

“GOOD” GOVERNMENT RELATIONS -----Can be a Reality-----

The following was taken from an article in the Provo, Utah, Daily Herald, by-line by Jeremy Duda:
“There are limits to what government can do to help people. That’s why Utah Lt. Governor Gary Herbert is glad organizations like the Utah Elks Association are there to lend a hand.”

“Government can’t do it all,” Herbert told the Utah Ladies of Elks on Friday, May 8, 2007, at the organization’s annual convention in Provo. “You do a lot better job of giving service. On behalf of Governor Huntsman and myself, let me say we appreciate what you’re doing.”

“For one thing,” Herbert said, “the bigger the government, the less money reaches those in need.” The Lieutenant Governor told a story about a boy who wrote a letter to God asking for \$100 for a new bicycle. The Post Office, realizing it couldn’t send the letter to heaven, forwarded it to the White House instead. Touched by the boy’s letter, the President decided to send him \$5.

When the boy wrote a thank-you to God, Herbert said, he mentioned that the Federal Government must have taken the other 95%.

“If somebody needs a dollar because they’re down on their luck right now, you (Elks) give them a dollar and guess what? They get the whole buck!” Herbert said. “You go through Washington, D.C. and something always gets strained out.”

This tale of “Good Government Relations” is due to the efforts of Utah Elks Association Public Relations Chairperson Barbara Stringham, who set up the visit by the Lt. Governor and got the article published in the newspaper. This is the kind of relations with our government agencies that we as Elks need to help promote to get the message out to our communities that “Elks Care, Elks Shar.”

Patrick G. Whitt, Member
Government Relations Committee

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