



SUPREME COOTIE TICKLE 2020-2021 SERIES OCTOBER EDITION



Listen Cooties, Cuties and anyone else that might be slightly amused! I am scheduled to have a professional photograph made this week, so hopefully the next issue of the Cootie Tickle will be even more horrendous for your eyes. So far, **Cootie Christmas** is still a 'GO' where we will enjoy our time with the children and hold our **Council of Administration Scratch**. The team is working hard to accommodate the party. The safety of everyone attending the meetings for both the MOC and MOCA is a priority. I am anxious to see everyone again after this long spell of isolation for many. We plan to hold the CofA with video capability for those not able to make the journey. I'm sure our Supreme Provost Marshall is thinking of ways to fine Cooties for misbehaving online. The team is working out the hotel situation and facing some challenges. There is a lot more to follow on our final plans.



Gary and Delpha are working on the accommodations for our **Supreme Scratch in Balitmore** next year. We will announce details and provide reservation options as soon as we get them so you may plan your trips.

How is your Grand doing on your **Pup Tent and Grand Inspections**? To date only 56 of 280 Pup Tents have been inspected. Let's help out our Supreme Inspector and get the inspections completed. You may be innovative to make it happen. Pretend it is an objective on your battlefield and you are charged with leading the way.

Membership currently stands at 76.6% in the MOC. We ended last year with 9368 members and we are currently at 7180. SO, we have a lot of work to do! You may view your membership standings by going to <https://www.lotcs.org/membership.html> and then scroll down and select the month. This will bring up an Excel spreadsheet with the data you need. We are working to make the viewing a little easier. Every year, we compare our membership to the previous year. That doesn't really tell us about our relation to our parent organization. Below is a chart showing the total numbers of VFW members by Department, MOC members within their

respective department and the percentage of VFW members who are Cooties (snapshot taken during September). At the Supreme level, the numbers indicate that the MOC makes up 0.86% of the VFW. What is the right percentage? There is an argument that the MOC is an Honor Degree of the VFW and we should be small in number, but is less than 1% the right portion? If the MOC made up 5% of the VFW membership would we still be considered an Honor Degree? That would put the MOC with over 50,000. What is the right size and how do we get there? My first recommendation is to at least get to 1% as an organization which would put us at over 10,000 members. How do we get there?

Dept/Grand	VFW	Pup Tent	Percentage
Pacific Areas	12,055	468	3.88%
North Dakota	5,879	154	2.62%
Delaware	4,968	109	2.19%
Mississippi	8,984	168	1.87%
Oregon	14,636	266	1.82%
Arizona	23,181	378	1.63%
New Hampshire	5,733	93	1.62%
New Mexico	8,913	139	1.56%
Maryland	19,628	286	1.46%
Kentucky	13,541	193	1.43%
Montana	6,787	88	1.30%
Missouri	28,865	366	1.27%
North Carolina	21,802	274	1.26%
Colorado	15,264	190	1.25%
South Dakota	8,073	100	1.24%
South Carolina	14,285	173	1.21%
Minnesota	33,302	286	1.16%
Wisconsin	26,373	289	1.10%
Oklahoma	11,601	128	1.10%
Arkansas	10,729	115	1.07%
Florida	55,178	558	1.01%
Nevada	7,488	72	0.96%
Louisiana	10,637	99	0.93%
Virginia	32,335	295	0.91%
California	64,345	566	0.88%
Alaska	7,092	62	0.87%
Tennessee	16,292	140	0.86%
Kansas	17,651	150	0.85%
Washington	23,745	190	0.80%
Ohio	52,862	403	0.76%
Nebraska	13,795	103	0.75%
New Jersey	28,344	201	0.71%
Iowa	13,484	90	0.67%
Georgia	20,315	136	0.67%

Pennsylvania	67,312	427	0.63%
Michigan	36,405	213	0.59%
Europe	15,740	88	0.56%
Texas	65,376	359	0.55%
New York	42,067	186	0.44%
Illinois	42,142	187	0.44%
West Virginia	12,000	50	0.42%
Massachusetts	18,188	75	0.41%
Hawaii	4,271	17	0.40%
Alabama	11,234	29	0.26%
Idaho	6,715	13	0.19%
Wyoming	4,108	0	0.00%
Vermont	5,061	0	0.00%
Utah	4,455	0	0.00%
Rhode Island	3,005	0	0.00%
Maine	7,591	0	0.00%
Indiana	28,433	0	0.00%
Connecticut	11,550	0	0.00%

I would like to encourage everyone to consider being active at the Supreme level. There are many positions to fill to keep our organization strong. Get involved, but don't sign up for a position just to hold the title. Our organization needs committed members. It is nice to hear Cooties say, "If there is anything I can do, just tell me!" But it is MUCH better to hear Cooties say, "Here is what I am doing." I hope you will all stay as 'Busy as a Bee' and be creative in your work. If you are planning to run for Supreme office, you should probably think about announcing your intentions so that everyone may get to know you better. However, that is totally your decision.

This month, I would like to bring your attention to the **Grand of Pennsylvania's Keystone Kops program**. The program was established in 1984 as a benefit for the VFW National Home for Children. The Mission: Proceeds from this program are donated to the VFW National Home to assist in the security of the Home and grounds.

1. Membership may be obtained in the Grand of Pennsylvania's Keystone Kops with the donation of the indicated amounts for each rank: Patrolman - \$20.00; Sergeant - \$35.00; Lieutenant - \$45.00; Captain - \$65.00; Chief - \$85.00; and Commissioner - \$100.00.
2. Anyone purchasing a rank can obtain a lapel pin or charm of the same rank for an additional \$5.00, except for the Commissioner pin or charm which is \$10.00.
3. Higher rank may be obtained at any time by paying a "Bribe" equal to the difference in cost between current and new rank and returning the old badge. Please add \$3.00 for postage and handling.

4. Make your check or money order payable to: Keystone Kops and mail to:
Michael Bookser, Grand of Pennsylvania Adjutant, 50 North Euclid Ave, Pittsburg, PA 15202.
Please be sure to include your mailing address with ZIP code, VFW Post Number, and Pup Tent
Number.

For out Cootie Tickle readers, anyone signing up for Keystone Kops this year will receive a red
rubber Cootie bracelet by simply emailing me your name and address at
LTDARIN@YAHOO.COM once you have received your Keystone Kop membership.

Yours in the LOTCS,
Darin Combs
Supreme Commander