

The

Florida Moose Association

Courier

No. 3 Jul / Aug 2026



Florida flocks to Oklahoma City for Moose International Convention

page 18

Top Membership Production
**Florida
Moose Association**
46,944

Highest Percentage of
Change in Active Membership
**Florida
Moose Association**

Highest Percentage of Active
Members Qualifying as
Preferred Members
**Florida
Moose Association**



From the Editor

One of my favorite parts of putting together each issue of The Courier is seeing the incredible generosity found throughout our Association.

A successful fundraiser, event, or community service project in one community often inspires another Lodge or Chapter hundreds of miles away.

Every Lodge, Chapter, Moose Legion, and District has something worth sharing. Don't assume your event was too small or your success wasn't significant enough. If it made a difference to your members or your community, it's a story worth telling.

So, I encourage you to send us your articles, your photographs, and your successes. Help us celebrate the volunteers who quietly make a difference every day. Help us preserve the history we're creating together.

After all, The Courier doesn't belong to one editor or one committee. It belongs to every member of the Florida Moose Association.

And together, we're writing a story that's well worth reading.

Deadline for submitting news articles and photos for the next issue of The Courier:
AUGUST 15, 2025

Submit news stories and photos to

TheCourierFMA@gmail.com

The Courier is published bi-monthly and is posted on the FMA website at floridamoose.com

Publisher: Florida Moose Association **Editor:** Kimberly Kelly

The Courier

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On the cover...

The FMA's Three Amigos took centerstage to entertain attendees at the 2026 Moose International Convention. Additional photos start on page 18.

Special thanks to the following Boosters:

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JoEllen Thompson	Kiley Baglama	Scott Thomas	Bill Allen
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[Become a Booster here.](#)

Are you on board for the next stop?

I had the privilege of attending the Mooseheart graduation and Pilgrim ceremony back in May at Mooseheart.

Congratulations to the 15 brothers from the FMA on receiving their degree.

How many think this year's Moose International convention was one of the best in years? I know I did.

Let's congratulate all the new Stars, Collegians and Fellows on their accomplishments.

Chris Jansen rocked the house during the 25-Club night.

Brother John Reiter did an awesome job keeping the session running smoothly.

As I was flying back from OKC I started thinking that day was our 250th anniversary of this great country.

How many of us remember our 200th anniversary?

I'm sure some of us were still in school and others were starting families.

Then there is Miss Glennah McClain and Miss Louise Purtee from Moosehaven who celebrated this country's 150th anniversary.

It's just amazing how the lifestyle at Moosehaven produces so many centenarians.

We have two with the hope that brother Clifford Miller, whose birthday is July 26 and Miss Florence Gartee is on June 18, 2027, both will be 100 years young.

I have been enjoying my travels to all the district meetings. So far, 16 in all.

I just have to say that every District President and their boards are doing an amazing job of running the meetings and doing fundraising for the association.

In my travels I have made it a point to talk about the goal of the association to bring home the Top Association this year.

Well, as you may have heard, we fell one point away from achieving that goal. Ohio was the winning association.

I know that will motivate us to work harder this year to obtain it since it will be announced in our back yard of Orlando.

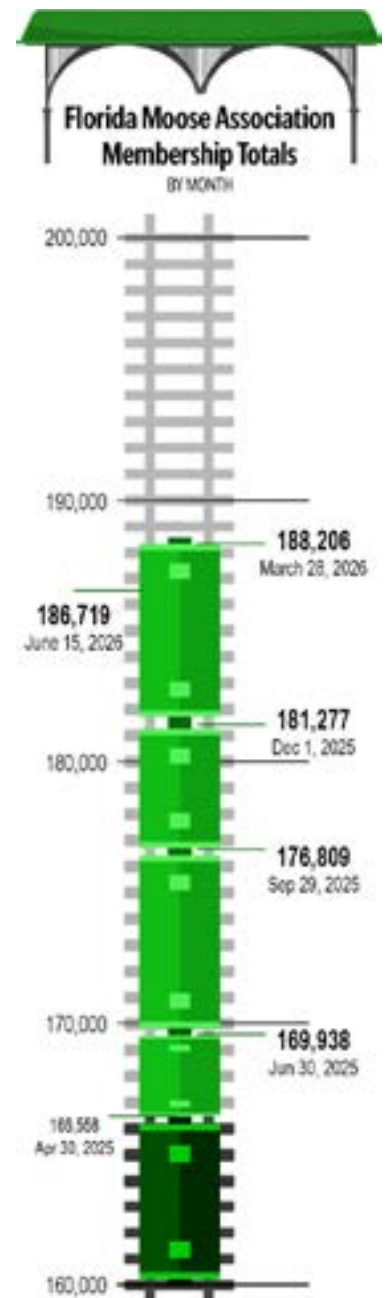
So what do you say? Do you think we can do it? I know we can.

If every lodge gives us just five percent more in membership retention, WOTM and Moose Legion growth, charitable contributions and earn the premier lodge award we will have a chance.

So, what do you say? Are you with me?



FMA PRESIDENT
SCOTT KERN



Still Reaching

I fell Short and it hurt, in that quiet private way only hope can break.

For a moment, I let the ache speak. I let the dream wobble, but I didn't fall.

Because something in me refused to let go, a small stubborn spark still reaching,

Still believing there is more in me than the miss, and that spark is enough to try again.

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see FMA, page 6

AROUND THE STATE

NEWS

Chapter, District, and
Special Committee news.



North Port Lodge Gold sponsor for Chamber event

The North Port Moose Lodge 764 was a Gold Sponsor in the North Port Area Chamber of Commerce 11th Annual "A Night at the Races 2026" on Saturday, May 16, 2026.

Members and Volunteers from the Lodge participated in a horse racing experience along with other events throughout the evening.

The [North Port Chamber Foundation Mission](#) promotes and enhances professional development and education for our community.

Fun times were had by all the attendees at this yearly event.

Submitted by Susan Runge, Chaplain



Empowering Young People to Make a Difference

Moose International Youth Awareness Program

**TODD ANDERSON / JULIE ANDERSON / CANDY SAINDON /
DOMINIQUE SAINDON, Youth Awareness Committee**

The Moose International [Youth Awareness](#) program is one of the Fraternity's most successful and rewarding community service initiatives.

Youth Awareness was established to promote positive youth leadership and community involvement; the program provides high school students with opportunities to educate younger children while developing valuable life skills of their own.

The programs scholarships are funded by the Moose Legion.

At the center of the program is the belief that young people can be powerful role models.

Through the "KidsTalks", participating high school students research, prepare, and deliver presentations to elementary and preschool-aged children on subjects that

affect their daily lives.

Topics often include bullying prevention, internet safety, drug and alcohol awareness, peer pressure, healthy lifestyles, kindness, respect, and making good decisions.

The impact of these presentations extends beyond the classroom. Younger children benefit from hearing important messages from older students they admire, while the High School students gain confidence, leadership abilities, and public speaking experience.

High School Students learn how to organize information, communicate effectively, and connect with diverse audience skills that will serve them well throughout their education and future careers.

The Youth Awareness Program also provides an avenue for students to be recognized for their achievements.

see **AWARENESS**, page 10

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see FMA, page 7

AROUND THE STATE

Chapter, District, and
Special Committee news.



Seniors enjoy shade during July 4th parade

On July 4th, the Islamorada Moose Lodge #2151 brought tents to provide shade for the residents of the [Oasis Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center](#) who had come out for the July 4th parade.

The parade was held on US 1 in Key Largo and the tent was placed at the Key Largo Moose Lodge where they reserved space for the Oasis residents to be able to watch the parade go by in comfort and have an unobstructed view.

Submitted by Islamorada Moose Lodge 2151



Pictured is James Godshall (Lodge 764), Cheryl LeMunyon, Mark Peacock (Lodge 764), and Randy Sosinski.

North Port team defeats top team to win Early Birds League

The North Port Moose Lodge 764 sponsored a bowling team with two members from our lodge participating on the team.

A 36-week Thursday night Early Birds League bowled at [Treasure Lanes](#) in Port Charlotte from August 21, 2025 through May 14, 2026.

By the end of the league, the North Port Moose Lodge 764 team (who was second place at the time) defeated the first place team by one point to win overall in an exciting ending to the season!

Submitted by Susan Runge, Chaplain

FMA, from page 6

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see FMA, page 10

FMA

PILGRIM & FELLOWSHIP *Get Away!*

★ AUGUST 22, 2026 ★

at the
MOOSEHAVEN ACTIVITY CENTER

We will have use of all of the amenities!

11:00 A.M. ROUNDTABLE

12:00 P.M. LUNCH IS SERVED

TO BE FOLLOWED BY AN AFTERNOON OF FUN!

**POKER • BOWLING
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Additional info contact: Chris Pedone at pedonechris@gmail.com or 321-863-1233



The dream continues

John Reiter addresses Mooseheart Class of 2026

JOHN REITER, Intl Chairman of the Board

John Reiter, addressed the Mooseheart Class of 2026 at Mooseheart Saturday, May 30, 2026.

The commencement ceremony took place in the Mooseheart Field House in Mooseheart, Illinois, with nine graduating seniors.

Reiter's term as Moose International's Chairman of the Board ended Friday, July 3, 2026.

Below is his address.

"CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2026. Today marks a huge milestone in your lives, and as you sit here, I invite you to take a moment and travel with me— back to the days when you were little, when you ran hard, played hard, and dreamed even bigger about the future you would someday build.

How many of you dreamed of becoming a doctor or a nurse, a firefighter, a pilot, a teacher—perhaps even a Moose member?

Okay, maybe not a Moose member, but you see the point: as children and as adults, we all dream about the lives we want and the work we long to do.

Class of 2026, you are here today because someone had a dream for you.

That dream began in 1911, when James J. Davis spoke of a vision at the International Convention—a place called Mooseheart, a home where children could grow, receive an

education of both scholastic and vocational skills, and live in a safe haven.

In 1912, that dream moved from concept to a concrete possibility with the purchase of property, and in 1913 Mooseheart was dedicated.

What began as a bold idea became a living, breathing community that has supported countless of young people through the years.

You are here, in part, because of a family member who believed in that dream, and chose Mooseheart as the place where your lives could flourish.

They knew Mooseheart could offer more than they could provide on their own--- a better home and a better education, a place where Davis's dream still exist and is being carried forward by the members of the Moose fraternity.

James J Davis's dream was never meant to exist in isolation; it was meant to be shared, passed along, and kept alive by the people who believed in it as passionately as he did.



see **COMMENCEMENT**, page 15

FMA, from page 7

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see FMA, page 11



AWARENESS, from page 5

Participants are chosen through local, Association, and go onto the International level of competition, showcasing their speaking abilities and commitment to community service.

Scholarships and awards are available to outstanding participants, helping support their future educational goals.

Our Moose lodges play a critical role in the success of the program.

Members work with local schools, youth organizations, and community leaders to recruit students and provide guidance throughout the process.

Lodge coordinators help students select topics, prepare presentations, and develop the confidence needed to speak before groups.

This mentoring relationship often becomes one of the most rewarding experiences for both the students and the Moose volunteers who support them.

Youth Awareness is one of the core initiatives of the Heart of the Community Report.

The program also strengthens relationships between Moose lodges and their communities.

By partnering with schools and supporting local youth, lodges demonstrate the Moose Fraternity's commitment to family, education, and community service. These partnerships often create opportunities for increased community awareness of the Moose mission and values.

Over the years, Youth Awareness participants have delivered hundreds of thousands of presentations to children.

see YOUTH, page 11

AWARENESS, from page 10

The program continues to grow because it addresses real-world challenges facing young people while encouraging leadership, responsibility, and service to others.

Here in Florida, we are so fortunate to have reached over 700 individual students via the "Kids Talk" just last year, and those numbers will continue to grow as we get more High School Students involved.

For many students, participation in Youth Awareness becomes a life-changing experience.

Some discover a passion for teaching, public service, healthcare, education, or leadership. Others simply gain the confidence to speak up, become more involved in their schools, and serve as positive influences among their peers.

The Moose International Youth Awareness Program is much more than a public speaking contest. It is a leader-

ship development program, a community service initiative, and an investment in the future.

Every presentation delivered, every child reached, and every student empowered represents another step toward building stronger communities and developing tomorrow's leaders.

As Moose members, we have a unique opportunity to support and encourage young people who are willing to make a difference.

By promoting Youth Awareness in our lodges and communities, we help ensure that the values of service, leadership, and caring continue to inspire future generations.

The Florida Moose Association's Youth Awareness Coordinators include Todd Anderson, Julie Anderson, Candy Saindon, and Dominique Saindon. Florida North is comprised of FMA Districts 1-12. Florida South includes FMA Districts 13-23.

SEE PAGE 12 for special Youth Awareness Fundraiser

FMA
Youth Awareness
"Empowering Young People to Make a Difference"

FLORIDA NORTH
consists of
Districts 1 - 12

FLORIDA SOUTH
consists of
Districts 13-23

YOUTH SPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS COMMUNITY EVENTS LODGE SUPPORT

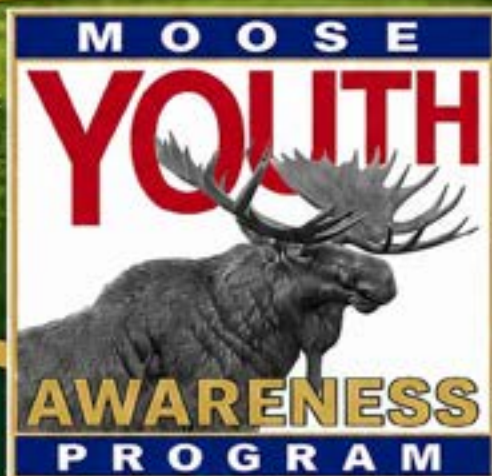
Stronger Together!

Email to set up a class or more info: Nflyouthawareness@gmail.com OR Sflyouthawareness@gmail.com

FAITH ★ HOPE ★ CHARITY ★ LOYALTY ★ COMMUNITY The Family Fraternity

FLORIDA MOOSE ASSOCIATION YOUTH AWARENESS GOLF

★ TOURNAMENT ★



RAFFLES

**50/50
DRAWING**

AUGUST 8, 2026

**MAYFAIR COUNTRY CLUB
SANFORD, FL**



**REGISTRATION
7:00 AM**



**TEE TIME
8:00 AM**



**FORMAT
4-PERSON
SCRAMBLE**



**ENTRY FEE
\$75
PER PLAYER**

INCLUDES



**ROUND
OF GOLF**



LUNCH



**2 DRINK
TICKETS**

ALL PROCEEDS



**GO TO SUPPORT
FMA YOUTH
AWARENESS PROGRAM**

★ **NEW!**
**\$75 HOLE
SPONSORSHIPS
AVAILABLE!**



**PLEASE MAKE CHECK OUT TO FMA
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EARMARK FMA YOUTH AWARENESS.**



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FMA YOUTH AWARENESS GOLF TOURNAMENT

**SATURDAY
AUGUST 8, 2026**

**ALL MOOSE LODGES, DISTRICTS,
MOOSE LEGIONS & CHAPTERS OF
THE FMA ARE WELCOME**



**SHOW YOUR SUPPORT
SPONSOR A HOLE FOR THE
FMA YOUTH AWARENESS PROGRAM**

**HOLE SPONSOR CAN BE YOUR NAME,
LODGE AND NUMBER, COMPANY, BUSINESS
OR INDIVIDUAL NAME OR COMMITTEE**

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
EMAIL _____
PHONE _____

**Deadline for entry is AUGUST 1, 2026
Only \$75.00 per hole.**

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HOLE SPONSOR INFORMATION

NOTE: Please make a copy of this form for your records and send a copy along with your check.

Kick off the Florida Moose Association Full Board Weekend with a Day of Service

HEART OF THE COMMUNITY PROJECT: WISH PILLOWCASE SEW ALONG

Join fellow Moose members for a meaningful day of fellowship, creativity, and service as we sew WISH pillowcases for children and families served by Give Kids the World.

The sew along will be held in Moosehaven's Recreation Center Meeting Room from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Every pillowcase is more than fabric and thread—it's a handmade gift of comfort, hope, and love from the Florida Moose Association.

The completed pillowcases will be presented to representatives from Give Kids the World during the Florida Moose Association Annual Convention, celebrating the generosity and caring spirit of Moose members across Florida.

You do not need to know how to sew. There are many areas in which you can assist including ironing, fabric cutting, pinning, assembly, and support.

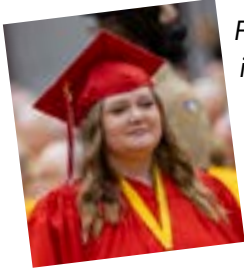
Come support. Come serve. Come make a difference—one pillowcase at a time.

Nassau's Gary Grimm earns Fellowship Degree



A colorful promotional graphic for the 'WISH Pillowcase Sew Along' event. The title 'WISH Pillowcase Sew Along' is written in large, stylized letters with a dashed outline. Below the title, the date and time 'Friday, July 24 • 11:00am-4:00pm' are listed, along with the location 'in the new Recreation Center MEETING ROOM' and the 'Moosehaven' logo. To the right, there is a stack of four colorful, patterned pillowcases. At the bottom, it states 'Completed WISH Pillowcases will be presented to representatives of Give Kids the World at the 2026 FMA Annual Convention' and includes a small sewing machine icon. A small text box in the bottom right corner says 'A special Heart of the Community project exclusively for Moose members'. The entire graphic is framed with a dashed line and includes various heart and star icons.

COMMENCEMENT, from page 9



From the very start, and every day since, it has been—and it remains—everyone's dream to bring success to the students of Mooseheart.

From the moment your application began, you have been the focus of the hopes and efforts of family teachers, the school staff, and the thousands of Moose members who contribute their time, resources, and love.

They stand as a living reminder that you are never alone on your journey.

They are here to uplift you, to challenge you, and to give you the wind beneath your wings as you reach your dreams.

As you move forward in life, I hope you will carry with you a deep appreciation for those who have helped you along the way—and, in time, find ways to give back to the Moose fraternity that has given you so much.

So, what does it mean to graduate from Mooseheart? It means recognizing that dreams are powerful forces, but they do not work in isolation.

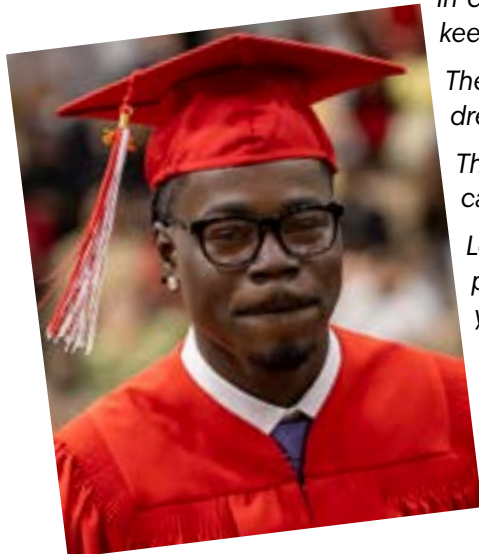
Dreams require people who believe in you, teach you, and stand by you when the path becomes uphill.

They require daily choices—to study a little longer, to help a classmate in need, to stay true to your values when no one is watching. It means the opportunity to apply what you've learned in classrooms and in life, to make a real difference in your communities and in the world.



As you close this chapter and begin the next, I ask That you to hold fast to those lessons--- dreams are the compass that will guide you---- but it is your choices that will shape your future. The diploma you receive today is not the end--- but a milestone in a lifelong journey of learning, service, and growth.

And it is your responsibility to translate those dreams into action—whether in your career, your family, or your community—and to continue the tradition of support and generosity that has carried you this far.



In closing, I leave you with two quotes to keep in your hearts as you move forward.

The first is, "The dream never dies, just the dreamer."

The second is, "Chase your dreams because your dreams won't chase you."

Let these words remind you that your aspirations are powerful, but they require you to pursue them with courage, persistence, and compassion.

Congratulations, Class of 2026, and keep on Runnin Down A Dream, and may your future be as bright and lasting as the dream that began Mooseheart."



2025-2026

Premier Lodge Award Qualifiers

LODGE	FRU #
Mandarin	42
Palatka	184
Fort Pierce	248
Palm Harbor	433
Jacksonville	455
Pensacola	557
Gulf Gate	608
Four Townes	655
North Port	764
Orlando	766
Ruskin	813
Interbay Tampa	912
Winter Haven	1023
Marianna	1026
Marathon	1058
Tallahassee	1075
Deland	1126
Bradenton	1223
Daytona Beach	1263
Villages Leesburg	1271
Tice And The Shores	1297
Venice	1308
Sarasota	1319
Arcadia	1327

see **PREMIER**, page 17

FMA, from page 10

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see FMA, page 24



New Pilgrims conferred

Florida welcomed new Pilgrims at Mooseheart's House of God on Saturday, May 30, 2026. New Pilgrims from Florida include David Walters, William Walker, John Carr, Clark Farmer, James Bever, John Clementz, Steve Glover, Michael Wehr, Michael Conley, Jerry Waters, Jerry Iunde, Ken Martin, Sean McCann, Charles Kinnaman, and Joseph Clevenger.

A special Pilgrim Presentation will be held to celebrate their accomplishments on Friday, September 11, 2026 at the 2026 FMA Annual Convention.

Fraternal Recognition grows as members continue to grow

When the Moose Fraternity unified on May 1, 2021, female members began serving on lodge, district and association boards and committees.

Unfortunately, this service did not count toward either of the two longstanding Higher Degree programs of the Women of the Moose (Academy, Star, College) or of the men's (Moose Legion, Fellowship, Pilgrim).

In addition, nearly 500,000 male members of The Moose were not part of the current Higher Degree program.

The Moose needed a new recognition program that every member could be a part of. The Fraternal Recognition program was developed to answer these needs and recognize members for their individual accomplishments.

see RECOGNITION, page 29



FOOD 4 KIDS benefits from food drive

Our amazing community for supported the [FOOD 4 KIDS](#) Food Drive hosted by West Marion Moose Lodge 2356!

Because of the generosity of members from West Marion Moose Lode 2356, neighbors, friends, and local supporters, an incredible 501 pounds of food was collected and donated to the children and families of Marion County through the Interfaith Emergency Services "Food 4 Kids" initiative.

Every canned good, box of food, and donation will help make a difference for local children facing food insecurity. Your kindness and willingness to give truly show what our community is all about.

West Marion Moose Lodge 2356 is proud to continue supporting local families in need, and we thank each and every one of you for making this event such a success! Together, we are making a difference – one child, one family, and one act of kindness at a time.

Submitted by Mickey Hoey



Englewood shows they care

Englewood shares support for the FMA "[Because Florida Cares](#)" Endowment Program. The program was developed to help fill the donation gap between the Cradle and Rocker campaigns during the summer months.

Submitted by Michele Martello

PREMIER, from page 13

Panama City	1389
Bonita Springs	1454
South Lake County	1615
Crescent City	1641
Punta Gorda	1693
New Port Richey	1747
Okeechobee	1753
Key West	1760
Naples	1782
Sanford	1851
Brandon	1880
Land O'Lakes	1903
Englewood	1933
Titusville	1962
Kissimmee	2056
Merritt Island	2073
Haines City	2083
Palmetto	2117
Islamorada	2151
Anna Maria Island	2188
Fort Walton Beach	2193
Largo	2205
Zephyrhills	2276
Dunnellon	2308
Pine Castle	2345
Nassau	2352
North Bay	2373
Lake Wales	2391
Caloosahatchee	2395
Wakulla County	2510
Halifax River	2516
Ocala Forest	2535
West Volusia	2538
Gulf Cove	2554

Leadership Award Qualifiers:

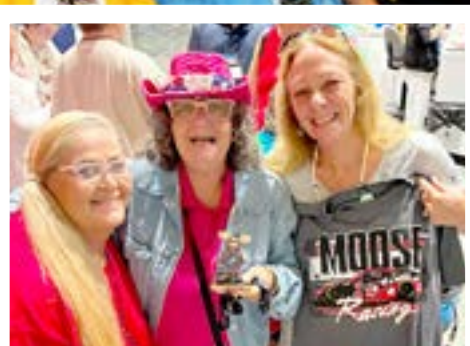
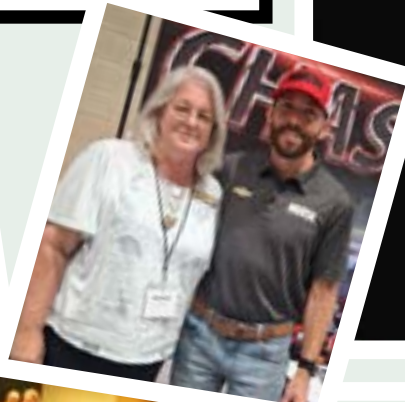
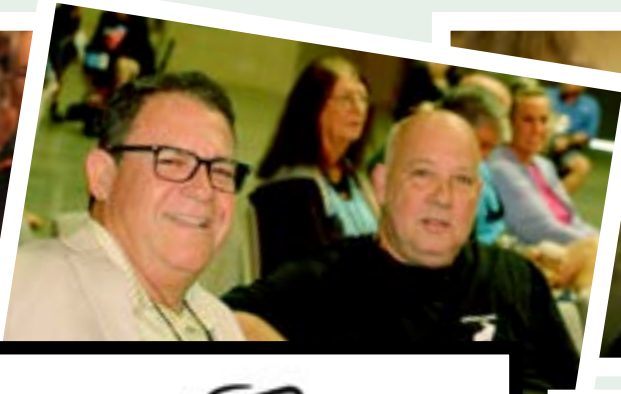
[President](#)
[Administrator](#)

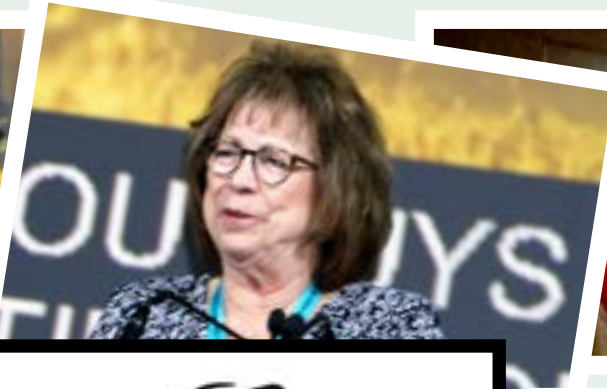


John Reiter's term as Chairman of the Board comes to a close

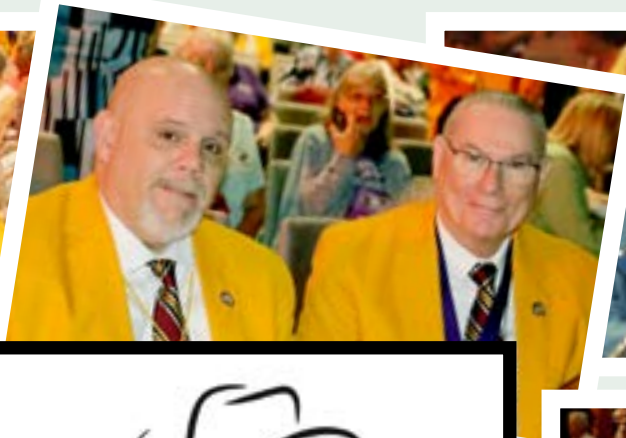
Astounding year Humbling, Exhilarating, and Completely Unforgettable

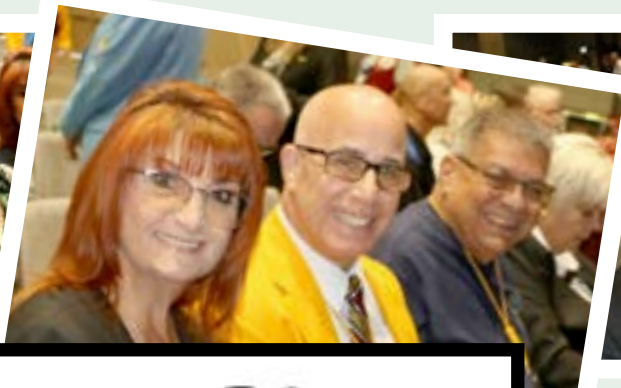












FMA, from page 16

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dgirardfsyr2023@gmail.com

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches

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tomburnam@yahoo.com

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kenb@pedrofalcon.com

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Stephen J. Vella

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954-856-3478
vellair@aol.com

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Kimberly Kelly

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352-422-3966
kimberlykelly@tampabay.rr.com

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904-258-3022
rfleet38@yahoo.com

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727-410-1092
johnf@theholbachs.com

see FMA, page 25

AROUND THE STATE

Chapter, District, and
Special Committee news.



Veterans receive support from Dunnellon Moose Lodge 2308 Valued Veterans Committee

Dunnellon Moose Lodge 2308's Valued Veterans Committee made a much needed monetary donation to Citrus County Veterans Coalition. The coalition works to better inform all residents of Citrus County, Florida about veterans related activities, help veterans be able to find and join local to get involved in their support. They also strive to get the public involved in supporting local veterans and their families.

Submitted by Dunnellon Moose Lodge 2308



Coloring books, crayons now part of Islamorada summer reading program

The Tommy Moose coloring books from Islamorada Moose Lodge and crayons donated by Publix of Islamorada were delivered by Chaplain Gary Falleur and Chef/member Robert Spencer to [Islamorada Library](#) Head Librarian Naomi Trevino. They will be used for a summer reading program prizes.

Submitted by Islamorada Moose Lodge 2151



2025-2026

Women of the Moose Award of Achievement

Anna Maria Island
Arcadia
Bonita Springs
Bradenton
Brandon
Cape Coral
Cocoa
Crescent City
Davie
Daytona Beach
Deland
Dunnellon
Englewood
Fort Myers
Fort Pierce
Four Townes
Gulf Cove
Gulf Gate
Haines City
Halifax River
Highlands County
Inverness
Jacksonville
Jacksonville Beach
Kissimmee

Lake City
Lake Shore
Lake Wales
Land O'Lakes
Largo
Lauderdale Lakes
Leisure City
Mandarin
Marianna
Melbourne
Merritt Island
Miramar
Nassau
New Port Richey
New Smyrna Beach
North Bay
North Port
Ocala Forest
Okeechobee
Orlando
Palatka
Palm Beach Gardens
Palmetto
Panama City
Perrine

Pine Castle
Pompano Beach
Port Charlotte
Port St Lucie
Punta Gorda
Riverview
Sanford
Sarasota
Satellite Beach
Sebastian River
Silver Springs
South Lake County
Spring Hill
Stuart
Tallahassee
Tice And The Shores
Vero Beach
Wakulla County
West Boca Raton
West Dade
West Volusia
Winter Haven
Zephyrhills

FMA, from page 24

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jamonk55@gmail.com



Caring for children at Mooseheart

Michele Martello showcases Englewood Moose Lodge #1933's
"Sunshine Children" banner.

Submitted by Michele Martello

see FMA, page 26

FMA, from page 25

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Pilgrim Secretary

Ed McGurn

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/Resolutions/Bylaws

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pentonj@carico.com

Special Olympics

Terri Plourde

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tplourde60@gmail.com

see FMA, page 28



West Marion Moose Lodge helps fill Marion Senior Services pantry

The members of West Marion Moose Lodge #2356, along with friends, neighbors, and community supporters, helped make a special Food Drive on Saturday, June 20, benefiting [Marion Senior Services](#), a tremendous success.

Because of their generosity, the Lodge was able to collect a wonderful supply of food that will help fill pantry shelves and provide much-needed assistance to seniors throughout the community.

The outpouring of support from the Ocala community is a true reflection of the compassion and generosity that make our area such a special place to call home. Together, we are helping ensure that our elderly neighbors receive the care and support they deserve.

Submitted by Mickey Hoey



Donation lights up the holiday sky

Englewood Moose Lodge #1933 and WOTM #1582 donated a combined total of \$3500 to the Suncoast Rotary for the 4th of July fireworks on Lemon Bay.

Submitted by Michele Martello



Elena's Story

NEXT GENERATION LEADER

SARAH JACKSON, Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches

Elena had been working at [Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches](#) Summer Camp for weeks before her big discovery. She was doing something any camp staff member would: singing a camp song.

"This is a repeat-after-me song!" the leader announced.

"This is a repeat-after-me song!" Elena echoed, along with other staff.

The leader began pantomiming motions, launching into a sing-song story about "A Great Big Moose."

"And I was like, wait a minute. I know this!" Elena said, laughing. "Did I learn this at camp?"

Long after her application, interview, and staff training, Elena remembered being twelve years old and attending a week of Harmony in the Streets mobile camp in her hometown of Jupiter, Florida.

"My mom signed me and my brothers up, and I remember singing these songs and trying archery for the first time!" Elena said.

Same songs, same shirts, same mission: reaching at-risk kids who needed support and stability in their lives. But Youth Ranches Summer Camp wasn't the only

time Elena saw programs like ours in action.

"I have always had a passion for juvenile diversion because in high school I was a Teen Court attorney," she explained.

Today, Elena has a degree in Criminal Justice.

When she was reaching the end of her degree program, she learned that an internship was required.

Her advisor sent information about Youth Ranches Summer Camp, and the mission appealed to Elena.

"This job has helped me learn to think outside the box and be prepared for the unexpected," Elena said.

"And one of the main reasons why I love it so much is the mission statement, and how it is, in a sense, catering towards juvenile diversion."

Summer camp is all about being flexible. Kids, especially those from hard places, can have a hard time regulating themselves in emotional or unfamiliar situations.

Camp staff members like Elena are trained to spot these situations and give campers the tools they need.

see ELANA, page 29



FMA, from page 26

Youth Awareness (S)

Candy and Dominique Saindon

18910 Bay Woods Lake Dr, #101, Fort Myers, FL 33908

603-491-7653

sunapeebeachbum@gmail.com

INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Jr Past President

Moose International

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352-804-4679

mooseracer@cox.net

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country_paths@yahoo.com

Intl Outer Guard

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toddanderson5530@gmail.com

Intl Moose Charities Board

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jlbAnderson@yahoo.com

Moosehaven Executive Director

Helen Taylor

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htaylor@moosehaven.org

Moosehaven BOD

Dan O'Neal

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407-547-7216

indianriver178@gmail.com

see FMA, page 29

Events Calendar



SAT
JUL 18, 2026

Women of the Moose General Training

Arcadia Moose Lodge 1327

Brenda Brady

772-201-1060

bjbrady51@bellsouth.net



SAT
JUL 18, 2026

Women of the Moose General Training

Wakulla Moose Lodge 2510

Shirley Brosie

863-397-6195

sbrosie6195@gmail.com



SAT
JUL 18, 2026, 7 PM

Pilgrim Celebration: Jerry Walters

Macclenny Moose Lodge 2412

904-316-4911

jerryhw1981@yahoo.com



SUN
JUL 19, 2026

Women of the Moose Treasurer Training

Arcadia Moose Lodge 1327

Brenda Brady

772-201-1060

bjbrady51@bellsouth.net



SUN
JUL 19, 2026

Women of the Moose General Training

Wakulla Moose Lodge 2510

Shirley Brosie

863-397-6195

sbrosie6195@gmail.com



FRI
JUL 24, 2026

WISH Pillowcase Sew Along

Moosehaven Activity Center

Kimberly Kelly

352-422-3966

authenticmeus@gmail.com



FRI-SUN
JUL 24-26, 2026

FMA Women's State Pool Tournament

Orlando Moose Lodge 766



FRI-SUN
JUL 24-26 2026

Moose International Horseshoes Tournament

Iowa City, IA Lodge 1096

Activities Department

Mooseheart, IL

60539-1172

630-966-2214

mooseintl.org/activities



SAT
AUG 8, 2026

FMA Youth Awareness Golf Tournament

Mayfair Country Club

Sanford



SAT-SUN
AUG 14-16, 2026

Moose International Cornhole Tournament

Hayward Castro Valley, CA Lodge 1491

Activities Department

Mooseheart, IL 60539-1172

630-966-2214

mooseintl.org/activities



SAT
AUG 22, 2026

Women of the Moose General Training

Inverness Moose Lodge 2112

Kimberly Kelly

352-422-3966

authenticmeus@gmail.com



SUN
AUG 23, 2026

Women of the Moose Treasurer Training

Inverness Moose Lodge 2112

Kimberly Kelly

352-422-3966

authenticmeus@gmail.com



SAT
AUG 22, 2026

Pilgrim Getaway

Moosehaven
Activity Center

Chris Pedone

321-459-1010

pedonechris@gmail.com



FRI-SAT
AUG 28-29, 2026

FMA Race Weekend O'Reilly Auto Parts Series Coke Zero Sugar 400

Daytona International

Speedway

Cody Parrish

cparrish@nascar.com



FRI-SUN
AUG 28-30, 2026

Moose International Golf Tournament

Middletown, OH Lodge 501

Activities Department

Mooseheart, IL 60539-1172

630-966-2214

mooseintl.org/activities



FRI-SUN
SEP 5-7, 2026

FMA Men's State Pool Tournament

Orlando Moose Lodge 766



THU-SUN
SEP 10-13, 2026

2026 FMA Annual Convention

Rosen Plaza Hotel
Orlando

Dan O'Neal

Floridamooseassociation

@gmail.com



SAT-SUN
SEP 12-13, 2026

Moose International Soft Tip Darts Tournament

Rapid City, SD Lodge 1137

Activities Department

Mooseheart, IL

60539-1172

630-966-2214

mooseintl.org/activities



SAT
SEP 19, 2026

South Florida 46 Moose Legion Conferral

Pompano Moose Lodge



SAT-SUN
SEP 26-27, 2026

FMA Golf Tournament

25101 Old 41 Road, Bonita
Springs, FL 34135

Art Sater

239-366-6100

artsater@gmail.com



FRI-FRI
SEP 25-OCT 2, 2026

Moose International Moose Cruise

Mexican Riviera
Westchester, CA

Activities Department

Mooseheart, IL

60539-1172

630-966-2214

mooseintl.org/activities



SAT-SUN
SEP 26-27, 2026

FMA Golf Tournament

25101 Old 41 Road, Bonita
Springs, FL 34135

Art Sater

239-366-6100

artsater@gmail.com

RECOGNITION, from page 16

This is a brand-new program that started on May 1, 2025. Every member is eligible to participate regardless of past accomplishments or Higher Degree recognition.

Hundreds of Florida members have been recognized throughout this new program. A complete recipient list can be found at mooseintl.org.

[Fraternal Recognition Program: Preferred](#)

[Fraternal Recognition Program: Power](#)

ELANA, from page 21

"Last summer, there was a young girl named Riley," Elena recalled.

"She was loud and energetic and sweet, but she had trouble being nice to other campers.

When she said something really mean to another camper, I had to talk to her.

I said, 'Riley, you cannot say things like that. I care about you and I know you are an amazing person, which is why I expect better from you.'"

"And she just said, 'You really care about me?' And my heart just shattered.

Her mom later shared with us that Riley doesn't hear that from teachers, educators, or any other people around her. And that made me so sad because for the rest of camp, Riley was amazing and stepped up as a leader."

Finding a positive role model can be all it takes to give a child direction.

Sharing encouragement, support, and advice is what creates the next generation of leaders in our communities. For Riley, that role model was Elena.

"This whole experience is very full-circle because I didn't realize as a camper that I would end up working for this agency," Elena said. "But once I realized I was here, I thought, 'Oh my gosh, I'm home.'"

Summer camp truly changes lives.

We are so grateful to work with donors who want to see people like Elena, and maybe one day Riley, make a difference in their communities.

Thank you for supporting Youth Ranches Summer Camp!

FMA, from page 28

Sports/Activities

Cindy Barnhart

1673 W Carriage Dr, Titusville, FL 32796

321-720-7440

cindybarnhart1031@gmail.com

Valued Veterans

Frank Venditti

8694 Ashbury Dr, Hudson, FL 34667

727-809-1259

flvendis@yahoo.com

Veterans Affairs

Larry D'Angelo

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see FMA, page 30



MARKETING • PRINT • MAIL



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FMA, from page 29

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Ken Bygler

Todd Anderson

Mike Edkin

WOTM Chapter Advocate

Barb 'Babs' Moffitt

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keysgal50@gmail.com

WOTM Grand Chancellor

Barb McPherson

bmcpherson@mooseintl.org
630-966-2243

WOTM Past Grand Regent

Gloria Petra

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813-294-0836
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WOTM Conferral Coordinator

Sharon Krutulis

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sharonkrutulis@hotmail.com

For complete FMA Directory
[click here](#)



SAT
OCT 10, 2026

Pilgrim Celebration:

Mike Wehr

Gulf Gate Moose Lodge 606
941-993-0037
mrwehr_55@yahoo.com



SAT
OCT 24, 2026

Pilgrim Celebration:

James Bever

South Lake Moose Lodge 1615
652-530-3545
bever,jim@yahoo.com



SAT
DEC 12, 2026

South Florida 46

Moose Legion Conferral

West Boca Moose Lodge



SAT
JUN 12, 2026

South Florida 46

Moose Legion Conferral

Naples Moose Lodge



THU-SUN
APR 8-11, 2027

2027 FMA

Mid-Year Conference

Rosen Plaza Hotel
Orlando
Dan O'Neal
Floridamooseassociation@gmail.com



SAT
SEP 19, 2026

South Florida 46

Moose Legion Conferral

Pompano



THU-SUN
SEP 11-14, 2027

2027 FMA

Annual Convention

Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando

Dan O'Neal
Floridamooseassociation@gmail.com



THU-SUN, 2027
MAR 30-APR 2, 2028

2028 FMA

Mid-Year Conference

Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando
Dan O'Neal
Floridamooseassociation@gmail.com



THU-SUN
SEP 7-10, 2028

2028 FMA

Annual Convention

Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando

Dan O'Neal
Floridamooseassociation@gmail.com

For more events
[click here](#)

FMA
FLORIDA MOOSE ASSOCIATION

FLORIDA MOOSE ASSOCIATION

2026 STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT

Hosted by
BONITA SPRINGS MOOSE LODGE #1454
25101 Old 41 Rd
Bonita Springs, FL 34135
United States

SEPT. 26 & 27, 2026

2 MAN BEST BALL TOURNAMENT

ONLINE REGISTRATION DEADLINE 9/18/26
AND PAYMENT DUE IN FULL
NO LATER THAN 9/18/26

CHECK-IN INFORMATION
Friday Check-In Begins at 12:00 Noon
at Bonita Springs Moose Lodge #1454

TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION
ENTRY FEE: **\$130 PER PLAYER**
MUST BE A CURRENT MOOSE MEMBER TO PARTICIPATE

✓ Two Rounds of Golf ✓ Sunday Lunch ✓ Tournament Participation

DINING & ENTERTAINMENT
Dinner Available
Friday & Saturday
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Entertainment
Both Evenings

HOLE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
GOLD SPONSORSHIP \$50
SILVER SPONSORSHIP \$25

FOR SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION CONTACT:
BILL ALLEN
billallen6312@gmail.com

QUESTIONS CALL - LODGE GOLF CHAIRMAN:
ART SATER
1 (239) 346-6100
artsater@gmail.com

GOLF • FELLOWSHIP • FUN

TOURNAMENT COURSES & LODGING INFORMATION

TOURNAMENT COURSES

SAN CARLOS GOLF CLUB
7420 Constitution Ave.
Fort Myers, FL 33967
239-267-3131

SPRING RUN GOLF CLUB
9501 Spring Run Blvd.
Esters, FL 34135
239-949-0707

AREA HOTELS OFFERING MOOSE DISCOUNTS

HAMPTON INN
27900 Crown Lake Blvd.
Bonita Springs, FL 34135
239-947-9393

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS
27991 Crown Lake Blvd.
Bonita Springs, FL 34135
239-948-0699

HOMewood SUITES
by Hilton
8901 Highland Woods Blvd.
Bonita Springs, FL 34135
239-949-5913

Join Moose Members
From Across Florida
FOR A WEEKEND OF
GOLF, FRIENDSHIP & FUN!