



MOOSE

Leader

Need-to-know information for officers and chairmen of Lodges/Chapters/Moose Legions Vol. 85, No. 5

What Did You Do For the Moose That Made You Proud?

By **MIKE RIOS**/Director, Membership

Attracting new members, that's what we need. Millennials, Baby Boomers, Retirees, PEOPLE – it doesn't matter how old or young you are – it's about service to others and commitment to something bigger than us! It's great to be a Moose member!

The Supreme Council has approved the extension of our "First Responder" initiative until April 30. The success of this program has been remarkable and we appreciate those who have signed and joined. Now, we need to make sure that these new members continue serving their community by renewing their dues. What is your lodge doing to make sure that everyone renews their dues? This is only one of a few questions in this article.

What did you do for the Moose last year that made you proud? How have you helped to spread the word about what we do and the benefits of membership? If you have to think about it just remember, it's never too late.

Many of our members don't know about Mooseheart or Moosehaven, but they can quote the Social Quarters specials without thinking about it. They may know the raffle jackpot or the list of bands for the summer but can't tell you about our Fraternal programs. Only *you* can change that!

When I first joined, I didn't know about District meetings or the state Association or Mooseheart or Moosehaven. I was a "social" member until someone made me familiar and it touched my heart. I didn't seek a

position on the board -- I was asked to serve. (Thanks, Brother Ron!) I didn't "volunteer" to sponsor community service or fundraising activities, I was asked. Now, I'm asking you; will you help?

Last year at a Pilgrim Celebration, a Brother explained that his journey in the Moose started when a member approached him in the Social Quarters and asked him to help. In his words "the rest is history."

Today, you can ask Brother Glen to do something and he won't hesitate. Not because of what it can do for him but he truly believes in the Moose and what we're all about. Somebody touched his heart. When asked recently, a young Administrator explained that his fraternalism began with the Moose Legion conferral. Somebody asked him to become a Moose Legionnaire. What an awesome contribution he has made. Something touched his heart. Not long ago at a children's Christmas party for those in-need, a little girl exclaimed "I've never had a bike before" and started to cry tears of joy as she took possession of a bike donated by caring members of the lodge. It touched my heart. These acts define us. This is who we are!

In 2018, ask someone to help with a project. Today, call your Administrator/Senior Regent/Governor and ask what the lodge/chapter needs. Don't wait to be asked, lead by example and start something! We need you and your ideas. There is POWER in asking. Use your powers for good! As always remember – "it's not all about us"! ■

Resolve To Make A Difference In 2018

By **JAN FREGULIA**/Executive Director, Moose Charities

I found the following on the Internet and decided to share it with you: "*Christmas is love and joy. Christmas is caring, giving and sharing. Christmas is the most wonderful feeling of the year.*"

Why did I select this particular message? It is because being members of our Fraternity is about caring, giving and sharing. Our Fraternity is in place to care for the children and seniors of Mooseheart and Moosehaven; to give our members a place to gather and enjoy one another's company; to share our thoughts and ideas that will enhance our communities.

We do this year-round – and, as we celebrated Christmas with our family and friends, we also celebrated the blessings that Christmas brings to us.

Please let the blessings of the Christmas season remain in your heart throughout the following year.

Jan. 1 is historically a time when many make resolutions. I pray that

you will resolve to continue to make a positive difference in the lives of others – those we know and those we may not know – and to practice the precepts established by those who came before us:

- to celebrate life
- to be a friend to all
- to help others less fortunate
- to bring our communities closer together

My friends, let us enter the New Year resolved to be all that we can be and to invite others to join our outstanding Fraternity.

We hope all celebrated a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukkah and a Happy New Year!

Let us all join together and make 2018 the most enjoyable, the most productive and the most successful year of all!

God bless Mooseheart, Moosehaven and our Fraternity! ■

A New Year Begins

By **BARB McPHERSON**/Grand Chancellor

Happy New Year! With the New Year come thoughts of the end of the chapter year. This is the time of year when the International and Annual conferences are over, the Women of the Moose training sessions are over, honors for the Award of Achievement, Green Cap, Academy of Friendship, College of Regents and Star Recorder have been graded and our office has finished celebrating the holiday season with our families, friends and residents of our twin cities.

Believe it or not, in January, we announce the date, time and place of the first, second and third nominating committee meeting and who is serving on the committee. Please refer to the instructions in the Women of the Moose General Laws beginning with Section 91 on page 57.

During the next Board of Officers meeting, the officers should review the Checklist For A Successful Year found in the 2017-2018 Officers Handbook, beginning on page 69. The completion of each task listed will ensure a successful chapter year and the ability to qualify for the newly designed Award of Achievement.

The membership/retention chairman and her committee should con-

tact 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 to the chairman. The chairman and her committee should then make personal contact with the members to learn 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.

Once you 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.

If the chapter officers and co-workers are positive and working together for the purposes of this Fraternity, everyone will be successful.

On behalf of the entire staff at Women of the Moose headquarters, we hope everyone had a joyous holiday season and wish you a successful and prosperous New Year. ■

A New Year of Serving Our Fraternal Unit(s)

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

As we move into the New Year, much is happening with our officers and plans for new boards. New officers take over in the Councils of Higher Degrees on Jan. 1. New drive and focus should abound on retention of members in ALL fraternal units by these groups.

It is also time to plan the all-important process of nominating and electing officers/directors for chapters, lodges and Moose Legions to provide leadership during the fiscal year, which begins May 1. It is closer than you might think!

Our members join our chapters and lodges – and lodge members advance into the Moose Legion – with no obligation that they must attend meetings or help in any way with the planning of Fraternal programs. They only need to renew their membership each year to remain in active status and enjoy the functions and programs that have been planned. Members have fun at and benefit from those programs – and that's OK. All memberships are important in support of our philanthropic endeavors of caring for the children at Mooseheart and the aged at Moosehaven.

There are always a few members who step up each year to lead and make an extra difference by accepting leadership roles and taking on committee assignments, chairmanships or officer positions. Their collective service is immeasurable to our success.

The nomination committees have a vitally important job. It is arguably the most important committee of all. While we ask for volunteers to step up and serve, we often have to mentor folks and ask them "one-on-one" to serve. When we do that we need to be honest about

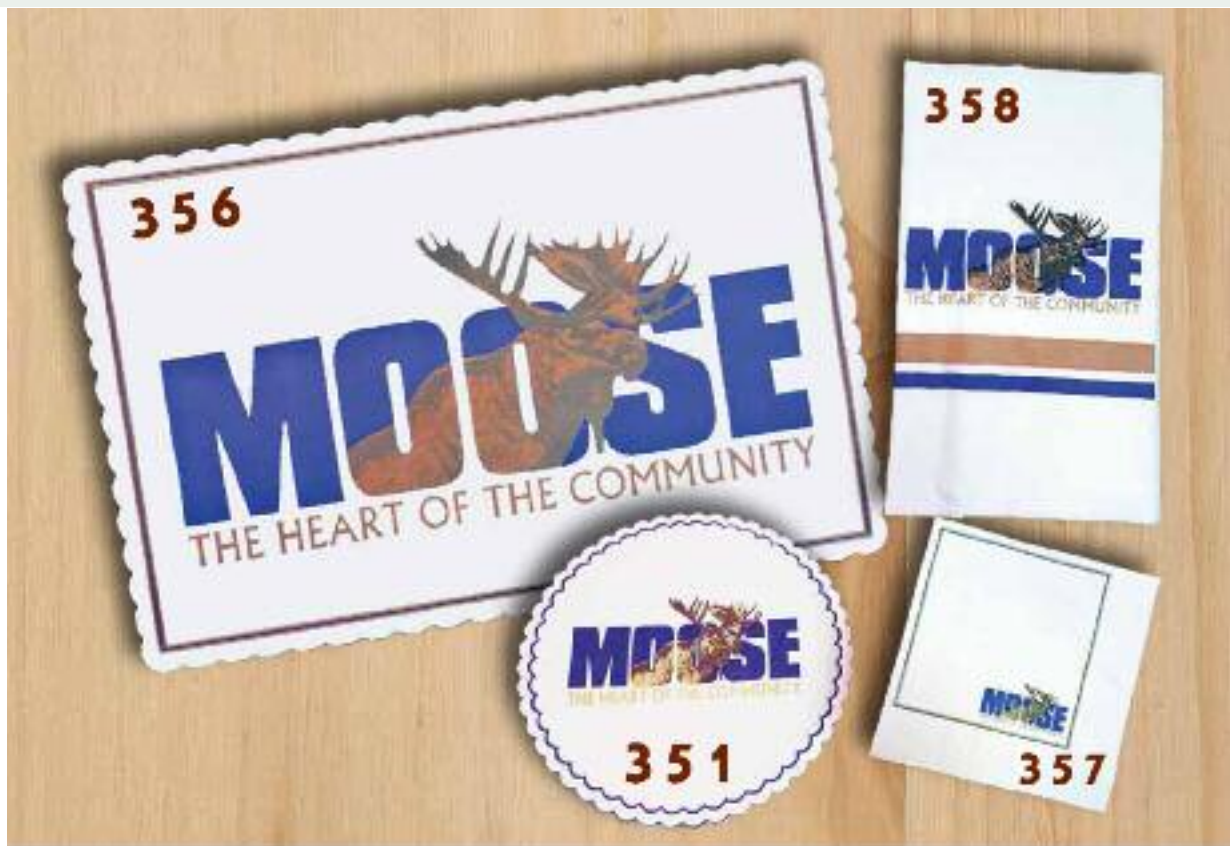
what will be expected. We should never tell someone "you only have to attend a few meetings, etc." Each position – if done properly – has respective duties and obligations. The board, as a group, has important collaborative responsibilities.

Candidates for office need to be eligible by meeting certain rules about length of membership, or having served in other capacities before advancing to a presiding position, etc. There are criteria concerning various Moose Training courses. That information should be reviewed by the nominating committee in advance to verify eligibility and assure candidates get scheduled for what is needed.

Sometimes, it is in our best interest to politely and discreetly not nominate someone who offered to serve. We do need to fill each position – however, we should also analyze each position and each potential candidate, making an attempt to nominate the most qualified candidates. We can't always restrict ourselves to just those who "put their name in." The committee might need to "seek out" other candidates.

The responsibilities are significant and the potential impact on a quality operation of each Fraternal unit depends on getting the right people in-place. You might have that roster together in one meeting or it might take several meetings. Perform due diligence in vetting your potential candidates to put the very best leadership forward. Then mentor them along a fraternal pathway so that you and others will be proud of your fraternal unit's operation.

Happy New Year! ■



Moose THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY TABLE SETTINGS

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351	COASTERS	3.375" Dia	\$23.95/1,000
356	PLACE MATS	10" X 14"	\$34.95/1,000
357	BEVERAGE NAPKINS	10" x 10"	\$58.95/5,000
358	DINNER NAPKINS	15.5" x 7"	\$99.50/4,000

*Actual shipping charges incurred by buyer

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Holiday Scenes Display Moosehaven's Positive Impact

By **MARINA MATHEWS**/Moosehaven Director of Admissions

Moosehaven always buzzes with excitement for the annual Christmas events. Residents can be found out and about, enjoying the temperate climate and the scores of poinsettias, lights and holiday decor.

Gazing across the campus, there are always a mixture of wonderful scenes. A lighthearted giggle comes from two kindred souls tucked away in reminiscent conversation. As the swing music begins, their cheeks glow from candid conversation and bursts of laughter. A foot balancing the tip of a shoe dangles as the tales rise and fall in delightful whispers of contentment.

Looking further, solace can be found witnessing another resident walking along the campus' winding paths. His furrowed brow indicates a quiet reflection. Deep thoughts are evidenced in his purposeful stride, and one can only imagine the recollection of vivid details streaming, as the years play back in his memory. He dons a veteran's cap, shielding eyes filled with pride and resolve. A gentle wind redirects his gaze toward calm waters of the river, and his stature submits to a wave of contentment.

A once frail widow, clutching onto the promise of safety Moosehaven provides, now clutches the hand of another, as she's led to the evening's event. No longer burdened by fear in her efforts to live alone, she now enjoys the confidence of independence, and embraces the freedom to thrive again. As she's escorted to the event, her eyes meet her companion's in thankful celebration, and the pride swelled in *his* chest is exhaled in contentment.

How do you convey the message of Moosehaven? As you explain each facet of the Moosehaven program, are the details emboldened in fraternal commitment to serve seniors?

Each soul at Moosehaven represents a unique need, yet the common desire to thrive resonates in every heart. Share Moosehaven with others as an opportunity, a means to peace, not a means to an end. Allow families to gain comfort in knowing a renewed life lies ahead for their loved ones, a life filled with purpose and chance. Provide a true representation of the success of Moosehaven, and paint a portrait of contentment. ■