



## CHRISTMAS 2010

As another year draws to a close, we are reminded of all the challenges this great nation faces. We are facing extraordinarily turbulent times. Our faith might be a little shaken, and we may wonder what lies ahead.

Despite this uncertainty, there are those that we can count on, those that we cannot forget.

We must remember our fighting men and women in Iraq and Afghanistan, and keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

We must remember the other service men and women, who are serving on fronts that never make the news. Thousands of Americans maintain lonely vigils in places that are often unknown. Still others, who scour the seas and the skies protecting our shores from afar. Their service should also never be forgotten.

We must remember the families, while waiting for their loved ones to return, as they face their own fears and assure them, with our Army of Hope, that we stand behind them, as well.

We must remember those who have completed their service, who may be ill, hospitalized or who are just alone.

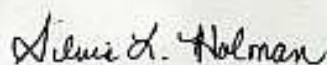
We must remember and reach out to our homeless veterans, wherever they may be.

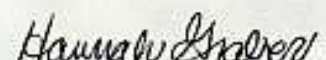
And finally, we must remember those, who, even when facing these troubling times, have put aside their difficulties, and with great personal sacrifice, continue to provide our nation's heroes with the care and devotion that they so richly deserve, our volunteers, their families and friends. Without them, we would not know the meaning of service, not only in this season, but throughout the year.

It is truly an honor and a privilege to work with you.

Best wishes for a Happy Holiday, a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year. Thank you for your dedication and hard work on behalf of the Elks National Veterans Service Commission - *Serving Our Nation's Veterans.*

  
Director

  
Programs Associate

  
Reports Associate