

64th Annual Florida Moose Association Mid Year Conference

[Summary](#)

[Workshops/Training](#)

[Financial Review Committee](#)

[Overview](#)

[Key Takeaways](#)

[Lodge Meeting Minutes](#)

[Overview](#)

[Key Takeaways](#)

[Lodge Operating Budgets](#)

[Overview](#)

[Key Takeaways](#)

[General Sessions and Informational meetings](#)

[Session 1](#)

[General Remarks](#)

[Reports](#)

[Moose Legion Lunch](#)

[Session 2](#)

[Sports](#)

[Moose Riders](#)

[Emergency Relief Fund](#)

[Safe Surfin'](#)

[Special Olympics](#)

[Higher Degrees](#)

[MooseHaven](#)

[Endowment Fund](#)

[Publications](#)

[Convention](#)

[Session 3](#)

[Financial Review Committee](#)

[Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranch](#)

[Fraternal Education](#)

[Web Site and Calendar](#)

[Youth Awareness](#)

[Scholarship](#)

[Lifetime Achievement Award](#)

[Membership](#)

[Historical](#)

[Heart of the Community](#)

[Session 4](#)

[Moose Charities](#)

[Mooseheart](#)

[Mooseheart Remarks from Harry Johnston \(International Board of Directors Chair\)](#)

[Moose International Board of Directors](#)

[Official Visitor](#)

[Past Supreme Governors](#)

[March of Checks](#)

[Territory Managers](#)

[Milwaukee Convention Preview](#)

[Credential report](#)

Summary

The 64th Annual Florida Moose Association Mid Year Conference was held in Orlando at the Rosen Plaza Hotel between April 10th and the 13th, 2025. The conference is a time to get together with Moose members from around the state and to hear the great things that the Association is doing. As the delegate for the Lodge, I attended 3 workshops (Financial Review Committee, Lodge Operating Budgets, and Lodge Minutes), the Moose Legion luncheon, and the Association dinner. During the workshops I attended, Lisa Marie attended the state trainers meeting and assisted other Lodges with QuickBooks online. The official visitor this year is the Moose International Board of Directors Chaplain, Mark Penzkover.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent this Lodge at this event.

Daniel Wheeler

Vice President

Port Charlotte #2121

Workshops/Training

Financial Review Committee

Overview

The importance of the committee to the optimal functioning of a Lodge and basic necessities for the committee.

Key Takeaways

- Protects the Lodge's assets and the officers
- Ensures that critical deadlines are being met by the Lodge
- Requires reports to be generated for the committee in a timely manner

Lodge Meeting Minutes

Overview

The legal necessity of taking and keeping accurate meeting minutes.

Key Takeaways

- "If it's not in the minutes, it didn't happen."
- Lodges are required to keep meeting minutes for the life of the Lodge.

Lodge Operating Budgets

Overview

This is exactly what it sounds like. Since everyone should have a budget, so should a Lodge.

Key Takeaways

- It discussed the data that's helpful to create the budget.
- Provided with a spreadsheet to help prepare one specifically for a Moose Lodge.

General Sessions and Informational meetings

Session 1

General Remarks

Remarks from Moose International CEO Scott Hart (via video), Moose International board Chaplain and official visitor Mark Penzkover, Women of the Moose Grand Chancellor Barb McPherson, and Stephen Vella (association government relations chair).

Reports

Each District president reported on their district meetings and contributions to the FMA. Currently, District 16 is in 3rd place for fundraising efforts.

Your incoming Chaplain, Marty Fischer, helped deliver the loss prevention report.

- Detriments of over-serving/over-consumption of alcohol at our Lodges. Please take this into consideration when you're at our Lodge. Drunk driving kills and we can all make a difference.
- In 2 years in the FMA alone, over \$1.1 million dollars was stolen by various means.

Moose Legion Lunch

Updates on the fundraising and membership efforts by jurisdictions within the FMA. Information also available on the Moose International website.

Session 2

Sports

Rudolph 5k Runs should be held in December and begin registering in September

Raffle for Mooseheart football jersey raised over \$4,000 was raised for Mooseheart

Moose Riders

Raised over \$2,400 for Mooseheart, \$2,000 for Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranch, and \$9,200 for Give Kids the World

Emergency Relief Fund

This is a fund that is specific to the Florida Moose Association and can be used for any major Lodge emergency (natural disaster, fire, etc). Raised \$931

Safe Surfin'

FMA is 4th in the country for donations to Safe Surfin'.

Creating an AI chat service for children with emotional needs

Special Olympics

FMA donated \$17,000 which provided for 136 athletes

Higher Degrees

MooseHaven

\$7,500 to local elementary school

Heart of the Community trick or treat was able to give away 3,000 pounds of candy

Orange Park police and fire events for Christmas

Pavilion estimated to be completed in July

Sports and Recreational facility estimated to be open by end of year

More details at MooseHaven.org/AAA

Rally Days will be held at Moose Haven

Endowment Fund

This is a fund created in the early days of the Moose in order to support the operations of Mooseheart and MooseHaven. Interest on the investments is what is used while capital remains invested.

FMA has raised over \$749,000

9 Lodges have missed 2 months of remittance

11 Lodges have missed 3 months or more

"Because Florida Cares" campaign coming and was teased on Facebook

Publications

Courier editing/publication to be taken over by Kimberly Kelly

Thanks from Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranch to FMA for the continued partnership

Convention

This year's convention will include a trip to MooseHeart. This trip will include the Pilgrim conferral, a church service, and the 2025 graduation.


Early Bird registration closes 5/6/2025

Session 3

Financial Review Committee

Past Presidents have donated over \$60,000

Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranch

 Aaron's Story - Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches - How the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches are having an impact on students at the Ranch.

Over \$45,000 this year with over \$1.5 million donated from FMA

Fraternal Education

New training manager, committee for training

Training programs for Social Quarters attendant and Fraternalism being developed

Possible updates to the Lodge Leadership training

Advanced 2HOTT class in development

Next Moose Legion Educational Conference (MLEC) 4/19/2025 in Venice

Each district will have a Lodge Leadership class. This is open to all interested parties. See the FMA website for dates.

Training Jamboree at Moose Haven 6/26/2025 - 6/28/2025

- Will include MLEC, Lodge Leadership, 2HOTT, and more
- Open to any interested members
- Will include lunch and closing party

Web Site and Calendar

Reminder that the calendar updates often

The FMA has a Facebook group. You must be a member in order to join and posts are moderated to filter posts. They also have a public page.

Youth Awareness

4 students from Florida will be going to the Dakotas for the annual Youth Awareness conference Party for John Reiter (what was that under?)

Scholarship

"Moving Forward Giving Back" awarded 2 \$1,000 scholarships

Must be active member for 1 year

Apply online

Kissimmee Moose Lodge paid for scholarships

Lifetime Achievement Award

Awarded to Rodney Hammond, Past Supreme Governor, Chairman Moosehaven Board, Moose International Pilgrim Board President. Served 20 years as the Kissimmee Lodge #2056 administrator. Life member of both Lodge and Moose Legion as well as a member of the 500 division of the 25 Club.

Membership

Video from Mike Rios. He didn't say it, but they are disappointed that we didn't reach 1 million members this year. However, I expect that there will be an announcement at the convention that we had a 4th consecutive year of overall member growth.

Char Connor from Fort Myers Beach sponsored 343 members so far this year. District 16 had multiple members in the upper divisions of the 25 Club.

Historical

MooseHaven has a museum of various interesting items from the history of the Order.

Heart of the Community

\$4.5 million in value (monetary, volunteer hours, and miles driven) donated to Florida communities.

Women of the Moose have almost \$409,000 in value

Healthy Start Program which assists families from pregnancy through 1 year (3 years in some circumstances/situations). There was an immense amount of diapers, wipes, and other baby products. The sheer volume was an advertisement for the Order to non-members staying in the hotel

Moose International will be supporting Feeding America at the Convention

Donations also made to Give Kids the World

Session 4

Moose Charities

Goal for FMA for AAA Project was \$750,000. Actually raised \$1 million.

\$33,000 from Cradle fundraiser

Reminder that donations to Donors Circle are cumulative and tax deductible.

League of Guardians = \$1,500 per fiscal year per household

Mooseheart

Video message from Mooseheart executive Gary Urweiler

Reminder that Class of 2025 will be graduating during the Milwaukee convention

Mooseheart Remarks from Harry Johnston (International Board of Directors Chair)

Special project to replace/upgrade sewer system on the Mooseheart campus

Mark Penzkover donated in kind \$693,000 in time and \$933,000 in materials for project

Over 5 miles of sewer pipes on campus

Next project will be for the potable water system

Moose International Board of Directors

Remarks by Sandy Johnson and John Reiter (Moose International Board of Directors Vice Chair)

Requested that members "tell your why" to others

Official Visitor

Mark Penzkover and his 7 siblings became orphans when his parents died in a car accident when he was 3 years old. Although his parents were members, they were not current members at the time of the accident. Members of their Lodge, however, worked to get the children into Mooseheart. Mark eventually graduated top of his class, was inducted into the athletic hall of fame, and went on to get a Bachelor's degree from Purdue. The Moose gave him and his family a chance at a real life even without parents. One of my favorite phrases from his presentation was "Change only happens when the top leadership embraces it."

Past Supreme Governors

76 bottles were donated and used for wheel spins

March of Checks

Manatee #58 Moose Legion (of which Port Charlotte belongs) donated \$3,000 to the Endowment Fund

Territory Managers

Territory 23 saw a drop of 2,053 members this year

Milwaukee Convention Preview

Bus trip to Mooseheart will be available for an additional \$60. Will include Pilgrim conferral and Class of 2025 graduation

Credential report

898 registered, 788 actually checked in