

Official Communication for September 5, 2018

Deadline for First Fall Membership Workshop is Today

Today is the deadline to register for the first Regional Membership Workshop, in Frederick, MD. Workshops cover topics such as new trends, retention strategies, member study results, and more. Registration is free for these one-day, interactive sessions and both men and women can [sign-up today](#). See attached form for additional information.

Scheduled workshops include:

- **September 8th – Frederick, MD Lodge 371**
- October 13th – Chehalis, WA Lodge #1109
- October 20th – Fort Myers Beach, FL Lodge 964
- October 20th – Henry County, GA Lodge 2170
- October 27th – Cedar Rapids, IA Lodge #304
- October 27th – Maysville, KY Lodge #1124
- November 3rd – Sylvania, OH Lodge #1579
- November 10th – Longmont, CO Lodge #1548
- November 17th – Crawfordsville, IN Lodge #6
- November 17th – Chicopee Falls MA Lodge #1849

Membership Department – Field Staff adds 4 Territory Managers

The Membership Department is pleased to announce the hiring of the following individuals who will serve as field representatives to the lodges within their respective territories:

- Mary Becker – Great Lakes Region Territory No. 34 central Illinois. Mary can be reached at mbecker@mooseintl.org or at (309) 262-8356.
- Adam East – Southeast Region Territory No. 19 western North Carolina. Adam can be reached at aeast@mooseintl.org or at (704) 680-7871.
- Steve Hummel – Mid-East Region Territory No. 14 western Ohio. Steve can be reached at shummel@mooseintl.org or at (937) 304-7109.
- Robert Hupfer – Northeast Region Territory No. 2 Connecticut, Massachusetts/Rhode Island and southeast New York. Bob can be reached at rhupfer@mooseintl.org or at (413) 455-4416.

Registrations Are Still Being Accepted For The Fall 2018 International Golf Tournament, hosted by Portsmouth, VA, Lodge 898!

Come join your fellow Moose members this fall in **Portsmouth, VA**, for the 2018 Fall golf tournament – and stay for a vacation! The Scramble will take place on Friday, October 26, and the tournament will take place Saturday & Sunday, October 27-28, 2018. Download the registration form from the Moose International website, at www.mooseintl.org, under:

'Programs & Events' / 'Sports' / Golf. All registrations must be postmarked no later than **Wednesday, September 26, 2018** to be accepted.

Online Registration For The 2019 International Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament Is Open Through December 3, 2018.

Access to online registration for the 2019 Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament is currently available on the Moose International website at www.mooseintl.org, under: 'Programs & Events' / 'Sports' / 'Texas Hold 'Em'. Members may opt to mail in a registration form, which is downloadable in the same location on the website. The **deadline to register online is Monday, December 3, 2018**. Please note that **all mailed entries must be postmarked no later than December 3rd** to be accepted.

The tournament will return to the **Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino** in **Las Vegas, Nevada**, and will take place from **January 13 – 16, 2019**. Players will arrive Sunday, January 13th, play in the tournament between January 14th-16th, and depart on Thursday, January 17th.

Please direct members to the website for online registration. Also, please encourage members to **register early**; seats in the popular morning session of the tournament go fast, and will be given to registrants on a 'first come first serve' basis. All members who participate in this tournament will receive 250 Moose Rewards points; and all who register by September 30th will receive an ***additional 1,000 points!***

International Open House Day – October 27th

Moose International has designated Saturday, October 27, 2018 as "**International Open House Day**" for lodge homes throughout the Fraternity. This date corresponds with Founder's Day, which celebrates the birth of James J. Davis, the driving force who brought purpose and meaning to the Fraternity during its earliest stages.

All lodges and chapters are encouraged to conduct events that will bring friends, family and local residents in touch with the Moose, our lodge homes, and the work we do on behalf of children, seniors and our communities. Additionally, lodges and chapters that conduct an Open House on this day may use the event as one of their activities for Member Retention Week. Simply indicate your participation on your form following Retention Week.

The General Governor's Office has issued a blanket dispensation for all lodges and chapters to hold events on that day that are open to the public, as long as the Moose's general guidelines for public events are followed. Alcohol may or may not be served, based on the structure of the event, but cannot not be sold to members or non-members during the event. Lodges and chapters should refer to Section 46.13 of the General Laws for guidelines to public events, such as Open Houses.

****Note, if October 27th is unavailable to conduct an Open House, the blanket dispensation allows lodges and chapters to hold the event a week earlier, on Saturday, October 20th.**

Please check the Moose International website periodically for information pertaining to this coordinated Open House initiative at www.mooseintl.org.

It's IRS Form 990 Time! (US Fraternal Units) Deadline, September 17, 2018

The annual IRS Form 990 can be filed for all fraternal units **beginning May 1, 2018**. Please be reminded that Federal Law requires all Moose Lodges, Chapters, Moose Legions, Associations, and any other unit that has a unique EIN, to file an annual IRS Form 990, 990-EZ or 990-N no later than **September 17, 2018**, for our fiscal year ending April 30, 2018. (As September 15 falls on a Saturday this year, our deadline has been extended to the following business day, Monday, September 17.) Filing a Form 990 is essentially filing income taxes for your fraternal unit. Failure to do so could result in fines, fees, or penalties, as well as the revocation of your unit's tax-exempt status.

To assist you in completing the IRS Form 990, please refer to our online tutorials. Visit www.mooseintl.org, enter the Members Area, and then click on **Moose Training > Moose Training Demos & Tools Page > 990 Tax Forms and Help Information**. From there, you can access everything a typical Moose Unit will need to complete their 990 filing. Select the appropriate 990 Tax Form for your Moose Unit based on your Unit's gross receipts and assets. Click on the "Instructions" link to open the appropriate 990 help presentation. Your Territory/Regional Managers and Chapter Analyst Coordinators are able to provide assistance with your questions, as well as your State 990 or Government Relations Chairman. Should you require further assistance in filing your **Form 990** or **Form 990-EZ**, please contact a certified tax professional who is familiar with Fraternal Organizations. Assistance with **Form 990-N (ePostcard)** can be obtained through Moose International.

If you cannot file the 990 on time, it is essential that you file an extension by September 17, to avoid costly penalties from the IRS. Use Form 8868, which you can find on the IRS website, www.irs.gov. All other schedules you may need are also available on the same IRS website.

CAUTION: It has been noted that a 'Fraternal Tax Service' has been contacting units across the Moose fraternity. This 'Fraternal Tax Service' usually indicates it will file a version of the Form 990 for a fee. Please note that this company is not in any way related to Moose International, or any of its subsidiaries. Our office has received reports of several incidences where a fraternal unit has utilized the 'Fraternal Tax Services' to prepare and file their Form 990, only to find that the unit's 990 was never filed. This company does not provide proof of filing, nor do they provide your unit with a copy of the 990 they filed on your behalf.

Remember – the appropriate IRS Form 990 for your Moose Unit **must be filed by September 17, 2018**.

Member Retention Week, November 4 – 10, 2018

In the coming weeks we will provide additional information via our website regarding Member Retention Week. Get your committee chairman selected and begin the process of selecting your projects for the week. More information will follow!