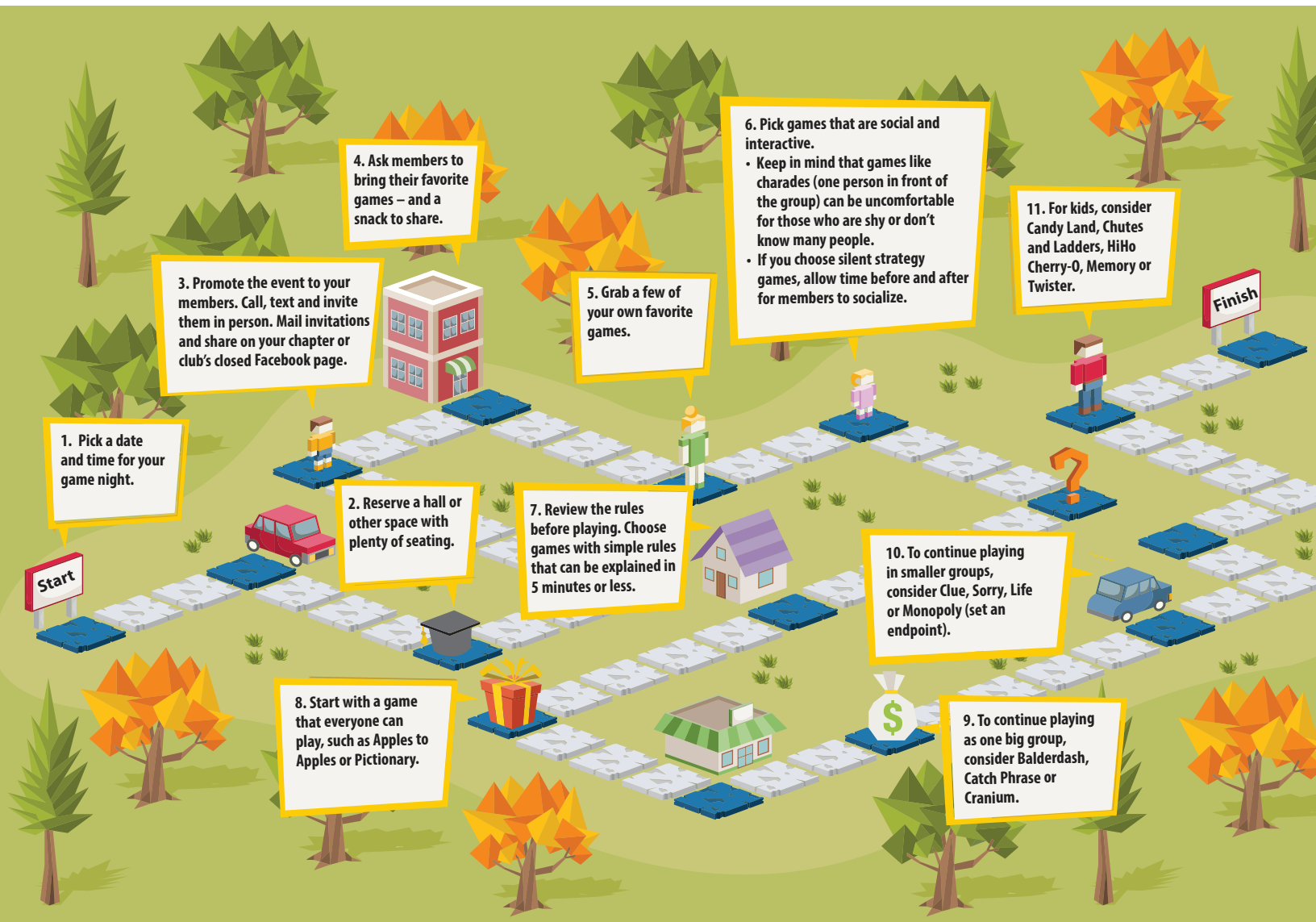


try **SOMETHING NEW**

Moves to help you win next game night

Pass go and collect \$200. Not quite. But you can pass go and collect ... some major impact! It's easy to organize a game night for your chapter, Summit chapter or youth service club. And board and party games are a fun way for members to get to know each other without awkward small talk.

You – and your chapter or club – can win big! Follow these moves:



A HOW-TO GUIDE FOR MODERN WOODMEN VOLUNTEER LEADERS

Impact

M A G A Z I N E

SPRING 2016

Kids spend a day with **DINOSAURS** p. 7

Chapter fundraises with the undead p. 5

3 easy ideas for service projects p. 8





Fraternal Department Training Coordinator Courtney Lawrence (left) was among almost 150 home office employees to spread holiday cheer to residents at 10 area nursing homes in December. Through Project Santa, entering its 44th year, employees raise money to serve refreshments and give a small gift to residents when they visit to sing carols.

Online learning lets you be a self-directed and goal-oriented learner. With your initiative and willingness to learn, 2016 is going to be the best fraternal year yet!

I love teaching and learning. I'm honored to put my passion and experience as a teacher to work developing online training materials for you. The training section at imakeanimpact.org is full of fun and engaging videos, training modules and resources. Examples include animated videos about your role as a leader, activity ideas, interactive quiz questions to test your knowledge, step-by-step suggestions for activities, and a quick reference guide.

You can decide when you want to expand your knowledge with unlimited access to these great resources and make a bigger impact in your local community!

Thank you for any suggestions, input and feedback regarding the training materials and Make An Impact. Together, we can make a difference!

Kind regards,

(signature)

Courtney Lawrence

IMPACT MAGAZINE

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How do you deal with change?



"Change is good and it happens every day in our lives. I'm a creature of habit though, so change takes me out of my comfort zone. I take a breath, sit back and realize it's not so bad."

Find us on:

- modernwoodmen
- @modernwoodmen
- ModernWoodmen1883

Frequently asked questions

Q. How do I report my activities at imakeanimpact.org?

- A. Follow these steps:
1. Gather, scan and save your receipts, proof of attendance, declaration form (Matching Fund), photos and any other required documents.
 2. To access the activity report, either:
 - a. Click "New Report" in the navigation bar (left of the dashboard) and select the activity to report.
 - b. From the dashboard, click on the three squares in the activity line, then select "Report Activity."
 3. Complete the report. Click "Submit Report."
 4. View the status of payments on the finances tab.

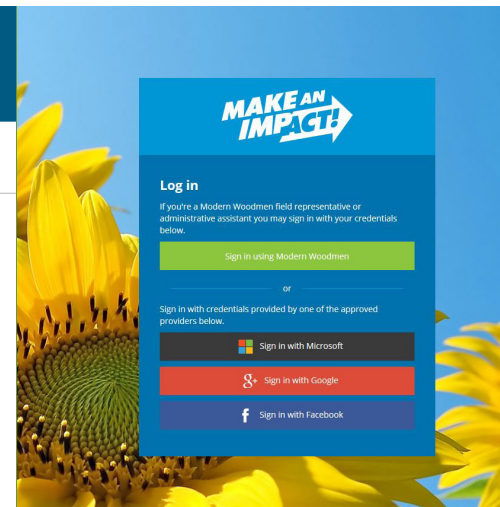
Q. When are reports due? What if my report is late?

- A. Submit activity reports within 30 days after an activity. Late reports may affect premier status. (See Page 10 for details.)

Q. I took photos at my event. Where do they go in imakeanimpact.org?

- A. Attach photos to the activity report before submitting it for approval. Only attach photos related to that specific activity. To view approved photos, click the drop-down arrow next to "Activity Management" at the top of the screen and select "Photo Gallery."

Have a question? Email us at impact@modern-woodmen.org.



Share this new benefit

Do your members know about a new benefit to protect their families from identity theft? The Identity Guard® benefit offers members a discount of more than 50 percent on the Identity Guard® Credit Protect Family Plan and Identity Guard® Total Protection. Plans offer credit reports and scores, credit monitoring and alert notifications, quarterly credit updates, unlimited access to customer service and credit education specialists, victim recovery assistance, and online credit education tools. Online sign-up is convenient, easy and takes only a few minutes. Go to member.modern-woodmen.org (under "Benefits").



4 Meet fraternal leader Wyman Davis
Scaring up funds for landmarks and schools.

6 Follow the leaders
Examples and ideas from across the country.

8 Do it different
Inspiration for easy service projects.

9 Make An Impact
A Project-in-a-Box makes service projects simple.

10 A team effort
Reach premier status with a chapter board.

11 Plan ahead
Start filling your calendar with fun.

12 Try something new
Win next game night.

meet fraternal leader **Wyman Davis**

"It's great when you ask someone who doesn't normally get involved, and it inspires them to volunteer. It's just a matter of getting them started."

City: Glen St. Mary, Fla.
Occupation: Retired Modern Woodmen representative
Family: Wife Joyce, four sons and 14 grandchildren

Why did you become a chapter activities coordinator? In 1988, I joined Modern Woodmen as a representative. I'm retired now, but I really believe in Modern Woodmen's concept of fraternalism.

What's your favorite chapter memory? One of the happiest times was when we hosted a character house. We painted kids' faces and had balloon animals. People just came out of the woodwork to help with and attend the event.

What's your most successful event? The Haunted Old Jail keeps getting better and better. It's growing and the whole community's involved.

What inspires you in planning an activity? A lot of ideas come from meeting the right people and asking them to help. It's great when you ask someone who doesn't normally get involved, and it inspires them to volunteer. It's just a matter of getting them started.

What do you do in your free time? My wife and I like antiques and traveling to historic places. There are also about five states we haven't been to that we're trying to see.

Where was your last vacation? We drove to the "American Pickers" shop in Nashville and Superman headquarters in Metropolis, Illinois. Then we drove west to the Black Hills in South Dakota and Custer's Last Stand in Montana. On the way home, we saw Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming and the Alamo in Texas.

What are you most thankful for? My wife and family, God and country.

What's your favorite movie? "Patton." I've probably seen it four times.



HOW-TO GUIDE:
Scaring up funds for landmarks, schools

Wyman Davis' chapter is working with the undead – hungry zombies and insane clowns – to bring his Florida county's old jail back to life. Each October, the chapter partners with the county historical society and local high school history club to host a Haunted Old Jail event, which is also a fundraiser for the partners.

With the popularity of TV shows like "The Walking Dead," the annual Haunted Old Jail has grown into an eagerly anticipated community wide collaboration.

Here's how Wyman organized a successful Matching Fund Project.

Birth of Frankenstein Wyman is active in his rural county of less than 30,000 people. A friend is president of the historical society and another is a teacher at the local high school. The idea for the Haunted Old Jail started to take shape as they

The Baker County community comes together each October for the Haunted Old Jail. The event, which benefits the historical landmark and local high school history club, started as a partnership among the historical society, high school and local Modern Woodmen chapter. In 2015, the event raised \$6,200, including \$2,500 from Modern Woodmen's Matching Fund Program. Photos courtesy of The Baker County Press.

discussed ways their organizations could benefit from working together.

Swarming like bats The first few years, Wyman put in a lot of work to organize the Haunted Old Jail. The students' involvement helped pull in support from other areas of the community. Donations from local families and businesses help buy advertising and supplies, so the high school and historical society receive all of the funds raised from the event.

High school students (many are Modern Woodmen members) bring the ghouls to life as actors. Older participants (again, many are Modern Woodmen members) build sets, serve refreshments and host tours. Wyman's chapter also helps sell tickets for the event.

(Fund)raising the dead In 2015, the event raised \$6,200, including a \$2,500 donation from Modern Woodmen's Matching Fund Program. The historical society uses the money to fund renovations at the jail. The high school also receives a portion of the proceeds to assist with the costs of a visit to a historical site the kids researched.

Little goblins Wyman says parts of the Haunted Old Jail can be scary. He's considering a separate, less frightening tour for younger kids to enjoy.

meet fraternal leader **WYMAN DAVIS**



STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI

Club thanks everyday heroes



Teens in Brittany Radford's youth service club celebrated the season of gratitude by giving thanks – and bags of popcorn – to everyday heroes in their community. In November, the club decorated bags with inspirational quotes and delivered popcorn to local law enforcement officers, firefighters, medics, doctors and nurses.

club decorated bags with inspirational quotes and delivered popcorn to local law enforcement officers, firefighters, medics, doctors and nurses.

HOW TO:

Ask for volunteers to donate supplies and make the popcorn at home before the activity. Purchase bags and search the internet or other sources for inspirational quotes relevant to the people you're thanking. Print, cut and sort the quotes. Set up stations with an adult volunteer to supervise each small team. Use hygiene in handling food. Use ribbon to tie a quote to each bag of popcorn.

NEXT TIME:

Brittany ran out of popcorn twice, and the teens took longer than she'd expected to bag the popcorn. The teens also ate some of the popcorn, despite the club serving hot dogs and cookies before starting. Next time, Brittany would have the popcorn in bags ahead of time so kids can simply decorate the bags they'll deliver to first responders. Of course, she'd still have popcorn for kids to enjoy!



Teens in a Mississippi youth service club bagged popcorn given as a thank-you to local first responders. How can your chapter or club thank people who make a difference in your community? Make an impact with the Be an Everyday Hero campaign (see flyer).

LEADERS



Members of a Michigan chapter enjoyed a day of playing laser tag, mini-golf and bumper cars, among other activities, at an indoor facility in November. They also collected canned foods for a local food pantry. Where in your community can members enjoy family fun together?

LANSING, MICHIGAN

Chapter takes games indoors



Members in Chaz King's chapter zapped their cold-weather blues with a day of laser tag. In November, the chapter paid a portion of each member's admission to the indoor facility, which

also offered arcade games, glow-in-the-dark mini-golf, bumper cars and a trampoline. Members picked up any remaining costs for activities they enjoyed.

HOW TO:

Identify a location in your community that offers a variety of fun activities for families. Ask about a group discount and schedule a time when most families can attend (Sunday afternoons work well for Chaz, especially during the school year).

TRY THIS:

Invite members to the activity by phone (calls and texts) and email (try a calendar invitation). Talk to members about the event when you see them in person in the weeks leading up to the event. Chaz says his best tool for informing members about an activity is the chapter's closed Facebook group. He promotes activities through posts, pictures and videos. He interacts with members online to quickly respond to questions or concerns.

NEXT TIME:

Chaz had hoped more families would attend the activity. Next time, he won't plan an event over a holiday weekend.

OGDEN, UTAH

Kids spend a day with dinosaurs



Learning was T-Rex size fun for the junior paleontologists in Andrea Sweat's youth service club. In October, kids spent a day at an eight-acre outdoor park featuring full-size skeletons and life-like robotic dinosaurs. They also engaged with the hands-on exhibits and saw real dinosaur bones and teeth.

HOW TO:

Identify a learning attraction in your area and check its hours of operation. Andrea spoke with parents before scheduling a date to make sure kids were available, and to make sure parents could provide rides.

NEXT TIME:

After learning at the park, the club struggled to find an open restaurant. Andrea suggests investigating nearby restaurants in advance or planning a picnic lunch.

YOUR TURN:

Andrea seized on kids' interest and organized an activity to further their learning. Think about what captures your members' attention. The kids' enthusiasm spread to their parents. Most parents wanted to accompany their children and a few kids came to participate in their first youth service club activity. Museums and zoos aren't the only learning opportunities. For kids, consider how members might learn about animals, trains or boats.



Kids in a Utah youth service club spent a day outdoors learning about dinosaurs from life-like robots. How can your chapter or club activity build on members' enthusiasm to learn about a topic?



A chapter in Arkansas honored two local girls for their generosity toward nursing home residents. Which unsung heroes in your community could your chapter honor as a Hometown Hero?

MOUNTAIN VIEW, ARKANSAS

Chapter honors young heroes



Theresa Cheatham's chapter proved you don't have to be a superman to be a hero. In October, the chapter honored two super girls as Hometown Heroes for saving money to

buy gifts for nursing home residents. The girls, Jaydynn and Kaethlynn Perez, pooled money they earned from odd jobs and chores or received as birthday and Christmas gifts to buy for residents whose names they picked from an angel tree.

HOW TO:

After talking with the chapter about the girls' good work, Theresa contacted their parents to ask permission to recognize them (the honor was a surprise for the girls). She sent invitations for members to attend the recognition at a local pizza place. In addition to Hometown Hero certificates, Theresa presented the girls with roses.

YOUR TURN:

This was the first time Theresa honored a youth as a Hometown Hero, and she looks forward to doing it again. Plus, members donated to help the girls reach their goal of doubling their giving next year. Ask your members about youths they know who make an impact.

do it **DIFFERENT**

3 easy ideas for inexpensive service projects

Service projects are a big way Modern Woodmen makes an impact in communities. But that doesn't mean you have to spend a lot of time or money to pull off a project that makes a big impact.

With Make An Impact, the guidelines for service projects are simple and flexible. There are only a few requirements:

- **Member involvement.** Offer opportunities for members to participate.
- **Local community impact.** Make a difference for your community, a local family or person in need.
- **Hands-on service.** Take action (painting, cleaning, collecting or assembling) to benefit another person or your community.

Here are three broad ideas you can tailor to make a big impact in your community.

1. Donate time and leave something behind

Examples: Read and donate books at a local children's hospital, library reading room or nursing home. Leave the books for others to enjoy after you leave.

- ✓ Collect donated new or used books.
- ✓ Pick a day for your group to visit.
- ✓ Leave the books.
- ✓ Use chapter or club funds to buy extra books or serve refreshments.

2. Care packages

Examples: Assemble and donate care packages based on the needs of specific groups, such as personal care for individuals, school supplies for teachers or students, thank-you cards for veterans, or duffle bags of



Just open the box and follow the step-by-step instructions. Read Page 9 for more on completing a Project-in-a-Box.



necessities for kids transitioning out of foster care.

- ✓ Collect donated items.
- ✓ Assemble care packages.
- ✓ Donate to the desired recipients.
- ✓ Use chapter or club funds to buy extra items or other supplies.

3. Low- or no-cost projects (Tip: Consider one of these if you run out of funds but want/need another service project).

Examples: Hold a clothing, book or food drive by asking members to donate items to a local organization. Recruit members to clean a park or community center, volunteer at a local event or serve food at a food kitchen.

- ✓ Ask for volunteers.
- ✓ Seek supplies donations.
- ✓ Enjoy making an impact.

For more ideas, view the "101 Event Ideas" list or past issues of Impact in the training materials section at imakeanimpact.org.

7 steps to use your service project pool of funds

There are thousands of ways to give back to your community.

To help, Modern Woodmen gives chapters and youth service clubs \$1,000 per year toward service projects. Summit chapters have \$100 per year for service projects. These pools of funds can help you purchase event supplies or refreshments for volunteers.

To request money from your pool of funds, go to imakeanimpact.org and follow these steps.

1. Complete the activity request form at least seven days before the activity. Enter the estimated cost. This amount will be subtracted immediately from your remaining service project funds on the finances tab.
2. Save your receipts.
3. Track attendance.
4. Enjoy your activity.
5. Complete an activity report within 30 days. Enter the actual costs in the "Total Cost" field on the report (clubs shouldn't include postage or hall rental in this field). Report any chapter funds or donations as funds received from other sources. We'll calculate your net costs (total cost minus funds from other sources). Your remaining funds will be updated to reflect the actual net cost.
6. Any reimbursements due will be paid after the report is approved.
7. View your remaining service pool funds anytime. You'll know what's available for your next service project.

Packed with impact

A Project-in-a-Box makes service projects simple

We pack a lot of impact in these little boxes.

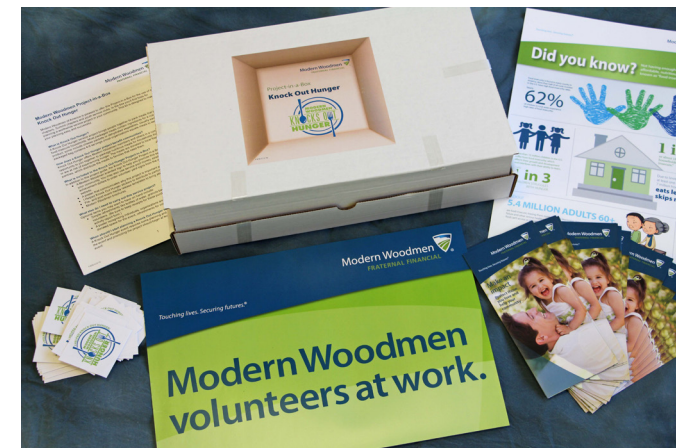
When you order a Project-in-a-Box at imakeanimpact.org, it's not about what you're getting – it's about what you're giving.

Inside, you'll find easy step-by-step instructions and almost everything you need to organize three different service projects: a used clothing drive, personal care kit donations or Knock Out Hunger meal packing.

Each box contains:

- A project guide.
- A Modern Woodmen sign to promote the service project to your community.
- A color poster that communicates why the project is important and beneficial.
- Pre- and post-event media release templates to attract attention to the project.
- Modern Woodmen brochures.

To make an impact, just open the box and start reading!



USED CLOTHING DRIVE

How it helps: Members donate no-longer wanted apparel and footwear. These donations provide clothing to those who cannot afford new clothing, keep unwanted clothing out of landfills, and preserve natural resources that would be used to make new clothing.

Special contents:

- Plastic bags to help organize donations.
- Guide to help estimate the value of donations.



PERSONAL CARE KITS

How it helps: Members donate inexpensive personal care items to maintain the personal hygiene and dignity of the homeless, struggling veterans and other individuals who may not have money to buy these items. Items are assembled into kits, which are donated to local charitable agencies. These organizations distribute them to people in need.

Special contents:

- Plastic bags for care items.
- Stickers for donation boxes (boxes not included).
- "Thinking of You" cards to decorate and sign.

KNOCK OUT HUNGER

How it helps: Members package nutritious meals for households experiencing or at risk of experiencing hunger. Meals are donated to local food banks and pantries, which distribute the meals to families in need.

Special contents:

- "I Helped Knock Out Hunger" stickers for participants.

A team effort

Reach premier status with a chapter board

You can now literally watch your chapter, Summit chapter or youth service club inch closer to premier status.

As you complete qualifications, the blue progress bar at imakeanimpact.org will move closer to 100 percent. But if you're the leader of a chapter or Summit chapter, you can't reach that achievement without a board of trustees.

Your roster

Chapters and Summit chapters must have a board of trustees to reach premier status. No board is needed for youth service clubs, but you're encouraged to ask others for ideas.

The board must consist of at least three (up to seven) members. Once you have a board assembled and it meets, submit an online board report (starting in late April).

Your plays

Keep it going by meeting as a board every six months. The board should:

- Identify community needs.
- Plan activities to engage a variety of members.
- Review chapter finances.
- Discuss progress toward premier status.

The Fraternal Department will reimburse the chapter up to \$7 per member for meeting costs (up to two per year). To be reimbursed, the board meeting must be on a separate day from chapter activities.

Your guides

- To form a chapter board, watch the module in the training section at imakeanimpact.org.
- To qualify for premier status, watch the fraternal achievement program module in the training section at imakeanimpact.org (or refer to your leader handbook and quick reference guide).

Tips to start your team

1. Get started with an activities coordinator, membership coordinator and president. Then ask your officers who they know for officer positions.
2. Officers can be anyone who cares about the community and has ideas to help make a difference. (Board members must be beneficial members of Modern Woodmen.)
3. Talk about the opportunity officers have to make an impact. Explain that serving on the board doesn't mean they have to go to every activity, but being on the board should help them plan activities they'll want to attend.

THIS QUARTER

APRIL

Card and Letter Writing Month. As a service project, make cards for kids at a local hospital or seniors in nursing homes.

Kite Month. Build and fly kites together at a local park.

Car Care Month. Hold an educational activity on car maintenance or host a car wash as a Matching Fund project.

April 22: Earth Day. Make your service cleanup project fun with a litter scavenger hunt game.

- Start planning a project for Be an Everyday Hero (see flyer).
- _____
- Email impact@modern-woodmen.org to share your creative activity with other leaders.

MAY

National Foster Care Month. Order a Project-in-a-Box to make personal care kits for children transitioning out of foster care. (See Page 9.)

Physical Fitness and Sports Month. Bike, hike, or attend a sporting event. Remind members about the Anytime Fitness benefit.

Barbeque Month. Plan a cookout, take a cooking class or plan a social activity at a barbeque restaurant.

May 25: Memorial Day. Be an Everyday Hero by placing flags on veterans' graves or planning an activity to honor veterans and active military personnel.

- Schedule a chapter board planning meeting for July.
- Start planning a project for Be an Everyday Hero (see flyer).
- _____
- Email impact@modern-woodmen.org to share your creative activity with other leaders.

JUNE

Flag Month. Be an Everyday Hero by donating a flag to your community.

National Safety Month. Remind members about the new Identity Guard benefit. (See Page 3.)

June 5: National Doughnut Day. Deliver doughnuts with members to someone who makes a difference.

June 21: Summer begins. Include a water safety lesson with your pool party and turn it into an educational event.

- Share the youth educational program catalog with teachers planning the upcoming school year.
- Start planning a project for Be an Everyday Hero (see flyer).
- _____
- Email impact@modern-woodmen.org to share your creative activity with other leaders.

NEXT QUARTER

JULY

Wheelchair Beautification Month. As a service project, build a wheelchair ramp for a person in your community.

Social Wellness Month. Spend time talking or playing games with nursing home residents or hospitalized kids.

Blueberry Month. Organize a bake sale or baking contest with blueberry goodies as a Matching Fund project. (Or try a grill-off for National Grilling Month.)

July 4: Independence Day. Honor a veteran or first responder. (See Page 6.)

- Hold a chapter board meeting. Review your progress toward premier status, and start planning activities for the next six months. (See Page 10.)
- Start planning a project for Be an Everyday Hero (see flyer).
- _____
- _____

AUGUST

Summer Olympic Games 2016. Gather at a local grille to watch the events.

Boomers Making a Difference Month. Gather Summit chapter members for a service project.

What Will Be Your Legacy Month. Invite your Modern Woodmen representative or another speaker to make an educational presentation on estate planning.

Aug. 26: National Dog Day. Tour a local veterinarian's office, donate to an area shelter, or hold a dog walk as a Matching Fund project.

- Start planning a project for Be an Everyday Hero (see flyer).
- _____
- _____

SEPTEMBER

Hunger Action Month. Order the Knock Out Hunger Project-in-a-Box to start planning a meal-packing event and donation over the holidays. (See Page 9.)

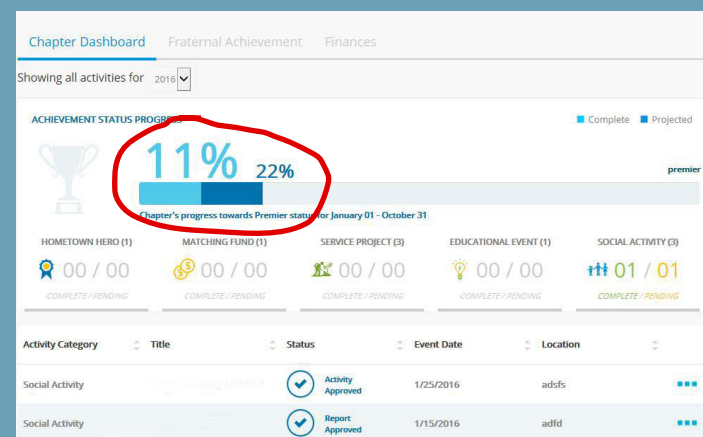
International Square Dancing Month. Hire a square dance instructor and hold a potluck and dance.

Sept. 23: Autumn begins. Visit a nursery or orchard, or enjoy a group hike.

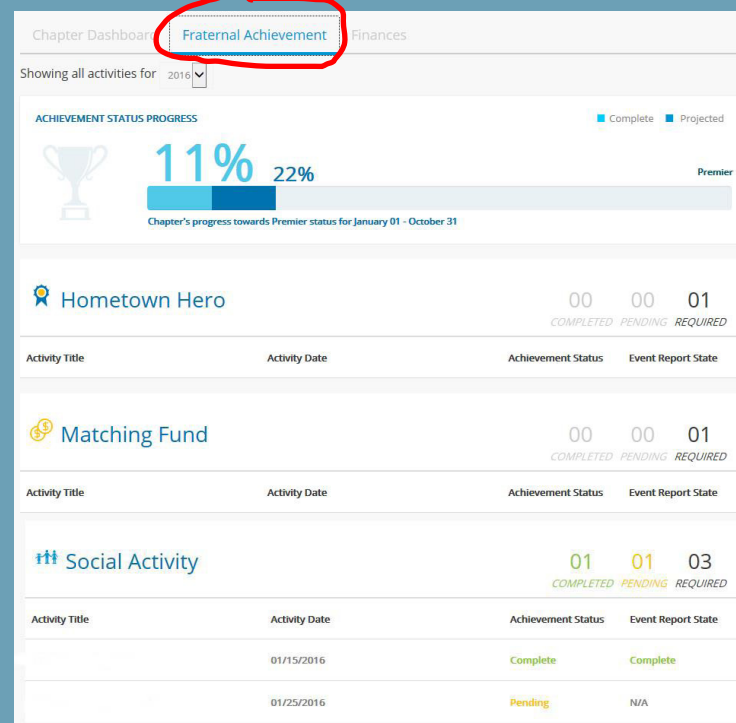
Sept. 28: National Good Neighbor Day.

- Hold the service project you planned for Be an Everyday Hero, observing 15 years since 9/11.
- _____
- _____

Below, the progress bar displays activities you've both planned and reported toward achieving premier status.



Right, click the fraternal achievement tab to see more details about activities included in the percentage. This page shows the status of all past and future activities within each category. It also shows the minimum number of activities required to achieve premier status.



cut along dotted line