



## The Rack

***The Official Newsletter of the St. Cloud Elks #2843***

November 2009

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Thursday the 1<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009

7:30 P.M. at

The East side VFW #4847

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December 2009 GER Message:

A Message from Grand Exalted Ruler James L. Nicholson

To All District Deputies, Exalted Rulers, Officers and Members:

Sorry not able to retrieve the Grand Exalted Rulers message, Please watch for it next year.

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From our Exalted Ruler



Another month has come and gone. We were very busy the last couple of months; first was the mid-year convention in Faribault. The regular order of business and reports were reviewed. On the 25<sup>th</sup> Herman Wisneski, our State President, had his visit which was the day of our Tail Gate party at the VA Hospital, twenty-five pizzas were served with soda to approximately 40-50

veterans, along with giving out canteen books from a football board and raffle. One week later we had our DDGER visit and the Michael's were kind enough to host us all that night at their annual Halloween party, I would like to thank them as a good time was had by all.

November had the following things happening: Veterans Day Parade at the VA, Clark Yost Fundraiser which was held at the East Side VFW Post on Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>. I hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving. Here's wishing everyone a most joyous holiday season.

Steven Zinken  
ER

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**Herman Wisneski**  
**Minnesota State President**



**Just One More**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, tis the season for giving and joy. As Elks we are told that “Our whole influence in life is

determined by the good deeds we do, rather than the emotions we feel”. This time of year that instruction is really put to the test. We as Elks, need to step up the good deeds we do, we need to show the community that “Elks Care, Elks Share”. We can do this any number of ways. We can donate food to the local food shelf; we can cook a meal at the soup kitchen, set up a mitten tree or coat tree at the lodge, take baskets of food and toys to a needy family. There are so many ways to show people that we are more than that club downtown, but rather a group of caring people. We have the opportunity at this time of year to really show “Elks Care, Elks Share”. Work with other organizations in the community to make a difference in your community. Do not be concerned about who is getting credit for the activity, but rather look at who the activity is helping and what the difference it is making in someone's life. The Elks are a big hearted organization and this time of the year that heart swells and throbs. Remember that “Charity is the greatest of all the virtues”

Herman Wisneski, President  
Minnesota Elks Association

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**December, 2009 Veterans Message:**

Always remember that we as Elks have pledged to never forget our Veterans, wherever they might be...So, during this holiday season...take a moment of your time and go out to the St. Cloud VA, visit with the veterans and wish them a Merry Christmas...you know...better yet...wish our veterans a Merry Christmas no matter where you see them.

Our Veterans are everywhere – in VA Hospitals, Veterans homes, in hospices, in our communities – and too many are homeless. Find them, help them and show how important they are to us and to all the people living in the United States of America. Let our Veterans know they are not forgotten and that we truly appreciate the sacrifices they made for us.

Let us not forget our current troops fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan and deployed in other parts of the world protecting our freedom and helping those who are in need. Let them know we care and want to help any way possible.

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## State Calendar of Events

- |  |                                |                  |
|--|--------------------------------|------------------|
| • State Ritual Contest   | January 9, 2010                | Minneapolis      |
| • Exalted Ruler Seminar  | January 23 - 24, 2010          | Wadena           |
| • State Elks Bowling Tournament                                  | February 2010 (all 4 weekends) | Alexandria       |
| • State Hoop Shoot Contest                                       | February 6, 2010               | Hutchinson       |
| • Elks International Bonspiel                                    | February 26 - 28, 2010         | Eveleth          |
| • Regional Hoop Shoot  | March 20, 2010                 | Iowa City, IA    |
| • State Officers Budget Meeting                                  | March 28, 2010                 | Minneapolis      |
| • Youth Camp Opening   | May 7 - 9, 2010                | Youth Camp       |
| • Ladies Youth Camp Opening Weekend                              | May 14 - 16, 2010              | Youth Camp       |
| • 2010 State Convention, Grand Exalted Rulers Visit to Minnesota |                                |                  |
| •  | June 25 - 26, 2010             | Red Wing         |
| • 2010 Grand Lodge Session                                       | July 4 - 8, 2010               | Orlando, Florida |
| • 2010 Mid-Year Conference                                       | October 22 - 23, 2010          | Minneapolis      |
| • 2009 Mid-Year Conference                                       | October 16 - 17, 2009          | Faribault        |

## Metro Dist. Calendar of Events

- |  |                  |            |
|--|------------------|------------|
| • Winter District Deputy Clinic              | January 16, 2010 | Alexandria |
| • District Hoop Shoot                        | January 23, 2010 | Wadena     |
| • Spring Conference / District Deputy Clinic | April 17, 2010   | Wadena     |

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### *Vocabulary*

I am going to give this section a whole new ring: As you know being from the South, I do talk a little differently than some of my fellow Elks. So with that said...here is a new word: Botswana...used in a sentence: She leaving, Botswana go, you better hurry.

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### UPCOMING LODGE ACTIVITIES

- |             |                                       |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| December 3  | Lodge meeting, VFW, 7:30              |
| December 5  | St. Cloud Holiday Parade of Lights    |
| December 6  | Annual Memorial Service, VFW, 1:00 pm |
| December 11 | Sauk Rapids Holiday Parade            |
| December 17 | Lodge meeting, VFW, 7:30              |



December 31 Fifth Thursday, plans to be announced

Please Note: We will once again be stuffing bags for the parades after the meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please plan to help, this way we can get them done much quicker.

Staging time for the parades will also be announced as well as the plan for the Memorial Service.



Big events coming up in the months to come...keep a watchful eye so you won't miss out.

District President Jerry Stout's Visit  
Youth Camp Lodge Party  
Elks Bowl Tournament  
Hoop Shoot



To all members who participated in the Elks activities over the last couple of months: James and Jean for their fantastic Halloween Party, fantastic time and way too much fun had by all. Marcia and her committee for all their hard work on the Josh Yost Jazz evening, the music was very entertaining. To the PER's for paying the entry fee to the Sauk Rapids parade. To all who stayed to help stuff parade bags at the last meeting in November.

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**See you all at the meeting! Sign up a new member. It's the only way we can guarantee that our lodge will survive. Membership is everyone's job!**

**How To Get  
New Members?  
ASK THEM!**

**Merry Christmas!!!**