

# Official Communication for December 13, 2017

## 2018 Moose Convention Registration and Housing Now Open

The Moose are headed for the Big Easy! The 2018 International Moose Convention will take place from July 11-15 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The Convention has not been in New Orleans since 1991, so a strong turnout of members is expected in 2018. Registration and housing are now open at [www.moose2018neworleans.org](http://www.moose2018neworleans.org).

New Orleans is known for its food, culture and nightlife, but this year it will also be known for its cutting-edge programming, lively general sessions and an overall festive atmosphere. Moose International has made adjustments to its meetings and programming, offering more interactive workshops, and shorter, keenly-focused general sessions to keep interest at its peak throughout the weekend.

Please note that Moose Convention meetings will be held in three locations: the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, the Sheraton New Orleans (LOOM), and the New Orleans Marriott (WOTM). The other change this year is that meetings will run from Thursday through Sunday, allowing members the opportunity to return to work on Monday, if necessary.

Don't wait to register! Advanced registration and meal function rates are less expensive than on-site rates. Early registration also allows you to plan your trip to take advantage of the sights and sounds of the French Quarter, the historical significance of the National World War II Museum, or even a compelling history and haunts tour. We look forward to seeing you there.

## 2018 Important Dates and Submissions Deadlines

The 2018 Important Dates and Submission Deadlines is attached to this e-mail. Please print and share with all officers, making them aware of any upcoming deadlines. This will also be available on our website in the coming days, via [www.mooseintl.org](http://www.mooseintl.org), under Members Area, Loyal Order of Moose, Important Dates & Deadlines.

## Need help getting your Holiday Shopping Done? Look No Further – A Moose Membership is the perfect gift!

Moose International has created gift certificates that you can use for Christmas and also birthdays. These gift certificates can be found/printed via the [www.mooseintl.org](http://www.mooseintl.org) website, under Members Area, Forms & Documents, Membership Tab. Simply click on the Gift Certificate of your choice, attach to an actual application and give to your family and friends. Once they return the application back to you, simply give to the Lodge Administrator or Chapter Recorder, **along with appropriate monies to begin the process.**

## **2017-2018 Moose Journalism Awards Now Open!**

Entries are now being accepted for the 56th Annual Moose Journalism Awards! Participants can download entry/informational forms online through the Moose International website under the Communication Resources section, the Heard of Moose? Facebook page, and Official Communications.

The Moose Journalism Awards program seeks to encourage and motivate editors of all Moose publications towards the achievement of consistently high journalistic standards in their newsletters and, through such achievement, to enhance communication and shared information between Moose members and their Lodges, Chapters, Moose Legions, Higher Degree Councils, and Associations.

**The deadline for website submissions is 4:30pm CST, Friday, February 23rd, 2018. The deadline for publication submissions is 4:30 pm CST, Friday, March 2nd, 2018.**

Winners of this year's competition will be recognized during the International Moose Convention in New Orleans, LA July 11th-15th, 2018.

Questions about the contest can be directed to Brenda Buschbacher, Executive Editor, in the Moose International Department of Communications at (630) 966-2229.

Good luck to all the participants!

## **Moose International Offices Closed For Holidays**

The offices of Moose International will close at 11:45AM Central Time Friday, December 22, 2017, and reopen at 8:00AM on Tuesday, January 2, 2018, to enable our employees to spend time with their families, friends and loved ones at this special time of year.

While membership dues can be paid during the holidays, NO posting of payments will be done during the office closure; therefore it is important to remind your members that have a December 31, dues expiration date to plan accordingly and pay their dues early if they have plans to participate in a lodge function requiring their dues being paid. In order for members to be assured their card will be received in time, they should plan to have their payments received no later than December 19<sup>th</sup>. For all on-line payments, please advise members to print their payment receipt for proof of payment.