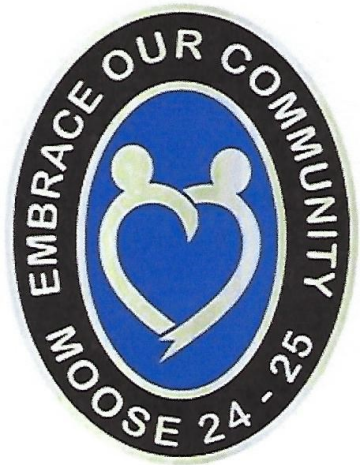


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MERIDIAN MOOSE FAMILY CENTER #1628
Meridian, Mississippi

Vol 8, No. 6

September 2024

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER & CALENDAR



Members like YOU making an impact!



Mooseheart Activity Center (MAC) Receives "TOP CHOICE" Award

From the Campground Chairman

The Meridian Moose Lodge has submitted a grant for repairing some of the campgrounds and by the time you receive this newsletter we should know whether the grant was approved. Due to costs, we could only apply for funds to fix seven campsites, meaning the most in need will be considered by the Board. If you rent one of the campsites we choose, we may require you to move to another site temporarily.

We would like to remind all campers that dues are cheaper when paid in full on or immediately following the first of every month, with the rate being \$250.00 for the month versus \$10.00 a day. If the month has 31 Days, \$10 a day equals \$310.00 per month. In that instance, you save \$60.

Campers have direct access to the restrooms and showers in the pool area at all times, but must refrain from entering the swimming pool after the posted swimming pool hours.

Fraternally,

Wade Smith, Campground Chairman & Trustee

National First Responders' Day

September 11, 2024

All First Responders will receive a free drink of choice and Mike Johnston has agreed to provide burgers to all First Responders

The Board of Officers will conduct a membership vote on electing Michael Minchew as the Lodge Administrator at the first meeting in September, Sept. 10. This is your chance to voice an opinion in the matter so please attend the meeting.

Heart of The Community

Thank you to everyone who attended the Richard Oliver memorial ride on August 10, 2024; we raised \$553.00 for Charlotte Smith for her food served during the event and we had a total of 61 Motorcycles present.

We are gearing up for the Women of the Moose Poker Run October 12th. The Moose Riders are planning roughly 142 Mile Ride to various locations, possibly including Lake Taib O'Khatta and the Nanih Waiya Indian Mound. Most of the proceeds collected at this Poker Run are donated to a charity chosen by the Women of the Moose. We would greatly appreciate your attendance and support to the furtherance of this cause and so that "we" as a lodge can show our support to the local community.

From the Administrator

Thank you for your continued support of Our Lodge. We have some interesting things coming and we would like to see everyone attend the events, including the WOTM Poker Run on October 12, the WOTM Halloween Carnival and the Moose Riders' Haunted Hay Ride on October 31, and the Moose Riders' Hog Cooking in November 1-2 with potential bike games on that Saturday.

On October 5, 2024 the Southeast Lauderdale High School Band's First Annual Band Competition will be held @ EMCC. The last I heard, The Southeast High School Band Director had already signed up eight bands from all over the State and scheduled renowned judges from all over the country to provide the critiques for the bands who attend. The event will require some additional volunteers, and as a lodge, I believe we can meet those volunteer needs seeing as this event is a community event that directly coincides with our mission statement. As such, I will be volunteering my time for the entire day and would like to see everyone "Pump up" the Moose by volunteering their time or providing a monetary donation to the event.

Fraternally,

Michael Minchew, Administrator

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope this message finds all of you doing well. For those of you with kids getting back to school and those with kids going off to college, I hope everything is going well and everyone is getting settled into a normal routine. Please watch your calendar and newsletter for upcoming events for the WOTM, Moose riders, Mississippi Moose Assn, and Magnolia Moose Legion as well as other lodge functions. We had the misfortune of flooding in the lodge on the 21st due to construction going on with the sewage pipes down the road. We were able to contact a company doing the work while the flooding was happening and they took full responsibility for what happened, including contracting Serve-Pro to clean and sanitize everything that was affected by the flood. I want to thank the members who aided in keeping the damage that was done to a minimum. While we were closed for a couple of days, everything has been sorted and we are back open for business. Whether the event is at our lodge, on the coast, or at another lodge who is hosting the it, we would love to see everyone there.

Please remember that when you invite someone to the lodge who isn't a member, they can only come twice in total regardless of who brings them or what time has lapsed, before having to become a member. Current members are responsible for insuring that their guest is signed in and that both parties understand the rules, which can be found in the General Laws on the Moose Membership App as well as at mooseintl.org. Logging into either format allows you to keep up with your activities in the lodge, such as your sponsorship history, years of service, reward points, etc. Thank you again for your support and remember we are here to help and support each other, our community, Moose Heart, and Moose Haven.

Fraternally,

Gary Minchew,

2024-2025 President

FROM THE SENIOR REGENT

There so many exciting things happening in the next few months. Follow the Meridian Moose Lodge Facebook page for activities and events. Join us for our September Chapter meeting with Membership Chairman DeDe Stamper. Success of our Lodge depends on membership growth. This is a team effort! Thank you to those members who have joined the WOTM. We would love to see you at our next meeting.

September is suicide prevention month. On Sept. 28th from 9am-2pm, the WOTM will be supporting the First Annual Lean on Me Jubilee, an event to remember those affected by suicide, provide support for the survivors and resources for those affected. It will be located downtown Meridian to include the MAX courtyard to Meridian Railroad Museum. This is a family friendly event to include a dedicated children's area with a petting zoo, bounce houses, face painting, food and crafts vendors, and live entertainment. So please join us and support this very worthy cause.

October 12th is our annual poker run. We will start making plans for this event in September. Thanks to the Moose Riders for their help in planning this event. This event is sponsored by the WOTM and the proceeds benefit Moose Charities.

Michelle Harding will be sponsoring a Lottery ticket raffle, 6 tickets for \$5, starting in September thru mid-October for her Golden Gavel Committee fundraiser. Someone will be the lucky winner! Be sure to get your tickets.

Our Mississippi Moose Association Annual Convention will be held in Gulfport, September 19-22. It is a fun weekend spent with other Lodges and Chapters learning new things about The Moose. Details about the convention can be found on the Mississippi Moose Association web page. Hope to see you there!!!

Fraternally Yours,

Lisa Downing

2024-25 Senior Regent

OFFICERS & STAFF

MOOSE LODGE 1628

Gary Minchew	President
Doug May	Jr. Past President
Mike Johnston	Vice President
Lisa Downing	Chaplain
Michael Minchew	Administrator
Glendale Griffin	Treasurer
Wade Smith	Trustee
James Seward	Sergeant-at-Arms
Ricky Joles	Inner Guard
David Brown	Outer Guard

MOOSE LEGION COMMITTEE

Ted Burton	Chairman
Larry Richards	Vice Chairman
<i>vacant</i>	Past Chairman
Roy Johnson	Asst. Secretary
Glendale Griffin	Marshall

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE CHAPTER 1441

Lisa Downing	Senior Regent
Michelle Harding	Jr. Past Regent
Tammy May	Secretary
Keri Allen	Recorder
Brittany Eckman	Guide

STATE OFFICERS

Glendale Griffin	President
David Cotton	Jr. Past President
Gary Jones	Vice President
Ted Burton	Secretary
Tony Lowman	Asst. Secretary

INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS

Tony Lowman	Supreme Forum
Noleta Harris	Int'l Judicial Comm. WOTM Int'l Higher Degree Board
Ted Burton	Intl Moose Legion Councilman
Mike Johnston	Int'l Moose Legion Ambassador
Sandra Richards	Chapter Advocate

SOCIAL QUARTERS STAFF

Marie Blackburn, Manager
Amanda Tyson
Nicki Farmer
Brittany Eckman

Moosin' Around Meridian

A publication of:
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MOOSE LEGION NEWS

GREETINGS TO ALL MOOSE LEGIONNAIRES
Thank you to all who attended our monthly meal and meeting. We had a great turnout for both men and ladies. Our next meal and meeting is at 6:30 on September 3rd. We expect to have a mini enrollment at 5:30 that same day for two new Moose Legionnaires.

The next Celebration will be in Hattiesburg October 25-27 with our host hotel being Microtel, Phone # 601-450-1592. Room rates are \$65.00 single and \$75.00 double plus taxes. Reserve by September 25 for the October Celebration. The 2024 International Moose Legion Conference is Oct 31 to Nov 3 @ the Valley Forge Casino Resort in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. More information can be found at mooseintl.org.



Remember, the Moose Legion is considered a Degree of Service through which we have fun while providing a greater service to the Moose Fraternity. Our vision is to persuade all qualified members to join the Moose Legion and do some good thing for someone each day. If you are not a member of the Moose Legion and would like to become one, the annual dues are \$20.00, simply contact a current Moose Legionnaire for sponsorship into the Moose Legion. There is a flyer posted outside the Social Quarters explaining where the Moose Legion dues go, for your convenience.



SWIMMING POOL TIME IS HERE

Daily rates will remain \$15 per day no matter what time you get in or how long you stay for the day (during the posted hours). The pool rules are the same as the Social Quarters as far as guests are concerned. If they have already been a guest twice and are over the age of 21, they must become a member of the Moose (that is twice overall, not twice each summer). This includes all children, grandchildren, girlfriends, boyfriends, friends over the age of 21. While Moose International enforces this "Private Policy", this rule is directly governed by the I.R.S. Your guests will be required to pay the \$15 per day pass as well.

We are not restricting coolers at the pool, but we do advise to be considerate of other members with the overall size of your coolers and don't forget the Social Quarters is open during regular operating hours for any mixed drinks or other none glass purchases; if you prefer to purchase at the Social Quarters, you can request a foam cup to transfer into. When the pool closes in accordance with the posted hours of operations for the pool, all members and qualified guests are required to vacate the swimming pool and clean up all debris both inside the pool and immediately surrounding the pool. Members are responsible for any debris left by their qualified guests.

Pool Membership Must be paid BEFORE May 1st to receive this discounted rate. Otherwise, the rates are:
Single - \$125
Couple - \$200 (husband & wife, boyfriend & girlfriend living together, parent (1) & child (1) under the age of 21, or grandparent (1) & grandchild (1) under the age of 21.
Family - \$325 (parents & children under the age of 21 or grandparents and grandchildren under the age of 21)

You can pay these dues and fill out your pool registration in the Social Quarters.

MOOSE RIDERS GROUP



Hello Fellow Riders,

I hope everyone is doing well. As of now, we have no rides planned for September. If someone has an idea, please bring it to the MR Board for consideration. We have the WOTM Poker Run on Oct. 12 and the Hog Cooking in Nov., still working on date. On Sunday Aug 25, we rode the route for the WOTM Poker Run, which shows to be a good ride ranging approx. 142 Miles or 4 hours.

Y'all stay safe, keep hydrated, and get your bikes checked out. Keep the shiny side up.

Fraternally,
Mike Minchew
2024-2025 Moose Rider President

Officers:

Mike Minchew	President
Ricky Joles	Vice President
Patrick Kirby	Chaplain
Michael Minchew	Secretary
Brittany Eckman	Treasurer
Vacant	Sergeant at Arms
James Seward	Road Captain
Gary Minchew	Jr. Past President