

MOOSE NEWS

A Publication of Port Charlotte Moose Lodge 2121

JANUARY
2025
Volume 62
Number 1
941-629-1140



From the Lodge President

From the President

Hello Moose Family! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and that we all have a safe and exciting New Year. With the new year upon us resolutions always come to mind. Do I lose weight, quit smoking, and on and on. This year my resolution is to appreciate life more and to share that with others. This last year has made me rethink a lot of things in my own life. All we truly have is right now; we are not what we have but what we do that matters. So this year I vow to take the extra steps to make a difference in the lives of others. I hope you'll be able to join me in this endeavor.

There are lots of exciting things coming up this year. Our annual picnic here in February, we will also be doing a fundraiser for the Gaines Memorial this spring – this will be a local landmark for years to come and I am proud for us to be a part of it. We are working on some new social activities for anyone to get involved in, and as always some lodge improvements. It's easy to get involved – just suit up and show up. More details will be coming out in the next few weeks.

Our Moose of the Month is **Bruce McIntosh**. Bruce has been volunteering on Sundays to help with football and the Ace of Spades. He is a proud veteran and embodies what being a Moose member is all about. I just learned Bruce will be going into hospice and I ask that everyone say a little extra prayer for our Brother. Love you, Bruce!

Thank you all for your involvement in our lodge and I look forward to making this the best year yet.

As Always: Do something nice for someone else every day and have some fun!

Fraternally, Bill Harris
President Moose Lodge 2121

From the Moose Legion

Greetings Fellow Moose!

With the new year here, it's a great time to reflect on what your Moose Legion accomplished in 2024 with your help.



Dan Wheeler

Physically, the Moose Legion began renovations on the horseshoe pits and built a drink rail around the Tiki bar. We've purchased new audio equipment for the dining room, cornhole boards, new storage and shelter solutions, and hats and shirts for conferred members.

Charitably, we donated to Charlotte Warriors Youth Football, Southwest Florida Honor Flight, the Manatee #58 Golf Tournament, the North Port Golf Tournament, toys for Breakfast with Santa, and the Patriot Riders. We also initiated the collection of backpacks and school supplies for Toys for Tots. Additionally, individuals benefited as we donated towards a member's liver transplant and assisted another member with expenses incurred after the death of a loved one.

In terms of fun and frolic, the Moose Legion paid out over \$19,000 in cash, drinks, and bottles of alcohol for the football games. While we haven't had a jackpot winner for the Ace of Spades yet this year, we've still paid out over \$2,500 in prizes, and the jackpot currently stands at over \$4,500.

We were able to hold our first Fellowship Committee meeting since 2014. We're hosting the Golden Ball: A Story of the Moose Organization on January 18th. This event hasn't been held by our Moose Legion jurisdiction, Manatee #58, in 10 years! In February, we'll be hosting the Jurisdiction Picnic with basket raffles, a firearm raffle, food, the beer truck, and American Made! We're also working on organizing Cornhole Tournaments!

Continued on page 2



MOOSE LEGION STORY OF THE GOLDEN BALL DINNER & DANCE

Saturday, January 18, Moose Regalia or Formal Dress \$25 pp
starting at 5 PM with a social hour, dinner from 6 - 7:30 PM, and then a presentation of the Moose Golden Ball program at 8 PM. Dancing until 10 PM after the program.



Lodge Administrator's Report

It has been a great year for our wonderful Moose Lodge. I wish everyone a Happy New Year and hope everyone had a good Christmas. We are always grateful for our volunteers who helped with our Christmas parties. Special thanks to the Patriot Riders, an awesome group, for providing all of the stockings and toys for the children.

Our next District 16 meeting is at noon on Saturday, January 11, at the North Port Moose Lodge. We have changed our menus, dropping some prices and adding some new items. Thanks to Cheli McArthur and her crew for the hard work revising the menus.

Welcome to **Sue Stang**, our new secretary/office manager. Our business office is open Monday-Friday from 9 AM - 3 PM for your suggestions, membership issues, complaints or to welcome you as a volunteer. Stop in and introduce yourself and welcome Sue.

Fraternally, Danny Ulrich Lodge Administrator

Moose Legion LAC Report

Hello Everyone: First and foremost, I would like to wish Happy Holidays to all of our Moose members. I have been appointed as LAC of Moose Legion 2121. As your LAC we are moving forward with various projects at our Lodge: a new shed is going up at the Tiki for storage, the Tiki restroom floors are being refurbished, we're installing a canopy for the outdoor kitchen and seating. I want to thank Chris Davanuto, Scott Hamal and Vice-Chairman Doug for all you guys do for this Lodge.

Super Bowl is just around the corner (Feb 9) and you want to be here for the big game, party and football pools. I want to make very special note that one of our volunteers, Bruce McIntosh, has taken ill. You know Bruce because he runs the Sunday football program. Let's pray for him and keep him in our hearts.

Fraternally, Juan A. Rodriguez (J.R.) LAC

Moose Lodge Officers

- President: William Harris III
- Vice President: Dan Wheeler
- Chaplain: Sharen Reardon
- Treasurer: Vacant
- 1-Year Trustee: Pat Moran
- 2-Year Trustee: Michael Zimmerman
- 3-Year Trustee: Ralph Busalacchi
- Jr. Past President: Pat Russell
- Administrator: Dan Ulrich

Chapter Officers

- Sr. Regent: Dawn Miller
- Treasurer: Joanne Dauer
- Secretary: Desiree Durr

District 16 meets
at noon Saturday,
January 11 at
North Port #764

Florida Moose
Association



From the Moose Legion continued from page 1

With your help, we've collected over \$2,800 for the Mooseheart/Moosehaven Endowment Fund. During a Sunday afternoon in November, I took an informal poll asking how many people knew why we contribute to this fund, and a surprising number of members didn't know. In 1913, the Moose Legion initiated a "Penny Fund" to ensure the financial needs of Mooseheart would be met. This evolved into the Endowment Fund, which remains vital to the operation of Mooseheart and Moosehaven. Your support for the Endowment is more than just a donation—it's an investment that impacts families every day.

For the active members of the Moose Legion, thank you very much for your hard work and dedication in 2024. It is an honor to serve this group as your Assistant Secretary, and I look forward to the great things we'll accomplish together in 2025!

Fraternally, Dan Wheeler
Moose Legion Assistant Secretary

MOOSE LEGION #58

PICNIC

FEBRUARY 16, 2025

12pm - 4pm

Party with American Made

RAFFLES & PRIZES!

Pork Butt, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs,
Salads, Beans, Cole Slaw, Beer!

\$15 per Person

Port Charlotte Lodge 2121
3462 Loveland Blvd. Port Charlotte
942.621.1140

Moose General Meetings	WOTM meets	Moose Legion meets
Thursday, January 9, 2025	Wednesday, January 8, 2025	Wednesday, January 8, 2025
Thursday, January 23, 2025	Wednesday, February 12, 2025	Wednesday, February 12, 2025
7:00 PM	7:00 PM	6:00 PM