

Greensboro, NC The Lodge was a recipient of a \$9,400.00 Elks Impact Grant for 2011. The grant was to fund the Library of Congress Veterans History Project, allowing the Lodge to record interviews of veterans from all service branches and eras, with the recordings being sent to the Library of Congress to be archived.

As the year progresses the Lodge's VHP Committee is working hard to make the project a great success and to interview as many veterans as possible. The month of June has been the most fruitful to date. A total of 50 veterans have been interviewed. The week started at the W.G. Hefner Veterans Medical Center in Salisbury, NC where 30 veterans were interviewed, followed by 12 interviews at Abbotswood Retirement Community, 7 at the monthly Lodge Open House and finally an interview with NC 5th District Congressman, the Honorable Howard Coble. Mr. Coble is a retired Captain in the Coast Guard and past commander of the Wilmington, NC unit.

According to Dwight Strickland, Project Chairperson, this project is very important to the history of our country and our military history. With the population of WW II veterans declining at an alarming rate the importance cannot be understated. The committee is actively contacting retirement communities, American Legion and VFW organizations to schedule interviews.

Congressman Coble and PER Ron Dickson following interview.

