

VFW National Home for Children

Press Release

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Cooties to Brighten National Home Campus, Pledge to Help get Campus in Shape

Eaton Rapids, Mich. – Showing their selfless generosity once again, the Military Order of the Cootie, led by Supreme Commander Ralph Corno, presented \$17,500 to the National Home on December 9, a donation that completes a two-year \$35,000 special project.

Past Supreme Commander Terrance “Shorty” Lyons started the special project in 2005 to raise \$35,000 for purchasing materials to repair, upgrade and place additional streetlights on the National Home campus. Immediate Past Supreme Commander Ray Fern’s portion of the 2-year project was presented by MOC Supreme Commander Ralph Corno to National Home Executive Director Patrice Green during the Home’s Cootie Christmas.

“The Cooties are extremely generous with their special projects,” said Green. “They always select challenging undertakings that improve the quality of life here at the National Home.”

Many of the streetlights on the National Home campus are more than 50 years old. The entire system needs rewiring and the lamps need to be brightened to enhance campus safety. Higher-output, high-pressure sodium lamps will replace the outdated system.

The project was started last summer and is expected to be completed by Fall 2008. All labor, including trench work, is being provided by National Home staff and volunteers. Past National Home Trustee and Cootie David Schmidt, who is a retired electrician, will be volunteering his time this spring to help with the project.

MOC Supreme Commander Ralph Corno has generously pledged to purchase indoor and outdoor fun and exercise equipment for his special project this year. These items will be a welcome addition to the exercise and development programs for children of all ages.

“The Cooties bring such happiness to the children and families not only during Christmas, but all through the year,” said Green. “Their love, generosity and dedication extend far beyond the Christmas season.”

Since 1925 the VFW National Home for Children has been providing for the children and families of our nation’s veterans, while at the same time serving as a living memorial to our nation’s heroes. For more information on the National Home, please call (517) 663-1521, toll-free at (800) 424-8360 or visit www.vfnationalhome.org.

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