



Nanci Statler

Star Recorder Board

M.O.O.S.E. The Acronym

We live in a world of social media. The more social media we have, the more we think we're connecting, yet to a point we're really disconnecting from each other. Communication is a crucial part of the human life when it comes to interacting and progressing our society. Ever since the beginning of as much as we can remember, we've communicated in many forms such as body language, sign language and written language. Nowadays, we've taken socializing to a whole new level. We've constructed a form of typed language with a given name. . . social networking. We live with acronyms, hashtags and for those of us that are old enough to remember it; a form of short hand. LOL – laugh out loud, OTW – on the way, BFF – best friends forever and on and on. If you think about it, this is not a new concept for the Moose. In fact, they've been doing it for years; LOOM – Loyal Order of Moose, WOTM – Women of the Moose and we now keep member records in LCL – Lodge, Chapter, Legion. But is MOOSE-M.O.O.S.E. an acronym itself? Sure it is.

M – *MEMBERS* of a fraternal organization giving of the time and efforts to make their communities better places in which to live. When you think of fraternity members, what comes to mind? Do you automatically think of the Loyal Order of Moose, the Women of the Moose or do you think of the fraternity of the Delta House from the 1978 National Lampoon's movie "Animal House" with all of their pranks and shenanigans? Maybe it's Fred Flintstone and Barney Rubble being Water Buffalos or what about Howard Cunningham a member of the Leopard Lodge? We as Women of the Moose have joined together to plant the seeds of Faith, Hope and Charity in the hearts of many and our Chapters have grown and prospered.

O – taking an *OBLIGATION* to uphold the principles of the Loyal Order of Moose and Women of the Moose and pledge our loyalty to our Lodges and Chapters in service to humanity. We as members are to protect those within the Order and strengthen our membership.

O – *OUTSTANDING EXPERIENCE* Everyone in this room has the experience of being an exemplary and extraordinary member of our order, we are all Co-Workers of the world's largest women's fraternal unit. Let's help those that aspire to gain and enhance their experience and knowledge of the fraternity. Be a mentor, guide them, show them and assist them to greatness. Together WE CAN make a difference and together WE CAN continue to make BIG things happen. The possibilities are endless!

S – *SERVICE* “The work performed by one or the contribution to the welfare of others”. As members we have a duty to serve our lodge, chapter and community. Think about our hands, what they have done, are currently doing, and will do in the future. As youngsters our hands have made mud pies, steered a tricycle, and learned to write. As parents our hands have changed diapers, wiped away tiny tears and gently but firmly, taught our children right from wrong. Take a look at your hands, no matter how they look we all have undertaken the opportunities our organization presents. As members, we learn the importance of hands working together for the betterment of our fraternity. In addition to Mooseheart, Moosehaven and Moose Charities, collectively we continually serve charitable organizations with many of them being in our local communities.

E – *ENTHUSIASM* If you have a strong excitement for something that you enjoy, you will want to share that enthusiasm with everyone. We have all heard the saying “A burden heavy to one is borne lightly by many.” This is at the core of the Moose fraternity and what makes us unique in our Lodges and Chapters. Membership can mean different things to different people. You as Moose members are the ones determining what you want to get out of the organization, and what you want to give back.

In the words of author and motivator, John Richardson, Jr., “When it comes to the future, there are three kinds of people: those who let it happen, those who make it happen, and those who wonder what happened.” The Moose is about celebrating life together as members, who have taken the same oath about our obligations to serve those in need within our lodge and chapter; our local communities, supporting our children at Mooseheart and standing by our senior members at Moosehaven with enthusiasm and excitement.

Create the Future for a brighter tomorrow, because the future is in our hands. So, next time you look at your hands or the hands of others, think about the wonderful and amazing things they are capable of doing. Alone or together, we as the Women of the Moose and Loyal Order of Moose can really make a difference in our world. Don’t do it for the applause, but instead do it for the cause!

The past two years have been amazing. To the members of the Academy of Friendship Board, the College of Regents Board, the Grand Council; thank you for your friendship. Star Recorder Board members Karen, Rosa, Cindy, Tammy and Liz; Presidents Winnie and Carla thank you for the laughs, friendships and love. I will treasure you always. To the staff in the Women of the Moose office, you all are amazing!! Thank you for all you do for our fraternity, keeping us straight and having the faith and trust in me to serve on the Star Recorder Board. To the co-workers of North Carolina and especially of Newport Chapter #2060, thank you for your friendship and support. I wouldn’t be the co-worker I am today without your **Mentorship, Optimism, Open-hearts, Service and Enthusiasm.**