



MOOSE Leader

Need-to-know information for officers and chairmen of Lodges/Chapters/Moose Legions Vol. 86, No. 4

2019 Moose Convention Registration Now Open

Registration and housing for the 2019 International Moose Convention in Las Vegas is now open via the Moose International website. The June 27 – July 1 Convention promises to be exciting for first-time attendees as well as those that have participated in the past.

New workshop offerings, more concise general sessions and first-class evening events promise to deliver a memorable week for all involved.

Bally's Las Vegas and Paris Las Vegas will be our host hotels for this event and all meetings will take place within these interconnected properties.

For more information, please visit www.moose2019LasVegas.org or the Moose website www.mooseintl.org. ■



There's a Reason We Do the Things We Do

By **MIKE RIOS**/Director, Membership

We have a lot of lodges doing great things and we are so proud of their accomplishments. They are essentially “carrying” those that are floating along using our beloved Moose name to further their own personal agendas. Sorry, but that's the truth.

When we think about some of the biggest problems plaguing our lodges, it can usually be traced back to leadership, or lack thereof. Sure, some of the complaints we hear are about smoking, lack of activities/entertainment, unfriendly bartenders (or members) and outdated/dirty lodge homes.

If you think about it, lodge leadership has everything to do with it. We have a tendency to get comfortable with our “year” as an officer and I've even been told not to “rock the boat” when I was an officer. Really? How do we expect to get anywhere just floating around doing the same thing every year?

In my opinion, the boat NEEDS to be rocked every once in a while. We need to step out of our comfort zone. When will the cycle be broken of just doing enough to get by until the next board takes our place? It's disappointing to read a newsletter and the only thing that changes are the dates.

The same old thing at the same time every year promoted with no enthusiasm and no interest in whether or not it's successful. Don't accept “we can't do that” or “we tried that before and it didn't work” or “nobody will participate” for an answer. We often hear “we can't afford to do that.”

If the toilet was broken at home, we'd somehow find a way to fix it.



Think about it; soap and water doesn't cost a lot. Friendliness is free. Recycling of officers can be addressed if we'd just get qualified members to step up and rally like-minded people to support them.

I know it sometimes seems like a fight and it shouldn't be. Think about this – would you fight for your kids? Well, you have about 200 at Mooseheart depending on you right now. That's enough to keep me motivated! If it says Moose on the outside, shouldn't it be Moose on the inside? ■

New Moosehaven Price Incentive Just Announced!

By **MARINA MATHEWS**/Director of Communications, Moosehaven

For a limited time, Moosehaven is offering a discount on the entry fee for the St. Johns Apartments! Don't miss this opportunity for a chance to experience retirement at Moosehaven!

The St. Johns Apartment are beautifully designed and come in one- and two-bedroom floor plans. Visitors who tour the apartments and learn about the many benefits of our program are amazed at the level of care and the amenities that are provided provided.

Retirement at Moosehaven is an amazing opportunity. Now is the time

to take charge of your future. Don't wait and miss out on the opportunity to be part of a unique retirement lifestyle that offers maintenance free living with the peace of mind offered at Moosehaven. Call today to learn more about the blessing that is Moosehaven and how you can live the retirement lifestyle you deserve.

Since there are a limited number of apartments available at this discount, we encourage you to pass this exciting opportunity on to your members. For information, call 904-278-1200. ■

Lodge Elections are Coming Soon

By **MIKE LEUER**/General Governor

Each lodge is preparing for the annual election of lodge officers. This article is an overview of the election process to help your lodge in this important task. The General Laws and the "Election of Lodge Officers Handbook" should be consulted. References to the sections below are from the General Laws.

1. Qualifications:

A. Governor/Jr. Governor/Prelate: Must be member of lodge at least six (6) months preceding the date of election. Treasurer/Trustee: An active member of the lodge. (Section 33.5)

B. Governor: Must have served a full term (12 consecutive months) in another elective office in lodge (not combination of offices). (Section 33.5)

C. Candidates for office must submit their names to the Nominating Committee at least one (1) week prior to the date the committee is required to present its report to the lodge. (Section 31.3)

D. All members submitting their names to the Nominating Committee for an elected office must have had training or will attend a training class within 60 days of being elected.

2. Nominating Committee:

A. Appointment: Governor appoints members and generally is chairman. (Section 33.2)

B. Composition: Eight (8) elective officers of lodge, five (5) past Governors in order of juniority, five (5) members of lodge who are either appointed officers, committee chairman or Past Governors (more, if necessary). (Section 33.2)

C. Responsibilities: To select at least one (1) member for each elected office to be filled. Must consider any qualified candidate for office who submits his name. Nominations must be based upon the members' qualifications, his desire to run and availability to fulfill the duties of the office. May nominate more than one (1) member for a particular office. (Section 33.3)

3. Petitions:

A. Any eligible member, who submitted his name for a specific office, but not nominated, still desiring to run for that office, shall have his name placed on the ballot by petition. (Section 33.4)

B. The petition must contain signatures of lodge members in good standing (active) of not less than 10% of the first 500 members plus 5% of the members over 500. (Section 33.4)

C. All petitions must be submitted to the Administrator at least one (1) week prior to election. (Section 33.4)

D. Any member nominated who declines the nomination may not then petition for the office declined. (Section 33.4)

4. Election:

A. Only members in good standing and physically present are eligible to vote for the election of officers – no absentee ballots or proxy votes allowed. (Section 33.8)

B. Conducted at the first (regular) meeting in April. The election must follow the report of the Nominating Committee by at least two (2) weeks. (Section 33.3)

C. Governor appoints three (3) good standing members, who are not candidates for elective office, to serve as an Election Committee. (Section 33.6)

D. If a majority of the membership votes at a meeting at least two (2) weeks prior to the election, the Australian ballot may be used. (Section 33.8)

E. The lodge is NOT required to send out notice of the election to membership or post in lodge.



5. Questions?

■ Carefully study the portions of the General Laws pertaining to elections, and the Election of Lodge Officers Handbook that can be found on-line at www.mooseintl.org.

■ Inquire by e-mail to bdalton@mooseintl.org or fax questions to 630-966-2208.

■ Call 630-966-2207 if necessary to answer your questions.

* **Please note:** All Governors and Administrators are required to attend all state, association, International Conventions and conferences by virtue of the office they hold. Lodges will be held accountable if either of these officers (or the lodge's alternate delegates who may serve as a representative) does not attend unless an excusable reason is given. Penalties can range from lodge social quarters being closed or action against the officer. ■

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**MOOSE
Leader**

Formerly "Moose Docket," "Action," "Moose Leader," and "Women of the Moose Official Bulletin"
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Prepare Now To Be Ready For Spring's Elections

By **BOB NEFF**/Director, Higher Degrees

With the start of a new calendar year comes preparations for many things at all our fraternal units. It might sound early – but honestly, soon spring will be here. It might be that some sprucing up needs done outside our facilities to have them ready for the summer season that is coming.

The current boards of officers/directors will no doubt be making the final pushes to retain and recruit members, finish up fund-raising goals for the fiscal year, prepare to attend mid year conference and schedule things like preferred member parties and more. This is a busy time.

Another very important process is upon us. That is organizing the nominating committees to identify our future office holders. Good and dedicated leaders are essential to every organization. Seeking those qualified individuals who have the needed skill sets and are willing to step up to guide us in the year ahead is a paramount need.

The Nomination Committee should be organized, meeting dates set up and announcements made about board openings. The committee needs to evaluate each submitted member and in some cases seek other potential nominees to fill the slate with those willing members who have potential to be leaders. It is not a fleeting responsibility but rather a most imperative one that must be executed to the very best of our abilities.

The committee should discuss each office, the duties and needs it presents and do its best to match potential candidates for each position. It

should not be a popularity contest but a true look at the willingness to serve, to attend training and participate meaningfully in necessary meetings. They need to review a candidate's experience, capabilities, available time and more.

This committee has a most important task. It should not be taken lightly. To a degree, the committee sets the tone for how the year ahead will fare as to the level of success it has the potential to achieve.

The right people can make a difference. Be diligent in making those selections to put forth the best possible nominees for elections of those who will take office come May 1. Their management skills will be of significance in the future of your fraternal unit. ■



Take Steps To Bring Chapter Year To Successful Close

By **BARB McPHERSON**/Grand Chancellor

The holidays are behind us and, before you know it, the 2018-2019 chapter year will come to a close. Are you ready?

Are your membership totals showing an increase? The beginning membership number that will be used to calculate the increase in total active members was emailed to the chapter Recorder at the beginning of the chapter year.

The Membership Retention Committee chairman and her committee should be contacting the members of the chapter whose dues have expired and have not renewed. The Recorder, or any authorized officer, has the ability to provide detailed lists, via LCL.Net or via the Moose International website, to the chairman. The Membership Retention committee should then make personal contact with the members to find out why they have not renewed. It is quite possible they simply forgot or perhaps they are not happy with the chapter for one reason or another.

Have the officers completed all of the "business" requirements? The officers should review the "Checklist For A Successful Year," found in the 2018-2019 Officers' Handbook, beginning on page 69. The completion of each task listed will ensure a successful chapter year.

Sometime in March, all chapters will be receiving a Missing

Documents Report, listing all reports that have not been received at Women of the Moose headquarters as well as a Missing Positions Report, showing all vacant positions. Please correct all inaccuracies as soon as possible to ensure correct records at the end of the chapter year.

Please check the monthly statements provided by Moose Charities to make certain all contributions to Moose Charities have been properly recorded. Minimum donations must be met monthly to ensure credit toward the Award of Achievement.

At the next Board of Officers meeting, the board should review the requirements for the Award of Achievement. They can be found in the July 1, 2015 Women of the Moose General Laws, Section 101, page 71.

Once the officers have verified that the chapter is on track for the Award of Achievement, please make sure that all co-workers attempting to qualify for their various degrees and honors are meeting their personal requirements – enrolling new members, attending training sessions and holding fundraising projects.

Elections will be here before you know it. Make sure you are prepared to handle the nomination and election process to ensure your elections are run properly.

If the chapter officers and co-workers are working together, everyone will be successful. Good luck to each and every chapter! ■

Find Your Superpower – Then Put It To Good Use!

By **PAM AMUNDSEV**/Executive Director, Moose Charities

Did you know that the rocker/cradle fundraiser was actually the idea of a past Moose Charities Board Member? That's right – sitting around a table at Moosehaven after a board meeting, Gene Joyce conjured up the idea as a way to help lodges and chapters collect additional endowment donations.

You see, Gene Joyce's superpower was "The Great Idea Man." In his memory, I cannot thank him enough the idea of this simple fundraiser and the success it has been over the past six years.

As we reminisced about Gene in our weekly meeting and all of the other great qualities volunteers bring to Moose Charities we decided that, like Gene, EVERYONE has a superpower. In our office, we have a Jill of all Trades, Gift of Gab Girl and a Queen of Kindness (just to name a few).

Your talents, your strengths, and your passions – those are your superpowers! No matter who you are, where you live or what your job is YOU have a superpower. The thing is, in order to become a superhero; you have to USE your superpower.

At Moose Charities we have challenged our chairmen and champions to look inside, discover their superpowers and determine how they can use them to benefit Mooseheart and Moosehaven.

I would also like to challenge all of the other members of the Moose Fraternity to do the same. Can you use your Hospitality Hero superpower to welcome new members into your lodge home? Or, perhaps, you can use your superpower of storytelling to share with your friends about Mooseheart and Moosehaven.

Whatever your superpower is, you can use it for good. Let's all be heroes that do well for our fraternity. ■

