



Cootie Tickle



October 2021



Listen Cooties, Cuties and all of the Crummies, Fall season is so very beautiful to behold as the trees change color and eventually lose their leaves. We need to make every effort not to be a tree that loses its leaves. Stay engaged in your Pup Tent activities and help it grow by leaps and bounds, bestowing good thoughts and deeds among our Veterans. Please make sure to have a good MOCA presence as you are bestowing Cootie wisdom to the masses. Their membership numbers can use a real boost and they are our partners!

On a similar tangent, our recruiting talents are making some real headway! Over 400 Cooties have recruited 1446 new VFW members at the time of this writing. That is about 15% of all new VFW recruiters by less than 1% of the parent organization's membership. Not bad at all! But we need to be vigilant and continue this practice as these new VFW recruits may very well be the source of our new Nits!!! We expect to have an updated listing of what each Grand is doing, especially in comparison with Pup Tents in your membership brackets.

In keeping with tradition, I wish to take this time to promote the *Maryland VFW National Home Honorary Fire Department*. Membership fees are: *Fireman \$56; Lieutenant \$66.00; Captain \$71; Deputy Chief \$76; Chief \$81; and, Commissioner \$106*. Monies from these fees are for the sustenance of our *VFW National Home*.

Tomb Trek is just around the corner! Hopefully everyone is registered and getting excited about our annual trip. This year will be a bit different with Grand Commanders (or their line officers) standing in as our Council of Administration. The expectations that this will bring a new vitality to our organization is certainly present. New ideas, new workers and increased focus will be the linchpin to our continued improvement and success. I'm looking forward to see each and every one there. The interesting topic will be establishing changing the rituals to better reflect our changing membership and positive inclusion in our robust organization!!!

Yours in the LOTCS,

**Olin Parks
Supreme Commander
2021-2022**