



ALASKA'S GROWING MORE MOOSE

Spring, 2005

Volume 2, Issue 2

HAPPY 2ND BIRTHDAY TO THE ALASKA MOOSE FEDERATION

By Chairman Gary Olson

Hello everyone! I'd like to thank each one of you for joining this organization in its pursuit of rebuilding Alaska's moose populations. We've been very busy in our 2 years of existence thus far. To mark our growth into our third year, we're beginning a new style of newsletter that will initially come in quarterly mailings to fill you in on our progress as well as your membership benefits and what you can do to help as a member of the Alaska Moose Federation.

As the title implies, we are 2 years old as of December 2, 2004. It's hard to believe how much has happened in this short period of time. I can honestly say that we are very close to beginning substantial efforts in the pursuit of rebuilding Alaska's moose for today's and future generations of Alaskans.

Since our creation, the state of Alaska has experienced some serious changes as well. The current Murkowski administration has taken the lead in pursuing the defense of the Alaska Lifestyle with prioritizing the state's efforts of rebuilding its moose populations. Alaska Federation of Natives has created resolutions demanding game management and asked Interior Secretary Gayle Norton to keep

outside animal rights groups from impacting Alaska's right to manage its own resources.

We had the 5th highest snowfall in history to blanket South Central Alaska in the winter of 2003/2004. This caused a record setting 1,300 vehicle/moose collisions throughout Alaska while costing well over \$18,000,000 in vehicle damage. 2004/2005 has seen over 15'+ of snow throughout parts of the railroad. In addition, last summer's record setting interior forest fires created 6.5 million acres of future moose browse.

The AMF secured legislation last session, in Juneau, to begin working pro-actively on our city's increasing moose/vehicle/people con-

flicts. With the increased projections of human population growth expected in Anchorage alone, we're trying to stop the ever increasing problems on our city roads, school grounds and neighborhoods. Moose that would otherwise eventually end up being hit by cars or running out of habitat can now, under the state's oversight, be moved to areas of better habitat in the pursuit of rebuilding rural herds.

The AMF took possession of the 6,000 square foot former Tanglewood Lakes Lodge in October as our new headquarters. The Alaska Moose Center will be used as both an orphaned calf holding facility and an educational facility for Alaska's children plus a major portion of the tourists that visit our state each year.

I hope you agree that it has not looked this good for our moose in some time. The AMF's goal is to strengthen the awareness of how important moose are to us all. Moose have shouldered the burden of hands-off management too long. Everyone and everything benefits from healthy moose. Please get involved and help us get the word out that we're winning.

"Let's Grow Some Moose!"



Fish & Game meeting in Juneau. (left to right): Commissioner Kevin Duffy, Deputy Commissioner Wayne Regelin, AMF Co-Chair Greg Roczicka, Governor Frank Murkowski, Director of Wildlife Matt Rhobus & Chairman Olson.

THE AMF NEARS ITS FIRST HABITAT PROJECT.



D10 dozer located in the Paxson area intended for use in the crushing project.

Department of Fish & Game, Bureau of Land Management, the Alaska Moose Federation and private industry are close to establishing a collaborative effort to enhance habitat for wintering moose along the lower Chistochina River in the Copper River Valley.

It is well known that moose thrive in early successional habitats, given adequate plant diversity and cover. In years of prolonged deep snowfall, riparian willow stands provide critical winter forage for moose.

A recent assessment within the Copper River Valley by ADFG

indicates that there is much room for improvement overall in terms of moose habitat.

By knocking down the larger riparian willows and encouraging vigorous sprouting from the broken stumps, winter malnutrition of moose can be significantly reduced.

ALASKA NATIONAL GUARD POISED FOR MOOSE TRAILS.



National Guard equipment and personnel poised to begin winter snow trails along roads for moose trails.

Major General Craig Campbell, with the Alaska National Guard, agreed to meet with the AMF early in the winter of 2003/2004. Our request was to encourage the Guard to repeat the assistance they provided the state of Alaska in the winter of 1989/1990 when horrific snow levels left large numbers of moose starving throughout the state.

The National Guard, in the past, came in and made trails along the railroad that allowed alternative walking routes for the moose to stay off the tracks and thus off the trains.

Our current request is a bit different in that we're working on building a permanent relationship between all parties that will create trails every future winter along all necessary roads and rails in heavy snow years.

The Guard is willing to look at a continual program that would actually serve as training opportunities for the guard as well as serving a mission to help keep moose off our cars and trains.

This winter we will secure an official request from the state legislature and from the Murkowski administration for Major General Campbell to take to his superiors.

WASILLA IS PREPARING FOR ITS FIRST AMF BANQUET.

"City of Wasilla Mayor Dianne Keller is the Chairman of the banquet committee. This is obviously a BIG help when bringing the AMF and its programs of healthy moose into the valley."

Chairman Gary Olson

The Alaska Moose Federation is heading to the valley. Our 1st Annual Spring Wasilla Moose Benefit is planned for April 30th, 2005 at the Wasilla Sports Complex.

Tickets are \$30 each or \$50 for couples. The banquet will have 30 guns to give away plus Ray Kelly custom artwork, Chuck Stapel custom AMF knives, optics, jewelry, and more.

The banquet attendance is ex-

pected to be between 450-550 people. The AMF already has 92 members from Wasilla/Palmer area and brags that those members are some of the most serious ones we have.

The major Mat-Su area projects the AMF is working on at this time are 2 wildlife overpasses with directional fencing for the Palmer Hay Flats. In addition, we are in the planning phases for major habitat projects to

enhance moose browse away from the sides of highways.

Valley residents are besieged with moose on their roads and in their cities. We are definitely looking forward to working with the communities of Wasilla and Palmer.

For more information on tickets, to donate items or sponsor the event, please call Jim Hofer at (907) 746-2421 or Troy Vincent @ (907) 746-5548.

HAVE ANY MOOSE PICTURES? THE AMF NEEDS THEM!

Do you have any really special moose pictures with moose in trouble, around schools or chasing your favorite neighbor



up a tree? We need your photos!

The AMF is currently building its collection for future calendars, power point presentations and case studies of why moose need our help. The amazing pictures that we see in our newspaper of moose on our school grounds are not available for use other than with the paper.

If you have your own photos of moose in dumpsters eating trash, moose along the side or in a road full of cars or if you have been successful and harvested a nice bull

or found major sheds in the winter, please keep us in mind before they go into another picture book. *Thanks!*



ALASKA MOOSE FEDERATION HOSTS CELEBRITIES

We hosted 4 celebrities from the lower 48 this summer to help us spread our message of rebuilding Alaska's moose populations throughout the world. These stars routinely appear at celebrity shoots for different causes throughout the country. Each individual currently has numerous celebrity, country music artists and athlete commitments for future trips to Alaska.

Patrick Kilpatrick, who has appeared in over 100 movies and TV shows, is now a producer and director in Hollywood. Patrick shot a public service announcement for us during his trip.

Ray Kelly, from South Dakota, is a world renown wildlife artist and

sculptor for Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Ducks Unlimited, the Professional Bull Rodeo Association, etc. He is 1 of 2 artists who created pieces of work for Dances with Wolves. He has graciously donated his art in creating our 1st AMF commemorative wildlife series.

Chuck Stapel is a famous knife maker from California who creates nearly all the knives for most of the movies in Hollywood. A similar knife to the one that Chuck donated to the AMF went in a celebrity banquet in Nashville for \$13,000.

James Swan is an internationally known author and columnist for ESPN 2 and Field & Stream.

He and his son Andrew provided the camera work for all of the footage during the trip. They intend to build the pilot footage for our organization that we hope will be picked up by the likes of Discovery, NOVA and Nature Channel so we can get international help in our efforts.

Each individual came away with the significance of our organization as well as the message that the entire world wins from our programs because everyone dreams of coming to Alaska.



Boat Crew Members: (L to R) Ray Kelly (top), James Swan, Patrick Kilpatrick (his son Samuel), Chuck Stapel, James Swan, Andrew Swan and Board of Game Member Cliff Judkins. Cliff's airboat ride up the Knik was definitely the top day of the trip.

HEY MEMBERS, COME CHECK OUT YOUR NEW HEADQUARTERS!

The Alaska Moose Federation would like you to come and take a tour of your new headquarters. The former country club for the Tanglewood Lakes Lodge is now called the Alaska Moose Center. Our plan is to utilize the Center as an orphaned calf holding facility throughout the summer with both an educational facility for tourists in the summer and for children throughout the school year.

The Alaska Moose Center is located just north (on Brayton Drive) from the intersection of Huffman Road and the New Seward Highway. Settled along the frontage road on



View from golf course of the southern exposure of the facility.

approximately 3 acres, our headquarters adjoins a 40 acre parcel of land that we are hoping to use to help with our orphaned calf program. Great Land Trust is overseeing the property for Heritage Land Bank who owns the adjoining property.

We are in the planning phase of the orphaned calf holding facility. Under the oversight of the state, we and/or other qualifying organizations will be able to address an ever-growing moose problem. Each spring and summer, cows are separated from their calves, primarily in the city, by dogs, fences or unfortunately the cow is hit by a car or killed by predators. The number of these orphans is far exceeding the capabilities of the Alaska Zoo and the Kenai Moose Research Center.

Our plan is to work with the state, Alaska Village Initiatives and the Alaska Zoo to create the ability to handle the quantity of orphaned calves with the intent to relocate these moose, in the fall, around the state rather than wasting this resource to the front of our cars.

We are also updating this facility as an educational center that will enable tourists, students and others interested in Alaska's moose to learn of our programs and observe our professionals handling these calves personally. The Center is also being utilized for weddings, Christmas parties, retreats, and proposed field trips for school children throughout the school year.

Small AMF banquets are also beginning at the center as well. Each banquet's funds goes towards the capitol campaign for the Center that we will speak of in our next newsletter.



View of seating conference, educational and Banquet area. The banquet holds 80-100 for dinner and up to 200 for standing functions.

WE'RE GETTING CLOSER TO OUR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS.



Pre-cast concrete tunnel placed either into road or railroad construction allows wildlife to migrate without being hit.

The Murkowski Administration has been very receptive thus far with our transportation program of making our roads and rails safer for moose and people.

The key aspect of this program is that if you can prioritize these proven crossing corridors during the design phase of road and rail construction projects, the problem of hitting moose with cars and trains can be easily stopped.

On highway construction, new roads are designed to straighten corners and fill in dips. The simple case of placing the pre-cast concrete tunnels at specific areas in conjunction with direction fencing will help render these corridors virtually moose free. Case in point is that the next time you drive from Wasilla to Willow, notice a bike path that runs from side to side beneath the road in a culvert. This concept could just as well be used for moose

On railway construction, the Alaska Railroad is planning major re-alignment projects throughout the state. Similar concepts to road construction can also be utilized with the railroad. This would keep moose off the front of 69 mph commuter trains as well.



Wildlife crossing overpass in Banff National Park in Alberta. This application will be necessary with the high water table on the Palmer Hay Flats.



GIFT OFFER FOR AMF MEMBERS



The AMF is currently designing the upgrades for the Alaska Moose Center to construct the educational facility and the site upgrades to handle the orphaned calves anticipated to begin in May/June, 2005. Funding is critical at this point.

In addition, if we are able to construct the upgrades to the audio/video system and educational equipment in the upstairs, Anchorage school children could be coming into the Center as soon as this fall.

The Center also has an area dedicated to a proposed kitchen that we need to con-

struct as well. The goal for the kitchen is to have it complete by May, 2006 when next year's tourism season begins. This is a significant revenue producer that will enable the AMF to be sustainable. Being sustainable is the typical obstacle for other non-profits.

In the pursuit of a capitol campaign to fund these and other upgrades to the Center, we are offering AMF Life Memberships at 50% off through the end of May, 2005.

In addition, if you are part of a company or know others that are moose fans that could

assist us in these and/or other upgrades to the Center, please strongly consider helping out. It is critical that everyone sees the Center as 'your' building because of your membership. Please help us keep winning!



HOW, WHERE AND WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR MOOSE PICTURES



One of the best friends the Alaska Moose Federation has made over the years is Eberhard Brunner, one of the best moose photographers in the world. He is beginning evenings soon at the Alaska Moose Center that explains how and where to take photos of moose.

In addition, Chairman Gary Ol-

son's wife Melissa Olson will be working with Eberhard to teach us how to preserve and care for your photos as well. She is a proven consultant with Creative Memories. Come meet two of the most special people in this organization. For information, call Melissa @ 336-PIXX (7499).





Junior Moose Troop

Kid's Page

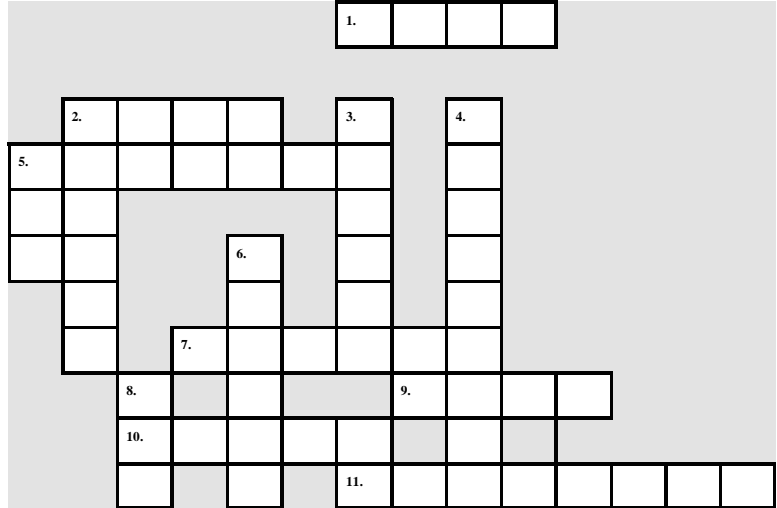


Down

2. What a moose's feet are called.
3. The moose is the official _____ of Alaska?
4. Alaska's biggest city.
5. A female moose.
6. Alaska's capitol city.
8. An off road vehicle.

Across

1. A male moose.
2. A group of moose is called this.
5. Orphaned moose calves were transplanted to this place in the 1950's.
7. A moose horn is called this.
9. A baby moose.
10. What moose make in the woods.
11. What you never, never do to moose.



M J E P F M A H K T T M Q Y I
 B O M D G Y F Z X E E A O C R
 F E F I R R A R J J K I G E U
 R M N Z V L A H J S B G L K J
 E K F L N V Z E A W A G A M T
 G I K X U I V L O B A L E L V
 J H I K G L A C I E R D M O G
 Y G H Q W N N T V A O O Y O F
 M Z G O T H I E N R C G W X N
 M Z S L H W M N U U K Q J N A
 M F E L D O A T T F O R E S T
 W R U K O X L A M M A M H G B
 D Z T S Z O Z D A W C T L N N
 X S E S N Y H W F G H B Q D Z
 G X R I C V V W D M N F J B Q

Word Search

Crossword Answers

ALASKA
 ANIMAL
 ANTLER
 BEAR
 BROWN
 COW
 EAGLE
 FOREST
 GLACIER
 MAMMAL
 MOOSE
 MOUNTAIN
 ROCK
 SALMON
 TENT

11. FEED THEM
 10. TRAIL
 9. CALF
 7. ANTLER
 5. CORDOVA
 2. HERD
 1. BULL
 Across:
 8. ATV
 6. JUNEAU
 5. COW
 4. ANCHORAGE
 3. MAMMAL
 2. HOOVES
 Down:

Hey kids, did you get it done? Mail the completed page to our headquarters for your official membership to the Junior Moose Troop with patch or drop it off in person and get a hat too. Your choice!

Name: _____ Age: ____ Phone: _____

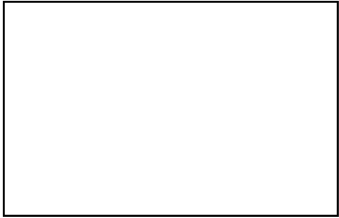
Address: _____ e-mail: _____

Parent's Name: _____ Parent's Signature: _____

Mail completed page to: Alaska Moose Federation, 11701 Brayton Drive, Anchorage, Alaska 99516



The Alaska Moose Federation
 Conservation Fund, Inc.
 11701 Brayton Drive
 Anchorage, Alaska 99516
 P: (907) 336-6673 F: (907) 336-6234
 www.growmoremoose.org



"Let's Grow Some Moose!"

Please renew your membership today! We need funds to continue our progress! Consider helping with banquets, donate items, get involved!
WE ARE WINNING!



AMF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



- ARMED FORCES E-1—E-4 & SENIORS OVER 65

1-YEAR	\$20	3-YEAR	\$50
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- INDIVIDUAL

1-YEAR	\$30	3-YEAR	\$75
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- FAMILY

1-YEAR	\$50	3-YEAR	\$135
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- SUSTAINING

1-YEAR	\$100	3-YEAR	\$250
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- **LIFE MEMBERSHIP (50% OFF OFFER)** **\$1,000 (\$500)** **OVER 65** **\$500 (\$250)**
- CORPORATE SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP INQUIRE
- COMPANY MEMBERSHIP INQUIRE

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

ALASKA MOOSE FEDERATION
 C/O FNBA
 P.O. Box 231028
 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99523-1028

Check Attached for: \$ _____

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Please Charge my: _____ Visa _____ MasterCard _____ Other _____
 Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

Make sure your friends are members!