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**Need-to-know information for officers & chairmen of Lodges/Chapters/Moose Legions**

## The Endowment Fund-Protecting Those in Need

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

### *The Mooseheart/Moosehaven Endowment Fund . . .*

**WHO?** – To maintain and support Mooseheart, our Child City in Illinois, for children and teens in need of a secure home and a healthy, nurturing environment that also includes the best possible training and education. Scholarships are also provided to graduating seniors. To maintain and support Moosehaven, our City of Contentment in Florida, for senior members of the Moose fraternity in need of its sheltering care. This haven provides for every need of daily living -- housing, meals, activities, transportation, and medical care.

**WHERE?** – It is appropriate to take up an Endowment Fund collection wherever members of the Order are gathered together.

**WHY?** – All Moose members took an oath upon being admitted to the Order. The financial future of our twin cities, Mooseheart and Moosehaven, is up to us and to those who follow us in service to our fellow man.

**WHAT?** – An Endowment Fund is a restricted net asset that uses gifts (monetary donations) to establish the principal that generates investment income that can be used to sustain operations or special

project support. An Endowment Fund exists for perpetuity and is controlled either by donor restriction or the organization's governing body.

**WHEN?** – Giving opportunities should be made available at all meetings and at social functions; in the Lodge social quarters, where it should be combined with the 9 o'clock ceremony. The "Endowment Fund" collection should be taken at the conclusion of that ceremony.

Each Lodge and Chapter is definitely encouraged to hold an annual Golden Ball and Legacy of the Moose Ceremony (which can be found on the Moose Charities web site). The Endowment Fund collection is a vital element of this very special event.

**HOW?** – Donations received in the form of a check, credit card payment or electronic debit payable to Moose Charities are fully tax deductible and can be made any weekday from 8 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Central time by calling Moose Charities at 630-966-2200, or they can be made on line at [www.moosecharities.org](http://www.moosecharities.org) anytime.

*Because of your unselfish generosity, you are making a difference - and we thank you. ■*

## Is Your Chapter On The Road To Success?

By **BARBARA McPHERSON**/Grand Chancellor, Women of the Moose

**N**ow that we are halfway through the Chapter year, I encourage all members of the Board of Officers to check their records and make certain they are on track toward earning the Award of Achievement. The requirements for the Award of Achievement can be found in the July 1, 2007 edition of the *Women of the Moose General Laws*, Section 105.

The officers should review the Checklist For A Successful Year found in the 2008-2009 Officers Handbook, beginning on page 84. The completion of each task listed will ensure a successful Chapter year.

The PEP 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 PEP 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.

All Chapters recently received 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.

The beginning membership number that will be used to calculate the

increase in total active members was also included with this mailing. The first requirement to earn the Award of Achievement is an increase of at least one active member at the end of the Chapter year. This number is not the same as the "Membership Quota" provided by the Membership Department, as the "Membership Quota" is not used to determine the Award of Achievement.

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.

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 working together, everyone will be successful. Franklin Roosevelt once said "Happiness lies within the joy of achievement and the thrill of creative effort."

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

# Partnership with Special Olympics Has Limitless Potential

By **SHAWN BAILE**/Director of Fraternal Programs

In reviewing Community Service reports during the past several years, one of the programs receiving steady support across the fraternity, in one way or another, is Special Olympics. It only makes sense that we would realize the importance of this program to our fraternal units and members. In meetings with representatives of Special Olympics North America, we have laid the groundwork for a relationship that will enable our fraternity to have a presence on local, state and provincial, national and continental levels.

At the local level, the obvious way for fraternal units to get involved with Special Olympics is to continue offering volunteer services during competitions and to hold fundraising events. Our Moose Associations will be urged to coordinate volunteer efforts for state and provincial Special Olympics games. Our efforts on a fraternity-wide national level are a bit more focused. After the Amateur Softball Association contacted us, expressing their desire and interest to work with us to promote the Special Olympics softball program across the United States and Canada, we came to the conclusion that a strategic alliance with the ASA, Special Olympics and Moose--and our adoption of the Special Olympics softball program across North America--would be a great fit.

No sports program within Special Olympics has seen a more dramatic increase in interest than softball, including an increase of nearly 13,000 participants in the last year in North America alone. With all three parties working together, we will develop four regional softball tournaments based on a combination of ASA regions and our state and provincial Moose Associations. The top two teams from each regional tournament will qualify to play in a national tournament on the Mooseheart campus, providing an outstanding opportunity to introduce the special athletes to our "special kids" here at the Child City.

We will also have a tremendous opportunity to be part of the Special Olympics National Games, which are held every four years. As we establish

Moose as the primary supporter of the softball program, we will make inroads to becoming a sponsor of the National Games. Sponsorship includes having the Moose name and logo included on all advertisements, promotions, publications and media releases; and exclusive signage at a designated sports venue, in this case, the softball events.

In addition to the benefits that will be enjoyed by Special Olympics North America, the ASA and our fraternity, there will be benefits to state Special Olympics programs based on the involvement of our Moose Associations, for which they will be recognized.

Here's how it would work: we will be employing the philosophy used during the Flight 93 fundraising efforts, by asking each fraternal unit to contribute \$100 during the year toward our efforts. Councils of Higher Degrees, Districts and Associations are also encouraged to participate. Funds should be remitted to Moose Charities and earmarked "Special Olympics". Those resources will be used to fund the four regional softball tournaments and the national Special Olympics tournament at Mooseheart. All remaining monies will be dispersed to state Special Olympics offices based on contributions received on behalf of that state's Moose Association.

For example, if the units of the Illinois Moose Association combine to contribute \$20,000 to Moose Charities for Special Olympics and only \$2,000 is used for funding of the national tournaments, the remaining \$18,000 will be sent to Special Olympics Illinois as a contribution from the Illinois Moose Association. The more units in an Association that contribute, the more excess funds will be available to remit locally in the name of that Association. Fraternal units will be supporting our objective as a fraternity and supporting the local Special Olympics program as well.

The Department of Fraternal Programs will issue recognition awards to units contributing to Special Olympics through Moose Charities at levels of \$500, \$1,000 and greater. ■

## Make the Time to Honor our Departed Members--*Please!*

By **DAVID GREENAWAY**/Regional Manager, Maryland-Delaware-DC

I just got off the phone with a widow of a 50-year member. He was a member of the 25 Club and she is a Collegian. She probably will not renew her dues. As we struggle to gather new members and retain those that we have, incidents like these can do irreparable damage to the perception that we are a caring fraternity of men and women.

I am disturbed, embarrassed and confounded by a recent letter and a phone call from a daughter and a widow of former LOOM Brothers. It seems that after over 30 years of paying dues and supporting the Moose Family Fraternity, their Moose Brothers could not send a card of condolence to the widows and their family, upon their recent passing.

Has this ever happened in your Lodge or Chapter? In one instance, the Lodge Board of Officers never received the death notification from the family, from the message taker. An honest mistake (potentially upsetting to the family), but unfortunately, in most cases, it is just the lack of a policy concerning the death notification of one of our members. Does your Lodge have a box of condolence or best wishes cards at the bar? It is simple to pull out a card when a member or family member delivers the news that one of our members is sick or has passed away. Pass it around the room and mail it off in a couple of days. This act of kindness takes no more time than it takes for caring members to affix their signatures to the card.

It may seem a mundane chore to the living; but neglect to perform this simple act of condolence, and a lifetime of service and continued support of

a deceased member seemingly goes for nothing, in the eyes of the family. His or her family becomes bitter, because what meant so very much to the deceased seems to mean nothing to the living members that he/she called Brother or Co-worker. One member's daughter wrote "We were very disappointed during his services that there was no contact from the Moose. My Dad would have been very hurt because he was so proud to be a member of the Moose, and always told us that if anything ever happened to him - the Moose would be there to help! That's why he paid dues for over 30 years. His Lodge never sent a card."

The other widow called to tell me that the Lodge Governor, when asked to conduct a Service of Tribute at the funeral home, said he did not have enough men or enough time. How would you feel if your father or husband had paid his dues for almost 50 years and you were told that we "did not have time" for him? I know that both the wife and the daughter are bitter. I know that these families are disillusioned about their Fathers' belief in the "Defending Circle." I know that I listened to one widow for over an hour trying to find a redeeming virtue of our Family Fraternity. I know that I sympathized with her for not finding a redeeming quality in her husband's present-day Lodge Brothers and officers.

Eventually our families are going to need the support of friends, immediate family and our Moose brothers and Co-workers. Imagine how

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## Bonanza Deluxe

### Party for 100 People

Contents: Catalog #181

- 1 Top Hat (for Bartender)
- 1 Elegant Tiara (for Waitress)
- 5 Plastic HNY Top Hats
- 5 Plastic HNY Derbyes
- 45 HNY Glittered Tiaras
- 45 Full Size Fancy Foil Hats
- 50 Colorful Plastic Noisemakers
- 25 Fancy Foil Horns
- 50 Assorted Color Poly Leis
- 25 Festive Party Blowouts
- 50 Assorted Color Balloons
- 1 10' Mylar Banner
- 200 Serpentine Throws

Qty. \_\_\_\_\_ 100 People @ \$79.95 each

## Bonanza -50

### Party for 50 People

Contents: Catalog #180

- 1 Top Hat
- 1 Large Plume Tiara
- 3 Plastic Derbyes with Happy New Year Band
- 2 Plastic Top Hats with Happy New Year Band
- 25 Happy New Year Tiaras
- 25 Happy New Year Large Foil Hats
- 25 Foil Horns
- 13 Party Blowouts
- 12 HNY Plastic Noisemakers
- 25 Balloons
- 25 Poly Leis
- 100 Throws (5 rolls of 20 throws)
- 1 Banner

Qty. \_\_\_\_\_ 50 People @ \$49.95 each



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# Perception is Reality--and Attitude is Everything!

*If you believe in what we do, as a Moose officer, it's your responsibility to be positive*

By **DARRELL O'BRIEN**/Director of Membership

*'Because of the rising cost in maintaining Mooseheart and Moosehaven, the (insert Lodge or Chapter name and number) is having to raise the Per-Capita per member starting. . . .'*

How many times do we see this statement, or one very similar, in Lodge newsletters across the fraternity? This is usually the lead sentence in a dues increase announcement. Similar statements that set a less than favorable tone for the message to be delivered can be seen regarding any number of topics. We frequently don't limit such demoralizing comments to print. The same tone is often set as a preface to discussions in meetings, or heaven forbid, even in casual conversation in the Social Quarters.

In my opinion this shows a disregard, by the officers, and editors, for our philanthropic endeavors, and our fraternal principles, as well as a lack of understanding of their roles in our Order.

As leaders of Lodges and Chapters it's easy to refer to the Loyal Order of Moose or Women of the Moose laws and define what an officer's responsibilities are. These short lists are far from all-inclusive. These lists also do not attempt to define the personal traits and characteristics that define leaders.

By virtue of the elected or appointed offices held, Lodge and Chapter officers are granted a minimal level of perceived authority and leadership ability by most Moose members. The remainder of their success is defined by personal knowledge and how they interact with people.

Leaders earn the respect of others, by showing respect themselves. The first thing that any member will notice when talking to an officer is the officer's attitude. Attitude however is defined by many simultaneously occurring signals. Body language - facial expressions, eye contact, hand gestures, distracting movements - and words - smooth, relaxed delivery in a positive tone - will have the greatest influence on how you are perceived. Your ability to listen to members and convey to them your understanding of their concerns will also be critical to your success.

The confidence exuded by an officer who is obviously secure in his or her delivery of their message increases the perception of others in their ability to lead. Whether it's discussing the roof being replaced on the Lodge, the need to comply with new local regulations, the programs of the Moose fraternity or their responsibilities as an officer, knowledge goes a long way toward improving confidence.

Knowledge regarding an individual officer's role or the programs of the Moose can be found in many places. The Moose's [www.moosintl.org](http://www.moosintl.org) website holds a treasure trove of information ranging from Lodge or

Chapter operations, to what is Mooseheart and Moosehaven, to virtually every program the Moose supports fraternity wide. There are innumerable persons within each Association, state or province capable of answering most questions, not the least of whom is your Regional Manager.

As an officer, once you have established yourself as a respected leader by increasing your knowledge of both your role and the programs that define us as Moose, after you've harnessed this knowledge to enable you to confidently interact with members about the programs that enable our Moose fraternity to continue to fulfill our mission of caring for others in Mooseheart, Moosehaven and in our own communities, you will have attained the trait of an outstanding leader that enables him or her to influence others to act in a manner supportive of the greater good of the organization, regardless of any personal opinion. In a word to be a "leader." To do exactly what you were elected to do.

Let's revisit the first sentence of this article from your "leader" perspective. There are any number of ways to rewrite that sentence to emphasize the positive opportunities created by additional dues revenue.

*"(Insert Lodge or Chapter name and number) has boosted support for our children at Mooseheart and our seniors at Moosehaven. An increase in our dues to \$45, effective December 1, will enable us to better support our obligation to our children and seniors while continuing to provide the same high levels of activities and member service you've come to expect."*

A once negative tone can easily be rewritten in a more positive manner. The message is the same. What changed is the perception of the writer toward the topic at hand. The reality is we are going to pay more. The perception we create is we will feel better about paying more to help those less fortunate than ourselves. Perception becomes reality. As leaders of the Moose your attitudes define the perceptions that become our reality.

We, the entire Moose family, are depending on you as Lodge and Chapter leaders, to define a bright and prosperous future for us all. A future that includes a growing membership, that is consistently provided positive experiences when frequenting the Lodge Home, and is proud to say they are Moose because of the outstanding reputation enjoyed by their Lodge or Chapter in the local community, as a caring organization that improves the quality of life of not only their members, but of the community as a whole. Use your positive attitude, to create the perception, that will define our reality. ■

## Take the Time - Please!

*(continued from page 36)*

your surviving spouse will feel if no one sent a card or attended a visitation. Imagine if her simple request for a ten-minute Tribute of Service was denied because Lodge or Chapter members did not have time. Our deceased member had time to attend Lodge and Chapter meetings and drive countless miles to District meetings for scores of years. Is this the legacy of the Moose Family Fraternity we want our survivors to witness?

It would be Beyond Belief for me to believe that we, the greatest fraternal

organization in the free world, would condone such neglect for our survivors. Please do not allow your Lodge or Chapter ever be guilty of not "having enough time," or simply not caring to make the time. In two unintentional, unthinking and selfish situations, a Lodge has crushed the goodwill and good works of each Lodge, in the eyes of our deceased Brother's families and friends. Please do not let this happen in your Lodge, Chapter or Moose Legion.

Have a plan to recognize a member who is ill or has died.

Thanks for all that you do for Mooseheart, Moosehaven and your communities. ■

**MOOSE**  
**Leader**  
& *WOTM Bulletin*

Formerly "Moose Docket," "Action," "Moose Leader," and "Women of the Moose Official Bulletin"  
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