

## MESSAGE FROM STATE PRESIDENT FRANK T. BRADY

The support of the nearly nine thousand North Carolina Elk members means so much to me and my wife, Sandy; and I know your faith in my ability to carry out the duties of the State President's Office is well founded. I will work tirelessly to achieve the goals of the North Carolina State Elks Association.

My slogan for the year 2021-2022 is '***Elks Moving Forward, One Challenge at a Time***'. The North Carolina Elks community has gone through a difficult year; but the leadership of every lodge has stepped up to the challenges. Our membership is strong; our financial condition is better than could be expected; but most of all, the Elks believed in John Bullock's slogan this past year, '*Just Do It!*', and we certainly did just that.

The task for each member, each lodge officer and each State official is to move forward, one challenge at a time. When Elks are tired, they recharge and complete the task. When our community projects are taking up all of our skills and strength, Elks recharge and add a friend to complete the project. Friendship and believing in one another are personal challenges that benefit Elkdom as a whole.

Members are volunteering; and every Elk member should show appreciation for these folks' dedication to our lodges. Without volunteers, the task of keeping our lodges and projects on schedule would be very difficult. Scholarships, Grants, Drug Awareness, Americanism, Hoop Shoot, Veterans, Camp Carefree, and home-grown lodge programs show that Elks do care, Elks do share; but these programs do require volunteers to carry them out. Please be a part of the solution—step up to the challenge and offer your assistance.

The growth in membership is not by accident; but because people living in your communities want to belong to an active, financially strong organization that helps those less fortunate. Be a part of the solution—your community will reward your lodge with new members and a greater understanding of Elkdom.

Working with all of the NCSEA officers and committees, it will be one of my first goals to enhance the communications between committee members and chairpersons. If this past year has taught us anything direct meetings via Zoom WORK. Small Zoom committee meetings will increase communications with the hope of a greater involvement by all.

John Bullock's dedication to the Elks programs over this past year was outstanding. Sandy and I would like to thank John and his wife, Maria, for their help during both the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 State Conventions, making my year as President-Elect a great experience.

We are going to have a great year; and thank you, the members, for your support. If your lodge is having a program that you would like me to attend, please contact me at [bradyfrankt@gmail.com](mailto:bradyfrankt@gmail.com); or call me at 828-489-7492.