

OS.M.A. Weekly Update

September
17, 2008



**President
Arnie Holley**

Fresh and New

THE NEW YEAR IS A TIME TO REFLECT ON THE YEAR THAT HAS PASSED AND TO GET

READY TO MAKE A MARK ON THE YEAR THAT TO COME!

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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**Don't
Forget!**



gimme five!

TAKE five

We promise to strive to give you at least five different insights into the Moose program as it operates in Ohio each month.

1

One Lodge demonstrates one reason to “mope” and one huge reason to “hope”

2

Convention Saturday is probably the most attended day of sessions, for it begins with the Joint Session in the morning.

3

Then reports from both men and women in respective areas to which both LOOM and WOTM have interest take place.

4

The Memorial Service is highlighted by the parade of Districts, by Tom Ziegler's voice, and by Danny Albert's address.

5

In short, if you weren't in attendance on Saturday, you missed a great event.



According to
one Lodge in
its Sept. 1
Newsletter



The old slogan of “a burden heavy to one is borne lightly by many” has changed. With the continuing decline of Moose membership throughout the fraternity, the burden is becoming increasingly heavy to fewer and fewer members.

If we are to survive as a Lodge, it is paramount that we make every effort to invite new and younger members to join. To date our efforts have been rather pathetic -- only nine new members toward our assigned quota of 99. This is just the minimum number which International deems necessary to maintain our current membership. With only 8 months remaining in our current fiscal year, this means we need to average approximately three new members per week between now and April 30, 2009.

Remember, all Ohio Lodges are also subject to annual fees charged by the State Association.

At a special Lodge meeting held Thursday, August 21, those in attendance voted to keep the Lodge dues at \$35 and absorb the increase in the ABCD portion of the dues which are to be retained by Moose International. Assuming the Lodge is able to maintain its current membership, this means a loss in revenue to the Lodge of approximately \$18,000 over the next two years. Additionally, we will lost the \$7 credit which Ohio Lodges received due to their exceptional donations to Moose Charities from gaming proceeds. This will result in another \$5,000 in lost revenues annually.

A motion to crease the dues to \$45 was made and passed to become effective October 1, 2010. This will cover the \$2 per year increase over the next five years, which was dictated by International.

Sign just one new member prior to the end of September and win a free year's dues, plus a gold-tone “Beyond Belief” campaign lapel pin. Sign a new member today and show that you care!

Editor's NOTE: We appreciate whenever we read of, see of, or hear of, a Lodge and its leadership taking an affirmative stance on an issue which confronts it and thus feel compelled to report it.



Convention Saturday Brings Out The Best In Every Ohio Moose!



Prelate Bob Haley put together yet another outstanding Memorial Service on Saturday morning which kicked off a great joint session. Rather than to try to caption each picture, we have chosen instead to allow each picture to speak for itself. One exception, however, must be made. At left above is a picture of Pat Thomas who, with Phil Dick, co-ordinate via "power-point" the audio and visual effects which are projected on the big screen.

(more to follow on page 3)





A Memorial Service Would Be Incomplete Without Reference To Our Service Men And Women!

. . . many of whom are members of our Fraternity. The covered caskets and the Honor Guard are grim reminders of the sacrifices that many of our loved ones have paid.. Whether we agree with the rationale that got the United States into this war is not at issue; we all agree about the valor of our service men and women and about the sacrifice that almost 5,000 have paid with their lives and countless others who have paid with their limbs and their minds.

Tom Ziegler Adds His Beautiful Baritone Voice With Renditions Of Favorite Hymns

OSMA Past President and Pilgrim Chairman Ron Johnson and Deputy Grand Regent Sherry Fry escort the entry of Pilgrims and Collegians. The roll call of District Presidents was conducted by OSMA Past President Dave Simpson. Answering the call for the fifteen Districts were the following:



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District 1

Ken and Jane Malloy, Norwood

District 2

Bob Lees and Anita Farish, Dayton

District 3

**Mike Murphy and Deb Neiswonger,
Lima 199 and Celina 388**

District 4

Hank and Barb McCartney, Defiance

District 5

**Don Hankins and Sharon Miller,
Ashland 1383 and Colonial City 100**

District 6

**Roger Hoopf and Sue Wetzel, New
Riegel 897 and Fremont 624**

District 7

**Brad Gruber and Birdie Tomilinson,
Marion**

District 8

Lester and Lois Arnold, Worthington

District 9

Dave and Kate Murdock, Ironton

District 10

**Art Yoakum and Ruby Shrewsberry,
Parma 1744 and Painesville 1057**

District 11

**Stan Baugham and Betty Dollinson,
Barberton**

District 12

J.R. and Vesta Rheel, Canton

District 13

Jim and Mary Ludwig, 1337 & 29

District 14

Bob and Judy Kennedy, Logan

District 15

**Joe Pozzuto and Eryn O'Rourke
Cortland 1012 and Niles 113**





Supreme Councilman Danny Albert Highlights Memorial Service With His Address

*EDITOR'S NOTE: In keeping with our custom,
Brother Danny's entire address appears below*

Today's ceremony, I have come to realize, is really a celebration -- **HOLD THAT THOUGHT!** --

NEW THOUGHT! Old Age, I have decided, is a gift. I am now, probably for the first time in my life, the person I have always wanted to be. Oh, not my body! I sometimes despair

over my body, the wrinkles, the baggy eyes, and the sagging butt! And often I am taken aback by that old guy who lives in my mirror (and who looks like my dad!), but I don't agonize over those things for long.

I would never trade my amazing friends, my wonderful life, my loving family for less gray hair or a flatter belly.

As I've aged, I've become more kind to myself, and less critical of myself. I've become my own friend.

I don't chide myself for eating that large piece of pie, for not making my bed, or for buying that silly, cement gecko that I didn't need but which looks so "avant garde" on my patio. I am entitled to a treat, to be messy, to be extravagant!

I have seen too many dear friends leave this world too soon, before they understood the great freedom that comes with aging. I ask you: Whose business is it if I choose to read or play on the computer until 4 AM and sleep until noon?

I will dance with myself to those wonderful tunes of the 60s&70s, and if I, at the same time, wish to weep over a lost love . . . I will!

I will walk the beach in a swim suit that is stretched over a bulging body and will dive into the waves with abandon--IF I CHOOSE TO--despite the pitying glances from the jet set. They too will get old one day!

I know I am sometimes forgetful. But

there again, some of life is just as well forgotten. And I eventually remember the important things.

Sure, over the years my heart has been broken. How can your heart not break when you lose a loved one--or when a child suffers--or even when somebody's beloved pet gets hit by a car? But broken hearts are what give us strength and understanding and compassion. A heart never broken is pristine and sterile and will never know the job of being imperfect.

I am so blessed to have lived long enough to have my hair turning gray, and to have my youthful laughs be forever etched into deep grooves on my face. So many have never laughed, and so many have died before their hair could turn silver.

As you get older, it is easier to be positive. You care less about what other people think. I don't question myself anymore. I've even earned the right to be wrong!

So in answer to that unspoken question, let me say it plainly: **I LIKE BEING OLD.** It has set me free. I like the person I have become. I am not going to live forever, but while I am still here, I will not waste time lamenting what could have been, or worrying about what will be. And I'll eat dessert every single day (if I feel like it!).

Remember that I asked you to hold the thought that this ceremony is really a celebration? While we remember our Moose friends who have gone on before, we the living need, on a daily basis, to celebrate life.



So let me leave you with this: May our friendship never come apart, especially because it comes straight from the heart! May each of you always have a rainbow of smiles on your face and in your heart forever and ever.

FRIENDS FOREVER! That's us! God



Regional Chairman of the "Gimme 5" program Chuck Staugler of Celina 1473 stepped forward to report the giving status to date, followed by Ohio Special Projects Chairman Brian Cox's report and his

bless, my brothers and sisters!

And on that note, Prelate Haley concluded yet another outstanding Memorial Service by OSMA Prelates over the years with the Benediction, at which point the "business" part of the Joint Session commenced.

invitation for the WOTM March of Checks.

Then Past OSMA President Terry Goldstein and Past Deputy Grand Regent Pam Rich presented a video of Moosehaven, introducing the traditional program and the new concept visualized by "Brandon Place."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Please forgive the incompleteness of this week's update, but only just now, after three days of no electricity, no phone, no cable, no internet, have I been able to work on our weekly communication. Fortunately I had done the above before the wind storm hit! I'll try to get us back on the right path next week. jim grandy

