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February 2008

Weekly Update

It's the fraternal thing to do -- the Ohio State Moose Association's program!

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This Ohio Moose Update is published on the website by noon each Wednesday and meets the approval of the publisher, the Ohio State Moose Association, John R. Sipes, Secretary.

Updates Editor is Jim Grandy.

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'The trouble with bucket seats is that not everybody has the same size bucket.'

'To err is human; to forgive, highly unlikely.'

'Do you realize that in about 40 years, we'll have millions of old ladies running around with tattoos and pierced navels? (Now that's scary!).'

'Money can't buy happiness--but somehow it's more comfortable to cry in a Porsche than a Kia.'

'After a certain age, if you don't wake up aching somewhere...you may be dead.'

"What fits your busy schedule better, exercising one hour a day or being dead 24 hours a day?"

Don't Forget! **gimme five!**

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Facts! Food! Fun!

Mid-Year Conference 2008 Provided Much of All Three!

Facts appeared in several forms, starting on Thursday with brief reports from some State Board members who fulfilled their promises with excellent reports of their committees' activities and accomplishments as the Conference progressed.

The facts were translated on Saturday into real dollars for our various projects, beginning on Saturday

morning when the Women of the Moose, at the Joint Session, held their March of Checks for the OMA Special Project-- Special Olympics Ohio, and culminating in the afternoon at the men's meeting with their parade of checks for YCC, Scholarship Fund, Community Service Project, Moose Charities, and Ohio Special Projects for Moosehaven.

The numbers are in from the parades of checks:

- Youth Conservation Corps - \$8,730.75
- Ohio Scholarship Fund - \$3,423.75
- V.A.V.S. - \$388.20
- Endowment Fund - \$19,786.25
- Special Olympics Ohio - \$22,838.46
- Ohio Special Project (C-Wing) - \$113,304.09
- Tent Town for Special Olympics - still pending

How these funds are generated begins with membership promotion . . . illustrated, for example, by Marion Lodge 889's recent announcement of a special in-house campaign which sees the preferred-member sponsor receiving one year's dues with two applications, and two years' dues with five applications. Administrator Brad Gruber reports that to date, this special promotion seems to be having a good effect. "It's working so far!"

Fotographs are in the mix too! . . .

demonstrating the food and fun that we have in our hospitality rooms in the evenings.



More pixes on next page and more to come in next week's update. ED.

District 1's Hospitality Room provides a great atmosphere for food, fun, and fellowship!



Many thanks, Jane and Ken Malloy, Norwood 301, (below) for the snapshots on this page.



Note the new hooded sweatshirt that you can earn by signing five new/former apps.



If you've ever visited a hospitality room, then you are keenly aware that you never know just what to expect as the evening progresses!



Mark This Date in Your Calendar: 9/1/08

Somber Implications in re the ABCD Contributions in Our Dues Structure

Last week, a release came out from Moose International, telling our Lodges that the ABCD part of our dues is going up to \$12.00 on September 1, 2008.

Ohio Lodges, as you know, have been getting a \$7.00 break on the ABC Dollar amount, based largely on the generosity of Ohio Lodges with regard to building and supporting the C-Wing at Moosehaven, a \$10 million effort, which will be completed this August.

This increase means that come **September 1, 2008, Ohio's ABCD portion of the dues will be either \$21.00 or \$28.00.**

Please note, in all fairness, that this raise applies to all the Lodges in the fraternity, and in their case, the ABCD portion will go to \$28.00.

Administrators, Governors, and other Lodge Officers fraternity-wide will need to take a few minutes in one of their meetings in the very near future to discuss this issue and to decide what they will do to meet this demand for increase in the ABC Dollar contribution.

This about this:

- **Most Ohio Lodges are still at the \$30-\$35 per year level with their dues structure.**
- **We can count on the ABC Dollar portion going up \$2.00 per year for the next five years.**

So, Officers, you'd best do the math! Can your Lodge absorb this kind of an increase? The answer is probably "No, not at our present level of dues demands."

Before Lodges jump to an increase

to \$40 or \$50 or higher, they'll have first to ask themselves what will be the impact of such an increase to their retention efforts. Additionally, with regard to retention, Officers might investigate whether a more modest dues increase in combination with an increase in food and beverage prices in the Social Quarters be more effective in encouraging members to renew.

Having to meet this increase in the ABCD contribution might have yet another impact on a Lodge: Officers and related committee chairmen will be forced into creating new, and supporting existing, popular activities in the Lodge to keep members involved.

How to create new activities is not as difficult as it first appears. The reason is that Officers have Ohio Lodge newsletters at their disposal on the Website. WebMaster Steve Speaks has done a "masterful" job in making all newsletters sent to him available on the Website and in making them easy to print out for distribution to officers and chairmen. When officers scan through these newsletters, they will quickly and easily see activities that they can use -- as is -- or adapt to the needs and interests of their members.

In short, Officers, you've got a six-month hiatus in which to meet to discuss the situation, to develop plans and strategies to solve how your Lodge is going to absorb this increase.

Ohio State Moose Association Plans An "American Moose Idol Contest" -- Karaoke -Style -- for Annual Convention!

On Thursday evening, August 14, 2008, at Annual Convention in Independence, from 8:00 P.M. until 12 MIDNIGHT, entrants from all 15 Ohio Districts will be eligible to compete for this prestigious award.

Costs are minimal -- \$5 per contestant at the Lodge level; \$10 per contestant at the District level (two people per Lodge); and \$20 per contestant at the Finals in the Ballroom of the Holiday Inn, Independence, in August. All proceeds at the conclusion of the contest will go to Special Olympics.

Entertainment August 14th will be provided by "DJ's UNLIMITED," featuring Larry and Deedy Humphrey, one of the best karaoke systems in Ohio, from Dayton. The Humphreys have over 5,500 songs from which to select your favorite.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

- Each of the 15 Districts should hold a contest, drawn from their Lodges' winners

in a special Lodge Karaoke Contest.

- The two best from each District will produce 30 contestants for Convention contest.

- At the Convention, the 30 entries will be narrowed to the top five. These five will sign their same song again, and from these five, three places will be award.

- Trophies will be awarded for each of the three top contestants. Additionally cash amounts will be awarded:

1st prize - \$500

2d prize - \$300

3d prize - \$150

Guidelines, entry forms, contest rules, etc., have been published by Chairman Ted Haas, OSMA Sergeant-at-Arms (Telephone 937/256-5310 or e-mail theopalis@sbcglobal.net).

If you have any kinds of concerns or questions, please contact Ted.

Duane "Dog, the Bounty Hunter" Chapman to unleash life story at Mooseheart!

You may have seen the No. 1 rated "Dog, the Bounty Hunter" program on A&E. This show has propelled Chapman's larger-than-life persona into living rooms across North America.

There is, however, another side to Duane Chapman's life -- an element that is the result of a life of tragedies and triumphs, but most of all devotion to his Lord.

Chapman is going to share his life story twice in April at Mooseheart Child

City and School, in a pair of concerts that will combine a rare chance to hear Chapman speak -- plus the opportunity to listen to some of the hottest Christian rock bands playing today.

The concerts take place April 11-12 at the Mooseheart Fieldhouse. Tickets are \$22 for general admission Friday (7:00 P.M.) and Saturday (8:00 P.M.) Children and student prices are \$12 for both concerts. Tickets are available at

www.therushtour.com.

Portrait of OSMA's Moose of the Year

When Bob Goldsmith began the Charter for Harrison Lodge 2633, he knew that the Lodge had a winner when Vernon Frank applied for membership and became a charter member. Vernon Frank had been a member of the Order for many years, volunteering on occasion but being mostly a social member. Frank lived too far away from his Lodge to do much more than participate on a social basis.

All this changed, however, when he was approached to investigate the potential of a new Moose Lodge in Harrison, his town. He worked tirelessly, holding meeting after meeting in his home until membership numbers became sufficient to charter Harrison as a

Moose Service Center. Then Vernon Frank became really involved in this new Moose venture. He was elected Secretary of the new Lodge.

His is exceptional talent to recognize others who had the ability to get out the story of the Moose in his town, and soon the whole area knew that Moose had arrived.

Frank's talent to identify the right man for the job extended to the first board of Officers, and membership activities expanded. He became the second governor of the Lodge, and with his guidance, the Lodge found a home and began to grow in all areas.

A sponsor of many of the Charter members, Frank will soon be a 25 Club member.

A builder by profession, he has turned his abilities to whatever a task has needed to be completed in order to maintain and advance the Lodge. It could be a leaking rook, a temperamental heating/air system/ closet walls needing removed, storerooms being transformed into a KIDS' ZONE or an Administrator's office, and the many other dozens of headaches associated with an old



**Vernon Frank
Harrison 2633**

building which Harrison's budge could stand. Regardless, Frank has been there mostly with a tool in hand and a helper by his side, "gitin'-r-done!"

The result of Frank's effort is that now Harrison 2633's members are the proud occupants of a Moose home, unrecognizable to that into which they had moved less than a year ago.

Among his other principle administrative accomplishments is his five-year plan for the Lodge, which includes not only the type of building the Lodge needs but also how to maximize the financial benefit of current improvements to the existing Moose Home.

He is a husband and a father of two daughters. He never misses their sporting and academic events, maintains a home and all that entails, yet still finds time to maintain and expand the Harrison 2633 Moose Home.

Harrison Lodge members have seen his work effort; they are convinced that he will continue to be a major factor in their Lodge's life; and they were proud to nominate him Moose of the Year!



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

. . . by Danny Albert, Golf Chairman



Over the past several weeks, I've presented to you some many great responses from caddies in the "age of caddies," hoping that you and I would recognize ourselves in some of the situations. If I were to give these responses a name, I'd call them "Caddie Come-back Lines." Below is, in my mind, the # 1 Caddie come-back line.

OBSERVATION #13 - "NONCHALANT" PUTTS COUNT THE SAME AS "CHALANT" PUTTS! AND REMEMBER, IT'S NOT A GIMME IF YOU'RE STILL AWAY!

The golfer said to his caddy as he stood over the ball which the caddy had found, "That can't be my ball. It's too old!"

The caddy said, "It's been a long time since we teed off, sir!"
