

## PRESS RELEASE

Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780 wrapped over 900 presents for its annual Veterans gift program. This has taken place over the last 34 years. The wrapping took place on Saturday December 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 A.M. at the Lodge.

The feeling of Christmas was shining bright when 85 Girl scouts, Boy Scouts, leaders, members, wives, family and friends in a confusion of paper and tape, wrapped the 900 gifts in 1 ½ hours. The season came alive.

The Spirit of Christmas felt by the Christmas music, scurrying of Elves delivering packages of gifts to the wrappers who worked the wrapping paper, and scotch tape to make this Christmas special to the veterans. It's the true meaning of Christmas come to life. Each gift contain the following: Shampoo, Socks, Toothbrush, Toothbrush cap, Toothpaste, Mints, Body powder, Soap, Facial tissue, lotion, deodorant, mouth wash, aftershave, and a deck of cards. All of the money came from donations. Members, Non members, Bingo players, Livonia P.L.A.V., and Wal-Mart all donated toward this massive effort. Member Dentist Tom Morse donated the 850 toothbrushes; Peritonitis Peter Leone donated all the toothpaste. Member ladies as well as Divine Savior Church ladies donated Lap robes, and Afghans. A true labor of love for these ladies.

We will spend 4 days in the distribution of the gifts. We will give gifts to everyone at the Detroit, and Ann Arbor V.A. hospitals, and hospitalized vets at Battle Creek V.A. Everyone at 3 Homeless shelters for veterans in Detroit, and Wayne will receive a gift.

What a joy to give these appreciated gifts to these heroes and being able to say thank you for being a vet, have a Merry Christmas, and God Bless You!

Stew says:

They were there when we needed them; it's our turn to be there when they need us. This is a happy time of year for most of us, but it can be the most depressing time if you're sick, lonely, or homeless. They need our thanks and gratitude. They need to be remembered.

The Elks, and other Veteran service organizations, gives us a chance to pool resources and make an impact upon the lives of these Veterans who need our support in this trying time of their life. Membership gives our patriotic members direction in their desire to serve those who served.

They're wounded. In the hospitals: with diseases and maladies of the civilian world, as well as from their service. They're wounded in the homeless shelters: with mental disease, drug and alcohol addiction, as well as economic problems. True Americans don't leave their wounded.

Stewart Israel, Chairman. [734-718-2052](tel:734-718-2052). [Pictures here](#)