

Brothers and Sisters,

It is both an honor and a privilege to serve as your Hospital Commissioner for the coming year. I am excited to work alongside you as we continue one of the most meaningful aspects of our mission— “Keeping them Smiling in Beds of White”.

Hospital work is about more than visits, donations, and volunteer hours. It is about reminding Veterans that they are not forgotten. Whether a Veteran is recovering from an illness, receiving long-term care, or facing difficult health challenges, a kind word, a visit, or a simple act of compassion can make a tremendous difference to each of them.

This year, I encourage every member to look for ways to strengthen your relationships with local veteran medical facilities, clinics, nursing homes, and care centers. Whether through volunteer service, donations of comfort items, holiday activities, recreational events, or simply spending time visiting with veterans, everything you do contributes to our mission.

Not every contribution requires a large project or a significant amount of time. Small acts of kindness often have the greatest impact. A greeting card, a comfort item, participation in a facility event, or simply taking time to listen can brighten a Veteran’s Day.

One area I would like to see grow this year is participation. Not every member can volunteer in a hospital setting, but everyone can contribute in some way. Collecting needed supplies, supporting special projects, organizing donations, or helping with fundraising are all valuable ways to support hospitalized veterans.

I also encourage each Auxiliary to engage new members and involve all your members in events or projects that your Auxiliary may be doing. Our future depends on our mentorship and teamwork. We need all of our members both long time and new to continue our mission.

I also encourage Auxiliaries to share your success stories. Hearing how one Auxiliary developed a successful volunteer project or created a meaningful event can inspire others to do the same. By sharing ideas, we can strengthen our impact and expand the reach of our program. Remember a smile, a visit, a helping hand, or a few hours of volunteer work can make a lasting difference in the life of a Veteran or even a fellow member. These acts of kindness embody the spirit of the Military Order of the Cootie Auxiliary and reflect the values we proudly uphold.

I will be hosting a monthly Zoom meeting. This will be our “Hospital Happy Hour”. My goal would be to use this time to help answer questions, do some training and let you share with others. Watch for more information on this soon.

Thank you for your dedication, generosity, and continued commitment to serving those who have served us. I look forward to working with each of you throughout the year and seeing the positive impact you make in a Veterans life in your communities.

I hope to recognize the outstanding work being done by our Auxiliaries. Across our organization, countless volunteers give their time, talents, and resources to improve the lives of Veterans. Their dedication deserves to be celebrated and shared as an inspiration to others. Awarded certificates and or plaques will be determined by final quotas for both Auxiliaries and Grands. These award requirements will be listed in the final Program.

Should you have questions, need assistance, or wish to share ideas, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Loyally,

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Supreme Hospital Commissioner
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