

Comrades,

It humbles me to know that you have elected me to serve as your Department Commander in the state where I was born and raised and love dearly. I take your trust and confidence very seriously. Together I feel we are facing some of the biggest challenges since our Departments inception. Our membership and finances have taken a very serious down turn over the past ten years.

“Membership CANNOT be an option!” It has to be our number one priority in each and every one of our Posts. My challenge to myself and each one of you is to recruit just one MEMBER and MENTOR just that one member. Membership is the engine that drives all we do for each other, what we represent in our communities, and how we support all our programs that mean so much to us.

Our Redistricting Committee has put a lot of hard work into putting together a five District Department. It’s now up to us to plan our work and work our plan. To start TURNING those old pages and replacing them with NEW PAGES.

Every new member is a new idea. Let’s be inclusive and not exclusive. Let’s have open minds. And you know what?

“WE ARE GONNA HAVE A GREAT YEAR!”

PROUD TO SERVE YA!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elmer R. Hightower". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a prominent initial 'E'.

Elmer, Department Commander