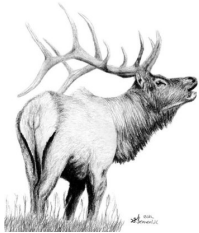


North  
Carolina



April-May 2021



## 2021-2022 NCSEA Officers Sworn In

In a ceremony conducted by State Sponsor PGER Arthur “Jack” Frost, the Officers of the North Carolina State Elks Association and the North Carolina Elks Charitable Trust were sworn in during the business luncheon at the Spring meeting of the NCSEA in Wilmington.

A full list of newly elected Officers and convention news is located on pages 3 - 5.



Pictured L-R: President Elect John Lawrence; NCSEA President Frank Brady.



## Message from State President Frank 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 Care-free, 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.

**North Carolina State Elks Assn. Officers  
for the 2021-2022 Year.**

<b>President</b>	<b>Frank Brady, Hendersonville Lodge</b>
<b>President Elect</b>	<b>John Lawrence, New Bern Lodge</b>
<b>Vice Presidents</b>	
<b>East</b>	<b>Debra Welch, Oak Island Lodge</b>
<b>East Central</b>	<b>Michelle DeLaire, Raleigh Lodge</b>
<b>West Central</b>	<b>Toni Deal, Salisbury Lodge</b>
<b>West</b>	<b>Gary Gantt, Hickory Lodge</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Michael Curran, Winston Salem Lodge</b>
<b>Assistant Secretary</b>	<b>Mark Alderman, Mt. Airy Lodge</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Gary Plough, Morehead City-Beaufort Lodge</b>
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	<b>Kyle Puryear, Roxboro Lodge</b>
<b>Directors</b>	<b>Michael Bryant, Hickory Lodge</b>
	<b>Ronald Delzer, Morehead City-Beaufort Lodge</b>
	<b>Shari Driscoll, High Point Lodge</b>
	<b>John Bullock, Roxboro Lodge</b>
<b>Chaplain</b>	<b>Patrick Russell, Winston Salem Lodge</b>
<b>Tiler</b>	<b>Steve Johnson, Sanford Lodge</b>
<b>Parliamentarian</b>	<b>David King, Elizabeth City Lodge</b>

## Convention News



Michelle DeLaire was awarded the Thad Eure Distinguished Service Award for her tireless effort to provide hurricane relief. Making the presentation is Peter Briedenbach.

Flat Jack who first made an appearance at the St. Louis convention made an unexpected visit and was presented to Jack Frost.

Pictured with Jack are Shari Driscoll and Michelle DeLaire



Special Guests for the weekend were the Presidents of South Carolina and Virginia.

Pictured Left, SC President Kenneth Martin and wife Kaye

Pictured Right VA President John Owen and wife Nancy



The incoming Officers of the NCSEA and the NC Elks Charitable Trust lined up to take the oath of office.





## Convention News Continued



The District **Exalted Ruler of the Year** awards were presented by PER Association President Joe Clancy. On the left Mark Alderman stood in for Norman Marion of the Mt Airy Lodge who received it posthumously. Gary Gantt of the Hickory Lodge; Debbie Welch of the Oak Island Lodge; and John Bullock of the Roxboro Lodge.



Past State President John Bullock passing the gavel to newly installed State President Frank Brady

Past PER Association President Joe Clancy handing off the gavel to newly installed President Mickey Lail.



# *Message From Grand Exalted Ruler Paul Ryan*

## **Our Flag, our Loyalty, and our Veterans**



Honoring the flag of our country on a day of national recognition for our flag is one of the proudest things we can do as Elks. After all, Flag Day was first introduced by the Elks. You should be honored to put on the Flag Day ceremony. Talk to your city if they have a memorial that can be performed in conjunction with the Legion or VFW. My Lodge has performed it at a Veterans Hospital. Perform the ceremony in a place where many will see it and be educated by it. As you can see by my pin, the flag of the greatest country on earth is something that Stacey and I cherish deeply. I

hope you will feel the same sense of pride this Flag Day. That being said, you should also honor fathers this month. I know that my father has taught me a great plenty in life and I am so proud to call him dad. My father-in-law has also been a great influence on me. My wife may have been the one that got me into the Elks, but he was the one who set me on my path and mentored me to where I am today. I am proud of them both and I am so glad that they have both been an influence to me. Make sure to come to Tampa and partake in all of the great convention seminars and meetings. There is so much to do and so much to learn. You will also have a chance to meet other great Elks throughout the nation and gain new ideas and develop new connections. Don't just rush out and join your own state in their hospitality room—go get introduced to others. Stacey and I look forward to seeing you soon in Tampa.

**Remember to Create Momentum for the Future of Elkdom!**

**Elks Care — Elks Share**

## 11 O'clock Toast Contest



The 11 O'clock Toast contest held during the NCSEA convention in Wilmington was won by two members of the Mt Airy Lodge. Tim Richards won the ER Division and Mark Alderman won the Open Division.

Tim's overall score was higher so he should be our representative to the Grand Lodge competition, but has declined to participate so Mark will be Representing North Carolina in Tampa.

## Lodge Bulletins: USPS vs. E-mail

The Grand Secretary's Office has seen an increase in inquiries about e-mailing the Lodge bulletin to save the Lodge money. Per the following Statute and Opinions, yes, a Lodge can e-mail the bulletin to a Member. Consequently, a Lodge cannot mandate all Members will receive the bulletin electronically if a Member requests a paper copy via regular mail: Section 1.115: "Notice: Except as otherwise directed by Executive Order, any notice required to be sent or mailed to all Members of the Lodge may be included in the Lodge Bulletin or sent electronically to any Member who has given written authorization to receive notices electronically. Notice which is required to be served upon a specific Member must be served personally, by United States Mail or by United States Mail, Certified, Return Receipt Requested as specifically provided." Section 16.150 Opinion 03: "If a Lodge publishes any magazine, newspaper, bulletin or other periodical devoted to the interests of the Order, every Member of that Lodge is entitled to receive a copy of each such publication, whether by electronic delivery or by regular mail." Section 16.150 Opinion 04: "The Lodge Bulletin may be sent electronically to any Member without written authorization from that Member, unless otherwise requested by the Member.

Grand Secretary Bryan R. Klatt



## Congratulations to Grand Lodge Americanism Essay Contest Winner Eliza Cordray



Congratulations from all North Carolina Elks go out to Eliza Cordray from Thomas Jefferson Middle School, in Winston Salem. Eliza placed first in the Grand Lodge Americanism Essay Contest competition.

Pictured from (L-R): Joe Knight, ER; Elaine Hartle, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher Thomas Jefferson Middle School; Eliza Cordray; Randy Zigmund, Lodge Americanism Chairman.

### “How can Patriotism be Demonstrated?”

What does patriotism even mean?  
It means a lot more than it seems  
It means showing love and respect to your state  
It means thanking your country that is so great  
It means remembering those who died  
Those who were brave and showed our 'country pride'  
So I ask myself how can me, a girl who is not even a teen,  
Show patriotism and keep our country green?  
And now you shall know how I plan to do it  
In the lines below I will admit to it.  
I can stand during our anthem and put my hand on my heart  
I can pick up trash and do my part  
When I become of age I will vote  
I can be kind to others and won't gloat  
I can learn from our history and the great cost  
I can thank our veterans and remember those who were lost  
I can speak up for others who are shy  
I can listen and be there for you if you cry  
I can be an example for others like the way I look up to my mother  
I can fight for equality like no other  
I can be a leader and spread hope and cheer  
I can be brave in times of fear  
That's how I plan to do it  
I will wake up every morning and show patriotism bit by bit  
So, thank you America for being so great!  
I wonder what tomorrow will bring? Oh I cannot wait  
I am so glad I live in this country and state!



## A Message From Your NC Elks Charitable Trust

*“The Charitable Trust  
Endowment Fund is an  
Investment in our Future”*

The Charitable Trust held its Annual Corporation meeting at the Spring Convention in Wilmington, NC on Saturday, 5/1/21. Overall, the Trust continues to perform well in all key areas of supporting our NCSEA. Financial performance continues to be strong due to the positive economic results in the markets. Our strategy is to preserve our assets but look for appropriate growth opportunities.

This past year, the Charitable Trust facilitated the transfer of \$149,170 in ENF funds directly to the State Association. Also, an additional \$2,000 was provided for Scholarship funds and \$20,000 was given to 20 different lodges for the Community Grant program. The Board of Directors voted to allocate \$35,000 to share in the cost of a new bus for the VA Home in Kernersville, which is planned to open in August, 2021. Total Charitable Trust disbursements totaled \$57,000 compared to donations to the Trust of \$7,931.

The following Officers were elected by the board at their meeting on Friday, April 30th:

Phil Driscoll – President  
David King – Vice President  
Lee Littiken – Secretary  
Steve Clarke – Treasurer

The following Board positions were elected at the Annual meeting on Saturday, May 1st:

East 4 year Director – Mark Kerr  
East Central 4 Year Director – Lee Littiken  
West Central 4 Year Director – Mike Curran  
West 4 Year Director – Tim Long  
West 2 Year Director – Shane Cook  
(replacing John Boyd)

Phil Driscoll  
NC Elks Charitable Trust President

### HOW CAN I DONATE?

Mail a check to: NC Elks Charitable Trust -PO Box 29452, Greensboro, NC 27429-9452.

Give cash, credit card or check to Lodge Secretary.

Online at [ncelks.org](http://ncelks.org). Click on Charitable Trust link.  
Scan code on mobile device.





## 2019-2020 Hoop Shoot Results

After waiting a year the Six North Carolina State Hoop Shoot Champions finally got to finish what was started in 2019. Our six champions were 8-9 boy Peyton Gregory representing North Wilkesboro Lodge #1846, 8-9 girl Emily Bridges representing Hickory Lodge #1654, 10-11 girl Stella Wall representing Mount Airy Lodge #2061, 10-11 boy Ethan Keith representing Goldsboro Lodge #139, 12-13 girl Ariyonna Smart representing Roxboro Lodge #2005 and 12-13 boy Ethan Durgadin representing Fayetteville Lodge #1081. The Regional Finals were held in person in Roxboro at Huck Sansbury Gym, in person at North Wilkes High School and Virtually in Las Vegas Nevada. All contestants had a great shoot with 4 advancing to the National Finals which was held at Huck Sansbury Gym in Roxboro on April 17, 2021. Again our Regional Champions had a great shoot, but had to wait over three weeks to find out where they finished. On Friday night May 14, 2021 the Hoop Shoot had their Virtual Reveal on You Tube. A tuff division our 8-9 boy Peyton Gregory finished fourth in a tie-breaker shooting 23 of 25 and 8 of 10 extra shots. Another tuff division our 8-9 girl Emily Bridges finished runner up, second in the nation in a tie-breaker shooting 23 of 25 and 5 of 5 extra shots. Another tuff division our 10-11 girl Stella Wall finished eighth in a tie-breaker shooting 20 of 25 and 8 of 10 extra shots .Our

12-13 boy Ethan Durgadin finished sixth in a tie-breaker shooting 24 of 25 and 24 of 25 extra shots, this division was the tuffest with four contestants shooting 25 of 25 and four contestants shooting 24 of 25 and three contestants shooting 23 of 25. As the North Carolina Hoop Shoot Director I along with the North Carolina Elks we are so proud of all our contestants and I want to thank everyone who volunteered in all aspects of the Hoop Shoot Program. A special thanks to Ron Dickson, Derrick Sims, Lisa Parrish, John Evans, Loretta Moses, Kyle Puryear and John Bullock who volunteered for both the Regional and National Finals.

Thanks to Person County Parks and Recreation for allowing us to use their facility in Roxboro for the Regional and National Finals. Special thanks to Denise Connolly and Randy Culler and David and Amy Gregory for volunteering at the Regional Finals at North Wilkes High School. Also thanks to the parents of Ethan Keith, Brett and Hannah for helping Ethan compete Virtually from Las Vegas Nevada. Thanks and congratulations to all the contestants for an outstanding performance and thanks to each contestants parents, for allowing and helping them to finish what was started in 2019. A big thank you to all that were able and allowed to attend the events due to the restrictions due to the Pandemic. It was an honor and a privilege to be involved in our Hoop Shoot program.

Thanks!  
NCSEA State Hoop Shoot Director  
Mark Alderman

Hoop Shoot Pictures on Next Page





## ENF Scholarships Make a Difference

### Thank You Notes From Our Scholarship Recipients

Dear Elks National Foundation,

I am truly grateful, humbled, and honored to be a recipient of the 2021-2022 Most Valuable Student Scholarship. I am writing to thank you for the generous support towards my education. This fall, I will be attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. I will be majoring in Pre-Medicine/Biology while minoring in History. This scholarship is a blessing and will assist me in achieving my educational goals. I hope that one day I will be able to give back and support the next generation of students as you have supported me. Again, thank you for this wonderful opportunity.

Sincerely,

John C. Veeneman

Pinecrest High School, Class of 2021

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Class of 2025

Dear Mr. Kinnaman and committee,  
As a recipient of the 2021 Most Valuable Student Scholarship, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your generosity and support. I am truly honored that you found me worthy of this esteemed scholarship. Receiving this award motivates me to achieve my goal of becoming a pharmacist at the University of South Carolina. This will allow me to give back to my community, as you and the North Carolina Elks Association have so graciously done.

Sincerely,  
Madeline Todd



# Certificates Available for Local Winners of MVS & Nursing Scholarships

With the help of Steve Johnson, the Scholarship Committee now has a very nice certificate available for winners of the MVS and Nursing Scholarships. These are available on an "as needed" basis, i.e., school award ceremonies, etc.

Committee Chairman Bruce Kinnaman has been contacted by two schools requesting certificates and someone from the Elks to present the certificates at the school ceremony. We have local scholarship chairpersons from Calabash and Hickory planning to attend school awards night in their areas. This is excellent exposure for the North Carolina Elks and our scholarship program.

If anyone needs certificates, please contact me and I will get them in the mail right away! Contact information is below.

Dorothy S. Kinnaman  
bekinnaman@yahoo.com  
1637 Doe Run Rd, Hillsville, VA 24343  
Home: 276-398-4004 Mobile: 252-728-0861



# Grand Lodge Convention

Tampa FL, July 4th—7th

North Carolina housing chairman Mike Curran has reservation forms posted on line at [ncelks.org](http://ncelks.org)

The North Carolina delegation is staying at the Westin Tampa Waterside.

## Pre-registration is Open for the Tampa Convention

Online pre-registration opened April 1 with new distribution procedures being implemented in Tampa. Pre-registration will be the best way to avoid lines and safely receive your credentials and other critical attendee information. Pre-registration is available at [elks.org/convention/prereg.cfm](http://elks.org/convention/prereg.cfm) and runs through June 21. The Elks National Convention Commission is working closely with the Tampa Convention Center and Visit Tampa Bay to plan for a safe and healthy Elks National Convention. Safety measures and plans are evolving, but are likely to include social distancing, attendee occupancy management, and personal mask use that is currently required in Tampa.

**Members who pre-register will be able to pick up their credentials from Mike Curran in the North Carolina hospitality room.** There will be no Grand Lodge Committee booths/exhibits and no State Major Project booths at this years convention.



**Westin Tampa Waterside**

## Then and Now - A Brief History of the NC Elks Boys Camp



In the year 1944 a 300 acre camp site in Zirconia, near Hendersonville, was offered to the NC Elks for the purpose of establishing a Boy's Camp. Spartanburg County SC agreed to let the Elks have it provided they were reimbursed the \$8000. they had spent on the property which had been donated to them.

In 1945 the North Carolina Elks Boy's Camp was established and 251 boys from across the state were accommodated the first season. The Camp operated successfully for many years until finally financial considerations and the liability of running a camp became a burden, and at the Fall convention in 2003 a vote was taken to sell the camp with the proceeds going to the NC Charitable Trust Coates Endowment Fund. It was during that time we voted on our now major projects, the North Carolina Veterans Homes and Camp Carefree.

The camp was operated for many years after that as the Talisman Summer Camp. Then recently an article appeared in the Hendersonville Times-News regarding the formation of a private school on that property. The Wild Oak Independent School, which will start classes this coming September for grades 1-6.

For us old timers, it brings back memories of hours working to maintain the camp and getting it ready for campers. It was a wonderful project while it lasted, however like all good things, it was time to move on.



# News From the Lodges

## Goldsboro Uses Grant to Allow Goldsboro Ballet to Reopen

One year ago, the Goldsboro Ballet (<https://www.goldsboroballet.com>) was forced to shut down their annual production of Alice in Wonderland due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Goldsboro Ballet is a non-profit dance organization whose mission is to produce quality ballet performances for the citizens of Goldsboro, North Carolina. Many of the ballet performers are children and young adults whose dance education and training is subsidized by the income of the performances. Not being able to perform was devastating for the organization both emotionally and financially.

But this March, with a Gratitude grant donation from Goldsboro Elks Lodge #139, the show went on! Socially distanced audience members were able to escape the stress of their daily lives as they journeyed with Alice down the Rabbit hole to explore Wonderland. Gratitude grant funds also helped record ballet performances for future viewings by local schools and church groups.

Goldsboro Elks Lodge #139 was proud to be able to help this wonderful organization fulfill its mission and bring joy to so many people.



Above: 4 Elks members who got to attend the dress rehearsal to meet and get pictures prior to opening night. The Elks members include Craig Franklin, Shelby and Eric Ostendorf, and Exalted Ruler Alex Wingate – who got to perform the non-speaking and definitely NOT dancing role of Lewis Carroll.





## Calabash Lodge Presents MVS Scholarship



A North Carolina State Elks Association Most Valuable Student \$1000 scholarship was presented to Madeline Todd of South Columbus High School during recent award ceremonies at the school.

Pictured from L-R: Scholarship recipient Madeline Todd; Exalted Ruler Robert "Shorty" Denny; and PER Juanita Adams.

## Oak Island Lodge Presents Scholarship



The Oak Island Elks Veterans committee presented a scholarship to Austin Rheuby on May 18 at South Brunswick High School. The scholarship is for \$500 for the first 1/2 of the year, another \$500 will be presented for the second 1/2 of the school year if performance standards are met. Austin will be attending VMI beginning this fall.

Pictured are Elks Vet Committee chair Ed Drzewiecki and scholarship recipient Austin Rheuby.

## Calabash Veterans Committee Donates to Veterans Welcome Home Center

The Calabash Veteran's Affairs Committee recently made a \$1,640.00 donation to the "Veterans Welcome Home and Resource Center" located in Little River, SC. This donation brings the total of Committee donations to the Center to over \$15,000 since 2014. The funds were provided by generous donations from the Calabash Elks Bingo Committee and a Sunset Beach resident couple. These funds will allow the Center to financially assist veterans with rent, utility payments, food, and basic necessities under the COVID-19 challenges.



Pictured L-R: John Corbett, VAC Co-Chairman; Scott Dulebohn, Director, Veterans Welcome Home & Resource Center; and Jerry Kimble, VAC Co-Chairman.

## Newton Elks Donate to March Madness Food Drive

Newton Elks Lodge Exalted Ruler Paul Hunsucker (R) presents a \$500 check to Stephen Sims (L) for the Eastern Catawba Cooperative Christian Ministry for their March Madness Food Drive. The Newton Lodge also donated several cases of can food and supplies to the recent ECCCM NCAA March Madness Food Drive. Elks Care! Elks Share!





## Calabash Elks Donate to Helping Hands

The Calabash Elks presented a check for \$1500 to North Strand Helping Hands in North Myrtle Beach. Helping Hands is a non profit that provides counseling, food, clothing and financial assistance to those in need.



Pictured L-R: Jeanne Jennings, Helping Hands volunteer; Elk Ron Bineti; Kelly Johnson, Helping Hands Executive Director; and Al Harms DDGER

## Fayetteville Elks Use Beacon Grant for Falcon Children's Home and Family Services

Fayetteville BPOE #1081, presented an Elks ENF Beacon Grant for \$1,750 to the Falcon Children's Home. For over one hundred and ten years, the non-profit Falcon Children's Home and Family Services has been providing a home for children who, for whatever reason, are unable to live with their parents in a regular home setting.



## Roxboro Elks Hold National Youth Week

Roxboro Elks Lodge #2005 proudly kicked off its annual National Youth Week from May 1<sup>st</sup> – 7th. Reggie Horton presented proclamation on behalf of the City of Roxboro and County Commissioners Kyle Puryear and Derrick Sims presented a proclamation on behalf of the County. The City of Roxboro also issued a proclamation to the Lodge. Afterwards, Commissioner Puryear and Sims gave a keynote speech to the Elks in attendance on the importance on being involved with the youth in our community.

The Roxboro Lodge has a continued partnership with Person County Parks and Recreation to give kids an opportunity to participate in outdoor recreation activities. These activities give another recreational perspective from athletics or arts programming and can lead to an appreciation and respect for the natural world.

## Goldsboro Elks Recognize Essay and Scholarship Winners

Goldsboro Elks Lodge was proud to host our annual American Essay, Nursing Scholarship, and Most Valuable Student Scholarship winners and their parents at our May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Our local lodge Americanism Essay winners were Liam Wheeler, Adaijah Evans, Jasmine Paez Deleone, Landon Brooks, and Peyton Johnson. Three of our winners went on to win additional prizes at the state level. These students were Jasmine Paez Deleone, Landon Brooks, and Peyton Johnson.

The NC Elks Nursing Scholarship winner was Carly Hooks. The Most Valuable Student Scholarship winners were Nathanael Starling, Joseph Crane, Carley Hooks, Erica Stanley, and Anne Freemon.

The winners of our local lodge Most Valuable Student Scholarships were submitted for additional Elks scholarship funding at our state and national levels. We are proud to report that Erica Stanley earned additional state level funding while Anne Freemon earned additional scholarship funding at the state and national level.

In total, these deserving Wayne County students earned close to \$10,000 in Elks scholarships and prizes.



Pictured are all winners and ER Alex Wingate and PER Doug McGrath





## Calabash Elks Donate to First Tee

The Calabash Elks donated \$1500 from their recent charity golf tournament to First Tee of Coastal Carolina. They have not been able to open the Leadership academy due to the covid 19 restrictions, but are hoping to be able to hold some limited summer camps this year.

Pictured L-R: Rich Rust PER, Elk Ron Binetti and Shannon Parks CLA Director of The First Tee of Coastal Carolinas.



## Hickory Elks Recognizes the Patriotism of CommScope Headquarters

During a ceremony held on Thursday, March 26, 2021 at CommScope's headquarters members of the Hickory Elks Lodge presented a certificate of recognition to the company for the patriotic manner in which the American flag is flown at the corporate building day and night throughout the year. It has been a common sight for those traveling on Interstate 40 to view the massive flag flying from the staff located on the building's rooftop. In addition, there are 3 flag poles on the grounds outside the building's main entrance that display the American flag, the North Carolina State flag, and the CommScope flag. Mr. Frank Drendel, CommScope's founder and Chairman Emeritus, stated that during the construction of the building the placing of the flagpole on the rooftop was never an afterthought. He said that he receives on average ten letters annually from folks passing the building on Interstate 40 praising CommScope for this display of patriotism. A veteran of the U.S. Army, Mr. Drendel, then a non-commissioned officer in the Chemical Corps, served in and around the DaNang area during the Vietnam War in 1968. He reflected on how his humble beginnings and his military service led to his love of country and his enthusiastic determination to grow a business. The evidence of that enthusiasm can be seen in the global success of CommScope today.

Participating in the CommScope recognition presentation to Mr. Drendel was Hickory Elks Lodge Exalted Ruler Gary Gantt and Lodge Americanism Committee Chairperson Charlie Self.



## Oak Island Elks Purchase Items for Veterans at Kinston Home

The Oak Island Elks Lodge members #2769 generously gathered items and donated an additional \$210 to purchase items for Veterans residing at the Kinston NC State Veterans home. These few simple things help make their day brighter; toiletries, books, puzzle books, soft drinks and snacks. Special thanks to Chris Coughlin for coordinating the donations and driving them to Kinston NC.



Pictured from L to R: Chris Coughlin, Oak Island Elks Veterans Committee; Kimberly Dixon, Kinston Veterans Home Activities Director and Steve Martin Oak Island Veterans Committee Chair.

## Oak Island Elks Volunteer to Weed Butterfly Garden

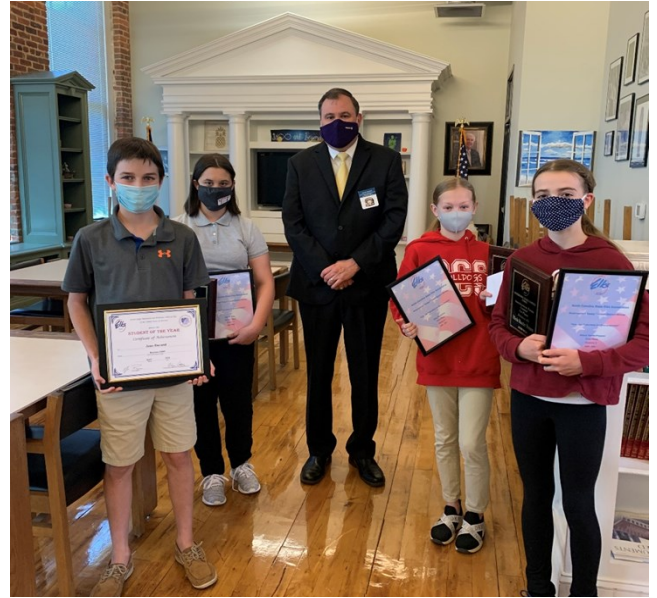
A group of volunteers from the Oak Island ELKS 2769 Veterans Committee did the hard work of weeding the butterfly garden at Oak Island Veterans Park on Monday morning 4/26/21. The garden was destroyed by flooding from Hurricane Isaias after which, the weeds took over. Before their work, the garden was covered by weeds, especially the tough "dollar weeds". The garden will be replanted by the OKI Beautification club in the next couple weeks.



Pictured L- R: Mary M, Lois L, Gerri W, Bob W, Sus S, Laura N, Judie R, Darlene L, Ed D and (not pictured / photographer) Steve M.

## Roxboro Elks Recognize Americanism Essay Contest Winners

The Roxboro Elks Lodge would like to announce the local winners of the 2020-21 Americanism Essay Contest. This year's theme was "How can Patriotism be Demonstrated?" and over 150 local students participated in this year's contest and the Roxboro Lodge Americanism Committee had a tough task in selecting the top essays since they all were all outstanding. The contestants are divided into two divisions. Division I is composed of 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders and Division II consists of 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders. In Division I for East Central District, Janiya Steed had the third place entry. Natalie Epps finished second place. Zoey Rochefort took first place honors in the District. In Division II for East Central District, Alexis Vander Poppen had the first-place entry. Roxboro Lodge #2005 is exceptionally proud of all of the participants and would like to thank Beth Stultz and April Cobb for encouraging their students to participate in the contest.



## ROXBORO ELKS USE GRANTS TOWARDS LOCAL SENIOR CENTER

The Roxboro Elks Lodge donated \$8,000 in community investment grants towards the local Senior Center in Person County. These funds assisted with their needs especially during the Covid-19 crisis. One way the senior center has tried to reach seniors who are shut in and or using extreme caution so as not to contract the virus is through virtual programming. However, with much of their funds restricted to specific programming, they have struggled to have a significant impact with their limited resources. These funds enabled them to purchase equipment, have staff certified in evidence based programming and to purchase materials for participants to have at home to participate in their virtual programming. The funding provided a wide range of supports, activities and evidence based training for over 250 Person County seniors and helped improve and maintain social, emotional, physical and cognitive health. Also, it provided options such as virtual support for caregivers through video and phone meetings, approximately 45 caregivers received facilitated support and have a shared forum of concerns, problems, and solutions, thus reducing chances of caregiver burn out and improving quality of care for their family members needing care. The Roxboro Lodge is proud to have help met this community need met by connecting and creating interactive experiences for participants and older adults in the community to be engaged in widely available activities, conversation, or instruction through the senior center to alleviate loneliness and address isolation.



## Calabash Elks Donate to Help 4 Kids

The Calabash Lodge recently donated \$1500 to Help 4 Kids in North Myrtle Beach. The goal of Help 4 Kids is to keep kids stay healthy, happy and fed throughout the year.

Pictured is Ron Bineti who presented the check to Barb Mains, Director of Help 4 Kids.



**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)**

## North Carolina Elks A Beacon of Light

