



VETERAN'S AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks ~ Lodge 2679
937 Carter Drive, Calabash, NC 28467

MISSION STATEMENT

April 2015

*“So Long as there are Veterans, -
The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Shall Never Forget Them”*

The mission of the Veteran's Affairs Committee (VAC) of the lodge is to provide occasional funding, fraternal activities, and general support for our local Veterans, various Veterans' Programs, and our Military located throughout South-Eastern North Carolina. Included in the Committee's mission is activity support for the residents of the North Carolina State Veteran's Nursing Home and our Retired and Wounded Warriors located in the Fort Bragg area of Fayetteville, NC, as well as at Camp LeJeune in Jacksonville, NC.

The activities of the committee are funded by occasional committee-sponsored fund-raising events, an occasional grant from the Elks National Foundation (ENF), and unsolicited personal donations.

The committee and its activities operate under the direction and leadership of its chairman, currently, Austin Sammon. The chairman has undertaken the duties of operating the day-to-day affairs of the committee, - schedules the Committee's monthly meetings, - acts as the budget officer keeping the Committee's financial records, - and is in charge of scheduling, organizing, and executing the activities to benefit our Veterans throughout any given calendar year. Responsibility for executing "Special Fund-Raising Events" such as the Committee's annual "Indoor Yard Sale" or the "Charity Auction" affiliated with the Annual "Mini-Golf Tournament & Social" are delegated to other leaders within the ranks of the committee's membership. The VAC is the only lodge committee to have its own internal Public Affairs Officer (PAO) who takes responsibility for the independent preparation of the Committees written and printed materials, including but not limited to: Press Releases; News Articles; Posters and Flyers; and other miscellaneous Printed Materials for which the target audience may be either internal or external to the lodge membership.

~ Continued on Next Page ~



VETERAN'S AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Benovent and Protective Order of Elks ~ Lodge 2679
937 Carter Drive, Calabash, NC 28467

Examples of activities traditionally executed by the VAC are:

- ❖ A "Valentine Luncheon" which benefits selected residents of the VA Hospital in Fayetteville, NC
- ❖ A "Day-at-the-Lodge" for a select group of Senior Veterans, which includes a Fishing Adventure, Lunch, and some Camaraderie and Fellowship time
- ❖ A Memorial Day week "Hot Dog & Hamburger Cook-Out" at the NC State Veterans Retirement Home in Fayetteville, NC
- ❖ An "Indoor Yard Sale" fund raiser
- ❖ "Donut Days" for the benefit of Veterans and residents of local assisted-living and nursing home facilities
- ❖ A "Mini-Golf-a-Rama and Social" fund raiser, accompanied by a live "Charity Auction"
- ❖ Packing & Shipping of "Care Packages" for selected military personnel stationed overseas
- ❖ A Veteran's Day Social & Dinner Dance

The Chairman of the VAC establishes and maintains sound working relationships and communication channels with other lodge committee chairpersons, the lodge's Exalted Ruler, Secretary, and Officers; -- District, State, or National Elks' counterparts, as appropriate; and – others in the civilian and military communities necessary to successfully execute the mission of the Committee.

As Chairperson of a full and equal lodge standing committee, the Chairman of the Veteran's Affairs Committee reports to the Exalted Ruler and lodge officers.