



# California – Nevada GOLD MINER News & Highlights

February – March 2026

**California Nevada Moose Association  
2026 Mid-Year Conference  
Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa  
March 20-22, 2026**



**California Nevada  
Moose Association  
PO Box 207  
Port Hueneme, CA 93044-0207**



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**CNMA website  
[www.ca-nvmoose.org](http://www.ca-nvmoose.org)**

**Moose International website  
[www.mooseintl.org](http://www.mooseintl.org)**

**Moose Member Benefits  
[www.mooseintl.org/public/Benefits.asp](http://www.mooseintl.org/public/Benefits.asp)**

**Editor: Linda Huber – [linda.huber2405@gmail.com](mailto:linda.huber2405@gmail.com)**

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Please view, print, or share with others. Available on the CNMA website at:  
<https://www.ca-nvmoose.org/publications/>**





## PRESIDENT MESSAGE

Greetings to all,

As we enter our new calendar year, all of us have a lot to look forward to. Our Uniting Hearts; Expanding Horizons project gives us a unique opportunity to think outside the box and impose our creativity. The energy, the faith, the devotion which we bring to this endeavor will light our California Nevada Moose Association (CNMA) and all who are a part of it...and the glow from that light can absolutely light the whole Moose Fraternity.

About halfway through February, the Lunar New Year launches with festivities and this year we will be in The Year of the Horse. The Year of the Horse brings to us enthusiasm, speed and fieriness, "bringing a year focused on bold moves and exploration." Since it's widely known of my affection for horses and the west, I take this as a further sign that together we will meet our challenges and goals by sharing this energy and fire so that our CNMA will grow even stronger.

Taking inspiration from our Jr Past Prexy, Dina, we will be continuing to bring the Chapters, the Moose Legions, and the Councils of Higher Degrees to the forefront of our Mid-Year Conference and Annual Convention so that in effect we will forever cement the advancement in the Moose Fraternity and demonstrate the **FUN** and achievement that these represent.

Having completed our two Seminars, I can't say enough about our District Operational Officers and especially our enthusiastic and creative Committee Chairs. As you will see at the upcoming Mid-Year Conference, we will have a unique blend of fraternalism and entertainment for our attendees.

Speaking of which, I challenge you all to encourage and bring a **"FIRST TIME ATTENDEE"** to our Mid-Year Conference...**AND** our Annual Convention. We salute them every year as part of our Session program, so let's take advantage of this and bring new friends, old friends, as well as our Lodge, Chapter, and District officers. Seeing this year through in our goals and objectives will serve to measure our energies and skills all because as Moose Members we have accepted these challenges and **WE WILL STAY THE RIDE!**

**Bill Jackson**  
**CNMA President**  
**(760) 269-5573**  
[president@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:president@ca-nvmoose.org)





MOOSEHEART

# UNITING HEARTS: EXPANDING HORIZONS

PRESIDENT'S  
PROJECT

THREE FULLY RENOVATED  
MOOSEHEART HOMES  
THREE BRAND NEW  
PURPOSE BUILT HOMES

**EARMARKED  
CNMA MHT PROJECT 25-28**

STATE OF THE ART FRESH  
WATER TREATMENT PLANT  
CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE  
UPGRADES

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO  
MOOSE CHARITIES**

RENOVATION OF 10 FAMILY  
TEACHER HOMES  
REVITALIZATION OF TRACK  
AND DISCUS CAGE

A NEW CNMA BUILDING A NEW CNMA BUILDING A NEW CNMA BUILDING A NEW CNMA BUILDING A NEW CNMA BUILDING





### VICE PRESIDENT MESSAGE

Thank you to all the District Presidents and Secretaries who attended both Seminars in Buena Park and Pismo Beach. It was a pleasure meeting you in person and having time to discuss ideas and concerns.

Sharing is caring and one thing that really sticks out to me is that Districts are a time to share ideas amongst the Lodges, Chapters, & Moose Legions. Some Districts have all their meetings in one day: Moose Legion, Council of Higher Degrees, District Board of Officers, with a break for lunch then the District Social meeting to follow. It makes for a production and fun day with your Moose family,

An incentive to attract more Members to the District Social could be to have a Door Prize drawing for a free lunch at the next social. Each Member is given a ticket when they enter the meeting and at **THE END** of the meeting draw two winning tickets. This encourages them to come to the meeting, stay through the meeting in hopes of winning!

Let's talk about your District Elected Board of Officers . . . They each have a responsibility to ensure information is brought to you whether it's from Moose International or the California Nevada Moose Association, they also have an obligation to mentor, educate, and encourage the upcoming Officers so the process of recycling can ebb away. I am a firm believer in people and their ability to perform at a higher level, and I can honestly say from my heart, that every Member I have encountered has that potential to lead their Lodge, Chapter, Moose Legion, and District. If I can do it, you can too!

Is it too early to talk about District Nominations? No, based on what I have written above, now is the time to look toward the future of your District and start talking to the Members of different Lodges to generate interest for the future success of your District.

I know I have mentioned this previously; but are you having **FUN** at Socials? Have you tried **THEMES** such as favorite sports, NFL, MLB, NASCAR, Disney, etc. . . If you have ideas for increasing **FUN** at the Socials, please do not be shy and bring your ideas up at the meeting.

In closing, I again would like to thank the District Officers for stepping up and assuming the responsibility of leading their District. District Secretaries, please continue to submit your reports timely and accurately, District Presidents I would like to see more Visitation Reports submitted as well.

Peace be with you all and remember: ***There are a lot of good Moose Members out there; if you can't find one; be One***

Fraternal Regards,  
**Robert Leon**  
CNMA Vice President  
(408) 772-3584  
[vicepresident@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:vicepresident@ca-nvmoose.org)





## CHAPLAIN MESSAGE

As Chaplain of the California Nevada Moose Association (CNMA), I extend my heartfelt greetings to all brothers and sisters across our two states. Our mission focuses on nurturing our fraternity, honoring our seniors, and supporting Mooseheart and Moosehaven, guided by the principles of faith, charity, and brotherly love.

### Strengthening Our Bonds

In a world that often feels divided, The Moose stands as a beacon of unity and compassion. As your Chaplain, I am honored to witness the dedication shown by our members across California and Nevada. Whether it is volunteering for a community dinner, assisting with Lodge repairs, or raising funds for Mooseheart and Moosehaven, each action exemplifies our commitment to the "higher calling" of our Order.

As we move forward, let us remember the importance of supporting one another. The role of the Chaplain isn't just about offering prayers at meetings; it is about extending a hand to a fellow member in need, offering a comforting word during difficult times, and fostering a welcoming, inclusive atmosphere in our Lodges.

Let us remain diligent and mindful of our commitment to our families, our seniors, and children in need. I encourage every member to continue embodying The Moose core values of kindness, generosity, and service to others.

*"Almighty God, Creator of the universe and Father of all mankind, we give You thanks for our fraternal brotherhood and the great precepts it embodies. Keep us diligent and mindful of our commitments to You, our children, our senior members, our families and our communities."*

Please reach out if you or a fellow member is in need or if a member has passed away. Let us honor the lives of our departed brothers and sisters, keeping their families in our thoughts and prayers.

**I look forward to seeing you all in Costa Mesa!**

Fraternally,  
**Earl Munday**  
CNMA Chaplain  
(510) 676-0428

[chaplain@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:chaplain@ca-nvmoose.org)





## TREASURER MESSAGE

Here's hoping that everyone had a joyous Christmas and a happy start to the New Year of 2026. How time flies!

I have decided to dedicate this article to the history of a Treasurer in non-profit organizations which began in the 18th & 19th Centuries. As charitable organizations became more structured especially in Europe and the United States, the Treasurer position became formalized.

The rise of Charitable trusts, benevolent societies, and community associations required written bylaws.

Treasurers were elected officers responsible for:

- Recording donations
- Managing membership dues
- Paying expenses
- Reporting to the board or membership

In the late 1800s, many nonprofits adopted governance models similar to today's, with Treasurer as a key officer. This explosion of nonprofit activity in the 20th century, especially after World War II, transformed the Treasurer's responsibilities. Key developments were:

- **Tax-exempt status laws** (e.g., U.S. IRS 501(c) (3) rules required formal financial reporting)
- **Grant funding** introduced stricter accounting and auditing standards
- **Board governance models** emphasized fiduciary duty and oversight

The core identity hasn't changed despite centuries of evolution; one thing remains constant: **The Treasurer is the guardian of the Organization's financial integrity.**

- Ancient religious institutions (temples, monasteries) appointed individuals to safeguard donations and offerings
- Medieval guilds and mutual aid societies had officers responsible for dues, charitable funds, and emergency relief

These early Treasurers weren't accountants – they were **guardians of communal trust**. This laid the foundation for the Treasurer as a role tied to integrity, transparency, and accountability.

As you can see, the Treasurer's position is an important one that not only protects the financial accountability of the organization, but must have the **integrity, transparency and accountability** of all funds granted responsibility for.

Please remember our upcoming Mid-Year Conference in March 2026, and held in Costa Mesa, CA. See you there!

Fraternally,  
**Bob Criss**  
CNMA Treasurer  
(530) 713-4545  
[treasurer@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:treasurer@ca-nvmoose.org)





## **JR PAST PRESIDENT MESSAGE**

Over my 29 years of membership, I have witnessed many things. I have held many positions and have also been a bystander. However, what I have learned over that time is that transparency and teamwork are key. What is also even more important is honesty. We are not always going to be friends with everyone we meet but we should always be respectful. It never pays to talk about others because people will almost always tell the other person. Unfortunately, that is how people work. To avoid this, it is always important to take the high road to be respectful, transparent and a team player and remember why we are here, for the children at Mooseheart, the seniors at Moosehaven and our communities. Have I had bad days? Yes of course, but I have learned to stay home on those days. I do not need to bring my bad energy down to the Moose where we are supposed to have **FUN** and do good. It is okay to have a day off.

Fraternal organizations, whether service-based, community-oriented, or tradition-focused – depend on trust, shared purpose, and cooperative effort. Two pillars keep these organizations healthy and effective: **transparency** and **collaborative teamwork**.

Transparency means that leadership and members openly share information, decisions, and rationale. In a fraternal setting, this strengthens unity and prevents misunderstandings.

### **Benefits of Transparency**

- **Builds trust:** When members understand how decisions are made, they are more likely to feel valued and included
- **Reduces conflict:** Open communication prevents rumors or misinformation from taking hold.
- **Encourages accountability:** Leaders and committees remain responsible for actions and choices
- **Supports engagement:** Members are more motivated when they see the bigger picture and know how their contributions matter

### **Examples of Transparency**

- Sharing meeting minutes and financial reports
- Clearly communicating organizational goals
- Providing updates on charity projects or community initiatives
- Inviting open discussion before major decisions

### **Working Together: Cooperation and Fraternalism**

Fraternal organizations thrive on the idea that members support one another and work toward common good.

### **Elements of Effective Teamwork**

- **Shared purpose:** A common mission or set of values that unites members
- **Respect and equality:** Each member's voice matters, regardless of position or tenure
- **Clear roles:** Everyone understands their responsibilities within committees or projects
- **Mutual support:** Members help each other personally and organizationally

### **Ways Collaboration Shows in a Fraternal Setting**

- Joint planning of events or community outreach
- Committees that distribute the workload
- Mentorship between seasoned members and new initiates
- Conflict resolution through respectful dialogue

### **The Connection Between Transparency and Collaboration**

Transparency supports teamwork; teamwork reinforces transparency. When members understand what is happening and why, they are more willing to contribute their time, skills, and ideas.

### **Together, these qualities create:**

- Stronger relationships
- Higher participation
- More successful projects
- A healthier organizational culture
- A legacy that attracts and retains members



**Dina Munday**  
**CNMA Junior Past President**  
**(510) 701-9745**  
[irpastpresident@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:irpastpresident@ca-nvmoose.org)

## **Fraternal Recognition Program**

Members who attended the 2025 International Moose Convention in Milwaukee this past May heart Moose International CEO Scott Hart announce a new Fraternal Recognition Program that is “open to every member – whether you just joined or have had your College of Regents Degree or Pilgrim Degree for 10 year, we all are starting at square one.”

There are four levels within the program – Preferred, Power, Prestige and Platinum. An overview of the entire program can be found on the [Moose International website](#) (just click the words). The overview of the entire program includes all four levels, but every member must achieve the first level in order to advance to others.

Instructions on how to log your volunteer hours can be found [here](#) (just click the word here). You must have access to your membership record in order to log your hours. If you need assistance call your Territory Manager or the Moose International Help Desk at (630) 906-3658.

What level will you achieve? It's up to you!





## SECRETARY MESSAGE

How can it be February already and time for another California Nevada Moose Association (CNMA) dues billing on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February? Just a friendly reminder that invoices are now due in 15 days which means that they should be paid before March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Just in time to be in good standing for our upcoming Mid-Year Conference scheduled March 20 to March 22, 2026.

As of the issuance of this newsletter we have three lodges who are not in good standing which is disappointing. To the remaining lodges in our Association thank you for your cooperation and compliance it is very much appreciated by the Compliance Review Committee. Not having to impose the sanctions identified in our CNMA Policy Manual is always what we hope for.

Plans are progressing nicely for our upcoming Mid-Year Conference and we are excited to show off the rooms for our planned events at the Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa. We are moving almost all the functions to what is known as the **B-2 Level** which many of you may not even be aware is two levels below where we used to meet. Access to this area is through the elevators or the escalators that are to the left as you exit the elevators on the Lobby Level just down the hall. This level is also accessible from the parking garage or from the front of the hotel Convention entrance located to the right as you exit the Lobby.

We will all be together in one room with the District Presidents, Committee tables and displays, registration and credentials team, and the Moose Legion/Chapter/Council of Higher Degrees fun area.

The majority of the meal functions will be across the hall in Emerald Bay. Training will be in Balboa Bay on Thursday for the WOTM and on Sunday we plan offer Lodge Leadership and the Moose Legion Educational Conference training.

The Casino Fun Night will remain in the Catalina Ballroom on the Lobby Level on Saturday night. The theme will be Sports so wear your favorite sports team gear and gamble the night away. Chips are included in your initial entrance fee as well as wonderful snack items like sliders, chicken tenders, and other enjoyable finger foods. Of course there will be plenty of beverage options including your favorite libations. And the prizes....so many prizes which means so many winners. If by chance you run out of chips you can purchase more with all the funds collected being donated to Moose Charities, specifically the **President's Project** which is **Uniting Heart; Expanding Horizons**.

You won't want to miss out on all the fun! All you need to know can be found on the CMMA Website, [Conventions page](#)! So get your hotel reservations and online registration booked ASAP so you don't miss out on all the fun! Director of Membership Frank Vorhees and Moose Charities Development and Donor Database Administrator Emily Leary are anxious to meet you there!

Cheryl D Volden  
CNMA Secretary  
(805) 205-3278  
[secretary@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:secretary@ca-nvmoose.org)



Mid-Year Conference  
March 20 to 22, 2026  
Hilton Hotel





## LIAISON MESSAGE

**My Fellow Brothers and Sisters,**

Welcome to February!

It's hard to believe we are already entering the final three months of the 2025–2026 Moose Year. As this year winds down, preparations for the next one begin – nominations are now officially open for Lodge Officer positions.

I encourage all who are interested in serving to step forward and take part in shaping our future.

### Mid-Year Conference Presentations

We have an excellent lineup of presenters for our upcoming Mid-Year Conference:

- **Orientations** – Territory Manager *John Damasio*
- **Lodge–Chapter–Moose Legion** – Territory Manager *Terry Gough*
- **Financial Review Committee** – Financial Review Specialist *John Crewdson*

A heartfelt thank-you goes out to the Pismo Beach Lodge #1409 and its staff for their outstanding service to the California Nevada Moose Association Executive Board and for hosting last week's seminar in the North. I also want to thank the District Presidents, Secretaries, and Committee Chairs who attended.

### Moose International Convention

The **2026 International Moose Convention** will be held in **Oklahoma City, OK**, from **June 30 – July 3, 2026**.

- Registration & housing opened on **December 8, 2025**
- Pre-registration closes on **May 29, 2026 (midnight)**
- After that, registration will be on-site only.

The [preliminary schedule](#) (click the words) is on the [2026 International Convention](#) page. Please register and secure your housing early – rooms fill quickly. Attendance is required for the **Premier Lodge Award** for the 2026 - 2027 Moose Year, and I hope to see many of you there.

### Moose Membership App Update

As announced in the January 14, 2026, Official Communications, the Moose Membership App now allows members to **record and submit Lodge volunteer hours directly through the app**. This is a fantastic enhancement that will make reporting easier and more accurate.

### Sponsor Incentive Program

To support our goal of achieving a **fifth consecutive year of membership growth**, the Moose International Board of Directors has launched a new short-term Sponsor Incentive.

**From November 1, 2025, through April 30, 2026**, every time you sponsor your **fifth** new or re-enrolled member, you will receive a **one-time-use code** redeemable for:

- One year of your own Lodge dues
- One year of Lodge dues for another member
- Payment of a new or re-enrolled applicant's dues **plus** the \$20 application fee (when using the Online Lodge Membership Application)

There is **no limit** to the number of codes you can earn. Codes must be redeemed by **June 30, 2026**.

If you misplace your email with the code, contact the Helpdesk at **(630) 906-3658**.  
This incentive also applies to the **Moose Legion** and **Women of the Moose**.

### Goals for the 2025–2026 Moose Year

*Status as of January 17, 2026*

- **Membership Goal:** Net gain of +1 (Target: 56,985) *Current: 57,755 (+770 above goal)*
- **Retention Rate Goal:** 80%+ *Current: 79.07%*
- **Moose Charities Goal:** \$475,000 *Current: \$339,249*
- **New Applications Goal:** 10,989 *Current: 8,869*

With continued focus on sponsorship, retention, and charitable giving, I am confident we will not only meet these goals – but exceed them.

### Moving Forward

Let's continue to:

- **Move Forward and Give Back**
- **Embrace Our Community**
- **Make It Happen**

We are blessed with a **Proud Past** and a **Bright Future**.

### In Closing

I look forward to seeing many of you at our **Mid-Year Conference**.

If you have questions or need assistance, please reach out to your Territory Manager. We are here to provide the help you **need**, not just the help you **want**.

**God Bless Mooseheart**  
**God Bless Moosehaven**

**And God Bless each and  
every one of you**

Fraternally,  
**Kenneth Copp**  
**Territory 47 Manager / CNMA Liaison**  
**(224) 730-9927**  
[kcopp@mooseintl.org](mailto:kcopp@mooseintl.org)



Join us in Oklahoma City from **June 30th – July 3rd, 2026** for the  
**138th International Moose Convention!**

Named one of the Best Places to Visit by *Southern Living* magazine, Oklahoma City, also known as OKC, offers all of the culture, cuisine, attractions and amenities you'd expect in a modern metropolis. And with its rugged Western past, working stockyards and title as "Horse Show Capital of the World," it's rich in cowboy culture, as well.

Merely blocks away from the convention center, Industrial-chic Bricktown is a lively entertainment district, with repurposed warehouse spaces home to restaurants, piano lounges and chic wine bars. Yet despite its vibrant nightlife, you cannot visit OKC without paying your respects at the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum, which honors the victims, survivors and rescuers of the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. From family fun to historic sites to outdoor adventures, you won't find anywhere else, Oklahoma City has plenty of hustle without all the hassle.

Registration and housing now open!



# MOOSE MOVING FORWARD, GIVING BACK

**May 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026**

Our Fraternity has made a commitment to being ever present in our communities. By continuing our positive momentum, we make our meaningful contributions a reality. To move forward, we must make a positive impact on our society, by giving back.

## Sponsor 1 Member

**MOVING FORWARD, GIVING BACK** lapel pins are presented by your Lodge, Chapter or Moose Legion to individuals that sponsor their first member during the campaign.



Lodge pin



Moose Legion  
& WOTM pin

## Sponsor 5 Members

Funds will be used toward the purchase of a backup generator for Moosehaven's computer server room. This is important for keeping their offices running in case of power failure, protecting the residents' electronic records. Contributions are courtesy of your Association, the Women of the Moose, and the Moose Legion.



**Sponsor 25 Members** Members attaining Sponsors of Distinction status by sponsoring 25 members during the **MOVING FORWARD, GIVING BACK** membership drive will receive free basic registration for our 2026 International Moose Convention in Oklahoma City, OK. Additional information can be found on [www.mooseintl.org](http://www.mooseintl.org).



Earn Rewards simply for doing things that strengthen The Moose. Now is a great time to sponsor a member; serve in office; renew your dues or complete training. Each activity generates points automatically that you can use to pay dues, contribute to Mooseheart/Moosehaven, or redeem for Moose gift store purchases. Check your Moose Rewards points total today at [www.mooseintl.org](http://www.mooseintl.org) to see how many you have earned! Also, look for special promotions throughout the year for your chance to earn greater rewards.

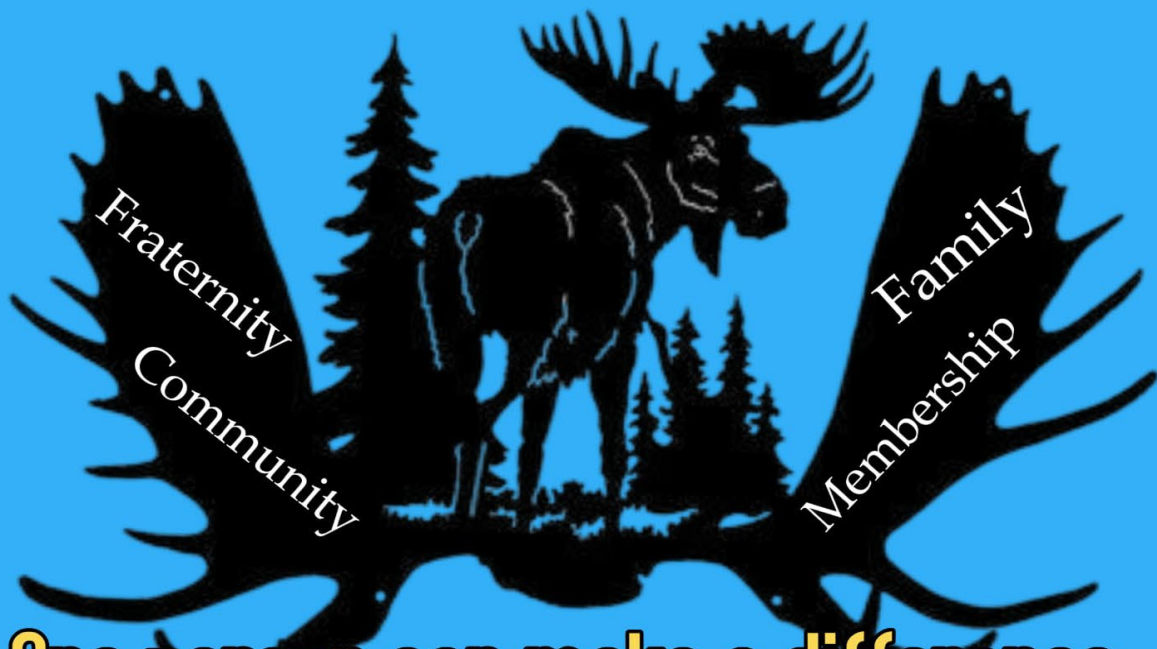




# RISE

May 1, 2025 -  
April 30, 2026

## BY LIFTING OTHERS UP



**One person can make a difference,  
everyone should try**

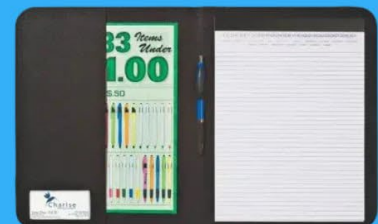
Sign up 3 members!  
Playing Cards



Sign up 5 members!  
Ear Buds



Sign up 10 members!  
Padfolio





## NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Great work everyone with Informing our new members with **New Member Orientations** and following up with your past due members.

We have distributed a zip drive to all District Presidents with the **NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION** on it. Please use this tool during your District meetings and perhaps give each Lodge a zip drive to use at the Lodge.

Remember you can access the video by clicking link above or video is on the [California Nevada Moose Association \(CNMA\) website](#). Remember after hosting a **New Member Orientation** be sure to enter the attendees into the system, so the attendee and Lodge will get credit. Also don't forget to record our Volunteer hours for assisting with the Orientation.

When you make calls to the members in arrears (expired or dropped) invite them to a free dinner or offer another incentive for attending an event. Mentioning that they aren't allowed to attend without being current in their dues may be an incentive for them to become current. At the same time invite the new members to the same event. Explain it as a welcoming event in their honor as a new member. Tell them about The Moose, show them one of the amazing videos on YouTube and answer any questions they may have. If dinner is not an option perhaps a voucher for a free meal. Provide a little gift for attending (i.e., Pen, Koozie, key chain). The Moose store can help with some older campaign items at a discounted price. Send them home with something from The Moose.

Make your event **FUN**, send everyone home with a positive impression of The Moose and your Lodge.

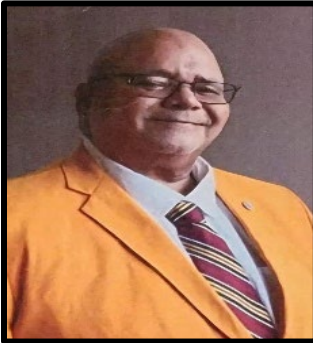
"A person's greatest treasure is their attitude."

**Ed Stone**  
**CNMA New Member Orientation Chair**  
**(951) 428-9590**  
[orientation@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:orientation@ca-nvmoose.org)



Simply ask, "How would you like to join the finest non-profit organization around? You are a dear friend, and I would like to take you to our local lodge and where you can see why I have love for our fraternity. The cost is minimal, and you would not believe the benefits you are eligible for, simply by joining." Who wouldn't want to accept your offer?

Sponsoring is also guiding that new member and encouraging them to become active in your local lodge. Once they become familiar with the lodge, take the time to explain what their membership means to the rest of the fraternity. Further expand on Mooseheart, Moosehaven and Community Service. They will not believe what the fraternity does for those in need. Don't hesitate – sponsor them today! Print/Download our [Sponsor Guide](#) for tips on talking to potential members.



## FINANCIAL REVIEW

The **Financial Review** Committee's primary function is to perform a review of all District and Council of Higher Degrees (**CHD**) financial records at the Mid-Year Conference and Annual Convention.

District Secretaries (and/or Presidents) as well as Council of Higher Degrees Secretary/Treasurers (and/or Presidents) are responsible for ensuring their books are presented to the committee for inspection.

As we get ready for Mid-Year in Costa Mesa, please be prepared by ensuring that you bring the following:

- Printouts of all your District Distribution of Funds Reports (September 2025 - present)
- Printouts of all your Board of Officers meeting minutes (September 2025 - present)
- Printouts of all your Social meeting minutes (September 2025 - present)
- Receipt book
- Check book
- All bank statements (September 2025 – present)
- All deposit slips



All these items should be in the Financial Review room known as **Seal Beach** on the B-2 Level, **no later than 10:00 am on Friday, March 20th.**

Also, please update the audit spreadsheet and upload all required documents into Cognito.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me.

Faternally,

**Hiram Cooke**  
**CNMA Financial Review Chair**  
**(831) 277-4294**  
[finreview@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:finreview@ca-nvmoose.org)



**Council Higher Degrees Chair – Frankie Wysocki****COUNCIL HIGHER DEGREES**

Happy New Year! Congratulations on working retention as our rate is at 79% just a short 1% from our goal of 80%! Everyone working together as a TEAM does make a difference!

Why not call a **Council of Higher Degrees** and ask for help calling your expired members? There are four **Councils of Higher Degrees** in the California Nevada Moose Association now to help with Retention. The **Angeles Desert Council of Higher Degrees**, **CA North State Council of Higher Degrees**, **Gold Coast Council of Higher Degrees** and the **Surf & Sand Council of Higher Degrees**.

The **Council Higher Degrees Breakfast** will be on Friday March 20th 7:30 am. It is open to all members of the higher degrees and their guests.

**Frankie Wysocki**  
**CNMA Council Higher Degrees Chair**  
(661) 747-4345  
[councilhd@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:councilhd@ca-nvmoose.org)

**Membership Committee Chair – Paul Blaisdell****MEMBERSHIP**

Hello Moose Brothers and Sisters,

We have entered into the year 2026 and I for one am looking forward to what the year will bring. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Mid-Year Conference in Costa Mesa, March 20-22. Make sure and swing by the **Membership Booth** to get information regarding **Membership**.

Latest reports are showing all territories doing well with **Membership**. Keep up the fantastic work! Remember the Moose International **Membership Campaign – MOOSE Moving Forward, Giving Back** and the California Nevada Moose Association **Membership Campaign – ‘RISE By Lifting Others Up’**

Lodges and Districts can also have other **Membership Campaigns**. What is your Lodge or District doing?

Fraternally,  
**Paul Blaisdell**  
**CNMA Membership Chair**  
(310) 433-9349  
[membership@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:membership@ca-nvmoose.org)





## MOOSEHEART HAPPENINGS

Hello and a happy 2026 to everyone. I hope you all enjoyed a happy and healthy holiday season.

The students have all returned to **Mooseheart** after getting to spend Christmas at home with their families and friends. Thankfully, they had their **Mooseheart** Christmas to look forward to upon their return. This year, as usual, the Chapters, Lodges and Sunshine Child program came through with personal and special gifts for everyone. It was a wonderful celebration bringing smiles and laughter back to **Mooseheart** to start the winter season.

The new semester started on January 6<sup>th</sup> and fortunately, so far, the weather has been good. Despite the severe weather conditions in much of the Northeast and the US, **Mooseheart** has not experienced any snow. It has been cold but clear and crisp.

The student population at **Mooseheart** continues to grow. Three new students will be admitted in the next several weeks. This would not be possible without the continuing growth of the staff and family teachers. The current staff is looking forward to the training completion of new Family Teachers and the assignments of the new staff members.

February will bring Valentine's celebrations and Switch Day. On Switch Day seniors will trade places for a day with their favorite teachers and administrators. Plans for graduation are ramping up along with campus plans to host all the member visitors who will visit the campus in May during Graduation weekend.

The Barnes and Noble Book Fair will be held in March this year. During the month of March, you can purchase books online through the Barnes and Noble website. When you make a purchase a donation is made to the **Mooseheart** library. I will be sending out more information on how to do this next month through an email blast. In the meantime, do you need a Valentine's gift for your Sunshine Child? Consider a Barnes and Noble gift certificate. With that purchase you will be helping a student and the school library, a double blessing!

I am looking forward to seeing you all in Costa Mesa in March. I will have my mystery gift bags for donating to support the President's Project - Uniting Hearts; Expanding Horizons. Don't miss out!!

**Julie Nelson**  
**CNMA Mooseheart Chair**  
**(714) 267-5772**  
[mooseheart@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:mooseheart@ca-nvmoose.org)

Carlee Harwell



And her  
sister  
Veronic  
a Bynum



UNITING HEARTS; EXPANDING  
HORIZONS !

# MOOSEHEART'S 2025 - 2028, \$12,000,000 FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

▶ **Three fully renovated  
Mooseheart homes**

Redesigned to serve children and adults  
with intellectual or developmental  
disabilities.

▶ **Critical infrastructure upgrades**

Including new paving, curbs, sidewalks,  
and modernized water lines across key  
areas of our campus.

▶ **A state-of-the-art Fresh Water  
Treatment Plant**

Ensuring safety and sustainability for  
the entire Mooseheart community.

▶ **Three brand-new, purpose-built  
homes**

Community Integrated Living  
Arrangements that offer independence  
with dignity.

▶ **A revitalized track and discus  
cage**

Because every child deserves a  
place to run, compete, and dream.

▶ **Renovation of ten Family  
Teacher Quarters of homes**

The heart of our caregiving  
model.

📞 **Contact Us:**  
(630) 966-2200

or

<https://www.moosecharities.org>

Moose  Charities 



## MOOSEHAVEN

2025 Wrap-Up on the Moosehaven Chili Cookoff contest. After completing our winner, Shirley Scott, completed her visit there was a leftover balance of \$6,742.72 which was donated as follows:

### From the Moosehaven Wish List:

Nightstand bedside lamps - balance remaining to complete the project - \$636.60

- Quilting supplies - balance remaining to start this new activity - \$1,900
- Remainder to the California Nevada Moose Association President's Project - \$4,206.12

### As 2026 Begins Here Are Some Statistics:

- We currently have 112 men and 210 women living at Moosehaven
- Our oldest resident is Glenna McClain who is 103.9 years young! She has lived at Moosehaven for over 20 years
- We currently have 50 married couples living at Moosehaven
- Our longest married couple is Albert & Marlys Shallbetter who have celebrated 71.3 years together!
- The resident who has lived at Moosehaven the longest is James Thomas, who has been with us for 27.64 years!

### Some Upcoming Moosehaven Events:

- Golf Invitational March 2, 2026
- Easter Sunrise Service April 5, 2026
- American Pride Celebration July 4, 2026

Fraternally,

**Charles Barber**  
**CNMA Moosehaven Chair**  
**(650) 279-5310**  
[moosehaven@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:moosehaven@ca-nvmoose.org)



### AAA Project December Update



### Easter Sunrise Service

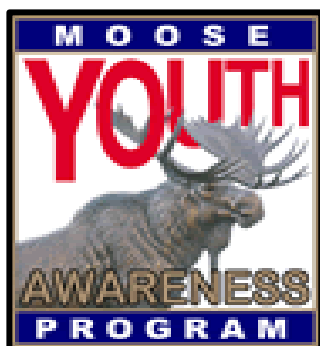
Sunday, April 20, 2025  
7:00 am

Join us on the banks of the St John's River for a sunrise worship service. Bring your chair and settle in for a spectacular sunrise message.

The service will start at 7:00 am. We suggest you arrive by 6:30 am to give you time to park the car and make your way to the pavilion.

Welcome!





## YOUTH AWARENESS

Happy 2026,

Our committee doesn't have a lot to report at the moment. The high school students have completed their **Kids Talk** Reports. I have complied all of them and they will be sent to the Honor Students for judging. We should have the results in a few weeks.

The students had some great reports this year. Some of the topics this year were: The Importance of Learning to Swim and Swimming Safety, Domestic Violence, Mental Health, Finding Your Passion for Future Success, Positive Mindset, Substance Abuse, Brain Power, Failure and the Importance of Trying Again.

Just a reminder that the high school students come up with their own topic. They decide how they want to present it to the younger students. The response from the younger students is very impressive!

Though the high school students giving their **Kids Talks**, they reached a total of 537 students between the ages of 4-12. That's how high school students are making a difference!!

We will post the finalists as soon as we are notified and have reached out to all of the students that participated.

Thank you for supporting our Youth Awareness Program, but mostly for supporting our students!!!

Serving from the Heart,

**Bridget Robinson**  
**CNMA Youth Awareness Chair**  
**(714) 394-4910**  
[Bridge2moose@aol.com](mailto:Bridge2moose@aol.com)

### **CNMA Youth Awareness Team:**

Bridget Robinson - CNMA Chair and Coordinator (South)  
 Fred Reichelt - Coordinator (North) - [overseers@comcast.net](mailto:overseers@comcast.net)  
 Lynn McDonald - Coordinator (North) - [memoosesteam@sbcglobal.net](mailto:memoosesteam@sbcglobal.net)  
 Kathy Childs - Coordinator (North) - [kathychilds@prodigy.net](mailto:kathychilds@prodigy.net)

### *How Would You Like To.....*

- 👉 Earn A \$12,000 College Scholarship?
- 👉 Make A Difference In Your Local Community?
- 👉 Help Young Children Make Positive Choices?
- 👉 Develop Leadership Skills?
- 👉 Gain Experience For Your Resume?
- 👉 Travel With Other High School Students From Across North America & Learn About Other Cultures?

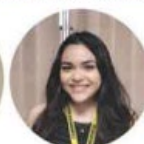
### 2025 International Youth Awareness Congress Winners



**1st Place**  
 Victor Torres  
 (California)  
 \$12,000.00



**2nd Place**  
 Zane Darracq  
 (Arkansas)  
 \$8,000.00



**3rd Place**  
 Bridget Luna Granillo  
 (California)  
 \$6,000.00



**4th Place**  
 Anahi Ugolde  
 (Arizona)  
 \$5,000.00



**5th Place**  
 Javier Alexander  
 Solorazano Perez  
 (California)  
 \$4,000.00





## HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

It is that time of year again for our Mid-Year Conference in Costa. Our Committee is asking everyone to be generous in making and donating blankets & cancer caps, donating Tommy and Rosie Moose, Tommy Moose coloring books and bookmarks, crayons, to be donated to the Police, EMTs, and Firefighters. Donations of [Wish List items](#) for the Ronald McDonald House of Orange County are also needed. As always they really appreciate gift cards of any kind that the families who stay at the house can use during their stay. In addition you can order through Amazon and have items delivered directly to the house – [click here](#) for more information.

Our **Heart of the Community** program continues to remain strong. We continue to help Mooseheart, Moosehaven and our **Communities** in any way we can. A popular **Heart of the Community** component is the Tommy Moose Program. We need to keep providing them to our Local Police, Fire Stations, EMTs and any others that will accept them. Children are happy when they receive them and parents are happy when they see the joy they bring even though they may not know where the next meal is coming from. There are so many ways to help.

Always remember that we are the best kept secret in our **Communities**. We are The **MOOSE**, so be proud and help where you can.

Thank you for your continued support. We should be **MOOSE PROUD** at who we are and what we have accomplished!!! Let's make our Mid-Year Conference one to remember.

If you have any questions, please email me.

**Denise Angeles**  
**CNMA Heart of the Community Chair**  
**(805) 312-4727**  
[hoc@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:hoc@ca-nvmoose.org)

### Pantry

- Soup
- Popcorn
- Sandwich making supplies
- Single serve condiments
- Pre-packaged snacks
- Coffee Creamer
- Oatmeal

### Cleaning Supplies

- Disinfectant wipes
- Disinfectant spray
- Glass cleaner
- Melamine sponges
- Air freshener spray
- Bleach
- Disposable gloves

### Kitchen

- Takeout containers
- Straws
- Cling wrap
- Utensils
- Paper plates
- Napkins
- Paper bowls
- Paper cups
- Aluminum foil
- Press and seal food wrap
- Parchment paper
- Ziploc-type bags
- Sponges
- Dish soap
- Dishwasher pods
- Paper towels

### Amenities

- Feminine hygiene products
- Hair ties and bobby pins
- Nail clippers
- Nail files
- Diapers (all sizes)
- Baby wipes
- Floss picks
- Mini hairbrushes and combs
- Mini deodorant
- Mini shaving cream
- Razors
- Chapstick
- Tissue packs
- Ear plugs

**RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE  
 OF ORANGE COUNTY WISH  
 LIST ITEMS**



## MOOSE CHARITIES

The month of February has traditionally been reserved within The Moose as the Rocker Fundraiser month. All Lodges should be participating in this important endeavor which will support Moosehaven's Endowment Fund. Further, I encourage each Lodge to define what the Endowment Fund is, and its importance throughout the month of February. This can be done in many ways including Lodge websites, Lodge social media accounts, Lodge publications, membership meetings, or posted within the Lodge and Social Quarters bulletin boards. Many members never really understand what an Endowment Fund is or its importance, so the best education is often through communication. Each lodge has received information on the Rocker fundraiser in their Mooseunits.org email account so ask about it at your next meeting if it isn't mentioned or displayed at your Lodge Home.

The California Nevada Moose Association **Moose Charities** booth needs your help with our Opportunity Drawings held during the upcoming Mid-Year Conference. We need your donations of gift cards. All donations can be brought directly our booth.

Thanks in advance!

**Jason Evans**  
**CNMA Moose Charities Chair**  
**(209) 642-2079**  
[moosecharities@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:moosecharities@ca-nvmoose.org)



The early leaders of the Loyal Order of Moose who were instrumental in establishing Mooseheart, the "Child City," were confident that as long as there was a Loyal Order of Moose, there would be a Mooseheart. But even in those early days of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, these leaders envisioned the need for a trust fund to insure the future of Mooseheart against any possible emergency. Accordingly, it was suggested that an endowment fund be built to protect Mooseheart should that dismal day ever occur.

At the annual International Convention of the Order in 1918, Resolution No. 19 was passed authorizing Director General James J Davis to create and build such a fund for the protection of Mooseheart. But the 1918 convention was not a legislative convention, and the resolution was not fully recognized until it was passed a second time at the 1919 convention.

The first contribution to the Mooseheart Endowment Fund, of \$100, was received with a second contribution of \$200 and almost immediately donations began to pour in.

One of the many plans established to help expand the fund was for every Lodge and Chapter to take up a "penny collection" at its regularly called meetings. The term "penny collection" has since been changed to "Endowment Fund Offering", and now at every fraternal function in The Moose such collections are taken.

All Endowment Fund contributions are placed in the Mooseheart-Moosehaven Endowment Fund. In addition many individuals make contributions to the fund by direct mail.

Total contributions to the Mooseheart-Moosehaven Endowment Fund average more than a million dollars per year. These funds are administered by the board of trustees consisting of eight distinguished members of the fraternity.

## **WE WANT TO RECOGNIZE YOUR VALUED VETERANS**

In each issue of the Gold Miner, we would like to showcase a **Veteran** from one of our Lodges.

### **How to Enter:**

- ▶ Write a story about your **Veteran** member that illustrates what makes them so special to your Lodge, how they stand out and any specifics about what they have done.
- ▶ Send the story and a photo of your **Valued Veteran** to [veterans@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:veterans@ca-nvmoose.org) and watch future issues to learn more about the heroes within our California Nevada Moose Association.

Appreciation is good for the soul and for the whole organization. Think about the look on your **Veteran** member's face and how moved they will feel to see themselves here. Now go and write!

Your submissions, along with being published here, will be displayed at our yearly Mid-Year Conference and Annual Convention.

Morale is a very important part of our Lodges and participation in recognition programs like this one can do wonders. I can't wait to meet your amazing members through your stories!

## **CALIFORNIA NEVADA VALUES OUR VETERANS**

As a **Veteran**, I find that volunteering within the Moose Fraternity is the next logical step for those of us who are trained to stand up for others. Raising funds, serving meals and even cleaning up fills a similar heart space because we know deep down that we are making someone's life a little easier. I believe that each of us has a higher calling to do something that will uplift our Lodges and our communities, so from me to you; **THANK YOU!**

Thank you for picking up that trash, for fixing the rusty gate, for building those shelves and for hosting that event. Thank you for sharing your smiling face and your kind words with that member who is going through a hard time. Thank you for making the people around you feel supported by your very presence. You are still a hero.

Please send any questions or suggestions for this page to:

**Bonnie M. Russell**  
**CNMA Valued Veterans Chair**  
**(510) 925-6776**  
[veterans@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:veterans@ca-nvmoose.org)



### ACTIVITIES STREET SMART TIP

**Here's the first Street Smart tip:** [activities@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:activities@ca-nvmoose.org). This is the way to start our networking together. We, the Activities Committee, would like you to have add this email to your Lodge distribution list. Our Committee would like to see what you are doing to make your Lodge a more inviting place for your membership to meet with their Moose family and enjoy an evening together. It is the Activities Committee goal to have one of The Moose leaders to be featured right here on Street Smarts with your favorite **Activities**. Looking forward to hearing from you.

We'll start this with a Lodge which is within my close area. The Stockdale Moose Lodge #2178 did an excellent job of promoting fraternalism over the holidays. They took something that is probably present in every Lodge over the holidays and that is the Christmas tree and elevated it to show how fraternalism and Santa can go together. Debbie Jensen put out 7 trees. She made the Lodge a walk through the fraternal accomplishments with her trees. One tree was Moose Legion tree. Covered with Moose Legion colors of red, blue, and gold ornaments and lights with a Moose Legion banner across it. The Lodges Moose Riders made a tree with bike ornaments as well. The Valued Veterans of the Lodge tree was fantastic with every single Veteran in the Lodge having his or her own ornament. The Heart of the Community tree brought memories from all the members as each ornament reflected a donation made or a local group the Lodge helped get through these trying times. Last but not least was the tree of Angel gifts. Each ornament was a child, a child who was homeless, had parents with addiction problems, or just plain no money for Christmas. Members took an ornament and purchased the gift children asked for to help them through their holidays. As people walked through these trees the smiles as they stopped at each tree to make a comment. Older couples were hugging and holding hands as they talked about their Lodge and the Christmas's of past years. This was our Moose Fraternity at its finest.

So, winding down don't forget to add my email to your Newsletter list. It's [activities@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:activities@ca-nvmoose.org) because I would like to feature your **Activity** right here in the Gold Miner and even show up to help in any way I can.

**Gary L Spencer**  
**CNMA Activities Chair**  
(805) 610-6911  
[activities@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:activities@ca-nvmoose.org)





## **THE IMPORTANCE OF THE DEGREES OF THE MOOSE**

### **The Significance of the Degrees of The Moose**

The Degrees of The Moose are far more than simple honors; they serve as important milestones in a journey defined by service, leadership, and fraternal pride. Each Degree marks a deepening commitment to the values cherished by The Moose Fraternity: caring for our communities, supporting Mooseheart and Moosehaven, and strengthening the bonds of unity within our organization.

### **How The Degrees of Moose Are Earned**

The Degrees of The Moose are earned through dedication, compassion, and ongoing involvement. These honors recognize individuals who step forward to lead, who generously give their time and talents, and who embody the spirit of The Moose in all they do.

### **Meaningful Contributions**

Each Degree is a testament to meaningful contributions. Members may earn these honors through organizing fundraisers, mentoring others, providing guidance, and advancing through various leadership roles within the Moose Fraternity. These activities reflect the true spirit and purpose of The Moose.

### **United by Common Purpose**

Regardless of the specific Degree, whether Moose Legion, Fellowship, Pilgrim, Academy of Friendship, Star, or the College of Regents, every achievement is united by shared core values: compassion, integrity, and a willingness to serve. These Degrees highlight the collective purpose that binds all members together.

### **Celebrating Achievements**

Honoring these accomplishments allows us to celebrate the best qualities within our Moose Fraternity. Encouraging others to pursue The Degrees of The Moose ensures that our legacy of service and support continues to thrive. Wearing regalia with pride, supporting one another, and recognizing every earned Degree strengthens our Moose Fraternity.

### **Strengthening The Moose**

Degree holders play vital roles in the Moose Fraternity. They mentor others, lead initiatives, and uphold the traditions that keep The Moose strong. Although their regalia may differ, their impact is equally significant.

### **Affirming Every Path of Service**

By recognizing and celebrating these honors, we affirm the value of every path of service. Each Degree is a badge of honor, earned through effort and heart. Collectively, these honors form the foundation of a vibrant, inclusive, and forward-moving The Moose community.

### **Encouraging Growth and Celebrating Milestones**

Let us continue to support one another, encourage new members to grow, and celebrate every milestone along the way, because every Degree earned tells a story worth honoring.

Ann Cooke  
CNMA Degrees Co-Chair  
(831) 296-2075  
[degrees@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:degrees@ca-nvmoose.org)





### DID YOU KNOW?

We have a **NEW** Fraternal unit! Welcome **Elk Grove Service Center #2731** to the California Nevada Moose Association (**CNMA**)!

As the CNMA Historian, I often reflect back to the beginning of the Moose Fraternity and look for trends. I took a few (~~minutes~~) hours to see how we've done things in the past. Here's what I found:

There have been **446 Lodges** in the states of California and Nevada since the fraternity was founded, back in the early 1900's. In California there have been 417 lodges and 29 in Nevada. That's a **LOT**!

#### Here's a Few Key Points:

- The first Moose Lodge in California was Chico Lodge #309, chartered in 1909
- The first Moose Lodge in Nevada was Reno Lodge #569 chartered in 1911
- The oldest continuously operating Moose Lodge in California is San Jose #401, which was chartered on 11/25/1910, beating Stockton #391 by a week
- The oldest continuously operating Moose Lodge in Nevada is Red Rock #252 which was chartered on 6/1/1980

The Moose Fraternity had a **LOT** of Lodges in California early on. There were seven Moose Lodges in California by 1910, then we added 45 more in 1911. James J Davis's message of a potential safety net for those hard working blue collar members was the push that put the Moose Fraternity into the forefront of the minds of men in California and Nevada for a century to come. Out of those 45 Lodges opened in 1911, 14 are still open today. Many of the others have merged out of redundancy.

From 1912 - 1920, 36 more Lodges opened. Some lasted a year or two and closed or merged with an adjacent Lodge, 4 of those remain to this day.

- From 1921 - 1931, 51 more lodges opened. Most of these Lodges later merged with other lodges with seven (7) of those lodges still in existence today.
- From 1932 - 1952, 48 new Lodges were opened. Most of the lodges later merged or closed with fourteen (14) of those lodges still in existence today.
- From 1953 - 1963, 71 more new Moose Lodges were opened, with 27 of those lodges still in existence today
- From 1964 - 1974, another 71 Lodges were opened, with 34 of those lodges still in existence today
- From 1975 - 1996, 65 more Lodges were opened, with 16 of those lodges still in existence today
- Not a lot has happened since that time except for the institution of several Service Centers such as Carson City, Sparks (which later merged with Carson City), Pomona, Las Vegas and Elk Grove

The CNMA, with its 57,755 members, is growing in number. These members live amongst fewer area Lodges since technology has made it easier for us to travel a greater distance.

Many of us often frequent other Lodges in our Association and this is **VERY GOOD!**

Please **VISIT** other Lodges and share your story! If you have a story to share or have questions about the story shared here, please reach out.

**Damon Russell**  
**CNMA Historical Chair**  
**(510) 506-4314**  
[historical@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:historical@ca-nvmoose.org)



### Disaster Relief Committee Chair – Rick Balthazar



### DISASTER RELIEF

Disaster Relief Fund has given \$8,000 this year to Lodges in need of some financial support.

This is all made possible by donations collected from Districts, Lodges, Women of the Moose Chapters, Moose Legions and Individuals like you.

All donations can be reported on to the Lodge Heart of the Community Report.

It was nice seeing everyone at the District Presidents/Secretaries Seminar held at the “Famous” Pismo Beach Moose Lodge 1409.

Our Committee would like to send Special Thanks to everyone who attended the Seminar for their generous collection of \$631 that will be added to the Disaster Relief Fund.

Almost forgot – Welcome to our committee Dave Emig from Big Bear Lodge #2085 and David Salazar from Oxnard Lodge #561.

See you all real soon and Thank You for what you do! Hope to see everyone in Costa Mesa!

**Rick Balthazar**  
**CNMA Disaster Relief Chair**  
**(562) 457-7223**  
[disaster@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:disaster@ca-nvmoose.org)

**Disaster Relief:** The CNMA Disaster Relief Committee was formed to encourage all CNMA units and Districts to contribute to a fund that would be available for the immediate funding of disasters that affect the financial stability of a Lodge. Each unit is requested to fund \$120 per year to keep funds available for these emergent needs.



## GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year. We all have so much to be thankful for. Let us strive to make this a most prosperous New Year for all.

I will continue to the best of my ability to support all California Nevada Moose Association (CNMA) members and their families, as well as the Districts and Lodges within CNMA.

When this new CNMA year started, my first order of business was to contact all CNMA Territory Managers (TMs) and Lodges, to survey and identify those Lodges that do not have an Automated External Defibrillator (**AED**) on their Lodge premises. This was more of an effort than I thought it would be, and three months into the new CNMA year, I am happy to announce that the survey is complete.

This means I can now move forward with providing each Lodge with the pricing Tiers and program information available and necessary for each Lodge. This will help them to determine how they want to move forward in acquiring an **AED** for their respective Lodge. There are, at this time, 80 Lodges (out of our 107 CNMA Lodges) that do not have this essential lifesaving tool available to them.

My goal is to equip each Lodge with an **AED**, prior to our Mid-Year Conference in March. As I stated to the Territory Managers and Lodges, **"A life saved, could be your own!"**

In addition, I will be reviewing all new laws that went into effect for California and Nevada on January 1<sup>st</sup> to determine any possible impact they may have on our Lodges, and our day-to-day Moose mission. Almost 800 new laws went into effect in California alone, and more than 50 in Nevada. After a review of the new laws affecting our states, I will distribute that information to all Territory Managers and Lodges in the coming weeks.

Fraternally yours,

James Upshaw Sr.  
CNMA Government Relations Chair  
(619) 980-3534  
[govrelations@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:govrelations@ca-nvmoose.org)







## LOSS PREVENTION

Brothers and Sisters of The Moose,

Happy New Year! I hope Santa was good to you and the holidays were enjoyable. Did you get down to your Lodge and share good times with fellow members? I hope so. When I walk through the doors of our Lodge, calm comes over me. A smile instantly comes to my face. I see and greet my friends, notice new people and welcome them (this is very important).

But then I do what good little Loss Prevention Officers do. Touch base with our Administrator and do a walk around the Lodge. Is there anything new in the incident report book? Do I see anything different since my last visit, or anything that looks “out of place.” Most recently I noticed that some cooking utensils were missing. I thought, strange. I met with different members of the Lodge that cook often, and they noticed the same thing. Where are the long spoons, where are some of our storage containers and serving trays? Unfortunately, our conclusion was “Hall Rentals.” While it might not seem like a big deal, when you start adding replacement costs for these items it can run into hundreds of dollars. It is our responsibility to account for the assets of our Lodges. We are also responsible for managing our Lodge Budgets which sometimes do not account for losses such as these.

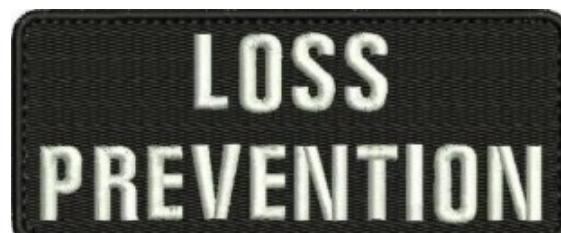
Well, there needs to be a solution. Of course, it's as simple as a marking pen or an engraver to ensure whoever is using the kitchen is aware where that cookware came from. Is it fool proof? Only a fool would say yes. But it's something. Also, do you have a Kitchen Manager? Do they know their duties? Pantry, walk-in inventory – [check]. Kitchen cleanliness – [check], Scheduling cooks and meals – [check]. How about doing a walkthrough with the folks renting your hall prior to the event? Do you give them access to the kitchen and everything in it? Is it spelled out in a contract? Do you have liability insurance for any slips, falls, burns or cuts, while using the kitchen? And of course, make sure none of your “Stuff” leaves the building.

We want to think that the members we rent our Moose Home to are honest and for the most part, they are. Some things may accidentally get mixed in with the supplies they brought to their event. Again, well-marked items will minimize this occurrence. As I said, I only brought this subject up because I've noticed it in our Lodge. How about yours?

Secondly, we should start preparing for the upcoming **Annual Safety Report** that will be due before you know it. As always, your report must be in by **May 31, 2026**, to avoid penalties. Both our California Nevada Moose Association and Moose International websites have the Annual Safety Report form and the Continuous Accident Protection “CAP” Booklet which should be reviewed. If you need assistance I am happy to help as are your Territory Managers.

Until next time or Costa Mesa (whichever comes first.) Be Safe and... See you at The Moose.

Fraternally,  
**Sam Hoffman**  
**CNMA Loss Prevention Chair**  
**(510) 295-9177**  
[lossprevention@ca-nvmoose.org](mailto:lossprevention@ca-nvmoose.org)



**California Nevada Moose Association, Inc.**

**PO Box 207  
Port Hueneme, CA 93044-0207**

**Address Service Requested**

**DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY**

