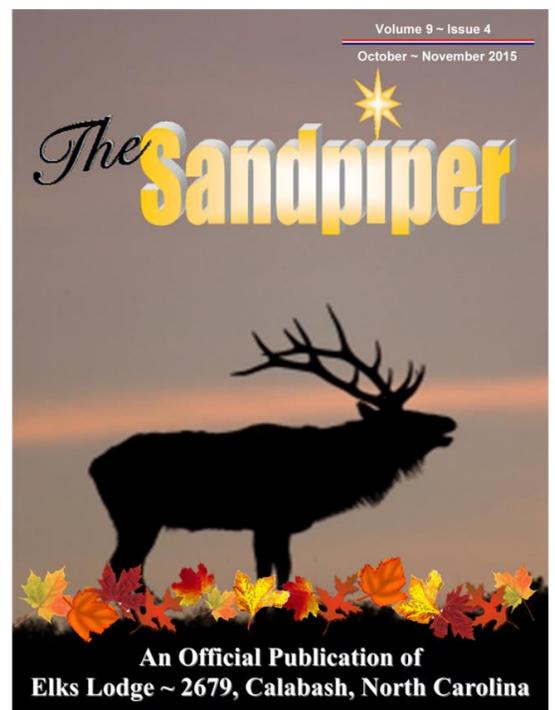


**The article below originally appeared in our October-November 2015 Edition of our "Sandpiper" Newsletter, and – was written to commemorate October 2015 as Elks National Foundation (ENF) month. This piece clearly delineates the many ways our Lodge, and in turn, our Local Community, has greatly benefited from the various ENF Grants we have received since Elks Year 2012-2013. Your contributions to the ENF can help us continue to serve our community as we have done over the past 30 years.**

***Elks Care ~ Elks Share***



## **OCTOBER IS ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION MONTH**

### **Building Stronger Communities Where Elks Live and Work**

October is Elks National Foundation Month, building stronger communities and celebrated by Elks everywhere.

In 1928, one man's dream became a reality for all Elks and the communities we serve. Then-National President, John F. Malley, envisioned a plan that would "unite the forces of the Order into a mighty army for the service of mankind." During the annual Grand Lodge Convention in Miami that year, Malley's call to service inspired delegates to take action by voting to establish the Elks National Foundation (ENF) with an initial \$100,000 grant.

More than 80 years after Malley shared his vision with the Order, the ENF continues to unite all Elks in service to their communities.



The mission of the ENF is to help Elks build stronger communities. We fulfill this pledge by investing in communities where Elks live and work. We provide tomorrow's leaders, our youth, with lifelong skills; honor the Elks' pledge to never forget our veterans; help the state Elks associations accomplish their charitable objectives; and fund projects that improve the quality of life in local Elks communities.

The Calabash Elks, and accordingly, the citizens of our surrounding community, have benefited greatly from monies made available to us through ENF Grants. Since Elks Year 2012-2013, our lodge has received \$21,500.00 from the ENF by way of Promise Grants, Freedom and Beacon Grants, and Gratitude Grants. Additionally, in 2010 and 2011 we received a total of an additional \$20,000 in Impact Grants.

Because of the \$8,500.00 in Promise Grants since Elks Year 2012-2013, our Youth Activities Committee was able to provide Positive Life Experiences for local youths who normally have very little positive anything in their lives. We took care of them at Christmas time, Valentine's Day, and Halloween, in addition to being able to take the Kids "Out to the Ballgame" year after year, and treat 2 special young ladies to "A Night in Paris" at their Senior Prom.

With \$4,00.00 in Freedom Grant monies, our Award-Winning Veteran's Affairs Committee (VAC) was able to continue supporting Veterans and Veterans' Programs locally and in the extended South-Eastern North Carolina areas of Fort Bragg in Fayetteville, NC, and our Wounded Warriors at Camp LeJeune in Jacksonville, NC. Last year, our VAC garnered a \$2,000.00 Beacon Grant which enabled them to host a Special Appreciation Luncheon which was attended by Veterans of 4 different wars. Each attendee was awarded a proprietary "Elks Lodge ~ 2679 VAC Appreciation" Blanket.

Being awarded \$7,000.00 in Gratitude Grants in recent years, our lodge was able to provide the students at the Waccamaw School in Ash, NC with many Books and a "Smart Board" for their outdated Media Center (Library), as well as Equipment for their Computer Lab. We provided the Playground Equipment in the Calabash Community Park (across the street from our lodge), including a "Special" Swing for Handicap Children.

In 2010 & 2011 our lodge was very fortunate to receive a total of \$20,000.00 in Impact Grants which enables our lodge to renovate the Living Center and Children's Learning Center at the Hope Harbor Home, a shelter for victim of Domestic Violence.

All of the Benevolent Deeds listed above, and others, were made possible from monies acquired through ENF Grants, which in turn, are made possible by the generous donation to the Fund by our members. If you are currently donating to the ENF, - "Thank You!" - If not, please consider a Donation which will enable our lodge to continue building a stronger community through Good Deeds funded with ENF Grants.

The Calabash Elks Lodge has been a local landmark of the area since 1984. With over 700 members, the lodge has become a cornerstone of the local community for the past 31 years. The emphasis of the Elks Lodge is on conducting Youth Programs, Serving our Veterans, and doing Charitable Work in the community in which we live and work. Since 1984, the Calabash Elks have generously contributed over \$290,000 to local charities and Community projects.