

## Commander Notes

Comrades,

Congratulations! We have made All-State and All-American once again! Who knows, we may have it in us to accomplish that feat once again, making it three years in a row.

I hope this newsletter finds you well. As COVID continues to trouble the world, we will strive to keep our environment as sanitary and safe as possible. We do not require the wearing of masks in our post. However, that will remain a personal option.

We will be conducting a Roadside Cleanup on Saturday, 16 July, at 9am. We sure could use some help with that. Our house Committee Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm. Monthly General Membership Meetings are held the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 7:15ish pm, after Bingo. Auxiliary Membership Meetings are the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 7pm monthly, as well. In addition, Breakfasts are the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday from 8am to 11am for the Auxiliary and the last Sunday, same time, for the MOC.

Be sure to look at the attached calendar to keep up with what's going on over the next two months. In addition, keep an eye on our Facebook page for VPRs, fundraisers and other events that pop up post newsletter mailing.

I want to thank you all for your support and to those who volunteer their time assisting with Post Operational and Fundraising events. I ask for your patience with our Canteen Manager, Bartenders, and Kitchen Staff, as they can become overwhelmed quite easily with the number of customers/orders we continue to get.

May we continue to be profitable and increase our membership pool. Pray for our future and remember our past. Stay safe!

Alan K. Reams (AI)  
Commander, VFW Post 4676

## Auxiliary President

I would like to start by thanking our members for voting me into office. I would like to also thank the outgoing officers for the support and guidance offered to our incoming officers, we appreciate their support as we start off our year with a mission to support our veterans, their families, and our community like we have never done before. It is my goal this year to not only increase our participation levels but to increase our youth participation. Without getting our youth involved we cannot grow our organization.

Our membership goal this year is 100% +1. Our Auxiliary was recognized at the VFW Auxiliary State Convention as the Division IV top recruiting Life Membership Auxiliary. Thank you to our membership committee and recruiters. Melissa Strother Sr. Vice President would like to remind everyone we are all recruiters, and I would like to challenge everyone to recruit one new member before our membership deadline of December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Congratulations to Chaplain, Chrystal Coble; 3<sup>rd</sup> place Division IV Outstanding Chaplain. She truly is a blessing to our auxiliary. If you find yourself in need of prayers, assistance, or fellowship contact her or me directly.

I extend an invitation to all to participate in our upcoming events. Our organization, veterans, and community all benefit when you share your time and talents. If you are interested in joining a committee or being a chairman, please let me know. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated. Hope to see everyone at our monthly meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 1900 hours.

Volunteers are needed for the following events:

July 2<sup>nd</sup> - Auxiliary Breakfast from 8 am- 11 am

July 17<sup>th</sup> - Golf Tournament

July 30<sup>th</sup> - District 20 Auxiliary Officer Training VFW 4676

Remember we work hard for our veterans, their families, and our community and with many hands, we make light work and double the fun.

Jennifer Group  
Auxiliary President

### **Post Quartermaster**

No news at this time.

### **Chaplain's Corner**

When you think about July 4th, what comes to mind? Perhaps you think about a day off from work with picnics, fireworks, and those red, white, and blue flags displayed in front yards along your neighborhood. Have you thought about the American flag and all that it stands for? This emblem of the greatest nation on earth is placed on graves of our honored dead who fought for us to remain a free nation, and it flies high during times of peace, as well as war. "Old Glory" is its name.

There is another real freedom we can have. We can display it every day of the year, and that is our freedom "In Christ" to live a life to glorify Him, so that His banner of love, truth, and peace can be seen by all. Just like the flag that represents freedom, Jesus is a banner over us, protecting and shielding us.

July 4th is a time to reflect on God's goodness to us as a nation. While we look with gratitude to the past, may we also look in faith to the future, and commit it and our lives to God and His will. "Blessed is the

nation whose God is the Lord" (Psalm 33:12).

Please pray for those who are ill, caregivers, and those grieving. Pray for our nation and those who serve to protect us. Let freedom ring out in your heart today.

Chrystal Coble  
VFW Auxiliary Chaplain

### **Cootie Corner**

Hey you lousy bugs, listen up!

We still need workers, and even more eaters at our breakfasts. Come on out and enjoy, we really do have a lot of fun. Our next one will be on July 31st.

If you would like a copy of the Cootie Tickle, give your email to our lousy CCDB (Bob Stone). That's all this crummy squirrel has for now. Stay lousy and go forth and multiply.

LD "Buck" Owens  
Seamless SQUIRREL

### **Canteen News**

We as employees and fellow members take pride in the appearance of our Canteen. Over the past couple of years, we have upgraded our small hall, large hall, bathrooms, kitchen and game room. In order to keep up with the appearance we need your help. If you would like to volunteer to come in and do some deep cleaning periodically, just call me to set up a time. The other way you can help is if you see trash sitting around, please don't walk by it. Pick it up. If you see that something is dirty, please grab a rag and clean it. This is a beautiful and large facility and with your help we can keep it that way.

We could also use some volunteers to keep our outside as clean and beautiful as the

inside. We need to clean up the weeds growing around our facility to include the fence line behind Jomar automotive. We could also use some help trimming the trees.

The patrons of our Post have been enjoying Ralphe Rodriguez playing some oldies but goodies on Fridays at Happy Hour, so we have him booked for the next couple of months. Come out on Fridays from 5-9 for some snacks, drink specials and good music.

I would like to take this opportunity to Thank our Post employees. We have a great staff, but I may not tell them often enough. So please let them know how much we appreciate them! God Bless and see you around the Canteen!

Rhonda Reams  
Canteen Manager

### **Military Order of the Cootie History**

The Military Order of the Cootie of the United States is a non-profit Veterans Service Organization. We are known as "**The Honor Degree of the VFW**" and our members are comprised of the officers and leadership of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Membership in the **MOC** is recognition of outstanding service to the VFW and its programs.

Founded in New York City on September 17, 1920, the **MOC** is based on the principals of good humor and fun. Over the past ninety years, the Cooties have provided social and entertainment programs to members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. as an Ancillary unit within the organization. Since 1923, our first year as a part of the VFW, the Cooties have worked hard to further the aims of the VFW while adding to it the frivolity known as Military Humor to the serious work of our parent organization. What would ultimately become known as the VFW National Home

for Children, a sprawling campus of homes located in Eaton Rapids, Michigan, started out as the brainchild of the MOC. We firmly believe in caring for the widows and children of our Armed Forces. Literally millions of dollars have been raised and donated to help "our kids" over our history; starting with the library, the swimming pool, the Fire Department, and a host of other projects designed to make life fun and educational for the children during their stay at the National Home.

With the outbreak of World War II, the Cooties recognized a need to entertain hospitalized troops and veterans during their confinement and rehabilitation at Veterans Administration facilities throughout the country. Our service program is described as a directive to "**Keep 'em Smiling in Beds of White.**" Each year the Cooties volunteer thousands of hours of time worth over ten million dollars to DVA Hospitals and domiciliaries throughout the United States. This work, in addition to the hours of service donated as active members of the VFW, set the members of the **MOC** apart as Foreign Service and Combat Veterans who are fully engaged in their communities, and their fellow comrades in arms and their families. Our distinctive red hat and unusual uniform sets us apart and draws attention to the plight of those less fortunate than ourselves. We sacrifice a little of ourselves to bring a smile or a laugh during what is normally a difficult time for our heroes. We seek others like us to join and help us help them in their times of stress and anxiety.

See Lloyd Owens, Bob Stone, Chrystal Coble, or Debbie Potter for membership information. \$20.00 annual fee.