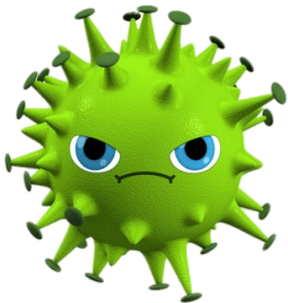




February–March 2020



Annual NCSEA Meeting in Atlantic Beach Cancelled

Following recommendations from the CDC regarding holding meetings during the coronavirus outbreak, the Board of Directors have cancelled the Spring meeting of the NCSEA in Atlantic Beach. A one day annual meeting has been scheduled for May 2nd at 2pm at the Greensboro Lodge with only necessary business being conducted, the election and installation of Officers and the approval of the 2020-2021 budget. In addition the Advisory Board will meet at 10am followed by the Board of Directors meeting at 11am.

Any change to this schedule will be forwarded as deemed necessary.

Convention Committee Treasurer Steve Clarke will be forwarding refunds to all those who have registered for the Spring convention and made hotel deposits. Please do not call the hotel.

Take Care and Be Safe.

Message from State President Shari Driscoll



Dear North Carolina Elks,

The Coronavirus is bringing our Elks year to a close in a way that none of us have experienced before. So many businesses are closed, including all North Carolina Elks Lodges. District Deputy Clinics and our State Convention have been cancelled as well. There is no public place to share a drink or a meal with friends, and finding toilet paper in the grocery store feels like a huge personal victory!

We will get through this. And when we do, I am confident that we will do what Elks do best – we will get back out there in our communities and do whatever it takes to help our neighbors heal and recover as quickly as possible.

Thank you to everyone who came out to support our annual Camp Carefree Gala. It was a wonderful event with music by the Part Time Party Time Band, along with great food and a silent auction which helped increase our profits and overall donation to this extraordinary cause.

It has been an incredible honor for me to represent North Carolina Elks this past year. I am so proud of our members and the charitable work that is being done across this great state. Phil and I thank you for your kindness and hospitality as we traveled around the state. Unfortunately, our travel has been cut short by the current pandemic. When things get back to normal, we would like to make it to some of the places we have missed.

Please continue to work together and support each other. Each Lodge, large or small, has something unique to offer and we are much more effective when we work as a team!

Fraternally,

Shari Driscoll, NCSEA President

Elks Care – Elks Share



Elks
National
Foundation, Inc.

Helping Elks Build Stronger Communities

Update From the ENF Regarding the Gratitude Grant

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we're now experiencing a new normal together. In a few short weeks, everything has changed. In light of current circumstances, the Community Investments Program must change this year, too. The new CIP grant year set to open on April 1, will likely be delayed to June 1, for all grant components except the Gratitude Grant.

The Elks National Foundation is making \$3.7 million in Gratitude Grants available so that Elks Lodges across the country may directly address community needs during the COVID-19 pandemic. **The funds will be available on April 1.**

The Gratitude Grant offers eligible Lodges the opportunity to donate the funds and make a difference when it's needed most.

The ENF has adapted its guidelines for the Gratitude Grant to encourage donations to community organizations and local partners that are equipped to directly serve the most vulnerable populations affected by the crisis.

Lodges should consider supporting local food banks and food pantries, homeless shelters and assistance programs, and hospitals.

We've been working together to build stronger communities, and that work will pay off now as we pick one another up and fight through this.

Sincerely,

Jim O'Kelley



Elks
National
Foundation, Inc.

The Spring Convention in Atlantic Beach Is Cancelled



The annual Spring meeting of the North Carolina State Elks convention at the Doubletree by Hilton, April 30th-May3rd, has been cancelled due to constraints put on us by the coronavirus outbreak.

At this time we have made arrangements with the Doubletree in Atlantic Beach to hold our Fall Convention there in October.

We hope to see you there.

Future Conventions

NCSEA	Spring 2020	Cancelled	
	Fall 2020	Atlantic Beach	October 29 - 31
	Spring 2021	Wilmington	April 30 - May 2
Grand Lodge	Baltimore MD		July 5 - 8, 2020
	Tampa, Fl		July 4 - 7, 2021

Past Exalted Ruler Assn.

AUCTION

CANCELLED



News from the Lodges

Morganton Elks Host Christmas Party at VA Medical Center

On December 21st. the Morganton Elks Lodge made our trip to the Charles George VA Medical Center in Asheville for our annual Christmas party. Goodie bags were provided for all the Veterans in the Community Living Center as well as all the Vets on the Psych unit. We have also teamed up with The Burke Quilters Guild to provide "Quilts of Valor" to deserving Veterans.



Pictured are the 2 Quilts we presented this December. Also pictured is a group photo of the Elks in attendance along with Ulysses Long at the keyboard providing Christmas Music, Ulysses was also a finalist on NBC's America's Got Talent in 2012.



Calabash Elks Donate to Brunswick Community College PAVE Program

The Calabash Elks Lodge Veterans Affairs Committee recently made a \$1000.00 cash donation to the Brunswick Community College's "Partnership for American Veteran Employment" Program. The funds are earmarked to give Veteran students real-life experiences in the civilian work place through work study employment at BCC, which then may increase their marketability in the workplace upon graduation.



Pictured L-R making the presentation, Tyler Cron and Cody Hummel, both Veterans and Students in the PAVE Program, Elizabeth Wassem, Executive Director of the Foundation of Brunswick Community College, and John Corbett and Jerry Kimble, Co-Chairs of the Veterans Committee.

Shalotte Elks Assist Handing Out Meals for Food Pantry



The Shallotte Elks Lodge helped with Camp Methodist Saturday food pantry. The Church handed out meals for 55 families from the area.

Pictured from left to right Warren Foust Lodge Member, John Alcorn Exalted Ruler of Shallotte Lodge, Rick Picerno Lodge Member, and Sam Johnston.

Calabash Elks Donate to Veterans Welcome Home Resource Center

The Veteran's Affairs Committee of the Calabash Elks Lodge recently made a \$4,000.00 donation to the "Veterans Welcome Home and Resource Center" in Little River, SC.

The focus of the Veterans Welcome Home Resource Center is helping local Veterans make the necessary adjustments when transitioning back into Civilian Life. They help our Veterans obtain Benefits to which they are entitled; provide job placement assistance; help with obtaining treatment for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) issues; help with housing needs; provide financial counseling, and assist with general life adjustment issues.

Pictured L-R are: Jerry Kimble, VAC Co-Chairman; Michael Mishoe and Carolyn Mishoe, both US Army Veterans and Directors of the "Veterans Home Resource Center;" and John Corbett, VAC Co-Chairman



Oak Island Elks Donate to Dixie Youth Baseball



Oak Island Elks Lodge #2769 donated \$500 to the Southport/Oak Island North Carolina Dixie Youth Baseball Organization to sponsor two teams for the upcoming 2020 Youth Baseball Season."

Pictured L-R are Geg Fleming of Lodge #2769 and Weston Hood League Commissioner.

Calabash Elks Donate to Assist Homeless Veterans

The Calabash Elks Lodge Veterans Affairs Committee recently made two donations to the SGT Eugene Ashley Memorial Center in Wilmington, NC. The SGT Ashley Center provides transitionnel résidence and recovery programs for homeless Veterans.

The first donation provided **over \$1200** of household and kitchen goods for transition kits to assist in resettling Veterans into permanent housing.



A second donation provided **over \$1200** in computer equipment to enable resident Veterans to develop marketable computer skills. The Veterans Committee in conjunction with student volunteers from the UNC Wilmington Computer Science Department have instituted a tutoring program to assist the Veterans in developing their computers skills and abilities to prepare letters of introduction and resumes.



Pictures show members of the Calabash Elks Veterans Affairs Committee and residents of the Center

Morganton Elks Use Grant for “Coats for Kids”

The Morganton, NC, Elks Lodge is grateful for receiving a \$1000 grant from the State Charitable Trust in order to provide winter coats for 40 children in need. We Worked with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Burke County, whose mission is to transform children’s lives through mentoring. These relationships help children increase self-confidence, perform better in school, avoid drugs and helps them to reach their full potential. Thanks to the Elks, “Coats for Kids” project, providing a warm coat this winter, the children left the annual Christmas party with smiles on their faces.



Shalotte Donates to Special Olympics and Dixie Youth League

The Shallotte Elks Lodge donated from their Gratitude Grant, \$500.00 to Special Olympics of Brunswick County as well as \$500.00 to the Dixie Youth League to sponsor 5 teams.

Pictured from left to right Brian Moore Director of Dixie Youth League, Robert Kordiak Elks Lodge Esquire, John Alcorn Elks Lodge Exalted Ruler, Daniel Rabon Assistant Director Dixie Youth League, and Steve Goodwin Director of Special Olympics of Brunswick County.



Calabash Elks Donate to “Operation Cookie Drop”

The Calabash Elks Lodge Veteran’s Affairs Committee recently made a \$1000.00 donation to Girl Scout Troop 657 in Shallotte, NC to add to their coffers for “Operation Cookie Drop.” The Donation was doubled from that of last year, and bought 250 Boxes of Cookies which will eventually make their way to our Troops stationed overseas.



**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**

