

## **2023 Grand Convention**

### **Plantation Resort**

**June 2 -3**

#### **FRIDAY June 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

Committee meetings held, Budget and Finance, Bylaws and Past Seam Squirrels. Reports to be held in regular session.

#### **SATURDAY June 4<sup>th</sup>.**

Joint meeting opened in Cootie Forum at 9:01 am

Grand Commander John Vawter welcomed everyone. Commander recognized the Supreme Representative, Tom Browne, Supreme Fun Chairman.

Grand President Louise Kozier welcomed everyone. President recognized Past supreme Presidents, Pat Potter, Peggy Bell and Debbie Thie, Supreme officers present Supreme Secretary Kathy Brown and Supreme Treasurer Sandra McKinley.

Tom Brown presented the regards from the Supreme Commander.

Grand Quartermaster Steve Surface announced the open liquor in hospitality room at end of conference must be taken or will be thrown away.

Gary Godard requested everyone donate to the cost of the hospitality room.

Joint meeting Closed.

**Regular MOC meeting**, opened in proper Cootie Forum. Salute the Colors, Chaplain (Tom Sutterfield) gave the opening prayer.

Grand Commander John recognized our Supreme Representative, Supreme Fun Chairman Tom Browne. He presented the regards for the Supreme Commander.

Roll Call held; All Grand Officers were present or excused.

Puptents in attendance were PT1; PT2; PT8; PT17; PT18; PT25; PT 29; PT32; PT44; PT76; PT98. PT66 Excused.

Reading of the Previous Minutes. Motion by John Barber to accept the minutes as emailed. Motion passed.

Communications:

New Hospital reporting system is active. Got to the Supreme Web site (LOTCS.ORG) go to hospital reports. All reports are now online only. If any Pup Tent has problems, there is a contact number on the web site. Kenny Thie is the Grand Hospital Chairman, contact him for assistance.

Grand Quartermaster (CCDB) report, old budget report presented. New Proposed budget read. Both budgets accepted as presented.

Grand QM Steve noted the new annual membership cards will expire on May 31, 2024.

Memorial Service conducted by Tom Sutterfield for our Departed Comrades this past year. 2022-2023 Deceased are.

Michael Richardson, PT 18

Robert Daniels, PT-59

Gene Hall, PT-23

Carl J.D. Scheel Jr., PT-59

Jack Summer, PT-32

Alan Engebiecht, PT-66

James Morris, PT-32

Donald Eckerdt, PT-76

James Quinn, PT-41

Paul Kimmerling, PT-76

Art Riley, PT-44

William Gault, PT-76

Ronald Alianiello, PT-44

Frank Rose, PT-76

Matty Yates, PT-59

Rod Stoffer, PT-98

Gerald Damico, PT-59

PGC Jerry Bazar indicated the new Puptent for Ruskin Post is moving forward.

PGC John Barber invited all Past Seam Squirrels to join the club. Life membership in the Past Seam Squirrels Club is only \$20.

Committee Awards presented.

Grand Jr. Vice Tent Rundell presented awards as following.

Outstanding Membership Achievement (100%)

PT-11, PT-18, PT-29, PT-55, PT-55, PT-59, PT-66, PT-98

Hospital Reports 100%+

PT-18, PT-32, PT-59, PT-66, PT-98

Grand Hospital 125%0

Motion made by Kenny Thie to revert to election of officers. Motion passed.

Grand Commander Tom Sutterfield

Grand Sr. Vice Commander Trent Rundell

Grand Jr. Vice Commanders Doug Wood

Grand Quartermaster Steve Surface

Grand Chaplain Dani Hernandez

Grand Judge Advocate Robert Hernandez

Grand Surgeon David Skeen

Motion made to revert back to regular Cootie business, motion passed.

Held Prayer for our Nation Home

Cootie in distress,

Grand Chief of Staff Dan Griffin was hospitalized.

PGC Gary Godard announced his brother has terminal cancer and does not have long to live.

Please remember him in your prayers.

Please remember and help these Cooties in need.

PG Gary Godard announced the web site up and working as of this weekend. He will update the site. Please send any pictures or information to be posted to "mocflnews@gmail.com" also Grand is on Facebook.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Grand Bug Swarm/ School of instruction will be held on Saturday, September 23, 2023 at VFW Post 7674, Ft. Walton Beach. Hotel information will be coming soon. There is a special event on Friday September 22, at the Post for all to attend.

No time or place yet for MOC Grand Mid-inter Conference. To be announced later.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

The cost of hospitality rooms is increasing each year. Puptent donations to support hospitality room are very poor. Recommendation made By Tom Sutterfield for one or more pup tents to be put in charge and responsible for cost of hospitality room each time. Rotate the responsibility. No Motions made at this time. Much discussion over having raffles or other events to raise money for this cause. Steve Surface indicated if there is no action to raise funds for hospitality rooms, the other option is to no longer have a grand hospitality room.

Grand QM Steve Surface thanked Members of PT 44 for their generous donation to the Hospitality Room events, also Thank you to PT 98 for their assistance in unloading the Cootie trailer.

### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Congratulations to Tommy Edington, PT 66 for being selected as "Grand Cootie of the Year". The Check and certificate to be sent to PT 66 to present to Tommy. A medallion coming from Supreme HQ and will be forwarded.

Gary Godard will be working on the Grand MOC table at VFW State Convention. He is requesting any Cootie attending to help and provide relief at times.

PGC John Henry announced that some of the VA facilities are starting to open for events again. Check on doing bingo and picnics again. Can visit disabled veterans again.

Supreme Commander message,

Everyone should be a recruiter; it is important to bring in new members to the organization for continued growth! Can not allow for continued loss of membership, otherwise we will no longer exist.

If any PT is having events that they wish to have Grand attend, please send a request to Grand Adjutant or Grand Commander.

If your Pup Tent holds any community or hospital events, please send pictures, and write up of event to Tina at VFW National HQ Magazine. You may get recognition! Address listed in magazine.

\$1.01 Sou fine imposed.

Meeting closed in proper Cootie a manner.