

Subject: 170927 Official Communication: Deadline Self Iden VV; Early Bird Tx Hld Em Reg Deadline; 2017-18 MI Karaoke Now Underway; Fall Mbrshp wkshps; Mbr Ret Wk; Catalog Sales

Official Communication for September 27, 2017

The Deadline for New ‘Valued Veterans’ to become identified in time for their Lodge’s Semi-Annual Fall Recognition Ceremony is this Saturday, September 30, 2017.

The deadline for members to become identified in their membership record as a Valued Veteran is this Saturday, September 30, 2017, at midnight. Veterans identified by this date and time will be formally recognized with a lapel pin and certificate of appreciation from Moose International at their primary lodge’s November/Veteran’s Day recognition ceremony. Pins and certificates will be sent to lodge Administrators and Chapter Recorders, who should work very closely together to ensure that all veterans, male and female, are recognized at the same ceremony.

Any member can become identified quickly, simply by contacting the Help Desk and providing their name and membership identification number that is on their card. Administrators can also do this on behalf of their members if they wish. People need only **call the Help Desk at (630) 906-3658**, or **EMAIL them at helpdesk@mooseintl.org**.

The information should be given to the Help Desk **no later than noon this Friday, September 29th**, to ensure that the representatives have time to enter them before the close of business.

But, **if a member is computer savvy**, they will have until **midnight on Saturday, September 30th** to identify themselves in their membership record online on the Moose International website. This is the link they would need to do that: **<https://secure.mooseintl.org/MyRecord/>**.

The ‘Early Bird’ Texas Hold ‘Em Registration Deadline, to Earn an EXTRA 1,000 Moose Rewards Points is this Sunday, October 1st!

Register online for the 2018 Texas Hold ‘Em poker tournament by this **Sunday, October 1st, 2017**, and earn an **EXTRA 1,000 Moose Rewards Points!** All registrants who register for this tournament will earn 250 Moose Membership Rewards points, but those who register early, by this Sunday, will receive 1,250 total points!

REGISTER TODAY, AT THE LINK BELOW!

<https://secure.mooseintl.org/MooseRegistration/login.aspx?id=uDFQrUPbhigw31LOvpC4NQ%3d%3d>

The 2017-18 Moose International Karaoke Contest Is Now Underway!

Once again, we enthusiastically embark upon another year of fun and entertaining competition in lodges across North America to see who will be crowned the best Moose singer in the fraternity! To help you facilitate details of your contest, we have attached the updated guidelines/rules and the judges' scoresheet. Before scheduling your contest, please be sure to check with your Association Officers to identify the date of the next contest, either District or Association, to ensure that you allow at least four weeks in between contests. All lodges recently received a promotional flyer for this event, which should be hung in a prominent location in the lodge.

Fall Membership Workshops

Moose International will conduct two additional Regional Membership Workshops. Winston-Salem, North Carolina will be the next workshop Saturday, October 7th. Workshops cover topics such as new trends, retention strategies, member study results, and more. Registration is free for these one-day, interactive sessions and both men and women can sign-up today. See attached form for additional information.

Scheduled workshops include:

- October 7th – Winston-Salem, NC Lodge #466
- October 14th – Grand Prairie, TX Lodge #1818



Member Retention Week, November 5 – 11, 2017

Materials are now available via our website, for Member Retention Week. They can be located under Form & Documents, Membership, Member Retention Week Materials. Now is the time to

share this information with your committee chairman, who should begin the process of selecting your projects for Member Retention Week.

Tommy Moose Halloween Bags

Mooseheart is starting to show signs of fall. The tree leaves are beginning to change color, and the air is getting cooler. Soon the streets will be filled with ghosts, witches, and super heroes running house to house, looking for candy. Halloween is approaching. Prepare your local trick-or-treaters with their very own Tommy Moose Halloween Bag. Each bag is designed with safety tips to keep kids alert while collecting candy and is large enough to hold an entire night's collection of sweets and treats. Tommy Moose Halloween Bags are available in bundles of 50 for only \$11.00/pack (plus shipping and handling). Order your supply today to guarantee delivery before Halloween. Contact Catalog Sales at 630.966.2250 or order online <http://shopmoose.mooseintl.org/supply/detail.aspx?ID=893>

2017-2018 Moose International Karaoke Competition

General Guidelines and Competition Rules

GENERAL RULES

1. **Participants must hold active membership** in the Loyal Order of Moose or Women of the Moose. Each individual member is permitted to have one entry in the competition.
2. **All participants must present a valid Moose membership card to contest organizers** prior to participating at each level of the competition: at lodges, districts, associations, and for the final culminating International competition. This does *not* include receipts of recent membership renewal transactions, but rather, a valid, active membership *card*.
3. **Contest organizers reserve the right to ask for credible identification** (i.e. a drivers' license) to confirm that the name on the membership card is, in fact, the person competing.
4. **ALL active members are eligible to participate**, including winners from previous years' contests and those who have received money in the past for musical performances.
5. **Individuals who hold multiple memberships must *decide* under which Lodge or Chapter membership they will be competing.** Contestants cannot compete in a Lodge that they do not hold a membership; membership will be verified at Moose International.
6. **There is no charge** for participating in this competition.
7. **Because this is a karaoke contest, contestants must sing Karaoke songs.** They are not required to read lyrics off of a TV monitor, but the back track must be an original work from another original artist. Singing acapella without such music would not constitute "karaoke" and could, therefore, lead to disqualification.

LODGE / CHAPTER PARTICIPATION

1. **Participation by a Lodge or Chapter is strongly encouraged, but is not mandatory.** Lodges should make every effort to deliver this fun experience to their members for increased member satisfaction and retention. Failure to host the contest can result in disgruntled members who are not permitted to compete at another lodge. If a Lodge chooses *not* to participate, it is up to the members to voice their concern to the Lodge's Board of Officers in an attempt to persuade them to host the event.
2. **A Lodge that does not occupy physical property should coordinate with a neighboring Lodge** to use their Lodge home for the competition, but this competition should remain completely separate from the hosting lodge's competition, resulting in a different winner from *each* lodge. Members will only compete against members from their *own* Lodge and its affiliated Chapter.
3. **If a neighboring Lodge home is not available**, the Lodge may seek another venue for the competition.

2017-2018 Moose International Karaoke Competition

General Guidelines and Competition Rules

LODGE COMPETITION

1. **Competition at the Lodge is only open to members** of that particular Lodge and its affiliated Chapter.
2. **Members of stand-alone Chapters** (Chapters whose affiliated Lodges have closed) may compete at neighboring Lodge competitions. Members will only compete against members from the same Chapter.
3. **Lodges are responsible for securing professional karaoke services for competition**, as well as paying all related fees for such services. Lodges are also responsible for securing qualified individuals to serve as judges for competition. Recommendations for selecting judges are defined later in this document.
4. **The number of weeks of Lodge competition should be based on the number of registered participants**. A lower number of registrants allows for a format of individuals performing multiple songs and should allow the Lodge competition to be completed in a minimal number of weeks. A higher number of registrants likely allows for one song per person over a period of several weeks, with a certain number of participants being eliminated each week. A high number of participants will also require more time, and the format utilized should allow the entire competition to be completed in the prescribed time period.
5. **It is anticipated that approximately six minutes will be devoted to each participant**, including introduction of the performer, performance of the selected song, judges' comments and scores, and the change to the next performer. Using this time frame, Lodges with a high number of registrants would require three hours to complete 30 performers singing one song each.

EVENT PROMOTION

1. **The dates and times (and locations, where applicable) of Lodge competition should be advertised to members well in advance**. Information could be posted in the Lodge home, distributed in Lodge newsletters, posted to Lodge websites or Moose Pages sites, sent via email to Lodge and affiliated Chapter members, or sent via regular mail to those for whom there is no email address on file.
2. **There should be a clearly indicated deadline date** by which participants must register for competition. The deadline should be enforced.
3. **Moose International will provide the lodges with promotional posters** to display in a prominent location in the lodge in early fall. Digital copies of the event flyer are also available to lodges to use in promotional emails to their members.

JUDGES

1. **It is recommended that the individuals selected to serve as judges are knowledgeable about music**, and it is preferred that they work in the field of music. Great choices are: music teachers from the local school district, radio or television personalities, and/or local music professionals.

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- To prevent conflicts of interest, all efforts should be made to ensure that the judges are not biased.** Ideally, the judges should not be Moose members or family members of the contestants. When this is unavoidable, it is recommended that the Moose member is from another Lodge or Chapter.
- Ideally, those individuals who agree to serve as judges should be willing to make a multi-week commitment.** This will ultimately be determined by the number of weeks that Lodge competition will run, which will be based on the number of participants.
- Judges should not be served alcohol while competition is taking place.** There have been cases in other similar contests where judges were continually served complimentary beverages as “compensation” for judging, and their effectiveness was compromised.

SCORING

- The following is the recommended scoring system for competition.** For each of the 15 items, judges award 0, ½ point or one point. Associations may choose to use or develop their own scoring system for Lodge, District and Association competitions, but the scoring system outlined below is the system that will be used during the International competition finals at the 2015 International Convention in Nashville:
 - Vocal Performance (maximum 6 points)**
 - *Was the singer on pitch?
 - *Did the singer hit high notes without sounding weak or straining?
 - *Did the singer choose a song suited to his/her ability?
 - *Did the singer stay in time with the track/music?
 - *Was the singer able to sustain notes and phrases without losing his/her breath?
 - *Did the singer show knowledge/mastery of the song?
 - Song Interpretation (maximum 4 points)**
 - *Was the singer’s phrasing well done (ex. – no breathing at inappropriate times)?
 - *Did singer have his/her own style, or did he/she mimic the original well (either fine)?
 - *Did the singer use loud and/or soft dynamics to make the song come alive?
 - *Was the singer’s vocal rendition suited to the song?
 - Stage Presence (maximum 5 points)**
 - *Did the singer perform the song in an entertaining manner?
 - *Did the singer draw the crowd and you as a judge into the performance
 - *Was the singer enthusiastic/emotionally in sync with the song?
 - *Was the singer confident on stage?
 - *Did the singer show unusual talent, range or skill?
- *A perfect score would be 15 points.** Judges will be provided blank score sheets for each competitor. Each judge will circle the appropriate point value for each of the 15 criteria on the score sheet.

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3. **In the event of a tie**, the judges will be asked to vote on one contestant for the best “*overall* impression.” For the sake of time, there will not be tie-breaking performances.

DISTRICT COMPETITION (**Optional, per Association’s discretion*)

1. **Due to the number of Lodges in some Associations, the Association Executive Board may determine that District competition is necessary** in order to narrow the number of participants for Association competition to a figure that will ensure Association competition can be completed during the Mid-Year Conference.
2. **Associations may also determine that it is necessary to send multiple finalists from the District competition to the Association competition** to ensure there is enough contestants at the Association contest to ensure an effective, fun, and entertaining competition. The number of contestants that an Association allows into their Association contest from their Districts is entirely under the Association’s authority.
3. **If an Association chooses to hold District competitions**, Lodge competitions will have to be completed earlier so that District competitions are completed no later than four weeks prior to the Mid-Year Conference.
4. **It is the Association’s responsibility to communicate to Lodges its intent to hold District competitions in a timely manner** so that Lodges can schedule their Lodge competitions accordingly, and District competition dates and venues can be secured.
5. **Each District Executive Board is responsible for determining the date, time and location for District competition**. The format for District competition should allow competition to be completed in one day. The District should communicate with the winners from the Lodges or Chapters within the District to ensure that they are aware of District competition and the need to participate, if they are to have a chance to advance to Association competition.
6. **Because Districts are part of the Association, it shall be the responsibility of the Association Executive Board to communicate the date by which District competitions must be completed** to the Officers of each District, to ensure the contests are completed in time for the Association contest.

2017-2018 Moose International Karaoke Competition

General Guidelines and Competition Rules

ASSOCIATION COMPETITION

- 1. In order to allow proper preparation time for Association competition at the Mid-Year Conference,** each State/Provincial Moose Association will determine the date by which all Lodge competitions must be completed and names of winners submitted to the designated person within the Association (i.e. Association Secretary, Associations Liaison, and Association Activities Committee Chairman).
- 2. Associations will need to communicate to all Lodges when Lodge competitions need to be completed.** It is recommended that Lodge competitions be completed no later than four weeks prior to the Association Mid-Year Conference to allow competitors to make necessary travel arrangements.
- 3. Each Association will be responsible for securing space for Association competition at the Mid-Year Conference,** including details on any food or beverage that will be available. The Association is also responsible for securing professional karaoke services for Association competition and paying all associated fees.
- 4. Association level Judges** – The Association is responsible for securing the judges for Association competition. It will be up to the Association to determine whether or not lodging will be provided for judges. As with Lodge competition, it is recommended that the individuals selected to serve as judges are music teachers from the local school district, radio or television personalities, or local music professionals. Also, judges should not be served alcohol while competition is taking place.
- 5. Associations should send their winning member's information to the contest supervisor, utilizing the 'Association Winner's Form'** available on the Moose International website under: *Programs & Events / Karaoke*. This form will ensure that Moose International receives all pertinent information about each contestant in a timely manner. Send the completed form to the Moose International contest supervisor in the Activities department. The form requires the following information:
 - Member's first & last name** (as it appears on their membership card)
 - Membership ID #** (Please verify the member is an active member in good standing)
 - The expiration date of the member's membership** (ensure member is still active)
 - Member's email address** (sometimes this info is outdated in their membership record)
 - Member's phone number** (sometimes this info is outdated in their membership record)

This winner's notification form should be sent in from the Association, NOT from the contestant, regardless if the contestant is directly sending the video recordings to Moose International.

- 6.** If it is decided at the conclusion of the Association contest that the Association will submit the two required MP4 video performances to Moose International on behalf of the contestant, the contestant is encouraged to follow up with the Association and Moose International to ensure the prescribed deadline is met. **It is, ultimately, the contestant's responsibility to ensure that Moose International receives the two video performances prior to the deadline stated on the winner's notification form.**

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INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

1. **Following the conclusion of Association competitions**, all 43 Association winners will be asked to commit to the terms of the International contest, should they be chosen to move forward. This allows the runner up to take the title if the winner cannot travel to the competition city (i.e. has work conflict).
2. **All contestants are responsible to ensure that two digital/MP4 VIDEO recordings of themselves, singing karaoke songs, are forwarded to the Moose International Activities Department.**
 - a. ***IMPORTANT:** *For judges to fairly and effectively judge these criteria, it is required that videos of the contestants' performances are submitted at the International level of the contest, as opposed to submitting just audio recordings. **If an Association winner submits an audio-only recording to Moose International, the "Stage Presence" section of the score sheet will be scored as a "zero" by all three judges, reducing the total points for the overall performance.***
 - b. **Recordings can also be posted to You Tube, with the link forwarded via email to the contest supervisor at Moose International.** These recordings will be compiled onto DVD discs and provided to a panel of judges, which will be comprised of experienced and credible media contacts and music professionals.
 - c. **If, for whatever reason, the submitted format is not transferrable** to the DVD for the judges, Moose International may ask the contestant to provide a copy of their performances on another medium.
3. **The panel of judges will narrow the field from 43 to 12**, and those 12 finalists will be invited to the 2017 International Convention in Tampa, Florida, to participate in our competition finals for cash prizes.
4. **Each finalist will also receive round-trip airfare (or equivalent) and two nights lodging at the Moose International-designated hotel.** If a contestant opts to drive to the contest, and the mileage costs exceed the standard airfare cost for the same trip, the contestant will receive the value of the comparable airfare *instead*, after a cost comparison is conducted. Additionally, *reasonable* ground transportation costs will be reimbursed to contestants who provide timely and appropriate supportive documentation, along with the completed expense form, provided by Moose International.
5. **The first, second, and third place winners in the International competition will win \$5,000, \$2,000 and \$1,000**, respectively. Winners must submit W-9 forms to Moose International to be compensated prize money (form provided by Moose International).

For further clarification on any of the Moose International karaoke contest rules and/or guidelines, please contact the Moose International Activities department at (630) 859-2000.

Attend A Regional Membership Growth & Retention Workshop!

This fall, Moose International's Membership Department will be conducting a series of regional workshops to discuss recruitment and retention challenges, as well as methods to address common issues expressed by Lodges and Chapters throughout the Fraternity.

Scheduled workshops include:

- August 12th – Louisville, KY Lodge #5
- September 23rd – Glendale, AZ Lodge #2243
- October 7th – Winston-Salem, NC Lodge #466
- October 14th – Grand Prairie, TX Lodge #1818

What you will learn from attending:

- New trends to help attract and retain members in 2017 and make your lodge more profitable.
- Strategies for retaining members through a monthly program of communication, programming, and activity tracking.
- Review of the Member Rewards program and how you can take advantage.
- Communicating the value of the Moose to potential members.
- Best membership practices from around the Fraternity.

Details:

- All interested Loyal Order of Moose or Women of the Moose members are invited to participate.
- There is no fee to attend.
- You may attend any workshop on the schedule, regardless of your location.
- All workshops run from 10:00am – 3:00pm, allowing most individuals the option of driving in and out the same day.
- A working lunch is provided by each Lodge at a cost of \$7.00 per attendee. Cash will be collected at the Lodge the day of each workshop.
- All workshops are business casual-to-casual dress.
- Sessions are meant to be interactive between participants and presenters. Please bring questions and suggestions.
- Please check the Lodge websites for any evening activities prior to or following the workshops.
- RSVP's are required to attend in order to allow for the proper amount of materials and food.
 - **Email the following information to the appropriate address below:**
Membership Growth & Retention workshop (followed by):
Your name; MID#; Lodge/Chapter #; Lodge/Chapter office you hold (if any); names of others accompanying you; a contact phone #; and an email address
 - For Louisville: rpollitt@mooseintl.org (RSVP Deadline: Wednesday, August 9th)
 - For Glendale: bcavanaugh@mooseintl.org (RSVP Deadline: Wednesday, September 20th)
 - For Winston-Salem: ahopkins@mooseintl.org (RSVP Deadline: Wednesday, October 4th)
 - For Grand Prairie: rtrygstad@mooseintl.org (RSVP Deadline: Wednesday, October 11th)

Questions? Please email the contacts above for information pertaining to a specific site.

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2017 -2018 Moose International Karaoke Contest

JUDGING FORM

Singer's Name _____

Song Title _____

Give a score of 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 points for each item.

Vocal Performance (Maximum 30 points)

Was the singer on pitch? _____

Did the singer hit the high notes without sounding weak or straining? _____

Did the singer choose a song suited to his/her ability? _____

Did the singer stay in time with the track/music? _____

Was the singer able to sustain notes without losing his/her breath? _____

Did the singer show knowledge/mastery of the song? _____

Total Points for Vocal Performance

Song Interpretation (Maximum 20 points)

Was the singer's phrasing well done. (ex., - no breathing at inappropriate times)? _____

Did the singer have his/her own style or did he/she mimic the original (either is fine)? _____

Did the singer use loud and/or soft dynamics to make the song come alive? _____

Was the singer's vocal rendition suited to the song? _____

Total Points for Song Interpretation

Stage Presence (Maximum 25 points)

Did the singer perform the song in an entertaining manner? _____

Did the singer draw the crowd and you as a judge into the performance? _____

Was the singer enthusiastic/emotionally in sync with the song? _____

Was the singer confident on stage? _____

Did the singer show unusual talent, range or skill? _____

Total Points for Stage Presence

Grand Total (Maximum 75 points)