



INSIDE

See What's New at
The Meemic Foundation

Simple Do's and Don'ts
of Fireplace Safety

Bulletin Board

Partnership
to
Protection

Your Meemic Agent



Brad Trotter

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TrotterAssociatesInsurance.com

Back to School

Dear Member,

Like many of you, nothing gets us excited quite like the start of a new school year. For anyone who works in a school, it's a year full of promise as a new batch of students arrives, ready (we hope) to learn and write that "What I Did Over Summer Vacation" essay.

For us, it's a chance to reconnect with the folks we're pledged to serve: educators. It's meeting teachers, welcoming new Members to the Meemic family and impressing current Members with our best-in-class customer service. It's continuing to make improvements to our online Account Center so it makes your life easier.

And it's sharing the myriad opportunities available through The Meemic Foundation for the Future of Education and the Foundation Club. We've got new partnerships and new grant opportunities in the works, as well as more free workshops on a variety of topics.

Look inside this fall newsletter to read about these exciting updates and more. And best wishes for a fun and fruitful school year.

Our sincere thank you for being a Meemic Member.

Best,

Brad Trotter

You Gotta Have Art

What started as an employee's idea to spruce up the walls at Meemic's headquarters became a hugely successful grant round for The Meemic Foundation when more than 1,300 artworks arrived at our offices in Auburn Hills, MI.

Meemic Masterpieces was a K-12 grant and art contest. From the 1,300 entries received, drawn by students, 51 winners were selected (not an easy task). The winning sponsoring club members received \$300 grants for art supplies while the student artists each received a Kindle Fire HD. Every student who submitted artwork received a personalized certificate of recognition.



On Aug. 11, Meemic held a public art gallery reception to showcase the professionally framed artwork. All of the artwork is now hanging throughout Meemic headquarters as an endearing reminder of why we do what we do to support the educational community.

Foundation Club members, look for Meemic Masterpieces Round Two in October.

New Partner, New Grant Opportunity

The Meemic Foundation has partnered with Lakeshore Learning for a new grant opportunity for Classroom Enrichment. 1,500 grant recipients will be selected to receive up to \$100 to spend online at Lakeshore Learning, a top

Lakeshore

resource for classroom accoutrements and supplies.

The deadline is Sept. 30, so visit your agent's website for the link to apply today.

Fore! Education

The Meemic Foundation held its first Fore! Education golf outing fundraiser at Indianwood Golf and Country Club in Lake Orion, MI. Almost 100 golfers gathered for a round of golf and dinner, and participated in a silent auction of sports memorabilia and artwork. One-hundred percent of the proceeds from the golf outing will go directly to funding education programs for our schools.



Link & Learn Workshops

One of the benefits of joining the Foundation Club is access to free workshops that provide professional and personal development opportunities.

2014-15 Michigan Teacher of the Year Melody Arabo conducted a series of bully prevention workshops based on her book, "Diary of a Real Bully." Registered dietitians in Illinois and Michigan shared tips and recipes for healthy meals to pack for hectic school days.

Caryn Wells, Ph.D., associate professor at Oakland University and author of "Mindfulness: How School Leaders Can Reduce Stress and Thrive on the Job," led an engaging workshop on the topic of Mindfulness in the Classroom.



This month, Wisconsin club members can

register to attend a series of workshops on green and healthy schools.

Keep an eye out for more of our Link & Learn Workshops — where Foundation Club members can network with colleagues while learning.

To learn about exclusive grant opportunities, free workshops and other Foundation Club benefits, visit

MeemicFoundation.org/FoundationClub

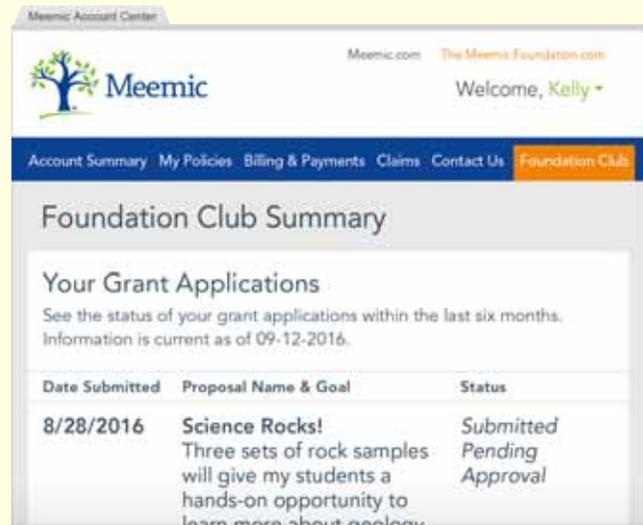
Improved Account Center Opens Possibilities

If you're a Foundation Club member, we're making life simpler for you. We're bringing together the club and the Account Center so you only need one sign-on to access both your Meemic insurance policy information and exclusive Foundation Club benefits.

With our improved Account Center, Foundation Club members will be able to view grant history, track the status of their current applications and more, while being a click away from reviewing their insurance coverages and billing information.

To access these convenient features, you'll have to be registered with the Account Center.

➔ To sign up, visit Member.Meemic.com.



NEW! Meemic policyholders who are not or are no longer members of the educational community are welcome to sign up for the Foundation Club. Whether you are simply a supporter of the educational community, a student teacher or a retired education employee, we invite all policyholders to join the Foundation Club for exclusive access to workshops and grant opportunities.

At Your Service

We look at every interaction with you as an opportunity to help one of our own ... as a colleague, friend and family member. Here are a few of the faces — from leadership to claims to customer service — dedicated to serving you.



LEFT Executive leadership team: Brad Roeber, Pat Ruhlman, Matt Michalski and Rob Ross | BOTTOM RIGHT Claims management: Vicki, Matt, Kimberly, Chris, Rachel, Jeff and Tuesday | TOP RIGHT Customer service management: Sara and Danny

Join the Conversation! Read new Meemic Foundation grant stories, get insurance news and find out the latest safety information at our pages on Facebook and Twitter – and tell us what you think.

You also can send comments or feedback directly to your Meemic agent or to communications@Meemic.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

 [Facebook.com/Meemic](https://www.facebook.com/Meemic)

 Follow us @Meemic

Flue Season – Fireplace Safety Tips



Sitting around a cozy, warm fire can be a wonderful experience for a family. But that experience can quickly turn to tragedy if you don't follow some simple do's and don'ts of fireplace safety.

First, have your fireplace and chimney inspected. After that, there are several other steps you should take before ever lighting a fire:

- Put a guard on top of your chimney to keep out birds and small animals. The guard will also shield sparks that could set your roof on fire.
- Keep newspapers, magazines, rugs and carpeting a safe distance away from the fireplace.
- Remove any holiday decorations from the fireplace and mantle before lighting a fire.
- Teach children to stay away from the fireplace.
- Be sure that an adult is in the room at all times when a fire is burning.
- Keep a fire extinguisher handy in case of an emergency.

Dispose of ashes safely after the fire has had time to completely cool (this can take several days, depending on the fire) by transferring them to a metal container away from all combustibles and wetting them down. After soaking, the water can be poured in the yard to provide nutrients.

There are also some things you should never do when you light a fire:

- Never burn charcoal in your fireplace because it produces carbon monoxide, which is deadly.
- Never light a fire without enclosing the fireplace's opening with glass doors or a sturdy screen. This will prevent sparks from escaping that could ignite curtains or furniture.
- Never close the flue while a fire is still smoldering because it could result in a build-up of carbon monoxide.
- Never use gasoline, kerosene or lighter fluid to start a fire. Burn dry, seasoned hard wood.
- Never light a fire with anything other than long-stemmed matches.

If a large fire breaks out, act immediately because smoke and flames will spread quickly. You and your family should leave the house at once. Don't stop to call the fire department and don't try to extinguish the fire yourself. Fumes overcome most victims long before flames do. If you must go through the smoke to escape, get down on your hands and knees on the floor and crawl with your body as low to the floor as possible. Keep your head about 12-24 inches above the floor. After you and your family are safely out of the house, call the fire department from a neighbor's home.

Board Announces Teacher of the Year Finalists



Back-to-school means it's time to choose the Illinois State Board of Education's 2017 Illinois Teacher of the Year. This year, a selection committee reviewed 252 nominations and whittled them down to 10 finalists.

Teacher of the Year is part of the board's Those Who Excel program, which honors individuals in seven categories: classroom teacher (licensed), school administrator, student support personnel (licensed), educational service personnel (unlicensed), school board member/community volunteer, team and early career educator.

The winner will be announced during the Those Who Excel banquet Oct. 22 in Normal. The finalists:

Ricardo Castro: ESL, language arts and Spanish, Elk Grove High School, Township High School District 214

John Colucci: language arts, Percy Julian Middle School, Oak Park Elementary School District 97

Nichole Folkman: Journalism, English, speech, composition and literature, Hartsburg-Emden CUSD 21

Candace Hamilton: physical science, Whiteside Middle School, Whiteside School District 115

Matthew Herndon: physical education, Lewis & Clark Junior High School, Wood River-Hartford School District 154

Edward (Ted) Houpt: social studies, Danville High School, Danville Consolidated School District 118

John Kabat: agriculture, Mt. Vernon Township High School, Mt. Vernon

Patti Ludwig: fourth grade, Mary Morgan Elementary School, Byron Community Unit School District 226

Elizabeth Mendoza: 10-12th grade, J.S. Morton East High School, J.S. Morton High School District 201

Anthony Zarate: language arts, UCSN Brighton Park Elementary, Chicago



AAA Membership Open to Meemic

AAA is synonymous with roadside assistance and hotel discounts, and now Meemic members are eligible to join the network at special pricing and take advantage of those popular perks, plus many other benefits of membership:

- **AAA's Legendary Roadside Assistance:** Call the toll-free number on your AAA Card at any

time, and AAA will send aid for a variety of services, including towing, fuel delivery and lock-out service.

- **Car Travel Interruption Protection:** Get reimbursed for eligible personal expenses due to a qualifying breakdown or accident if traveling 100 or more miles away from home.
- **AAA Travel:** Book your vacation through the leading full-service leisure travel agency in North America. Find exclusive deals on Disney trips, get free TripTik® routings and TourBook® guides, and purchase international driving permits.
- **Member Discounts:** Save money at thousands of retailers, hotels, restaurants, theme parks and automotive repair shops nationwide.



Interested? Talk to your agent.

“If it weren’t for you, we wouldn’t exist.”



Brad Roeber
Chief Operating Officer

Did You Know?

Eligibility moves with you: If you’re a Meemic member living with a member parent, you are eligible to keep your Meemic insurance when you move out, even if you’re not an educator, as long as there is no interruption in coverage. But once you change providers, you are not eligible to come back unless you’re part of the educational community.



For real: Can’t find your proof of insurance in the glovebox? If you’re on the road and need to show it, no problem. Login to your account at Member.Meemic.Com and choose “Electronic Proof of Insurance” from the top menu for a legal, electronic version of this important document.

Coming soon: As we continue to make improvements to our Account Center, you will soon be able to opt for electronic versions of your coverage documents rather than receive multi-page packets in the mail. You will also be able to choose between mail, email or text messages for some marketing communications.

