## September 14, 2013

Past Grand Exalted Ruler Ted Callicut, Grand Lodge Committee Chairmen, Grand Lodge District Deputies, Missouri State President Richard Larkin, Past Missouri State Presidents, Missouri State Officers and All Members:

It is an honor to be standing in front of such a distinguished group of Elks. I feel blessed to have the opportunity to work with the Lodges of this great state and fulfilling our philanthropic ventures. I know this is being accomplished because I hear President Larkin's praises at the Lodges that Betsy and I have shared a visit.

That fraction of our 75 Lodges indicate that Missouri is strong and will forever be strong with it comes to caring and sharing.

Words cannot describe the hospitality that Betsy and I have received during our visits and we thank those Lodges from the bottoms of our hearts. To the old friends we've seen and the new friends we've made it increase our anticipation to our visits next year.

With President Larkin's approval I look forward to more Lodge visits before his year as President is over. I look forward in gaining the knowledge needed and will utilize his tutelage and guidance, along with that of our Past State Presidents to prepare me for the upcoming year.

Ladies and gentleman, keep up the good work and as always, yours in Elkdom.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Crawford President Elect