



**Grand of Texas
Military Order of the Cootie
Honor Degree of the Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States**

2023-2024 Series General Orders No. 8

JAN 2024

1. Shavetails and Cooties with Official information to be published with the General Orders must submit same to Grand Adjutant, Brian Smock, 803 N. 3d Street, Copperas Cove, Texas 76522 or bsmock@hot.rr.com no later than the 21st of the preceding month.
2. Please notify Grand Adjutant Brian Smock of all changes and/or corrections for the Grand Directory/roster and any discrepancies that may have been Published in the General Orders. Any questions about or corrections to the Grand Status Sheet should be addressed to the Grand Quartermaster Richard Kennedy richardcootie29@yahoo.com .
3. Requests for a Grand Shavetail to attend special functions must be submitted to the Grand Adjutant in sufficient time for early scheduling. All Pup Tents are required to register at least one delegate to the Supreme Scratch per section 531 of the Supreme By-Laws.
4. The Grand Commander will notify Pup Tents of planned Official visits. The Grand Commander's travel agenda won't be routinely published in the General Orders. A tentative schedule will be included with the General Orders.
5. All inspections reports shall be promptly submitted to the Grand Inspector, Anson Booker, 122 E. Iowa Dr., Harker Heights, TX 76548 (254) 371-2579 or email: anson.booker@outlook.com It is our goal to have all units inspected no later than mid-December. All inspections will be conducted by the Grand Inspector Anson Booker or Grand Commander Mitch Fuller. A blank inspection report can be downloaded at LOTCS.org Please have one available for the inspector and fill out as much information as you can prior to the inspectors visit.
6. All monies for Grand should be sent to the Grand Quartermaster. This includes PCT's, Grand 50/50 monies and Horny Toad Programs. The Grand Stat Sheet will be generated by the Grand QM, but he needs input from all Grand Program Chairmen. No input, no relevant stats.
7. Details of events scheduled by the VFW and Supreme organizations are published in their respective periodicals, and therefore won't be duplicated here. Some key dates will be published as a reminder:

**Department of TX VFW
2024 Mid-Winter Conference
Corpus Christi, Texas
Jan 18-20 | Omni Hotel**

**Grand Commander/Grand President Homecoming
9-10 February 2024
Leander, TX**

8. **Grand Adjutant:** The beginning of the “New Year” normally signifies change with that being said Pup Tents either start this month with nominations for the new Cootie Year and then in February do nomination and elections with installation in March. Why so early? So, the Grand can prepare for their elections as all have to be in office prior to Supreme in July. Also it gives the Grand Adjutant and Grand Quartermaster time to submit all the Election Warrants to Supreme, as well as ensuring they are complete before Grand Convention. So please get this done and have your Hungry Cootie get the election Warrant to Brian Smock or Richard Kennedy preferably by May. **Also before electing or installing someone ensure their membership is current... Forms can be downloaded at LOTCS.ORG under Pup Tent Forms..**

9. **Commander’s Corner:** “Huge kudos for the great job all Pup Tents are doing in their Hospital Work. As of the December 2023 MOC Supreme Hospital Report, the Grand of Texas is at 159.58%! Lousy job! Keep up the great work. Thank you Past Grand Commander and Grand Hospital Chairman Larry Dayhoff for the lousy work on our Hospital Reporting! The Grand of Texas does have work to do on increasing and multiplying our ranks and retaining Cooties. The Grand of Texas membership is at 68.18% (current membership is 256 and we need 374 for 100%). Much work to do but we still have time in this Cootie year. Keep recruiting and increasing and multiplying and call those lapsed Cooties and encourage them to continue “Keep ‘Em Smilin in Beds of White.” Always remember that “Cooties are Comrades First” and use your VFW membership involvement at your Posts and Districts to leverage recruiting for the MOC. As we have the past few years at major VFW Dept. of Texas events, we will conduct a Scratch/Initiation at the upcoming Texas VFW Mid-Winter Conference in Corpus Christi on Thursday, January 18, for any for any Comrades interested in joining our MOC fertile hunting grounds. The relationship between the Texas VFW and the Grand of Texas continues to be amazing and we are working hand in hand together. Please see the current issue of the Texas VFW magazine at Home Dept of Texas VFW (txvfw.org). For the first time in recent memory the MOC Grand of Texas has space in the magazine: I submitted an article as Grand Commander of Texas with pictures from the 88th Annual Tomb Trek. Reminder that the Grand Commander and Grand President’s Homecoming is Feb 9-10 at VFW Post 10427/PT 69 in Leander—please make your hotel reservations. MOC Supreme Sr. Vice Commander Robbie Normand will be in attendance at the Grand Homecoming, and a business meeting of the Grand Council of Administration will be included in the schedule of events. The Grand of Texas will be instituting a new Pup Tent at VFW Post 1806 in Beaumont on Saturday,

February 17 at 1pm. All are welcome to attend. Thank you Past Grand Commander Allan Perkins for his assistance with mentoring Post 1806 and his always outstanding mentorship of these Comrades as they embark on the journey of finding the seams. Only two of our nine Pup Tents still need to be inspected: PT 5 and PT 11. We will take care of these PTs in February. Thank you Grand Sr. Vice Commander and Grand Inspector Anson Booker for his hard work on PT inspections.

10. L.O.T.C.S., Mitch Fuller, Grand Commander of Texas. “

11. Please go the Grand website <https://gotcooties.org> Once there click on the button learn more in the Bullhorn square. Keep the communication lines open to share ideas and events. If you want any changes, additions, or have complaints please contact webmaster@gotcooties.org so they can be addressed. Past Grand Commander and GOT Webmaster Larry Dayhoff.

12. All General Orders of the Grand Pup Tent are to be read and acted upon at all Pup Tent scratches. Following the reading, they are to be filed for future reference.

Official:

Brian Smock

Brian Smock
Grand Adjutant

By Order of:

Mitch Fuller

Mitch Fuller
Grand Commander