

It's a GREAT MOCA day! This year is started off well. I am seeing inspections come in and one Grand is already at 100%.

I have just returned from Caring and Sharing in Pittsburgh, PA. What an awesome event and it is such an honor to represent you all. For years I have heard of this event and did not know what it exactly was. I'll share with you what happens and how enjoyable it was. It's a four (4) day event sponsored by many veteran organizations. The Supreme Commander Dan and I were invited to be there on Friday the 8th. This is for our hospitalized Veterans who are brought by their medical facilities at 9:00 AM to the Gateway Clipper Fleet at Station Square and checked in. Then they are given a Caring and Sharing ball cap, treated to refreshments and social time before boarding. Once underway, a gangway is lowered over the water and Commander Dan and I, along with the Pennsylvania Grand Commander, proceeded down a 12-foot gangway where a wreath was dropped overboard in memory of our Veterans. Afterward, dinner was served followed by dancing with the patients. We talked to all Veterans. They were so sweet and a couple a bit rambunctious. Our Veterans were given gifts and upon return to the dock we got to shake each one's hand and thank them for their service to our country. This is such an awesome event and an honor to be invited to attend. Our Supreme Commander was appointed Captain of the boat and he did a great job.

Our Saturday night banquet theme is "Cowboy and the Southern Belle" so let's have fun. My Homecoming will be at Tomb Trek on Sunday afternoon, 5 November from 3-5 PM, in the North Carolina Hospitality Room.

Just a housekeeping note, "Please" have the Grand Secretary send your General Orders, a list of events to all the line Officers and your Representative request in the packet for me. If some Convention details are not available it can be amended. The Treasurer's report was due at the end of August. When inspected, ensure a copy of the bond, audits, three (3) months of bank statements, CD statements, EIN's, date 990 date filed and receipted are available. Inspectors will sign and date all documents. Remember if a motion was made involving money, ensure the dollars voted upon were sent. Members I'm asking for your help. Let's let this be the year we make a 100% by interacting with our VFW's more. We can get those new members and stand up new Auxiliaries.

God Bless and as I write, Irma is over and our members have fared well with no injuries so far. Prayers for those impacted. Porky/Petunia (National Home Pigs) and I will see you all soon.

Loyally,

Penny Sue Cacoulidis
Supreme President 2017-18