



MOOSE

Leader

Need-to-know information for officers and chairmen of Lodges/Chapters/Moose Legions Vol. 88, No. 4

Changes Coming As Membership Unifies

The unification of Moose membership to include both men and women has been in-process for many months and the process continues through May 1, when the Loyal Order of Moose becomes The Moose and all will be equal members of a lodge.

A number of changes take place as membership unifies. Some are name changes but others involve dates on which women can become officers in the lodge.

Among name changes at the corporate level:

- The Director General becomes the Chief Executive Officer.
- The Supreme Council becomes the Moose International Board of Directors.
- The Supreme Governor is now the Chairman of the Board.
- The Supreme Junior Governor will now be the Vice-Chairman of the Board.
- The General Governor changes to the Chief Compliance Officer and the General Governor's Office becomes the Chief Compliance Office.

At the lodge level:

- The Governor is now the President.
- The Junior Governor is now the Vice-President.
- The Prelate will be known as Chaplain.

New Women of the Moose Officers Are:

- Senior Regent, Junior Past Regent, Secretary and Treasurer.

Women of the Moose Chairmen will lead the following chapter committees:

- Membership, Fraternal Activities, Mooseheart/Moosehaven and Higher Degrees.



Finally, there are a number of dates to keep in mind as men and women combine to one membership:

- Lodge election is the lodge's first meeting in April.
- Lodge installation is the lodge's second meeting in April.
- Newly elected officers take office on May 1, 2021.
- Women are eligible to be appointed to committees after May 1, 2021.
- Women are eligible to run for vacant Treasurer or Trustee after May 1, 2021 at a special election.
- Women are eligible to run during special election for a vacancy of Chaplain (Prelate) and Vice-President (Governor) only with a dispensation from the Chief Compliance Office.
- Women are eligible to be Administrator after May 1, 2021.
- Women are eligible for appointment after November 1, 2021 to any vacant position without dispensation except for President (Governor).
- Women are eligible to run for President (Governor) at a special election if a dispensation was granted from the Chief Compliance Office. ■



Information on the 2021 International Moose Convention in Cincinnati is available online. Check periodically at www.moose2021cincinnati.org for Convention updates and the most up-to-date information on planned events, including any changes to the schedule due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. ■

Moose Legion Nominations – Election / Training Time

By **BOB NEFF**/Director, Ritual and Higher Degrees

We are about to wrap up a fiscal year and begin a new one. Fraternal units across the Fraternity have been holding – or shortly will hold – nominating committee meetings. In the process of diligently selecting the best-qualified individuals to nominate, we need to consider required training.

Leaders need to stay up-to-date with their training. For instance, Moose Legion MLEC training completed prior to May 1, 2018 is no longer current and must be updated with a new class.

We have offered a number of virtual (Zoom format) MLEC classes and there will be more of them. However, local in-person classes remain an important and viable option where it is determined to be safe to gather and hold such meetings. Interacting with other members and learning how to be better leaders can be accomplished in either venue, so choose the format that works best for you.

May 1 marks the dawning of a new era in Moose history as unified lodge membership becomes a reality. The Moose Legion is part of that history and it has the opportunity to make the transition a very positive event, and we should give our acceptance and support. For the Moose Legion there are minimal changes – but the ones we will make will be positive for our membership building efforts.

We already announced the change of Moose Legion qualifications: Be

an active status male member of the lodge and the member is qualified to apply for advancement to the Degree of Service. This change takes away the waiting period and makes it pretty simple to know who is eligible to invite. These changes make Moose Legion membership the way James J. Davis originally envisioned it.

The other enhancement to our membership production efforts is the elimination of the \$10 Moose Legion application fee, as of May 1, 2021. That is right – for applications submitted on or after May 1, only the signed application and the annual dues amount for the jurisdiction being applied to need be submitted.

In the Moose Legion, attendance at a conferral to learn more about the program and accept the oath of membership is still required. Being welcomed into the degree is a positive experience and when planned right, the conferral can be – and often is – lots of fun! If you are a male member of the lodge who is interested in helping further support our children at Mooseheart and seniors at Moosehaven and wants to be a little more involved in our Fraternal efforts, we invite you look at the Moose Legion. Ask a member to sponsor you!

The future of the Moose Fraternity looks bright and bountiful as we unify and become one. Hop aboard as we steam down this track and be part of the positive movement we are on. While change is inevitable, we believe the best is yet to come! ■

There Is A Difference Between Advertising And Marketing!

By **MICHAEL LEUER**/General Governor

While visiting with officers during recent lodge visits, I was surprised to learn our volunteer leaders carry a common misconception: that lodges “may not advertise under any circumstances.” Several times while there, I have heard: “We’re the best kept secret in town; why can’t we market our Fraternity?”

It is important for you, the lodge officer, to understand what you can, and cannot do regarding the advertising of lodge activities, the reason for such rules, and the difference between promoting our Fraternity’s good works versus advertising lodge activities.

Sections 45.2 and 50.4 of our General Laws prohibit the advertising of Moose “activities for members” (i.e. dances, meals, etc.) Who is being so restrictive?

First, in the United States, the IRS prohibits lodges and chapters from advertising member activities to the public in a manner that would infer that the public is allowed to attend. Also, if we publicly solicit members, or advertise in a manner implying that we are inviting the public to a member event, we become a public accommodation. We cannot have it both ways—enjoying the benefits of being private, while generating revenue from the public.

Some lodges wish to augment their promotion of member events in the lodge newsletter with an advertisement in the local newspaper. We grant dispensation for this only if the ad copy makes very clear that it is a “members and qualified guests only” activity.

However, what you can – and should – do at every opportunity is to tell the public about the positive contributions to society of your lodge and of the Moose Fraternity. Whenever planning a community service or a fundraiser for Mooseheart or Moosehaven, you should inform local news media in an attempt to receive appropriate recognition. These good works are our “products.” We should take advantage of every opportunity to market these products.



You certainly do not need permission or dispensation to tell the world about the good things your lodge and Fraternity are doing.

Our Publications Department at Moose International offers a wide variety of materials and guidance to help you work with your local news media toward this end, Call them at 630-859-2000, ext. 6243 – or email the department at editorial@mooseintl.org.

To protect your lodge and the fraternity, please remember:

- All advertisements must comply with the requirements contained in Section 45.2 of the General Laws.
- A lodge website is a public medium.
- Providing information to the news media, and the public, about the philanthropic work of your lodge and our Fraternity does not require dispensation.
- Advertising a community service event involving the public and occurring on lodge property does not require a dispensation from the General Governor. The advertisement must clearly state that the function is a community service event or fundraiser.
- Advertising bingo to the public is permitted and no dispensation is required. (This is because bingo is generally required to be open to the public).

Questions? Call us at 630-966-2207. ■

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QuickBooks Online – Why Now?

By **DAVE SMOOT**/Assistant Director, Membership

The other day I saw a sign displayed at a local church. “Who was the first to use a tablet and receive a message from the cloud?” The answer was: Moses. What does this have to do with QuickBooks Online (QBO)? Directly, nothing, but humor is good for the soul, especially in stressful times.

Many of you have stressed over the recent migration to QuickBooks Online and you have questioned why we needed to do this now. Well, if not now, when would it have been a good time? For many of you – never!

We felt this was the perfect time as LCL needed to be updated to support membership changes that take place in conjunction with the “One Moose” unification.

The updates to LCL marked the perfect time to evaluate its operating platform, which was antiquated by computer standards. I’m sure you have seen the advertisements promoting “cloud- based” programs. With these programs, data can be stored and communications can be improved by eliminating hardware support for holding data, processing data, and transmitting data. There are ways to process data without all the old routings – think about our interstate highways versus the old two-lane highway network and you get the picture.

So we determined that LCL needed programming improvements and this afforded us the opportunity to improve how LCL processes applications and member files. Changing LCL to a web-based platform ended the “link” between LCL and QuickBooks Desktop because we needed to move QuickBooks to a different operating platform.

A real positive in all this is that Intuit, the company that developed QuickBooks had already embraced the technology of the “cloud” – they had created QuickBooks Online. Using the QBO, we continue to have the ability to receive your monthly reports, but we can now better access them and we can help you remotely with posting issues.

Here’s another good point about QBO: We were able to migrate your accounts without you having to re-enter every transaction. Additionally, the features of QuickBooks Desktop are alive and well in QBO. Only the method of accessing QuickBooks has changed.

Think of this like your automobile dashboard. I am sure many



remember when keys were inserted into the dashboard and nearly all of us remember when those keys were inserted into the steering column. Many of today’s cars just need the push of a button to start the motor.

While the automobile still functions in much the same manner as the old 1972 Oldsmobile 442 (one of those dream cars), today your BMW Z-3 does so much more! In the same manner, your old Quickbooks Desktop was a dream accounting system and functioned well, but your new Quickbooks Online does so much more!

Once you get use to those features of QBO, you won’t look back, except maybe on an episode of Antiques Road Show, when someone shows up with the “mint” in-the-box version of QuickBooks Desktop 2007 and finds out they can’t retire on its value.

Humor is a good way to deal with stress. Stay positive and don’t forget to contact your field staff person when you need assistance. ■