

Moose Legion Has Made Substantial Contributions

The Second Degree of the Loyal Order of Moose, known as the Moose Legion, was organized in 1913 to provide an opportunity for those members of the fraternity who desire to make further contributions to the Order's philanthropic objectives. Also known as the Degree of Service, the Moose Legion provides a means of distinction for its members. Becoming a Moose Legionnaire is the first step towards advancing to the higher degrees.

There are at present more than 200 Moose Legions in the United States and Canada with an average membership of 10 percent of the Moose membership. Moose Legion "celebrations" are held at least quarterly in each jurisdiction. The Second Degree now enjoys a high position of membership strength, respect and prestige. It has achieved this lofty level by compiling an outstanding record of fraternal achievement.

The first philanthropic project of the Moose Legion in 1913 and 1914, was to contribute \$6,000 to provide the nucleus for a herd of Holstein dairy cattle at Mooseheart. Moose Legion contributions financed the building of West Legion Hall in 1917, East Legion Hall in 1919, and Fez Hall in 1921. (All are or were residential structures on the Mooseheart Campus.) The Moose Legion helped finance the founding and operation of Moosehaven in 1922, underwrote the founding of the Moosehaven Research Laboratory

in 1947, and built the Community Building in 1949. In 1953, the Moose Legion financed Faith Hall, Legion Hall in 1958, and Jubilee Hall. In the 1960s, the Moose Legion also helped raise funds for the Paul P. Schmitz Health Center. Since the 1980s, Moose Legionnaires have also funded all prescription drugs and all outside health care needs of Moosehaven residents.

The Moose Legion helped build Mooseheart's House of God in 1950 and contributed \$150,000 to the Mooseheart High School building fund in 1954. The Moose Legion successfully completed a \$100,000 campaign to develop Mooseheart Camp Ross in the late 1950s and early 1960s. (The early-1990s upgrades at Camp Ross are also a Moose Legion project.) In the late 1960s, the Mooseheart student bank was completed and placed into operation, and an Olympic-sized swimming pool was added to the Mooseheart school complex, both thanks to the Moose Legion. In 1973, the Museum of Moose History was dedicated and was sponsored entirely by the Moose Legion. There was also a complete renovation of Jubilee Hall at Moosehaven in 1980-81. Another milestone by the Moose Legion was the financing in the late 1970s of a new metric track at Mooseheart, at a cost of more than \$180,000; this track was completely resurfaced in 1994 at a cost of \$56,000 -- also borne by the Moose Legion. By now the Museum of Moose History had outgrown itself and a completely new addition, doubling the size, was also funded by the Moose Legion and dedicated in 1985. In 1989, the Moose Legion adopted Camp Ross as its permanent project, guaranteeing the continuation of the Summer Camp Program and maintaining its reputation as the "Degree of Service."

Most recently the funding for the current 2 year Mooseheart Powerhouse renovation project was reached long before it's anticipated completion date of April 30, 2009 and was 94% funded by March of 2008. The project involves overhauling two of the campus's 20 year old generators which allows the Mooseheart Campus to remove itself from the local electric utility grid. In the summertime, Mooseheart can produce electricity cheaper than they can buy it on the open market. All Moose

Legions in Virginia had met their 2 year commitment by the Fall of 2008. Virginia Moose Legions have contributed \$21,084.80 of the total \$229,615.22 Funds Raised as of 11/30/2008.

Dedicated Moose members are invited to become members of the Second Degree. A good standing member becomes eligible for advancement to the Second Degree after he has completed one year of membership and has sponsored one member into the lodge OR has completed six months of membership and sponsored three members in to the lodge. If you were once a Moose Legion member, please consider renewing your dues and once again become active in the Second Degree.