

## President's Letter March 2023

March is upon us and hopefully spring time weather with it. I continue to think about the Moose and why we are here and why we sign new members and work so hard for all Moose members to renew their yearly membership.



The Moose is about celebrating life together, serving those in need within our local community, supporting our children at Mooseheart, and standing by our senior members at Moosehaven. There's no better feeling than making a difference in the lives of children, seniors and communities.

We should all remember that as Moose members we are obligated to care for our less fortunate members in what should be their golden years. It's easy to say they had their chance; they've got to deal with life's twists of fate. Look at the people around you right now. Ask yourself, are you willing to help them if they fall on hard times. Now more importantly, ask yourself, do you want to be able to count on them if bad times point in your direction?

We don't know what will happen mere seconds from now let alone months or years from now. But, we should embrace the measure of comfort that we have loyal brothers, sisters and co-workers willing to give of themselves to support those of us who find themselves in catastrophic distress in what was supposed to be those golden years.

Caring is core to what binds us together as Moose and it provides us with the strength and dedication to do the right things. For all the changes we've seen in the fraternity in just the past few decades, our core beliefs remain little changed over the past one hundred years.

So what could we possibly have overlooked that plays such an important role in so many Moose lodges today?

I believe it to be the same thing I have touched on the past couple of months, and that is Community Service. Making our Lodge Home the Heart of the Community.

We invigorate our community with support from our lodge and its members. We make our community a better place to raise children, a safer place for seniors and generally, more enjoyable places to live. But why? I will give my thoughts as to why; it creates a positive image for our lodge. It makes it easier to attract new members. And possibly most importantly, because we care and as long as we Moose continue to care, we will do everything we can to enable others to feel safe, to feel comfortable and to feel important when they thought they just may be all alone.

I know that some of you are thinking, “well, all of that’s interesting, but what has it got to do with us?” And therein lays the challenge.

For many years most Moose members don’t understand the organization to which they swore an obligation. They believe they joined a local lodge, occupying a local building, perhaps performing service to the local community, hosting holiday parties for kids and adults, sponsoring assorted sports activities and offering cheap beers from 4-7pm or to play the gaming machines. As a result, many of our members have progressed to have this thought, and that is their idea of the lodge and what it has to offer, and that’s all good, but it’s not enough.

All of the above mentioned things belong in a lodge, but what’s missing is the understanding, the acknowledgement, the promotion that there is so much more, and that so much more is the very reason there is a local lodge, in a local building, to promote these local activities.

To think that without the need to support a Mooseheart that has raised and educated thousands of needy children over the past century, would there have been a need for a local Moose lodge? The same can be said of our obligation to provide for our brothers and co-workers who need our support. These pillars of our programs, Mooseheart and Moosehaven, provide the very reason that any of our Moose Lodges exist.

Our lodges, our Social Quarters, exist to provide locations where members can gather. They provide places where members can compete with one another in sports. They provide a place to share food and drink with likeminded individuals. These are the reasons ALL members should be involved to some extent in the lodge so they can make a difference.

We’re accomplishing greatness together...  
“A burden heavy to one is borne lightly by many”

Become a Moose and start making a difference today!

President

Chuck Boyle