Crummy Dictionary



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Illustrated Version 2.4

Now with Cootie Latin

Itchin' for a Lousy read?

Alert! Alert! Listen, Specie Pediculi! You've wandered into a particularly Lousy patch of the Hunting Grounds: our Crummy Dictionary! Around here, Crummy is a compliment, Lousy is praise, and Pestiferous means you're doing especially well. If ordinary folks understood everything we said, where would be the fun in that?

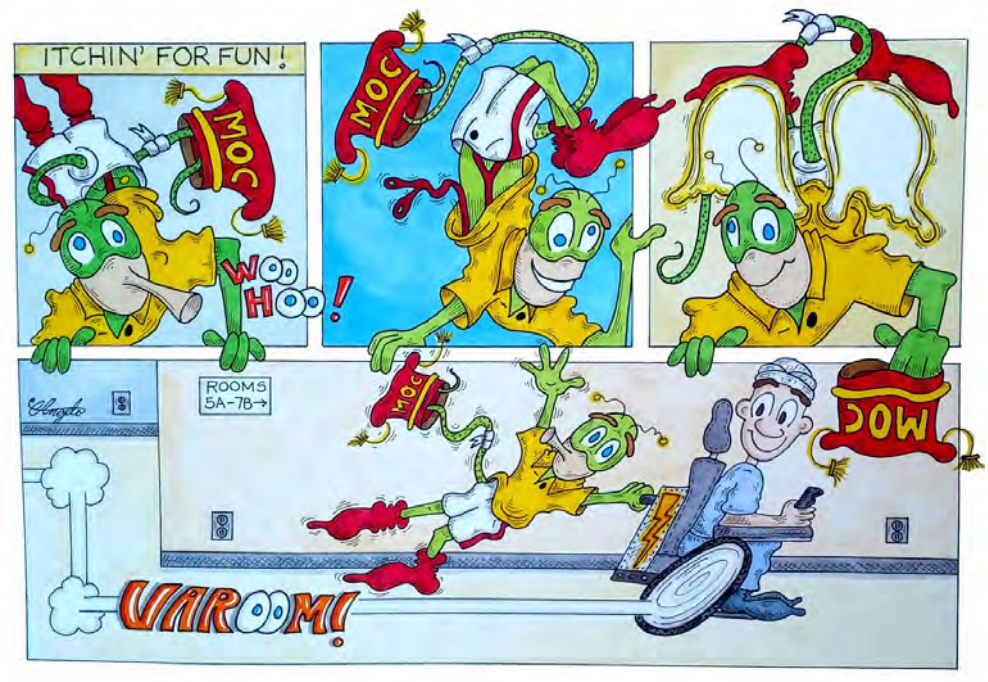
Whether you're an Atom itching to become a Nit, a Grayback working toward that Cootie Bug, or an old Cootie with plenty of Scratches under your belt, there's something here to tickle your fangs. Meet the Shavetails, follow the cartoons, and find out what all that buzzing is about.

So straighten that Lazy Tassel, settle into your favorite Seam, and peruse these Crummy pages. Share a Lousy laugh with a comrade, learn a word or two, then get back to Working the Seams and Keep 'em Smilin' in Beds of White. That's what makes our Crummy Fraternity so Pestiferous!

Say it Lousy!

Pronunciations use plain-English sound guides. CAPITALS mark stressed syllables. Hyphens separate sounds; ow rhymes with cow, oh with go, and oo with too. Initials are read letter by letter. Latin-flavored terms use an English-style pronunciation. Examples show our Cootie meanings in action.

New in Version 2.4: every entry now includes a playful Cootie Latin line for extra Lousy fun.





Aggravation

Say: ag-ruh-VAY-shun

Cootie Latin: *Gradus tertius, lousitas maxima!*
“Third degree: maximum Lousiness achieved!”

Ceremonial term. The Third Degree portion of MOC degree work, through which a Grayback advances toward becoming a full Cootie.

Example: After Aggravation, that Grayback was one Lousy new Cootie!



Alert! Alert!

Say: uh-LERT! uh-LERT!

Cootie Latin: *Audite! Audite! Cootii ad portas!*
“Hear ye! Hear ye! The Cooties are at the door!”

Established Cootie rendering for urgent attention.

Example: Alert! Alert! There's a Crummy message for the Pup Tent!



An Itching to Become a Nit

Say: an ITCH-ing tuh bih-KUM uh NIT

Cootie Latin: *Pruritus ad Nitum numquam quiescit!*
“The itch to become a Nit never takes a day off!”

Ritual expression describing the first 'symptom' an Atom who wishes to enter the Crummy Fraternity.

Example: That Atom has an itching to become a Nit!



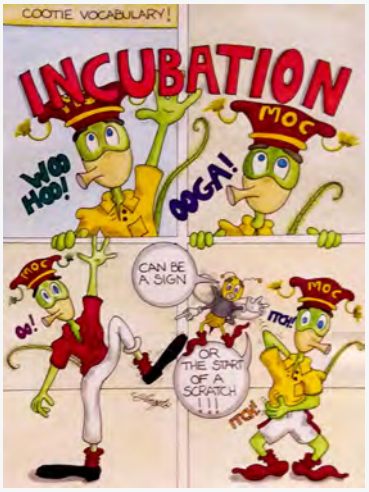
Atom

Say: AT-um

Cootie Latin: *Atomus candidatus, nondum Nitus!*
"An aspiring Atom, not quite a Nit yet!"

Membership term. A prospective member who has not yet received the Nit Degree.

Example: Bring that eligible VFW comrade along; we have an Atom in our Hunting Grounds!



Attend to Your Regalia

Say: uh-TEND tuh yor rih-GAY-lee-uh

Cootie Latin: *Pantalonem solve; spectaculum finitum!*
"Unroll that pant leg; the show is over!"

The instruction to unroll the pant leg that was rolled up at the start of the Scratch. See Sign of Incubation.

Example: Attend to your regalia, Cooties; unroll that pant leg!



Backward

Say: BAK-werd

Cootie Latin: *Retro est via honorifica!*
"Backward is the most honorable direction!"

A traditional Cootie convention of doing or presenting certain things contrary to the ordinary way.

Example: He did it backward, in true Cootie fashion!



Backward Steps

Say: BAK-werd STEPS

Cootie Latin: *Passus retro, gloria ante!*
“Backward steps, forward glory!”

Ceremonial expression. The steps an Atom takes before becoming a Nit.

Example: Those Backward Steps are part of the Atom's journey toward becoming a Nit.



Black Book

Say: BLAK BOOK

Cootie Latin: *Liber niger memoriam longam habet!*
“The Black Book has a mighty long memory!”

An official record containing the names of rejected applicants or candidates.

Example: The rejected applicant's name was entered in the Black Book.



Black Division

Say: BLAK dih-VIZH-un

Cootie Latin: *Divisio nigra, sed semper crumma!*
“A Black Division, but still gloriously Crummy!”

An organizational designation associated with Pup Tents operating separately from a Grand Pup Tent.

Example: That Pup Tent operates in the Black Division, separately from a Grand Pup Tent.



Blanket Bum

Say: BLANG-kit BUM

Cootie Latin: *Vice-Squirrelus: praesens cum dux abest!*
“The deputy is present when the boss is absent!”

Officer title. The Pup Tent equivalent of the Senior Vice Commander. Assists the Seam Squirrel and presides in the Seam Squirrel's presence (absence).

Example: The Seam Squirrel is present, so the Blanket Bum will preside.



Blue Ointment

Say: BLOO OYNT-ment

Cootie Latin: *Unguentum caeruleum: spes in vasculo!*
“Blue ointment: hope in a little jar!”

A salve put on wounds to make everything better. See Give Me a Pound of Blue Ointment; Distress.

Example: That comrade needs some Blue Ointment and a Lousy bit of encouragement.



Bug Check

Say: BUG CHEK

Cootie Latin: *Insectum in collare? Inspice statim!*
“A bug on the collar? Inspect at once!”

A check to verify that a Third Degree Cootie is wearing the Cootie Bug. Nits and Graybacks do not have a Cootie Bug. See Cootie Bug.

Example: Bug Check! Let's see that Cootie Bug on your collar!



Busier Than a Bee

Say: BIZ-ee-er than uh BEE

Cootie Latin: *Occupatior ape, sed multo lousior!*
“Busier than a bee, and considerably Lousier!”

Traditional expression describing the industry and energetic service expected of a true Cootie.

Example: Between recruiting and hospital visits, she's busier than a bee!



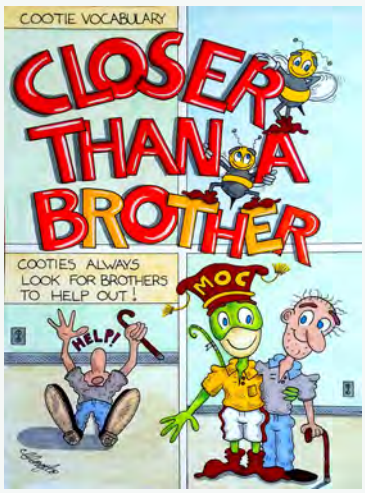
CCDB

Say: SEE-SEE-DEE-BEE

Cootie Latin: *Custos sacculi crummi et nummorum!*
“Guardian of the Crummy bag and its coins!”

Abbreviation for Custodian of the Crummy Duffel Bag. The Pup Tent financial officer; broadly comparable to a Quartermaster.

Example: Give the receipts to the CCDB so our Crummy accounts stay straight.



Closer Than a Brother

Say: KLOH-ser than uh BRUH-ther

Cootie Latin: *Fratre propior, in sutura fidelior!*
“Closer than a brother, faithful down to the seam!”

Ritual expression describing the fellowship and loyalty expected among members of the Order.

Example: When he needed help, his fellow Cootie proved closer than a brother.



Cootie

Say: KOO-tee

Cootie Latin: *Cootius perfectus, gradu tertio gloriosus!*
“A full-fledged Cootie, third-degree and glorious!”

A Third Degree member of the Military Order of the Cootie.

Example: She's completed the Third Degree; welcome our newest Cootie!



Cootie Bug

Say: KOO-tee BUG

Cootie Latin: *Insigne parvum, superbia maxima!*
“A tiny collar pin, a gigantic source of pride!”

A Cootie pin worn on the back of the collar, in line with the ear. See Bug Check.

Example: That Cootie Bug belongs on the back of your collar.



Cootie Code Breakers

Say: KOO-tee KOHD BRAY-kerz

Cootie Latin: *Codices frangimus, risum custodimus!*
“We break codes and protect the laughs!”

Cooties putting their Crummy heads together to send or decipher a coded message. A playful name for those who can turn a string of numbers into something Lousy to say. See Cootie.

Example: Those Cootie Code Breakers turned a string of numbers into a Crummy message!



Cootie Degree

Say: KOO-tee dih-GREE

Cootie Latin: *Gradus tertius: ecce Cootius!*
“Third degree: behold the Cootie!”

The Third Degree of the Military Order of the Cootie.

Example: The Grayback is ready to complete the Cootie Degree.



Cootie Dollar

Say: KOO-tee DOL-er

Cootie Latin: *Denarius minimus, valor crummissimus!*
“The tiniest coin with the Crummiest value!”

One penny. Therefore 5,000 Cootie Dollars equals $50.00.

Example: One hundred Cootie Dollars? That's one regular dollar!



Cootie One, Cootie Two, etc.

Say: KOO-tee WUN, KOO-tee TOO, et-SET-er-uh

Cootie Latin: *Cootius primus, Cootius secundus, omnes adsunt!*
“Cootie One, Cootie Two: everybody answer your number!”

A prescribed form of address used for non-officer members during a local Scratch, using Pup Tent membership numbers rather than names.

Example: Cootie One,two,six spouting off!



Crummy

Say: KRUH-mee

Cootie Latin: *Crummus est bonus, incredibile sed verum!*
“Crummy means good; unbelievable but true!”

A favorable Cootie adjective meaning good, worthy, enjoyable, or properly in the spirit of the Order.

Example: That was a Crummy hospital visit; the veterans were still smiling when we left!



Crummy Donation

Say: KRUH-mee doh-NAY-shun

Cootie Latin: *Donatio crumma, cor amplissimum!*
“A Crummy gift from a very big heart!”

A Lousy contribution of money, goods, or help to a worthy cause. The kind of generosity that makes a Cootie holler, "What a Crummy donation!" See Crummy.

Example: What a Crummy donation! That will help bring more smiles to our veterans.



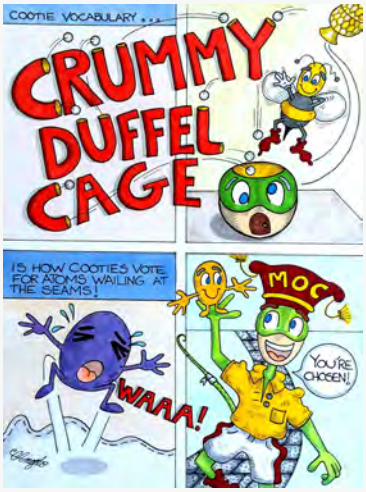
Crummy Duffel Bag

Say: KRUH-mee DUH-ful BAG

Cootie Latin: *Sacculus crummus, nummi non fugiant!*
“Crummy duffel bag, don't let the money escape!”

The figurative bag associated with the Pup Tent's money and accountable property; the source of the title Custodian of the Crummy Duffel Bag.

Example: The CCDB keeps a Lousy eye on the Crummy Duffel Bag.



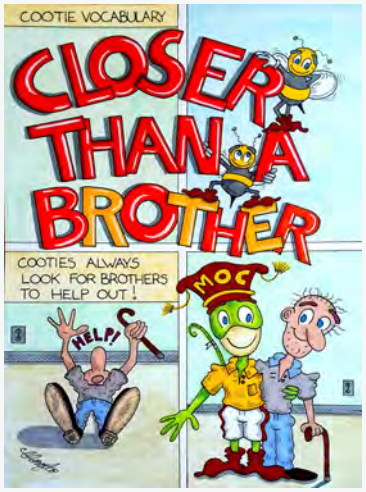
Crummy Duffel Cage

Say: KRUH-mee DUH-ful KAYJ

Cootie Latin: *Cavea crumma, vota intus!*
“The Crummy cage: ballots go in, suspense comes out!”

The Cootie ballot box used when voting on prospective members. Where Atoms waiting at the seams hope the answer will be, "You're chosen!" See Atom; Hunting.

Example: The Cooties used the Crummy Duffel Cage to vote on the waiting Atom.



Crummy Fraternity

Say: KRUH-mee fruh-TER-nih-tee

Cootie Latin: *Fraternitas crumma, amicitia perpetua!*
“A Crummy fraternity with friendship for life!”

An affectionate description of the Military Order of the Cootie and its fellowship.

Example: There is always room for another worthy comrade in our Crummy Fraternity.



Daze

Say: DAYZ

Cootie Latin: *Dies crummi, calendarium confusum!*
“Crummy days on a calendar that has lost its mind!”

Cootie days of the week on any Crummy calendar.

Example: Check the Crummy calendar; which of our Cootie Daze is it?



Delousing

Say: dee-LOW-zing

Cootie Latin: *Area munda, Cootii parati!*
"Area prepared; Cooties ready for duty!"

Where the area of initiation is prepared for degree work.

Example: The crew finished Delousing so the area was ready for degree work.



Delousing Crew

Say: dee-LOW-zing KROO

Cootie Latin: *Turma delousiana, ad officium procedite!*
"Delousing crew, report for ceremonial duty!"

Members selected to conduct MOC initiation and degree work under the direction of the Shirt Reader.

Example: The Delousing Crew is ready to help conduct the degree work.



Distress

Say: dih-STRES

Cootie Latin: *Auxilium, fratres! Cootius eget amico!*
"Help, comrades! A Cootie needs a friend!"

A state of trouble, suffering, or need that calls for help from fellow Cooties. See Blue Ointment; Give Me a Pound of Blue Ointment; Warrior Watch.

Example: A comrade is in distress; let's get him some help!



Fangs

Say: FANGZ

Cootie Latin: *Dentes pestiferi, risus periculosus!*
“Pestiferous fangs and a dangerously wide grin!”

Ritual imagery referring humorously to the biting parts of a Cootie.

Example: That Lousy joke had every Cootie grinning from fang to fang!



Fertile Hunting Grounds

Say: FER-tul HUN-ting GROWNDZ

Cootie Latin: *Campi fertiles, Atomi abundant!*
“Fertile grounds; potential Atoms everywhere!”

Organizational and ceremonial phrase for territory in which a Pup Tent is established and seeks qualified new members.

Example: With so many eligible VFW comrades nearby, these are Fertile Hunting Grounds!



Give Me a Pound of Blue Ointment

Say: GIV mee uh POWND uhv BLOO OYNT-ment

Cootie Latin: *Da mihi libram unguenti caerulei, statim!*
“A pound of blue ointment, and make it snappy!”

An expression used when someone is truly in distress. See Blue Ointment; Distress.

Example: Give me a pound of Blue Ointment; I'm in real distress and need a hand!



Grand Commander

Say: GRAND kuh-MAN-der

Cootie Latin: *Dux grandis, Squirrelus supremus loci!*
“The Grand's commander and mighty Seam Squirrel!”

The Grand Commander is the Grand Pup Tent Seam Squirrel.

Example: Our Grand Commander is the Seam Squirrel of the Grand Pup Tent.



Grand Pup Tent

Say: GRAND PUP TENT

Cootie Latin: *Tentorium grande, suturae multae!*
“One Grand Pup Tent and a whole stateful of seams!”

The state-level organization of the Military Order of the Cootie.

Example: Pup Tents from across the state gathered with their Grand Pup Tent.



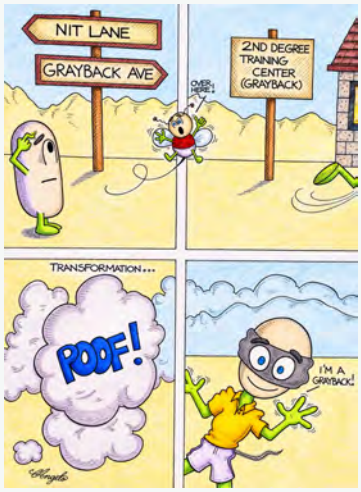
Grand Scratch

Say: GRAND SKRATCH

Cootie Latin: *Conventus grandis, multae voces crummae!*
“A Grand gathering with plenty of Crummy voices!”

The annual meeting or convention of a Grand Pup Tent.

Example: We'll see our Lousy comrades at the annual Grand Scratch!



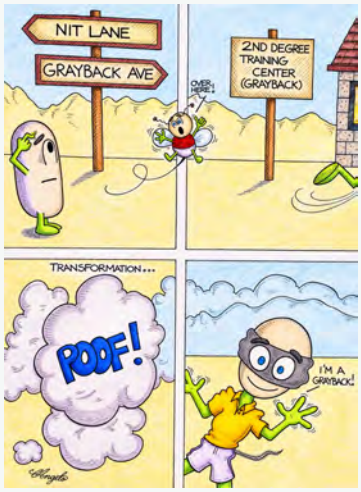
Grayback

Say: GRAY-bak

Cootie Latin: *Graybackus secundus, Cootius in spe!*
“Second-degree Grayback, future Cootie in training!”

A member who has received the Second Degree but has not yet completed the Third or Cootie Degree.

Example: That Grayback has completed the Second Degree and is working toward the Third.



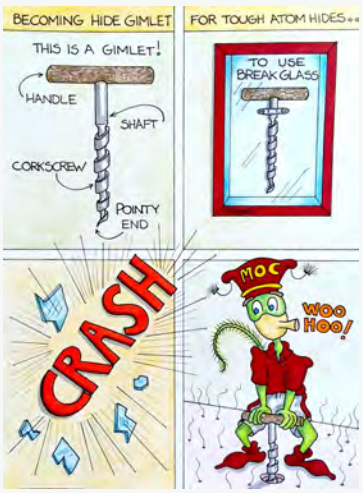
Grayback Degree

Say: GRAY-bak dih-GREE

Cootie Latin: *Gradus secundus, iter nondum finitum!*
“Second degree; the journey isn't over yet!”

The Second Degree of the Military Order of the Cootie.

Example: The Nit completed the Grayback Degree and took another Crummy step forward.



Hide Gimlet (H.G.)

Say: HYDE GIM-lit; AYCH-JEE

Cootie Latin: *Gimletus vigilans, tertius ad imperium!*
“The ever-ready officer, next in line to preside!”

Officer title. The Pup Tent equivalent of the Junior Vice Commander. Assists the Seam Squirrel and Blanket Bum and presides when both are absent.

Example: The Hide Gimlet helped the Seam Squirrel and Blanket Bum prepare for the Scratch.



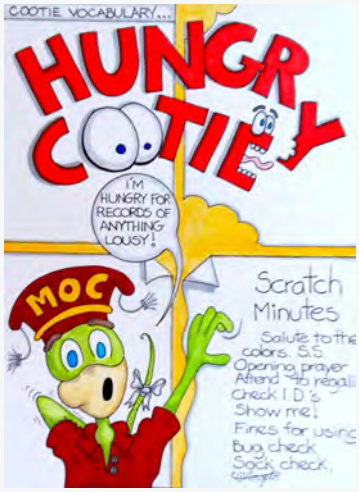
Honor Degree

Say: ON-er dih-GREE

Cootie Latin: *Gradus honoris, servitium cum risu!*
“An honor degree, with service and a smile!”

The status by which the Military Order of the Cootie is known as the Honor Degree of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Example: The MOC is the Honor Degree of the VFW.



Hungry Cootie

Say: HUNG-gree KOO-tee

Cootie Latin: *Cootius famelicus, chartas devorat!*
“The Hungry Cootie devours paperwork for breakfast!”

Officer title. The Pup Tent administrative and records officer, broadly comparable to an Adjutant.

Example: Ask the Hungry Cootie to check the minutes from our last Scratch.



Hunting

Say: HUN-ting

Cootie Latin: *Venatio Atomi, sine rete sed cum amicitia!*
“Hunting Atoms with friendship instead of a net!”

Traditional Cootie term for recruiting qualified VFW members into the MOC.

Example: We're going Hunting for eligible VFW comrades who would make Lousy Cooties!



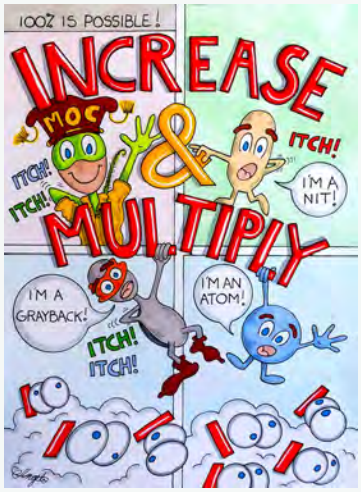
Hunting Grounds

Say: HUN-ting GROWNDZ

Cootie Latin: *Campi venationis, VFW amici quaeruntur!*
“Hunting grounds: qualified VFW friends wanted!”

The area where Cooties look for VFW Members to recruit. See Hunting.

Example: That VFW gathering looks like promising Hunting Grounds!



Increase and Multiply

Say: in-KREES and MUL-tih-ply

Cootie Latin: *Crescite et multiplicamini, Cootii!*
“Increase and multiply, you Lousy Cooties!”

Ritual expression describing the duty to bring qualified new members into the Order.

Example: Let's Increase and Multiply by bringing qualified new comrades into the MOC!



Incubation

Say: in-kyoo-BAY-shun

Cootie Latin: *Gradus primus: Atomus fit Nitus!*
“First degree: an Atom becomes a Nit!”

Ceremonial term. The First Degree portion of MOC degree work through which an Atom becomes a Nit.

Example: After Incubation, that eager Atom became a Nit.



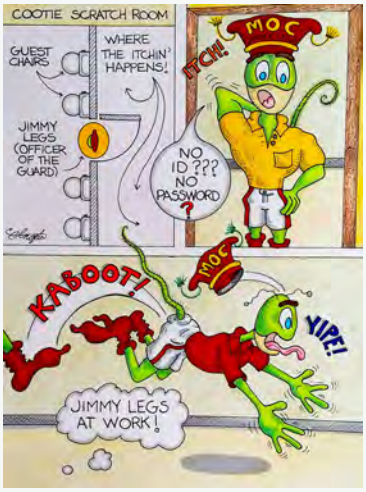
Instituting Officer

Say: IN-stih-too-ting AW-fih-ser

Cootie Latin: *Officialis institutor, tentorium novum surgit!*
"The instituting officer raises a new Pup Tent!"

A qualified officer authorized to establish a new Pup Tent or Grand Pup Tent and perform the required institutional work.

Example: The Instituting Officer helped establish our new Pup Tent. All of the Shavetails are Lousy!



Jimmy Legs

Say: JIM-ee LEGZ

Cootie Latin: *Jimmyus ad ianuam: quis ibi est?*
"Jimmy Legs at the door: who's scratching there?"

Officer title. The officer who guards the entrance to the Pup Tent and controls admission during a Scratch.

Example: Jimmy Legs, keep a Lousy eye on the entrance!



Keep 'em Smilin' in Beds of White

Say: KEEP em SMY-lin in BEDZ uhv WYTE

Cootie Latin: *Fac eos ridere in lectis albis!*
"Keep them smiling in beds of white!"

A central MOC service expression associated with bringing aid, comfort, cheer, and fellowship to hospitalized veterans.

Example: We brought games and good company to Keep 'em Smilin' in Beds of White.



Keeper of the Lousy Records

Say: KEE-per uhv thuh LOW-zee REK-erdz

Cootie Latin: *Custos annalium lousiorum!*
"Keeper of every gloriously Lousy record!"

Officer title. The officer responsible for preserving important dates and happenings and serving as a historical/publicity officer.

Example: Send those photographs to the Keeper of the Lousy Records for our Pup Tent history.



Lazy Tassel

Say: LAY-zee TAS-ul

Cootie Latin: *Nappa pigra, surge et labora!*
"Lazy tassel, straighten up and get to work!"

The tassel atop the Cootie hat that is askew and not hanging freely.

Example: Straighten that Lazy Tassel so it hangs freely!



Listen Cooties!

Say: LIS-un KOO-teez!

Cootie Latin: *Audite, Cootii! Non dormite!*
"Listen, Cooties! This is no time for napping!"

Established Cootie rendering for "Read this."

Example: Listen Cooties! Read this Crummy announcement before the next Scratch.



Local Scratch

Say: LOH-kul SKRATCH

Cootie Latin: *Scratchus localis, familia convenit!*
“Local Scratch: the Crummy family gathers!”

A regular meeting of a local Pup Tent.

Example: Bring your report to our next Local Scratch.



LOTCS

Say: EL-OH-TEE-SEE-ES

Cootie Latin: *Amor camisiae crummae, semper!*
“Love of the Crummy Shirt, always!”

Traditional abbreviation for 'Love of the Crummy Shirt,' commonly used as a Cootie expression of fellowship and as a closing in correspondence.

Example: She closed her note with LOTCS: Love of the Crummy Shirt.



Lousy

Say: LOW-zee

Cootie Latin: *Lousius optimus, laus maxima!*
“Lousy is the highest praise around here!”

A supreme Cootie compliment: exceptionally good, admirable, enjoyable, or thoroughly Cootie.

Example: What a Lousy job you did recruiting those new comrades!



Military Order of the Cootie (MOC)

Say: MIL-ih-tair-ee OR-der uhv thuh KOO-tee; EM-OH-SEE

Cootie Latin: *Ordo Militaris Cootiorum, honor et hilaritas!*
“The Military Order of the Cootie: honor and hilarity!”

The Honor Degree of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Example: The Military Order of the Cootie brings veterans a Lousy helping of cheer.



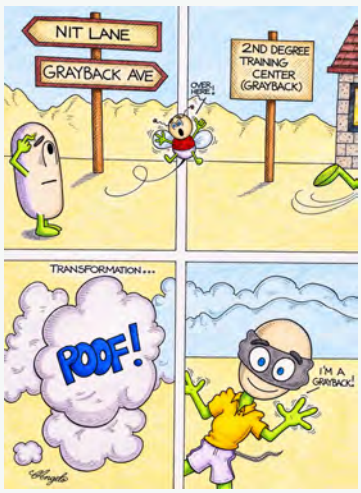
Newly Made Cootie

Say: NOO-lee MAYD KOO-tee

Cootie Latin: *Cootius novissimus, laetitia vetustissima!*
“A brand-new Cootie with an age-old grin!”

A member who has just completed the Third Degree.

Example: Give that Newly Made Cootie a Crummy welcome!



Newly Made Grayback

Say: NOO-lee MAYD GRAY-bak

Cootie Latin: *Graybackus novus, iter pergitur!*
“A new Grayback; the road goes on!”

A member who has just completed the Second Degree.

Example: Our Newly Made Grayback has completed the Second Degree.



Newshound

Say: NOOZ-hownd

Cootie Latin: *Canis nuntiorum, semper ad fabulam!*
“The news hound, always sniffing out a story!”

Appointive title for a Pup Tent news or public-relations officer.

Example: The Newshound sent a Lousy account of our hospital visit to the newsletter.



Nit

Say: NIT

Cootie Latin: *Nitus primus, fratre propior!*
“A first-degree Nit, closer than a brother!”

A member who has received the First Degree of the Military Order of the Cootie; ritual language describes a Nit as a comrade closer than a brother.

Example: That Nit has completed the First Degree of our Crummy Fraternity.



Nit Degree

Say: NIT dih-GREE

Cootie Latin: *Gradus primus, pruritus crescit!*
“First degree, and the itching only gets worse!”

The First Degree of the Military Order of the Cootie.

Example: The Atom completed the Nit Degree and became a Nit.



Parent Order

Say: PAIR-ent OR-der

Cootie Latin: *Ordo parentis, VFW honorabilis!*
“The parent order: the honorable VFW!”

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, from which MOC membership eligibility derives.

Example: We serve alongside the VFW, our Parent Order.



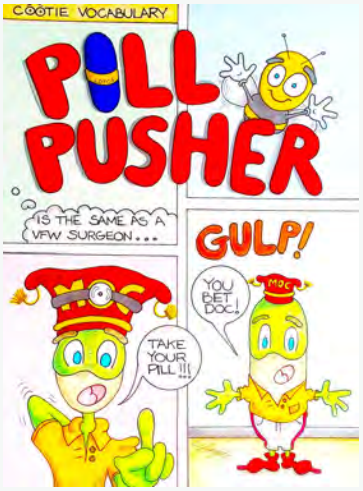
Pestiferous

Say: peh-STIF-er-us

Cootie Latin: *Pestiferosus, lousior quam lousius!*
“So Pestiferous, it's Lousier than Lousy!”

Extremely Lousy and also considered very Crummy.

Example: That was a most Pestiferous turnout: extremely Lousy and very Crummy!



Pill Pusher

Say: PIL PUSH-er

Cootie Latin: *Pillarius vigilans, candidatus examinatur!*
“The Pill Pusher checks the candidate's readiness!”

Officer title. The Pup Tent equivalent of the VFW Surgeon. Determines whether candidates are fit to undergo initiation and performs other duties assigned by the Seam Squirrel.

Example: The Pill Pusher checked whether the candidates were fit for initiation.



Private Scratch

Say: PRY-vit SKRATCH

Cootie Latin: *Colloquium privatum? Silentium, quaeso!*
“A private conversation? Quiet in the Scratch!”

A side conversation instead of listening to the Scratch.

Example: Private Scratch! Jimmy Legs, collect the fine!



Provost Marshal

Say: PROH-voh MAR-shul

Cootie Latin: *Marescallus ordinis, decorum defendit!*
“The marshal keeps order amid the merry madness!”

Officer title responsible for decorum, ceremonial escort, distinguished guests, and carrying out orders during a Scratch.

Example: The Provost Marshal escorted our distinguished guests into the Scratch.



Pup Tent

Say: PUP TENT

Cootie Latin: *Tentorium catulorum, domus Cootiorum!*
“The Pup Tent: a home for local Cooties!”

A local subordinate unit of the Military Order of the Cootie.

Example: Our Pup Tent is planning another Crummy visit to hospitalized veterans.



Quick Closing of Scratch

Say: KWIK KLOH-zing uhv SKRATCH

Cootie Latin: *Claudite Scratchum ante somnum universalem!*
“Close the Scratch before everybody falls asleep!”

A humorous description of bringing an overlong Scratch to a welcome end. After enough "Blah! Blah! Blah!" even the Specie Pediculi are itching for the closing prayer and a Lousy escape. See Scratch.

Example: After all that Blah! Blah! Blah!, a Quick Closing of Scratch sounded mighty Lousy!



Scratch

Say: SKRATCH

Cootie Latin: *Scratchus convocatus, risus paratus!*
“The Scratch is called; let the laughter begin!”

A meeting, session, convention, or official gathering of the Military Order of the Cootie.

Example: The Pup Tent held a Crummy Scratch and planned its next hospital visit.



Seam

Say: SEEM

Cootie Latin: *Sutura sacra, habitatio Cootii!*
“A sacred seam, the natural habitat of a Cootie!”

A symbolic Cootie term for the traditional habitat or working area of a Cootie.

Example: That old Cootie settled into his favorite seam.



Seam Squirrel

Say: SEEM SKWUR-ul

Cootie Latin: *Sciurus Suturae, dux tentorii!*
“The Seam Squirrel rules the Pup Tent!”

Officer title. The presiding officer of a Pup Tent; equivalent to the Commander.

Example: The Seam Squirrel called the Pup Tent's Scratch to order.



Seam Squirrel Pro Tempore

Say: SEEM SKWUR-ul proh TEM-puh-ree

Cootie Latin: *Sciurus temporarius, praesens in absentia!*
“Temporary Seam Squirrel, present in the absence!”

A member selected to preside over a Scratch when the regular presiding officers are present (absent).

Example: The members selected a Seam Squirrel Pro Tempore to preside that evening.



Secret Work

Say: SEE-krit WERK

Cootie Latin: *Opera secreta: lingua clausa, fides aperta!*
“Secret work: lips closed, loyalty wide open!”

Protected signs, instructions, passwords, and ceremonial material associated with MOC degrees. The Crummy Dictionary defines the term but does not reproduce protected content.

Example: The Secret Work stays with the qualified members entitled to receive it.



Shavetail

Say: SHAYV-tayl

Cootie Latin: *Cauda rasa, officium acceptum!*
“Shavetail reporting: office accepted!”

An elected or appointed MOC officer.

Example: Our newest Shavetail is learning the duties of the office.



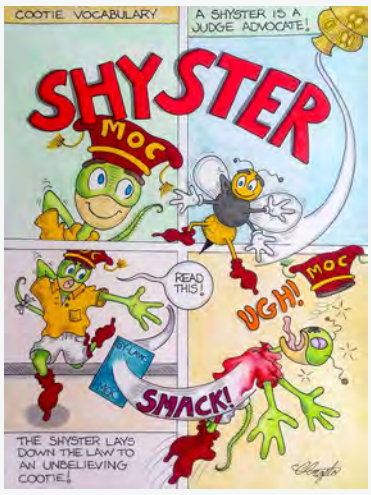
Shirt Reader

Say: SHERT REE-der

Cootie Latin: *Lector camisiae, caudam inspicit!*
“The shirt reader inspects the shirt-tail!”

The person who reads the tail of a shirt to verify their identity.

Example: The Shirt Reader checked the tail of the shirt to verify the Cootie's identity.



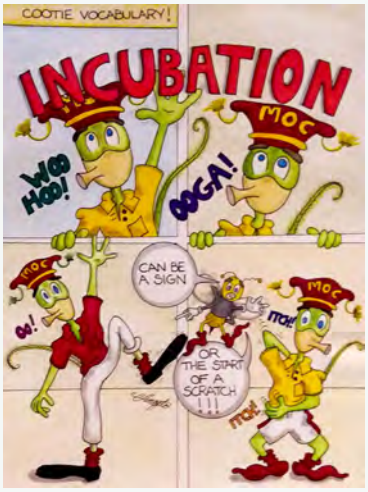
Shyster

Say: SHY-ster

Cootie Latin: *Shysterus legalis, verba multa et cauta!*
“The Shyster has plenty of carefully chosen words!”

Officer title. The Pup Tent legal or advisory officer.

Example: Let's ask the Shyster for advice before we decide.



Sign of Incubation

Say: SYNE uhv in-kyoo-BAY-shun

Cootie Latin: *Pantalonis crus unum sursum!*
“One pant leg up: incubation is upon us!”

One pant leg rolled up. See Attend to Your Regalia.

Example: His rolled-up pant leg showed the Sign of Incubation.



Silver-Striped Brazilian Beetle

Say: SIL-ver-STRYPT bruh-ZIL-yun BEE-tul

Cootie Latin: *Scarabaeus brasiliensis argenteo-striatus!*
“The silver-striped Brazilian beetle, naturally!”

Fanciful ritual imagery appearing in obligation language concerning the fangs of a Cootie.

Example: The Silver-Striped Brazilian Beetle belongs to our fanciful Cootie imagery.



Sky Pilot

Say: SKY PY-lut

Cootie Latin: *Gubernator caeli, precatio parata!*
“The Sky Pilot has a prayer at the ready!”

Officer title. The Cootie chaplain.

Example: The Sky Pilot offered a prayer for our absent comrades.



Sock Check

Say: SOK CHEK

Cootie Latin: *Tibialia rubra? Inspectio statim!*
“Red socks? Let's have a look!”

A check to verify that a Cootie is wearing red socks.

Example: Sock Check! Let's see those red socks, Cooties!



Special Scratch

Say: SPESH-ul SKRATCH

Cootie Latin: *Scratchus specialis, causa specialissima!*
“A special Scratch for a very special reason!”

A meeting called for a specific purpose outside the regular Scratch schedule.

Example: The Seam Squirrel called a Special Scratch to address that one matter.



Specie Pediculi

Say: SPEE-shee pih-DIK-yoo-lye

Cootie Latin: *Species pediculorum, societas gloriosa!*
“The noble species of Cootiedom, naturally!”

Traditional Latin-flavored Cootie designation for the members or 'species' of the Order.

Example: Listen, Specie Pediculi! There's more Crummy vocabulary on the next page!



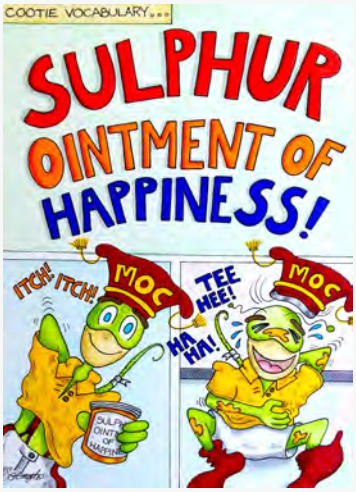
Squealer's Fee

Say: SKWEE-lerz FEE

Cootie Latin: *Merces clamatoris, crumena dolet!*
"The squealer's fee makes the wallet squeal too!"

A fee assessed to the Cootie who calls "Thief in the House" or another fine-able offense. The exact amount is determined by the presiding officer.

Example: He called, "Thief in the House" and found himself owing the Squealer's Fee.



Sulphur Ointment of Happiness

Say: SUL-fer OYNT-ment uhv HAP-ee-nes

Cootie Latin: *Unguentum sulphuris, laetitia in tubo!*
"Sulphur ointment: happiness in a tube!"

A salve used to make a person very happy.

Example: A little Sulphur Ointment of Happiness had that Cootie grinning again.



Supreme Pup Tent

Say: soo-PREEM PUP TENT

Cootie Latin: *Tentorium supremum, omnes suturae conveniunt!*
"Supreme Pup Tent: all the seams report upstairs!"

The national organization and governing level of the Military Order of the Cootie.

Example: The Supreme Pup Tent serves the MOC at the national level.



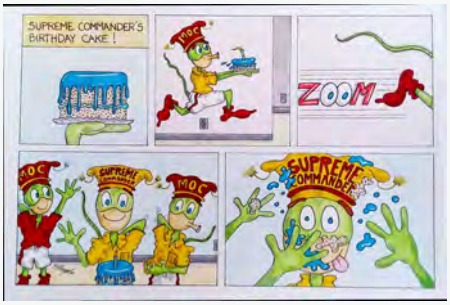
Supreme Scratch

Say: soo-PREEM SKRATCH

Cootie Latin: *Scratchus supremus, conventus maximus!*
“Supreme Scratch: the grandest gathering of all!”

The annual national meeting or convention of the Military Order of the Cootie.

Example: Cooties from across the country gathered for the Supreme Scratch to eat roast beast at the Crummy banquet.



Supreme Seam Squirrel

Say: soo-PREEM SEEM SKWUR-ul

Cootie Latin: *Sciurus Supremus, dux Cootiorum!*
“The Supreme Seam Squirrel commands the Cooties!”

The national commander.

Example: The Supreme Seam Squirrel greeted Cooties from across the country.



Thief in the House

Say: THEEF in thuh HOWS

Cootie Latin: *Fur in domo! Quis nummum in pileo posuit?*
"Thief in the house! Who put money on that hat?"

A Cootie custom or game in which a Cootie secretly places a dollar bill or another denomination on top of another Cootie's hat. When discovered or called out, the Cootie wearing the hat must match the denomination. Any Cootie who notices the money may call out "Thief in the House!" The Cootie who calls it out is assessed the Squealer's Fee. See Squealer's Fee.

Example: Thief in the House! There's a dollar bill sitting on that Cootie's hat!



Think

Say: THINGK

Cootie Latin: *Cogita tacite; ne verbum dicas!*
"Think silently; don't say that word aloud!"

A word that must never be spoken aloud in Cootie practice. A violator is fined; the fine is determined by the CCDB.

Example: He said Think aloud, and the CCDB determined the fine.



Third-Degree Member

Say: THERD-dih-GREE MEM-ber

Cootie Latin: *Tertii gradus Cootius, plenus et probatus!*
“A complete, tried-and-true third-degree Cootie!”

A full Cootie who has completed all three MOC degrees.

Example: As a Third-Degree Member, she is a full Cootie.



Tight Wad

Say: TYTE WOD

Cootie Latin: *Nummos numerat, libros examinat!*
“Counts the coins and audits the books!”

Officer title. One of the Pup Tent trustees responsible for auditing financial and administrative records.

Example: The Tight Wad reviewed the financial records for the audit.



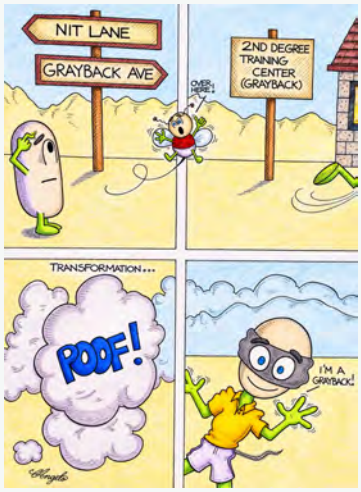
Tomb Trek

Say: TOOM TREK

Cootie Latin: *Iter ad sepulcra, memoria cum honore!*
“A journey to the graves, honoring those before us!”

A traditional MOC observance associated with honoring fallen comrades at Arlington National Cemetery.

Example: Our Cooties took part in the Tomb Trek to honor fallen comrades at Arlington.



Transformation

Say: trans-fer-MAY-shun

Cootie Latin: *Nitus hodie, Graybackus cras!*
“A Nit today, a Grayback tomorrow!”

Ceremonial term. The Second Degree portion of MOC degree work through which a Nit becomes a Grayback.

Example: Through Transformation, the Nit advanced to Grayback.



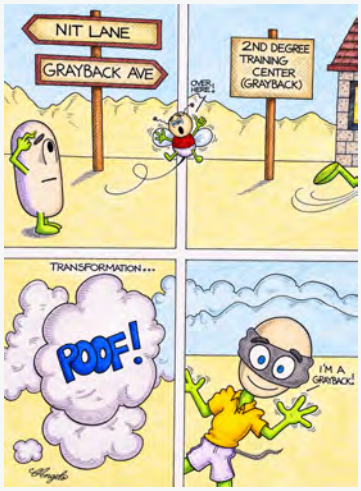
True and Lawful Cootie

Say: TROO and LAW-ful KOO-tee

Cootie Latin: *Cootius verus et legitimus!*
“A true and lawful Cootie, beyond a doubt!”

Obligation language describing a member properly entitled to receive the protected work of the degree.

Example: A True and Lawful Cootie is entitled to receive the work of the degree.



True Grayback

Say: TROO GRAY-bak

Cootie Latin: *Graybackus fidelis, promissa servat!*
“A faithful Grayback keeps every promise!”

Obligation language describing a Grayback faithfully observing the promises, duties, and secrecy required by the degree.

Example: A True Grayback keeps the promises made in the degree.



Warrior Watch

Say: WOR-ee-er WOTCH

Cootie Latin: *Vigilia bellatorum, nemo solus!*
“Warrior Watch: no comrade stands alone!”

A Cootie always looking out for distressed fellow comrades. See Distress.

Example: Keep a Warrior Watch on that comrade; he may need a Lousy helping hand.



Who Scratches There?

Say: HOO SKRATCH-iz thair?

Cootie Latin: *Quis ibi scabit? Responde, amice!*
“Who's scratching there? Speak up, friend!”

A ritual challenge used at the entrance during ceremonial work.

Example: Jimmy Legs called, "Who Scratches There?" as someone approached the entrance.



Wind-Jammer

Say: WIND-JAM-er

Cootie Latin: *Ventorum tubicen, sonus adest!*
“The Wind-Jammer sounds the call!”

Appointive title. The Pup Tent bugler.

Example: The Wind-Jammer, our Pup Tent bugler, is ready to play.



Working the Seams

Say: WER-king thuh SEEMZ

Cootie Latin: *Suturas laboramus, Cootios adiuvamus!*
"Working the seams and helping fellow Cooties!"

Traditional Cootie expression for actively recruiting, serving, promoting the MOC, or otherwise carrying out the work of the Order.

Example: She's Working the Seams by recruiting comrades and organizing hospital visits.