



December 2019 - January 2020

Kernersville Veterans Home Breaks Ground

Major Project Update & Veterans Home TV Fund

A ground breaking for the North Carolina Veterans Home in Kernersville was held on December 12th, 2019. Scheduled to open in 2021, the Home will be the residence for 100 Veterans.

As with the other Homes, the North Carolina State Elks Association will be providing TV's for each of the residence rooms. The NCSEA has started a fund to purchase those and asks all Lodges to consider a fund raiser for the Veterans Home TV Fund.



“Delinquent Members deserve a phone call”

Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler ROBERT L. DUITSMAN

The end of the Lodge year is fast approaching. I hope that Lodges are contacting delinquent Members to find out what is going on, and how they can be kept as Members. I strongly suggest that no Member should be dropped without some sort of initial personal contact, whether it be a phone call or visit, to really find out what is happening. Sometimes there are special circumstances that can be worked around. Whatever the reason for the delinquency, the person has been a part of your Lodge family and should be afforded the respect and fraternal concern given to all Members. Even if a delinquent Member has decided for whatever reason not to continue his or her membership, please consider making the effort to find out why. There may be something going on in your Lodge that can be changed to avoid the loss of additional Members. Something to think about.

February is possibly the most important month of the fraternal year: It is when the leaders of the Lodge are chosen. Every Member should take an interest in officer selection and attend the meeting. Then, elections are to be conducted. Unfortunately, there have been times when a very small percentage of a Lodge's membership have elected officers with a passion not shared by the majority. It behooves every Elk to take an interest in the election process and be a part of the decisions made. The future of the Lodge may depend on it.

If you haven't done so, please try to keep your Lodge website page on elks.org up to date. Often times I've visited a Lodge page and found that officer listings were missing or no longer accurate. An outdated or inaccurate web page, especially one provided free through Grand Lodge, reflects poorly. With only two months left in the fraternal year, now is a good time to plan for year end activities. Will there be an event to recognize senior Members who have achieved milestones in their Lodge membership? Are the new officers properly prepared for their coming year of service? All of these things, both fun and important, should be under consideration as the end of the year starts to come into focus. Finally, to the Lodge Secretaries, please make sure to enter new Lodge directory information into CLMS2web so that correct listings can be available. It will save a lot of time later on.



Membership Update

Kevin Black, NCSEA Membership Chair

As of January 1st, we have brought in 912 new members so far, which is down one from last year. We have lost 350 members which is 49 less than last year.

Unpaid members are at 983 which is down 19 from this point a year ago. Our delinquency percentage is 10.5% which is slightly better than the 10.8% were at a year ago. The national average is slightly below 9%.

Candidates waiting to join are at 144, down 12 from a year ago.

What does all this mean....

We have some work in front of us for the last quarter if we want a second straight year of membership gain. Even though we have shown improvement in most areas, we still have delinquents too high to give us a gain.

The two areas of focus is: one to work our lapsed members to get them back in, and two get more members in. If we can rally in the last three months like last year we can pull of another gain.

I am asking you to make a push to all ER's and membership chairs in your district to make this a priority over the remainder of the Elk year.

We have done this before and we can do it again. Let's get after it!



Join Us in Atlantic Beach for the Spring Convention



Make plans to join us for a fun in the sun weekend in Atlantic Beach April 30th—May 3rd for the annual Spring meeting of the North Carolina State Elks convention at the Doubletree by Hilton.

There is so much to do on the Crystal Coast, a day at the North Carolina Aquarium, visit historic Fort Macon State Park, or just relax on the beach, you are sure to have a good time.

Look for registration forms at ncelks.org

Future Conventions

NCSEA	Spring 2020	Atlantic Beach	May 1 - 3
	Fall 2020	TBD	October 29 - 31
	Spring 2021	Wilmington	April 30 - May 2
Grand Lodge	Baltimore MD		July 5 - 8

PER

AUCTION



Saturday afternoon May 2, 2020 during the Spring NCSEA convention in Atlantic Beach.

Each Lodge is requested to donate a new or gently used item to be auctioned .

Proceeds are to be used for PER Association grants and Ritual programs of the NCSEA.

Exalted Ruler of the Year Contest

We now have 2 ways to nominate an Exalted Ruler for the ER of the year award.

On the state website you can access the form under Members Only > Forms and Guidelines > ER of the Year packet. Fill out the form, sign and postal mail or e-mail according to the instructions.

Or we have made it even easier. On the state website go to Members Only > ER of the Year online form.

Answer the questions and click submit. That's really it.

Things to remember:

We no longer need a copy of lodge final report; All answers will be verified; The deadline in April 3rd; No late entries accepted; In the event of a tie, the lodge ENF per member donation ranking will determine the winner.

11 O'clock Toast Contest During Spring NCSEA Meeting



The Time is 11 O'clock and the Stakes are High

For many years, the North Carolina State Elks Association had held an Eleven O'clock Toast competition at the spring state convention. The new wrinkle this year is that the winner of the ER division will represent North Carolina at the Grand Lodge convention in Baltimore.

As usual, we will have two divisions: the ER division and an open division for all others. The competition will be Saturday afternoon, May 2, at the state convention. The winners will receive highly coveted awards in recognition of their efforts.

The toast used for the competition is the "impress upon you" version that is part of the initiation ritual. The all-important pronunciation guide is available at elks.org.

Warm up your vocal cords, practice the toast, and get ready for the competition! Make your Lodge, and your state, proud!

Certificate Salutes Neighbors Who Fly the US Flag



The Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee has implemented a new program that allows Lodges to present neighbors a Recognition Certificate for flying the flag.

Lodges can present a Grand Lodge Recognition Certificate of Honor for properly flying the United States Flag during daylight hours and at night with proper illumination. It can be awarded to local businesses, merchants, and non-Elks households but not hospitals, schools, or government buildings.

The Recognition Certificate is available at elks.org/GrandLodge/fraternal/files/FlyTheFlagCertificate.pdf. Or, **it can be found on the Fraternal Committee page in the Members Only section of elks.org, under Fly the Flag Program & Certificate (PDF).**

The certificate is a fillable PDF, so you can type in the recipient's name and address. Also, there's a place for the mayor or other city official to sign.

To print the certificate correctly, "Landscape" should be chosen for the orientation in your print window. Parchment paper is the best option for a professional-looking product. Certificates can be presented during special recognition events at the Lodge, if possible.

The Grand Lodge Recognition Certificate is a great tool for Lodges to put their name in front of the public.

News From the Lodges

Calabash Elks Ladies Donate Holiday Meals



The Ladies Auxiliary of the Calabash Elks Lodge purchased food for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, and donated that food to needy families of the students who attend the Waccamaw School in Ash, NC.

This year, they delivered many containers of food, not only to enable needy families to have a Holiday meal, but also for local families still affected by our recent Hurricanes. The school administrators and the guidance counselors determined which families are in need. The Waccamaw School is just one of the many local charities to whom the Ladies Auxiliary donates to throughout the year.

Pictured L-R: Carol Haack, Chairperson, The Ladies Auxiliary of the Calabash Elks, and Robin Beane from The Waccamaw School K-8.

Shallotte Elks Donate to Communities in Schools



The Shallotte Elks Lodge 2854 donated \$350.00 from our Gratitude Grant to Communities in Schools at Shallotte Middle School.

Pictured left to right: John Alcorn, Exalted Ruler of Shallotte Elks Lodge, and Joan Shanley, Development Director at Shallotte Middle School.

Calabash Veterans Committee Provides Lunch for Veterans Home



Members of the Calabash Elks Veterans Affairs Committee, traveled to the North Carolina State Veterans Home in Fayetteville and provided submarine sandwiches, potato salad, cole slaw, pickles, drinks, cookies and companionship to 74 residents & staff.

They also presented 12 residents with afghans knitted by one of the VAC members, Pat Brosus. In addition they also gave the Veterans playing cards provided by the North Carolina State Elks Association.

Shalotte Elks Host Christmas Party for Autumn Care Residents



The Shallotte Elks Lodge had a Christmas Party for the Residents of Autumn Care with approximately 30 residents in attendance.

Pictured sitting at the table left to right are residents Evelyn Flecher, Diane Rena, Hilda Rowsey and John Chavis. Standing from left to right John Lear, Activity Director Regina Lowry, Lodge Chaplain Carol Gentile, PER Sal Gentile, and Lodge Esquire Robert Kordiak .

Calabash Elks Donate to Brunswick Family Assistance

The Calabash Elks Lodge Veteran's Affairs Committee recently donated \$4,000.00 to Brunswick Family Assistance, to help fund assistance provided to Veterans in Brunswick County, NC. VAC donations in the past three years to the BFA special fund dedicated to helping Veterans now totals 12,000. BFA's Program Manager, Charles Jackson accepted the donation.



Pictured making the presentation of a \$4000.00 check to Brunswick Family Assistance in Shal-lotte, NC, on behalf of the Veteran's Affairs Committee is (Left to Right): Jeanne Colleta, VAC Member; Jerry Kimble, Co-Chair of the VAC; Charles Jackson, Program Manager, Brunswick Family Assistance; John Corbett, Co-Chair of the VAC; and Susan Scott and Norm Morelli, both Members of the VAC.

Greensboro Lodge Holds Annual BBQ Cookoff



The Greensboro Lodge held their annual BBQ Shoulder Cookoff with eight teams competing. Lodge Leading Knight Robbie Greear took home the top honors.

Pictured: (L to R) Volunteer Ethan Kleisch; House Committee Member Josh Mann, and Lodge Inner Guard Jeff Schmid.

Fayetteville Elks Participate in City Christmas Parade



The Fayetteville Elks Lodge participated in the City Christmas parade and their float which won first place.



Calabash Elks Donate Meals to Needy Families



The Calabash Elks Lodge donated 20 complete, cooked, family dinners to disadvantaged families in Brunswick County. The families in need were identified by the Brunswick Family Assistance organization.

The project was funded by a \$1,000.00 grant awarded to the Calabash Elks Lodge by the North Carolina State Elks Charitable Trust.

Shallotte Elks Participate in Christmas Toy Run

The Shallotte Elks Lodge along with two Car Clubs and Bikers, totaling about 85 people, helped 175 children from Brunswick County with Christmas gifts. Each child was able to get at least \$70.00 in clothes and an additional \$70.00 in toys at Walmart in Southport.

Pictured from left to right Nancy Grant Elks National Foundation Chairperson, Shawna Munna, Jerome Munna Organizers of the Toy Run, and Robert Kordiak Esquire of the Shallotte Elks.



Calabash Elks Angel Tree Provides for Needy Children



The Calabash Elks Angel Tree provided a wonderful Christmas for 48 boys and girls, picked by school administrators, at the Waccamaw School in Ash NC. Lodge members chose a name off the tree and went shopping for items requested by the kids.

Pictured is Santa (member Harold Golding) with the many packages ready to be delivered

Calabash Elks Send Holiday Care Packages to Troops



Recently, the Calabash Elks Veterans Activities Committee packed 30 Care Packages for shipment to our Military Personnel Overseas (27 for Men & 3 for Women), and sent them on their way to Afghanistan. The VAC realizes the importance of helping our deployed service men and women receive a “Little Piece of Home,” especially during the Holidays.

Pictured with the Care Packages are members of the Veterans Activities Committee.

Greensboro Elks Host Breakfast With Santa

The Greensboro Lodge hosted their annual Breakfast With Santa for members and guests and their families. Mrs. Claus made an appearance as well.

Pictured: (L-R) Asher Glenn, Mrs. Claus, Ryan Glenn, Santa.



ROXBORO ELKS USE BEACON GRANT TO PROMOTE YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The Roxboro Elks Lodge #2005 is partnering with the Person County Parks and Recreation Department to establish a series of youth programs for youth in county in 2020. The Lodge presented Jon Hill, the Director of Parks and Recreation for county, with a check for \$2,000 from a beacon 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 outdoor activities.



Roxboro Exalted Ruler Derrick Sims and Trustee Kyle Puryear presenting Jon Hill, Director for Park and Recreation of Person County, with a Beacon Grant check for \$2000.

Calabash Elks Donate to Project Lifesaver



The Veteran's Affairs Committee of the Calabash Elks Lodge recently made a \$1,0000.00 donation to the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office in support of their "Project Lifesaver," a rescue program for individuals with "Wandering Syndrome," a symptom common to many brain related disorders. **Veterans**, if eligible, are serviced by this program.

ROXBORO ELKS USE GRANT TOWARDS LOCAL BOOKMOBILE

The Roxboro Elks Lodge donated \$2,500 from a gratitude grant towards a new book mobile in Person County. The goal of the bookmobile project is to provide citizens with an up to date mobile unit with state-of-the-art technology providing more access to rural areas in the county. A new Bookmobile would provide space for additional books allowing visitors the opportunity to select their own books and materials, be WI-FI enabled for access to resources for digital literacy and workforce development. The Bookmobile program would initially have 34 monthly stops and serves approximately 500 citizens of all ages providing story times and adult programming; and promoting the Library's programs, resources and services. The stops include daycares, after school programs, assisted living facilities, and homebound individuals. A new Bookmobile will continue to reach this audience and will expand both services and audiences reaching a broader scope with plans for 10 additional stops in rural locations with a goal to increase usage to 750-800 visitors monthly.

Presentation of the Elks Gratitude Grant to the Person County Library Staff by Lodge Exalted Ruler Derrick Sims and Lodge Trustee Kyle Puryear



Goldsboro Elks Hold Drug Awareness Event



The Goldsboro Lodge promoted our Drug Awareness campaign during the Goldsboro "Lights Up" event in downtown Goldsboro. Lights Up has become the largest event the City puts on, and we partnered with the Goldsboro PD to have the East District Drug Awareness Trailer on display. Elks volunteers, joined by Goldsboro PD, handed out over 700 packages of drug awareness information that night.

Calabash Elks Donate Gift Cards to Troops and their Families

The Calabash Elks Veterans Activities Committee donated 20 Walmart cards with a value of \$50 each for a total of \$1,000 to support troops and families receiving medical care and treatment at the Warrior Transition Battalion and Womack Army Hospital in Fort Bragg.

The WTB is attached to the Womack Army Medical Center at Ft. Bragg. The cards will be given out at the WTB holiday party on Dec 13 via a random drawing for junior troops in the WTB program.

Fisher House Manager Vivian Wilson gave the Veterans Activities Committee a certificate of appreciation and the they donated two Veterans blankets for troops and families to use at the Fisher House.



Pictured L-R: Carol Corbett, VAC Secretary; Vivian Wilson, Manager, Fort Bragg Fisher House; John Corbett, VAC, Co-Chairman



Pictured L-R are: John Corbett, VAC, Co-Chairman; SFC John Gatlin, WTB Supply NCO (representing the commander); Carol Corbett, VAC Secretary; and Ms. Joelle Pierce, WTB Family Programs Assistant.



ROXBORO ELKS HONORED BY THE PERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Roxboro Elks Lodge was honored during a ceremony on September 12, 2019 by the Person County Board of Education. Lodge members were presented with the distinguished “Pride in Person” Award for their service project that assisted teachers in need of school supplies. The Roxboro Lodge raised money through a year-long fundraiser that started in August of 2018. The Lodge was able to assist nearly 75 teachers from every school in Person County with a \$50.00 Visa gift card to go towards school supplies. The Roxboro Elks thank the Board of Education for the recognition and look forward to continue this project for next year.



ROXBORO ELKS DISTRIBUTE DRUG AWARENESS RED RIBBONS TO STUDENTS

The Roxboro Elks Lodge partnered with the Person County Schools to promote Red Ribbon Week on October 23-31st. Members of the Lodge visited with nine schools to promote Drug Awareness with the students. 5,000 red ribbons in total were given out to students. The Roxboro Elks also distribute thousands of Drug Awareness comics in the summer.



East District Lodges Gift Veterans at NC Veterans Home

Goldsboro, Kinston & New Bern Lodges collaborated for an afternoon of fellowship and gift deliveries to the 100 Veterans who live at the Kinston Veterans Home on Christmas Eve 2019. The Elks volunteers were joined by 50 active duty Airman including the Wing Commander, Col Donn Yates and the City Manager, Tim Salmon. This visit has become an Annual tradition for Lodges in the East District of North Carolina and it introduces Elkdom to those joining in.



Wing Commander, Col Donn Yates sharing experiences and a gift bag with a Veteran

Elks Volunteers (aka Santa & Mrs Claus) visiting with a Veteran



City Manager, Tim Salmon & his family visiting with a Veteran after presenting a gift bag



Calabash Elks Donate to Habitat for Humanity's Veterans Affairs Program

The Veteran's Affairs Committee of the Calabash Elks Lodge recently made a \$2,000.00 donation to the Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity's Veterans Affairs Program, to help in providing decent housing, and housing repairs, for Veterans in Brunswick County, NC. On hand to personally accept the donation was Veronica Carter (U.S. Army, Retired), Chairperson of Brunswick County's Habitat for Humanity's Veterans Affairs Program. Since 2018, the Calabash Elks' VAC has donated a total of \$4,300.00 to this program.



Shalotte Elks Donate to Smart Start of Brunswick County

The Shallotte Elks Lodge donated \$2000.00, from their Spotlight Grant to Smart Start of Brunswick County. 80 children will receive 1 book every month until their 5th birthday. The Elks donation will cover the first year with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to cover the remaining years. North Carolina and Tennessee are the only 2 states that have this program in every county.

Pictured from left to right Paul Salerno Lodge Trustee, Helen Gabriel Director of Smart Start, and Sam Johnston Elk Member.



New Bern Elks Lodge Receives Recognition from Boy Scouts



New Bern Elks Lodge #764 was recently recognized for funding provided to the East Carolina Council Boy Scouts of America. At a scouting awards banquet held at the Lodge, Dr Chris Taylor, BSA Council Executive, presented two plaques to Lodge Exalted Ruler Dale Petrangelo In appreciation of the Lodge's financial support through the Elks National Foundation and for the use of the lodge facilities for scout banquets.

“Elks and Scouting” Marvin M. Lewis Award

The MARVIN M. LEWIS medal is a prestigious Elks & Scouting award and shall be awarded to Elks in good standing who have shown a great degree of participation in supporting Scouting.

For more information go to elks.org



Goldsboro Elks Support



The Goldsboro Elks Lodge provided \$500 in sponsorship funds to the First Baptist Church in Goldsboro in support of the Tim Tebow Night to Shine event being held Friday, February 7, 2020 at the Maxwell Center.

Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love, for people with special needs ages 14 and older. This February 7, 2020, Night to Shine celebrates its sixth anniversary! This past year, on one night, 655 churches from around the world came together to host Night to Shine for approximately 100,000 honored guests through the support of 200,000 volunteers!



Pictured are Doug McGrath Goldsboro Elks ER and Donna Countryman from the First Baptist Church.



Calabash Elks Participate in Christmas Parade

Members of the Calabash Elks Lodge marched in the annual Calabash Christmas parade and tree lighting . Several dozen members entertained the hundreds of onlookers playing seasonal songs on their kazoos.

The highlight of any Christmas parade is the appearance of Santa. Riding atop a fire truck, Santa (Lodge Trustee Mark Kerr) rode into town to the delight of the many children lining the street.



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

