

BRIGANTINE LODGE  
#2428  
Benevolent and Protective  
ORDER OF ELKS  
United States of America  
P.O. Box 44  
Brigantine, NJ 08203

Non-Profit  
Organization

U.S. Postage  
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Permit No. 6  
Brigantine, N.J.

## ELKS CARE - ELKS SHARE

### December 2008

#### Upcoming Events:

- Nov. 29- B Street Band - fundraiser (Holiday Party)
- Dec. 1 - Special Kids Christmas Party planning meeting 7pm
- Dec. 4 - Americanism Awards Dinner
- Dec. 6 - Lodge hosts Vineland Vets
- Dec. 7 - Memorial Service
- Dec. 11 - Lodge visits the Vineland Veterans Home
- Dec. 12 - Trim-A-Tree Party
- Dec. 14 - Elks kids Christmas party
- Dec. 19 - Special Needs kids party
- Dec. 20 - Hoop Shoot 9am
- Dec. 30 - New Year's Eve party

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Trustees meeting 7pm	3	4	5 Friday Night Food	6 Vineland Veterans visit
7 Memorial Service	8	9 House Comm. 6pm & Lodge meeting	10	11	12 Trim-A-Tree Party	13
14 Elks Kids Party	15	16	17	18	19 Special Needs Kids Party	20
21	22	23 House Comm. 6pm & Lodge meeting	24	25	26 Friday Night Food	27
28	29	30 ELVIS!			Friday Night Food	

# Antlers



Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks  
of USA  
BRIGANTINE LODGE #2428

### Exalted Ruler's Message For December 2008



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The fall is passing and so many things are going on since I last wrote to you, I have not had even a chance to catch my breath. The Haunted House is over, and it was an activity that was great for the kids of our community. Sometimes you cannot measure an events success by the amount of money it makes. There is still a lot of cleanup that needs to be done, to close out the HH. So any help would be appreciated. The Striper tournament was a big success and the money

raised will be going to the Veterans at the Vineland Veterans Home, we also have the Veterans coming to the Lodge on Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, there is a notice elsewhere. The IT. Committee has been meeting, and the ability, energy, and enthusiasm of this group of members is awesome as they create our Lodge website, and virtual pages into a tool that this Lodge can use for information, advertising, member communication, committee meetings, event planning, and community good will. As it is completed you will be able to access it for so many things. Lodge forms, Monthly and yearly calendar, membership info. Applications, contact numbers, boat slip info. And even something as simple as; what's for dinner on Friday night. Even the Antlers newsletter and George's column. I could go on, but I'm sure you can see that if we can complete this task, and are vigilant in keeping it updated, then this Lodge is poised to be a groundbreaking leader of the order in servicing the members. I'm not a real skilled computer guy, but I am learning. I do know a useful tool when I see one, and believe me if we can keep this tool sharpened, the uses of it will alter almost every member's contacts with our Lodge. Speaking of Technology, Secretary George is now using the Chicago Lodge Membership System (CLMS) as mandated by Grand Lodge, there were a few bumps along the way, but George just about has the Grand Lodge straightened out. CLMS has features that will allow both George, and Harry to simplify much of the Lodge record keeping. With all this going on, we will all need to have a little patience. It is important to take a breath and realize that our membership rolls were all in the Doss (antiquated by about 25 years) operating system 2 months ago. Now thanks to many members and officers efforts we are almost there. We had the events planning meeting on Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> for the 2009 year, and are tracking to have our events scheduled, and coordinated with the other groups on the Island by early January. Otto H. is leading this; if there is any help you can give him I'm sure he would happily accept it. The District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler visited our Lodge at our 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in November, he and his auditing team examined all operations of the Lodge, from our physical plant to bookkeeping and accounting, membership activity, and records of our charitable works. All were found to be in order and the District Deputy was very complimentary to our Lodge. Your Lodge officers also performed the contest ritual during his visit, and I couldn't have been prouder of all of them. All were great, and it was very impressive, both to watch and be a part of. It was a lot of work, but will be much easier next year. The Mural contest was a huge success and the announcement of the winners at the Veterans Day service was very nice. The refurbished Veterans Park was a great setting, and the members of The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post were so kind to allow us participate. Unfortunately our parade float only participated for half the parade as one of the wheels fell off. The band was OK. and we found the wheel, but now we need a new float. If anybody has a farm wagon, or large trailer we could have or use, please let me know. Somehow in all this we also found the time to initiate a new class of members. Harry and I went to the Fall Conference of the New Jersey Elks State Association in Long Branch New Jersey the weekend of November 15<sup>th</sup>. As last year; it was a continued learning experience for me. The highlight was during the Saturday morning business session, each Lodge was asked to come up and make a donation to the Elks National Foundation, and or to the Miracle on the Mountain/ Camp Moore funds. Well after all 116 Lodges who were represented had donated, our little Lodge was tied for third in the amount of dollars we donated to ENF. Even more amazing was that we tied for 4<sup>th</sup> in the state for the amount of money you raised and donated for Miracle on the Mountain/ Camp Moore. What a tribute to your giving hearts, all of the members of this Lodge should be proud of the efforts expended to be in the position to donate the amount of money you raised for such worthy causes.

Normally the activities in the Lodge would slow down in the winter, but we are actually getting busier. The holiday party is on the Sat. after Thanksgiving, featuring The "B" Band. It will benefit The Special Kids fund to purchase the beach wheelchairs. We are having the grade school essay contest winners at the Lodge for an awards dinner hosted by the Americanism Committee. The Vet's are coming. The Veterans Home annual visit. The Elks Members Memorial Service. The Trim-A-Tree Party, which is the nicest night of the year, is scheduled. The Kids Christmas Party, The Special Kids Christmas Party, and lastly the New Years Eve Party. Don't forget Friday Night Food and Sunday Football! Stop down, lend a hand, buy a ticket, enjoy the friendship of your fellow members, or just stop in and check stuff out. I hate it when I try to list everything that's going on because I know I'm going to forget something.

If you are able, please purchase as many of the tickets mailed to you as possible for the ENF 50/50. This is one of the major fundraisers of the Lodge and Don's worked very hard to make it a stable source of income for the National Foundation.

In this uncertain time, when there seems to be more bad news everyday, may you all take comfort in the good works you do as members of this Lodge. The good things we do every day will outweigh the bad we listen to on television. At this time of year let us give thanks for what we have, and for who we are.

Fraternally,  
Dave



## Holiday Party

This past New Years Eve we had over 260 people attend a great party. The main reason for the success of the NYE party was the music of The Bstreet Band. We were ready to do it again this year but the band is booked ( if you can believe it someone is getting married that night). That does not mean we can't have a party. After going back & forth with the band we settled on 11/29/08 which is the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Tickets will be \$50.00 & include beer, wine, soda and a buffet dinner. The food will be prepared and served by our members so I will need your HELP HELP & MORE HELP. Look for sign up sheet in the lounge. At \$50 this is a great deal & I guarantee a good time. Tickets will be available 10/1 at the lounge or [rvotta@richardsonair.com](mailto:rvotta@richardsonair.com) or 266-0587. Tables will be reserved for parties of six or more.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fall Striper Classic Results

submitted by Mike Muncer and Guy Wilkins

The Lodge held its second annual Fall Striper Classic Nov. 7-9 to benefit our veterans. It was open to both surf and boat anglers. In the BOat Division for the heaviest two fish, first place went to Irish Mist, captained by Bob Stabinski, with a total weights of 22 pounds, 11 ounces. Second was Empty Pockets (capt. George Moore) with 18-6; third was Seven C's (Paul Consorte, 16-3). The single heaviest fish weighed 13-3, caught by Bob Stabinski. The Surf Division saw Bob Daily win with a 17-pounder in the single fish category, which was also heavy enough to win the two fish combined category. Second in combined was Luke McCooley (15-6) and third was Jerry Miller (11 pounds). The Elks would like to thank all who participated. The tournament raised \$1,410 for their Veterans program.

### Special Children's Christmas Party:

Chairwoman: Dee Brown Planning meeting: Monday, Dec. 1, 7pm at the Lodge. Our Lodge's Party for the Special Kids on the island will be held on Friday December 19<sup>th</sup> starting at 12 noon. Help is always needed the signup board is posted in the lounge. This is probably the best day of the year to be a Brigantine Elk. Please come and be a part. Donations of food, gifts, decorations, and other Christmas stuff are needed. The Christmas tree with envelopes will go up in the lounge on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>.

### Lodge Annual Trim-A-Tree Party

Bring a covered dish to share Friday December 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. Bring a covered dish with enough to share with your fellow members and friends. We will be decorating the Lodge Christmas tree, listening to great Christmas music and enjoying each other's friendship and fellowship. Bring a special Christmas ornament that you would like to decorate the tree with. Family is welcome to attend, and as the kids Christmas party committee will be decorating the banquet room for the kids Party on Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> there should be great feelings of camaraderie and Christmas spirit throughout the Lodge. The Trim-A-Tree party is being held a week late this year due to the Vineland Veterans visit to our Lodge on the first Saturday in December, the 6<sup>th</sup>.



### 2009 Wildwood Convention T-Shirts On Sale Now

No Pockets \$10, Pockets \$12.50. Order form is posted in the lounge.

Thanks for your support.



### Lodge Hosts Vineland Veterans for Army-Navy Game

Submitted by Joe Kelly, Lodge National Veterans Service. Committee Chairman

On Saturday December 6<sup>th</sup> our Lodge will host Veterans from the NJ Veterans Memorial Home at Vineland to join us for the Army-Navy game. The Vets will arrive at 11:30 and be seated in our banquet hall. They will be served a hot lunch at 12:00 Noon while watching the Army-Navy classic. After an afternoon of football, friendship and fellowship the Vets will be served a Surf & Turf (Shrimp, Crab cakes, Prime Rib) dinner, after which they will depart back to Vineland. Please try to be here to help cook, serve, clean up or MOST IMPORTANTLY, give some of your time to say hello and thanks. Please help make these veterans, who have served our country, feel Welcome at our lodge. More to follow.

\*\*\* The used color TV's from our Lounge which have been replaced by the new Flat Screen TV's will be delivered and installed at the NJ Veterans Memorial Home at Vineland. If YOU upgrade to a flat screen, Vineland can use your color TV. Call the Lodge for pick up and the Veterans Service Committee will deliver it to the Vets.

\*\*\* On Thursday December 11<sup>th</sup> members of our Lodge along with members from the VFW and the American Legion will be making our annual Christmas visit to the NJ Veterans Memorial Home at Vineland. Our purpose is to bring some Christmas Cheer to our Veterans but invariably it is we who leave there uplifted by the courage and good will of our Vets. You are most Welcome to join us.

\*\*\* CHRISTMAS COOKIES FOR VETS. Nancy Muncer will soon be recruiting bakers to make Christmas Cookies for our Veterans. Please get involved with this to help bring a touch of HOME to our Veterans this Christmas.

**The Elks Memorial Day Ceremonies:** On the first Sunday of December (Dec. 7) every Lodge in the country will hold a memorial service in remembrance of our absent Brothers and Sisters.

**The Lodge extends its most sincere condolences** to the families of recently departed members Jules Daniels, Boomer Blair, Walt Hundridge and Ed "Prune" Pullman.

**Sickness and Distress:** Allyson Arnold is handling the sending of care packages, flowers, fruit baskets, etc. to any Elk who is sick or in distress. Please let her know as soon as possible if you know of someone who is in need of our help. Reach her at home at 266-1940, and feel free to leave a message. Her work number at the Beach Cab is 266-TAXI (8294).

**Mad Money With Jim Cramer** - An Elk from Summit NJ. Lodge #1246: Win Four Tickets to a private Taping of his Show, Transportation from the Lodge and back Dinner for Four, \$10 Per Ticket. Donation Benefits Special Children's Wheelchair Fund.

### Vineland Veterans Home

Joe Kelly while arranging for the Lodges annual visit to the Vineland Veterans Home learned that the home needs TV's for the Veterans. When any member gets a new TV if they bring their old one to the Lodge we will deliver them to the Vet's home. They should be in good working order, color and preferably a large portable, no consoles please. It's OK if the remote is lost we will take care of getting a universal. We will pickup if requested, just call the Lodge at 609-266-9826, Joe Kelly at 267-994-7975 or Dave Biggins at 610-721-4956. This years Visit to the Veterans Home in Vineland will be Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup> Meet at the Lodge at 8:00am.

**Thanks to Cathy Joyce,** the members of the last two classes that were initiated into our Lodge received a packet of information concerning our Lodge, its programs, and events along with information about the Ritual that they just went thru. The new members received their flag and membership pin as always, but this added information will certainly help them understand a little more what the Elks are all about. What a nice idea and gesture by Cathy. If anyone has any thoughts about what could or should be included in the new member packets, leave a note for Cathy in the Committee box in the Vestibule.

**Camp Moore,** As most of you know, recently members of our Lodge have been going up to the camp in the spring and fall to open and close it. Due to a scheduling conflict this fall Brigantine Lodge was unable to go along with the rest of the South District on the usual weekend. Brigantine Lodge comes thru, and a small group was able to go up the weekend of Friday Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>. During this visit we power washed, cleaned, prime painted and finish coated with three coats of epoxy paint the camps water tank. It was a big job, as it sits on the top of a hill, but with the assistance of two union painters Mike Hurley, and Jim Hatten from the Glassboro local we got it finished. Mike and Jim are not Elks, but when they heard what we were going to do they volunteered to go with us up to Camp Moore to help. Mike, after seeing Camp Moore is thinking about joining the Millville Lodge as that Lodge is close to his home. He had no idea about what the Elks do, and now is enthusiastic about joining. Going up to the camp from Brigantine Lodge were ER Dave, Fran Chambers, and Joe "Mad Dog" Hartnett. The Lodge will be going up in the spring to get the camp opened; the date is the last weekend in April the 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't gone to Camp Moore yet, trust me you will get more out of your visit, than the camp gets out of the work you do.

**Children's Christmas Party: Sunday December 14, 2008 at 1 pm** -- Children, Grandchildren, Stepchildren, Step grandchildren, Nieces, Nephews. Bring the kids to see Santa, his Elves, the Toy Soldier, The Balloon House, and all the wonderful things we do for our kids. Food and Refreshments for all! Children 9 years old and younger only. Must be sponsored by a member of Brigantine Elks Lodge #2428 Lenny and Terry Kachur Chairpersons. Volunteers Needed and Welcomed.



**Mark the Date** -- The Brigantine Lodge will be going up to Camp Moore on April 24<sup>th</sup> thru 26<sup>th</sup> to get it open and ready for the kids. We will be part of the group going up from the South District. There is no cost, transportation and meals will be provided. A sign up board will be posted in the Lounge after the New Year.

### New Jersey State Elks Association Ritual Contest

Under the Coaching of Per Ray Angelestro, the officers of Brigantine Lodge participated in the Ritual contest for the first time in many years. The contest was held at our regular Lodge meeting on the first Tuesday in November. At this meeting it was also our District Deputy Grand Exalted Rulers visit to audit our Lodge. In past years our officers would have had to travel to another Lodge and each Lodge's officers would have performed the Ritual one after the other before the same group of judges. This year the Ritual judging team visited each Lodge that participated to judge their Initiation Ritual. Doing it this way was obviously a big help to our officers as it is a very nerve wracking experience. There was a lot of brass there as Past State President Bill Oakley was the ringmaster and State President Frank Vesely with his wife Eleanor were in attendance. The South District Vice President, Walt Lesyk along with District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Don Irons, his Grand Lodge Inspection team and many members of the Lodge came to see the performance. While certainly not flawless, for the first time participating, our Lodge officers gave a very good account of themselves. Special thanks to Treasurer Harry and to Rudy Weiss for all of their help, also to Allison Arnold who acted as the lead candidate. There was a tremendous amount of effort that went into being in the contest, from months of practice to rearranging the Lodge room, to providing a warm and friendly atmosphere afterward to all who were present. Nancy Muncer prepared a wonderful repast for after the meeting and Dot Mathieson helped her serve it to the members and guests. All who were there had a very nice time enjoying the great food and each others company. The evening was made more special by the comments made by both Harry and Frank about the meaning and importance of this Lodge bringing back the Ritual, and the commitment of the officers to perform it as they did.

Dear Members,

After reading in the Antlers under the Trustees report that we had been put on probation for illegal gambling. I feel the membership should be told the truth concerning this situation. We were not put on probation for illegal gambling, we accepted without protest probation for failing to obtain a permit for in house 50/50's. This Lodge has been running in house 50/50's without a permit since its inception and there has never been a problem, unfortunately we were turned in to the Games of Chance Commission by one of our own members. None of the senior leaders from then Chairman of Trustees Sam Storino to either Treasurer Harry or me was aware that a permit was needed when a fifty- fifty was done within the membership only. You will see that on the Tickets recently mailed to you for the 50/50 to benefit the Elks National Foundation there is now an I.D. number and a raffle license number. The ENF fundraiser, in the 8 previous years that it was held never had a permit. This is why the ENF drawing was postponed last year, because the commission required us to obtain a permit before we were allowed to draw the winning number. All other 50/50's, in house or offered to the public, require a permit. The reason I and the Trustees accepted probation without contesting it is that we were wrong, because we did not know, is not a defense. If permits were needed and we did not have them then we are guilty. The real unfortunate aspect of this situation was that according to the state investigator, a member turned us in, that this person among us was aware of the correct law and went to the state as opposed to the members of this Lodge is really beyond belief. The investigator when asked by, I believe trustee Tony Richini the name of the person who turned us in he declined to answer, he did give us a very good description though, and told us we would have had to go through the hearing process to learn the name of our accuser. This we declined to do for the reasons stated above. The investigator did say that when organizations undergo leadership changes as we did last year, these types of complaints are commonly made. I got the feeling that the investigator, though it was his job to prosecute the complaint, had a foul taste in his mouth from the circumstances surrounding it. There is a more complete explanation and copy of the order of consent posted on the bulletin board outside the Lodge room.

David Biggins, Exalted Ruler

### Elvis Will be in the Building

Mark it down, New Years Eve. The Lodge will be hosting a rocking night to ring in the New Year. The party starts at 8 pm and goes till who knows when. Beer, Wine, and Food are included. There will be a champagne toast at midnight, and party favors for all. \$ 40 per person. Tickets will be on sale in the lounge on December 1<sup>st</sup>. All proceeds will be used towards the purchase of Beach Wheelchairs And Special Needs Kids.

**The Mural Contest --** The results are in and the big winner of the Lodges contest for school kids to draw a picture that would be painted on our Lodge's bayside bingo room wall is OUR LODGE. The winning poster is fantastic and all the drawings that the kids turned in were really great. The committee agonized for hours before picking the overall winner. Through the generosity of member Tom Leperra, his wife Marie and their son Tom, the winning entrants from grades kindergarten through twelfth grades will each be receiving a Fifty Dollar Savings Bond and the Grand Prize winner will receive a One Thousand Five Hundred Dollar Savings Bond! There were over TWO HUNDRED THIRTY FIVE Entries from the children of Brigantine. The art teachers from the North School have been very supportive and have even volunteered some of their students to help with the finished product. Kelley Grimley from the Middle School, and Terry Gragg from the grade school were so enthusiastic and supportive. With two great Teachers like this, Brigantine's children are in good hands. Thanks also to Dr. Gussie, Mr. Marrandino, and Dr. Previti for their help.

**The Winners from each class are:** 1<sup>st</sup>. Grade **Haley Phalines** 2<sup>nd</sup>. Grade, **Brandon Cross** 3<sup>rd</sup>Grade, **Lauren Oleksiak** 4<sup>th</sup>. Grade, **Krystal Espinoza** 5<sup>th</sup>. Grade **Hugo Perez,** 6<sup>th</sup>. Grade, **Max Lamcken** 7<sup>th</sup>. Grade, **Alonso Soto** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, **Georgie Dickerson** 10<sup>th</sup>. Grade, **Kerri Gallagher** 11<sup>th</sup>.Grade, **Steven Gossage, Nicole Bailey, Over All Grand Prize Winner: Frank Delury** 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Americanism - by Joanne Delaney

At the Grand Lodge Convention in 1961 at Miami Beach, the Committee on Americanism was created and charged with "implementing the patriotic activities of the order and its subordinate Lodges."

The Order of Elks has a long and effective record of assisting the Youth of America, promoting Americanism in each of the many activities fostered by Elkdom.

The Brigantine Elks Lodge 2428 is proud to work in conjunction with Brigantine North School faculty and students. The students are given an opportunity to compose a persona essay on a patriotic theme. This coast to coast essay competition for school age children grades 5-8 awards prizes on the local state and national levels for the best essays pertaining to the subject selected fro the year. This year's topic is: "What Freedom Means To Me."

We are very excited to be involved in promoting this top with our youth at a time when we see customs, trait and tradition peculiar to the United States and its customs by celebrating election Veterans and Thanksgiving Day.

Dec. 2, 2008, we will announce the winners of the essay contest at a dinner at our lodge. :Look for more information on the board in the lodge. A donation board is also posted.

"If you want to take care of yourself, be responsible for your own behavior, hold yourself responsible for your own actions, feel a responsibility to be a good and productive free citizen, promote the betterment of mankind and bring honor to the greatest country on the face of the earth, within our wonderful, unmatched and unparalleled Constitutional Republic then that, my friend, is AMERICANISM. – author unknown.

**TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS,** HE LIVED ALL ALONE, IN A ONE BEDROOM HOUSE MADE OF PLASTER AND STONE. I HAD COME DOWN THE CHIMNEY WITH PRESENTS TO GIVE, AND TO SEE JUST WHO IN THIS HOME DID LIVE. I LOOKED ALL ABOUT, A STRANGE SIGHT I DID SEE, NO TINSEL, NO PRESENTS, NOT EVEN A TREE. NO STOCKING BY MANTLE, JUST BOOTS FILLED WITH SAND, ON THE WALL HUNG PICTURES OF FAR DISTANT LANDS. WITH MEDALS AND BADGES, AWARDS OF ALL KINDS, A SOBER THOUGHT CAME THROUGH MY MIND. FOR THIS HOUSE WAS DIFFERENT, IT WAS DARK AND DREARY, I FOUND THE HOME OF A SOLDIER, ONCE I COULD SEE CLEARLY. THE SOLDIER LAY SLEEPING, SILENT, ALONE, CURLED UP ON THE FLOOR IN THIS ONE BEDROOM HOME. THE FACE WAS SO GENTLE, THE ROOM IN SUCH DISORDER, NOT HOW I PICTURED A UNITED STATES SOLDIER. WAS THIS THE HERO OF WHOM I'D JUST READ? CURLED UP ON A PONCHO, THE FLOOR FOR A BED? I REALIZED THE FAMILIES THAT I SAW THIS NIGHT, OWED THEIR LIVES TO THESE SOLDIERS WHO WERE WILLING TO FIGHT. SOON ROUND THE WORLD, THE CHILDREN WOULD PLAY, AND GROWNUPS WOULD CELEBRATE A BRIGHT CHRISTMAS DAY. THEY ALL ENJOYED FREEDOM EACH MONTH OF THE YEAR, BECAUSE OF THE SOLDIERS, LIKE THE ONE LYING HERE. I COULDN'T HELP WONDER HOW MANY LAY ALONE, ON A COLD CHRISTMAS EVE IN A LAND FAR FROM HOME. THE VERY THOUGHT BROUGHT A TEAR TO MY EYE, I DROPPED TO MY KNEES AND STARTED TO CRY. THE SOLDIER AWAKENED AND I HEARD A ROUGH VOICE, 'SANTA DON'T CRY, THIS LIFE IS MY CHOICE; I FIGHT FOR FREEDOM, I DON'T ASK FOR MORE, MY LIFE IS MY GOD, MY! COUNTRY, MY CORPS.' THE SOLDIER ROLLED OVER AND DRIFTED TO SLEEP, I COULDN'T CONTROL IT, I CONTINUED TO WEEP. I KEPT WATCH FOR HOURS, SO SILENT AND STILL AND WE BOTH SHIVERED FROM THE COLD NIGHT'S CHILL. I DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE ON THAT COLD, DARK, NIGHT, THIS GUARDIAN OF HONOR SO WILLING TO FIGHT. THEN THE SOLDIER ROLLED OVER, WITH A VOICE SOFT AND PURE, WHISPERED, 'CARRY ON SANTA, IT'S CHRISTMAS DAY, ALL IS SECURE.' ONE LOOK AT MY WATCH, AND I KNEW HE WAS RIGHT. MERRY CHRISTMAS MY FRIEND,! AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT.'