



Mid-Year Conference
Report Council of Higher Degrees Breakfast Meeting
Atlantis Casino Resort
March 27, 2010

As we just got the information, members were asked to stand in a moment of silence for Marion Friend, Jr Past Grand Regent.

Due to members needing to get to other meetings, we asked that all councils with checks to come forth.

Check March:

Endowment:	\$488.00
Special Projects (Roof)	450.00
Gimme 5:	515.00
Youth Awareness:	250.00
Scholarships:	250.00
Baby Village:	50.00
K. Smith:	150.00
<u>Total Checks:</u>	<u>\$2,153.00</u>

Endowment collected at door: \$135.25

Total funds collected: \$2,388.25

Information from the CHD Buzz:

During the Moose International Convention in Nashville, there will be a panel session on *Operating a Successful Council of Higher Degrees* is scheduled for Monday July 5 at 1:30 pm. Meeting will be outlining the various ways of implementing the five purposes of the Council, which will bring success to your Council and the fraternal units. Early indications are that this convention will be one of our bigger meetings. We hope to see all of you there at the panel session on Monday.

Ideas from Nature Coast Council of Higher Degrees:

Some of the things this council does for their members, the fraternity and others: :

1. Sending a check to Moose Charities upon the death of one of their higher Degree members, earmarked for a special Association Project.
2. If a council member becomes a resident at Moosehaven, they receive birthday and Christmas each year.
3. They collect coupons to send to Overseas Coupon Program for the military bases.
4. They donate school supplies to their Mooseheart Sunshine Child.
5. They pass a GIMMIE 5 jug around at each meeting and draw a council member's name and submit the \$36.50 in that members name to Moose Charities.

Membership retention is our number 1 goal. Each council can make a huge difference in keeping our active members by utilizing this program in your respective fraternal units.

Each council has received the copy of the following:

1. List of "Not In Good Standing" members of the Higher Degrees.
2. Letter basic form letters to use by council members and by lodge for membership retention.
3. General guidelines for using form letters and follow-up.

The list and form letters can be downloaded from the CNMA Web under Council of Higher Degrees. If each council would contact their respective lodge, chapter and legion for mailing labels of dropped members, and get together or work individually to send contact letters, it would be a great effort in getting our members back. Retention is closing the back door.

In the future, we hope the councils will mentor and select great officers. All future officers should have e-mail availability as more and more communication is being done via e-mail.

All councils have now sent in the Moose International Information Fill-In Form. This will be done on an annual basis. If each council would please save a copy and send to CNMA Council Higher Degrees Coordinator, the information can also be placed in the councils file. All councils are reminded to submit their 990N by September date.

All councils need to make sure that Officer information form is submitted to Association Secretary and Council Coordinator as required in a timely manner.

All council should submit after all meetings the requested reports, minutes, etc to the Council Coordinator. This information is used to select the Top Council of the Year.

If your council has a newsletter and your membership application, please send to me via e-mail. This information will be sent to Moose International for sharing in the CHD Buzz with all councils.

Our Official Visitor's Darrell O'Brien, Director of Lodge Operations and Sandy Thompson, Grand Council Member and Moose Charities Board Member assisted in the presentation of the "Top Council of Excellence Award"

This year there were several councils in the running. This year's selection came down to all requested information sent to Council Coordinator. One missed form cost one council from a tie.

Introduction of New Ass't Council Coordinator (N) Gloria Faletti of Hayward/Castro Valley Chapter.

Golden Poppy Council of Higher Degrees proud recipient of "TOP COUNCIL OF EXCELLENCE" 2009.

Meeting was closed by remarks for our Official visitor Darrell O'Brien, Director of Lodge Operations. Endowment fund collection at door.

DV Gregory
Council Coordinator