Haines City Hosts Statewide District Officers Meeting

Over 120 Members in Attendance

July 20, 2008 — Over 120 people gathered on the afternoon of July 20th at District 20’s Haines City lodge to participate in the first ever FBMA Moose Riders District Officers meeting. 15 districts were represented at the meeting, most of which already had Moose Riders groups established. Rodney Hammond, FBMA Regional Manager, John Reiter, FBMA Junior Past President, and Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches Donor Relations Officer Frank Kenny were also in attendance.

Although originally intended for District officers, State Chairman Mays opened it up to those interested in attending. Response was overwhelming and the lodge could barely accommodate the turnout. Mays reported that additional meetings will be held at each future rally, with one for Board members and another general session for all members.

Mays called the meeting to review, among other things, recent changes in guidelines that were the result of a meeting with General Governor Steven Greene in Elgin, Illinois, in May. Moose International has now designated Moose Riders as an official Activity Group. Additionally, International endorsed the organizational structure developed in the state of Florida, which is based on districts.

Mays provided districts and lodges with the necessary operating tools in the form of a CD that included guidelines, accounting forms and other information. During a presentation he explained how to use the forms and for what purpose. FBMA State Treasurer Scott Cushing has created central accounts for the Moose Riders and monies can be deposited, earmarked for special categories, and allocated to the designated charities. Mays requested $3000 per year from each district to be earmarked for Moosehaven, Florida Sheriff’s Youth Ranches, and Mooseheart. He was specific in a desire to raise enough money to purchase laptop computers for the entire 2009 Mooseheart graduating class.

Another topic of discussion was group patches. Certain criteria must be followed if the group chooses to wear a back patch. All Florida members must wear the same patch and it must be a one piece patch with no rockers. It was suggested that a design competition be held, with voting for the winning patch design to take place at the upcoming rally in Zephyrhills September 26-28. Districts were asked to submit designs to the State Secretary.

Host lodge Haines City organized a bike run on Saturday afternoon through the rolling hills of Lake and Polk Counties. Rain unfortunately interfered with the final stretch, but did not dampen the spirits of the Moose Riders who enjoyed dinner and live music later that evening.

A spaghetti lunch was offered by the lodge prior to the meeting on Sunday. Many thanks to our fellow Moose Riders, LOOM, WOTM and friends in Haines City.

--Editor
The Great Mount Rushmore Adventure

It was around 10:00 PM on Tuesday July 15, 2008, when the 15-passenger van pulled out of Mooseheart from the James J. Davis house, packed with camping gear, luggage, Family Teachers and a whole bunch of excited young boys. There are 10 boys in the James J Davis home and their ages range from 12 - 15. The van traveled overnight to the first stop in Omaha, where they had the opportunity to visit the Omaha Zoo. They camped overnight outside of Omaha and then made their way to Mitchell, SD. They visited the Mitchell Moose Lodge and the members took them to a rodeo in the evening. They also had a chance to visit the famous Corn Palace in Mitchell. From there they drove to a campsite just outside the “Badlands” in South Dakota and had a chance to experience the incredible rock formations and scenery there. They packed up early to continue on to Mount Rushmore and to the Moose Lodge at Belle Fourche where they spent the day and enjoyed dinner at the lodge. Belle Fourche served as a central location for the gang for a couple of days while they made their way to Mount Rushmore and over to the Crazy Horse monument, which is still under construction.

In fact one of the boys said that it [Crazy Horse] was “really neat” and that maybe in 20 years he could bring his kids back to see if it was done yet. They also had a chance to go to the Rushmore Cave for a science lesson in stalagmites and stalactites (do you know the difference?). After Mount Rushmore, the van headed into Wyoming to view Devils Tower, which you all might remember from the film “Close Encounters of the Third Kind”.

Part of the last leg of their journey was a stop in Spencer, Iowa, where the newly formed Lodge Moose Riders group rode out to meet them on their bikes. It was great to tell them that their brother and sister riders helped to fund the trip! The Spencer lodge, knowing that they boys would be coming, also made sure that the community was aware of their visit and what Mooseheart, Moosehaven and the Moose community are all about. In fact, several of the local politicians were on hand to meet the boys in person. The boys were even allowed to camp out in the City Park in downtown Spencer for the night! From there the van made its last stop at the Dubuque, Iowa, lodge for dinner. The van and its passengers finally arrived back at Mooseheart sometime after 11:00 PM on July 23, 2008, still packed with camping gear, luggage, Family teachers, and tired boys, but also with enough memories to last everyone a lifetime. The boys want to thank their Moose Riders friends from Illinois, Pennsylvania and Florida for their support and for making this fun-filled and educational trip possible. Pipes would like to express thanks to Family Teacher Mark Morgan for filling us in on the details and sending the photos.

– Joan Fedora
Spotlight on FBMA Moose Riders Charities

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches

Taking care of Florida’s Kids
It began over 50 years ago with two Florida Sheriffs who traveled to Texas to pick up two juveniles, a boy wanted for armed robbery and a girl several months pregnant. These sheriffs had a vision of developing a program to help the needy and troubled boys of Florida. The Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch facility opened its doors in 1957 on the banks of the historic Suwannee River near Live Oak, Florida. Over the past fifty years, the Boys Ranch has grown and expanded its services to both boys and girls throughout the state. Now known as the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, the organization now has four residential campuses statewide and two camping facilities.

The Campuses
The residential campuses, located near Live Oak, Bartow, Safety Harbor and Bradenton/Sarasota, provide services and living facilities with a stable home atmosphere and counseling to boys and girls throughout the year. The average length of stay is 1 year and 2 months. The camping services programs are located in Barberville and Inglis. Each of these campuses provides week-long camping programs for youth from all over the state during the summer months. They also provide mobile camping programs that bring “Summer Camp” to youth unable to come to camp.

Good Citizens
The Youth Ranches program has touched the lives of over 100,000 children and their families. Many of the children served grew up to become happy and productive adults in our communities and they will tell you what a difference the Youth Ranches have made in their lives. Parents often write letters or call to say “Thank You” for helping their families and their kids get on the right track.

Moose Riders Can Make a Difference
Without the generosity of donors such as the Florida Bermuda Moose Riders, we would not be able to provide the programs and services to so many needy boys and girls. We appreciate your kind support in helping us complete our mission: to prevent juvenile delinquency and develop lawful, productive citizens through a broad range of family-centered services. Please visit our website at www.youthranches.org to find out how you can make a difference in the lives of young children or contact Frank Kenny, Donor Relations Officer at 1-800-765-3797.

– Niki Shaw, Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch

Photo compliments of Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches.

Over 50 years ago, two Florida Sheriffs had a vision of developing a program to help the needy and troubled boys of Florida. Thus began the idea of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch.

Carl Mays and Frank Kenny at the Boys Ranch 50th Anniversary Open House October 2007. Macclenny Moose Riders Group presented Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches with its second check for $1500 in two years.
Mooseheart Boys Draw Winning Ticket

Bull Moose Chopper Raises over $14,000 for Mooseheart

Winning Ticket Drawn
The winning raffle ticket for the Bull Moose Chopper bike belongs to Angela Waldeck of Morganton, NC, Chapter 1382. Her ticket was drawn on August 9th by children from the James J. Davis house at Mooseheart. The bike was built from scratch this past February by a four-woman team of builders gathered by Gina Woods, creator and producer of the Open Road Radio program (www.openroadradio.com/) and supporter of Mooseheart since 2007.

Chris Ecker, Assistant Director of Fraternal Programs, said, “This was a thing that the Moose Riders had wanted to do for the last couple of years . . . this year (Woods) didn’t have a charity or an effort to do a bike for. So I asked what it would take to make a Moose Bike.”

The bike did a lot of miles before the winning ticket was pulled. It started on a tour in Illinois, went to Daytona Beach, Florida, for Bike Week, and ended up at the International Convention in Las Vegas. In its short life, the chopper has raised over $14,000, which was donated to Moose Charities for use at Mooseheart.

The raffle was also a positive opportunity for the Moose Riders. According to Shawn Baile, Director of Fraternal Programs, “Moose Riders is a part of Family Activities and we were able to promote this. And every dime we raised went to Mooseheart. We were able to promote one effort [Moose Riders] and support the other [Mooseheart].”

Waldeck, who doesn’t even ride a motorcycle (although her husband does), plans to pick up the bike at the October 4th Homecoming festivities at Mooseheart. They sound like perfect Moose Riders candidates! (Check out the full article online at http://mooseheart.org/news/2008-Waldeck.asp)

The XX Chromes - a team of four women bike builders - descended upon the Chicago Cycleworld International Motorcycle Show for three awesome days of wrist-wrenching, tool-torqueing, knuckle-busting bike building in front of a live audience to benefit Mooseheart Child City & School. Chris Ecker is pictured at left with Gina Woods who is the host of Open Road Radio and who put the build together.
MOOSE RIDERS SPOTTED IN UPSTATE NEW YORK

Our Moose Riders friends at the Palmyra Lodge 1420 (New York) heard about our newsletter and wanted to let us know what they are up to. Palmyra is southeast of Rochester off I-90 and is a Family Center lodge located at 3808 Route 31 East, Palmyra, New York 14522, Phone: 315-597-6046. The Moose Riders group mission is “to aid those who are less fortunate. They are dedicated to creating tools and services to help the less fortunate get back on their feet and start more productive more joyful lives.” Their recent 2nd Annual Poker Run, in memory of Tim “Big Daddy” Parker, was a huge success. And as the photos show, they take time to brighten the days of seniors as evidenced by a recent ride to the Demay Living Center.

Officers include: President Bugar Van Dyke; V P Pete Synyard; Road Captain, Dale Young; Secretary, Darlene Mahnke; and Sergeant at Arms, Rich Lord. Check out their website at: http://palmyra mooseriders1420.com. Photos and info courtesy of Roy Iacuzza, Palmyra Public Relations

Georgia Moose Riders Put the “OO” Back in Moose

The Canton Lodge Moose Riders in Canton, Georgia, are putting the “OO” back in Moose. Our Moose Riders are choosing to inject pride and enthusiasm and excite-ment into an organization perceived as staid and rigid. We have embraced the notion that success is directly related to uniqueness, which in turn is directly related to creativity, which ultimately relates to the ability to mobilize and engage every available member to accomplish extraordinary results. Our small group has already successfully completed a benefit ride raising over $1700 for Joseph, a 3 year old who tragically lost his Daddy. The money raised was added to a collection from Canton Moose Lodge men and women for a trust fund to insure his future. We instituted impromptu “fun rides” after meetings and even rode 150 miles just to have ice cream! We have a full schedule of fall activities and rides on the docket. We have doubled our membership in two short months with most of our new friends being new to LOOM and WOTM! Our Moose Riders have networked with other District 1 Lodges in Georgia to support community service goals and local charities. Mableton Moose Lodge #1314 and Smyrna Oakdale Lodge #1917 have generously supported our efforts for the greater benefit of all. The Canton Moose Riders have taken a position embracing the notion to be bold, be different, and be daring. And, we continue to accomplish the goals of Moose International while having a whole bunch of fun! If you are in the area, just passing through, or just want to meet us somewhere, give us a call – we’ll be happy to show what we’re all about!

Respectfully submitted by Rich Lalama, President, Canton Lodge #2129.
To Insure or Not to Insure . . . . . That is the question

The question of mandatory motorcycle insurance came up at the District Officers meeting in Haines City last July. Under Florida law, motorcycle insurance is not required to register a motorcycle in FL; however, you may be required by a lien holder if you are financing your bike to purchase insurance. Whatever the case, remember that, if a motorcycle operator is charged in a crash with injuries, then the owner or owner/operator is financially responsible for bodily injuries and property damage to others. If you think about it, this could spell financial disaster for someone who isn’t covered. In addition, if no liability coverage was in effect for the motorcycle at the time of the accident, then bodily injury/property damage liability insurance must be purchased and kept for 3 years to avoid license and tag/registration suspension or to reinstate license and tag/registration after suspension. Therefore, insurance is voluntary and not mandatory unless you have caused an accident. It is highly recommended for your protection. If you plan to carry passengers, it is also a good idea to see if you need extra insurance coverage for them.

Helmet Law
Another confusing law is the Florida helmet law and how it relates to insurance. Since 2000, the state requires helmet use by riders under age 21 and anyone that does not carry a minimum of $10,000 medical insurance coverage.

Motorcycle Etiquette
The Quick & Short List

- Standard staggered formation. You should be 1 to 1.5 seconds behind the staggered bike, which would put you 2 to 3 seconds behind the bike directly in front of you.
- If you like to ride slow or are new to group riding, get up front. Those who like to ride fast should ride in the back. New riders may think they want to ride in the back, but the reality is just the opposite, they need to be near the front.
- Spread out a little around tight corners. Most will need a little extra space. We don’t want anyone riding off into the ditch.
- No wheelies, stoppies, etc. People should also not slow way down from the group, then zoom back up to the group. While it may be fun to goof around with your bike when you’re alone, it can create problems with the safety of the group.

Source: http://www.carinsurance.com

Source: http://njmc.org/etiquette/
During the month of July, District 14 donated $1500 of money raised at the April rally to Mooseheart with the stipulation it be used for the James J. Davis House for school clothing. The district received a lovely letter of thanks informing them that the boys were off to Mt. Rushmore in mid-July for a summer holiday. (*Check out the story of their trip on page 2.*)

At their August meeting Maccleenny appointed new officers to finish out the year. Carl Mays, current Chairman for the state, resigned his position as president of the 2412 Maccleenny Moose Riders group and Steve Rhynehardt agreed to act as temporary president and Debbie Farr as temporary secretary. Mike Fetz will continue as vice president and Gerald Lightsey as sergeant at arms. One of their first motions at their August meeting was to set up a special Mooseheart fund. Riders will be asked to donate a $1 at every ride that will be earmarked for Mooseheart. The scheduled ride following the meeting got the fund started and it is their hope it will continue to grow. A ride to Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch for their 51st Anniversary is planned for October 4th.

Lake City lodge reports it now has Moose Rider T-shirts and they are available for sale in the social quarters.

Like everyone else, weather has played a big part in scheduling, or not scheduling, activities. Many of the district members are looking forward to pleasant weather so they can enjoy the Zephyrhills rally and not have to do any work! —J Fedora

Well we are getting into some cooler weather here in Daytona, so it should be better riding weather. We all survived the trip to Amelia Island; it was hot and close to 200 miles round trip. But, it was fun ride for all. We have a ride to Micanopy planned in October to check out antique shops. Feel free to join us on any of our rides or activities.

During Biketoberfest we will be selling tee shirts and have added pockets and tank tops to our line. We will also have some of our famous moose pins. For those of you who make it to Daytona for Biketoberfest, be sure to stop by the lodge. We continue to look for new members and encourage old members to come back. A lot of things are changing in the Moose Riders groups and it’s all for the better. For information on rides or activities call Gary Silbert, President: 386-437-4796

*And a HAPPY FIRST BIRTHDAY To our MOBETTE OLIVIA.*

**Remembering Al**

Moose Riders of District 14 were saddened to hear of the sudden passing of member A.L. “Al” Albion this past July. Al was instrumental in promoting Moose Riders in District 14’s Lake City Lodge. He was best known for his 400cc scooter, which he probably put more miles on than a lot of our other riders did on their bikes. Al didn’t think twice about jumping on his scooter to check out a rally in the Tampa area last fall, or to ride up to Maccleenny to see if anyone was up for a ride. We will truly miss his smiling face, his wry sense of humor, his countless stories, and his love of the open road. We’ll see ya round the bend, Al.
We have 2 very active Moose Lodges in our District, Brandon 1880 and Riverview 2158. Both lodges have great groups of riders. We have now come together to set our District Officers and have now had 2 meetings. We plan to meet on the 1st Wednesday at Riverview and the 3rd Thursday of each month at Brandon Lodge. We will be putting together a District ride at least every other month.

Riverview attended the Pepin Distributing Bud Run for 3 year old Sean Covais who has Leukemia. It was a rainy day but we still ended up with 9 Moose Riders. There was a poker run and an auction to help out the family and after seeing Sean that day our hearts were huge. 2 of our riders donated $1400 each to the auction (that’s right, each!). Overall we as Moose Riders donated close to $4,000 that day and again there were only 9 of us! *(Catch some good pictures of this on borntoride.com.*) It was an excellent cause and we will be back next year.

We recently attended a benefit at the Ruskin VFW for an 18 year old girl who was very badly beaten while dropping off a book at the night deposit library of all places. She has been in the hospital for over 3 months and is now blind and unable to speak or swallow. We had a very good showing for a Monday night as 17 bikes and 24 Moose Riders rode in to the packed VFW with our logo and patches flying proudly ready to help out this family.

We have put together a couple of poker runs lately and visited some other lodges along the way. Turnout has been really good considering the weather. We think some riders look at the weather radar way too much, but they are the ones who definitely miss out. We live in Florida so quit looking at the radar and just go ride!

We have been getting together every weekend rain or shine for a nice ride and look forward to seeing all of you at the Zephyrhills Moose Lodge in September.

---Mike Tanner, Riverview President

Note: For those of you that may not know, Riverview is very lucky to have Mike Tanner as President. I should say we all are lucky to have him as a Moose member. Both he and Mike McAllister are Moose Rider Officers and are the leading team of the Moose Angels, which is what we are all about. I want to thank them for being there. They have raised thousands for the kids and never ask for a pat on the back, but sometimes we need to thank them. I just want everyone to know the kind of people we have as Riders.—Mark Metcalf
A Poker Run was held on June 7, 2008, for cancer patient Tabatha Kempton. The 125 mile run included 6 stops and started with a lunch and ended with a dinner and auction at the final stop. There were 49 people on 26 bikes and in 2 cars. We held 50/50 drawings at each stop. $2724.27 was raised, and during the following week at the District meeting in Arcadia we presented Tabatha with the check.

June 21, ’08: Beach Bash--Just for Fun. Like an adventure out of a comic book, on June 21, with 11 bikes and 6 cars and 30 members participating, we took a 3 hour tour to Anna Maria Island. If not for the persistence of our fearless crew our mission would have been awash. Our first stop at Charlotte’s Webb brought us together and we continued westward bound. Then it happened--the clouds darkened and the rain started. We arrived at our first stop, the Palmetto Moose Lodge, in 3 separate rain soaked groups. The weather was terrible for the weekend but all had a great time.

August 16, ‘08: Pig-out--Just for Fun. This event was a big success, selling out of pork steak dinners. We featured a bucket head contest and collected donations then voted to see who the bucket of water would be dumped on and our vice president Clay Shrum won that contest hands down. We had a 50/50 drawing and a dance contest between the men and women (the women won).

Upcoming events:
- Oct. 18, 2008 – "Biketoberfest", to be held at Highlands Moose Lodge in Avon Park
- Nov. 22, 2008 – Tucker Fried Fish Fry

We would really like to give a special Thank You to Haines City Moose Lodge for hosting our July State Meeting, and compliment everyone who volunteered and made it a great meeting and good time for everyone who attended from both near and far.

Out of the five lodges in our District, Haines City is our shining star! As president of Moose Riders, District 20, I am looking forward to getting our other lodges as excited about Moose Riders as they are in Haines City. We are excited about each Lodge in our District having representatives for their Lodges present at our monthly meetings. We welcome all of their new fundraiser ideas and input in making our District 20 one of the most successful in the state.

District 20 Moose Riders will be escorting a bus trip of Moose members to the Sheriffs Youth Ranch on the Suwanee River on October 4. The group will be meeting at Winter Haven Moose Lodge that morning and everyone is invited. There will be an escorted tour of the Youth Ranch. Our District also looks forward to sponsoring a poker run in November. Watch for flyers--hope to see you all there.

It has been a long rainy summer; seems every time we planned a ride, we got rained out. We look forward to getting back to the task at hand, that being our next fundraiser for Mooseheart! We have lots of planning to do for the future. Our Nominating Committee has posted signs for all who are interested in becoming an officer for District 20 for 2009. Our election will be at our October meeting. Happy Holidays to all.

Fraternally yours, Gerald Lambert, President, District #20
Greetings from District 12, Lodge 184, and the Bass Capital of the world, Palatka, Fl.

Our group was formed in May of ’07 and since has grown to 63 strong. We are not so much a motorcycle as a family watching over each other and having a great time in the process.

This past year we collected stuffed animals and took them to the Shriners hospital in Tampa and were rewarded with a great tour of the facility. We also participated in a poker run for member Arvilla’s niece who is in kidney failure. We also donated $100 to her.

Every third Friday of the month we have a dinner and we take turns cooking it. We try to go on at least two rides per month. One ride took us to Clarks Fish Camp in Jacksonville, such a nice place to go and a beautiful ride.

In the last newsletter, Richard Johnson reported our donation of 12 microwave ovens to our local hospice. In a sad turn of events, Richard passed away at that same hospice on September 1st. He fought a hard battle with cancer for several months, but thanks to hospice, he did not suffer and passed away peacefully. Richard was not only the president of our Moose Riders, but also the District 12 president and the governor of our lodge. He will be sorely missed.

Before he passed, we were in the planning stages of a benefit for him and we will be going forward with that event on October 11th. There will be a breakfast and we will be serving food from noon until ?. There’s a golf tournament planned, with all proceeds going to the benefit. A “Casino Night” will run from 4 ‘til 9PM, followed by an auction of all the goodies that were donated. We invite all to come and join the fun. Replacing Richard is our new president Tommy Bennett. With his leadership I am sure we will continue to grow and prosper.

-- Marti Miles, Secretary/Treasurer.

The newly formed District 13 had their first fundraiser and ride on August 31st, 2008. There were over 15 volunteers cooking breakfast, waiting tables, cleaning up, washing dishes and collecting money. We broke the lodge record by selling more breakfasts and collecting more money than any other Sunday morning. After the fundraiser the riders took off for 4-stop day of fun, returning to the lodge for Moose Legion steak night.

We have a poker run planned on October 18th. Kickstands up at 1:00pm leaving from Mandarin #42 with stops planned at Nassau #2352, North Jacksonville #2134, Lakeshore #2020, Moosehaven #3001 and back to #42. The WOTM will be having an Oktober-fest Dinner that night with entertainment. Please join us for our first poker run. Cost is $10.00/bike (or other transportation) and $5.00/rider. Proceeds will benefit the Florida Sheriff’s Youth Ranches.

We currently have 53 members and are growing. Meetings are on the 4th Monday of each month at 7:00. – Sabrina Malmay
District 4 had our first meeting in October of 2007 and signed up 33 members. Since then we've grown to over 70 strong now. We've included in our agendas a “Moose Hop” ride from lodge to lodge after meetings and we always have a poker run.

Our first benefit was for Randy Dias who was killed by a car. We had a car wash/memorial party and raised $1700 for his widow, $1000 of which was from the car wash—there were a lot of cars! Bikers that showed up just donated $10 and then helped out washing cars.

Our next ride was a poker ride that only brought out 12 riders. The rain and cold kept everyone away, but we still raised $200 for the Sheriffs Youth Ranches.

Sadly, I must report that we also lost Naomi Connell and we had a benefit that raised $614 in her memory.

Since then our Moose Riders have put on a “Splash before Class” event. We invited all the kids, and had a bounce house, waterslide, pool, pie-in-your-face, face painting and free food along with everything else for the kids. It was great fun for us Moose Riders and the kids had a great time.

We'll be doing a lot more this year and getting a bit more organized. We want to get the right people—people who are willing to put some time and effort into things.

We're looking forward to Zephyrhills and the rally. See Y'all there.

---Gary Mundorf

**FBMA Moose Riders Officers**

Carl Mays - Chairman
Charlie Titheridge - Vice Chairman
Gerald Lambert - Sergeant at Arms, Joan Fedora - Secretary

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<td>Steve Burkhead</td>
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If your district is not listed or the information is incorrect, please email change to fbmanews@yahoo.com.
Greetings Fellow LOOM & WOTM Moose Riders,

During our meeting in Haines City, we talked about how important it is for Moose Rider Groups to agree on certain things and stick together on them. I cannot stress enough the importance of doing this. If we do not organize the Moose Riders in the right way, we will surely lose everything we have gained.

What I mean is simply this. There are lodges organizing Activity Groups that don’t agree with what we are trying to do at the state level with regard to such things as back patches, how much money to raise, what charities to support, etc. They don’t want to be a part of the bigger district and state picture.

While sometimes I don’t blame you, if lodges ignore the state/district structure, it will more than likely result in a few renegade groups wearing their own patches and we run the risk of a situation arising similar to what almost caused our demise earlier this year. Not only that, we will end up tarnishing the name and reputation of the Moose Fraternity, which has created an opportunity and a place for Moose Riders within Moose International.

It is imperative we stick together on everything we decide to do. Even if you don’t agree 100% with a decision, as long as you can live with it, please support it. There is no way to please or satisfy everyone all the time. We must do what the majority is in agreement with.

I’ve had a lot of questions from lodge groups on problems they are having with the Lodge, Lodge officers or their administrators. When it comes to a Lodge Group, the Lodge officers are in control of anything that happens in the Lodge. Steven Greene the General Governor has done a good job of rewriting the lodge activity group guidelines. Please follow the guidelines, and I will answer any questions I can. Just keep in mind you are an activity group of your lodge, and your group falls under the Family Activities Committee.

When it comes to Moose Rider District concerns, the FBMA, MR State Board and MR District Presidents have control over how the Districts are handled.

As we move forward and new Lodge Activity Groups start forming, we are considering combining Lodges that are not organized into a District with established Districts. There are also a lot of Districts with only one Lodge participating. Since there is strength in numbers, it only makes sense to combine a few of these Lodge Groups. Of course, if other Lodges in your district form Activity Groups and your District becomes organized we will move you back to your original District. Sounds confusing, but it’s not. By the time you read this we will have discussed it at the Rally.

Until next time, keep the rubber on the road and “Kick Stands Up”

Carl L. Mays
Florida Bermuda Moose Association
Moose Rider Activity Group Chairman

Key Points from State Meeting in Haines City

1. The Membership Application Form is revised to include a statement on Back Patches. Please take time to review the new application in case you’re questioned on it.

2. There have been a lot of questions and comments on State Activity Group Fees. Should they be pro-rated or not pro-rated, how much, when, etc? I even tried to come up with a pro-rating system, which was confusing. Bottom line – State Activity Fees are $5.00 per member, due Nov 1 and runs through Oct 31. I don’t care how you handle any other fees.

3. Those of you who attended the Haines City meeting know that I believe in supporting the Moose Charities. That’s why our three charities are Mooseheart, Moosehaven and the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. Each District’s Goal is to raise $1000.00 a year for each of the 3 charities. For Mooseheart we would like to buy each graduating senior a new laptop computer. This is the goal of the State Moose Riders Group. Please help us achieve that goal.

4. Last but not least, District officer elections are to be held in October, with new Officers taking office November.

--Carl Mays

New Membership Enrollment Form recently sent out that includes a statement about back patches.
Quarterly Calendar of Events

October 2008

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Tucker Fried Fish Fry
Fish, Hush Puppies and Slaw

Food by John Tucker & One Bad Mother Tucker

November 22
1:00 PM
Sebring Moose Lodge

Sponsored by Moose Riders

MOOSE RIDERS
OCTOBERFEST
First Mandarin Moose Riders Charity Poker Run.
SATURDAY
OCT 18th Kick Stands Up @ 1:00pm
All Proceeds Go To The

FLORIDA SHERIFFS YOUTH RANCHES
50/50 Drawing/Great Prize Give-Aways
+ ENTERTAINMENT

$10.00 per bike or all other forms of transportation
All vehicles in by 6:00pm
Women Of The Moose Will Serve A Dinner
Ride begins at Mandarin Moose # 42
4450 Losco Rd (268-6544)
First Stop--- Nassau Moose Lodge #2352 (Yulee)
Second Stop---North Jax#2134 (Lem Turner)
Third Stop--- Lakeshore #2020 (Collins Rd)
Fourth Stop—Moosehaven #3001 (Hwy 17)
Fifth Stop---- Mandarin # 42 (Losco Rd)

Important Dates

October 3-5: Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch Open House & Horse Show — Live Oak
October 4: Gimme 5 Carnival – Merritt Island
October 6-8: MOB Cruise
October 18: Octoberfest/Biketoberfest - Mandarin Moose Lodge, Jax, and Highlands Moose Lodge, Avon Park
October 23-26: FBMA Annual Convention – Orlando
November 22: Fish Fry, Sebring Lodge

Biketoberfest

October 18th
Highlands Moose Lodge
Avon Park
50/50 tickets all day
Door Prizes/Hog-Cycle Races
Bike Blessing/Games
Dinner from 3:00 ‘til 5:00 PM
**Resources Needed**

At our meeting in Haines City I discussed creating a “resource page” for FBMA Moose Riders. A place to find parts, repairs, assistance, discounts, etc. while traveling the beautiful state of Florida and beyond. Maybe you have a friend or relative who is flying in for a visit and would like to be able to rent a bike to do some sightseeing. How about a helping hand should you break down between your home and your destination? Or what if you are looking for a special part, or a special paint job, or even another bike?

This is not meant to be a hard copy resource, but rather a resource available online or through our lodges. So, if you know a good repair shop, or if you can work up a discount for parts or accessories at a local dealership or parts/accessories/custom shop for card-carrying Moose Riders, please send me the info at fbmanews@yahoo.com.

—Charlie Titheridge

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**Cool Shirts**

The great FBMA Shirt Swap

District 14 has some shirts left over from the Spring 2008 Rally in Macclenny and we’d love to sell them. They were drawn by 4th graders in Texas who were told what the Moose Riders do for the community and asked to create a design. We took elements from several of them, but felt the child thanking the Moose truly addressed the Moose Riders goals. Sizes range from Medium to 2XL and can be purchased for $8 each, 2 for $15 or 3 for $20 (plus a few dollars to ship). Contact Joan Fedora at FBMAnews@yahoo.com if you’re interested in ordering one or two or three or... whatever.

**P.S.**

Email a photo of your Moose Riders shirt and include sizes available, price (don’t forget shipping costs) and a contact name/phone/email. We’ll post it in our next edition and you just may find you sell a few more shirts for your charities. Email photos to fbmanews@yahoo.com with sizes, price and contact info.

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**Tag! You’re It**

This plate was spotted in Macclenny. Have you got a plate you’d like to share? Email a photo to fbmanews@yahoo.com.

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