Listen Cooties, Cuties and anyone else that might be slightly amused!

I want to start off this month’s Cootie Tickle stating that as of this writing, Cootie Christmas is still a GO! Your Supreme team is doing all we can to keep Cootie Christmas on the schedule. I want to thank our National Home Chairman, Past Supreme Commander Don Lynch; Special Projects Chairman Eric Bell; Deputy Chief of Staff Ken Thie and MOCA Supreme Senior Vice President Kathy Thie for all of their continued help with the planning. We are going to try to conduct our Council of Administration on Friday, December 4, 2020. Things may be different with accommodations, meetings places, times, etc., but we will work through it. We will come together as the servants we are and work it out. I am confident the hard-working staff at the National Home will do all they can to keep our beloved annual tradition alive for the sake of the children who love Cootie Christmas!

Did you read the article in the September issue of the VFW Magazine? I want to thank the editors for a great spotlight on our organization. We have been wanting to get into the magazine for many years and we’ve finally done it. Hopefully, we will be able to have a regular spot in future issues.

This month, I would like to highlight a special program sponsored by the Grand of Oregon benefiting the National Home called “The Oregon Cootie Trail” project. The entire membership package includes the membership pin, eight additional pins of states that evolved out of the Oregon Territory or were involved with the original Oregon Trail, and a Certificate of Membership indicating that the donor is an Oregon Cootie Trailblazer. Cost of the entire package is $60 plus $3.50 for shipping and handling – a total of $63.50. Donate just $20 and you will receive the special membership pin only. State Pins may be obtained separately with a donation of $5 for each pin but a membership card is only presented with a request for the entire package. When requesting by mail, use the application form below. Indicate clearly if you are requesting individual pins by checking the spaces of the desired pin(s). Do not indicate if you are requesting the entire membership package.

REQUEST TO BECOME AN OREGON COOTIE TRAILBLAZER

NAME: _____________________________________________
MAIL ADDRESS: _________________________________________
CITY/TOWN: ______________________ ZIP: ____________

1. I am submitting a donation of $60.00 (plus $3.50 s. & h.) to become a Lifetime Member of “The Oregon Cootie Trail” Project: $_______
2. I am submitting a donation of $20 (plus $3.50 s. & h.) for the membership pin of “The Oregon Cootie Trail” Project: $_______

3. I am submitting a donation of $5 for each state pin as checked off below at a total cost of (add $3.50 for s. & h.): $________


There is only one shipping and handling charge of $3.50 per request. Send your request with a check payable to GRAND OF OREGON to: T.O.C.T. Dennis R. Marsh, P.O. Box 920, Florence, OR 97439. Additional information if needed can be obtained by emailing Dennis Marsh at keahouse@q.com

Grand Commanders should have received your red Grand Commander shirt in the mail with some pins to pass out. The title on your shirt says Supreme Grand Commander. This is not how we normally address our Grand Commanders, but it was a simple print error. However, it is a technically correct, so we sent them out in order to get them to you as soon as possible. Please pass on that any Cootie or Cutie may order a red commander shirt from the Cootie Depot with their respective title. If you are looking for ways to reward your lousing cooties and cuties, give Gary or Delpha a call and they can help you with Cootie Depot Gift Certificates, discounts for bulk buys (shirts, coins, pins, masks, etc.) and all sorts of ideas. Past Supreme Commander and Presidents should receive your gold shirts soon, unless you were already given a shirt due to your current position. I hope you will wear your Cootie shirt and regalia as often as possible to promote our great organization.

The Supreme Line Officers held our first Supreme Officer’s Call. This is where we will discuss membership status and plans, schedule changes at the Grand level and above, Supreme representation, and any major issues that come up. We are going to communicate well at the Supreme level. If you are not getting the information you need, please email me personally at LTDARIN@YAHOO.COM and I will fill you in and fix the communication issue that plagues you. I encourage Grand Commanders to find a way to communicate to your Pup Tents regularly. The Supreme Officer’s Call will take place on the first Monday of every month at the listed times below:

Pacific Time: 1600 hours  Mountain Time: 1700 hours  Central Time: 1800 hours  Eastern Time: 1900 hours

During these times of isolation and travel restrictions, we must be very creative in our work. Just because we are facing many barriers, we do not give up or simply stand by. In battle, when the times got tough, did we just sit down and wait for the hard part to be finished and then join the battle? NO! When the fighting was at
its worse, we had to become stronger, more resilient, and innovative; this is no different. One idea shared at the Officer’s Call was working with your local hospital, nursing home, senior facility, etc., to get the birth dates of any Veterans in their facility and send a card, a small gift or even make a simple phone call. This will make their day. Put yourself in their position. Some do not have family to visit and your phone call may be the only communication outside of clinical staff our fellow Comrade has.

Yours in the LOTCS,
Darin Combs
Supreme Commander