



Stand Up

“Everyone that knew him knew which side that he’d be on/ He never was a hero, or his country’s shining light/ But you could always find him standing up/ For what he thought was right.”

The words to the song *You’ve Got to Stand for Something* (or *You’ll Fall for Anything*) co-written and performed by Aaron Tippen, has a clear and strong message that resounds, not only in today’s world but within our membership as loyal and proud Moose members.

Aaron and his fellow writer sat around the table talking about the lessons their fathers instilled in them; to stand up for yourself, to stand up for what is right, and most importantly, to stand up – never wavering in what you believe in.

Think about what your sponsor did when she asked you to join the Women of the Moose. She vouched for you, she introduced you to the women that became your co-workers and most importantly, she stood at your side as you took your Obligation of Membership.

What about when you were asked to be a chairman? You gathered your committee members, developed a plan and worked together to fulfilling your fundraising obligation. You stood united in the mission of the Moose; heroes in the eyes of our children and seniors.

When you were asked to take on a leadership role, the coworkers stood up in support to ensure the chapter had a gain in membership and met its fraternal obligations. You worked together, sharing the load, successfully earning the Award of Achievement.

We stand together through the invocation, the pledge to our country and as we humbly fold our arms and bow our heads during the Nine O’clock Ceremony. These traditions and lessons hold us together and make us stand up a little taller – a little stronger – for what we believe is right.

The Women of the Moose stand up, show up, and are recognized as one of the world's largest women's organizations. Whatever challenges we face, we stand shoulder to shoulder, tackling tasks head-on and succeeding. These principles are what make us stand out.

“Now we might have been better off or owned a bigger house/ If Daddy had done more givin’ in or a little more backing down/ But we always had plenty just living his advice. -- Whatever you do today you’ll have to sleep with tonight.”

Our beloved Mooseheart depends on us standing strong for every child that enters the campus. We see our children in their darkest hours – alone, scared, broken – but we, members of the Moose stand up for them and beside them. We are their light in the darkness; we give them the future they couldn’t see.

As for our senior members at Moosehaven, we give them hope and solace so they can live in safety, with security in the City of Contentment. Standing beside them is a staff that works tirelessly seeing to their needs.

Thank you to each and every member, standing up, doing your part; building stronger relationships, growing our membership, and creating our future.

Be Moose proud! Stand up for your Chapters, Lodges and for your members. Make them feel welcome and appreciated in your Moose home. Include them in events taking place at your lodge.

Do you know the Valued Veterans of your Moose community? The song to which I have been referring – U.S. soldiers in the Gulf War adopted this blue-collar anthem, propelling Aaron to receive an invitation by Bob Hope to join his USO show. Aaron stated, “I am thankful to live in this country. I realize the freedom that I have. You (the military) are directly responsible for it. I’d just like to show a little appreciation where I can on behalf of my family, my company, my band, and my crew. We’re thankful. We want to prove it.” Aaron went on to spend every Thanksgiving with the troops, setting his own example for those around him, passing on his daddy’s lessons. We stand with our troops who defend our freedoms and ensure our safety. We stand with our veterans and thank them for their service.

As we begin the shift towards One Moose, we stand up, and stand together as brothers and coworkers, Creating Our Future. We will prevail as one of the largest organizations working to safeguard the future of children and senior members in our care. As a capable collection of women resolved to working for the betterment of our organization, nothing will penetrate our formidable defense. We have proven that dedicated members can achieve great things, and for everyone that knows us, knows we stand on the side of caring for others, we aren’t

heroes or shadowing the shining light, but they will find us standing up for one another and for what we believe is right. Continue to be Moose proud and continue to STAND UP!

As I reflect on my 2 years on the College of Regents Board, I want to thank all those who have stood with me and stood up for me. To the staff at Moose International, I thank you for this wonderful opportunity. To the Grand Council and International Board members with which I have served, you are an inspiration and a special experience etched in the memory of my heart. To my family, I love you and thank you for your support as I carry out my oath and obligation to the Women of the Moose. To the chapters in the Dakotas, your friendship, support and camaraderie kept me standing in this beautiful organization. To Chapter #1497 in Fort Pierre, SD you are the sisters I never had. I love each and every one of you. Your willingness to stand up and support me is sincerely appreciated. And, most importantly, to my sponsor, who is smiling down on all of us, your mentorship has instilled me with Moose pride. Thank you.