



Proposed 2017 General Law Changes

By **MIKE LEUER**/General Governor

Moose International's Judiciary Committee has approved the following proposals for change to the existing General Laws of the Order. These proposed changes will be voted upon by the delegates of the 2017 International Moose Convention in Tampa.

Following is a brief summary of each change. For more information and specific wording of each change, go to the Moose International website (www.mooseintl.org) and scroll down the home page to "2017 Proposed General Law Changes." Click "read more" to access the full text of the proposed changes.

Voting Category 1

Section 31.2 – Conferral of Life Membership

Eliminates the awarding of a Life Membership by attaining the Governor's Award of Excellence, which no longer exists.

Section 50.8 – Nine O'clock Ceremony and Endowment Fund

Replaces the word "should" be performed with "shall" be performed to strengthen and promote the practice of the Nine O'Clock Ceremony throughout the Fraternity.

Voting Category 2

Article IX – Supreme Council

A change in wording would provide the option of establishing the number of Supreme Councilmen annually to between 9 and 13 members. The current wording strictly specifies 13 members with no room for variance.

Reasoning: This change would be consistent with the bylaws of our other fraternal organizations, including the Boards for Mooseheart, Moosehaven and Moose Charities. Further, the ability to reduce the number of Councilmen reflects the representation needed to align with a contraction of membership over the past 30 years.

Section 12.3 – Terms of Office

The simple word change in this section would account for the variance in the potential number of Councilmen annually, but would not change the length of terms.

Section 46.2 – Compensation of Lodge Officers

The proposed change allows officers of the lodge to be compensated for services rendered on behalf of the lodge home with the exception of any duty that involves the service or dispensing of alcohol.

Reasoning: Many officers' main occupations include service companies or contractor work that would be beneficial to the maintenance, etc. of the lodge home. The alcohol provision is added to reduce the risk of any potential conflicts of interest in the Social Quarters.

Voting Category 3

Section 48.2 – Provide and Enforce Rules

The proposed change eliminates the use of all tobacco products, smoking devices, and cannabis use within every lodge building throughout the Fraternity regardless of local laws. Accommodations may still be made for tobacco/e-cigarette smokers in an area outside of the main lodge structure; however, cannabis smoking is prohibited on all lodge property and Moose events.

Reasoning: Smoking within the lodges is a major hindrance to the recruitment of new members and the retention of existing members. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, smoking trends for the past 30 years show a tremendous drop in the number of adult smokers (from 30.1% in 1985 to 16.8% in 2014). This essentially eliminates 83 percent of potential new members and an even higher percentage of younger candidates. ■

Supreme Lodge Grant Program Extended

By **KURT WIEBE**/Director, Membership; Chief Marketing Officer

The Supreme Council has extended the Supreme Council Lodge Grant Program for one year in order to help additional lodges fund necessary repairs and improvements to their properties. One million dollars has been committed for the 2017-18 fiscal year, bringing the total granted to over \$4 million since the program began.

Attendance at the 2017 International Moose Convention is still required. The application process opens July 5 and the deadline to submit

an application is the close of business on August 9. No extensions will be granted. The process will be the same as 2016, with access to the application appearing within the Moose Admin section on the website starting July 5.

Please visit the Moose International website (www.mooseintl.org) for more information and guidelines and how to apply. ■

MOOSE - Honoring Community Heroes

During the "Moose – Honoring Community Heroes" campaign, we will recognize those individuals and organizations who share our values of "doing good for others." Whether it's a first responder, military personnel, or simply an individual volunteer, the Moose believes in supporting people who respond in times of need and invite those individuals who step up to add their talents and passion to our Fraternity.

May 1, 2017 - April 30, 2018

Sign 1 Member Moose – Honoring Community Heroes lapel pins are presented by your Lodge, Chapter or Moose Legion to individuals that sponsor their first member during the campaign.



Sign 5 Members



Funds will be donated for every man/woman and Moose Legionnaire who qualifies towards the purchase of two new security vehicles for the Mooseheart campus. Contributions are courtesy of your Association, the Women of the Moose and the Moose Legion.

Sign 25 Members

Members attaining Sponsors of Distinction status by signing 25 members during the Moose – Honoring Community Heroes membership drive will receive free basic registration for our 2018 International Moose Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana. Additional information can be found on www.mooseintl.org.



Earn Rewards simply for doing things that strengthen the Order. Sign a member; run for office; renew your dues; take training. Each activity generates points automatically that you can use to pay dues, contribute to Mooseheart/Moosehaven, or redeem for gifts. Check your Moose Rewards points total today at www.mooseintl.org to see how many you have earned!



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**MOOSE
Leader**

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Councils Of Higher Degrees Exist To Help With Retention

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

Every fraternal unit; (chapter, lodge, Moose Legion) has a need the Council of Higher Degrees (CHD) can help with. That need is a calling to work toward retaining members whose dues are expired. The Council's primary objective, after all, is retention of members. But how can they help?

A fraternal unit can ask for assistance to come in a variety of ways. The CHD members can visit the fraternal unit, sit down with members and make calls to expired members. They can assist in stuffing envelopes, or addressing post cards to be sent to expired or expiring members.

Often the CHD can also provide financial assistance, another avenue that can also be pursued. The CHD can raise funds to help pay for post cards, envelopes, printing costs or even postage itself. They can cover the cost of some doughnuts or other refreshments for members who are willing to come to the Moose home to help with these efforts.

Sometimes we see a campaign offered by a CHD group to the fraternal units in their area that achieve certain goals regarding recovery of members who renew. That can be a cash incentive award or hosting a dinner for the group or individuals who accomplished some established goal. Whatever it is, the criteria should involve some retention act of saving, recovering and reactivating members.

The councils are made of members who have earned degrees in the Fraternity. That means they have some leadership experience and most

often have a true fraternal passion about and for our Fraternity. Who better to be involved with these needed contacts to save our base of members and help keep them from slipping away?

Sometimes I hear some of our long-time degree holders are getting older and can't do some of the physical chores anymore like they used to. The vast majority certainly ought to be able to share their fraternal passion for the philanthropic work of the Fraternity over a phone call. Let's not put them to pasture – instead let's give them an all-important chance to help us make a difference.

When we attained a higher degree we were not told this was our retirement gift upon our elevation. Instead we took a pledge of some sort to do even more for the Fraternity in the future. The Fraternity needs us to step to the plate – maybe not with a bat in hand – but with a list of names and contacts, a pen, a phone and our knowledge and fraternal spirit.

We can indeed make a difference by contacting one member at a time. Let us go to work through our Council of Higher Degrees (or simply as a group within our fraternal unit) and prove that we indeed have something yet to give to and for this Fraternity. Leaders don't quit and they don't put themselves above others. Instead they roll up their sleeves and work alongside them and inspire others to continue our fraternal mission and help make a difference. ■

It's Your Responsibility

By **BARB McPHERSON**/Grand Chancellor

When you first joined the Women of the Moose, did you ever think the success or failure of your chapter would rest solely in your hands and the hands of the officers who serve with you? Each of you is now responsible to ensure your chapter's future and success.

Since its founding as early as 1909, the Women of the Moose have been a strong force in Moosedom and that continues today. Our chapters offer opportunities for our members to become leaders, learn new skills and teach them the role they play in caring for others. We were founded with the objective in mind to assist in the charitable activities of the Moose Fraternity with special attention to Mooseheart and Moosehaven.

As a chapter officer, you have responsibilities in accordance with our General Laws and you have a job to do. Please review your duties in the General Laws and Officers' Handbook. These two sources will help you to better understand what is expected of you. Your co-workers will look to you for leadership and guidance. They will expect you to plan a variety of activities for them and their family.

Women of the Moose training sessions are currently being held throughout the United States and Canada to teach our officers how to do their jobs effectively and help them understand how to properly operate their chapters and treat their members. Plan to attend a session early in the event a make-up session is necessary. Attendance at one of these sessions may be a requirement for your respective degree.

2-HOTT Training is also available for our chapter recorders to learn how to efficiently do their job and learn new computer skills. These sessions are held on a limited basis throughout the Fraternity. Make sure you attend to satisfy one of the requirements for the Star Recorder degree.

Moose International provides all of the tools necessary for you to do your job. Make sure you use these tools to their fullest. You will find it much easier to be successful. Further information regarding these tools can be found at www.mooseintl.org. ■

Summer Means Mooseheart Children Visiting Moosehaven!

By **GINI TURNER**/Director of Marketing, Moosehaven

Everyone has their favorite time of year. Whether it's the nostalgia of a moment in life, or a new opportunity to spend time with loved ones, there's always a reason why favorite seasons tug at the heart strings. It's certainly one of the reasons Moosehaven residents look forward to visits from Mooseheart boys and girls over the summer months, and residents call this their favorite time of the year.

Each summer, the campus comes alive with visitors from Mooseheart. Residents are eager to celebrate their time together, and have a full schedule of socials, events and sporting competition for their guests to enjoy. Recently, the Mooseheart boys visited the Moosehaven campus and were greeted with an ice cream social and dance. The dance floor was filled with laughter and excitement as young and old alike showcased their moves in celebration.

At each table, there were new and familiar faces and countless stories of time spent in the Fraternity, and in support of the Child City. To every reason given as to why a resident joined the Moose was an equally impressive reason why they supported Mooseheart.

It was an insightful discussion among the participants, with a great appreciation for the benefits of continued Moose membership. It was profound to realize the number of prayers Moosehaven residents have offered over the years on behalf of Mooseheart children. That was in addition to all the years Moosehaven residents spent supporting Mooseheart as Moose members. The night was truly a family reunion.

The following days were filled with visits to neighboring lodges and chapters, and special time together on campus. From beach parties to cookouts, residents took delight in hosting the boys and forging new friendships. It was an experience for all, with memories and moments encouraging our Mooseheart guests to come back for another visit, and to continue the goodwill of the Fraternity as adults.

The Moosehaven campus is gearing up for our next visitors – the Mooseheart girls – who come to celebrate Independence Day. Again, it's a time of excitement and celebration, and is one of our favorite times of the year. ■



Joining The 'm+m club' Helps Mooseheart+Moosehaven

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

As we are less than two months into our new fiscal year, I hope this finds you adapting to, and enjoying, your position as an officer of your fraternal unit. You have accepted an awesome responsibility: to sponsor new members; to guide your respective unit to a gain in membership; to always maintain a welcoming and friendly atmosphere in your Moose home; to plan enjoyable activities for all members and their families to enjoy; to maintain proper procedures; and to contribute to the support of our Mooseheart Child City & School and Moosehaven, our Fraternity's retirement community.

As an officer and leader of your fraternal unit, we invite you to become a member of our m+m club (Mooseheart + Moosehaven). By simply donating \$10 (or more) per month to Donors Circle – or Mooseheart Boosters – or Mooseheart Operating – or Moosehaven Operating, you will be helping to secure the continuing operations of these two outstanding

Moose communities. We hope every officer throughout our Moose domain will consider making a recurring monthly donation either through an automatic monthly charge to your credit card or a monthly direct debit to your checking account.

You have shown your commitment by becoming an officer. Now you also have the opportunity to show your compassion for the at-risk children and senior members of our Fraternity by becoming a member of the m+m club.

Please visit: <http://www.moosecharities.org/recognition/mmm-club/> – you will be glad you did!

In the words of Winston Churchill: “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

God bless Mooseheart. God bless Moosehaven. And God bless our Fraternity! ■