



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **1. What is the One Moose concept?**

With full support of the Loyal Order of Moose Supreme Council and the Women of the Moose Grand Council, we have created a new and unified Moose membership. In this new “One Moose” Lodge, women and men have equal membership rights, privileges, opportunities and a vote in Lodge business and activities. All active Loyal Order of Moose and Women of the Moose members will become members in the new Moose Lodge, governed by a new set of General Laws, on May 1, 2021.

## **2. When was the General Law Amendment Vote taken and where can I find the approved changes?**

The proposed Amendments were approved during the 132nd Virtual International Moose Convention on Friday, June 26, 2020 by 77% of the registered delegates. The General Laws Amendments are posted on [www.mooseintl.org](http://www.mooseintl.org) and will take effect on May 1, 2021.

## **3. What will happen with the Higher Degrees (i.e. Moose Legion, Fellowship, Pilgrim, Academy of Friendship, Star Recorder and College of Regents)?**

We may adjust requirement criteria for advancing to the Moose Legion, however, for the Fellowship Degree and Pilgrim Degree there are no changes being recommended. Academy of Friendship, Star Recorder and College of Regents degree also remain essentially the same, with the potential for change as determined by the Grand Council of the WOTM. To attain or maintain a higher degree membership will be contingent upon maintaining current basic memberships in active status. For the men that means both an active lodge and Moose Legion membership. For the women that means both an active lodge and chapter membership.

## **4. Why don't we create a whole new Higher Degree structure?**

Our first priority was to unify the men and women into a new Moose membership. As we begin to experience growth and success in carrying out our mission together as One Moose, with the help of our members, we can definitely create new honors and recognition awards.

## **5. Will the Lodge Board of Officers change?**

Lodge Officer Titles will change, but the responsibilities and duties of the Board of Officers remains the same. For instance the Lodge Governor will be retitled Lodge President and the Lodge Junior Governor will be retitled Lodge Vice President. Quorums for meetings remain the same – 5 officers for Lodges with 9 Officers on the Board (3 Trustees) and a quorum of 4 officers for Lodges receiving dispensation to operate with 7 Officers on the Board (1 Trustee).

## **6. Who can be officers in the new One Moose Lodge?**

Beginning May 1, 2021 any vacant Lodge Officer positions can be filled by a qualified male or female member through a Special Election during a Lodge Membership Meeting. All Lodge Officers must be an active member in a WOTM Chapter or Moose Legion. Any officer vacancy other than the Administrator or President (Governor) on or after November 1st shall be filled by appointment by the President. Again, any active member of the WOTM Chapter or Moose Legion is eligible for appointment to a Lodge Office, but must meet the membership length of service requirement for that specific office (i.e. eligibility for Lodge President requires one year of service in another Officer position).

## **7. As a Lodge Administrator, what happens to my position on May 1, 2021?**

You will now carry the duties and responsibilities of Lodge Corporate Secretary (i.e. document and retain Lodge Meeting Minutes). Your term as Administrator is defined in Sec. 36.1 of the General Laws as a term of satisfactory service determined by the Board of Officers and lodge, subject to approval by the General Governor. This remains true on May 1, 2021 and going forward.

## **8. What advantage is there for the Lodge now that the General Law Amendments were passed?**

Your Lodge automatically gains talented and capable leadership candidates by unifying with the women. Boards of Officers and Committee Chair positions should be filled in every Lodge.

Lodge membership increases overnight (i.e. Princeton, IL Lodge No 1339 with 301 members unifies with Princeton, IL Chapter No 1973 with 192 members and on May 1, 2021 now has an active membership of 493 members). Continuing to use Princeton, IL as an example, going forward, those 493 members (excludes Life Members) will all pay the \$60 annual dues fee, as will all new or re-enrolled members, male and female, moving forward.

Men and women will be working together to meet and exceed annual membership goals for the Lodge. This expands the Lodge reach and influence out into the community and secures the future for Mooseheart and Moosehaven.

## **9. As a member of the Women of the Moose, on May 1, 2021 will I automatically become a member of my Lodge?**

Yes, all members, both men and women will become members in the new "One Moose" Lodge. All members (does not apply to members holding a Life Membership in that Lodge) will pay the annual Lodge dues amount on their member anniversary date/month. You will also continue to remain a member of your Chapter.

## **10. As a woman and now a member of the Lodge on May 1, 2021, what are my Lodge and Chapter dues going to be?**

For women not holding a Life Membership in a WOTM Chapter prior to May 1, 2021, your dues payment will now be the annual Lodge dues amount and be payable on your membership anniversary date/month. You can find your payment month in the "Paid to" information in the bottom right-hand corner of your current Moose membership card.

For all WOTM Chapter members not holding a Life Membership, your Chapter dues are being waived for three years (with paid Lodge membership). The three years start following May 1, 2021 and are again based on the "Paid to" information on your membership card (i.e. Your "Paid to" date is 12/31/2021, so your Chapter dues will need to be paid next by 12/31/2024).

The WOTM Grand Council has set the minimum Chapter dues to be \$15.00 effective with implementation of the "One Moose" lodge / May 1, 2021. Chapters may increase their dues amount any time following May 1, 2021 by following the WOTM General Laws.

### **11. What impact does unifying our fraternity have on Life Memberships?**

All WOTM Chapter members holding a Life Membership on or before April 30, 2021 will on and following May 1, 2021 continue as a Life Member in that same Chapter and be granted Life Membership in the new One Moose Lodge. To qualify for this one-time conversion, all WOTM Life Membership payments must be postmarked by April 1, 2021 when mailing to the Moose International Dues Processing Center.

All Loyal Order of Moose members holding a Life Membership on or before April 30, 2021 will on and following May 1, 2021 continue as a Life Member in the same Lodge.

Moose Legion Life Membership status does not change.

### **12. What if I paid my WOTM Chapter dues beyond May 1, 2021?**

WOTM Chapter annual dues payments only apply to WOTM Chapter membership. Lodge dues will be billed at the first normal renewal month following May 1, 2021 (i.e. WOTM dues paid to September 30, 2026, then Lodge dues will be billed in September of 2021).

Reminder that for three (3) years, beginning May 1, 2021, all Chapter members not holding a Life Membership will receive an additional three (3) years of free WOTM Chapter dues (must maintain an active Lodge membership). In looking at the scenario given above, your WOTM Chapter dues would now expire on September 30, 2029.

### **13. Are any of the application fees changing or going away?**

The Lodge Application Fee of \$20 will remain. Beginning May 1, 2021, there would not be an application fee for new WOTM Chapter members or new Moose Legionnaires.

### **14. Our Chapter has \$5,000 in our bank account, will that money stay with the Chapter or have to be turned over to the Lodge?**

All Chapter funds on May 1, 2021 and going forward remain with the Chapter. Those funds will not be deposited into the Lodge account.

### **15. Does our Lodge number change? What about Chapter numbers?**

All active Lodge numbers as of April 30, 2021 will remain the same on May 1, 2021 and going forward. All active Chapter numbers as of April 30, 2021 will remain the same on May 1, 2021. Stand Alone Chapters will also be assigned a new Lodge number in addition to their current Chapter number.

### **16. Will our Lodge have to refile our Incorporation paperwork with the State?**

There is no need to refile Incorporation paperwork (i.e. Batavia, IL Lodge No. 682 will continue to do business as Batavia, IL Lodge No. 682).

### **17. How will becoming One Moose impact our Lodge's liquor license?**

There is no impact to your Lodge liquor license.

### **18. Is the Private Policy going away?**

No. The Private Policy remains in effect and provides for the protection of our tax free status and our Constitutional Rights to Privacy.

**19. Can a woman serve on the Supreme Council beginning May 1, 2021?**

Yes, the Supreme Council will be retitled the Moose International Board of Directors and the first female member of this board would be able to be nominated, elected and installed into office during the 2021 International Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio.

**20. Will Chapters operate similarly to Moose Legion jurisdictions?**

Remember, we are creating a new Moose organizational structure. WOTM Chapters will operate as an associated entity of the Moose Lodge beginning May 1, 2021. The WOTM Chapter is not to be considered an Activity Group of the Lodge or a regular standing committee of the Lodge. The Chapter will continue to promote and celebrate the Higher Degrees of the WOTM, organize Chapter activities and fundraise for Mooseheart, Moosehaven and local community charities.

**All information provided above is subject to change.**