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For Immediate Release

***Veterans Committee Presents Grant to
Calabash Elks Veterans Affairs Committee***

AUGUST 29, 2016 – SUNSET BEACH: The Committee to Honor America's Veterans announces the presentation of its first grant under its new Veterans Assistance Program (VAP) to the Calabash Elks Veterans Affairs Committee (VAC). First Vice Chairman John Corbett announced that the \$2,000 award to the VAC “is the first grant of the Committee's new program designed to help veterans, military personnel and their families. We look forward to charting the progress of the VAC's project and to awarding more grants to similar organizations.”

Chairman Austin Sammon accepted the grant on behalf of the Calabash Elks VAC. “We are very excited and appreciate the generosity of the Committee to Honor America's Veterans. This money will be used to move and rebuild a storage facility at the Veteran's Welcome Home and Resource Center located at 421 Highway 57 South in Little River, SC. The storage facility will enhance the Center's ability to accept large donations of wheelchairs, hospital beds, and other equipment needed by our veterans.”

A special presentation of the grant was made at the Center on August 29 at 4:00 PM.

Sammon explained that the project to move the storage facility was developed by VAC representative Donna Kozlowski in coordination with Kris Tourtellotte, Director of the Veteran's Welcome Home and Resource Center. The Center is ranked among the top 100 sites for military and veterans assistance by Military Online Colleges.

This Center is a non-profit organization, incorporated in South Carolina. It is not affiliated with any government agency, including the Veterans Administration. The Center was established for the sole purpose of providing veterans with much needed assistance in learning about and applying for benefits due to each individual veteran.

“We tap into every resource available to help veterans transition back into civilian life. This includes helping with veterans benefits, job service, counseling, and providing them with the equipment they may need in their everyday lives,” Tourtellotte said.

Veterans and others who support veterans and their rights founded the center. The center staff is currently an all-volunteer group (no staff receive any money for any reason). A Board of Directors exists to oversee the operations of the center, as well as, the services that are provided.

The Committee to Honor America's Veterans is a non-profit organization that built the Veterans Memorial for Brunswick County located in Sunset Beach Town Park; the VAP is a continuing

program to provide grant money to organizations that help veterans in our area. See the website at www.sbvets.org for grant program information and applications.

The mission of the Veteran's Affairs Committee of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, Lodge - 2679, is to provide occasional funding, fraternal activities, and general support for our local veterans, various Veteran's Programs, and our Military located throughout South-Eastern North Carolina, as well as for retired and Wounded Warriors located in the Fort Bragg area of Fayetteville, NC, and Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, NC. For more information about other ways the Elks Lodge supports the Veterans' and Military Community, visit their web site at www.CalabashElks.Org and click on the [Veterans Affairs] TAB.

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