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January 2008

Weekly Update

Doing a Moose Program That's Like "Eggs--Your Way!"

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Sure, and it's a Happy New Year to you!

EDITOR'S NOTE: We suppose we could have flowered up this opening page of our update with cutesies of one type or a

another, but we'd rather present New Year's hopes in a more significant way.

For examples . . . for Mooseheart - -

Let's keep our obligation to the "Gimme 5" campaign foremost in our minds!



Regional "Gimme 5" Chairman Chuck Staugler poses with Regional Manager Dwaine Brown at Coshocton Moose Lodge 935 whose way of ever keeping the program to the attention of members is to create a "Gimme 5 Moose" and stand it in the foyer of the Lodge, along with both an explanation of the program and a contribution can. This time, of course, the Gimme 5 Moose is adorned for xmas!

Don't forget the "We're Betting On YOU!" International Membership Campaign which begins January 1, 2008!

This campaign is a 2-member one that will run through April 30th. Lodges and Chapters should try to devise local campaigns around this theme to further enhance their new-member production efforts.

Lodges and Chapters might



also choose this as an excellent time to work their arrearage lists, primarily to ensure that no member has inadvertently allowed his or her dues to become delinquent.

Let's use this time to work toward our Mooseheart goals.

Following are two links which are especially significant. The first is contributed by Scholarship Chairman Charlie Olson and the second by RM Dwaine Brown:

<http://lurah.com/newyearwishes.htm>

http://www.mamarocks.com/new_years_prayer.htm

Yet another bit of correspondence which may help our New Year's resolve is *not meant at all to be political*. Following is John McCain's remarks about the "Pledge of Allegiance."

The **"Pledge of Allegiance"**
- by Senator John McCain

As you may know, I spent five and one half years as a prisoner of war during the Vietnam War. In the early years of our imprisonment, the NVA kept us in solitary confinement or two or three to a cell. In 1971 the NVA moved us from these conditions of isolation into large rooms with as many as 30 to 40 men to a room.

This was, as you can imagine, a wonderful change and was a direct result of the efforts of millions of Americans on behalf of a few hundred POWs 10,000 miles from home.

One of the men who moved into my room was a young man named Mike Christian. Mike came from a small town near Selma, Alabama He didn't wear a pair of shoes until he was 13 years old. At 17, he enlisted in the US Navy. He later earned a commission by going to Officer Training School Then he became a Naval Flight Officer and was shot down and captured in 1967. Mike had a keen and deep appreciation of the opportunities this country and

our military provide for people who want to work and want to succeed.

As part of the change in treatment, the Vietnamese allowed some prisoners to receive packages from home. In some of these packages were handkerchiefs, scarves and other items of clothing.

Mike got himself a bamboo needle. Over a period of a couple of months, he created an American flag and sewed on the inside of his shirt.

Every afternoon, before we had a bowl of soup, we would hang Mike's shirt on the wall of the cell and say the Pledge of Allegiance.

I know the Pledge may not seem the most important part of our day now, but I can assure you that in that stark cell it was indeed the most important and meaningful event

One day the Vietnamese searched our cell, as they did periodically, and discovered Mike's shirt with the flag sewn inside, and removed it.

That evening they returned, opened the door of the cell, and for the benefit of all of us, beat Mike Christian severely for the next couple of hours. Then, they opened the door of the cell and threw him in. We cleaned him up as well as we could.

The cell in which we lived had a concrete slab in the middle on which we slept. Four naked light bulbs hung in each corner of the room.

As I said, we tried to clean up Mike as well as we could. After the excitement died down, I looked in the corner of the room, and sitting there beneath that dim light bulb with a piece of red cloth, another shirt and his bamboo needle, was my friend, Mike Christian. He was sitting there with his eyes almost shut from the beating he had received, making another American flag. He was not making the flag because it

. . . continued next page

made Mike Christian feel better. He was making that flag because he knew how important it was to us to be able to Pledge our allegiance to our flag and country.

So the next time you say the Pledge of Allegiance, you must never forget the sacrifice and courage that thousands of Americans have made to build our nation and promote freedom around the world. You must remember our duty, our honor,

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Forrest Gump Goes To Heaven!

The day finally arrived! **Forrest Gump dies and goes to Heaven. He is at the Pearly Gates, met by St. Peter himself.** However, the gates are closed, and Forrest approaches the gatekeeper. **St. Peter said, "Well, Forrest, it is certainly good to see you. We have heard a lot about you. I must tell you, though, that the place is filling up fast, and we have been administering an entrance examination for everyone. The test is short, but you have to pass it before you can get into Heaven."**

Forrest responds, "It sure is good to be here, St. Peter, sir. But nobody ever told me nothin' about any entrance exam. I sure hope that the test ain't too hard. Life was a big enough test as it was."

St. Peter continued, "Yes, I know, Forrest, but the test is only three questions.

First: What two days of the week begin with the letter T?

Second: How many seconds are there in a year?

Third: What is God's first name?"

Forrest leaves to think the questions over. He returns the next day and sees St. Peter, who waves him up, and says, "Now that you have had a chance to think the questions over, tell me your answers"

Forrest replied, "Well, the first one -- which two days in the week begins with the letter "T"? Shucks, that one is easy. That would be Today and Tomorrow."

The Saint's eyes opened wide and he exclaimed, "Forrest, that is not what I was thinking, but you do have a point, and I guess I did not specify, so I will give you credit for that answer. How about the next one?" asked St. Peter. "How many seconds in a year?"

"Now that one is harder," replied Forrest, but I think and think about that, and I guess the only answer can be twelve."

Astounded, St. Peter said, "Twelve? Twelve? Forrest, how in Heaven's name could you come up with twelve seconds in a year?"

Forrest replied, "Shucks, they's got to be twelve: January 2nd, February 2nd, March 2nd..."

"Hold it," interrupts St. Peter. "I see where you are going with this, and I see your point, though that was not quite what I had in mind....but I will have to give you credit for that one, too. Let us go on with the third and final question. Can you tell me God's first name?"

"Sure," Forrest replied, "It's Andy."

"Andy?" exclaimed an exasperated and frustrated St Peter.

"Ok, I can understand how you came up with your answers to my first two questions, but just how in the world did you come up with the name "Andy" as the first name of God?"

... if you're ready for this, go to next page. . .

"Shucks, that was the easiest one of all," Forrest replied. "I learnt it from the song,

"ANDY WALKS WITH ME, ANDY TALKS WITH ME, ANDY TELLS ME I AM HIS OWN."

St. Peter opened the Pearly Gates, and yelled:

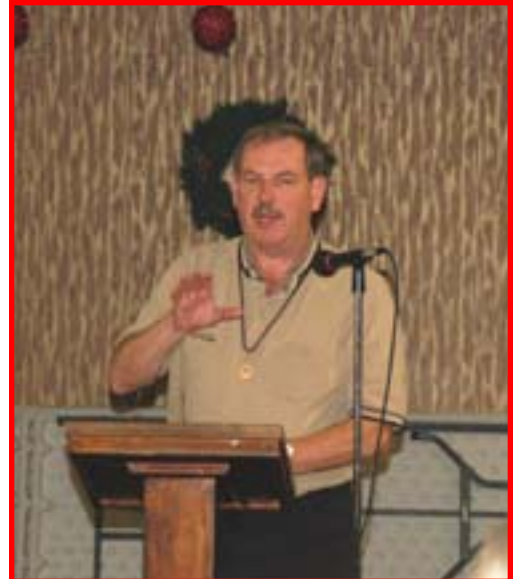
"Run, Forrest, run!"

State Board Members Express Concern For 2008

"Our future is at stake," exclaimed Regional Manager Dwaine Brown and the recent State Board meeting in Coshocton. Touching on a variety of issues, Brown especially emphasizing many Ohio Lodges about their need to down-size their buildings, simply because these buildings are getting old and quite expensive to maintain. "If your building is 'eating you up,' it only makes good sense to sell it and to re-locate, either to an existing structure or to a new but smaller building."

But his words were like a minister's, preaching to the choir. His point was that despite "preaching to the choir," he needed his "choir" (read State Board members) to become active in their own Lodges to influence their Boards of Officers to begin to consider such moves.

After the meeting, Brown noted in casual conversations with various Board members, "The Moose can no longer sit back, thinking that it will succeed as it has done in the past. Times have changed, and unless we change too, we're looking at extinction!"



TOP: RM Brown. CENTER: Each District President has his basket from which to collect significant information for him to take back. ABOVE: Sec'y Sipes takes the roll. LEFT: Members recognize the seriousness of Brown's remarks.

RM Brown continues to demonstrate his grasp of technology!



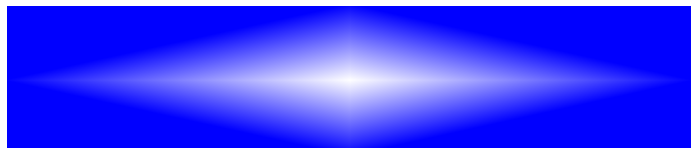
Regional Manager Brown continues to amaze! Zanesville 867 administrator Steve Ward suggested the following as picture caption: "Let's see. I wonder how you make this thing work!"

Dwaine, however, surprises many people with his technical expertise. For example, not only can he turn on his computer, he can even use it; not only does he read his e-mails, he can also generate them! Additionally, he continues to impress Board members and delegates with his familiarity of power point programs at conference and convention. Of course, it's really Phil Dick that saves Dwaine's bacon in this one!

Zanesville Lodge 867 donates "Donny Mooses" to Muskingum County Sheriff

Continuing with their support of the Donny Moose program, Zanesville Lodge 867 recently donated many stuffed Donny Mooses to keep in their cruisers. It is hoped that these stuffed toys will help calm children during traumatic experiences, such as auto accidents and domestic violence situations.

Pictured are Zanesville Lodge 867 Trustee Chuck Winsor and Administrator Steve Ward, presenting the Donny Moose toys to Colonel Bryan Hoover of the Muskingum County Sheriff's Office.





Hello, Ohio Golfers! Here's the Latest Inside Poop!

. . . by Danny Albert, Golf Chairman



Today is the beginning of an exciting year of sporting events for men and women of the Ohio Moose! Our experience has been that both men and women are making great strides in advancing their particular sport. To illustrate, consider this:

Police were called to an apartment and found a woman holding a bloody 5-iron over a lifeless man. The detective asked, "Ma'am, is that your husband?"

"Yes," she said.

"Did you hit him with that golf club?"

"Yes, yes, I did." And the woman began to sob, dropped the club, and put her hands on her face.

"How many times did you hit him?"

"I don't know -- five, six, maybe seven timesjust put me down for a five."

OBSERVATION #6 - THE INEVITABLE RESULT OF ANY GOLF LESSON IS THE INSTANT ELIMINATION OF THE ONE CRITICAL UNCONSCIOUS MOTION THAT ALLOWED YOU TO COMPENSATE FOR ALL OF YOUR MANY OTHER ERRORS.

And speaking of improving your play, a golfer asked his caddy as they approached the 18th green: "Do you think my game is improving?" The caddy replied, "Yes, sir. You miss the ball much closer now!"

