

News from East District Lodges

Kinston Lodge Sponsored Drink Drive for Veterans Home

The Kinston Elks Lodge sponsored a drink donation drive for the residents of Kinston Veteran's Home. In total, over 20 cases of water and soda were donated to the home which is still in lockdown due to Covid 19 concerns. The Kinston Lodge is a huge supporter of the Veteran's home and in the past has hosted bingo parties, BBQs, and other fellowship activities with the residents.

Pictured is Kinston Lodge Secretary Mr. Jack Strickland picking up the drinks for delivery to the Kinston Veteran's Home.



Goldsboro PER Doug McGrath Receives DOD Spirit of Hope Award

Goldsboro Elks member and past Exalted Ruler Doug McGrath, was chosen as the Air Force's nominee and winner of the Department of Defense's Spirit of Hope Award.

The Spirit of Hope award is a military award named in honor of Mr. Bob Hope and recognizes civilians who exemplify Mr. Hope's legacy of service to military members and their families. Past recipients include The Fisher House and Gary Sinise.

Doug was nominated for his many years of service to Seymour Johnson AFB to include establishing a scholarship fund for the spouses and children of fallen and disabled Airmen, raising over 100k in money and goods to help support base led operations in support of Afghan refugees, and spearheading NC Freedom Fest, an annual music festival celebrating local Airmen and their families. Doug is also a huge supporter of the Veteran community and has led numerous donation drives and outreach events for the Kinston Veteran's Home.



Pictured; Doug McGrath being presented the award from Secretary of the Air Force Mr. Frank Kendall

Calabash Veterans Committee Treats Veterans to Fishing Outing

On Oct 14, the Calabash Elks Veterans Affairs Committee (VAC) hosted 6 veterans and 2 aides from **River Park Senior Living** in Little River to a morning of fishing at the Sunset Beach Pier. The fishing was followed by lunch and socializing back at the Elks Lodge.

On Oct 27th, the VAC again hosted 7 veterans and 4 aides from the **Fayetteville Veterans Home** for fishing and lunch back at the Elks.



Shallotte Lodge Donates to Lords Food Pantry



The Shallotte Elks Lodge donated \$1500.00 from a NCSEA Charitable Trust grant to South Brunswick Interchurch Council, The Lords Food Pantry.

Pictured from left to right LEADING Knight John Olear; Mike Claxton President SBIC; and Exalted Ruler Robert Kordiak.



Shallotte Elks Donate to Field of Honor

Kiwanis of Shallotte-SBI held an opening ceremony on Saturday, November 5, 2022, for their Field of Honor, Honoring Those Who Served past and present by displaying over 300 flags. Field of Honor will be on display through December 7, 2022 at Mulberry Park, Shallotte. The Shallotte Elks Lodge donated \$2926 towards the purchase of flags for the Field of Honor. The Shallotte Elks donated money last year and this year for about 137 flags. The Shallotte Elks concluded with their Flag Day Ceremony.

Picture from left to right Esquire Samantha Greene; Exalted Ruler Robert Kordiak; PER Paul Salerno; Michael Kirchner, Chair of Kiwanis Field of Honor; PER Walt Wilson; Leading Knight John Olear; and PER Sue Berardi. .



Calabash Elks & Ladies Auxiliary Donate to Food Bank

The Lodge members and the Ladies Auxiliary, in a friendly contest, vied to see who could donate the most to a local food bank. The weigh in at Brunswick Family Assistance produced the winner. The Lodge members donated 412 lbs while the Ladies donated 223 lbs. However, the real winner was the food bank, with 635 lbs of groceries for those in need. In addition the Lodge donated \$1500 to support family assistance programs.

Pictured L-R; Tyffanie Paganello, Outreach Coordinator; ER Gene Bellando; Mark Kerr; and Ladies Auxiliary President Kathy Kelly



News from East Central District Lodges

Raleigh Lodge Supports Backpack Buddies



The Raleigh Elks Lodge volunteers go to Backpack Buddies on the second Wednesday of each month to fill family food boxes for those in need.

We have made donations of food and money to help support this program since 2018.



Raleigh Elks Sell BBQ Chickens to Support Local Charities

On September 22, we had another successful chicken BBQ! We had to close for drive up sales because we SOLD OUT by 5:30! After expenses, we had a profit of \$2731.17!! This money will be split between The Army of Hope, The Durham VA, The Boys and Girls Club and The Disabled Veterans Fishing Program, and The Lodge of course!



Southern Pines Lodge Donates Grants to Local Charities



Southern Pines Lodge used their Beacon Grant to assist “Military Mission in Action” With programs like “Fill The Footlocker” providing care packages to active-duty, homeless Veterans, and low-income active-duty with families, MMIA has global reach. Operation Building Hope modifies Veteran’s homes for safe, handicap-accessible, independent living. Construction of wheelchair ramps, widening doorways, or roll-in showers, help keep a Veteran in their home. The Homes For Healing program provides household goods to formerly homeless Veterans.

Pictured: James Pederson, ER David Griener



Southern Pines Lodge donated their Gratitude Grant to Sandhills Warriors Basketball. Founded in 1991 by Coach Garrye Chavis in response to the local concerns of rising crime, health problems, and drug abuse among area youths. The program seeks to address issues facing youths and their family in a fragmented society where many families lack direction and young people are drifting into negative behaviors. Requiring a minimum grade point average, practice good citizenship, and refrain from negative behaviors in the community. Funds are used for tournament registration, transportation, lodging for coaches and players, and uniforms. The team has been to the national championships three times in the last five years.

Pictured: Garrye Chavis; David Griener, Exalted Ruler; and two team members.

Southern Pines donations continue on following page.

Southern Pines Donations Continued



Southern Pines Lodge donated \$2000 of their Beacon Grant to Linden Lodge. Dedicated to the recovery of men and women with a serious and persistent mental illness by providing opportunities for our residents to live, work, and learn. Serving individuals with severe mental illness that are currently receiving Social Security, Social Security Disability, and Medicaid/Medicare benefits. Providing on-site access to recreational, art, and music therapy, physical fitness and wellness opportunities, and if possible meaningful employment, or volunteerism in the local community.

Pictured; Beth Stevens, David Griener, Exalted Ruler

Southern Pines Lodge donated their Spotlight grant to Tessa Davis, Social Worker for three Moore County schools. Servicing over 1100 students, and needing to stock three offices full of supplies, Tessa reached out for assistance via the Moore County Ask Your Neighbor Facebook page, and presented us with an Amazon wish-list registry. Primarily in need of bookbags to be filled with specific items related to her interaction with students via social work.

Pictured; Tessa Davis and David Griener,
Exalted Ruler



Raleigh Elks Host Veterans

On November 13, the Raleigh Elks hosted 100 Veterans and their significant other for a beautiful luncheon prepared and served by volunteers from the lodge.



Roxboro Elks Lodge Holds its 1st Soccer Shoot



Raleigh Elks Support Meals on Wheels

The Raleigh Elks Lodge #735 packed and delivered 1350 breakfast bags for Meals on Wheels of Wake County. Funding was provided by the ENF Spotlight Grant.



News from West Central District Lodges

Greensboro Elks Hold Fundraiser for Tunnels to Towers Foundation

The Greensboro Lodge recently held a "Let's Roll Tunnels For Towers" Fundraiser on 9/11 at our Lodge. Our Veteran's Committee, chaired by Nancy Brown served as the Welcoming Committee for this well attended family event! First Responders were provided with a complimentary lunch, while Greensboro Fire Department provided an official "Arch Detail", in honor of 9/11.

Representatives of Irreverent Warriors and Folds of Honor attended and performed. In addition, there was live entertainment and vendors.

This commemorative 9/11 event raised an outstanding total of \$15,000 for the Tunnels To Towers Foundation from participating Elks Members and Guests.



Pictured Left; Exalted Ruler Debbie Barrow (blue shirt)with First Responders.

Pictured Right; Nancy Brown (red shirt)and Veteran's Committee volunteers



Mt Airy Donates Grants to Local Charities

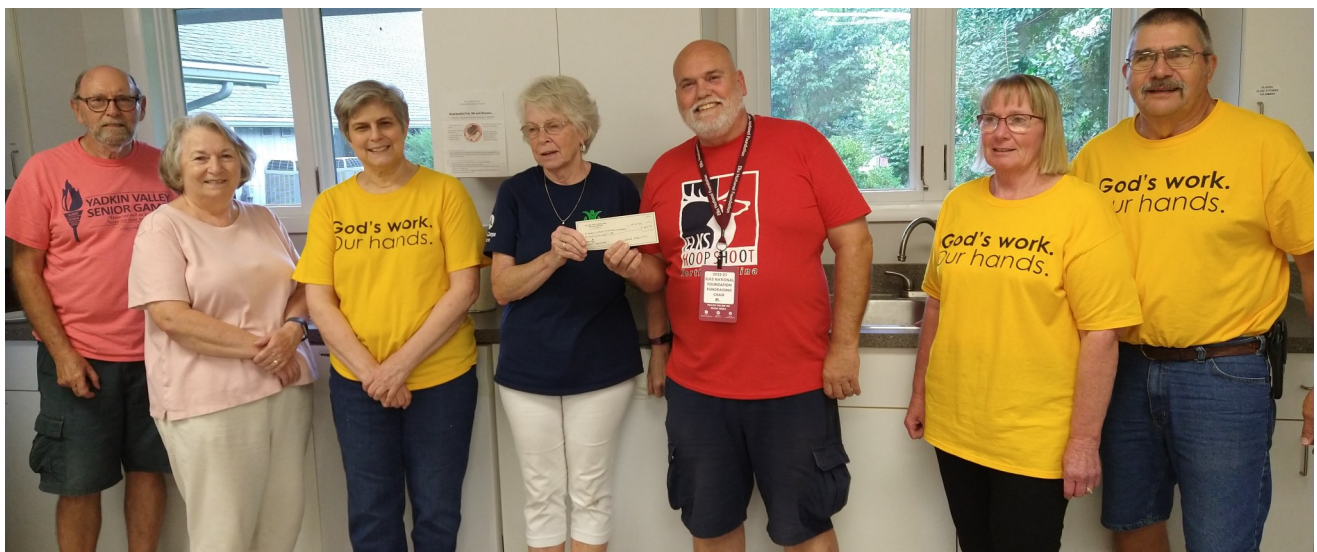


Left; Mark Alderman Grants Coordinator for Mount Airy Lodge presents a check from the ENF's Gratitude Grant to The Shepherd House so they can continue to provide direct resources for families that are provided temporary housing.



Right; Mark Alderman Grants Coordinator for Mount Airy Elks Lodge presents check from the ENF's Gratitude Grant to Maranatha Homeless Outreach Ministries so they can provide weekly meals to the homeless and needy.

Below; Mark Alderman Grants Coordinator for Mount Airy Lodge present check from the ENF's Gratitude Grant to the Saint Andrew Lutheran Church Out reach Ministries who provides a weekly hot meal to the homeless and needy.



Greensboro Lodge Provides Dinner for Veterans on Veterans Day

The veterans committee of the Greensboro Elks Lodge provided dinner for 185 veterans on November 11. It was a special event to celebrate and honor these fine people. Each veteran was given a goodie bag and a flag.



Pictured above; Exalted Ruler Debbie Barrow and our Veterans Committee Chair Nancy Brown.

Mt Airy Elks Uses Freedom Grant for Veterans Fishing Mission Project

The Mount Elks Lodge used the ENF Freedom Grant for their Veterans Fishing Mission project, in conjunction with 22 One Cast At A Time Veterans Commit Suicide Everyday, they helped provide two days of fishing at Cedar Springs Fish Farm for 125 Veterans included a meal for all Veterans one day, they also gave out several fishing rods & reels as door prizes. The Veterans really enjoyed their time fishing.



News from West District Lodges

Hickory Elks Donate Golf Equipment to Veterans

The Hickory Lodge Veterans Committee donated a collection of golf equipment to be used by wounded and disabled Veterans. Operation North State benefits Veterans throughout North Carolina. Special thanks to Jim Betton for collecting items.



Hickory Lodge Supports Scouting



The Lodge Youth Committee presented a check of \$500 to help sponsor the 41st Annual Piedmont Council Scouting Invitational that was held on October 13 at Catawba Springs golf course. The Hickory Lodge was a Silver Sponsor.

Pictured left to right; Frank O'Keefe, Youth Committee; Scout Director, Chris Scruggs; and ER, Robert Brisben.

Hickory Elks Hold Breakfast for National Guard and Families

The Hickory Elks Lodge Veterans Committee recently held a Ham Breakfast for National Guard Soldiers. 30 military families & or spouse who are deployed or who are deploying within the next month. Thanks to the “Elks National Spotlight Grant”, each family received a Love Box, which contained laundry & bath soap, canned goods, rice, beans, cereal and toiletry products. Families with babies were given wipes, sippy cups & snacks. 68 children also received a \$15.00 gift card thanks to “The Lady Elks”. The House Committee and Elk members cooked and served for event.

Pictured left to right, Veterans Committee member, Tracy Gantt,; PER Carol Anderson; ER Robert Brisben; member, Billy Pernell; Veterans Committee Chair, Samantha Bowman; PER Gary Gantt; PER Mickey Lail; and Francis Johnson, North Carolina National Guard Soldier and Family Readiness Specialist.



Hickory Veterans Committee Raises Funds for Equine Therapy



The Veterans Committee along with help from Lodge members raised \$1368 to fund veterans participation in weekly equine therapy to assist with mental and physical recovery. Lodge members participated in the 5K trail run fundraiser at Shining Hope Farms.

Pictured L-R,; Leading Knight Cary Bowman: Lodge member Karl Kuehn and Veterans Committee Chair Samantha Bowman



**On behalf of the Officers and
Committee Members of the
North Carolina State
Elks Association**

**We wish You and Yours
a safe and enjoyable
Holiday Season.**

**May the New Year keep the
Spirit of Elkdom alive and
well in your Lodge.**

This publication is produced for and by the

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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

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