

Simply Helen

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“Ask not what Moosehaven or Mooseheart can do for me, but what can I do for Moosehaven and Mooseheart.”

In 1961 John F. Kennedy was sworn in as the youngest ever elected president of the United States. At the young age of 43, he was inaugurated as the 35th President on a snow-covered Capitol Hill in Washington.

President Kennedy closed his speech with the words: “Ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country. My fellow citizens of the world ask not what America will do for you, but what together we can do for the freedom of man.”

Needless to say, his words were greeted with rousing applause.

I’ve often thought of those words and have tried to apply that concept to every area of my life. It’s quite an attitude that can and should be applied in everything we do. Think about it. If every person entered into a marriage with, it’s not what she/he can do for me, it’s what I can do for him/her, the divorce rate would not be so high. What if every employee joined his/her employer with the attitude, “What can I do for this company?” rather than, “What can this company do for me?” I dare say, that many closed businesses would still be in operation.

What about every Moose member? What if they joined the Moose with the attitude, “What can I do for the Moose?” instead of, “What can the Moose do for me?” Maybe we would be adding Lodges/Chapters versus closing them.

You see this concept works no matter what the circumstance. Actually it goes hand in hand with the golden rule, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.”

We live in a society that has its hand out rather than out-stretched. The common attitude is, "What can you do for me?" rather than, "What can I do for you?"

As a 25 year employee of Moosehaven, I have always tried to keep the attitude, "Ask not what Moosehaven can do for me, but what can I do for Moosehaven."

I would like to encourage my fellow co-workers to give it a try-it makes for a much nicer environment for you and others.

I would also like to go a few steps further and encourage every resident and every student at Mooseheart to adopt the same attitude. "What can I do for Mooseheart/Moosehaven?" not, "What can Mooseheart/Moosehaven do for me?"

And last but not least, to challenge every Moose member to say, "What can I do for the Moose?" rather than, "What can the Moose do for me?" This is how we become history makers! This is how we become a piece of the solution!

God bless you as you endeavor in this life-changing attitude!

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