

This News Ought to Create Some Interest....

We started this fiscal year with 59,765 active (paid up) members in the Moose Legion. We dipped just a little at the end of May by 88 members to 59,677. However, less than a week later, because of retention efforts being performed, we were back up and over our starting total on 6-6-11 at 59,769 active members. Not a big gain – but certainly a positive number to build upon!

This is great news – but every month is a dues payment month. So even though we tend to build through out the month - the first of every month has the potential for members to slip into expired status. We must, therefore Create Some Interest and work all year on retaining our base membership to be ahead at year's end.

The Jr. Past President is the Retention Chairman and he and his committee ought to be leading this charge. He needs to assure the Secretary has provided the lists and that they are distributed to the lodge Moose Legion committees to be worked. If there is not an active committee then (besides working with the lodge to establish one) even more importantly is the fact we must have a working Assistant Secretary appointed by the jurisdiction Secretary to carry forth our message and assist at the lodge.

Many times a member just needs some personal contact and a friendly nudge to pay. Sometimes, there is a problem that needs addressed or a hardship that ought to have consideration. In some cases the member may not have paid the lodge dues yet either and we can be doing the lodge a great service by encouragement to pay both Lodge and Moose Legion dues. Remember to promote our member benefit package that can often save a member more than their yearly dues.

The Councils of Higher Degrees have a main responsibility to assist with retention of members. The jurisdiction should work with the Council in this effort and through co-operative teamwork and diligent and meaningful contact with our members; together we could truly build this Order.

Each jurisdiction Vice President should be heading up a committee to Create Some Interest in building membership with local incentive programs as well as to promote the national campaigns. Be sure they are promoted in newsletters and websites (Moose Legion and in your Lodges where possible). Do your best to recognize people in front of other members for their sponsorship efforts.

Yes we are off to a positive start. But it will not just continue to happen on it's own. We must make plans and work those plans all year. Sponsor and enroll two members and getting free dues itself, should be a great starting incentive for all members. It needs promotion and reaching out to our less involved members. Don't just assume they know about the program.

Have you sponsored an applicant yet this year? The Moose Legion will award a distinctive lapel pin for your first accepted application. Then each sponsor receives a free year's dues when your 2nd applicant is reported as enrolled. Yes indeed, that ought to Create Some Interest!

Congratulations to all our Moose Legion / Fellowship members who were elevated to the Pilgrim Degree of Merit at the House of God on Saturday, June 4th. We appreciate your membership and your many contributions to the program and wish you all the very best in the future!

I look forward to seeing many of our Lodge, Chapter and Moose Legion members in Anaheim for the Moose Legion Conference, Women of the Moose Conference and the International Convention. We will have more news to share with you there. In the meantime – please think about how you might be part of the movement to **Create Some Interest** in being part of the Moose program and continue to develop it in positive ways for our members and their families.

Cordially & Fraternaly,

Robert A. Neff - Director of Ritual and Higher Degrees