



Moose Times

Loyal Order of Moose, Brandon Moose Family Center 1880

Volume 8, Issue 12

December 2008

LODGE AND MEMBERS RECEIVE AWARDS

by Jim Persing

At the last District meeting held at North Hillsborough, the Brandon lodge was presented with several awards. First was the award for meeting our Quota for membership. We were the first in the district to do so. Next was the Moose Charities Protector award for donating between \$2,500-\$4,999 dollars to Moose Charities. We also received The Friendliest Place In Town award. Finally, for those who may have missed it, our lodge also received the Silver Premier Lodge Award

2007-2008.

In addition, to the award earned by the entire Lodge, David

Thrasher received the 2008-2009 Moose of the Year award for our Lodge and Paul Gardner received the 2008-2009 Rookie of the Year award.

Congratulations to our Lodge and to David and Paul, for their work on behalf of the Lodge and the Moose Fraternity.



Your LOOM Officers

Governor:
Jim Persing

Jr. Governor:
Bruce Devlin

Prelate:
Paul Gardner

Jr. Past Governor:
Mike Williams

Treasurer:
Phil Dunn

Administrator:
Chuck Myers

Trustees:
Bill Thorn
David Thrasher
Phil Cashatt

Sgt. At Arms:
Curt Davis

Inner Guard:
Lee Zegler

Outer Guard:
George Chavez

A Double Treat for New Year's Eve

by Lois Myers

Some people prefer to celebrate New Year's Eve in a quiet manner, with a delicious dinner, relaxing music and an early evening in. Others prefer to get together with a group of their friends, dance a little, snack a little and ring in the new year with a rousing chorus of Auld Lang Syne and a glass of champagne. This year, you can do both, in the safe surroundings of the Lodge, as we say goodbye to 2008 and welcome in the new year.

The evening will begin as the Social Quarters closes at 6 PM and the hall opens at the same time. The back bar will be open and a delicious pot roast dinner will be served from 6:00 to 8 PM. The hall will be transformed with small tables and a dance floor, along with party hats and favors to set the mood for the evening.

The soothing sounds of Take Note will begin the evening and soon have the diners ready for more fun as they close the evening around 8:30 and the festivities move to the Social Quarters.

Re-opening at 8 PM, the Social Quarters will be the scene of the growing (continued on page 3)





Governor's Report by Jim Persing

Merry Christmas



The holiday season is upon us! December is here. It's a time of family, friendships, and memories. It's also a time of giving, not only of gifts and money, but more importantly of your time; taking the time to help someone who needs it, without being asked but just because it's the right thing to do. The lodge has several projects going on this month, including the Angel Tree, fixing up the bikes for those who can't afford one, special needs functions and the Toys for Tots Christmas Party. As a fraternal organization, the Moose has always been an organization that reaches out to those in need so I ask all members to think about what this season is about and if you have time, please support our efforts and help bring a little joy to those who could use a little help.

Our lodge has had a busy 6 months since I became your Governor, not only getting the new social quarters open, and hosting major events like the State Dart Tournament, but also cooking and serving many dinners and putting on events that keep our membership growing. All this could not be accomplished without the members who volunteer their time and, in many cases, their

money, to make the events successful and enjoyable for our members. It goes without saying that your Board members have put many hours into making this lodge a place where people enjoy coming to. For every event put on by the lodge there is at least one Board member and, in most cases, several, involved in these activities. This is all volunteer time and is done for the good of the lodge and its members. As this is the season of giving I would ask that when you see one of our workers, take the time to thank them for their efforts. I know it would be well received.

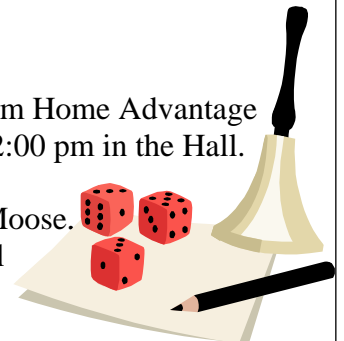
Keep checking on your calendar for all the events at the lodge in December and don't forget New Years! Check flyers for more information. I wish all a happy and healthy Christmas Season. See you at the lodge!

BUNCO!

In order to raise money for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, Team Home Advantage Pet Care will be hosting Bunco for the Women of the Moose on January 18, 2009 at 2:00 pm in the Hall. Donation is \$10 per player and all proceeds will go to Relay for Life.

Interested members are encouraged to invite a female friend, member of the Moose, or not, to join us. We will post sign up sheets in early December so we can get a final count prior to the event.

Please bring a snack to share. There will be prizes for all winners!





Don't Forget.....

Our Sunshine Boy, Brandon, will be home for Christmas vacation, and it is hoped he will be able to spend a few hours at the Lodge.



Meanwhile, our Sunshine Grandparent, Barb Munro, will spend her second Christmas at Moosehaven. Barb would appreciate hearing from Brandon Lodge and Chapter members any time of the year, but especially so at Christmas time. Why not drop a card to her while you are thinking of it?

Ms. Barbara Munro
1701 Park Avenue
Vivian Borum Hall #7
Orange Park, FL 32073-4946

P.S. Barb is the "mail lady" for her house, and often sits on the porch watching for the mailman to come. Imagine how surprised and pleased she will be to find a card addressed to HER in the stack of mail!

A Chance to Help

Bob Pritt, formerly from the Plant City lodge, has a few families from that area who are in need of food, especially at this time of year. Bob has requested food donations for these families.

Anyone who would like to help is encouraged to bring non-perishable food donations to the lodge. Let's help these families have a nice holiday meal!



New Years Double Treat (cont'd from page 1)

anticipation of the new year, as The Smokers take the stage to liven things up. Midway through the evening, a light buffet will be served and at midnight the party goers will gather together to see the new year in.

Tickets are now available at two levels. For \$25.00 per person, you can come early, and stay late, have dinner, relax and then move into the Social Quarters for the remainder of the evening. For those who prefer to only come later, tickets are now available for \$15.00. Take your choice, but whatever you do, don't wait. There are a limited number of tickets available and no reserved seats.

All tickets for the entire evening, including dinner, must be purchase my Monday, December 22. There will be no tickets for the complete package sold at the door. Tickets for Social Quarters only may be purchased in advance for \$15.00.

No matter what your choice, this is sure to be a night to remember as we ring in the New Year!

Congratulations!

By Cheryl Gardner

Congratulations to the entire Brandon Moose for winning the "Friendliest Place in Town" award! Paul and I have always thought that the Brandon lodge was a great place to be, and it's nice to know people outside our lodge think so, too. We have had a number of opportunities to visit other lodges. Within our own district, we've been to Riverview, North Hillsborough, Interbay, and prior to its close, Plant City. Outside our district, we've been to Largo, Ft. Myers, two lodges in Orlando, Jacksonville, and as far away as Greenville, South Carolina. Over Thanksgiving weekend, we plan to visit the lodge in Colonial Heights, Virginia. With only one exception (and I won't name names, except to say that it was not in our district!), we have always been warmly welcomed. Everywhere we go, when we walk into a Moose Lodge, we find ourselves among friends. We were given a grand tour by the Governor in Largo, and by the Junior Governor in one of the Orlando lodges. In the other Orlando lodge, where we spent Thanksgiving evening last year, we were served at the bar by the administrator, who took over after allowing the employees to go home. After I raved about the homemade hushpuppies served with their Fish Fry, the Moose Legionnaires in Greenville brought me a to-go box full of them for later! We always have a great time when we visit other Lodges, and I would encourage everyone to do so whenever you have a chance. I would also encourage you to do your part to make sure that we continue to be the "Friendliest Place in Town." If you see people in our lodge that you don't know, especially if they seem like they don't know anyone else either, talk to them. Bar stewards, if you check someone's card, and you find that he or she is visiting from another lodge, tell an officer or someone else who can make that person feel welcome. "Friendliest Place in Town" is an award we should ALL be proud of, and we should all do what we can to maintain that reputation!

Cheryl



Administrator's Report

By Chuck Myers

It has been really heart warming lately to see the response our Lodge and Chapter members have been giving to our Endowment Fund collections following the 9 O'Clock Ceremonies. These short respites from the evenings' socializing give us a chance to focus on the reason we are all Moose members—to support our children at Mooseheart and our seniors at Moosehaven. I know first hand that it also gives us a chance to tell our visitors and prospective candidates about our cChild City and our Senior Retirement Center. Perhaps we can also, in the future, show our videos about these two beautiful places to more members who have not had the opportunity to see them. They are available on the Moose International website, www.mooseintl.org, as is a stirring testimony from a member of the graduation class at Mooseheart. If you haven't availed yourself of this opportunity, I urge you to take a few minutes some day soon to view them for yourself. You will never again question why we are Moose members or why we take up an Endowment Fund collection.

Speaking of Mooseheart and Moose-

haven, an opportunity to visit Mooseheart this year is being made available by the Opportunity Lodge at Moosehaven. They are sponsoring a bus trip to Mooseheart and to the International Convention. If you are interested, information is available through the Lodge office. What a great trip that will be! Of course, any Moose member in good standing is eligible to attend the International Convention without going on the bus, and you are welcome to visit Mooseheart or Moosehaven at any time. I urge you to do so. Venturing outside of the Lodge will enhance your Moose membership tenfold.

Here on the "home front," things are in full swing. The Social Quarters is doing well, new applications for membership continue to come in, and the calendar is packed full with opportunities for fun, fellowship and service. Isn't it GREAT to be a Moose?

Don't forget to pick up your tickets for our first New Year's Eve celebration combining a relaxing dinner and music in the Hall with a fun-filled celebration in the new Social Quarters. Sounds like history in the making!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

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For \$5.00 per month, you can have your business card size add in the Moose Times. Submit your ad and check, payable to LOOM 1880, to Lois Myers.

Brandon Moose Times
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 Email submissions to moosetimes1880@yahoo.com

December 2008

Brandon Moose Family Center
 804 S. Miller Road
 Valrico, FL 33594
 (813-689-6043
 Fax: 813-643-3076

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1</p> <p>House Comm. 7 PM Board Mtg 7:30 PM</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>Bingo 6:30 PM</p>	<p>3</p> <p>WOTM Chapter Night 7:30 PM</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Dinner 5:30 - 7:30PM Happy Hour w/ Tracie 5:30 - 7:30 PM</p> <p>Orientation 7:30 PM</p>	<p>5</p>  <p>Fish Fry 5 - 8PM</p> <p>Brown Eyed Girls 7-11PM</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Adults Spec N'ds Christmas Party Noon - 3 PM (Spaghetti Dinner Karaoke w/ Dave Thrasher Gifts from Santa)</p> <p>Florida Gators vs. AL @ 4PM</p>
<p>7</p> 	<p>8</p> <p>Degree Dinner Stonewood Grill 6:00 PM</p> <p>LOOM General Mtg. 7:00 PM Moose Legion 8 PM Bucs vs. Panthers 8:30</p>	<p>9</p>  <p>Bingo 6:30 PM</p>	<p>10</p> <p>WOTM Board Mtg 7:00 PM</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Spaghetti 5:30 - 7PM Orientation 7:30 PM Dart Tournament 7:30 PM</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Special Needs Youth Dance 7:00 PM</p>  <p>Mark Coolridge 8-11 PM</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Pot Luck Christmas Party Toys for Tots & PJs for kids Karaoke with Gary Cooper - 7 PM</p>
<p>14</p> <p>District Meeting Interbay @ 1 PM</p>  <p>Bucs vs. Falcons 1:00 PM</p>	<p>15</p> <p>House Comm. 7PM Joint Board 7:30 PM Board Mtg 8 PM</p>	<p>16</p>  <p>Bingo 6:30 PM</p>	<p>17</p> <p>WOTM Business Mtg & Birthday Party 7:30 PM</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Dinner 5:30 - 7PM</p>  <p>J Man Band 6-9 PM</p>	<p>19</p>  <p>Snack Bar 5-8 PM</p> <p>Karaoke with Chuck Ross 7-11 PM</p> 	<p>20</p> <p>Steak Dinner 6 - 8 PM</p> 
<p>21</p>  <p>Bucs vs. Chargers 8:15 PM</p>	<p>22</p> <p>LOOM Orientation 6:00 PM General Meeting 7:00 PM</p>	<p>23</p>  <p>Bingo 6:30 PM</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Christmas Eve Egg Nog Party 2-4 PM</p>  <p>Social Quarters Close at 6 PM</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Christmas Day</p> <p>Lodge opens at 4:00 PM</p> 	<p>26</p>  <p>Snack Bar 5-8 PM</p> <p>Bryan James 8-12 PM</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p>  <p>Bucs vs. Raiders 1:00 PM</p>	<p>29</p> 	<p>30</p>  <p>Bingo 6:30 PM</p>	<p>31</p> <p>New Years Eve</p> 	<p>January 1, 2009</p> <p>Hair of the Dog Party Bring Pot Luck 1 PM in Social Qtrs</p> 		

SEE ALL THE BIG GAMES ON THE GIANT TV SCREEN!

**Thanks to the hard work and generosity of
our Moose Legion, we have a
projection TV and 120 inch diagonal screen
in the Social Quarters**

Thank you, David Thrasher and crew for installing it!

**December 6th—Florida Gators vs. Alabama
for the SEC Championship—4:00 PM**

December 8th—Bucs vs. Panthers—8:30 PM

December 14th—Bucs vs. Falcons—1:00 PM

December 21st—Bucs vs. Chargers—8:15 PM

December 28th—Bucs vs. Raiders—1:00 PM

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW
FOR A *GREAT* SUPER BOWL PARTY!**





Newsletter Boosters

Larry Livingston	01/09	Beverly Roberts	06/09	Bob & Judy McGrew	04/10
Janet Love	01/09	John Garvey	07/09	Charlotte Miller	06/10
Stan Cournoyea	02/09	Chuck West	07/09	Ron Hoedebeck	11/10
Sonja Ellsworth	02/09	Debbie Coleman	08/09	Wm. & Margaret Cavanaugh	12/10
Ron Kornatz	02/09	Tom Ingram	08/09	Patricia Davis	12/10
Vickie Malloy	02/09	Mary Krug	08/09	Paul & Cheryl Gardner	12/10
Chuck & Lois Myers	02/09	Jim and Kay Persing	08/09	George Zimmerman	02/11
Steve & Shirley Sarnowski	03/09	Robert Tucker	08/09	Mildred Holt	04/11
Bob & Judy McGrew	04/09	Fay Vanderwest	08/09	Junia Crosby	05/11
Ann Morgan	04/09	Walt & Dottie Chowaniec	11/09	Jim & Mary Gaida	08/11
Bob & Agnes O'Donnell	04/09	Peter Baker	11/09	Jesse VanHoose	03/12
Murial Bogan Taylor	05/09	Jewel Adams	12/09	Kenny Wilson	05/12
Sandra Cribbs	06/09	Larry Brunson	12/09	Mary Anne Crosby	06/12
Bruce & Dorean Devlin	06/09	Jack LaFromboise	02/10	Jerry Perry	01/21
Earl & Moneida Dunaway	06/09	Barb Meyer	02/10	Dorwin Berrier	10/38
		John & Fran O'Donnell	02/10		

Newsletter Boosters help to defray the costs of printing and mailing the Moose Times. For five dollars per year, you may add your name to this list. Send your check, payable to LOOM to P. O. Box 108, Valrico, FL 33595.

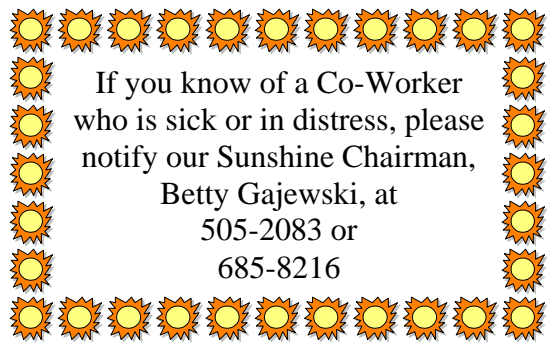
Thank you!

John Garvey, for some delicious chicken and rice!
Dale LaVanway and his wife, who donated the pig, salads and dessert for our pig roast.
Dale LaVanway and John Sewell for cooking the pig!
 To all who have contributed to Gimme Five!
Jim Persing, David Thrasher, Bruce Devlin, Jesse VanHoose and Chuck Myers for cleaning out the trailer.

A sincere "Thank you" to all of you who shared my loss of my mom. I truly have a family at the Moose Lodge.

Sincerely,

Julie Sadler



Moving? Already moved?
 Changed your phone number?
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gimme five!

Have you contributed to Gimme Five yet?
 See Chuck Myers or Dorean Devlin for more information.



Senior Regent's Report

By Claudia Fouts

I hope that everyone had a good Thanksgiving. Our special needs adult function will be held on December 6th, from 12:00 -3:00 pm. We are having a spaghetti dinner, karaoke with Dave Thrasher, and Santa will be there to give out gifts. This is a function that we took over from the Plant City lodge and we are hoping to have as much fun as they did. If all goes well, we hope to continue this event in the future. Thank you, Dave, for the karaoke, and thank you, Santa.

We are still having our dinners on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month from 5:30 - 7:00pm. The cost is only \$4.00 a plate. Where else can you get a complete meal for that price? We are always trying to get new people to commit to a meal. Please step up with your ideas for a dinner. We would really like to have some new meals.

Orientation will be held on December 4th at 7:30. Phyllis is still doing an excellent job and we hope that she will continue doing so for us. Our meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm. We would like to see more co-workers at the meetings. Agnes Smith and Cheryl Gardner, please try to attend our December 3rd

meeting, as we have something to share with you. Welcome to our new co-workers: Jane Wright, Dee Valenzuela, Darla Pogwizd, Kathleen Flanagan, Kathleen Mugnai, Patricia Shearer, Jeanne Nagle, Carmen Strong, Florence Welch, Linda Jones and Jo-Ann Cooper. Thank you, Sponsors.

There is a need of help getting the newsletter folded, stapled and labeled. Hopefully when we are told the date we will have people stepping up to help with that.

Brandon WOTM donated \$500.00 to LOOM for a Wii system and games to be put in the children's room. I know that there are kids waiting for that to happen. We hope we see it soon as the kids seem to be a little bored in there. Hopefully there will be more things to come to make their room more enjoyable.

Last month's answer to the trivia question; 39-21-33. This month's question is: What Lewis Carroll book was banned in China after censors decided, "Animals should not use human language"?

HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Your WOTM Officers

Senior Regent:
Claudia Fouts

Jr. Graduate Regent:
Catherine Persing

Junior Regent:
Sonja Ellsworth

Chaplain:
Lynda Dunn

Secretary/Treasurer
Phyllis Lucas

Recorder
Mary Anne Crosby

Guide:
Angel Way

Assistant Guide:
Marion Gardner

Sentinel:
Julie Sadler

Argus:
Sandra Lane

Moose Legion Report by Paul Gardner

Congratulations to Bruce Devlin! We finally had a drawing winner who was in attendance to claim the prize. A very special "Thank you" to Chris, Syndy and Alexis Bohannon for another very generous donation of stuffed animals. I'll be delivering them to a fire station soon for distribution to traumatized kids.

The Moose Legion is planning to go to a hockey game. Look for a sign up sheet soon. We'll need a head count in order to get a price on group

seating, so let me know if you're interested in joining us.

Moose Legionnaires, we currently have more than 80 Brandon Moose members who are eligible to be Moose Legionnaires. Let's really get to work enrolling new members in the fun part of the Moose!

Finally, Cheryl and I will be visiting family for Christmas, and hope you have the chance to do the same. Our best wishes to you all for a safe and memorable holiday. **Merry Christmas!**



December Birthdays

Rachel Maunsell	1	Donald Burrell, Jr.	9	Hugh Logue	16	Carol Herlehy	24
Joann Roland	1	Randy Phillips	9	Gary Smith	16	Bill Adkins	24
Jean Saber	1	Kathleen Flanagan	10	Marion Gardner	17	Greg Englin	24
Gary Harrison	1	Lee Hoke	10	Joe Corso	17	Jesse Heilman	24
Nancy Nye	2	Joseph Elbrecht, Jr.	10	Brian Gawlik	17	Alex Vargo	24
Kelly Pisciotto	2	Bill Lockmer	10	Jody Crouch	18	Anthony Righi	25
Lisa Woodard	2	Jennifer Griffin	11	Donna Varchetto	18	Brian McElroy	26
Dick Howell	2	Amy Howse	11	Arthur Dutrow	18	James Perry	26
Michael Mayer	2	Dorothy Dunning	12	Kenneth Hartman	18	Lonnie Brown	27
Jerald Morris	2	Terry Hoke	12	Robert Rathbun, Sr.	18	Brett Sadler	27
Corey Knecht	2	Anita LaCagnina	12	Georgette Keith	19	Noreen Lucas	28
Linda Wind	3	Kathy Plott	12	Rick Silverman	19	Terri Pelc	28
Bernard McGuire	3	Gene Belcher	12	MaryAnn Heron	20	Howard Angeloni	28
Terri Backhus	4	Carolyn Bewley	13	Mary Monroe	20	Anthony Curatolo	28
Jo Ann Cook	4	Janet Cabaniss	13	Tracey Monteleone	21	Henry Marks	28
Erik Birkitt	4	Fran O'Donnell	13	Jennifer Nelson	21	John Roland	28
Donna Stefanos	5	Karen Simpson	13	Phillip Dunn	21	Jennifer Dahlbeck	30
Ed Promise	6	Alvin Cunningham	13	Duane Gier, Sr.	21	Cheryl Gardner	30
Terri Sadler	7	Frank Cunnigham	13	Michael McDaniel	22	Marlene Woods	30
Michelle Selby	7	Mary Anne Crosby	14	George Snyder	22	Joe Prine	30
Ricky Griffin	7	Shirley Mason	14	Christy Dalton	23	Betty Cuppett	31
Jim Byrne	8	Cheryl Moffitt	14	Ray Tomlinsom	23		
David Murray, Sr.	8	John Kimmel	14	Clara Dougherty	24		

Who shares your December birthday?

December 1, 1933, Lou Rawls

December 3, 1927, Andy Williams

December 4, 1964, Marisa Tomei

December 5, 1901, Walt Disney

December 8, 1933, Flip Wilson

December 11, 1944, Brenda Lee

December 12, 1915, Frank Sinatra

December 18, 1963, Brad Pitt

December 21, 1935, Phil Donahue

December 22, 1912, Lady Bird Johnson

December 24, 1922, Ava Gardner

December 25, 1899, Humphrey Bogart

December 28, 1954, Denzel Washington

December 30, 1975, Tiger Woods

December 31, 1943, John Denver



Brandon Moose Times

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Valrico, Florida 33594

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