who have a chronically ill or disabled parent. The camp, which is supported entirely by voluntary donations, recently celebrated its 20th Anniversary.



Jim Williams, ER Greensboro Lodge and Anne Jones, Executive Director Camp Carefree. \$15,000 for Charity Ride, \$10,000 from Greensboro Lodge.



Pictured left to right: Jim Williams, ER Greensboro Lodge; Curtis Pierce, Chairman Camp Carefree Committee; Sam Page, Sheriff Rockingham County; Bob Gower, State Youth Activities Chairman; Anne Jones, Executive Director Camp Carefree; Steve Clarke, Camp Carefree Committee; Debbie Barrow, Plum Krazy Co-ordinator; Steven Barrow, Plum Krazy Co-ordinator; Bonnie Austin, Owner, Plum Krazy; and Mike Austin, Owner, Plum Krazy.

1st Annual Camp Carefree Ride & Raffle A Success Story

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Steve and Debbie Barrow and Nancy Brown, and several dedicated members of the Elks, our combined efforts raised \$15,000 for Camp Carefree.

Several Elk members and Lodges need to be mentioned for their support of this 1st Ride & Raffle. Thanks to Bob Gower for making the initial contact with Plum Krazy's and getting the seed planted, the Camp Carefree Committee consisting of Curtis Pierce, Lee Littiken, Jack Strickland, Greg England and Steve Clarke, the Greensboro Elks Lodge for agreeing to host part of the event, the Lodges that

contributed to support this event and the individual Elks who made personal contributions. And finally, thanks to the NCSEA leadership for allowing us to think outside the box to make this idea a reality.

See you next year at the 2nd Annual Camp Carefree Ride & Raffle. Don't miss it.

Steve Clarke,
Camp Carefree Committee

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

High Point and Calabash Work Together to Co-Host NC School Resource Officers

Nearly 400 law enforcement officers, representing 70 of North Carolina's 100 counties, recently participated in the annual NC Association of School Resource Officers 5-day state conference. The official host for this year's conclave was High Point Lodge 1155. Most of the Elks Lodges in NC alternate sponsorship of this event on an annual basis. However, as the 2005 meeting was scheduled at Sea Trail Plantation, the Calabash Lodge agreed to co-host a barbecue dinner that was attended by 250 law enforcement officers, family members and 27 Elks from the High Point Lodge.

The Association provides uniformed officers to high schools and middle schools to assist the school's administration in maintaining a safe and secure educational environment. In addition, they promote

positive attitudes regarding law enforcement's role in society. The major objectives are to eliminate criminal activities and promote positive working relationships between law enforcement officials, students, parents, school administrators and teachers.

The 2005 conference agenda included workshops on terrorism, drugs, teenage drinking, child psychology, bullying, gang-related activities and new and improved school security measures.

Lt. Greg Brown said "one of the most rewarding aspects of the Association's activities is a willingness by many students to confide in a school resource officer. They seem to feel more confident in discussing matters of a personal nature with an officer than with their parents."

Pictured at the barbecue (in front, middle) is Detective Sgt. Dawn Pardue, Yadkinville Police Department, and (from left) Calabash Chairman, Esteemed Leading Knight Bob Woelfel, High Point Elks; Loyal Knight Brian Fisher; Jim Bertsch PER; Trustee Paul Hampton PSP; Trustee Ed Roberson PSP; Lt. Greg Brown, Durham County Sheriff's Office; and PDDGER Jim Wallace, High Point.



Calabash Lodge #2679's Dixie Youth League Team, the "Mets," comprised of 11-12 year olds, concluded their division's 10-game schedule in first place with an 8-2 record. Their schedule also included an additional 7 games against other divisional teams. What made the season even more rewarding, the team ended in the cellar one year ago. Eight team members were selected to play in the league's all-star game--hats off to Coach Mike Kapushinsky and his scorekeeper, statistician and soul mate Bridget, and the assistant coaches.



Calabash Lodge #2679's Ladies Auxiliary hosted eight recipients of the \$8,000 Donna Stoughton Practical Nursing Awards at a recognition dinner at the Lodge. The students expressed their appreciation to the Auxiliary for providing continuing assistance to the student-nursing program at Brunswick Community College. Pictured with Exalted Ruler, Rich Gherri, are the current and previous Auxiliary presidents Janet McCoy and Wendy Voorhees, BCC Director of Nursing, Connie Milliken, RN and the uniformed students who graduated in May.



Calabash Lodge #2679 honored six graduating high school senior with \$1,000 scholarship grants at a Lodge recognition dinner. Pictured (front row, left) are Jennifer Johnson, West Brunswick HS, Ashtin Bellamy and Meaghan Murray, NMB HS. In the back row are (from left) Amber Colley, West Brunswick HS, ER Rich Gherri, Pat White NMB HS Guidance Counselor and Committee Chairman Chaplain George Bissett.



Wilmington Lodge #532 holds Back to School program and donated around a \$1,000 worth of school supplies, in attendance for the presentation were committee person, Dot Taylor; Exalted Ruler, Joe Pettet; Chief of Police, Ralph Evangelous; City Councilwoman, Lethia Hankins; Chairman of School Board, Don Hayes; Committee Chairman, Evelyn Hood; Mayor, Spence Broadhurst and other Special Guests.



Bet Strickland, Morehead City-Beaufort #1710, test drives one of the mini-choppers raffled for the benefit of Camp Carefree.

"Mr. Shoe" Retires after 37 Years of Dedication

"Mr. Shoe" Retires after 37 Years of Dedication
Max McCracken, a Life Member of the Brevard Elks Lodge, is retiring as Chairman of the Shoe Program, after serving as Chairman for 37 years.

Max became a member of the Lodge in December 1967. He and his Shoe Committee have been involved ever since, working with school administration to make sure that every child in the county has decent shoes that provide proper protection to wear to school. During this period, the Elks Lodge has purchased thousands of shoes to keep the Shoe Program going at the Brevard Elks Lodge.

Max also has supported the scholarship funds for Transylvania students and other youth programs with personal contributions. He has also purchased much needed equipment to help keep the Lodge running smoothly. He rarely missed a regular monthly meeting at the Lodge.

Max will be sorely missed by the other committee members as well as by the school personnel with whom he has worked so tirelessly. He will also be missed by the children whom he loved so much

and he in turn will miss the grateful love which he received from his endless effort to serve the youth of Transylvania County. "Mr. Shoe" as Max is known by the school children will be missed.

With school back in session after the summer vacation, the Shoe Program Committee will be contacting school administration in order to define the needs of the children.

For the past 56 years, the Brevard Elks Lodge has been dedicated to helping the community and our local and national youth. The Lodge has consistently provided financial aid to the youth organizations and charities of Transylvania County.

Source: The Transylvania Times
September 29, 2005



Toys for Katrina Kids

During the weeks immediately following the terrible effects of Hurricane Katrina on the population of the affected areas, Mr. Timothy E. Kelly, current President of the New York State Elks Association, and a member and Past Exalted Ruler of Watertown Lodge #496, heard about a toy drive undertaken

by elk members in parts of Florida. Thinking that this would be a worthy project for New York Elk members also, he sought and received permission from the Advisory Board of the state association, and a campaign was begun during the first weeks of October.

There are 131 Elks' lodges in New York State, divided into 17 Districts. Each district has a District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler and a State Vice President, the latter person in each district being appointed as the "point person" in this "Toys for Katrina Kids" effort. During the months of October and November, a massive campaign ensued, and even though time was short, the effort produced excellent results. All 17 districts of the New York State Elks Association brought their collected, new, unwrapped toys to the Mechanicville-Stillwater Lodge #1403 in Mechanicville, NY, where they were loaded on a tractor trailer, very kindly donated by ABF Freight Corp. for shipment to Slidell, LA Lodge 2321 where other elk members are ready and waiting to wrap and distribute the toys to the children of families

whose homes and lives have been turned to turmoil, with food and shelter being of much higher priority than toys for kids. These families do not need to be desperately poor, just regular folks who have been caught up in a terrible situation.

As this article is being written (12/8/05) the truck is located in Atlanta, GA and is due to arrive in Slidell, LA on Friday, December 9, 2005! The entire cost of shipping was donated by ABF Freight, and the Elks cannot thank them enough. Teals Express also generously donated shipment within New York for some lodges that could not get to Mechanicville.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is a fraternal order which gives freely to the youth, veterans and senior citizens of our country, and this is a very unique project beyond our usual scope. We are very happy to be able to contribute to the happiness of children who have been through such a terrifying situation. We are hopeful that they will have a bright and happy Christmas! This is truly an example of our motto; "Elks care, and Elks share"!

Vinton G. Tarrant,
Lowville Lodge #1605

Toys for Katrina Kids Chairman
New York State Elks Association Lodge Activities
(315) 688-4255 (Copenhagen, NY 13626)



Mechanicville Lodge 1403 - North Central District State Vice President Earnest J. Charleston of Potsdam Lodge 2074 (right, standing in truck) shaking hands with Richard Devito (husband of Mechanicville Exalted Ruler Linda Devito) while District Deputy George Bourdon (Massena Lodge 1702) watches from the ground. The pictured trailer was so completely loaded at the finish that it had to be unloaded and repacked more densely so all would fit!

Elks Care - Elks Share

ENF Online Giving... The ENF is pleased to announce online giving at [elks.org](http://www.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.



Elk Donate to Katrina Hurricane Relief Fund

We have received \$665,513.74 in donations. We have distributed \$265,360 to over 2,500 Elks and non-Elks families affecting more than 4,000 people. We continue to accept applications every day and have expanded our efforts to include people in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida.

California and Florida represent more than 30% of all donations.

There have also been requests from displaced Elks and their families from states as far north as New York and as far west as Utah. After the storm, many people had to go hundreds and in some instances more than a thousand miles to find a "safe harbor".

In addition to the hundreds

of thousands of dollars sent in by our Elk Families, Lodges and State Associations, we have many Lodges and State Associations providing non-monetary donations. New York State is finishing up a toy drive that will generate thousands of toys for these children. Ohio has been working on a book drive to rebuild flooded libraries and donating books to these children. California has sent a thousand Teddy Bears to give some security to these traumatized small children.

Our Elks are truly living our Motto - Elks Care and Elks Share!!

Andy Milwid, Chairman
Hurricane Katrina Elks Disaster Relief Fund

Gratitude Grants Reminder

The Elks of Cripple Creek, Colo., Lodge are using their \$200 Gratitude Grant to purchase books for a local library. Did your Lodge meet the GER's fundraising goal for the year of \$4.00 per member? Have you claimed your Gratitude Grant and used it for a worthwhile cause in your community? If not, what are you waiting for? Visit www.elks.org/enf/community/GratitudeGrants.cfm for more information.



North Carolina's District Deputies Grand Exalted Ruler for 2005-2006 began their duties in Reno, Nevada, at the national convention. Pictured are (from left) Frank DeGraff, West Central District; John Hill, West District; Darrell Myers, East Central District and Jim Ross, East District. The first of three District Deputy Clinics were held across North Carolina in August. September will begin DD visits to each lodge in the district. Be ready for these visits and treat your District Deputy with the honors accorded a Grand Lodge member and make him feel welcome in your lodge.

A Message From the Grand Exalted Ruler



To All District Deputies, Exalted Rulers, Officers and Members:

As we begin a new year, Lucia and I would like to wish you all good health and happiness in the year ahead.

This new year gives us the opportunity for a new beginning. It gives us the chance to, once again, look to a bright future for Elkdom. However, before we look ahead, we must take stock of the past year. The Exalted Rulers and Officers must take the time to evaluate what has been accomplished thus far in the Fraternal Year. There are three months

to go for you to re-dedicate yourself to the Programs that you set out to accomplish last April. It is not too late!

Exalted Rulers: Ask yourself, Will I be able to look back with pride at the end of my term for a job well-done? Will I truly be able to say my Lodge is stronger and better than when I first assumed the Office? If the answer is yes, I can assure you it will be a most rewarding and fulfilling feeling for you. And, this feeling will permeate to your Officers and Members. I encourage you to continue to work to complete your year on a positive note. Keep in mind that turning over leadership is a responsibility that should not be taken lightly. Relinquish the reins of leadership knowing that you have

done everything possible to fulfill your duties and responsibilities. The new incoming Officers have earned the right to put forward their programs and hopes for the future of their Lodge. They should not be weighted down or encumbered with the problems of the past. Even though this is a new year and a new beginning, keep in mind that with the future of Elkdom every day is a new beginning.

District Deputies: In January you hold your first Clinic of the new year. Do it with a positive and uplifting attitude. Share your knowledge of Elkdom so that our Members may become more informed of the many and varied programs that will need to be carried forward. Yes, the Exalted Ruler, Leading Knight, Secretary and

Chairman of the Board of Trustees are required to attend your Clinic. But make it well known that every Officer and every Member is welcome and encouraged to attend and participate. A new year and new hopes start with a positive attitude. Are there difficulties in our Order and Lodges? Absolutely! Should these difficulties be pointed out? Absolutely! Being aware leads to corrections with fresh and new ideas.

Let's look to a bright future for Elkdom and a new and positive beginning. So, we can continue to build on the Elks motto this coming year, "Elks Care - Elks Share."

Louis J. Grillo
Grand Exalted Ruler

Source: Grand Lodge Newsletter

BPO Elks Pledges Aid to Victims of Hurricane Katrina

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS-With numerous counties in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama severely damaged by Hurricane Katrina, which slammed the state on August 29th, taking thousands of lives and making hundreds of thousands homeless, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the U.S.A. has pledged its assistance to hard-hit hurricane victims.

The hurricane, which pounded the city of New Orleans with particular ferocity and 145-mph winds, was the worst storm to hit the continental United States since Hurricane Andrew devastated Florida in 1992. It was the most powerful storm ever to slam New Orleans and the first direct hit on the city in 40 years. A massive evacuation of the city has begun in the wake of what may prove to be the deadliest natural disaster in the United States in at least a century.

Louis James Grillo, the national president of the BPO Elks, has asked the more than 1 million members of the Elks nationwide to lead the way in offering disaster relief.

To aid in this effort, a fund has been established by the BPO Elks Grand Lodge to assist those individuals and families who have experienced the devastating effects of the hurricane. Checks made payable to the Hurricane Katrina Elks Disaster Relief Fund should be sent to:

Hurricane Katrina Elks Disaster Relief Fund
2750 North Lakeview Avenue
Chicago, IL 60614-1889

Though best known for its many patriotic and philanthropic programs, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has helped the victims of major disasters since 1871. In times of greatest need-from the Great Chicago Fire to the recent Florida hurricanes--the BPO Elks of the U.S.A. has been there to lend a helping hand to ease the burden for disaster victims. In this way the Elks live up to their motto, Elks Care-Elks Share.

Date: September 1, 2005

To: State Association Presidents Subordinate Lodge Exalted Rulers

From: Louis J. Grillo, Grand Exalted Ruler

Re: Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief Fund

On August 29, 2005 Hurricane Katrina, with winds reaching up to 145 mph, slammed into the state of Louisiana, then swept across Mississippi, Alabama and western Florida. Thousands of homes and businesses have been obliterated, and 80% of New Orleans is under water, up to 20 feet deep in places.

Risk analysts estimate the storm will end up costing about \$25 billion, the most in U.S. history.

I am asking for the help and support of local Lodges and State Associations, so that we may lighten the burden and lend a helping hand to the victims of this catastrophe.

A Disaster Relief Fund has been set up so that we might aid these victims. I encourage each of you to raise and donate whatever you can for this fund so that we may continue to live up to our motto Elks Care - Elks Share.

All checks should be made payable to: Hurricane Katrina Elks Disaster Relief Fund

Contributions should be mailed to: B.P.O.E. Emergency Charity Fund
2750 N. Lakeview Avenue
Chicago, IL 60614-1889

Sincerely and fraternally,

Louis J. Grillo
Grand Exalted Ruler

VACANCIES

There are currently vacancies for single occupancy at the Elks National Home. These are all private rooms with bath. They are fully furnished and the monthly fee includes three meals a day, housekeeping, laundry, and utilities (except telephone and cable TV). One free haircut a month is even included! Call or write today for more information. Elks National Home, 931 Ashland Avenue, Bedford, VA 24523 • enhome@elkshome.org • 1-800-552-4140. More information and photos are also on our website at www.elkshome.org



Wilmington Lodge #532--Chad Ives and Rick Pittman, members of the Wilmington Elks Lodge, replaced porch and steps for elder person who could not afford to have it done, and had no way to get in or out of her home.



Wilmington Lodge #532 celebrated Mother's Day with a dinner honoring Mothers. Chairman, Don Brown and Co-Chairman, Martha Brown presented awards to the oldest Mother, youngest Mother, Mother with most Children, and a lucky winner.



Wilmington Elks Lodge #532--During Flag Day exercise Exalted Ruler, Joe Pettet presented and American flag to Middle School Principle.



CALABASH LODGE #2679 combined with the American Legion and the VFW to commemorate Memorial Day services in Calabash. Guest participants included a flag-bearing honor guard comprised of retired members of the New York City Fire Department and two Lodge officers. Pictured (1st, 2nd and 3rd from left) are American Legion Post Commander Russ Polizzotti, Exalted Ruler Rich Gherri and Carolina Shores Mayor Dan Mann and second and third from right, Master of Ceremonies Ben Lee and VFW Post Commander Rich Murray.



CALABASH LODGE #2679's "Operation Clean Sweep", the Lodge's bi-annual participation in the national "Adopt-A-Highway" program, resulted in twelve volunteers accumulating nearly 20 bags of roadside debris. The clean-up campaign extends through downtown Calabash. Pictured holding the sign, are committee Co-chairs Walt and Dottie Hill. Others pictured are Exalted Ruler Rich Gherri, Organist Verdun and Karen Kerswell, Jack Christensen, Don Greer, Jack Keppler, Harry Lawrence, Clint Rose, Jr. and Frank Wilson.



CALABASH LODGE #2679's twenty bowling team members (80+ players) contributed \$2,000 to the Lodge's Student Scholarship Fund. Pictured (from left) are the winning team (Two plus Two) bowlers Lois Hargreaves, Bob Ruess and Grace Elson. (Not pictured is team member Pearl Lawrence), league Co-chairs Don and Jane Canfield and high average winners Mavis Dushane (164 and Kurt Smith (203). The bowlers also held a year-end student scholarship raffle that resulted in an additional contribution of \$468.

**OUR SINCERE THANKS ARE
EXTENDED TO ALL THOSE
ELKS WHO VISIT US IN**



CALABASH

We're always pleased to hear your commentary about the Calabash area as one of North Carolina's most relaxing family atmospheres. But, even more, we sincerely welcome your expressions of appreciation concerning our Lodge, our great daily luncheons, Friday evening dinners and the friendliness of our members. We look forward to seeing you again... and again.

**CALABASH ELKS LODGE 2679, YOUR HOST FOR THE
2006 NORTH CAROLINA STATE SPRING CONVENTION**

Wilmington Elks Lodge #532

**Is Looking Forward to a
Great Spring Convention
in Myrtle Beach!**



Southern Pines provides Fun Day for Exceptional Children

Dr. Susan Purser, Superintendent Moore County Schools, accepted a check at Fun Day from Frank Morris, Chairman, and Handicapped Citizens Committee to help defray cost of transporting children to Elks Fun Day. Dr. Scott Smith, Director of Exceptional Children of Moore County also attended Fun Day with the children.

Once again children with developmental disabilities from Moore County School, Sandhills Children's Center and Fort Bragg enjoyed Fun Day at Southern Pines Elks Lodge.

After registration, each child was given a T-shirt with the Elks Logo on the front. Children participated in swimming, sing-a-long, moonwalk, face painting, temporary tattooing, climbing a fire truck, and watching K-9 dogs demonstrate obedience.

The day was capped off with a lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, potato chips, soft drinks and ice cream.

Elks Handicapped Citizens Committee would like to give thanks to the police and fire departments. Thanks also go to all Elk volunteers, wives, lady-face painters and temporary tattooing, also, those who sponsored holes for our golf tournament and merchants that donated prizes for our raffle.

Money raised from our annual golf tournament pays for Fun Day, poster contest, dances, Halloween party and computers for schools that have classes for children with disabilities.

Big thanks to the Community of Southern Pines, Aberdeen and Pinehurst for their continued contributions over the years in making children with disabilities smile and laugh. Elks Care and Elks Share!



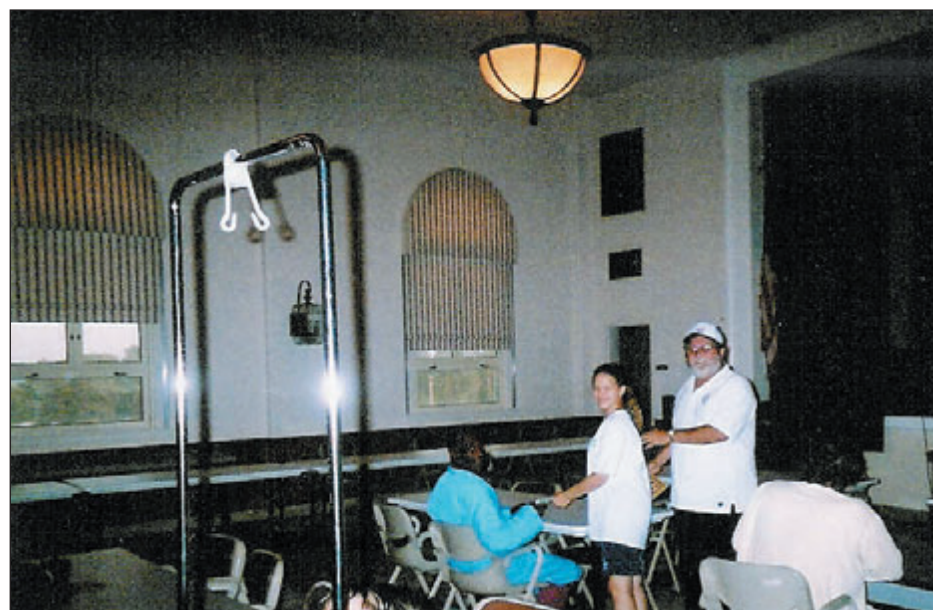
Raleigh Elks Lodge #735 on Veterans Day, after participating in the Veterans Day Parade, celebrated by making a donation of \$3,555 and \$200 in phone cards to the USO at RDU Airport. The USO assists the Marines from Camp LeJueune, the soldiers from Ft. Bragg, and all GI's passing through on a 24/7 basis. Pictured at the donation ceremony: {l to r} Peggy Kelly, Member; Ed Flynn, PDDGER; Chris Kelly, Exalted Ruler; George Tuskey, USO Director; Jack Harrell, Member; Wade Witham, Veterans Chairman; and CC Hudson, ENF Chairman.



Durham Lodge #568 observed and honored Flag Day with a brief ceremony about the history of our flag at Northgate Shopping Mall. The Honor Guard was made up of Elks, Boy Scouts, and members of Hillside High School Army ROTC and the NC National Guard. During and after the ceremony, Elks members handed out 1,000 small flags.



Fayetteville Lodge #1081 Elks serving dinner to veterans and families of National Guard soldiers returning from Afghanistan.



Fayetteville Lodge #1081 youth volunteer helps with Bingo at VA Hospital.



Fayetteville: NC State Veterans Nursing Home Lee Littiken, East Central-Chairman NCSVNH, and Glen Autry, State Chairman-NVSC, presented Betty Warren a pair of Elks leather wheelchair gloves. Betty is a veteran of WWII, left the military as a staff sergeant, is 86 years young, and is a resident at the Fayetteville Nursing Home. Betty was having a hard time making her wheelchair move because her hands kept slipping on the wheels. She can now take off faster than a Mustang. Fred Love, NCSVNH State Chairman presented the Fayetteville Nursing Home with 20 pairs of the Elks gloves at a value of \$600.00. Thanks to the Elks of NC our state veteran's lives keeps getting better.

Raleigh Lodge #735 support military and their families through USO donations

The Brunson family of Fayetteville didn't spend the Fourth of July watching a parade, grilling steaks or oohing and ahing at the rocket-red glare of fireworks. Instead, family members spent the last two hours of a two-week reunion in the USO lounge at Raleigh-Durham International Airport. They waited for a delayed flight to take Army Capt. James Brunson, 28, back to Iraq to finish a yearlong tour of duty.

His wife, Soojin, 32, thinks the Army has a lousy sense of timing.

"When he left the last time, he left on the worst day possible -- his birthday," she said, underscoring his initial Dec. 30 departure for Iraq. "This time, he leaves on a special day -- the Fourth. We can't go to fireworks because Daddy's not here."

The airport's 11-month-old USO lounge was a quiet refuge for the Brunson family, which includes son J.C., 2, and daughter Ashley Renee, 7 months.

But for most of the holiday weekend, the lounge was a crowded hot spot filled with military men and women and their family members -- an extension of the unexpectedly heavy demand for service that has USO officials calling for more cash donations.

"We're finding out we're filling the need," said Carol Palmer, assistant director of the USO of North Carolina's RDU Center. "We just need to be able to pay to fill the need. Our donations are way down, and we need the community to step forward and start giving so we can keep this center open."

When the club opened in August, the staff expected to serve about 1,000 military people a month. Instead, the club is averaging twice as many visitors, a boom that led staff to start round-the-clock hours in January.

Palmer worries about the increased demands on the club's 155 regular volunteers. But she's more worried about a busted budget.

"We flat-out need the money," said Palmer, who notes that the club will have a fund-raiser at the Woman's Club of Raleigh on August 13.

By 4 p.m. Monday, the head count of holiday visitors topped 450, said Palmer, who expects to host another rolling wave of travel-weary soldiers, sailors and Marines today.

One night early in the weekend, every plush lounge chair was filled with snoozing military folks. Palmer and her sister did eight loads of laundry -- sheets, blankets and pillowcases.

"Any holiday weekend, we get slammed," she said. "I feel like I have 200 sons."

Laundry loads and a steady stream of military people ducking in to grab a quick bite, relax with a video game or check their e-mail are signs of success for the USO's airport club, which is housed on the second floor of the airport's Terminal A extension. The club occupies office space the airport authority spent \$100,000 to renovate.

Palmer knows about the death and carnage in Iraq. But she sees firsthand the quieter sacrifice of military folk and the families they leave behind.

"They miss so much being gone," she said.

Brunson and his wife will observe their fourth wedding anniversary Thursday. He'll be in Iraq, serving as a quartermaster for a command-and-control unit based at Camp Anaconda, about 30 miles north of Baghdad.

His daughter has just started to crawl. By the time he comes back in late December, she'll be walking.

Although he isn't in a combat unit, he has had a brush with death. A mortar round blew a hole in the concrete wall



Rapper Fox 1 (Antonio Jackson, right) entertains service members Timothy Snipes and Anand Trivedi, whose hand is visible in the foreground, Monday at the USO Center at Raleigh-Durham International Airport

of the room where he worked. No one was hurt.

All this makes family time a precious commodity that aces out a national holiday.

"I've always enjoyed July Fourth, going to fireworks in the evening," Brunson said. "I'll miss that. But compared to the two weeks I got to spend with family, it isn't that big a deal."

Three members of Raleigh Lodge #735 are matching funds up to \$1,500 for donations to the USO at Raleigh Durham Airport. Donations can be sent to the Raleigh Elks Lodge #735, PO Box 20067, Raleigh, NC 27619-0067. Please make checks to the Raleigh Elks Lodge #735 and signify USO-RDU as memo. All donations will be acknowledged.

Sanford Elks Lodge #1679, officers and members, wish to congratulate Fayetteville Elks Lodge #1081 for being chosen as an All American Lodge for the second year in a row!

Exalted Ruler: Steve Johnson
 Esteemed Leading Knight: Griff Sperry
 Esteemed Loyal Knight: Vince Wenger
 Esteemed Lecturing Knight: Larry Gattis
 Secretary: Barry Gunter
 Treasurer: Dennis Oliver
 Esquire: David McCracken
 Chaplain: Tim Baldwin
 Inner Guard: Wallie Tyler
 Tiler: Mike Stone
 1-Year Trustee: Richard Littinken
 2-Year Trustee: Steve Gunter, II
 3-Year Trustee: Steve Brewer



Sanford Lodge #1679 Youth Activities

Sanford Elk's Lodge #1679 continues its commitment to having a strong relationship with the community and its youth, by developing and implementing various programs and activities for youth throughout the year. While the lodge has a Youth Activities Committee, many lodge members and their spouses actively participate in planning and working during the events. This past May, Lodge #1679 gave a Youth Banquet, during Youth Appreciation Week, in honor of all the youth who had participated in the

lodge programs and contests in 2004. The youth and their parents were treated to a wonderful catered dinner, and several awards and scholarships were given out.

During the summer months (June through August), the lodge had several pool parties for the different youth age groups. Pizza, drinks, snacks, and lifeguards were provided. The turnout was good, and everyone had a great time! In July, the lodge sponsored a dance for the middle school youth, with snacks, drinks, chaperones, and a DJ

provided. Another event sponsored by the lodge during the summer months was Family Swim Night. This was held on Friday nights from 8:00PM – 10:00PM, after pool hours, to promote the importance of families (parents and children) spending time together. The final activity for the summer was the annual Elk's Soccer Shoot. It was held at the SASL fields at the Lee County Fairgrounds in August. Several Sanford youth came and participated in the event, with trophies being presented to the

winners in each age group. The winners will go on to compete in the Divisional Soccer Shoot (and hopefully the State competition).

Sanford Lodge #1679 also continues to education and coach community youth about the dangers of drugs. The lodge sponsors and mans a booth at the annual county fair, giving out literature and counselling about the dangers of drug use. The Elks in Sanford are ever active in providing quality programs for the youth.



Sanford Elks Lodge #1679 presented Lee County Enrichment Center with an American Flag Presentation Set. Americanism Chair, Steve Gunter II [left] and Elk, Ben Holder [right] a WWII Veteran made the presentation at a Memorial Day Dinner honoring all US Veterans. Accepting the Flag on behalf of the Lee County Enrichment Center is Debbie Williams. Ben and Steve also distributed an Elks Lodge #1679 Memorial Day Card and National World War II Memorial Registry of Remembrances form to those in attendance.



Sanford Elks Lodge #1679 Exalted Ruler, Steve Johnson [right] accepts the lodge's first place Americanism Brochure Award during 141st Grand Lodge Session held in Reno, Nevada, July 2005 presented by GL Americanism Committeeman Gordon [left]. The award is given to the Lodge with the most outstanding Americanism Program in their Division.

GREETINGS FROM FAYETTEVILLE LODGE #1081 An All-American Lodge in an All-American City



Fayetteville Lodge #1081 Past ER's of the Year from Fayetteville with State Sponsor Hon. Gerald Coates, from (l to r) C. Reed Parks, Doug Cooke, PGER Coates, Phil Saunders, and Darrell Myers.

Grand Exalted Ruler, Louis J. Grillo and his wife, Lucia, enjoy southern hospitality at the Fall State Convention in Hickory.



*Winston-Salem
Lodge #449*

*Congratulations and Best
Wishes
State President
George Wheeler, Jr.
And his Lovely Bride, Marty!*

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News From Winston-Salem #449

The Auxiliary of our Lodge hosted a very special guest at our August meeting. Congresswoman Virginia Foxx of North Carolina gave our members an update directly from Congress! We heard about the issues that were being voted on, what had been passed and what was being considered. She answered some very tough questions from the audience with grace and aplomb. Congresswomen Foxx is not only a very gracious lady, but an enjoyable speaker as well.



Friday evening, August 19th was deemed "Girls Night Out" at the Lodge Pool. The ladies of the Lodge got together and collected new pajamas for the Battered Women's Shelter. There was music, dancing and fun in the pool but the ladies learned about the Shelter and its importance in the community. Giving back to the community is one more way we live up to our motto



Freddie Leonard, Auxiliary President is pictured with Congresswoman Virginia Foxx, of North Carolina.



Pat Peloquin and Dee Wood show off just a few of the new pajamas collected for the Battered Women's Shelter.

Charlotte Elks Serve Up Bingo & Snacks to our Disabled Veterans.



The Charlotte VA Hospital Bingo Crew: Ralph Sutton, Trent Hand, Bob & Margie Solliday, Don & Else Weller, Evelyn Truxell, and Mary Sutton

Each year the Charlotte Elks hold numerous fund raising events to raise money for our disabled vets. Through pancake breakfasts, spaghetti dinners, horse race & casino nights, the members of 392 and their families put together over \$1,000 for the Salisbury VA Hospital Christmas Fund. Then, during Veteran Month, member and wives make the trip up to Salisbury to treat the Vets to an afternoon of Bingo and homemade snacks.



Charlotte Lodge #392 Flag Corps - On a mild evening Saturday evening, the record breaking 7000 plus fans at Knight's Castle were in for a little lesson prior to the game. This was the Seventh Annual Elks Day at the Castle. As the announcer read through the Flag Day Service, our Flag Corps proudly displayed the various flags of our nation's history. The Corps stood at the ready and, as the Star Spangled Banner began playing, all but our current flag - in the center position - dipped in respect for our nations colors.

GREETINGS FROM SALISBURY ELKS LODGE #699

Chartered May 11, 1901

Supporting the youth of our community

OFFICER'S OF SALISBURY ELKS 2005-06

Mike Davis-Exalted Ruler
Robert Sce, Leading Knight
Eddy Harwood, Loyal Knight
Willie Green, Lecturing Knight

Ann Bean, Treasurer
Audrey Wilson, Tiler
Julie Copley, Esquire
Don Stout, Chaplain
Harry Dew, Inner Guard

Trustees

Jim Hill

Steve Jarrett,

Linda Brown,

Bill Brown

Ray Paradowski,

Visit us on the Web @
www.SalisburyElks.org

All Elks are invited to stop and visit. The Lodge is located on 508 S Main. Just take exit 76 on I-85, 5 blocks south of the main square in downtown. Club room entrance behind lodge on second floor and opens at 3 p.m. 7 days a week.

Ph/Fax 704-636-1161

Are you a traveling Elk with a motor home and looking for a place to visit?

We have beautiful campsites on our 24 acre park on High Rock Lake with 3000 ft of river frontage.

Our visitors have called it **the best RV resort in all of Elksdom.**

Full hookups, dump station, beach, bathhouse, and boat launch. Reservations suggested. Reasonable daily, weekly and monthly rates. Primitive camping sites too!



In June, Lexington Lodge #2527 and Salisbury Lodge #699 joined forces to host their semi-annual High Rock Lake Poker Run. All participants had a great time as well as raising \$5,700 for the Ray Swing Memorial for Brain Tumor Research. Pictured are Salisbury Lodge Eddie Harwood and Lexington Lodge Jeff Swing and Tony Medlin, presenting Dr. Walt Debinski with a check for the \$5,700.

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

CONGRATULATIONS TO GASTONIA LODGE

"Congratulations! The Gastonia Lodge per capita has reached \$6.64, which exceeds the Grand Exalted Ruler's 2005-06 per-capita goal of \$4.00. Your Lodge is now eligible for an Elks National Foundation Gratitude Grant." This is a quote of the first paragraph from the August 8 letter to Gastonia Lodge from ENF Program Associate, Nina Brantley.

Because Gastonia exceeded the Grand Exalted Ruler's ENF goal, the Lodge is eligible for a \$200 Gratitude Grant to use for local charity work. The \$200 can be used to help local elementary schools, senior center, clean up a neighborhood park, feed a needy family, or contribute to a local charity. The possibilities are endless! All Gastonia needs to do now is come up with a worthy cause and make application before April 30, 2006.

As of July 31, 2005, twenty-nine

members of Gastonia Lodge gave a total of \$405 to the ENF. Fourteen of those members started new pledges.

This year I am also Secretary of Gastonia Lodge 1634 as well as being ENF Chairman. When preparing the dues billings, a line was added that asked the member if they wished to contribute \$10 to the ENF. Then a \$10 amount identified as a donation to ENF was included in the Total dues billed (Lodge, GL, State, and PER). The response has been very positive. About 50% of the members made donations to ENF.

This makes me proud of Gastonia Lodge No. 1634 and gives me an opportunity to brag about them at the District and State meetings.

Robert Messer, ENF Chairman
Gastonia Lodge #1634



Hendersonville Lodge #1616 Keith Miller, Exalted Ruler (L) receives a Henderson County Sheriff's Explorer Program sponsorship plaque from Cpl. Ken McGraw, Henderson County Deputy Sheriff and Hendersonville Elk five-year Trustee. The program trains Henderson County youth between the ages of 14 and 21 in the various aspects of Law Enforcement through positive reinforcement, specifically building moral character. The Hendersonville Lodge used a grant from the Celebrate Youth Scholarship Fund to help the Explorer Post 601 attend a national accrediting convention in Reno, NV this summer.

Gastonia Elks Lodge Reopens With a Little Help from Friends

After nearly a year and more than \$75,000 in repairs, the Gastonia Elks Lodge is back in business.

The Lodge was severely damaged by fire and vandalism in July 2004 and was forced to close its doors while repairs were made. The Lodge continued to meet at the Gastonia City Club, carrying out local and Grand Lodge programs while coordinating the repairs to the building.

Both its bingo operation and club room activities ceased, but the members

did manage to utilize the Lodge pool for some social activities in good weather as well as at other Gastonia establishments.

Lodges from across the state as well as members and other friends of the Lodge contributed money to help pay ongoing expenses.

"Without the help of so many people, the Gastonia Elks Lodge might have ceased to exist," said Exalted Ruler Lewis Stevenson. "And that's what Elks is all about—reaching out a hand to

help when our brothers or anyone else is down and out. We are extremely grateful for all the financial and moral support we have received from other Lodges and individuals."

In March, the Lodge held a grand reopening celebration—a dinner and dance—hat was attended by Elks from across the state. Those friends got a chance to see the changes at the Lodge that including new ceilings, walls, paint, carpeting and more. Many of the Lodge furnishings were also damaged and are

in the process of being replaced.

An arrest has been made in the case and the perpetrator remains in the Gaston County jail awaiting trial for this crime and others.

The Lodge is completely reopened now. Bingo players turned out to be loyal customers and have returned in droves and the Lodge now has an invigorated social program and club room activities.

If you are in the area, we invite Elks from across the state you come see us.

Hendersonville Elks Lodge #1616

Hendersonville Elks Lodge #1616 goes over 1,000 in Membership for the first time in its history with a net gain of 43 for the year.

2005 – 2006 Officers



(Front Row, from left) Greg Hunnicutt, PDDGER, Leading Knight; Al Hill, Lecturing Knight; Keith Miller, Exalted Ruler; Faye Stanley, Loyal Knight; (Second Row from left) Jamie McMullen, PER, Trustee; Paul Connell, Inner Guard; Gene MaGruder, Tiler; Ray Snyder, PER, Organist; (Third Row from left) Blayne Turner, PSP, Secretary; John Boyd, PSP, Treasurer; Ken McCraw, Trustee; James Healy, Chaplain; Fletcher Griffith, Esquire; (Fourth Row from left) Robby Higgins, PER, Trustee; John Hill, PER, Trustee; Kevin Parkhill, Trustee.

Read all about it!

Waynesville Elks Lodge #1769

Cares and Shares

Waynesville Lodge # 1769 is very active in supporting local charities and organizations in our county and community. We sponsor the local Hoop Shoot as well as an "Elk" Little League Baseball Team and also provide a field for little league baseball games.

We supported our local school system by giving a \$250 scholarship this year to a nursing student. We had students from our county win a total of \$7,000 in ENF Scholarships.

Lodge members start early Thanksgiving morning preparing Thanksgiving dinner for Haywood County's "meals on wheels" residents and deliver the meals throughout the county. The Lodge and donations from the members fund the cost of the meals.

The lady members of our Lodge have a "Ladies Night" once a month. These nights are fund-raisers for our annual Children's Christmas Party. Some of the events have included jewelry and makeup parties and line dancing lessons.

We have had a "Hot Dog Night" and donations from the sale of hot dogs are used as a fund raiser for the Children's

Christmas Party.

We held our annual Barbeque on June 10th and served over 300 plates with the money going to our Children's Christmas Party. This year our Christmas Party should clothe and feed around 150 needy children in our County.

This summer we celebrated with a Beach & Shag Party organized by our "young and enthusiastic" members. They are planning a "Senior Prom Night" in the future.

Lodge Members gave a donation to the Oteen Veterans Administration Hospital for the purpose of buying movies and books for the recreation area. We also made up "goody" bags of hygiene items for the patients. A future Hot Dog Night will provide donations of more movies, CD's and books for the recreational area.

Waynesville Lodge supports the Drug Awareness Program with visits to our Schools and the State ELKS Drug Awareness Trailer was featured in our local Christmas Parade.

Waynesville Lodge is working hard to LET THE SECRET OUT!



George Wheeler, North Carolina State President, and Frank Kinnard, South Carolina State President, prepare for the Parade of State Flags in Reno, Nevada at the Grand Lodge convention on July 8, 2005.



State President, George Wheeler, is joined by his wife, Marty, who is wishing him well in the State Parade of Flags held at the opening ceremonies at the Grand Lodge Convention.

Waynesville Elks

LODGE #1769

LETTING THE SECRET OUT!

Local students win Elks scholarships

Three Haywood students and two Tuscola students are the recipients of a scholarship provided by the Elks National Foundation. Presenting the scholarships were Sharon Jaymes and Janet Green, members of the Elks Lodge in Waynesville. Recipients are Melanie Jones of Tuscola, who received a \$1,000 one-year nursing scholarship; Frances Tate of Tuscola, Jon Johnson and Jordan Hicks of Flagler, who each received a \$1,000 scholarship; and Amanda Wright of Flagler, who received a four-year scholarship as a national finalist.



Front: Sharon Jaymes, Melanie Jones, Frances Tate, Amanda Wright, Janet Green. Back: Wesley Johnson and Jordan Hicks.

WE SUPPORT HAYWOOD COUNTY YOUTH!

Waynesville Elks aid Hurricane Katrina victims

Waynesville Elks aid Hurricane Katrina victims

Waynesville Lodge responded immediately to the needs of the Hurricane Katrina by making donations of \$500 to the American Red Cross and \$500 to the Salvation Army.

These donations were made as soon as the hurricane hit the Gulf Coast. We knew that the need was massive and wanted to respond quickly.

We also have two members who went to the Pascagoula area and helped a family get a roof over their heads. The only thing the family had left was an outbuilding that did have plumbing in it. Elks Sandy McGee Gray and Leigh Cagle helped get it cleaned out enough to help the family until something more permanent was available.

We will be forwarding a donation to the Elks to further help with this effort.

Gastonia Lodge 1634

Thanks the Lodges and other friends throughout the state who were with us in thought, word and deed during the past year.



You grasped the hand of friendship and lightened our burden.

Thank You!

1st Annual Camp Carefree Ride & Raffle



1st Annual Camp Carefree Ride & Raffle sponsored by the North Carolina State Elks Association and Plum Crazy's Sports Bar & Grille. This group of Elks worked hard to make this event a huge success. Pictured in photo front row l to r: Bob Gower, VP East Central District; Curtis Pierce, PSP Chairman Camp Carefree NC Elks State Major Project; George Wheeler, State President; Brian Slesinski, ER of Fayetteville Lodge; Jack Strickland, PDDGER; back row l to r: Coley Yount, ER of Reidsville Lodge; Steve Clarke, PSP; Lee Littken, PSP; Michael Curran, PDDGER.

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The NC Elks News is published two times a year by the NC STATE ELKS CHARITABLE TRUST under the supervision of the NCSEA.

Public Relations Committee

Jack Strickland - East • Norman Brewer - East Central
Robert A. Green - West • Mike Curran - West Central

Editor

John L. Boyd
98 Boyd Hill Drive
Hendersonville, NC 28792-3293
H: 828-693-5314 • FAX 828-693-4403
Email: jlboyd@mchsi.com

State Photographer

Dwight Hall • H: 336-349-6673

Graphic Design

Jeff Mueller • Graphic Designer
Ph: 828-388-0880 • townpublishing@aol.com

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jlboyd6@mchsi.com • FAX 828-693-4403

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ELKS ASSOCIATION
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HENDERSONVILLE, NC 28793-2550

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