

## **THANK YOU Missouri Elks!**

On behalf of the Local Support Committee, State Sponsor Past Grand Exalted Ruler Lou Sulsberger and our Grand Lodge Family, it is my honor to express everyone's appreciation to the 195 Missouri Elks volunteers, and some out of State volunteers, who worked so hard during the 155<sup>th</sup> Grand Lodge Convention.

Since our adjournment, I have been fortunate to have received a multitude of compliments as to the service all of you provided to our Nation of Elks who came to St. Louis to attend this year's convention. I am truly humbled by your efforts, making Missouri Elks a shining example of Service for all who attended. Going into this effort a year ago, when I was asked to Chair the Local Support Committee, little did I know at that time the outcome of your efforts. I am truly humbled by everyone's dedication, showing why St. Louis and the State of Missouri is truly the "Gateway to Elkdom."

Our Local Support Committee was comprised of a group of dedicated Elks, who expressed a vision of service to our guests and our Missouri Elks Association, unmatched in my history of membership. They put together an example as to how a convention should be approached and followed through with that vision to success. Baltimore has a hard act to follow next year.

I am highly anxious to present our final report to our membership during September's fall meeting. I feel extremely confident; our final statistics will surpass 2003 and will make Yesterday's Dream, Today's Reality!

James A. Hahn, PGE/PSP  
Chairman, Local Support Committee