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The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America

October 2026, Volume XIII, Issue 7

NEW BERN ELK

THE BENEVOLENT & PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS, LODGE NO. 764

Exalted Ruler's Message

Greetings Brothers and Sister,

We began this month with the yell of “Fore” at the Emerald Golf Course with members and guests gathered for the New Bern Lodge annual fundraiser. To say it went well is an understatement. What a turnout! So important for the Lodge too, as other fundraisers have fallen by the wayside. I usually shy away from naming names, but here goes… although there was a dozen or more who were there to work and support, the team of Claudia Dion, Rick and Alexa Magda, and Chuck Nails was the driving force behind this year’s tournament. Back at the 19th hole (the Lodge) Mike Markham (prepping those cowboy beans) and Jim Wellspeak (who, from that day forever shall be known as Mr. BBQ) held down the fort. But, thank you to all who were there for support.

We hit another high note as a result of being contacted by member Crystal Odham, a Cotten Funeral Home associate, who asked if the Elks would be interested in helping with the Standing Watch event that was being planned for Veterans and their families (September 26th). YES! What a wonderful opportunity to support our Veterans. So many Lodge members jumped at the chance to participate. We were asked to prepare and serve the food for the event. Mike Markham (there were those beans again) and Skip Beijen took the lead and pulled the crew together (see snapshot of the crew). Food was prepared (chicken, pork roast, beans, mac salad and coleslaw) at the Lodge

and transported to VFW Post 2514 where it was served. It was a wonderful event that included a “Living Timeline” parade of uniforms. Copies of the program will be posted at the Lodge.

Members also took part in events at the Kinston Veterans Home (KVH), coordinated through the tireless efforts of Doug Foster (although he does get tired sometimes, I’m sure). A picture of the happy Bingo group is included. Doug has also scheduled the annual car show at KVH for October 3rd. Members are invited to attend and assist with the residents who come out to see the cars. It’s always a fun day for all participants. Check the calendar for upcoming events.

We wrapped up September as Fred, Leading Knight, Claudia Dion (pirate for the day), and I headed for Elizabeth City lodge with the Traveling Gavel. We received a warm welcome and SP David King shared some of the history of the lodge. It was encouraging to hear that lodge membership has been growing recently. The purpose of the Traveling Gavel was nicely fulfilled.

October starts out with a return of Hamburger/Hot Dog Night on the 2nd with a new kitchen crew. It’s on the road again for some of us for the Fall Conference is scheduled for October 30 – November 1 in Greensboro.

As a side note, I met up with Nancy Uhland as the Standing Watch event. She mentioned that she, and husband Doug, missed the Wednesday afternoon socials. I think some other members do, too. Let’s get that going again, shall we?

Well, as the weather starts to cool down, come inside and join us at the Lodge – for fun, friendship and getting it done. What a wonderful Lodge we have.

Fraternally yours,
Linda Follett, ER

Join our Facebook Page!

You can join our Facebook page by going to New Bern Elks Lodge #764 and putting in a friend request and answering the questions to join. After you are approved you can post any pictures you have of Elk events or anything pertaining to Elks. We would like more members, please join us.





The travelling gavel was delivered to Elizabeth City Lodge by ER Linda Follett and our Leading Knight and pirate Claudia Dion.



This is the team that helped at the Standing Watch at the VFW.



Big group of Elk's at KVH bingo.



Let's help our long-time members

Many of us understand the role of taking care of aging family members or helping friends who are struggling financially or are in poor physical health. As charity begins at home, please give consideration to delinquent members who may be facing hardships. Remember "Living or dead, an Elk is Never Forgotten...Never Forsaken."

Remember Elk's Lodge #764 in your Will and Estate Planning

You can provide now, for a future gift to New Bern Lodge #764 by including a bequest provision in your will or revocable trust. Your gift will be applied to the purpose (s) you specify. Help your Lodge to be there for years to come as it has been here for you through your lifetime. Careful estate planning today allows you to plan for the future and to provide for important people and causes in your life. Hopefully, your Elk's Lodge is one of those important causes. What better way to express "Elks Care – Elks Share".

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In memory of Brother "Bob" Cotten

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Americanism	Brenda Williams	Esteemed Leading Knight	Claudia Dion
Comm. of 100	Egon Lippert	Esteemed Loyal Knight	Robert Coates
Drug Awareness	Kenneth (Skip) Beijen	Esteemed Lecturing Knight	Charles Schulz
Elks Nat. Foundation	Charles Schulz	Esquire	Donald Robertson
Flag Day	Joe Sullivan	Inner Guard	Donald McCurdy
Fraternal Coordinator	Robert Coates	Presiding Justice	Allen Murphy
Grants	Kenneth (Skip) Beijen	Secretary	Richard Magda
Hoop Shoot	Jim and Audrey Wellspeak	Treasurer	Larry Narolis PER
Lodge Hall Rentals	Jim Wellspeak	Tiler	Stephanie Devine
Maintenance	Rick Ringer	Organist	Sandy Taybak
Membership	Fred Follett	Chaplain	Jim Wellspeak
Memorial Service	Kenneth (Skip) Beijen	PER Pres.	Larry Narolis PER
Public Relation	Fred Follett	Grand Lodge	Guy Pascarella PSVP
Scholarships	Alexa Magda	**Trustees 2026-2027**	
Veterans Service	Doug Foster	Fred Follett PDD - Chairman	
Youth Activities	Jim Wellspeak	Skip Beijen	
		Mae West	
		Alexa Magda	
		Carol Zink	

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