



The Rack

The Official Newsletter of the St. Cloud Elks #2843

December 2010

Meeting the 1st & 3rd Thursday

7:30 P.M. at

The East side VFW #4847

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

**A Message from the Grand Exalted Ruler
Hon. Michael F. Smith**

Use our good works to boost membership

As we enter the holiday season we need to also be aware that we are well into our Elks year and that we are accountable for attaining the goals. I ask each of you to set some specific objectives to improve our Order. I ask that you commit to "Be Proud...Be Loud...and Be Visible" in your community and state. We need to come out of our cocoon and let our communities know who we are and what we provide in Veteran Services, Scholarships, Youth Activities and community services. Please make a resolution, and keep it, to let people know of our good works beyond our Lodge walls.

Many Lodges have holiday programs such as feeding those in need, hosting police or fire/rescue personnel, etc. I would hope we can start maximizing our good works by asking quality people to participate with us and encourage them to become a part of our great Order. As you plan your good works, be aware that the people involved might want to be a part of doing good for others. As you invite your local media to cover your activities, consider sharing what other projects your Lodge and our Order are involved in and ask if they might be interested in being a part of us. Ask the people who serve your community to become a part of your Lodge. Promote Elks Passion....(put some PEP in your step) with a purpose and let's turn this membership trend into a positive. Many people Care and many people Share. Why not ask them to be a part of our world?

Sandra and I send our very best to all of you in this joyful season. We have had the pleasure of making many new friends as we travel this great country, and we look forward to meeting many more. May God watch over you and your loved ones, our military and their families and all of those in need, both now and forever. Happy holidays and be safe!

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GREETINGS TO ALL MEMBERS

Brenda and I wish each of you a joyful and safe holiday season. This is a time of year all of us in Elkdom shine and show why charity is our cardinal principle. We do many things throughout our Lodges to make the quality of life for others a little better. The only reward we expect or receive is that good feeling we get in our hearts knowing we made a difference in their lives. This is who we are and what we do – I sincerely hope we

never lose that feeling.

There are always a lot of activities at our Lodges during the holiday season to keep us busy to be sure. However, if you have the time and want a rewarding and fun experience, volunteer to be a greeter at one of your functions to renew the friendship with members you haven't seen for awhile. This simple gesture of welcoming members into your Lodge really does help spread the warmth of the season.

Again – have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!
Elkdom – It's A Wonderful Life!

Jerry Shoults
Minnesota State President

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXALTED RULER



It is December already- the last month of the year. As we enter into the holiday season and it's festivities in earnest, I hope everyone will keep their charitable spirit alive by giving what you can to whoever is in need. It is a very busy time of year, but the ways in which we can help are as numerous as those who need it.

We will be stuffing Drug Awareness bags again after our meeting on December 2nd to give out at the two holiday parades in which we are participating. More people make the chore go faster and much more fun, so please come and lend a hand. It would be so nice to see you!

The St. Cloud Winter Nights & Lights parade is on Saturday December 4th. If you wish to walk in the parade, please be at the staging area by 4:30pm. The parade begins at 5pm.

171 Districts. Let's work to achieve 100 % participation from all of our States and Districts this year!

**by ROBERT M. HENNINGS
Commission Director**

Vocabulary

As you know being from the South, I do talk a little differently than some of my fellow Elks. So with that said...new words: node – aware and understanding...I node all the answers to the questions.



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| • Elks Lodge Meeting | December 2, 2010 – 7:30 pm | VFW Post 4847 |
| • St. Cloud Parade | December 4, 2010 – Set up 4:30pm | Staging Area |
| • Christmas Party | December 4, 2010 – start 7:00pm | Larry's house |
| • Annual Memorial Service | December 5, 2010 – 1:00 pm | VFW Post 4847 |
| • Sauk Rapids Parade | December 10, 2010 – 5:30 pm | Staging Area |
| • Elks Lodge Meeting | December 16, 2010 – 7:30 pm | VFW Post 4847 |
| • CHRISTMAS | December 25, 2010 | With Family |
| • New Year's Eve Party | December 31, 2010 – 7:00 pm | James' House |
| • NEW YEAR'S DAY | January 1, 2011 | With Family |
| • Hoop Shoot | January 9, 2011 – TBA | YMCA |

Don't forget, we will stuff bags after the meeting on the 2nd. Come help!!

Message from the Chaplain



To those who have been under the weather, may you feel much better real soon and to those who have lost a loved one, the sympathy of the Lodge goes out to you.



Merry Christmas
Happy New Year



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!

If you have anything you would like to add to the newsletter, E-mail to me at:

patpr@charter.net

Or mail it to me at:

124-37th Ave. N.
St. Cloud, MN 56303