



A Small Dose Of Kindness Goes A Long Way

By **KIM THOMPSON**/Assistant Director, Membership

Membership is the key to success and striving to make your members happy is often at the bottom of the list. Why is this? We often forget to focus on the big picture as we focus on the “fires” within the lodge that come to the forefront, channeling all of our time and energy.

How do we fix this? Possibly with better management, and by that, we do not mean the officers themselves. We need to better manage our members and their attitudes.

Officers should embrace the membership, encouraging camaraderie each and every day. Set up a schedule, ensuring that a lodge officer is available at peak times at the lodge. You can also include officers of the Women of the Moose and Moose Legion to increase the number of members assisting with this endeavor, but make sure they understand the duties of this evening.

Their job that evening is to “wine and dine” their members (not themselves), making all feel welcome. It is important that they pay close attention and not leave anyone out. If they see someone eating alone, they should see if that person would like to move to a table with others. This creates an opportunity to meet other members of their lodge.

One of the many responses we receive from members who do not renew their dues is that no one welcomed them. Sadly, many of these members do not return to the lodge because their Moose experience leaves a lot to be desired.

Had someone approached them, making them feel welcome, they may



have continued their Moose journey. This attention to members doesn't stop at the new members – all members want to feel welcome and enjoy their time at the lodge.

A small dose of kindness goes a long way and you, the officers can make it happen! ■

Lodge Reporting, Remittance & Submission Deadlines

Following is a list of upcoming deadlines for lodges to file reports, remittances or submissions or other key dates in The Moose calendar. The list can be found online at www.mooseintl.org under the “The Moose” tab in the Members Area.

October

27: Mooseheart Founder's Day.

31: Quarterly Form 941 Employers Federal Tax Return submission deadline for July-September (U.S. lodges Only).

November

1: Valued Veterans Fall Recognition Ceremony (with Valued Veteran of Year Recognized) – to be held in November.

10: Verify previous month's QB accounts are reconciled.

15: Mail MONTHLY Moose International A/R Payment and Endowment Fund Remittance.

15: Heart of the Community Report – deadline for QUARTERLY submission.

24-25: Moose International offices are closed.

30: Entry deadline for 2023 Moose International Texas Hold 'Em Tournament, which will take place at the Golden Nugget in Las Vegas from January 8-12, 2023.

December

10: Verify previous month's QB accounts are reconciled.

15: Mail MONTHLY Moose International A/R Payment and Endowment Fund Remittance.

26-27 & 30: Moose International offices are closed. ■

Part of Being A Moose Leader Is Dressing The Part

By **SHAWN BAILE**/Director, Moose Legion and Higher Degrees

With nearly 850,000 members in The Moose, it is impossible to know everyone. It is especially difficult to determine each member's level of involvement simply by looking at them. One of the identifiers that makes such determinations easier is apparel representing the higher degrees a member has earned.

Whether it is the Moose Legion, the Fellowship Degree of Honor, or the Pilgrim Degree of Merit for men, or the Academy of Friendship, Star Degree, or College of Regents for women, degree apparel identifies members who have attained various levels of accomplishment.

There are numerous degree-related items available to members, including polo shirts, pens, aprons, and jewelry. The most recognizable of all degree apparel is formal regalia. In its current form, regalia including blazers of colors representing the wearer's degree has existed since the late 1980's. Members wear their regalia to numerous functions throughout the year, but unfortunately, there are too many occasions when regalia is not worn properly or in its entirety.

The definition of official apparel for men is outlined in Chapter 27 of the Moose Legion Code of Rules. Official apparel includes the blazer indicating the member's degree with appropriate insignia and buttons, striped tie with insignia, white shirt, black trousers, black socks, and black shoes. There are currently two styles of ties that are acceptable for Pilgrims and Fellows – the original black tie with single stripes and degree logo, and the more current patterned ties that were introduced in 2018 and 2022, respectively. Additionally, only one lapel pin is to be worn on the left lapel: the appropriate degree pin, a 25 Club pin, or the current membership campaign pin.

As for women, the Women of the Moose General Laws does not specifically define official apparel, but prior policies state that black skirts or slacks and black shoes are to be worn with any of the three women's



degree blazers.

It is important to wear all Moose degree regalia completely and as prescribed. This is a time to lead by example – other members look to you as someone to be respected. They are likely to follow your lead, especially those newer members who aren't sure of protocols.

Take a look at the military. There are very specific regulations on not only WHAT is to be worn, but HOW it is to be worn. We should not only make sure we each wear it properly, but when we see someone who is not, we should correct them in a manner that is constructive, not degrading.

Leading goes beyond assuming an officer position or committee chairmanship. Your thoughts, words, actions, and appearance are much more indicative of your leadership than the title you hold. Make every effort to be a positive example to others in each of these areas. ■

Membership Retention Begins with You

By **BARB McPHERSON**/Grand Chancellor

At the beginning of every month, Moose International sends an email to all members whose dues are 60 days or more in arrears. This email is a gentle reminder that we have not received their payment and provides instruction for how to renew.

The reminder also asks specifically if there is a reason why the member has not renewed their dues. An email link is provided for the member to respond why they have not renewed. The number one reason members are not renewing their dues is because they are not made to feel welcome in their Moose Home.

The reasons specifically include, “it's no longer fun to attend functions,” “there is too much lying, cheating and disrespect for the members”, “the local Moose is dysfunctional to the point of being unpleasant” and the list could go on and on. I think you get the picture.

So what happened to “The Golden Rule?” You know, “Treat others as you would like to be treated.” The Golden Rule is arguably the most essential basis for the concept of human rights, in which each individual has a right to just treatment.

Our members should expect nothing less from other Moose members

and should expect their Moose Home to be clean, friendly and the type of facility where they would want to spend time. The lodge and chapter should plan a calendar of fun family activities for members of all ages. Successful activities will help to ensure member retention and growth.

Membership retention is vital to the success of both our lodges and our chapters. Through our membership unification, I have seen women who have been members for 20, 30 or 40 years let their lodge dues expire. Why? Did the chapter forget that they have a responsibility to encourage women to pay their lodge dues?

Maybe the expired member doesn't fully understand our unification. Perhaps they don't know they have to have a paid lodge membership and have lost **all** of their member benefits.

Our chapters should contact their former members and explain our new structure. At the same time, make sure the member understands what she has lost or potentially will lose if her membership is terminated.

Let's “Make It Happen!” We have a responsibility to maintain our membership and to treat other Moose members as we would like to be treated. Be friendly, be helpful, be courteous, listen to others and stop criticism. Adversity should not have a place in our organization. ■



Moose Fraternity

Custom Letterhead & Envelopes

241 Moose Fraternity Letterhead
(Minimum Order of 500)

244 Moose Fraternity #10 Envelopes
(Minimum Order of 500)

✓ **Desired Quantity**

500 Letterhead _____ @ \$39.95 ea.

1000 Letterhead _____ @ \$74.95 ea.

2000 Letterhead _____ @ \$145.95 ea.

✓ **Desired Quantity**

500 Envelopes _____ @ \$55.95 ea.

1000 Envelopes _____ @ \$99.95 ea.

2000 Envelopes _____ @ \$190.95 ea.

Exact Copy to be Imprinted (PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

Lodge Name & Number _____

Administrator _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone Number _____

Please ship the following order to:

Lodge Name & #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone #: _____

Ordered by: _____

No Phone Orders Accepted

Please allow 4 - 6 weeks delivery

Actual Shipping Charges
Incurred by Buyer

Return Orders to:

Catalog Sales
85 N International Dr
Mooseheart, IL 60539

What To Do With Lodge Dispensations For A Lodge Event

By **RICK KING**/Chief Compliance Officer

Change can be confusing. A board of officers can change over from year to year which can cause information to be lost along the way. New members and lodge officers often don't know what to do with dispensations or how to use them. Below are some basics you will need to start properly using dispensations in the lodge.

Q: Where can I find lodge dispensations?

A: You can find lodge dispensations online at Mooseintl.org in the Members Area under Forms & Documents ► Compliance Office ► Dispensations.

The dispensations for events are titled: Community Service, Charitable & Fundraising Events With Alcohol or Without Alcohol. Most other dispensations that are non-event related go on the Universal Dispensation.

*Make sure you are using the most current version of dispensations available, which is why we recommend going online and downloading the new versions.

Q: When do I need a dispensation for a lodge event?

A: Any time the public is invited to the lodge for an "open to the public" event or "open house." You also would want a dispensation for community service in order to create a record.

Q: Where do I send them? How should I send them?

A: Dispensations for the lodge should be sent to the Compliance Office. This would include events that benefit activity groups and committees of the lodge such as the Moose Riders and the Moose Legion Committee of the lodge. You can email them to micompliance@mooseintl.org or fax to 630-966-2208

Q: What if the lodge and chapter are working together on an event?

A: The lodge sends a dispensation to compliance for their portion and the chapter fills out its own separate dispensation and submits it to the Women of the Moose office for its portion.



HELPFUL HINTS:

■ Send in a dispensation as soon as you pick the date for the event. Don't wait until a few days beforehand. Ask questions ahead of time to ensure the event is allowable before planning it.

■ Make sure completed dispensations are signed and dated by two officers. Have the event's date listed as well as where the event funds are going. If the funds are going to a charity, list the charity.

■ Use one form per event. If you are having two car shows, do not put them both on the same dispensation.

For more in-depth questions about lodge dispensations contact Rick King at rking@mooseintl.org

*Dispensations for the chapter should be sent to the Women of the Moose office. Chapter dispensation questions go to Rhonda Jones at rjones@mooseintl.org

**Dispensations for Moose Legion jurisdictions should be sent to the Director of Moose Legion & Higher Degrees. Moose Legion jurisdiction dispensation questions go to Shawn Baile at sbaile@mooseintl.org ■

Make 2023 Convention Plans Now!

Join us in Reno for the 2023 International Moose Convention from June 20-23! The Opening Session will take place on Tuesday, June 20 and the Installation of Officers will take place on Friday, June 23. Auxiliary meetings, training etc. may begin beforehand, starting on June 17.

Hotel and registration information will be available in December. Please check www.mooseintl.org for more information.

In the meantime, view presentations and transcripts from the 2022 International Moose Convention in Orlando, FL through the Moose Events/Meetings portal on the main Members Area of www.mooseintl.org. ■

