

July Supreme President Message

MOC Auxiliary Members,

My year as your Supreme President of the MOCA is ending way too fast! It seems like it just started and in a few weeks it will be over. I would like to say thank you for your support throughout this year.

I have to say that everywhere I went has been great. Great food, great entertainment, great comradery, and great hospitality. All of this was because of the **GREAT** people we have in this organization. I drove through and stopped in thirty-two states and some of those twice. Lots of hotels and fast food. I want to take time to thank the Grands of Washington, Louisiana, Oregon, Colorado, and Texas their gracious hospitality, fun filled events and interesting/fun meetings. My granddaughter Katrina and my niece Kathy were amazed at all the fun they saw everyone was having.

Highlights of this year was visiting veterans in hospitals and nursing homes. I got to meet a couple of veterans that were WASP (Women AirForce Service Pilots, one of them was 100 years old)! My journey this year took me through so many states, (driving of course).

Supreme Commander Mark Larkin and I participated in laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, honoring the sacrifices of American Service members. It was an unforgettable and once in a lifetime experience that I will never forget.

Cootie Christmas at the National Home is another fun time for everyone! Especially when one sees the excitement and joy in the children's faces when Santa and Mrs. Santa show up. If you have not attended this event, you have been missing out!

This year, for the first time, the Supreme Commander and the Supreme President are on the VFW National Home Board. Sitting on that board and being a part of the planning that goes on at the National Home is highly informative. You get a unique perspective on the National Home and what it takes to keep it going for our Veterans' families. Thanks to all the National Home board members for making us a part of this.

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Finally, got to zip line at the Grand Canyon. It was great! After we got to the end of the zip line, they informed us that the vehicle that was scheduled to pick us up had broken down. So, we had to climb the mountain to get back to where they could pick us up. I can truthfully say, I climbed out of the Grand Canyon. I thought it would take me all day and night, but it did not, and I made it.

All the memories and experiences this year could not have happened if it were not for all the great members, we have in the MOC and MOCA. Thank you for all the challenging work you are doing keeping our veterans in beds of white smiling. I know you all have in some way *Put your boots on the Ground for Our Veterans in Beds of White* and will continue to do so in the future.

We have changes on the horizon. All for the betterment of our organization. We need to keep growing! So, get out there and look around at all the VFW Auxiliary members for those that you would like to join us in this great organization. Just remember, we are one of them and they are us.

I want to thank each one of you for the hospitality and support you gave to all the representatives and visitors to your Grands and Auxiliaries.

The Supreme Convention is just around the corner in Louisville, KY. And, if you want to go zip lining while you are there, there is one in at the Louisville Mega Cavern under the Louisville Zoo. Been there and done that.

Congratulations to all newly elected officers for the upcoming year!