



*Winter 2018*



## **Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Celebrates 150 Years of Service**

On February 16th 2018, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks celebrated their 150th anniversary, 150 years of service to our great Nation. From its beginnings as the Jolly Corks, our Order has grown to reach every corner of all fifty States. During that time Elks have donated hundreds of millions of dollars to improve the life of our Veterans, provide opportunities for our youth, and assist individuals and communities in need during times of distress. You can be proud to be a Member of this institution which has given so much to so many over the past 150 years. From the Johnstown floods to last years hurricanes, from World War I to Afghanistan, we have been there to provide comfort to those in need, and to Veterans who have given so much to secure the freedoms we enjoy.

**"Thankyou for your service to Elkdom"**



**Be Proud—Be Loud**



## *State Presidents Message*



WOW! What a year this has been and where did the time go? This will be my last message as President of the North Carolina State Elks Association.

I want to think everyone that has assisted me throughout this year to include all the past State Presidents, current state officers, committee persons, district deputies, district vice presidents as well as all the lodges and members statewide. Your cooperation, assistance and guidance has made this year extremely fun and obviously educational.

I would be remiss however if I failed to thank my wife, Vicky, for standing by me this year. Without her constant support and encouragement, I cringe to imagine where I would have been.

The North Carolina State Elks Association is a fabulous organization of friends, or as could be better expressed, an extended family.

Although I am nearing the completion of my term as your President there are still many duties that need to be completed prior to the end of our Lodge year and as the new year begins.

We just completed a very successful and educational Leadership Conference hosted by Greensboro Lodge #602. This was an educational-filled day, particularly with the highlights of the ALE Agent, Secretary training, House Committee management, cost margin computations and training on officer duties. Many of the presentations are being posted to the NCElks.org website so that they may be used for future reference. I encourage you to visit our state website for all the valuable resources available to you.

The 2018-2019 Lodge year is almost upon us. Now is the time for all new officers to start preparing for the challenges of their new positions. Valuable resources can be found as stated above at [ncelks.org](http://ncelks.org) and at the national website [elks.org](http://elks.org). If you have not already signed up for a password please do so as this allows you full access to the sites and their resources.

This year I challenge all the Exalted Rulers throughout the state to engage their chair officers to prepare them to ultimately manage the Lodge as an Exalted Ruler, as you are currently getting ready to do. Communication and teamwork with your chair officers, as well as all the committees within your Lodge, is the only way you will have a successful Lodge year. As I recommended during our Leadership Conference, assignment of various committees to chair officers not only allows you to delegate responsibilities but it allows them to learn the functions of those committees and develop skills of teamwork and communications. As they move through the chairs they will learn the various committees as their assignment of committees will change each year. When they ascend to the Exalted Ruler's position and become what is essentially the CEO of the Lodge, they will then have a sound foundation to be successful and strengthen the Lodge as they work towards the various programs for our youth, veterans and communities that your individual Lodge supports.

I would encourage all Lodge officers and all committee chairs, as well as committee members, to be provided a copy of the Grand Lodge Manual specific to their particular position or committee. Encourage them to review these committees prior to the start of the upcoming Lodge year and work with them to make sure they understand their duties and obligations within their various positions.

As the Lodge year is concluding there are various recognition programs to honor valuable members within your Lodge. Take advantage of these recognition programs to distinguish those who have been so helpful to you this past year.

As I have discussed during the winter District Deputy Meetings and at the Leadership Conference, our generous State Sponsor, PGER Jack Frost, donated a bottle each of Gentleman Jack and Jack Daniel's etched with; "Elks-USA Celebrating 150 Years of Service 2017-2018-North Carolina Elks Association". Each Lodge was provided a flyer and 100 tickets; I encourage each Lodge to participate in this program with all proceeds going to the NC Veterans Home bus fund. Tickets are five dollars each or five for \$20 and the drawing will be held at the State Convention in Asheville during the Sunday morning PER Association breakfast, May 6, 2018.

Representing North Carolina State Elks Association as your President has truly been an honor and to serve you has honestly been one of the best life-changing experiences I have ever had. Thank you for allowing me to serve you and I look forward to working with all of you in new capacities of some type in the future.

## Leadership Seminar Draws Elks From Across North Carolina



On Saturday February 24th Elk members from Lodges across North Carolina gathered at the Greensboro Lodge for the annual Leadership Seminar. The goal of the seminar is to provide Lodge leaders with the tools to have a successful year. Included in the agenda were breakout sessions for CLEMS, and the House Committee. New this year was a presentation by North Carolina ALE agent Brian Doward discussing the do's and don'ts associated with holding a liquor license. Agent Doward took many questions from those in attendance clarifying the regulations they enforce. State Sponsor PGER Jack Frost presented a computer program used in Tennessee to determine costs and profits associated with the Lodge bar. This program is available to all North Carolina Lodges.



PGER Jack Frost addressing the seminar attendees

NC ALE Agent Brian Doward makes his presentation



Mickey Lail discussing the duties and responsibilities of the Exalted Ruler





## Set a Date to Be in Asheville

The Spring meeting of the NCSEA will be held in Asheville NC May 4—6, 2018. Plan to join us in this beautiful mountain city, which sits on the Appalachian Trail. There is so much to do, take a tour of Biltmore Estate, walk the lovely gardens of the Arboretum, or take a side trip to Maggie Valley or the Great Smokey Mountains. Special guests will be the State Presidents from Virginia and South Carolina. Lets give them a big North Carolina welcome. Go to [ncelks.org](http://ncelks.org) for registration forms.

**See y'all there!!!!**



## Future Conventions

### **NCSEA**

**Spring 2018 Asheville May 4-6**

**Fall 2018 Greensboro October 26-28**

**Spring 2019 Wilmington May 3-5**

### **Grand Lodge**

**2018 San Antonio TX July 1-4**

**2019 St. Louis MO June 30-July 3**



# RAFFLE DRAWING MAY 6, 2018 PROCEEDS TO VETERANS BUS FUND

**Jack Daniel's or Gentleman Jack**

Commemorative Elks 150 Year Anniversary Laser Etched With;

**“Elks-USA Celebrating 150 Years of Service 2017-2018 –  
North Carolina Elks Association”**



**Win one of either  
Jack Daniel's or  
Gentleman Jack  
150 Years Elk  
Anniversary  
Commemorative  
Bottles**

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**Two Winners with  
1<sup>st</sup> Name Drawn  
Selecting Choice  
of Two Bottles**

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**Drawing at NCSEA  
Spring Convention  
Sunday, May 6,  
2018 PER  
Breakfast**

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**Tickets Available  
at your Local NC  
Elks Lodge**

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**\$5 Per Ticket or  
Five Tickets for  
\$20**

# PAST EXALTED RULERS



The NCSEA Past Exalted Rulers Association auction will be held on Saturday afternoon during the Spring Convention in Asheville with the funds to be used for PER Association Lodge grants.

We ask that each Lodge and convention attendee bring a new or like new item to be auctioned off.

**See you there!!!!!!**





## Ten Ways You Can Serve Veterans in 2018



Stuck inside in the cold? Knit or crochet a blanket for veteran residents at a state veterans home or local nursing home. Or, have your kids make Valentines for veterans to receive during the VA's [National Salute to Veteran Patients week](#), aka the week of February 14.

[Order free playing cards](#) to be delivered to a local veterans facility. Then, head over to play a game of cards with the residents once the cards arrive. Or, organize a poker tournament!

[Adopt a veteran](#). Contact a local nursing home, State Veterans Home or VA facility to see if there are any veterans who could use visitors. You'd be surprised what a few visits and phone calls can mean to someone who's far away from family and friends.

Use a Community Investments Program Grant to start a project for local veterans. Need ideas? Check out these [veterans-focused Insta-Grants](#).

Are you a hunter? Consider donating hides to the [Veterans Leather Program](#)!

Want to help military families? Contact your local [Family Assistance Center](#) to be put in touch with local military families in need. Invite them to dinner at the Lodge, include military children in activities like the Hoop Shoot or Antlers groups, and ask about other needs.

[Consider volunteering at your local VA](#). You'd be surprised which skills may be helpful to recovering veterans. Like to fish? Organize a trip for veterans. Artistic? Teach art classes. Play an instrument? Put on a concert. Just like to chat? Visit with long-term residents.

Put together a [Welcome Home Kit](#) for a veteran moving into new housing. Contact a local VA facility or veterans shelter to connect with a veteran in need.

Support military families staying at a Fisher House while a veteran is receiving treatment. Help make dinner for the families, play games with the kids, or work with your Lodge to collect needed supplies. [Visit their website](#) to find out more.

Do you know of a local State Veterans Home or independent veterans' facility? [Order craft kits for veterans](#) to help with rehabilitation and recovery! Partner with your Lodge Veterans Chair or VAVS Rep to do this. Not sure who that is? Email us and we'll put you in touch!





## ***Elks*** **Organ & Tissue Donation Program**

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the USA has joined forces with Donate Life America to increase donations of organs, eyes and life-saving tissue.

The Grand Lodge, Fraternal Committee is asking Elks Lodges nationwide to promote the Organ Donor Program in their Lodge Bulletins and Lodge Web sites to help inspire members and citizens in their communities to make these life-saving donations.

Even though 95% of Americans are in favor of being a donor, only 54% of the U.S. adult population, are registered organ, eye and tissue donors. Nationally, nearly 33,600 patients began new lives in 2016 thanks to organ transplants. 683,000 have taken place since 1988. Every year 1.5 million tissue transplants are performed. 48,000 patients have their sight restored through corneal transplants each year and 1,500,000 since 1961! Unfortunately, 119,000 men, women and children currently need life-saving organ transplants. Then, add another name to the national organ transplant waiting list every 10 minutes. No wonder an average of 22 people die each day from the lack of available organs for transplant!

We Elks Members can help close the gap! The effort of Lodges to promote the program through their Bulletins and Web site can gain them five points in their quests to be named an All American Lodge. More incentives will be announced in coming years as the program takes shape throughout Elkdom.

For more information on the importance of donation and how to become a registered donor in your state, click on the Donate Life icon to go to the *Donate Life*<sup>SM</sup> web-site, or by logging onto [www.donatelife.net](http://www.donatelife.net). This is a great way to show that

## ***"Elks Give from the Heart."***

# News of the Lodges

## Raleigh Lodge Presents ENF Recognition Award



At the October Raleigh Elks meeting. The Elks National Foundation Personal Recognition Award was presented to Raleigh Elk 735 member John Nuzzo. Raleigh Elks Lodge ENF chairman Jason Williams presented this award in front of our Lodge members.

John is the third Raleigh Elk lodge 735 member to receive this prestigious award this year.

John's personal contribution to the ENF foundation along with others in the lodge has continued to help the Raleigh Elks Lodge 735 maintain its status as Number #1 in the state and 4<sup>th</sup> in the Nation

## Calabash Elks Help Santa Providing for Needy Children

Volunteer Lodge members went on a spree buying Christmas gifts for needy children to be distributed at Christmas Party at the Waccamaw Elementary School.

Pictured from left to right are Exalted Ruler Juanita Adams, Kelly Murphy, Shawn Denney, Kim Allen and Annie Degan with some of the many presents they purchased.



## Elks Host Christmas Party for Veterans at Fayetteville Home



North Carolina Elks held their annual Christmas party at the Fayetteville Veterans Home.

Santa (Glenn Autry) visited with many of the residents, all whom had a good time. A wonderful Christmas feast was provided by the home to the delight of the residents. It was a joy to see the Veterans smile and have fun. Pictured below right is State President Michael Bryant, Home Administrator Whitney Bell, and Veterans Home Committeeman Phil Saunders.

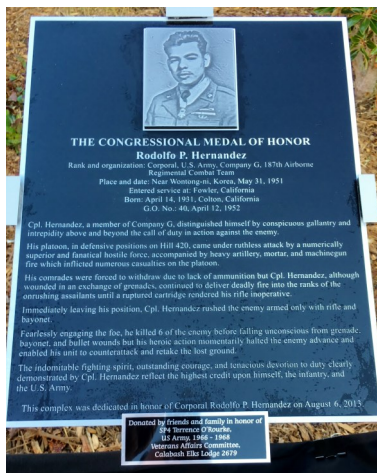




## Calabash Elks & US Army Recognize Medal of Honor Member

Calabash Lodge, in conjunction with the kick-off ceremony for “Warrior Care Month” held at the Warrior Transition Battalion Complex, which is part of the Womack Army Medical Center at Fort Bragg in Fayetteville, members of the Calabash Elks Veteran’s Affairs Committee, participated in the dedication of a plaque recognizing the **Medal of Honor** recipient after whom the Warrior Transition Complex is named.

When **Terrence “Terry” O’Rourke, of Sunset Beach, NC, a long-time Elk and member of the Calabash Elks** passed away in 2016, his friends, family, and the Elks collected funds which they wished to be donated to a veteran’s cause in Terry’s honor. Terry was a veteran, having served as a SP4 in the Engineer Corps of the 8<sup>th</sup> Army, and was stationed in the Demilitarized Zone of Korea in July 1966 until discharged in 1968. The money collected was used to purchase a plaque recognizing Corporal Hernandez at the WTB Complex. The plaque dedication ceremony was attended by Mrs. Terri Sue O’Rourke, Terry’s Widow, and Corporal Hernandez’s son, Rodolfo



Pictured (L to R), Dempsey O. Whitt, Command Sergeant Major, Warrior Transition Battalion, Phillip B. Brown, Jr., LTC, SF, Commander, WTB, Lisa Hernandez, Rodolfo “Rudy” Hernandez, Jr., son of Corporal Hernandez, Mrs. Terri Sue O’Rourke, wife of Terrence “Terry” O’Rourke, and John Corbett, COL, USA (Ret), Co-Chair, Calabash Elks’ Veterans Affairs Committee.



## Statesville Elks Host Veterans

Statesville Elks hosted the Salisbury Veterans for the 6th time on 11/9/2017 for a Veterans celebration and Christmas dinner if Turkey and Ham with all the trimmings! Elks and helpers served homemade desserts after dinner.

Statesville Elks had 23 Veterans 5 Staff and 16 Elks and 11 helpers that all came out for a great event.

The Elks handed out Christmas bags to all Veterans stuffed with Hats, Shirts, Socks and all kinds of goodies to talk back with them! Statesville Elks would like to thank all members for time and donations to



## Santa Comes to Town with the Help of the Calabash Elks



Santa (Trustee Mark Kerr) getting ready for the Town of Calabash Christmas Parade posing with children out to see Santa. Santa came to town atop a Calabash fire truck .

Mrs. Claus ( Exalted Ruler Juanita Adams) was also there riding in the fire truck.

Children were encourage to write letters to Santa and each received a personalized reply in the mail.

This is just one of many events the Calabash Elks partner with the Town for the youth in the area.

## Hendersonville Elks Sponsors Dinner at VA Hospital



On November 9th, Hendersonville Elks Lodge #1616 sponsored a dinner for veterans from the Charles George V.A. Medical Center in Asheville, as well as for Lodge Elk veterans and their guests. The purpose of the event was for Lodge members to show their respect and appreciation for these veterans' services and sacrifices. The Hendersonville Lodge's restaurant (My Brother's Place) served up a five course dinner menu which included steaks, ribs, salmon and desserts. The Smokey Mountain Rhythm Band was on hand to play a great assortment of songs which were enjoyed by all.

Hendersonville presented each hospitalized veteran with a 'Thank You for Your Service' t-shirt; while volunteers from Asheville Elks Lodge #608, also in attendance, presented each hospitalized veteran with a small monetary gift thanking them for their service. We, as Elks, will never forget what these veterans endured for our freedom.

Top row, left to right, are Wayne Carringer, James Renegar, William Thomas and Stephen Migicicz

Middle row, left to right, are Thomas Johnson, Clark Reid, Craig Ditmars and Carl Freedom

Bottom row, left to right, are Clarence Payton and Kenny Barnwell

## Calabash Elks Donate to Help Families of Wounded Warriors

The Veteran's Affairs Committee of the Calabash Elks Elks Lodge recently donated \$1,000.00 in WalMart Gift Cards to the Fisher House located near the U.S. Naval Hospital and Wounded Warrior Complex at Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, NC.

A "Fisher House" is "a home away from home" for families of patients receiving medical care at Major Military and Veteran's Administration (VA) Medical Centers, in this case, the Naval hospital at Camp Lejeune.

Pictured L-R: Josephine Callahan, General Manager of the Fisher House and Gerald "Jerry" Kimble, Co-Chairman, of the Veteran's Affairs Committee.



## Sanford Elks Hold Hoop Shoot

The Sanford Lodge #1679 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks held this year's Hoop Shoot Saturday, 12/2/2017 at Southern Lee High School. The Lodge champions were:

Girls 12/13 – 1<sup>st</sup> place - Ava Sharpe making 7/25 shots

Boys 12/13 – 1<sup>st</sup> place - Seth Beal with 17/25 shots, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Santos Walker with 15/25

Boys 10/11 – 1<sup>st</sup> place - Rhamad Cox with 8/25 shots, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Jaelin Batts with 7/25

Boys 8/9 – 1<sup>st</sup> place - Jermaine Walker with 16/25 shots, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Uriah Harding with 12/25 shots

Volunteers helping put on the Hoop Shoot included Chairman Nathan Cochrane, Kevin Cleary, Steve Johnson, Alyson Cochrane, Lisa Cleary, Sam Singer, Jan Hoffman, Hannah Cummings, Chris Setzer, Chris Hoffman, Chris Gil, Joe Clancy, Yenly Clancy and Ed Wesley



Back row, left to right Steve Johnson, Chris Gil, Joe Clancy, Nathan Cochrane, Kevin Cleary, Chris Setzer, Ed Wesley.  
Front row, Seth Beal, Rhamad Cox, Jermaine Walker, and Ava Sharpe

## Calabash Elks Send Holiday Care Packages to Troops

Just in time for Christmas the Veterans Affairs Committee of the Calabash Elks Lodge packed 30 Care Package for shipment to our Military Personnel Overseas, and sent them on their way.

The items in the packages vary, but can include: Personal care and toiletry items; Stationary and writing implements; Games and puzzles with which to pass the time; Possibly candy and snack items; Reading materials such as books and magazines; Socks and other light clothing items; and anything else the committee may acquire which they deem appropriate and will be appreciated by the soldiers at the receiving end of the package.





## Hickory Elks Support Backpack Program

The Hickory Elks Lodge is pleased to announce that this year's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Food and Funds Drive surpassed their goal once again donating more than \$28,000 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.

"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 six 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. 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, The Past Exalted Rulers, the Ballenger Estate, Aurelio and Sylvia Munoz and 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.

Backpack Program Coordinator, Amanda Freeland, accepted the \$28,000 check at the Hickory Elks Lodge on Saturday morning, November 18<sup>th</sup> 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.



Carole Anderson presenting check for \$28,000  
to Program Coordinator Amanda Freeland

Lodge Committee Members





## Santa and Helpers at Sanford Elk's Children's Party



Sanford Elks Lodge #1679 hosted a "Cookies with Santa" Christmas party on Sunday, December 10, 2017. 25 kids enjoyed a photo booth, crafts, games along with cookies & milk. They also had the opportunity to visit with Santa.

Elk volunteers to make this party happen included Kevin Cleary, Lisa Cleary, Justin Cleary, Barbara Woodham-Kinner, Amanda Johnson, Millie Johnson, Nathan Cochrane, Alyson Cochrane, Sam Singer, Jan Hofman, Austin Miller and Angel Wagoner.

## Brunswick County Lodges Hold Combined Hoop Shoot

The Calabash, Oak Island, and Shallotte Lodges held their combined Hoop Shoot on December 9th at the Shallotte Middle School.

Pictured L-R are the first place winners.

8-9 Boys, Harrison Mears: 8-9 Girls, Meryn Faye Dutsch

10-11 Boys, Connor Helmecki: 10-11 Girls, Saniya Stanley

12-13 Girls, Mia Elder: 12-13 Boys, Dylan Edwards



## Calabash Elks & Rotary Treat Needy Kids to an Evening with Santa

On the evening of December 18<sup>th</sup>, the Calabash Elks along with the Shallotte Rotary Club held a Christmas party at the Waccamaw Elementary School for children of needy families. The 30 youngsters, chosen by the school, were treated to fun and games prior to a meal of pasta and pizza, donated by Angelo's in Shallotte, and ice cream donated by Back Porch in Calabash. This was followed by a visit from the jolly old elf himself, Santa (our very own Mark Kerr). Santa and Mrs. Claus (ER Juanita Adams) presented each child a gift, which was donated by the Elks. This was a fun evening and was enjoyed by all.



## Roxboro Elks Distribute Drug Awareness Comic Books

The Roxboro Elks Lodge #2005 partnered with the Person County School System and Roxboro Community School 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 and Roxboro Community School received a copy of the Elks "Hard Choices" comic book featuring Marvel super heroes and Elroy the Elk in a battle against drugs. The campaign encompassed reaching out to 10 public schools for a total of 2,464 students. The Roxboro Elks understand how critical it is for young people to lead a drug free life style and this project 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 Peterson and Roxboro Charter School Executive Natalie Brozy 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.



## **Goldsboro and New Bern Elks Visit Kinston Veterans Home for Christmas**



The Goldsboro and New Bern Lodge made a Christmas Eve visit to the Kinston, NC Veterans home to present gift bags to the Veterans and to spend some time with them as most of them don't have a social network to interact with. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Christmas Eve visit organized by Doug McGrath, Veterans Committee Chairman of the Goldsboro Elks Lodge. The event is coordinated with John Serumgard, Veterans Committee Chairman of the New Bern Elks Lodge. The two Lodges work with Nikki Jerkins, Recreation Services Director for the Kinston Veterans Home and with support from the Troops at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro.

Our visit included 3 Christmas cards for each Veteran, two gift bags (one from the Goldsboro Lodge & one from the New Bern Lodge) and a personal in-room visit from the group mentioned above. In addition to several gifts focused on the needs of the Veterans, our gift bag this year also featured a commemorative pin from our Military Appreciation Festival, Wings of Wayne, which was held over Memorial Day Weekend. In many cases, those pins were presented and then pinned on (in some cases by Air Force personnel which generated a very positive reaction.

The team that participated this year included a total of 50 people & 1 very special Canine Companion by the name of Fannie. At the top of the page is a picture that included most of the volunteers.





## Hickory Elks & Santa Visit Black Mountain Veterans Home

The Hickory Elks annual Christmas visit to the Black Mountain Veterans Home was again a huge success. We had presents of long sleeve tee shirts, scarves, calendars, socks and cards all delivered in colorful Christmas bags to each room. In addition, Joe Elko was able to purchase a great many presents as well. The residents really got a kick out of Santa as usual with all the Hickory elves visiting from room to room. A Christmas cookie assortment was purchased for all four nurses' stations and the administrative staff. This really kicked off the holiday spirit for the Hickory Elks Lodge.



## Roxboro Elks Uses Grants for Youth Outdoor Programs



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

The Roxboro Elks Lodge #2005 is partnering with the Person County Parks and Recreation Department to establish a series of programs for youth outdoor activities in the county for 2018. The Lodge presented Jon Hill, the Director of Parks and Recreation for county, with a check for \$4,000 from a gratitude grant and anniversary 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 outdoor programs.



## Roxboro Elks and Elroy Promote Drug Awareness During Personality Festival

The Roxboro Elks Lodge #2005 partnered with the Roxboro Area Chamber of Commerce for the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Personality Festival in Person County. The Personality Festival is a two-day festival that attracts 10,000-plus visitors to Roxboro, NC. The Roxboro Lodge continued its Drug Awareness campaign by distributing awareness materials to the local residents and visitors that were in attendance. As always, there were many Roxboro Elks on hand that volunteered their time in an effort to make an impact in the community.

In addition to the campaign, Elroy the Elk made several appearances at the festival. Everyone had the opportunity to meet and take photos with Elroy at the Drug Awareness Trailer. At the end of the festival, the overall campaign was a complete success.

## New Bern Elks Donate to Fishes & Loaves Outreach Program

The New Bern Elks Lodge presented a \$250 dollar check to The Pamlico County Fishes and Loaves Outreach program. **Accepting the check are Director Bill Miles and Program Manager Alice Sontag.** Representing the Elks is Shawn Dougherty. The Fishes and Loaves Outreach program provides a generous weeks worth of balanced-diet, nourishing food once a month to an average of more than 300 households in Pamlico county at a cost of approximately \$2000 to \$3500 each month. This program is now in it's tenth year of operation.



Accepting the check are L-R Director Bill Miles and Program Manager Alice Sontag and representing the Elks is Shawn Dougherty

## Shallotte Elks Use Gratitude Grant to Support Local Charities

The Shallotte Elks Lodge used part of its Gratitude Grant from the Elks National Foundation to support Street Reach Inc. and C.I.S. ( Community In Schools ).

Below left is Exalted Ruler Walt Wilson presenting a check for \$500 to Rev. Donna Phelps and husband Garry Phelps.

Below right is C.I.S. Director Joann Shanley receiving a \$ 250 check from Exalted Ruler Walt Wilson.



## Calabash Bingo Presents Checks to 10 Local Charities

The Bingo Committee of the Calabash Elks distributed \$6500 to area charities during a ceremony on Tuesday January 16<sup>th</sup>. The funds were raised during a Chairman's Special game each week in 2017 during Lodge Bingo and presented to 10 charities selected by the Bingo players and the Bingo Committee.



Back Row L-R Gary Green, Boys and Girls Home of North Carolina; James Shumaker, The Family Emergency Teen Shelter; Juanita Adams, Calabash Elks Exalted Ruler; Chris Hippensteel, Horry Volunteer Fire Dept.; Buddy Brooks, Calabash Volunteer Fire Dept.; Chris Hearn, Calabash Volunteer Fire Dept.; Diana Rettig, Calabash Elks Bingo Chairman

Front Row L-R Hope Shirley, Brunswick Habitat for Humanity; Stephanie Bowen, Brunswick Family Assistance; Karmine Smith, Hope Harbor Home; Anne Hewett, Lower Cape Fear Hospice; Belinda Musgocke, Brunswick Animal Shelter.

## Hickory Elks Hoop Shoot

Hickory Elks Lodge had the largest turnout ever for their Hoop Shoot with 34 schools sending a total of 115 kids to participate on Saturday January 13th.



8 & 9 year old winners



10 & 11 year old winners



12 & 13 year old winners

## Fayetteville Elks Hoop Shoot



Fayetteville Elks held their local Hoop Shoot, the winners advancing to the District competition are L-R Maggie Simmons, Austin Simmons, Kelleah McLean, Ethan Durgadin, Jackson Gutierrez and Braydan Robinson. The Hoop Shoot coordinator Johnny Mantzouris is on the left in the back row.



## Shallotte Elks Donate to Warm Homes—Warm Hearts

The Shallotte Elks Lodge donated \$250.00 from their Gratitude Grant to “Warm Homes, Warm Hearts” sponsored by Brunswick Electric Membership Corp.

The “Warm Homes, Warm Hearts” campaign is a fund to help keep everyone warm during winter. Funds may go to help an elderly resident, a struggling young family, or perhaps someone who has been swamped with unexpected medical bills or a job layoff.

Presenting the check to Kim Mayo, representative of Brunswick Electric Membership Corp is Walt Wilson, Exalted Ruler



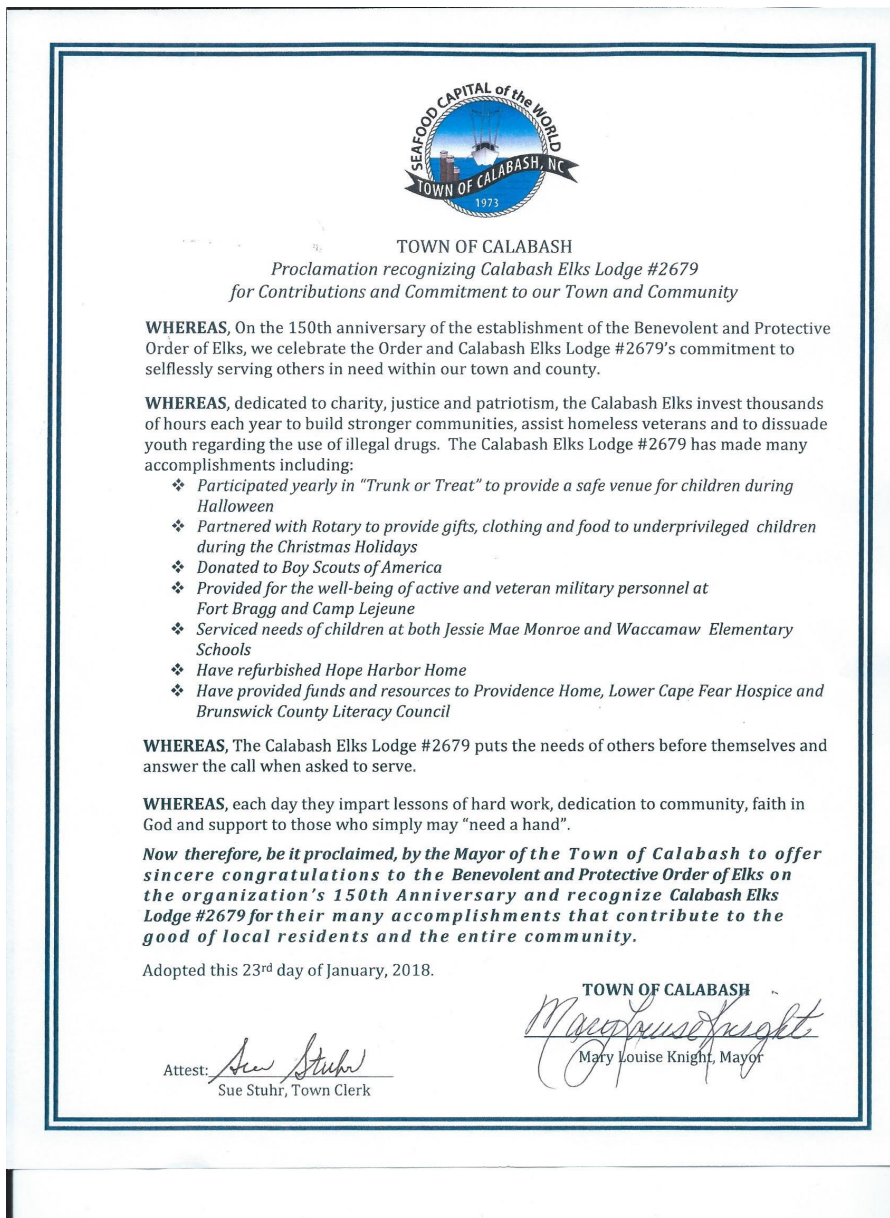
## New Bern Elks Donate to Neuse River Bridge Run



New Bern Elks Lodge # 764 recently donated a full water stop to the 2018 Neuse River Bridge Run, being held March 23 & 24. Bridge Run Board President Gary Kenefick accepts the \$350 check from Elks member John Serumgard at a recent Bridge Run Board meeting at the Bank of the Arts. The Bank of Arts is one of the seven local social service and cultural non-profit organizations that benefit from the Bridge Run.

## Town of Calabash Signs Proclamation for Elks 150th Anniversary

The town of Calabash recently signed a proclamation congratulating the Order of Elks on their 150th anniversary and recognizing the Calabash Elks for their many accomplishments that contribute to the good of local residents and the entire community.



Pictured are Exalted Ruler Juanita Adams and Calabash Mayor Mary Louise Knight.

**Elks Care - Elks Share**



## New Bern Elks Have State Hoop Shoot Winner

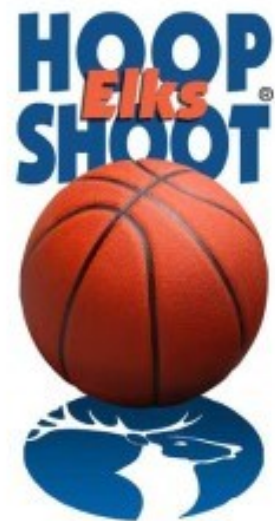


New Bern Elks Lodge #764 sent two candidates to the State Hoop shoot finals in Greensboro NC on Feb. 10, 2018. Ali Zakariasen (left) won the girls 12-13 age group and will now move on to the Southeast Central Regional Competition in Fredrick Md. Ali's sister Adi Zakeriaen (right) placed third in the 8-9 girl's division. Audrey Wellspeak (center) is the New Bern Elks Lodge Hoop Shoot coordinator

## Morehead City Hosts District Hoop Shoot

The Morehead City-Beaufort Elks Lodge 1710 hosted the District Hoop Shoot this year. One of our ladies from New Bern won the State 12-13. This was a great affair.

The children were thrilled to participate and the parents were so proud of their children. We had a pizza party after the Hoop Shoot followed by an award ceremony.





## Winston Salem Elks Celebrate Elks 150th Anniversary

Winston Salem Lodge #449 celebrated the 150<sup>th</sup> year Elks anniversary with an open house with over 100 members and guests in attendance.

Exalted Ruler Michelle Vincler read a proclamation from Mayor Allen Joines, declaring Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, Elks 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary day.

The celebration was followed by appetizers, champagne toast and a jazz band in the lounge following the ceremony



## New Bern Elks Provide Instruments for Monarch Center Day Program



Using funds from Beacon Grant money, Elk June Kent of New Bern Lodge 764 purchased a variety of musical instruments for Monarch Center Day Program. Ready to “jam” are Richard Ford, Kirt McAden, April Judson (Community Engagement Team Leader), Elk June Kent, Dorothy Go-dette (Support Coordinator) and Terrill Jones.

## Hickory Elks Honor Students, Public Servants, and Military Veterans

Hickory Elks Lodge held its annual Americanism Awards and Recognition Ceremony on Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. This event, sponsored by the Lodge's Americanism Committee, honors a select few in our community who have demonstrated love of country and community through their actions, deeds, and selfless service. Celebrating the 150th anniversary of BPOE, this year's awards and recognition ceremony served to highlight the purpose and mission of Hickory Elks and Elks nationwide.

Honorees in Saturday's ceremony included middle school students who participated in the Hickory Lodge's annual Americanism Essay Contest. This year's essay theme was, "Why Our Veterans Are America's Heroes". Over 200 essays were submitted by students from Northview and Grandview Middle Schools. Winners in Division I which features students in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade were Nora Miller- First Place (Grandview); Laken Powe-Second Place (Grandview); and Adrian Chavez-Third Place (Grandview). Winners in Division II which features students in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades were Sage Derr-First Place (Grandview); Olivia East-Second Place (Grandview); and Daniel Brendle-Third Place (Grandview). Each of the winners received a plaque and cash award. Honorable Mentions were awarded to Neveah Weedman and Maurice Bradley, both of Northview. Each received a cash award.

The ceremony also recognized the exceptional service of Hickory firefighter Battalion Chief Mike Cates, Hickory police officer James "Bo" Mathis, and a North Carolina State Highway Patrolman Cory M. Trouille, of Troop F, District 5. Each were nominated by their departments based on their exemplary job performance and service to their church and community. Plaques and cash awards were presented. Assisting in the presentations were Battalion Chief Matt Hutchinson, Hickory Fire Department; Chief Thurman Whisnant, Hickory Police Department; and Sergeant Jody Martin, N.C. State Highway Patrol.

Respecting our nation's military, five military veterans, each representing one of the 4 military branches and the U.S. Coast Guard, were each recognized as the Hickory Elks Exceptional Military Service Person of the Year. Each of the five awardees was selected by five of the area's high school JROTC programs. Selection was based on the veteran's exemplary service consistent with the tenets of Duty – Honor - Country as described by General Douglas MacArthur in his 1962 speech at West Point to the Corps of Cadets. The U.S. Army awardee selected by Army cadets of Hickory High School was Specialist 4<sup>th</sup> Class Nathan Pena, now a teacher at the school. The U.S. Navy recipient selected by Navy cadets from St. Stephens High School was Captain Robert Hall, a retired Navy aviator. The U.S. Marine Corps honoree selected by Marine Corps cadets of RS Central High School in Rutherfordton was Lance Corporal Johnathan Carlisle. Colonel Sherry Hamrick, U.S. Air Force, a retired Air Force pilot, was selected by the Air Force cadets of Maiden High School. The Navy cadets at Newton Conover High School selected Commander Jim Loftin, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary as this year's exceptional Coast Guardsman. Each recipient received a commemorative plaque and cash award. Assisting in the presentations were Army Cadet Staff Sergeant Robert Hullett, Hickory High; Navy Cadet Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Hayden Benfield, St. Stephens; Marine Corps Cadet Staff Sergeant Issac Salyers, RS Central; Air Force Cadet Captain Kaelah Weaver, Maiden High; and Navy Cadet Lieutenant Noah Porter, Newton Conover High.

Cadets from the participating high schools opened the ceremony with the presentation of colors. Patriotic music was provided by Mr. Nathan Hefner, a Hickory Elks member and noted performer.

Pictures on next page.

## Hickory Elks Continued



Hickory Elks Police Officer, Firefighter, and State Trooper of the Year

L-R: MPO Mathis, Batt.Chief Cates, Master Trooper Trouille

Hickory Elks Military Veterans of the Year and Cadet Presenters

Front Row L-R: Cadet Benfield, Cadet Hullett, Cadet Weaver, Cadet Porter, Cadet Salyers

Back Row L-R: CAPT Hall, SP/4 Pena, Col Hamrick, Chief Trainor (for CDR Loftin), LCpl Carlisle



Middle School Elks Americanism Essay Winners

Front Row L-R: Adrian Chavez, Laken Powe, Nora Miller, Olivia East

Back Row L-R: Daniel Brendle, Sage Derr



## Shelby Elks Lodge Uses Grant to Support Boy Scouts



Shelby Lodge used its Gratitude Grant to support the Piedmont Council, Boy Scouts of America. The Lodge has held fundraisers, donated funds, and presented Eagle Scouts with flags and framed certificates for over 20 years.



**This publication is produced for and by the North Carolina State Elks Association. The NCSEA Communication Committee encourages all member Lodges and Committee Chairmen to submit articles to be included in future issues. All submissions may be forwarded to Ashley Buckwell, Editor at [ashbuc@atmc.net](mailto:ashbuc@atmc.net)**

