

From the Editor

Florida members have a lot of reasons to be MOOSE PROUD.

The 137th Meeting of The Moose was held in Milwaukee, WI May 23-27, 2025 and full of excitement.

John R. Reiter was elected as the new Moose International Chairman of the Board, Rodney Hammond was presented the Moose International Lifetime Achievement Award, new Moose International Appointments were made, new members of the College of Regents were conferred along with new Pilgrims, Fellows, and Stars.

They, along with so many others are what keeps our Lodges, Chapters, and Moose Legions continuing to meet the obligations we all committed to when we joined The Moose.

The lives they impact, the giving of themselves, the use of their talents, and the drive they have to make things happen... wow!

They don't only impact the lives of children at Mooseheart, seniors at Moosehaven, and those in their community, they also impact the lives of those who they come into contact with in and around our Lodge homes.

The July/August issue of The Courier is dedicated to these men and women. We should look to these individuals for guidance, knowledge, and leadership.

Thank you to everyone who contributed stories, Heart of the Community photos, and information from events around the state. Your commitment to sharing our Moose news

Veterans Day is in a few months and I would love to see how your lodge honors its veterans for an upcoming story. Email me at TheCourierFMA@gmail.com.

Deadline for submitting news articles and photos for the next issue of The Courier:

August 15, 2025

Submit news articles and photos to:

TheCourierFMA@gmail.com

The Courier is published bi-monthly and is posted on the FMA website at floridamooose.com **Publisher:** Florida Moose Association **Editor:** Kimberly Kelly

The Courier

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On the cover...

Chairman of the Board John R Reiter addresses those in attendance at the 2025 Moose International Installation of Officers.

Photo courtesy of Darryl Mellema

INSET PHOTO: John R Reiter is sworn in as Moose International Chairman of the Board.

Special thanks to the following Boosters:

PLATINUM: Dan O'Neal, R & R Shockley, Walter Wommack, In Memory of Donna Kern, Nancy Gebhart, John Sallee, Bob & Jackie Robinson, Ronald Rodman, Davie WOTM 1686, David Lodge 1798, Dennis and Ellen Shindle, Willie & Karen Williams, Paula Stevens. GOLD: Christine and Scott Duncan, Peggy Clifton, Tom Akers, In memory of Charlie Titheridge. SILVER: Ann Mell, Scott Thomas, Edward Mell, Jacquiline Poiret.

"Community Service is a very important aspect and should be in everybody's lives.. if there is any way that you can make it any better then that's what you should do..."

CHURCH LADY

Hello Florida Moose Brothers & Sisters,

Moving Forward, Giving Back is our new campaign for the new Moose year!

To all the members that attended the Moose International Convention in Milwaukee, I want to thank each member that was there who made 'noise' when FLORIDA was announced. It was impressive to look back at the crowd from the stage and see that Florida was well represented.

Congratulations to John "The Rip" Reiter for being installed as Chairman of the Board and to all the new appointments that were installed to the Moose International level.

Congratulations to all the Fellows who were elevated to the Pilgrim degree at Mooseheart, the Moose Legionnaires that were conferred to the Fellowship degree.

To all the Women of the Moose that received their College of Regents Degree and their Star honors, your dedication to the Chapters is recognized. Be proud of your honors.

All of us on the FMA Executive Board are proud of you and your accomplishments and hard work you endeared to get these honors.

District Presidents, we are entering the end of your term serving as District President, (unless you are running for a 2nd term), I personally thank you for the endless work you put in month after month. Elections should be taking place now in your respective districts, make sure that all the correct actions are being held at your meetings, and all the correct paperwork is being turned in on time. If you have any questions or concerns please reach out to us and we will help you. Please make sure that you thank your Board of Officers that supported you throughout the year! Keep fighting until September 30.

A big shout out to the FMA Education Committee chairman, Key Bygler, and all the trainers who 'trained' everyone at the Inaugural Moose Training Jamboree.

It was a great opportunity to get all your training done to become a stronger leader in your lodge and in the Moose. Thank you everyone for all that you do!

I hope that everyone has a safe and exciting summer. Julie and I will be trying to get to as many lodges and districts in the next few months and we look forward to visiting when we are in the area.





SCOTT DUNCAN



Keep leading the way

As we begin our new fiscal year, it's hard not to take a moment and savor the fun and memories we made in Milwaukee.

Congratulations to our new Stars, College of Regents, Fellows, and Pilgrims.

To be on the grounds of Mooseheart to experience the laughter of the children and the specter of the moments. These are the times we will never forget.

To share a story, you may even have one like this of your own... I was able to get a list of Birthdays for May at Mooseheart, some were of teachers, Mooseheart Staff, yes Mr. Urwiler had a birthday in May, and some were students. Well, I sent cards to everyone of them.

So in between all the activities on this huge campus, I was walking form the House of God to the Moose Museum and came across a group of girls, dressed to the nines and having fun while eating lunch.

I walked up to the group and asked if any of them had a birthday in May and one of the girls said yes.

I asked if she received any cards, to which she replied, "yes, just one." I then asked, Where did it come from?" She replied "Florida". I said "Palm Bay, Florida? Was it from Chris and Scott?"

Her eyes lit up and look at me with a surprise and said "Yes," again, to which I introduced myself. Without even a thought she ran up to me and gave me a hug.

What an amazing connection and an amazing memory to get a response like that for a card.

Now, I have to tell you, there was no gift, no money, just a card. Just a good thought and a wish for her to have a happy birthday.

That is the type of fraternalism I wish we all could feel at times when it gets really tough.

See LIASON, page 18

FMA 2024–2025 Officers

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Territory Manager/FMA Liaison

W. Scott Duncan

2407 Hagopian Ave SW, Palm Bay FI 32908-4729 321-501-7180

sduncan@mooseintl.org

President

Todd Anderson

1004 Virginia Ave., Lynn Haven, FL 32444 850-866-8679 toddanderson5530@gmail.com

Vice President

Scott Kern

113 Hays Dr., Sanford, FL 32771 407-314-6287 kerntransman@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Walter Wommack

13107 Firefly Lane, Hudson, FL 34669 727-919-4225 wwwmmack@ideacomfl.com

Chaplain

Gerard DuBois

740 90th St , Marathon Fl 33050 305-481-7187 dubiosp@bellsouth.net

<u>Jr Past President</u>

James Esposito

7000 Palmetto Circle South A-708 Boca Raton, FL 33433 954-907-0311 jvesposito@hotmail.com

Secretary

Dan O'Neal

PO Box 2863, Sanford, FL 32772-286 407-547-7216 floridamooseassociation@gmail.com

Assistant Secretary

Rhonda Shockley

110 NE 28th St, Pompano Beach, FI 33064 954-774-0508 supershock67@aol.com

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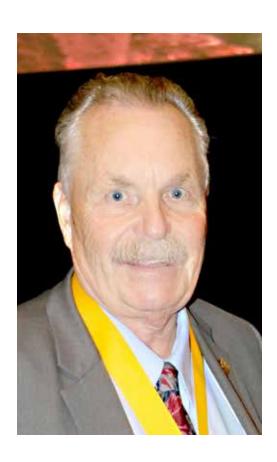












Running Down a Dream

John R. Reiter Chairman of the Board

MOOSE INTERNATIONAL

John R. Reiter was installed as the Moose International Chairman of the Board during the 137th Moose International Convention in Milwaukee, WI. Below is his address:

"CEO Scott Hart, Grand Chancellor Barb McPherson, International Board Members, members of this great fraternity, and guest, 36 years ago as I sat in an enrollment class, like most I was excited and nervous as what this was all about.

I remember listening to the ritual staff and the words spoken that night trying to learn what the Moose was about. Time has erased most of the words, but a few statements have stayed with me throughout all these years.

I will never forget the Orator, Norman Nix, he was a fairly big man who had a deepen voice that would draw your attention to him.

As he took his place on the floor and spoke these words "Strong and majestic, the moose is unique in all the animal kingdom", it was like a magnet that attached itself to my brain.

He continued to say, "The moose uses his size and strength not to dominate, but to protect".

These sayings have held true since the beginning of the moose fraternity.

How strange is it that in 1888 Dr. Henry Wilson and his friends would choose the Moose as the name of the fraternal organization.

They had no clue as to what the future would have in store and how appropriate the Moose would be as a mascot.

How could they ever know that James J Davis would create Mooseheart and Moosehaven, and like the Moose animal, the newly founded organization uses its strength to protect the young at Mooseheart and our seniors at Moosehaven.

Our Moose Fraternity has never tried to dominate the outside world, but just like the animal we move quietly and use our strength to protect.

As members of this esteemed fraternity, we are bound by a common purpose that goes beyond camaraderie and fellowship; it is our duty to uplift and safeguard those around us. The moose fraternity has long been a beacon of support in our communities.

Our guiding principles instill in us the values of kindness, compassion, and accountability.

We are not just brothers and sisters in the Moose; we are guardians. We have the power and the responsibility to make a positive impact in the lives of those who may be struggling, or in need of assistance.

In a world that can often feel divided and chaotic, our fraternity stands as a reminder that unity and empathy can prevail.

Protecting others means being vigilant and aware, lending a helping hand to those facing adversity, and standing up for what is right.

Whether it's through our charitable initiatives, community service, or simply offering a listening ear, we have the opportunity to create meaningful change.

See CHAIRMAN, page 7

NEWS

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Sergeant at Arms

Jay Andrade

112 Sunrise Drive, Rotunda West, FL 33947 401-465-3885 lodge1933@mooseunits.org

Assistant Sergeant at Arms

Julie Anderson

1004 Virginia Ave, Lynn Haven FI 32444 850-303-3741 ilbanderson@yahoo.com

Inner Guard

Allan Herb

2517 Edgewater Falls Drive Brandon FL, 33511 813-817-4853 chickherb154@aol.com

Assistant Inner Guard

Valerie O'Brien

10559 154Th Rd N, Jupiter FI 33478 561-309-9892 vko0801@yahoo.com

Outer Guard

Ed McGurn

68 W Palm Dr Margate, FL 33063 754-366-6521 edinfla@hotmail.com

Assistant Outer Guard

Troy Broughton

12039 East Bay Rd, Gibsonton, FL 33534 (813) 299-7724 troybroughton@ymail.com

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

District 1

Roy Suarez

6558 Covington Cir, Pensacola ,FL 32526 (850) 232-0708 roysuarez1959@gmail.com

District 2

Joseph Martin

6776 Townsend Rd Lot 37 Jacksonville, FL 32244 (904) 414-0935 joezeppy2@gmail.com

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AROUND THE

STATE

Chapter, District, and Special Committee news.



Each year, Venice Moose Lodge #1308 presents \$1,000 scholarships to Venice High School Seniors who have enrolled in colleges and technical schools. This year, we awarded 24 scholarships to VHS class of 2025 students, including 10 students who completed the requirements of the Youth Awareness program. Pictured with many of the happy students are Lodge President Donald Green, Vice President Richard Kenney, Scholarship Chairperson Deborah Sunderland and Heart of the Community Chairperson Joe Toth.

Submitted by Joe Toth, Lodge 1308 Heart of the Community Chairman



The North Bay Moose Lodge #2373, adopted the City of Oldsmar street that spans a length of St.Petersburg Drive that runs in front of their Lodge. Thirteen members showed up and worked for two hours cleaning up garbage and debris.

Submitted by Cathy Schaecher Lodge 2373 Trustee / Chapter 2303 Senior Regent

CONGRATULATIONS PREMIER LODGE AWARD QUALIFIERS: MANDARIN 42, PALATKA 184, FORT PIERCE 248, SUWANNEE RIVER 325

CHAIRMAN, from page 5

While remembering that protecting others is not just about taking action in times of crisis; it's about fostering an environment where everyone feels valued and safe.

We must strive to be role models, demonstrating the virtues of respect and understanding in our daily lives. By doing so, we not only strengthen our fraternity but also inspire others to join us in our mission. As moose members we donate time and money to help members of our community when they are in need.

We use our size and strength to protect them and help them. Part of this protection can be seen with the Tommy Moose Dolls.

How rewarding it is to see and hear stories of how these dolls bring comfort to a child going through a crisis. That doll is letting them know that we are there and care for them. It lets them and their families know that the Moose will protect them.

I hope as Moose members, you are as proud as I am in how our fraternity gives back and steps up to help those in need.

"Strong and Majestic the Moose is unique" yes we are unique.

Members like you, do wonderful things for each other and our communities.

We are always giving back.

Almost daily you can read or hear about our members helping others in need. Lodges and associations help each other when disasters like flooding, tornadoes, hurricanes, and fires come into play.

Like the moose we are unique in many ways.

What other organization will you find its members donating thousands of hours running lodges, doing community service, and raising funds for the operation of Mooseheart and Moosehaven.

The success of the Moose Fraternity is because of you, our members, who believe in our fraternal pledge. It's because of your continuation to "Giving Back" with donations, of time and or money in our communities.

When you look at how we as Moose members have adapted and changed over the years proves just how unique we are. Our growth is proof that these changes were the right decision.

The success of the Moose fraternity is because of you, our members, who believe in our fraternal pledge.

JOHN R. REITER



Moving forward is often the hardest thing to do.

We as members are reluctant to make changes and to step out of our comfort zone. But to keep success in our lodges and fraternity we must adapt to a changing society and venture into the unknown.

"The road to success is often blocked with fear of failure." I have shared this quote many times and ask that you as members take some chances, think outside the box, and provide ideas and ways to keep our fraternity moving forward.

Until recent years, the Moose has been one of the so-called secret organizations. With the help of our leaders and social media the moose is fast becoming a common name in our communities. We must continue to look into the future, move forward and pay it back.

Every person in this room has ideas on how we can strengthen our fraternity. Each of you have talents that others might not have.

Each of you are willing to help in some way, and each of you come from different backgrounds, but the love of our fraternity and what we do as moose members make all of us unique.

As we look to the future, let us remember that our mission is not confined to the walls of our lodges. The spirit of the Moose fraternity must be carried into our communities, our neighborhoods, and our homes.

Each of us has the power to be a source of strength and support for others, and together, we can create a ripple effect of positivity that reaches far and wide.

Moving Forward, I urge each one of you to embody the values of the Moose fraternity in your everyday lives. Let us continue to be a pillar of support for one another and for those in need. Together, we can protect, uplift, and empower, ensuring that the legacy of our fraternity endures for generations to come.

District 3

Russel Alvey

241736 County Road 121, Hilliard, FL 32046 (904) 675-6121 ralvey72@windstream.net

District 4

Maureen Weeks

9 Pecan Pass Trace, Ocala, FL 34472 (321) 443-0513 mbauchman5@aol.com

District 5

Michael Rock

105 Indiana St, Crescent City, FL 32112 (904) 662-3320 rockmhrck31@aol.com

District 6

John Clementz

232 Verzon Ct, Orlando, FL 32839 (407) 761-3966 nonaweezie@aol.com

District 7

Lori Herring

176 Briarwood Dr, Debary, FL 32713 (386) 479-7296 Ilherring1969@gmail.com

District 8

Kevin Moglia

615 Erin Way, Brooksville, FL 34601 (352) 650-0948 kmoglia@tampabay.rr.com

District 9

William Brumfield

874 Gillen Ave, Palm Bay, FL 32907 (321) 759-7915 wrbisbillr@yahoo.com

District 10

Ronald Rodman

8413 108th, Seminole FL 33772 (904) 621-7316 ronaldrodman@bellsouth.net

District 11

David Cain

507 Sandy Creek, Brandon FL 33511 (734) 837-8848 cain.david.j@gmail.com

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AROUND THE

STATE

Chapter, District, and Special Committee news.

NEWS



Fort WaltonBeach Moose Lodge recently made a donation of \$2,000.00 to District 1 of The American Legion Department of Florida for their local Boys State. The Moose Lodge's dedication to "Caring for Young and Old, Bringing Communities Closer Together, and Celebrating Life" beautifully aligns with District 1 of The American Legion Department of Florida's commitment to supporting the Military and Veteran Community and investing in the development of future leaders through programs like Boys State.

Posted on the Rogers-Hinson Post 235 Fort Walton Beach American Legion Facebook page



Venice Moose Lodge #1308 presented Special Olympics of Florida with a check for \$17,129, the results of a golf tournament held last month. Receiving the check in the front row (left to right) are Special Olympics Regional Director Jessica Ott and Special Olympian Molley O'Connell. Presenting the check (back row, left to right) from the Moose Lodge are Heart of the Community Chairman Joe Toth, President Donald Green, Administrator Lydia Ferri and Vice President & Golf Tournament Chairman Richard Kenney.

Submitted by Joe Toth, Lodge 1308 Heart of the Community Chairman

CONGRATULATIONS PREMIER LODGE AWARD QUALIFIERS: PORT ST LUCIE 513, PENSACOLA 557, GULF GATE 608, LAKE CITY 624

Because Florida Cares campaign

Success in meeting... and exceeding... \$10,000 goal

TROY BROUGHTON, FMA Endowment Chairman

Last June was truly outstanding – 95% of Florida lodges successfully remitted their monthly endowment. A huge shoutout to all of you for your commitment!

Because Florida Cares donations are rolling in. As of June 11, 30 Florida lodges and five out-of-state lodges have contributed, totaling an impressive \$18,965.46! Thank you all for your generosity.

Please remember: make checks or electronic donations payable to Moose Charities, just as you would for your monthly endowment. Do not send do-

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nations to the FMA.

Be sure to write "Endowment/FMA Cares" in the memo line.

These contributions will count toward your new year's Moose Charities giving.

I've been honored with an invitation to attend the full board meeting this month at Moosehaven.

Just like last year, I will be presenting last year's endowment awards to each district president. District endowment chairpersons can then distribute them at the upcoming district meetings.

¢10700

BECAUSE FLORIDA CARES CONTRIBUTIONS

Orlanda Ladas #766

¢100 00

Arcadia Lodge #1327	\$182.00	Orlando Lodge #766	\$127.00	
Big Pine Key Lodge #1585	\$210.00	Palm Harbor Lodge #433	\$223.00	
Brandon Lodge #1880	\$59.00	Palmetto Lodge #2117	\$250.00	
Brandon Lodge #1880	\$41.00	Panama City Lodge #1389	\$150.00	
Brandon Lodge #1880	\$16.00	Punta Gorda Lodge #1693	\$168.00	
Cocoa Lodge #1717	\$50.00	Riverview Lodge #2158	\$34.00	
Crystal River Lodge #2013	\$60.00	Ruskin Lodge #813	\$517.00	
Davie Lodge #1798	\$125.00	Sanford Lodge #1851	\$250.00	
Fort Myers Lodge #1899	\$200.00	Sarasota Lodge #1319	\$2,350.00	
Fort Walton Beach Lodge #2193	\$1,327.00	Sarasota Lodge #1319	\$243.40	
Fort Walton Beach Lodge #2193	\$1,145.00	Satellite Beach Lodge #2367	\$500.00	
Fort Walton Beach Lodge #2193	\$1,000.00	Sebring Lodge #2259	\$1,000.00	
Fort Walton Beach Lodge #2193	\$169.00	Silver Springs Lodge #1199	\$62.00	
Fort Walton Beach Lodge #2193	\$96.00	Tamarac Lodge #2267	\$500.00	
Fort Walton Beach Lodge #2193	\$58.00			
Golden Gate Lodge #1654	\$91.00	DONATIONS FROM OTHER STATES:		
Gulf Gate Lodge #608	\$374.00	VIRGINIA	4	
Jacksonville Beach Lodge #1558	\$200.00	Franconia Lodge #1076	\$3,628.81	
Key West Lodge #1760	\$75.00	PENNSYLVANIA	¢167700	
Lake Wales Lodge #2391	\$35.25	Clarence Lodge #1565 Nanty Glo Lodge #207	\$1,677.00 \$550.00	
Naples Lodge #1782	\$500.00	Slatington Lodge #1375	\$50.00	
\North Hillsboro Lodge #1741	\$250.00	NEW JERSEY	Ψ30.00	
Ocala Lodge #1014	\$75.00	Newark Lodge #237	\$50.00	
Ocala Lodge #1014	\$31.00		Ψοσ.σο	
Ocala Lodge #1014	\$16.00	Not all donations have beer	Not all donations have been recorded	
Okeechobee Lodge #1753	\$250.00	as of this publication date.		

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE CLASS OF 2025



Silver Springs 459: Esther Plaster. Punta Gorda 777: Jane Kloszewski. Leesburg 1034: Jacqueline M Hill. Winter Haven 1152: Paula Stevens. Sanford 1404: Mona Adams. Palm Beach Gardens 1471: Barbara A Fox. Englewood 1582: Shay Kelly. Brandon 1596: Melissa Bennett. Anna Maria Island 1601: Jov Shames. Miramar 1698: Linda Swerdloff. Panama City 1756: **Patricia L Reid**. Big Pine Key 1810: Diane Rullan, Kissimmee 1849: Roxanne Bartosek. North Port 1892: Ann M Mell. Palatka 1915: Tia Lingle. Pine Castle 1917: Kathleen Buckley and Deborah Manoni. South Lakeland 1970: Donna Wilson. West Volusia 2202: Joanne L Coates. Wakulla County 2224: Pamela Thomas. Highlands County 2256: Beth Reese. West Boca Raton 2273: Carrie L Otis. Fort Myers 2461: Kathy Cagle.



Lake Worth 46: Lori Statzer. Deland 1003: Rhonda Miller. Melbourne 1046: Judy Dagly. Marathon 1058: Frances Hagemann. Lake Shore 1495: Paula A Dion. New Smyrna Beach 1515: Jacqueline Poiret. Brandon 1596: Diane Barile. Bonita Springs 1611: Gina M Chiki. Dunnellon 1662: Karen S Garland. Big Pine Key 1810: Frances Hagemann. West Boca Raton 2273: Andrea Dougherty. Fort Walton Beach 2320: Amy Dallas.

District 12

Edward Willis

4301 Jennings Fish Camp Rd Lake Wales, FL 33898 (863) 804-7255 edwillis66@yahoo.com

District 13

Joseph Shea

1386 Grantham Dr, Sarasota, FL 34234 (941) 402-4906 jshea26@gmail.com

District 14

William Walker

10943 SW Walker Rd, Arcadia, FL 34269 (863) 990-3348 heavyrescue63@yahoo.com

District 15

Wayne Miller

137 40th Ct , Vero Beach FL 32968 (772) 532-0780 waym1957@yahoo.com

District 16

Donald Green

12655 Harney St, Venice, FL 34293 (718) 208-9499 waternuts4@aol.com

District 17

Coleen MacQueen

762 Eagle Way, N Palm Beach, FL 33408 (561) 723-2234 cmacq10721@aol.com

District 18

Duffy Friss

1000 Wiggins Pass Rd, Naples FL 34110 (518) 929-2842 duffyadsb@aol.com

District 19

Bradley Stewart

9199 Gladeolus Preserve Cir Ft Myers, FL 33908 (434) 906-9308 bradleystewart416@gmail.com

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AROUND THE

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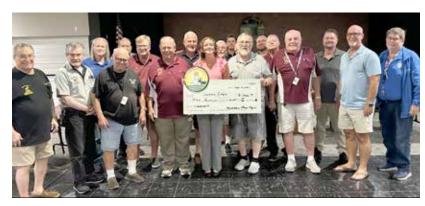
Chapter, District, and Special Committee news.

NEWS



Jose Becerra, president of the Valued Veterans committee at Dunnellon Moose Lodge 2308, hands a \$300 check to Richard Floyd, president of the Citrus County Veterans Coalition, to support local veterans and their families. The committee also donated food items for the Coalition's food pantry. Charlie Zittle, Vice President of DML Valued Veterans, Richard Floyd, President of Citrus County Veterans Coalition, and Jose Becerra, President of DML Valued Veterans, are pictured together in front of pantry items.

Submitted by Floyd Blodgett Dunnellon Moose Lodge 2308



Merritt Island Lodge 2073 Moose Legion Chairman Barry Miller and Indian River 178 President Marv Gardner and Moose Legion members proudly present a \$1,000 Scholarship check to Sierra Lydic who graduated from Space Coast Jr/Sr High School with a 4.0 gpa. Sierra has been actively involved in volunteering in the community and is a member of the National Honor Society. She will be attending Palm Beach Atlantic University in Project Management/Business

Submitted by Marv Gardner

CONGRATULATIONS PREMIER LODGE AWARD QUALIFIERS: INTERBAY TAMPA 912, WINTER HAVEN 1023, MARIANNA 1026



Generally, it is attained only by devoted members who have given many years of service to and for our program. They have volunteered to cook, clean, serve as an officer, mentored others, and been fraternal leaders along the way.

Like the Fellows, the Pilgrims are encouraged to meet and continue to perform good acts to assist our program at all levels of the fraternity. That includes helping to encourage and select good lodge officers, supporting programs of the districts and associations, and rendering what support they are able for our philanthropic cause of serving childhood and old aged.

The official regalia of a Pilgrim include a gold blazer featuring the Pilgrim logo, with coordinated necktie, white shirt, black trousers, and black footwear. It distinguishes them as men of meritorious service to the Fraternity. The degree remains with them for life, as long as both their Lodge and Moose Legion memberships remain in active status.

A special Pilgrim Jacket Ceremony will be held Friday, Septembern19, 2025 during the 2025 FMA Annual Convention.

The following men were conferred at the House of God on Saturday, June 28 at Mooseheart:

Lake City 624: Robert Gerhardt. Brooksville 1676: Robert Hall. Palm Harbor 433: John Holbach. Sandford 1851: Scott Kern. Pompano Beach 2157: James Kochersperger. Big Pine Key 1585: William Lechtnar. Marianna 1026: David Linahan. Tice & the Shores 1297: Kevin Lydick. Okeechobee 1753: Warren Martin. Arcadia 1327: Jeff Pitch. Zephyrhills 2276: Larry Robertson. Interbay 912: Ken Rogers. West Pasco 2366: Frank Venditti. Dunnellon 2308: Theodore Williams. Melbourne 1406: Ralph Wyon.



The following men were conferred with the Fellowship Degree at the Moose International Convention in Milwaukee, WI: Four Townes 655: Jerry Bartel. Daytona Beach 1263: Scott Bender. Spring Hill 521: David Brezin. Mandarin 42: Alvin Jose Camacho. Four Townes 655: Timothy R. Cooper. Bonita Springs 1454: Chris Dalton. Lake City 624: James Davis. Wakulla County 2510: Robert A. Estevez. New Port Richey 1747: Scott Fesler. Fort Pierce 248: Douglas Genereux. Winter Haven 1023: Gregory O. Gilmore. Deland 1126: Nick Hazel. Tallahassee 1075: Johnny K Hightower. Punta Gorda 1693: Kelvin Hill. Pensacola 557: John Manley. Gulf Gate 608: Joseph Anthony Mascis. Vero Beach 1822: Mark Moreland. Orlando 766: James Moser-Barker. Jupiter-Tesquesta 2237: Mark Sartory. Anna Maria Island 2188: David W Shevchik. Tice & the Shores 1297: Jimmy O Smith. Fort Pierce 248: Edward Stachura. Fort Myers 1899: Bradley Joe Stewart. Tice & the Shores 1297: Jaycob Warner.

NEWS

District 20

Edward Clark

2713 24th St W, Lehigh Acres FL 33971 (401) 714-7405 hrbrwingpin@yahoo.com

District 21

Shawn Esposito

201 NW 29th Ct, Pompano Bch, FL 33064 (954) 655-6504 smesposito42@yahoo.com

District 22

Jimmy Shearin

6961 SW 109 Ct, Miami, FL 33173 (786) 523-6308 wonderfuljim29@yahoo.com

District 23

Patrick Streepy

11601 1st Ave, Marathon, FL 33050 (305) 587-7167 patrickstreepy@gmail.com

SPECIAL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Audio-Visual

Jim Kelly

188 Marseille Drive, Naples, FL 34112 239-287-5976 iimreliv@comcast.net

Council of Higher Degrees (N)

Buddy Dugger

5754 Woodlawn Rd, Macclenny FL, 32063 904-635-0083

buddydugger5754@gmail.com

Council of Higher Degrees (S)

Bob Robinson

2460 Loquat Lane, Estero, FL 33928 239-247-2000 robodelco5@aol.com

Credentials

Lois Myers

4109 Meredith Dr, Valrico, FI 33594 813-765-0578 myerssouth@gmail.com

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AROUND THE

STATE

Chapter, District, and Special Committee news.









In June, Brandon Moose Lodge #1880 proudly welcomed officers, victim specialists and other leaders from the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office for a special appreciation luncheon. Through fundraisers over the past year, the lodge successfully raised enough to also donate 19 cases of Tommy Moose dolls to HCSO, which will be distributed to provide comfort to children in distress. The gathering was a heartfelt way to recognize and thank local law enforcement for their dedication to the community and highlights the lodge's ongoing commitment to supporting those who protect and serve.

> Submitted by Gregg Burrage Brandon Lodge 1880

CONGRATULATIONS PREMIER LODGE AWARD QUALIFIERS: TALLAHASSEE 1075, DELAND 1126, ST PETERSBURG 1145, MIRAMAR 1150

2025-2026 Moose International Appointments

MOOSE INTERNATIONAL

Board of Directors	JOHN R REITER	Chairman	Inverness 2112
Appointed Officers	CHRISTOPHER PEDONE	Outer Guard	Cocoa 1717
Moosehaven	HELEN TAYLOR	Executive Directo	r Lake Shore 2020
Pilgrim Council	HARRY LJOHNSTON	Pilgrim President	Greeley-Evans, CO 909
Pilgrim Council	RODNEY A HAMMOND		Kissimmee 2056
Activities Committee	TODD ANDERSON		Panama City 1389
Loss Prevention	FRED R SCOTT	Chairman	West Boca Raton 204
Membership Committee	SHARON DAVIS		Sanford 1851
Moose Charities Board of Directors	JOHN R REITER		Inverness 2112
Mooseheart Board of Directors	JOHN R REITER		Inverness 2112
Moosehaven Board of Directors	JOHN R REITER		Inverness 2112
Moosehaven Board of Directors	JOHN R REITER		Inverness 2112
Moosehaven Officers	HELEN TAYLOR	Vice President	Lake Shore 2020
Moose Foundation Officers & Directors	F ROSS FLEET		Lake Shore 2020

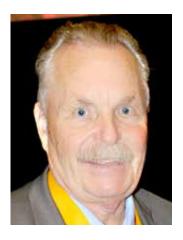
WOMEN OF THE MOOSE

Grand Council	BARBARA MCPHERSON	Grand Chancellor	Woodstock, IL 1329
Higher Degrees Board	KIMBERLY KELLY		Dunnellon 2308

MOOSE LEGION AMBASSADORS

JOSEPH ERIKSEN KEN ROGERS DANIEL DUGGAR SCOTT KERN

CONGRATULATIONS PREMIER LODGE AWARD QUALIFIERS: TICE AND THE SHORES 1297, SARASOTA 1319, ARCADIA 1327, PANAMA CITY 1389



John R. Reiter

John R. Reiter serves as Chairman on the Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors.

He was elected to this post in May, 2025 at the 137th International Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Prior to this post, he served on the Moose International Board of Directors as Vice Chairman (2024-2025), Director/Chaplain (2023-2024) and as a Director (2017-2023), on the Moosehaven Board of Directors (2012-2017 and 2008-2010), Moose Charities Board of Directors (2010-2012) and as Deputy Supreme Governor (2000-2001).

John joined the fraternity as a member of Ocala, FL Lodge 1014 in 1989; he served through all the chairs, including Governor; and became a Life Member in 2006.

His primary membership is now held in Inverness, FL Lodge 2112 and he also holds membership in Palmer, AK Lodge 793, Iowa City, IA 1096, Antler, VA 2726 and Ocala Forest, FL Lodge 2535.

John elevated to Cypress Moose Legion 202 (FL) in 1989.

He was a charter member of the Council of High Degrees and has served that body in all chairs, except President.

He also holds Moose Legion membership in Mississippi Valley, (MS) 141 and Mount McKinley, (AK) 51.

At the Association level, John has served the Florida/Bermuda Moose Association as District President, Loss Prevention Chairman, Mooseheart/Moosehaven Admissions

See **REITER** page 20

Emergency Relief

Wayne Beyer

332 Woodrow St NE Apt 3 Ft Walton Bch, FL 32547 850-376-3833 webeyer@aol.com

Endowment Fund

Troy Broughton

12039 East Bay Rd, Gibsonton, FL 33534 (813) 299-7724 troybroughton@ymail.com

Financial Review

Fred Van Nostrand

29430 Pine Villa Circle, Punta Gorda, FL 33982 941-457-1107 fred.vannostrand@yahoo.com

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch

Debi Girard

55 Black Hickory Way Ormond Beach, FL 32174 352-446-4143 dgirardfsyr2023@gmail.com

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches

Fundraiser

Tom Burnam

9223 Spring Hill Dr, Spring Hill, FL 34608 813-924-2560 tomburnam@yahoo.com

<u>Fraternal Education</u>

Ken Bygler

29178 Camellia Lane, Big Pine Key, FL 33043 305-731-6978 kenb@pedrofalcon.com

Government Relations

Stephen J. Vella

441 SE 9th Ave, Pompano Beach, FL 33060 954-856-3478 vellair@aol.com

Heart of The Community

Kimberly Kelly

1147 S. Cornell Terrace, Inverness, FL 34452 352-422-3966 kimberlykelly@tampabay.rr.com

see FMA, page 16



South Lake County Moose 1615 and Women of the Moose 1170 members Carol Felder Yapaolo, Jim Bever, Joe Gunn, and Tony Guzman present a check for \$2,500 to Cornerstone Hospice.

Submitted by Troy Broughton

South Lake County Moose Lodge 1615 and Chapter 1170

A Legacy of Giving for Compassionate Care

TROY BROUGHTON, Special to The Currier

For nearly two decades, South Lake County Moose Lodge 1615 and Women of the Moose Chapter 1170 have been the kind of neighbors every community hopes for—selfless, generous, and unwavering in their commitment to others.

This year, their charitable spirit once again took center stage at their annual golf tournament, raising an impressive \$2,500 for the Mike Conley Hospice House. With this year's contribution, their total donations have now surpassed \$100,000, a milestone that reflects both compassion and consistency in service.

As a long-standing partner in the region, the Lodge has proven itself a cornerstone of the community, not only through fundraising but by lifting up those who dedicate their lives to care and comfort—like the remarkable team at Cornerstone Hospice.

See **LEGACY** page 20

CONGRATULATIONS PREMIER LODGE AWARD QUALIFIERS:
JACKSONVILLE BEACH 1558, SOUTH LAKE COUNTY 1615, CRESCENT CITY 1641



at the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches

SARAH JACKSON, Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches

When Braydon leaned back and stared up at the high ropes course, he wasn't afraid. A stout log ran from beam to beam, thirty feet across and thirty feet up. Even higher than that was the taught wire, a second level challenge for only the bravest campers.

Braydon wasn't afraid of heights. He'd had a long three days at camp so far, and this was not at the top of his list of concerns.

When his mom proposed the idea of attending summer camp, Braydon was not excited. He and his family had been having some trouble, and his mother was looking at the Youth Ranches as an option.

"My mom wanted to send me [to the Ranch], and she thought if I went to camp, it'd be like a bit of a trial run," Braydon explained.

Braydon didn't want to leave home. But his behaviors and relationships with his family were starting to get out of control.

"The kids back home were sort of in their own worlds. They knew everybody and thought they knew what everyone else was like."

Braydon found himself stuck in this same mindset. No curiosity, no motivation. Socializing wasn't his strong suit, and he didn't see much purpose in branching out of his own world.

"Being out of my comfort zone at camp changed that," Braydon said.

Over the course of the week, Braydon began opening himself up to the people around him. He learned to be patient with people he didn't understand.

"I used to give up too quickly on other people," Braydon admitted. "At camp, it wound me up a lot, working with the kids there. They weren't bad kids, just pretty unruly. Having patience made it a lot easier."

Braydon's efforts paid off quickly.

Once he opened himself up to accepting other people, his cabinmates turned into friends.

Now, looking up at the tall beams of the high ropes course with his new friends at his back, he felt himself drawn to the challenge.

It wasn't until the camp counselor explained the belay system that Braydon felt a flutter in his stomach.

He would be harnessed to a safety line, wearing a helmet, and supported by... a person. A staff member and other members of

See CAMP, page 20

Historical

Ross Fleet

Hospitality

John Holbach Jr.

100 Hampton Road #17, Clearwater, FL 33759 727-410-1092 johnf@theholbachs.com

Legal Advisor

Stephen Gladstone

21576 Guadalajara Ave, Boca Raton, FI 33433 (954) 234-0096 stephen@srgpa.com

Loss Prevention

Membership

Sharon Davis

2451 S Sanford Ave, Sanford, FL 32771 407-709-5681 wings2me@bellsouth.net

Moose Charities

Lori Herring

176 Briarwood Dr, Debary, FL 32713 (386) 479-7296 Ilherring1969@gmail.com

Moose Riders

Maureen 'Mo' Holland

602 Strait Ave, Sebastian FL 32958 305-481-7189 mmhrn1953@gmail.com Orientation

Jason Thornbloom

2633 Regatta Dr , Sarasota FL 34231 941-914-1637 thorn-bloompaints@gmail.com

Past Presidents Secretary (FMA)

Fred Van Nostrand

29430 Pine Villa Cir, Punta Gorda, FL 33982 941-457-1107 fred.vannostrand@yahoo.com

Past Presidents Chair (FMA)

Richard Jones

407-716-6897 rbjones0658@gmail.com

see FMA, page 18



Endowment giving up over last year

TROY BROUGHTON, FMA Endowment Chairman

We are thrilled to announce that we the FMA have surpassed last year's year-end total for endowment giving by an incredible \$51,003.78, reaching an unofficial year-end total of \$829,405.32.

This remarkable achievement would not have been possible without the generosity and dedication of each and every one of you.

A special thank you to everyone who donated and to those who performed the 9

O'clock Ceremony. Your commitment and support are truly inspiring.

We also extend our gratitude to everyone who purchased a Cradle and/or Rocker. Every dollar contributed has made a significant impact in securing the future of our Mooseheart Child City and our Moosehaven City of Contentment.

Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts for your unwavering support and dedication.



Membership Recognition

District 16 President, Don Green, presents Kim Small her ring from Moose International for signing 500 members.

CONGRATULATIONS PREMIER LODGE AWARD QUALIFIERS: OKEECHOBEE 1753, VERO BEACH 1822, SANFORD 1851, BRANDON 1880























Rodney Hammond receives Lifetime **Achievement Award**

Rodney Hammond is a long-time Moose member, having enrolled as a Charter member of his lodge in 1978.

He was appointed to the original Board of Offices and was subsequently elected as Administrator, where he served for 20 years.

Rodney was an important part of the lodge team that earned recognition as one of the best in the fraternity, and the only State lodge to earn Premier Lodge Award for each of the first 14 years of the program.

Individual service included Deputy Supreme Governor, Chairman of the first Int'l Family Activities Committee chairmanships of many Association committees, and as an appointed Association Officer. He has served as Regional Manage, Chairman of the Moosehaven Board of Director, a top five finalist for the Shining Star Administrator of the Year award.

Rodney received the Fellowship Degree in 1983 and the Pilgrim Degree in 1991.

He's an active member sponsor of more than 500 lodge members and 150 Moose Legion members, a Life member of the lodge and Moose Legion, which he served as Secretary for his jurisdiction for three years. He is a generous donor to all levels of The Moose, and earned League of Guardians recognition in every year of the program

Rodney's best trait is mentoring other men and women of The Moose. He leads by example and continues his willingness to cook, clean, fundraise, etc., and truly cares about The Moose, his fellow man and community.

CONGRATULATIONS PREMIER LODGE AWARD QUALIFIERS: TITUSVILLE 1962, HAINES CITY 2083, INVERNESS 2112, PALMETTO 2117, ISLAMORADA 2151, LAND O'LAKES 1903, ENGLEWOOD 1933

Pilgrim Chairman

Terry Seal

408 Villa Nueva Cir, North Port FL 34287 941-888-2686 tbseal115@comcast.net

Pilgrim Secretary

Ed McGurn

68 W Palm Dr, Margate FL, 33063 754-366-6521 edinfla@hotmail.com

Publications

Joan Fedora

Convention Booklets 4450 Losco Rd, #11, Jacksonville, FL 954-536-3160 courierjdf@aol.com

Kimberly Kelly

Editor The Courier 1147 S. Cornell Ter., Inverness, FL 34452 352-422-3966 thecourierfma@gmail.com

Recording Secretary / Resolutions / Bylaws

Jerry Thompson

6109 N Whispering Oak Loop, Beverly Hills, FL 34465 352-362-9014 southfl 46@aol.com

Ritual

Ron Sofield

142 Winona Cir, Auburndale FI 33823 863-412-0599 rskof@yahoo.com

Safe Surfin'

Charles (Buddy) Franklin

7412 Forbes Rd, Zephyrhills, FL 33540 813-713-3476 cfranklin18@tampabay.rr.com

Special Project Fundraising

Julie Penton

68 W Palm Dr, Margate FL, 33063 954-802-4527 pentonj@carico.com

Thank you for all the hard work you put into your Lodges, Chapters, Moose Legions and Council of Higher Degrees.

LIASON, from page 3

Thank you for all the hard work you put into your Lodges, Chapters, Moose Legions and Council of Higher Degrees.

You provide an avenue for yourself and others to give the way I did, and feel the way I feel.

I will visit my newest friend each time I go to Mooseheart. That connection will be there forever.

There was a lot of information shared at the

convention, opportunities to meet Ross Chastain moments after winning at Charlotte. That ring was huge.

He had no sleep, but there was nothing that could take that smile off his face.

But, this is just the beginning.

Mooseheart will become even bigger than James J. Davis could have imagined. There is no doubt, we will be reaching for that million member mark. It begins with you, and Florida will always lead the way!

Learning how to make friends, trust and relate to others is an important life skill, one that Braydon now uses every day.

CAMP, from page 15

his cabin, holding the line would keep him from hitting the ground should he lose his balance on the log.

"I'm not scared of heights or falling or the dark," Braydon explained. "I'm scared of having to trust other people."

When it was Braydon's turn, the cabinmates he'd made extra effort to talk to and befriend began to cheer him on.

"People were cheering me on and I kind of felt the pressure—not peer pressure, because there was no negativity to it. It was more a constructive sort of pressure. They wanted me to go and succeed."

Braydon steeled his nerves and allowed himself to be harnessed and helmeted.

He approached the ladder that would get him up to the beginning of the log, and started climbing, one rung at a time. With his cabin cheering him on and the belay team supporting him, Braydon made it across the log. It changed his perspective in a major way.

"I realized I could trust people. I still struggle sometimes to trust other people to keep me safe, but it opened my eyes to the fact that I'm not as unlucky as I would think."

Today, Braydon lives at the Ranch. His summer camp trial run was a success, and he agreed to try a more permanent solution. The patience he learned at camp helped him make new friends at the Ranch.

Summer camp isn't just about learning how to canoe or fish or shoot a bow and arrow. It helps youth like Braydon get out of their comfort zone and try something new.

"If I weren't here right now, I would probably be in Juvie," Braydon said. "I don't think I ever would have gotten close to where I am today if it weren't for coming [to camp]."

see FMA, page 20

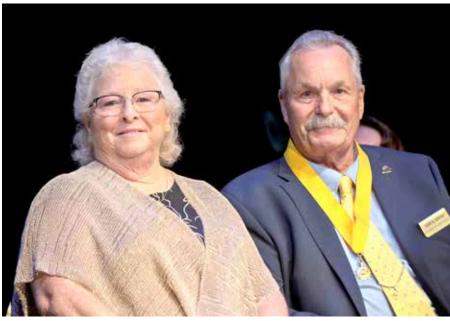
CONGRATULATIONS PREMIER LODGE AWARD QUALIFIERS: POMPANO BEACH 2157, FORT WALTON BEACH 2193, LARGO 2205, SEBRING 2259





























CONGRATULATIONS PREMIER LODGE AWARD QUALIFIERS:
TAMARAC 2267, ZEPHYRHILLS 2276, DUNNELLON 2308, BONITA SPRINGS 1454, WEST PALM BEACH 1461, LAKE CITY 624

Special Olympics

Terri Plourde

33906 Mandrake Rd, Zephyrhills, FL 33543 813-431-8312 candtplourde@aol.com

Sports/Activities

W. Scott Duncan

2407 Hagopian Ave SW, Palm Bay FI 32908-4729 321-501-7180 sduncan@mooseintl.org

Valued Veterans

Frank Venditti

8694 Ashbury Dr, Hudson, FL 34667 727-809-1259 flvendis@yahoo.com

Veterans Affairs

Larry D'Angelo

9 Pinewood Blvd, Lehigh Acres, FL 33936 239-822-3617 larrymoose2266@aol.com

Webmaster

Marvin Gardner

220 Bel Aire S, Merritt Island FI 32952 515-720-6804 marvgardner@gmail.com

Youth Awareness (N)

Todd Anderson

1004 Virginia Ave. Lynn Haven, FL 32444 850-866-8679 nflyouthawareness@gmail.com

Youth Awareness (S)

Candice Saindon

bsaindon@mooseintl.org

Florida Moose members join 25 Club

MOOSE: Arcadia 1327: Michelle Malette. Jacksonville 1558: Stephanie Bair. Crystal River 2013: Michael Culhane. Riverview

2158: Julie Rice. Largo 2205: Amy Snyder. Daytona Beach 1263: Catherine M Jennino. Merritt Island 2073: Albert Scotti. Sebring 2259: Jennifer Noel. Highlands County 2494: Clay R Shrum. Spring Hill 521: Maurece A Robil-

lard. Winter Haven 1023: Gerell Morgan. Daytona Beach 1263: Jim W Bowen. Venice 1308: Lydia Ferri. Gulf Coave 2554: Robert F Scheuring. Suwanee 325: Jewel Little. Ruskin 813: Diane Hosford. Vero Beach

1822: Mark Moreland. Englewood 1933: Tom Romanowski. Anna Maria Island 2188: John Glezen. Tamarac 2267: William V Cat-

> low. Gulf Cove 2554: Jayne Bennett. Anna Maria Island 2188: Byron G Dalton Sr.

> **MOOSE LEGION:** St. John's River 227: Scott Kern. Gulfstream 189: Keith Delano.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE: Sanford 1404: Janice Darlene Brogdon. Vero Beach 1541: Lisa M. Plourde. Anna Maria Island: Cheryl J. Humphry. Spring Hill 1765: Kimberly S. Marks.

LEGACY, from page 14

A Honoring Life with Cornerstone Hospice

Cornerstone Hospice stands as a beacon for individuals and families navigating life's most delicate chapters.

Founded in 1981 by a group of dedicated nurses in Eustis, Florida, Cornerstone was born from a desire to bring dignity and compassionate care to the dying.

What began as grassroots caregiving has evolved into one of the most respected providers of hospice care in Central Florida and beyond, now serving communities across seven Florida counties and parts of Georgia.

Their approach is deeply personal: each patient receives a tailored plan of care focused on comfort, dignity, and emotional support. This isn't just about medicine.

Cornerstone's mission is to deliver extraordinary care and empower every individual to enjoy meaningful time with loved ones in their final days.

With a team recognized nationally for both care and grief education, Cornerstone embodies values of compassion, excellence, and innovation.

A Partnership Rooted in Heart

The enduring partnership between South Lake County Moose Lodge and Cornerstone Hospice is a shining example of how local Moose Lodges can make a profound impact.

Their fundraising doesn't just support a facility—it uplifts families, honors patients, and enables caregivers to provide exceptional end-of-life care.

In an age where community spirit can feel fleeting, the Moose Lodge 1615 and Chapter 1170 stand tall, proving that when people come together for a cause greater than themselves, the results are nothing short of extraordinary.

REITER, from page 13

Chairman and all other appointed and elected chairs, including State President.

John is a member of the 300 Division of the Moose 25 Club.

He received the Fellowship Degree of Honor in 1997 and the Pilgrim Degree of Merit in 2005.

Outside of the Moose, John enjoys hunting, fishing, golfing and spending time with his family.

John and his wife, Sharlyn, reside in Ocala. They have three children and three grand-children.

CONGRATULATIONS PREMIER LODGE AWARD QUALIFIERS:

PINE CASTLE 2345, NASSAU 2352, SATELLITE BEACH 2367, NORTH BAY 2373, LAKE PLACID 2374, LAKE WALES 2391, CALOOSAHATCHEE 2395

AROUND THE

SPORTS

STATE

Submitted by Cindy Barnhart FMA Sports Chairman

FMA Golf Tournament 2025

















Moose International **Leadership Awards**

ADMINISTRATORS:

Fort Pierce 248: Chris Alberts. Palm Harbor 433: Daniel Gutierrez. Pensacola 557. Roy L. Suarez. Lake City 624: Robert Gerhardt Sr. Four Townes 655: Mike Oliver. North Port 764: Terry W. Seal Sr. Orlando 766: Cassandra Boyd. Interbay Tampa 912: Alan G. Herb. Winter Haven 1023: Richard A. Fisher. Tallahassee 1075: **Jerry Monk.** Deland 1126: Rhonda Miller. St Petersburg 1145: **Melvin Mitchell Jr.** Tice And The Shores 1297: Julie K. Smith. Sarasota 1319: Jerry Lunde. Arcadia 1327: William Walker Jr. Panama City 1389: Todd Anderson. Bonita Springs 1454: Kenneth L. Ourant. Punta Gorda 1693: Kim Small. Cocoa 1717: Maggie Collins. Okeechobee 1753: Warren Martin, Key West 1760: Jon-Paul Hucke. Vero Beach 1822: Rick Harmon. Sanford 1851: Mike Davis. Land O'Lakes 190: Leigh Smith. Englewood 1933: Joseph Jay Andrade. Titusville 1962: Jacqueline Lauterbach. Haines City 2083: Anna Chisenall. Inverness 2112: William V. Catlow. Palmetto 2117: Jeffery A. Morey. Fort Walton Beach 2193: Eugene B. Mclean Jr. Tamarac 2267: Edward F. McGurn. Zephyrhills 2276: Chuck Plourde. Pine Castle 2345: John Ritchie Clementz. Nassau 2352: Diana W. Grimm. Lake Placid 2374: Billy Wernersbach. Lake Wales 2391: Duane **Anderson.** Wakulla County 2510: Terry A. Palmer. Gulf Cove 2554: Jayne Bennett.

LODGE PRESIDENTS:

Palatka FL 184: Hovt Knowles. Fort Pierce FL 248: Douglas Genereux. Palm Harbor FL 43: Kimberly Holbach. Port St Lucie FL 513: Robin Kanhai. Gulf Gate FL 608: Paul Bieniasz. North Port FL 764: James Godshall. Orlando FL 766: James Moser-Barker. Interbay Tampa FL 912: Sandra A. Abshear. Winter Haven FL 1023: Gregory O. Gilmore. Tallahassee FL 1075: Johnny K. Hightower. Deland FL 1126: Warren Scott **Singleton**. St Petersburg FL 1145: Kathy Mitchell. Daytona Beach FL 1263: Scott Bender. Tice And The Shores FL 1297: Jaycob Warner. Sarasota FL 1319: Josef Shea. Arcadia FL 1327: Doug B. Dancer. Bonita Springs FL 1454: William S. Allen. South Lake County FL 1615: Richard R. Maciel Jr. Punta Gorda FL 1693: Robert W. Small. Okeechobee FL 1753: Travis Asbery. Vero Beach FL 1822: Wayne Miller. Sanford FL 1851:Peggy Pinder. Brandon FL 1880: James Moulton. Englewood FL 1933: Tom Romanowski. Haines City FL 2083: John Senecal. Inverness FL 2112: Chuck Herring. Pompano Beach FL 2157: Richard Joe Shockley. Largo FL 2205: Amy Snyder. Tamarac FL 2267: Julie M. Penton. Zephyrhills FL 2276: **Gene Cartwright.** Satellite Beach FL 2367: Christy Poole. North Bay FL 2373: Bob Schaecher. La Belle FL 2398: Paul Woodrum. Wakulla County FL 2510: Robert A. Estevez.





















Information contained in this list was taken from mooseintl.org.

Florida Moose Association Calendar



SAT, JUL 19 9:00 AM

WOTM Training Session

Inverness Chapter 1773 221 S Haid Ter, Lecanto, FL 34461 352 726-2112

RSVP to chapter1773@mooseunits.org Leader Vera Smallridge cmynan@gmail.com



SAT, JUL 19 9:00 AM

WOTM Training Session

Port Charlotte 1619 3462 Loveland Blvd., Port Charlotte, FL 952-412-3883 RSVP to chapter1619@mooseunits.org Leader Brenda Brady 772-201-1060



🖺 SUN, JUL 26 10:00 AM

WOTM Training Session

Winter Haven 1152 2305 Havendale Blvd NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881 (863) 294-1727 RSVP to chapter1152@mooseunits.org Leader Shirley Brosie, 863 397-6195



FMA Full Board Meeting

sbrosie6195@gmail.com

Moosehaven Dan O'Neal Floridamooseassociation@gmail.com



Nascar Coke 400 Race

Daytona Raceway Cindy Barnhart, 321-720-7440 cbarnhart1031@gmail.com



Golden Triangle 874

Moose Legion Cypress 202 Conferral

四 SUN SEP 14

Moose Legion 46 Conferral



SFP 18-21

2025 FMA Annual Convention

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



Moose Legion 46 Conferral

Boca Raton



DEC 7

Moose Legion Cypress 202 Celebration Boca Raton



MAR 8, 2026

Moose Legion 46 Conferral

Davie



APR 9-12, 2026

2026 FMA Mid-Year Conference

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



Moose Legion #46 Conferral

Naples Get-A-Way



🖺 THU-SUN SEP 10-13, 2026

2026 FMA Annual Convention

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



2027 FMA Mid-Year Conference

Rosen Plaza Hotel Orlando

Dan O'Neal

Floridamooseassociation@gmail.com



SEP 11-14, 2027

2027 FMA Annua Convention

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



THU-SUN. APR 4-62028

2028 FMA Mid-Year Conference

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



2028 FMA Annual Convention

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



For more events go to FloridaMoose.com



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