

Florida Moose Association

The **Courier**



Nov/DEC No. 6
Vol. 2023

2023 FMA Pilgrim Celebration—photos page 12



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Mooseheart: www.mooseheart.org
Moosehaven: www.moosehaven.org
Moose Charities: www.moosecharities.org

Note from the Editor:

I hope you were at the Annual Convention in September in Orlando. It was crammed packed with informational sessions, celebrations of higher degrees, fun nights, installation of new officers, luncheons, breakfasts, and catching up with old friends and making new ones.

Our FMA leadership continues to hone the convention itinerary, making each session a bit more fun, a bit more streamlined, and much more interactive. Our committee chairmen have worked to make their presentations more concise without omitting vital and essential information. There is always so much to cover and it is not always easy to pay attention during the few hours in the morning and afternoon.

Our exiting District Presidents overwhelmed us with the reports they presented—amazing fundraising and community service by all. Incoming DPs have high marks to match this year, but I think they will easily achieve their goals.

Thanks to Past FMA President Wally Machamer for a great year and for his leadership. I'm excited to see what incoming President "Jimmah" Esposito will have to offer. We all know he has the energy and enthusiasm to get a lot done.

The Pilgrim celebration this year was as always an emotional and exciting event. How nice to be able to recognize all of these gentlemen at once in front of our FMA family and friends. Presenting them with their gold coats is always such a fun and meaningful part of the ceremony. Plenty of photos inside this issue.

Congratulations to the WOTM obtaining their "Golden Gavel" honors this year, and more congratulations to our newest FMA Fellows. Like I said, a busy, busy convention.

A quick note regarding our friends from the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. After many, many years serving as the Youth Ranches Liaison/chairman, Frank Kenny is stepping down to full retirement. Taking over for Frank will be Debi Girard, whom many of you already know from presentations and her lodge visits. Please wish her well.

For those of you who are Courier boosters, I've added an expiration date to make it easier for you to renew. I am so grateful to all of you who continue to support us. Thank you.

So, we are moving ahead to 2024, hopefully enjoying the holiday season, but also thinking about what we can all do to make our fraternity better and stronger. How do we retain members, how do we get new members? How do we make our lodges more inviting, more fun and more productive? It all starts with each of us. Take care and happy holidays to everyone.

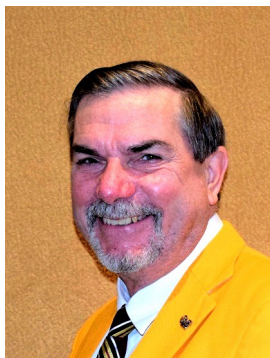
—Joan Fedora, Editor

Cover 2023 FMA Pilgrim Celebration
 2 Florida Bermuda Association Board of Officers
 3 Note from the Editor
 3 Table of Contents
 4 Message from Territory Manager/FMA Liaison
 4 President's Message
 8 Change in 25 Club Division Aug/Sep 2023
 9 Lodges attaining 100% of quota through 10/9/23
 9 Top 25 Producing Lodges 2023
 10 Donation dollars at work: Lodge uses funds to repair damaged roof
 10 Punta Gorda enjoys ERF and pays forward with a fundraiser
 11 West coast Lodge has busy month
 11 Correction: Ambassador honored at Moose Legion Celebration
 11 Lodge construction leaps forward with a little help from some friends
 12 FMA honors Pilgrim class of 2023 at celebration ceremony
 14 Moose Legion Ambassador honored
 15 HS Theater assisted by Lodge
 15 Youth Ranches enjoy donation by Lodge, Chapter and Moose Legion
 15 Food pantry grateful for large donation
 15 Gift cards for nursing home residents presented
 16 FMA Annual Convention
 21 Courier Boosters
 22 FMA Calendar
 23 FMA 2023/2024 Moose International Appointments
 23 FMA 2023-2024 Special Committee Appointments

**Deadline for submitting articles to the
 Jan/Feb 2024 Courier is
 December 15, 2023.
 Please send your stories to me at
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Message from Territory Manager/FMA Liaison



I want to thank everyone that attended the FMA convention. We had over 900 members in attendance. Our Saturday session had 629 of you there.

I hope you all heard several items during the sessions that you can use in your Lodges and Chapters. We have been doing our best to make the conferences and conventions more inclusive, and fun to be at. We are working hard behind the scenes

to accomplish this and much more. If you ever have any suggestions for improvements please let me know.

When this article is out, we will be in the middle of a busy holiday season. I'm sure you have lots of events planned for your Lodges. Many Lodges may be closed on Thanksgiving. But I do have one suggestion. As many of our Lodges have what we refer to as Snowbirds, you may find that some of our members may be without immediate family in the area—and not just the Snowbirds but many others. I ask that you ponder the idea of having a Thanksgiving meal for them to enjoy with their Moose Family. The holidays can be a very sad time for those that are alone for whatever reason. Please be very aware of your members and their needs as the holidays pass.

Thank you again and let's break the 1,000 members in attendance for the April FMA conference.

Roy Rawlings, FMA Liaison



Message from the FMA President



Greetings FMA Members,

Ain't No Stoppin' Us Now

This truly is our 2023-2024 slogan, because the future potential of The Big Green Machine is ours to seize. We would not be in this positive position if it were not for the dedication of the BEST members in our Fraternity: YOU and the efforts of the past FMA Executive Boards, Appointments, Chairpersons, Committee members, Lodges, Chapters, Moose Legion and Higher Degrees that have worked in harmony time and time again.

Last year Mother Nature unleashed her wrath upon countless members, lodges and communities which has altered lives forever, our Association and its phenomenal membership rallied to assist them through our Emergency Relief Program. While we certainly can't undo the horrific events that took place, our Association once again proved that the VALUE of our members is irreplaceable.

The FMA structure and ALL that it is comprised of, is the reason our Association continues to lead the way for others to emulate in our Fraternity.

While our three core missions are Mooseheart, Moosehaven and our Communities, let us never forget that without YOU, our member, we could never honor these commitments.

Let's all welcome the new members to our Fraternity and Association and say thank you for strengthening it.

I am humbled that our Association has put their faith in me to represent you this year as President, but am well aware that it is because of the members and all those that have taken on a recurring or new position within it, that will ensure our future success.

Let's have a blast this year while taking care of business. Here's to good friends!

Fraternally,

Jim Esposito, FMA President

PROUD PAST, BRIGHT FUTURE

Membership campaigns are created and implemented by the Membership Department at Moose International. Annual Membership Campaigns typically run from May 1 to April 30 and have a unique theme each year.

This year’s Annual Membership Campaign is “Proud Past, Bright Future” which runs from May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024. We are proud of the history of this great Fraternity. While keeping our past successes in mind, we look forward to the bright future with like-minded members who continue to play an important role in their local communities and supporting Mooseheart and Moosehaven for years to come. Working together, our future is bright!

Campaign ads to use in your Lodge/Chapter newsletter can be found in our Forms/Documents section. On the Moose International website.

Courier Subscription Form

Please send **1 year’s** (six issues/year) subscription of *The Courier* for \$5.00.

Please check one of the boxes below

The Courier is no longer accepting 5-year subscriptions. Subscriptions will be limited to 1 year only.

PLEASE PRINT

New Renewal Address Change

Lodge Name _____ No. _____

Name _____ ID# _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Make checks/money orders payable to “**Florida Moose Association**”

Return order form and funds

Courier Subscription—c/o Dan O’Neal
PO Box 2863
Sanford, FL 32772

DONORS CIRCLE



Donors Circle is a recognition program of Moose Charities honoring donors like you for tax-deductible Endowment Fund donations.

When you give to Donors Circle you earn beautiful heart and stone pins to commemorate each significant giving level. Your first pin is earned at \$100.00.

As you earn pins, please wear them proudly and share the story of Mooseheart and Moosehaven at every opportunity.



Donors Circle



Your primary Lodge receives credit towards their total giving for your Donors Circle donations.



A member recognition program that goes directly to the Mooseheart & Moosehaven Endowment Fund



MOOSEHEART
Child City & School Inc.





FLORIDA MOOSE ASSOCIATION

DAYTONA 500
FMA Members:
\$85 per person

FEBRUARY 18TH, 2024

Package includes a reserved grandstand seat in the FMA Section. Moose & Ross Chastain spiritwear is encouraged!

To register visit: <https://fevo.me/moose500>

Change in 25 Club Division Aug/Sep 2023

Lodge #	Lodge Name	Members Name	Current Apps	Award Level
455	Jacksonville	Harold Bechore	25	25
813	Ruskin	Alfred Lynch	25	25
1014	Ocala	Tammy White	26	25
1075	Tallahassee	Nancy Gebhart	25	25
1263	Daytona Beach	Scott Bender	29	25
1271	Villages Leesburg	Ronda Brewer	25	25
1282	Stuart	John A. Haluska	25	25
1454	Bonita Springs	Nikki M. Hughes	27	25
1454	Bonita Springs	Kevin McLearn	25	25
1454	Bonita Springs	JoAnn Bennett	25	25
1454	Bonita Springs	Martin F. Mathews	25	25
1454	Bonita Springs	John Scott Rhodes	26	25
1585	Big Pine Key	Bridgett Wiley	25	25
1615	South Lake County	Sharon Sanderson	27	25
1741	North Hillsboro	William A. Seitz	26	25
1822	Vero Beach	Mark Moreland	36	25
1880	Brandon	Diane Morrissey	25	25
1933	Englewood	Robert F. Scheuering	28	25
2121	Port Charlotte	Sharen Reardon	27	25
2121	Port Charlotte	Danny Ulrich Sr.	25	25
2158	Riverview	Bruce T. Broughton II	25	25
2199	Cape Coral	Sandra Whitfield	25	25
2237	Jupiter-Tequesta	David Koerner	26	25
2391	Lake Wales	Lori A. Barnes	26	25
2391	Lake Wales	Dana B. Bean	25	25
2398	La Belle	Amy Christopher	28	25
1835	New Smyrna Beach	Jon R. Smith	52	50
1933	Englewood	Jean E. Clark	51	50
2117	Palmetto	David L. Wilson	50	50
2267	Tamarac	Mindy S. Simon	50	50
380	Perrine	Richard Ramirez	54	50
557	Pensacola	Mrugank Mike Shah	51	50
874	Golden Triangle	Gerald S. Ricke	50	50
1297	Tice And The Shores	Jennessa Franklin-Saylor	52	50
2158	Riverview	Deborah A. Hagelberg	50	50
2267	Tamarac	Christopher McGurn	50	50
1899	Fort Myers	Colleen Wilkerson	75	75
2276	Zephyrhills	Dan Peterson	76	75
2374	Lake Placid	Roberta Arndt	79	75
248	Fort Pierce	Denise A. Sheppard	76	75
766	Orlando	Julie Payne	78	75
1903	Land O'Lakes	Ralph Vernon Fisher	77	75
1933	Englewood	Jan Rossetto	75	75
1933	Englewood	Jeffrey J. Stefani	76	75
2112	Inverness	Brenda Shyner	76	75
2117	Palmetto	Lorraine Brewer	77	75
994	Lake Worth	Mary Ann Joyner	100	100
1023	Winter Haven	Gregory O. Gilmore	103	100
2073	Merritt Island	Gregory D'Sa	102	100
2237	Jupiter-Tequesta	Mark Sartory	101	100

Change in 25 Club Division Aug/Sep 2023 continued

Lodge #	Lodge Name	Members Name	Current Apps	Award Level
2237	Jupiter-Tequesta	Dor-Ray Franklin	104	100
2554	Gulf Cove	Gary E. Heid	100	100
2188	Anna Maria Island	Donald Wheaton	125	125
2276	Zephyrhills	Theresa A. Rodenfels	125	125
184	Palatka	Tabitha A. Whitehurst	126	125
1145	St Petersburg	Melvin Mitchell Jr.	152	150
2276	Zephyrhills	Gene Cartwright	153	150
1693	Punta Gorda	Kim Small	151	150
1933	Englewood	Debbie Boudreaux	156	150
397	Dade City	Mandy Fields	185	175
2073	Merritt Island	Jo Wickfelder	176	175
1023	Winter Haven	Richard A. Fisher	268	250
1058	Marathon	Sharon R. Boyer	251	250
2412	Macclenny	Daniel Dugger	251	250
1933	Englewood	Michele Martello	208	200
2356	West Marion	Rita M. Pelletier	200	200
1308	Venice	Richard N. Kenney	255	250
2112	Inverness	John Reiter	303	300
2073	Merritt Island	John R. Owens	611	600
964	Fort Myers Beach	Char Conner	853	850
2188	Anna Maria Island	Byron G. Dalton Sr.	1249	1200

Lodges attaining 100% of quota through 10/9/23

Lodge #	Lodge Name	Quota	Achieved	Percent
2188	Anna Maria Island	500	1976	395.20%
1389	Panama City	32	111	346.88%
1933	Englewood	500	969	193.80%
1126	Deland	107	163	152.34%
1023	Winter Haven	403	574	142.43%
380	Perrine	37	42	113.51%
2237	Jupiter-Tequesta	209	221	105.74%

Top 25 Producing Lodges 2023

Lodge #	Lodge Name	Total Apps	Lodge #	Lodge Name	Total Apps
2188	Anna Maria Island	1976	1297	Tice And The Shores	213
1933	Englewood	969	2121	Port Charlotte	204
1023	Winter Haven	574	2554	Gulf Cove	174
1263	Daytona Beach	475	813	Ruskin	171
1822	Vero Beach	447	1271	Villages Leesburg	170
1308	Venice	441	1899	Fort Myers	166
2073	Merritt Island	393	1126	Deland	163
2276	Zephyrhills	359	1223	Bradenton	163
2117	Palmetto	339	1851	Sanford	156
764	North Port	247	1693	Punta Gorda	151
2199	Cape Coral	245	1782	Naples	143
1454	Bonita Springs	234	2367	Satellite Beach	138
2237	Jupiter-Tequesta	221			

Lodge News

Donation dollars at work: Lodge uses funds to repair damaged roof

Lehigh Acres was very fortunate to receive \$10,000 from the Emergency Relief Fund to repair the damage to the main roof from Hurricane Ian. It took months to complete the job but we are very thankful to have received the money. Here are a few before and after pictures. We now have a metal roof! On behalf of all our members, we are very appreciative and grateful for the help we received.

Submitted by Valerie Worth



Punta Gorda enjoys ERF and pays forward with a fundraiser

Punta Gorda Moose Lodge 1693 FMA Emergency Relief Fund Fundraiser.

The Punta Gorda Moose Lodge 1693 started a building fund in 2022 to fund some building improvements, upgrades, and repairs that were discussed by the members and the board. We were doing well with raising money as we had a tremendous amount of support from the members. We needed to replace a window and got it done. We were looking to do more such as new bar stools, new tables, new equipment for the kitchen. It seems Mother Nature had a different idea about the whole thing-she came with a vengeance and brought us Hurricane Ian on September 28th, 2023. The Lodge suffered significant damage to the roof, kitchen, etc. as so many other lodges also suffered. Well, that put a hold on the ability to do the upgrades and improvements as we were now faced with the repairs. We were notified that there were funds available through the FMA Emergency Relief Fund. We applied with crossed fingers that we might be fortunate enough to get selected to receive help. We requested \$10,000.00 which is only a fraction of the cost of repairs, but there were so many others that suffered damages far greater than our Lodge. In February of 2023 we received a letter in the mail-and included with that letter was a check-for \$10,000.00. We were so elated and grateful. We have completed the most important repairs and continue to work on the cosmetic ones.

After receiving this assistance our board and members decided that we must do something to rebuild the FMA Emergency Relief Fund. Disaster can happen to any one of the lodges and this fund cannot help if we don't rebuild it. \$12 000.00 was distributed to assist the lodges in need. We decided to have a raffle. We raffled a lottery book of scratch off tickets (cost of \$300.00) sold 80 sets of tickets 3 for \$10.00 and raised \$500.00 for the FMA Emergency Relief Fund. It was fun and also it is a feel good for our members that we could help to rebuild this fund. Thank FMA for being there for all of those that found themselves in need of your assistance.

Fraternally,

Kim Small, Punta Gorda Moose Lodge 1693

West coast Lodge has busy month

These are the recently held events held at North Port Lodge 764.

October 14 - President of North Port, FL Lodge 764 James Godshall presenting Terry W. Seal Sr. at District 22 meeting his pin for sponsoring 500 members into the Fraternity.

October 28 - SW Florida Toys for Tots Poker Run Hosted by Englewood Moose Riders 1933 at Stop #1 - North Port, FL Lodge 764 breakfast.

October 30 - Breast Cancer Benefit hosted by TAT2 (Vito and Maria) held at North Port, FL Lodge 764 -Vito presenting plaque to Committee Chairman Steven Skoda and Terry Seal, Sr.

Submitted by Susan Runge, North Port, FL Lodge 764 Inner Guard and Volunteer



Higher Degree

FMA honors Pilgrim class of 2023 at celebration ceremony



More Higher Degree



More Higher Degree

Moose Legion Ambassador honored

During the Fall Seminole 81 Moose Legion Celebration, International Moose Legion Ambassador Bill Bissonette, presented a plaque to Past International Ambassador Rudolph (Rudy) Waters thanking him for his "Dedication to the Moose Legion through Leadership, Devotion and Support from 2021-2023". It was accepted by his son, Jerry Waters.

Submitted by Bill, Bissonette



TEXAS HOLD 'EM TOURNA- MENT

Join us January 7th-11th, 2024 for the 13th Annual Texas Hold 'Em Tournament in Las Vegas! Registration now open. Check it out on the Moose International website at www.mooseintl.org

HS Theater assisted by Lodge

On September 26th The Englewood Moose #1933 presented The Lemon Bay High School Theatre with a \$5000 check. Accepting the check was Gina Barber; LBHS Theatre Director. LBHS Theatre will be presenting 5 plays during the 2023/2024 school year.

Mark Sipe, Englewood Moose #1933



Youth Ranches enjoy donation by Lodge, Chapter and Moose Legion



This year, Venice Lodge #1308, Chapter #758 and Venice Moose Legion combined to donate a total of \$1,000 to the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches. Pictured, left to right, are Chapter 758 Senior Regent Mary Foster, Lodge President Bob Fultz, Ranches Donor Relations Officer Mike Kiel, and Moose Legion Lodge Chairman Donald Green.

Food pantry grateful for large donation

On September 6th The Englewood Moose #1933 presented St. David's Food Pantry with a \$1000 check. Accepting the check was Laura Roy Fink St. David's Administrative Manager. Pictured L to R are Bill Purvis, Jim Thompson, Laura Roy Fink and Newt Webb.

Mark Sipe, Englewood Moose #1933



Gift cards for nursing home residents presented



On September 6th The Englewood Moose #1933 presented The Douglas T. Jacobson Veteran's Nursing Home with \$500 in Walmart gift cards. The gift cards are given to residents so they can purchase personal needs.

Mark Sipe, Englewood Moose #1933

FMA Annual Convention







**MOOSEHEART
RUDOLPH RUN**

**5K RUN
WALK 2023**

to benefit Mooseheart Child City & School

FMA FLAmingle Jingles

Florida's Virtual 5K Run/Walk Team

Register @ WWW.MOOSECHARITIES.ORG

Fundraising Benefits the Mooseheart Child City & School

You can also just donate to support our team!

FLAmingle Jingles Stroll

Through Cocoa Village November 18

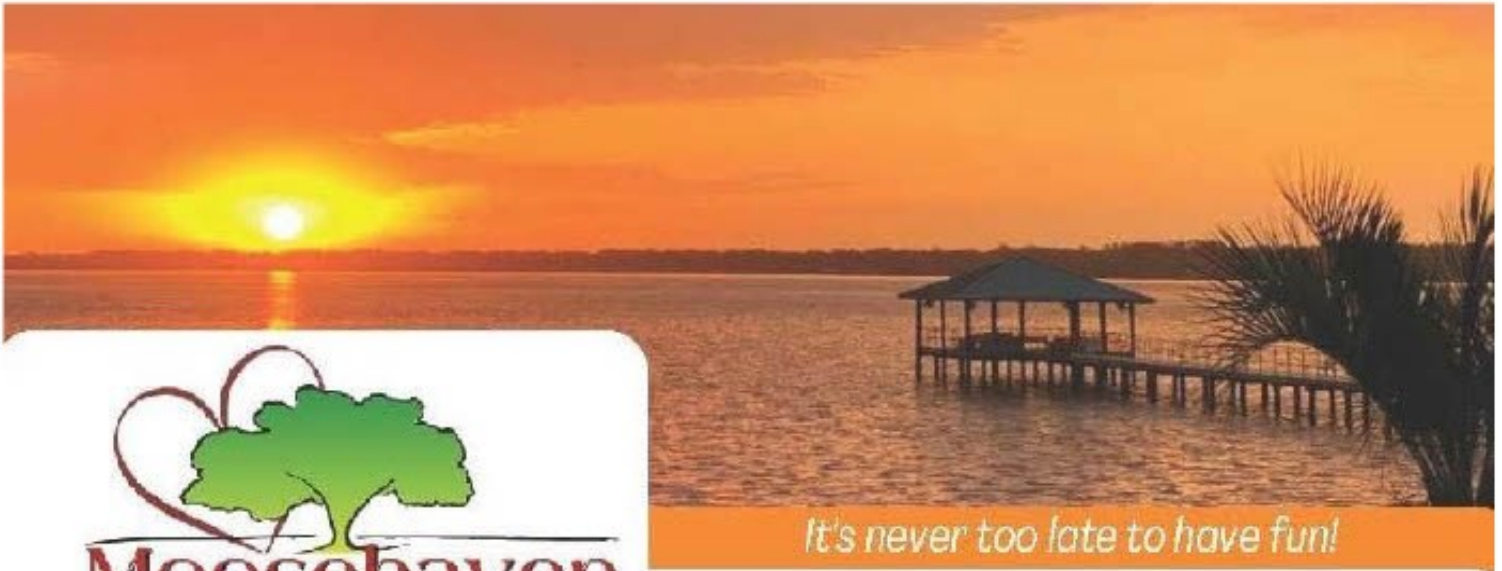
Starting at 11 AM with Tommy Moose

Dress in your best ELF! We will seek out Christmas in Cocoa Village, greet children and talk Moose! Snowball fight and fun music!

Then after we will go to the Cocoa Moose for socializing and planning for the next year.

Contact Scott Duncan if you have questions

Lodges wishing to contribute to our team may do so through Moose Charities or by donating Tommy Moose Coloring books or Mini Tommy Moose Dolls Forward them to the Cocoa Moose



It's never too late to have fun!

MOOSEHAVEN AAA PROJECT

Always Active At Moosehaven



Pavilion

- A large enough space to seat all residents under the same roof!
- Picnics and evening events will be held here
- It will have lighting, ceiling fans, and restrooms.
- Portable Tiki Bar



Sports and Recreation Complex

- A social area for all to enjoy
- Bowling alley
- Electronic Darts
- Billiards
- Indoor shuffleboard
- Golf simulator
- Card room



Amenity Center

- A complete remodel of the indoor therapeutic pool
- Outdoor patio including a fire pit
- Multi-purpose room for group exercise
- Gym equipment designed for seniors

DONATE TODAY!

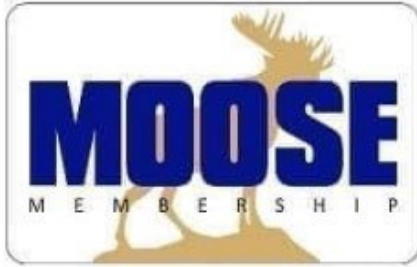
To make a gift by mail, send your check made payable to: Moose Charities, Inc.
 155 S. International Dr. Mooseheart, IL 60539-1100
 include "AAA" in the memo line

Visit our website

Support.Moosecharities.org/MHNAAA

to make an online donation to support the project!

Moose Membership



Membership
Card



Member Info



Lodge Locator



Pay Dues



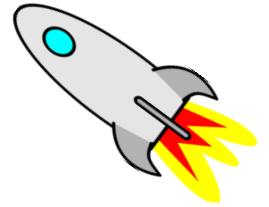
New Member
Application



General Laws

Moose Membership App Now available. The Moose Membership Mobile App is live on both Google Play and the Apple App Store. Members can now download the app for free using their iPhones or any Android phone (i.e. Samsung, Google Pixel, Motorola, etc.). Check out the FMA website for more info.

Full color versions of current and past issues of the Courier are available on the FMA website at www.floridamoose.com.



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 John F Funk Jr 5/24
 Inverness Moose Lodge 2112
 5/24
 Davie Lodge 1798 5/24

Spring Hill Moose Lodge 521
 5/24
 Duffy Friss 6/24
 Byron Dalton 6/24
 In Memory of Eileen Sutton
 Delano 7/24
 Keith Delano 7/24
 Chris Pedone 7/24
 Norm Reed 7/24
 Palm Harbor Moose Lodge
 #433 7/24
 Walter Wommack 7/24
 Lowell & Vera Smallridge
 7/24
 In memory of Donna Kern
 8/24
 Billy & Patti
 Wernersbach 8/24

Bruce Birdwell 8/24
 Davie WOTM 1686 8/24
 Thomas Dinphy 8/24
 Cundiff Clan 8/24
 Willie & Karen Williams 9/24
 Michael Delsanto 9/24
 Melva Howell 9/24
 Sailfish Moose Legion 197 9/24
 Bob & Jackie Robinson 9/24
 Gold Coast Council of Higher
 Degrees 9/24
 Holly Dougherty 10/23
 The Bowman Family 10/23
 Robert Saindon 10/24
 Chris Pedone 10/24
 In memory of
 Doug Castleberry 10/24
 Jesse VanHoose 12/23

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 Charlie Titheridge 2/24
 Marv & Cheryl Gardner 3/24
 Joanne Hastings 4/24
 Annette Bissonette 4/24
 Bruce Broughton 5/24
 Tom Akers 5/24

Annette & Bill Bissonette 5/24
 Peggy Clifton 5/24
 Terry Seal 5/24
 Charlotte Kinnaman 6/24
 Marge Walter 6/24
 Jay Andrade 7/24
 Cindy Barnhart 8/24

In Memory of Catherine
 Saier 7/24
 Edward Mell 9/24
 Chuck and Terri Plourde
 10/23
 Chuck Neal 10/24
 Jerome Clampitt 10/24

Silver Level

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 Catherine Mingledorff
 5/24

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 TJ O'Hara 9/24

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FMA Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Event	Location
11/18/23	SAT		Rudolf's Run\Walk Virtual 5K	Cocoa Village, Cocoa Lodge 1717
01/20/24 01/21/24	SAT SUN	9:00 AM 5:00 PM	Admin Training Class	Lakeshore Moose Lodge 2020
01/27/24	SAT	9:00 AM 3:00 PM	FMA Full Board Meeting	Moosehaven
03/24/24	SUN	9:00 AM 3:00 PM	Florida Days at Moosehaven	Moosehaven
04/04/24 04/07/24	THU SUN		2024 FMA Mid-Year Conference	Rosen Plaza Hotel Orlando, FL
07/13/24	SAT	9:00 AM 3:00 PM	FMA Full Board Meeting	Moosehaven
09/05/24 09/08/24	THU SUN		2023 FMA Convention	Rosen Plaza Orlando
			Admin Training Class	To Be Determined
			2-HOTT Class	To Be Determined
			Leadership Training	ONLINE



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Moose Int'l Board of Directors
Sandy Johnston

Moose Int'l Pilgrim Council President
Rodney Hammond

Moosehaven Board of Directors Chm
Rodney Hammond

Moosehaven Board of Directors
Dan O'Neal

Mooseheart Board of Directors Chm
Harry Johnston

Chm, Intl Loss Prevention Committee
Fred Scott

Chm, Int'l Membership Committee
Shawn Esposito

Int'l Heart of the Community Committee
Julie Anderson

WOTM Grand Council
Vera Smallridge

Int'l Moose Legion Ambassadors
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Richard Shockley
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Wayne Clark

Moosehaven Executive Director
Helen Taylor

Past Supreme Governors
Rodney Hammond
Liguori Saladin
F. Ross Fleet
Robert Stillwell
Harry Johnston
Jim Fleming

Past Intl Moose Legion Presidents
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Levis Hughes
Don Bell
Byron G. Dalton Sr.
Dan O'Neal
James Malsbury

Regional Manager
Jim Befort

Territory Managers
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