

## **“VALUED VETERAN OF THE YEAR”**

### **THE V.V.O.Y. HONOR - OVERVIEW & INSTRUCTIONS**

The objective of the “Valued Veteran of the Year” award is to bring special honor and recognition to one extraordinary Valued Veteran from a Lodge and its affiliated Chapter. **The selected Valued Veteran should be the ultimate example of a Moose member serving others.** All nominees must have been identified as a Valued Veteran in their membership record and be a member in good standing with the Lodge or Chapter.

While veterans’ accomplishments in the military are respected and revered, in *this particular* honor they play a secondary role to the accomplishments of the nominees’ efforts in their communities, beyond their military service -- *through the Moose*. Therefore, **special consideration should be given for efforts made in the veterans’ civilian lives during the prior fiscal year, from May 1 – April 30.**

**\*IMPORTANT NOTES:** Only one “Valued Veteran” among all male and female veterans in a Lodge and its affiliated Chapter shall receive this special honor each fiscal year – not one from *each* fraternal unit. Any active member in good standing can submit a nomination for any Valued Veteran member that belongs to the same Lodge or affiliated Chapter. (i. e. LOOM members can nominate WOTM members and vice versa).

### **OVERVIEW OF THE V.V.O.Y. PROCESS**

- 1. Make nomination forms available** to Lodge & Chapter membership **no later than July 1;**
- Instruct members to evaluate nominees based on their **overall community service efforts conducted through the Moose between May 1 – April 30;**
- The Lodge’s Heart of the Community Chairman (or other designated Official) **collects all LOOM & WOTM nomination forms no later than July 31st;**
- The Lodge/Chapter V.V.O.Y. Voting Committee should be formed.** This committee should be comprised of any combination of the Lodge Officers, the LOOM Heart of the Community Committee, the WOTM Chapter Officers, and the WOTM Community Service Committee.
- The V.V.O.Y. Voting Committee’s vote must occur no later than August 31st;**
- Submitting Results** - The name and Moose ID # of the newly selected “Valued Veteran of the Year” must be **submitted to Moose International no later than September 1st;**
- V.V.O.Y. Certificates will be sent out to the Lodges** in late October, to be presented at the semi-annual Fall Recognition Ceremony in November (to occur on or near Veteran’s Day).

### **THE V.V.O.Y. AWARDS CEREMONY**

1. **The November Valued Veterans Fall Awards Ceremony** – This, one of two semi-annual Recognition Ceremonies, should occur **on or near Veterans Day**. The “Valued Veteran of the Year” will be presented with a special certificate, and all new Valued Veterans identified between March 1 – September 30 will receive their V.V. lapel pin and Certificate of Appreciation. This ceremony can be counted towards one of the lodge’s Member Retention events if held first full week in November.

**QUESTIONS?** Call/Email Member Services at **(630) 906-3658 / helpdesk@mooseintl.org.**