



The Moose Monitor

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Lil' Moose Garden Club

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Alces alces...

Alces alces, also known as the moose, is one of the most interesting organisms in the world. Standing at approximately six feet tall at the shoulder, weighing up to 1,800 pounds, and being about ten feet long, moose are the largest member of the deer family.

The common name of *Alces alces* is moose. "Moose" comes from the Algonquian word "mus" or "moos", which means "twig-eater" or eater of twigs.

In Latin, *alces* means "elk." This can sometimes cause confusion when talking about *Alces alces* because European countries refer to it as "elk" and North Americans refer to it as "moose." This situation is the reason scientific names are used. No matter where you are in the world or what language you speak, *Alces alces* will refer to this particular animal. Just like we promote using correct botanical names for plants.

Alces alces has many characteristics that make it unique and easy to identify. They can be identified by their huge antlers. The antlers can get up to as wide as five feet! However, only the male moose, also known as bulls, grow antlers.

Their fur is actually hollow and allows for many features, such as keeping them warm during the winter and for buoyancy when in water.

So What is that Flap of Skin Anyhow?

One of the oddest characteristics of *Alces alces* is the presence of the dewlap, also called the bell. The dewlap is the flap of skin that hangs under a moose's chin. The function of the dewlap is unknown, but there are theories for it. One theory is that the dewlap is used for communication during the rut, both by sight and smell. During the rut a bull will rub the cow with his chin, also called chinning, and the dewlap transfers this bull's scent to the female. Another theory is that the size and shape of the dewlap may be an indicator of dominance to other bulls, just like the size of the antlers are.

Up Close and Personal...

Submitted by Kristi Ayers, WA (moving to Alaska, heads up Alaska Garden Clubbers!!!)



Thank you...

For caring about scholarships!
For your support of the
Pacific Region Garden Clubs!

We are stronger and more dynamic because of
YOU!

With your generosity we have raised: **\$7100.00**

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What do you call a moose who laughs at anything?Easily amoused

***Our Membership... 135 and GROWING
New members since the last issue***

Most Moosificent Moose –

those donating more than \$100

Myrtle Findley—CA

Moosificent Moose –

those donating \$100

Dan & Judy Grotts—OK

Jeannie Jackson—TN

Leiann Niccoli—WA

Cookie Roland—GA

Vivian Rude—CA

Anne Sullivan—WA

Fran Woods—CA

Auburn Arrangers Guild—CA

Del Mar Mesa Garden Club—CA

East Lake District—WA

Alaska Moose – those donating \$75

Carolyn McCabe—OK

Northwestern Moose – those donating \$50

Maeve Clemens—CA

Cheryl Drumheller—OR

Adele Kelly—CA

MJ Kelly—CA

Connie Lee—CA

Burbank-Valley Garden Club—CA

Sunset Garden Club—NV

Chocolate Moose – those donating \$25

Rose Aldape—CA

Kay Bair—PA

Ilona Buratti—CA

Anna Burns—GA

Annette Choate—CA

Margaret Chodosh—FL

Laura Crenshaw—CA

Bonnie Goldberg—CA

Mike Goldberg—CA

Launa Gould—CA

Marybeth Hull—CA

Deanna Lee—CA

Diane Lerner—CA

Marlene Lopp—WA

Charlotte Masson—CA

Luana Maxwell—WA

Elaine Parisi—FL

Patricia Richardson—PA

Jane Sercombe—OR

Tanja Swanson—OR

Terri Taylor—CA

Joyce Voldal—WA

Marianne Wilkins—WA

Kay Yniguez—PA

Roseville Better Gardens Club—CA

***Thank you, Martha and Kristie, for all your time
and effort handling the extra scholarship load
this term. You both are Moosificent!***

Moose in Summer...

Moose are so tall that they prefer to browse higher grasses and shrubs because lowering their heads to ground level can be difficult.

In summer, food is far more plentiful in the northern regions of North America, Europe, and Asia. When the ice melts, moose are often seen in lakes, rivers, or wetlands, feeding on aquatic plants both at and below the surface. Moose are at home in the water and, despite their staggering bulk, are good swimmers, swimming up to six miles an hour. They have been seen paddling several miles at a time, and will even submerge completely, staying under for 30 seconds or more.

The moose is active in the day, especially at dawn and dusk. It has very poor eyesight but good hearing and an excellent sense of smell. The moose is usually a peaceful animal but can become aggressive when it is threatened.



What did the chef say
when he cooked up moose
meat instead of beef?

"Oh no! I've made a huge MooseSteak!"

What does a moose grow
when it doesn't shave?

A moostache



Moose can run up to 35 miles an hour over short distances, and trot steadily at 20 miles an hour.

Meet Our Pacific Region Scholars

It is with great pleasure that we introduce the four students who will each receive a \$1,250 scholarship from the Pacific Region for their 2021-22 studies. Thanks to the great generosity of all of you who joined the Lil' Moose Garden Club we are able to give scholarships to some amazing students who represent our Pacific Region. These wonderful students are all extremely good scholars and our scholarships will be a great help to them in completing their education. Thank you again for being so Moosificent and helping us support these very talented students.

Kristie Livreri and Martha Smyser
PRGC Scholarship Co-Chairmen



Thank you to the Workshop Wednesdays participants that joined, helping Pacific Region Garden Clubs to offer more and bigger scholarships!

Thank you for your support!!!!

From Washington

MADLINE KATIE GENDREAU is a student at Boise State University studying Geosciences and Environmental Studies with a minor in Climate Studies. Her home is in Spokane and her application was submitted by WASHINGTON. Madeline is a sophomore and has a stellar academic record. She hopes to get both a BS in Geosciences and a BA in Environmental Studies and would love to work for NASA's Climate Division. She writes about her early experience working with her dad on how to maintain a proper environment for a fish pond he built in their front yard including selecting plants to provide shade and sufficient oxygen for the fish.

From Oregon

KIMBERLY MAY ORTIZ is a junior at Eastern Oregon University majoring in Rangeland Science. She is in a dual enrollment program with Oregon State University. She hopes to work as a Rangeland Management Specialist for the US Forest Service. Her application was submitted by OREGON. She also has a superlative academic record. She grew up on her family's farm and has assisted with planting and harvesting for many years. Her minor is in Sustainable Rangeland Ecosystem Stewardships and she hopes to work as a rangeland ecologist in the Pacific Northwest after graduation.

From California

GRACE CAROLINE MACKKEY is a student at Cal Poly University in San Luis Obispo studying Environmental Management and Protection with a minor in Sustainable Environments. Grace is a junior and has an outstanding academic credential. Her application was submitted by CALIFORNIA. In addition to her academic work Grace is a lead mentor for Cal Poly's Scholars Program which serves high-achieving, low-income students. Her goal is to make a difference for future generations and so she hopes to become an Environmental Consultant and is considering going to law school once she completes her undergraduate work.

From Arizona

COURTNEY RUSSON is a sophomore at Oregon State University studying Environmental Sciences in the College of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences. Her home is in Mesa, Arizona and her application was submitted by ARIZONA. As with our other scholars she has an outstanding academic record. She hopes to do graduate work in Ecology or Environmental Engineering after she receives for her BS degree. Her focus is on wetlands, believing that preserving them "is important for preventing the loss of biodiversity...and protecting cities from the worsened storm surges we are expecting due to climate change."

What do you call a crime story about a moose?.....A moostery .