



WINTER 2017

Leadership Seminar Prepares Lodge Officers For the 2017-2018 Year

Over one hundred Members of North Carolina Lodges, including many newly elected Officers, met at the Greensboro Lodge on Saturday February 25th. for the annual Leadership Seminar. State Sponsor PGER Jack Frost, SDGER John Boyd and speakers from across the state made presentations discussing the duties of the Lodge Officers and other aspects concerning the operation and management of our Lodges and clubs. Those in attendance came away with a greater understanding of their role in the Lodge and the resources that are available to them during the coming year.



Members listen to PGER Jack Frost during his presentation.



State Sponsor PGER Jack Frost addressing the Leadership Seminar attendees.

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STATE PRESIDENTS

MESSAGE



This will be my last message in this newsletter as your State President, as my time in office is quickly drawing to a close. Your new President, Michael Bryant, will be installed during the convention in Wilmington. Joan and I have been honored to represent the North Carolina Elks Association through the 2016-2017 year. We will continue to perform our duties through the remainder of our term to the best of our abilities.

All North Carolina Lodges should have nominated and elected your new officers and may have installed them by the time you read this. I would like to congratulate those who have been chosen to serve and at the same time thank them for being willing to donate their time and efforts to serve your Lodge and our great Order. I hope that you were able to attend the Leadership and Training Seminar in Greensboro and were able to obtain information that will aid you in the coming year.

I have attended nine of the twelve DD clinics, only one in the East District due to conflicts in my schedule, three in the East Central District, two in the West Central District and three in the West District. I congratulate the District Deputies for a job well done! I missed the State Hoop Shoot which was held in Greensboro as I was participating in the scholarship judging in Southern Pines the same day. Joan and I will be attending the Regional Hoop Shoot in Fredrick, MD and the National Hoop Shoot in Chicago. We attended the Veterans Christmas parties at the Salisbury VA Nursing Home and the Fayetteville VA Nursing Home. I attended the Memorial Day and Fourth of July ceremonies at the Fayetteville Nursing Home and the Veterans Day luncheon at the Winston Salem Lodge. We also organized various visits to Durham VA hospital to play bingo with some of the veterans and furnished them with some requested items.

In closing I would like to thank all of the State and District Committees for organizing and carrying out the work of our Order. I would also like to thank Lee Littiken and John Boyd for all of the assistance and guidance that they have given me during this year.

Fraternally,
G. Peter Breidenbach
NCSEA President 2016-2017

2017 Leadership Seminar

Special Deputy John Boyd during a lighthearted moment as he addressed the members.



East District VP David King during his presentation on Protocol.



Members enjoying a Dutch lunch provided by the Greensboro Lodge



PGER Jack Frost addresses Lodge Secretaries during a breakout session.



State Secretary Mike Curran discusses the duties of the Board of Directors.



Shari Driscoll during her presentation on the Duties of the Secretary.

Annual Spring Meeting of the NCSEA to be Held in Wilmington May 12th -14th



Mark your calendar!!!

Make plans now to attend the Spring meeting of the NC State Elks Association in beautiful downtown Wilmington. Sitting on the banks of the Cape Fear River, the Hilton Riverside is the place to be on the weekend of May 12-14. The Hilton is walking distance to downtown shopping and nightlife, and close to Wrightsville Beach.

Registration forms are available on line at ncelks.org.

Future Conventions

NCSEA	Fall 2017	New Bern NC	October 27-29
	Spring 2018	Asheville NC	May 4-6
Grand Lodge	2017	Reno NV	July 16-19
	2018	San Antonio TX	July 1-4



Make Plans Now to Attend Grand Lodge Convention



Looking to get away this Summer and enjoy some Old West fun? Make plans now to attend the Grand Lodge Convention in Reno NV, July 16 - 19.

North Carolina Elks will be housed at the Grand Sierra Resort, the Grand Lodge headquarters hotel.

With much to see and do in the Reno area, it is a wonderful vacation idea. Beautiful Lake Tahoe is only a few miles away with its crystal clear blue water. Also close by is Virginia City, a restored old western town from the gold mining days. And for those who like to take a chance on the slots and tables there are of course the many casinos.

Reservation forms are available at ncelks.org.





North Carolina State Elks Association Donates to Camp Carefree

Representatives from Camp Carefree were in Greensboro on Saturday February 25th during the Leadership Seminar to receive a donation from the North Carolina State Elks Association. State President Peter Breidenbach made the presentation of a check for \$39,000. Camp Carefree is one of the Major Projects of the North Carolina Elks.

Camp Carefree, located in Stokesdale NC, provides free one week camping experiences for youngsters with specific health problems and disabilities. They also include camps for siblings of chronically ill or disabled children, and for those with a disabled or seriously ill parent.



NCSEA President Peter Breidenbach presents a \$39,000 check to representatives of Camp Carefree.

Pictured L-R Rhonda Rodenbough, Camp Carefree Treasurer; PSP Steve Clarke; Joanie Pack, Greensboro Lodge Member; Diane Samelak, Camp Carefree Vice Chairman; and NCSEA President Peter Breidenbach.

NEWS of the LODGES

CALABASH ELKS LODGE SENDS CARE PACKAGES TO TROOPS FOR HOLIDAYS



Just before the Holidays, members of the Calabash Elks Lodge Veteran's Affairs Committee proudly stand by their recent work of preparing 32 Care Packages ready to be sent to our Armed Forces serving abroad during the Holidays. As a "Little Piece of Home," the Care Packages contain personal sundry items such as Games, Puzzles, Magazines, Local Newspapers, Snacks, Socks, Lotions, and other personal items appreciated by our troops serving overseas during the Holidays. This gesture is just one of the ways the VAC says . . .

"Thank You for Your Service!"

Pictured are members of the Calabash Veterans Affairs Committee along with the care packages they sent overseas.

Statesville Elks in Christmas Parade.

The Statesville Elks Lodge had a float with Elroy the Elk in the Statesville Christmas Parade. Elroy and his many helpers gave out coloring books and crayons to kids along the route.

Pictured is Elroy and his best girl Anna Sigmon.



ROXBORO ELKS DISTRIBUTE OVER 1,700 DRUG AWARENESS MARVEL COMIC BOOKS TO STUDENTS



The Roxboro Elks Lodge #2005 partnered with the Person County School System to reach out to students as part of its Fall Drug Awareness Campaign. All fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grade students in the Person County School System received a copy of the Elks "Hard Choices" comic book featuring Marvel super heroes and Elroy the Elk in a battle against drug .

The campaign encompassed reaching out to nine elementary and middle schools to a total of 1,752 students. The Roxboro Elks understand how critical it is for young people to lead a drug free life style and this program encourages a dialogue between parents, teachers and children by addressing a serious topic in a fun, familiar format.

The Roxboro Elks Lodge #2005 would like to thank School Superintendent Dan Holloman for agreeing to allow the school system to partner with the Drug Awareness Campaign along with Bob Miller, the NC Drug Awareness Chairman, for his assistance with this project. The Elks would also like to thank the many principals and teachers that embraced this program and look forward to continuing future partnerships in an effort to make our community a better place.

West Central District Delivers Christmas Cheer to Veterans

Members from the WC Elk lodges packed & delivered 100 gift bags to the residents at the North Carolina Veterans Home in Salisbury. Gift bags contained calendars, personal storage carton, hygiene products and socks.



Members of the West Central District and State President Peter Briedenbach and wife Joan who worked on this project.



Elizabeth City Elks Honor Departed Members

To make this years Memorial Service more meaningful, Elizabeth City Elks placed flowers on the graves of departed members. These pictures were taken on December 4th just before the Lodge Service.

The grave of J. C. B. Ehringhaus, PDDGER, PER,
Governor of North Carolina.



Alexander Huckabee,
our first absent member



V. Lloyd Holden

To Our Absent Members

Sanford Elks Deliver 41 Fruit Baskets to Widows

Remembering absent brothers is a long standing tradition for members of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Delivering holiday fruit baskets to the widows of deceased members is one way the Sanford Elks Lodge #1679 honors this tradition. Early Saturday, 12/10/2016, Joe Clancy, Mike McGraw, Mike Gonella, Kevin Cleary, Steve Johnson, Tim Childress, Ryan Childress, Mike Flickinger, Barry Gunter, Jerry Stephens and Chris Hoffman gathered at the lodge on Carthage Street, planned routes and 41 fruit baskets were loaded and delivered to widows.



Hickory Elks Lodge Donates \$25,000 to Backpack Program

Hickory Elks Lodge #1654 is pleased to announce that this year's 5th Annual Food and Funds Drive surpassed their goal once again donating \$25,000 and a truck load of food to the Catawba County Backpack Program! Donations start pouring in each year in September from lodge members, the community, charitable grants and businesses. The fundraiser ended with a BBQ chicken dinner and music with the Rhythm Masters and dance on November 5th.

"It's not about how much we give but about helping those that need help in our community," said Carole Anderson, Committee Chair. "The Backpack program became a major project for our lodge five years ago when we realized there was a waiting list for the Backpack program; that children were left off the program because there was just not enough food. The program is funded 100% by donations and we quickly knew this was something we had to do. Our members care about others and have a sincere desire to help. We feel that childhood hunger is a problem in our community that can be solved and that we can make a difference. With support from the Elks National Foundation, The Lady Elks of Hickory and The Past Exalted Rulers, members of our lodge and community donations over 200 children will go home with food every weekend over the school year," said Anderson. As we have embraced this campaign to feed the children of our community, let us continue as we go forth in this Christmas season celebrating the true spirit of Christmas by helping those that are less fortunate.

This very important community program serves our children from elementary school to high school by providing a backpack full of healthy food each weekend throughout the school year. The Backpack Program relies on donations from local individuals, churches, businesses and service organizations. Their sole mission is to remove hunger as a barrier to good education and reduce the impact of poverty on children and families. Catawba County is thrilled to partner with service organizations like the Elks to make the backpack program happen.

Backpack Program Coordinator, Amanda Freeland, accepted the \$25,000 check at the Hickory Elks Lodge on Saturday morning, November 12th at the Lodge's famous ham breakfast. As Amanda so eloquently does each year, she spoke about the program how it has impacted her life as well as the children's lives. "The Elks continue to be our largest donor to the program by surpassing each year the previous year's donations. I look forward each year to being a part of this great organization with their commitment to our community and truly making a difference." said Freeland.



L to R: Amanda Freeland, Backpack Coordinator,
Jay Tate, Lodge Exalted Ruler,
and Carole Anderson, Committee Chair



"Veterans Day Celebration" NC State Veterans Home, Fayetteville, NC



Lee Littiken ENVSC State Chairman was the Master of Ceremonies for this event. Seated to his right is the Guest Speaker Sgt Major Harry Bennett.

E-C District NCSEA Veterans Committee Chairman Phil Saunders and State Chairman Lee Littiken standing next to cart with Laundry Bags, TV'S and Shoes ready to be presented to Resident Veterans at the Fayetteville Veterans Home.



Guest Speaker Sgt Major Harry Bennett, Operations Sergeant Major, DCS G-3/5/7, US Army Reserve Command. S/M Bennett is the Senior Enlisted Advisor at Fort Bragg, NC. He advises and assists the USARC DCS, G-3/5/7 on all Operational, Training and Readiness matters affecting nearly 200,000 service members and civilians in the United States Army Reserve.

Sanford Elks Lodge # 1679 Exalted Ruler Joe Clancy and East Central District NCSEA Veterans Committee Chairman Phil Saunders did the "Presenting of the Wreath" during the program. The "Wreath" for this special ceremony was purchased by the NC State Elks Veterans Committee.



Is your Lodge looking for ideas to increase membership?

**Read how the Sanford Elks promote
their Lodge to their community.**

On November 2nd, 165 members and guests attended the latest oyster roast at the Sanford Elks Lodge. For more than 25 years, the Elks have held an oyster roast to provide prospective members a tour of the facilities and discuss Elks involvement in many great national and local charitable activities. Attendees dined on 17 bushels of steamed oysters and along with gallons of chicken & sausage gumbo with rice while hearing about the variety of programs for veterans, scholarships, and activities like the annual hoop shoot.

HENDERSONVILLE & ASHEVILLE HOST ELKS CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR THE VETS AT THE V.A.

On Thursday, December 8th, members from both Hendersonville Lodge #1616 and Asheville Lodge #608, North Carolina, entertained over 30 veterans at the Charles George V.A. Medical Center in Asheville. Eighteen Elk volunteers and members of the Daughters of Elksdom (DOES) assisted in the distribution of \$200 in gold dollars and clothing placed in a Christmas stocking for each veteran in attendance, as well as those too ill to leave their hospital rooms. The Hendersonville Elks Lodge catered the affair with Chris Drake supplying soup and corn bread.

Thanking the veterans for their service is what Elks do. Remembering that there is a new breed of veterans from the Gulf Wars needing our love and understanding is our mission. Elks service to veterans is a long-standing tradition, but in today's world, our dedication to this effort is needed even more. The Elks National Service Commission funded the bingo program and the Hendersonville/Asheville Lodges supplied the gold dollars and clothing.



Sanford Elks Distribute Red Ribbons

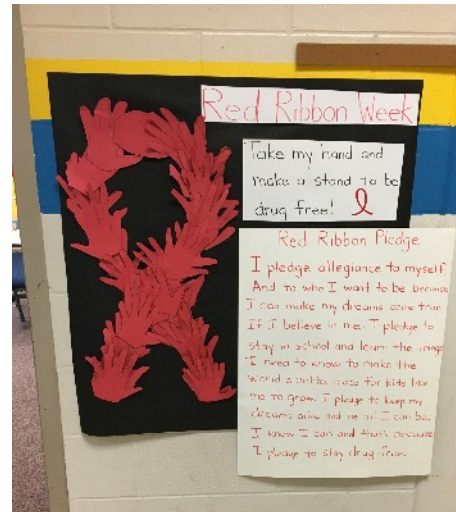
Sanford Elks Lodge #1679 distributed 5000 Red Ribbons to Sanford area students grade K-5 during late October. The red ribbons celebrate Red Ribbon Week and promote Drug Awareness in our school systems. Drug Awareness Chairperson, Karen Riojas organized this event for the Lodge.

Kinston Elks Celebrate Red Ribbon Week

Kinston Elks handed out over 5500 red ribbons during October's red ribbon week. Kinston and Lenoir County was effected tremendously with the flood waters of Hurricane Matthew. School was out for 10 days straight.

Ribbons, drug awareness coloring books, pencils were given to five Lenoir County Schools: Northeast Elementary, Contentnea-Savannah K-8 School, Moss Hill Elementary, LaGrange Elementary and Woodington Middle School.

The Elks partnered with several local organizations to hand out these supplies to the delight of Lenoir County schools.



LaGrange Red Ribbon Pledge:

Students created a red ribbon pledge made from their hand tracings



First grade students at Northeast Elementary School excited about receiving their goodies during red ribbon week



Kinston Elks Set Up Drug Awareness Booth at Local Event

Recently, Lenoir County, NC, hosted a 5-county Manufacturing Day at the local Jet-port. Over 30 manufactures were represented. Over 785 junior and senior high school students attended. It is the hope that local graduates will stay in Eastern North Carolina to seek employment from these companies.

Kinston Elks set up a booth giving away drug awareness materials to these students.



Kinston Uses ENF Grant to Keep Children Safe



Kinston Elks was proud to assist The Partnership for Children in purchasing car seats for those parents who are unable to afford one of their own. Kinston Elks has been the recipient of Beacon grants which has enabled the Elks to purchase \$2000 worth of car seats.

Children were weighed and measured in order to be fitted to the correct car seat. Parents had to sign an agreement that they would keep their child safe when riding in a vehicle. Parents were shown how to install the car seat by a certified technician.

Kinston Elks Lodge Participates in Take Back the Drugs Day

Kinston Elks Lodge participated in Take Back the Drugs day, collecting over 200 pounds of out of date prescription drugs from the local community. Kinston Elks were in partnership with Safe Kids, Inc. on this day. Kinston Elks also set up the Drug Awareness Trailer and handed out informational pamphlets to community members.

It is important to have a law enforcement member at the collection site. Volunteers have to log in the quantity and name of the expired drug before placing in the discarded container. Law enforcement will then take the box to a certified crematory to be officially destroyed.

Pictured: ,Leading Knight Raymond Murphy, Loyal Knight Connie Moody, and Sheriff Deputy Chris Jenkins



Shallotte Elks make donation to Kinston Veterans Home.

Jack Strickland accepts a donation of a motorized scooter to the NC Veterans Home in Kinston from the Shallotte Lodge. Jack is pictured with DD Sue Janovic.

Brunswick County Lodges Hold Joint Hoop Shoot

Brunswick County Elks Lodges, Calabash, Oak Island, and Shallotte held their annual "Hoop Shoot" recently at Shallotte Middle School. Over 1700 hundred children participated through the Brunswick School system, and the finalists came to Shallotte to vie to advance to the East District contest



Calabash Elks Help Santa with Gifts to Needy Children

In conjunction with Jessie Mae Elementary School the Calabash Lodge collected and donated toys and gifts to needy Children in the school. Jessie May Elementary provided a list of the children and their names were place on an Angel Tree. Lodge members chose a child and went shopping. The Elks helped Santa by checking off their Christmas wish list.

Pictured is Robin Bean who headed up the program for the school picking up the gifts.



Calabash Elks Provide School with Funds for Library

The Calabash Elks Lodge recently presented Waccamaw Elementary School with a check for \$2000 for the purpose of updating its out-dated library. This is the third year the Lodge has used its Gratitude Grant to assist the school with this project.

Pictured is ER Al Harms and District ENF Chairman Dick Wilson presenting the check to school staff and students.

Burlington Elks Treat Vets to Bingo



On November 26, Burlington Elks visited the Durham VA Hospital for their quarterly BINGO with the veterans.

Joan Breidenbach did a fabulous job of organizing the event, and got lots of gifts for our recovering veterans to take with them after playing BINGO.

Calabash Elks Play Santa



Shortly before Christmas Santa (Lecturing Knight Mark Kerr) visited the Waccamaw Elementary School to hand out gifts to needy boys and girls who attend the school. The school provided a list of the students and a Christmas wish list of each child. The Lodge went shopping and had a present for every child on the list.

Pictured left: Santa and Elf (Trustee Nancy Grant) calling up the children one by one. Right: Santa, Elf and some of the kids, along with one of the Schools teachers.



North Carolina Elks Officiate High School Games

Mike Webster (middle), Wilson Lodge #840 PER is the regional supervisor of officials for the Coastal Plains Officials' Association. Charlie Bedgood (left), Wilson Lodge #840 PER, and David King, Elizabeth City Lodge #856 ER and East District Vice-President, were officials for the North Carolina 3AA state championship football game. The game was held at BB&T Field in Winston-Salem on Saturday, December 17. Bedgood was the Line Judge and King was the Referee for the game.



ROXBORO ELKS HOLD NC VETERANS HOME BENEFIT FUNDRAISER

The Roxboro Elks Lodge held a Veterans Benefit Fundraiser on Veterans Day, November 11th. The fundraiser was a pig pickin' which 100% of the proceeds were donated to the NC State Veterans Home in Fayetteville. The lodge was able to raise \$1,000 and the check was presented to the Veterans Home at their Christmas event by ENVSC-NCSEA Committee State Chairman Lee Littiken, East-Central District Committee Chairman Phil Saunders along with State President Peter Breidenbach and First Lady Joan Breidenbach. The Roxboro Elks Lodge recognizes that our veterans which have served our country with honor need to be taken care of and we are proud to contribute to this major project.



New Bern Elks Entertain Residents of New Bern House



Recently, Elks Lodge 764 of New Bern, used a part of a Beacon Grant to put on a dance with a DJ, finger food and dessert for residents of the New Bern House. DJ Dale had the folks swinging and swaying from their chairs and some were "cutting a rug" on the dance floor.

Pictured are Elks June Kent, DJ Dale Partrangelo, Jim Vecchio and residents William Best and Mildred.

Shallotte Elks Make Donation



The Shallotte Elks donated socks and puzzle books to Autumn Care Residents. Money was raised through Belk's Charity Day Event.

Pictured L to R Sal Gentil PER, Father Bruno Swiatocha, Veteran and resident, Bobby Snipes, Veteran and resident, Joseph McDonough, Jr., resident, Kenneth Oliveira, Veteran and resident, Bob Sourenian, Little River Elks, Regina Lowry, AD of Autumn Care, Bob Kordiak, Lecturing Knight, Rich Lombardo, Exalted Ruler, Sue Berardi, Loyal Knight and Carol Gentil, Treasurer

New Bern Elks Raise Money to Benefit Veterans

The Veteran's Committee of the New Bern Elks Lodge recently had their annual BBQ ribs sale at the Simmons Street Piggly Wiggly, New Bern. Four hundred racks of ribs were seasoned, slow cooked and sold raising \$2000 to benefit local area Veterans.

Pictured are: Glenn Killian, Chuck Page, Jody Pascarella, Skip Beijen, Larry Narolis, and Guy Pascarella.

Special thanks to the management and employees of the Simmons Street Piggly Wiggly! Don't forget to look for us next year the day before Super Bowl Sunday!



ROXBORO ELKS USE GRATITUDE GRANT TO PROMOTE YOUTH ANTLERS PROJECT

The Roxboro Elks Lodge is partnering with the Person County Parks and Recreation Department to establish a series of fishing programs for youth in Person County in 2017. The Lodge presented Jon Hill, the Director of Parks and Recreation for county, with a check for \$2,000 from a gratitude grant that the lodge received. This project in general give kids another recreational perspective from athletics or arts programming and can lead to an appreciation and respect for the natural world. It also opens interest for other outdoor recreational activities. It also exposes youth to nature which is a good thing in this time when youth are spending more and more time indoors than in the past. This allows youth to learn about this specific ecosystem by being exposed to it through fishing. They will learn what fish eat, what fish need to live other than just water.

This Roxboro Elk -Antlers project also give youths a chance to go fishing who may not otherwise have the opportunity. Physiologically, fishing itself, and our programs teach balance, hand eye coordination, responsibility, courtesy, and ethics (not to needlessly harm fish or litter). The Roxboro Elks Lodge would like to thank the Person County Parks and Recreation Department and look forward to continuing future partnerships in an effort to make our community a better place. The upcoming program dates will be made available in the early spring.



Roxboro Exalted Ruler Kyle Puryear presenting Jon Hill, Director for Park and Recreation of Person County, with a Gratitude Grant check.

New Bern Elks Entertain Vets with Magic

Recently, members of the New Bern Elks Lodge treated about forty residents of the Kinston Veterans Home to a bit of entertainment. Head lining the show was magician extraordinaire Gary Shelton. Veterans were served donuts and juice, and in the spirit of the show, they promptly made disappear! Critics in attendance reported a good time was had by all!

Pictured are: seated Veterans Frank Kuerner, Andrew Miller, Gary Ransom, "Doc" Fred Antonowich. Standing Veteran Franklin Jones, Elk Chuck Page, Exalted Ruler, Bob Mills, Elks John Serumgard, June Kent, Glenn Killian.



Calabash Elks Host Veterans Luncheon

The Calabash Elks Veteran's Affairs Committee recently hosted a "Veterans Recognition Luncheon" and award ceremony for Veterans or Active Duty Military, as well as their Spouses. Twenty-Six veterans, and many spouses, were served a full-course lunch, planned for and hosted by many of the dedicated volunteer members of the Calabash Elks Lodge's VAC. The purpose of the event was to recognize and show appreciation for, not only the Veteran or Military person in the family, but the Spouse as well. In attendance were 2 Veterans who served in WW II, and the remainder served in Korea, the Cuban Era, Vietnam, and post-Vietnam wars in Iraq. Funding for the event was made possible, in part, by a "Beacon Grant" from the Elks National Foundation. Each Veteran was personally "Pinned" with an American Flag/Elks Pin, and presented a Personalized Certificate of Recognition for their service, as part of the VAC's on-going "Pin-a-Vet" Program. Additionally, each Veteran Military Member who attended the luncheon was awarded one of the VAC's Veteran's Appreciation Blankets.



Pictured is John Rogers, USMC Veteran, Desert Storm, who is currently an Officer with the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department. John is being "Pinned" by Calabash Elks Veteran's Affairs Committee member Robert "Bob" Kaelin,

Sanford Elks care

Joe Clancy, Exalted Ruler of Sanford Elks Lodge #1679, delivers boxes of new toys to Captain Nance of the Sanford Fire Department. The fire department holds its 3 alarm Toy Drive every year. Toys will be delivered to the UNC Burn Center in time for Christmas.



New Bern Lodge Helps Santa at New Bern House

New Bern Elks Lodge 764 and the Tryon Civitans sponsored a Christmas Party at the New Bern House complete with personally requested gifts which were delivered by Santa.

Pictured are Elks Kathleen Meyer and Carol Graham, residents Vincent and Faye and Santa and Mrs. Claus (George and Sherri Burens)



This publication is produced for and by the North Carolina State Elks Association. The NCSEA Communication Committee encourages all member Lodges and Committee Chairmen to submit articles to be included in future issues.

All submissions may be forwarded to Ashley Buckwell, Editor at ashbuc@atmc.net

