



DETACHMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

David L. Johnson, Jr.
Commander

TO ALL SQUADRONS:

It was my honor at the Detachment Convention in June, 2010 held in Plymouth, MA to be elected as your Detachment Commander for a second term. I am excited and look forward to the coming year. I would like to congratulate all the other elected Detachment Officers and I look forward to working with them this coming Year. For a list of all the 2010 ~ 2011 Detachment Officers visit our Detachment website at www.salmass.org.

I would like to visit as many Squadrons as my schedule allows in the coming year. If any Squadron would like me visit them on a particular date, please contact me via the Detachment website or the number listed below and I will do my best to be there.

As we begin the 2010 ~ 2011 administrative year and we continue to support the veterans and their families, the programs of the American Legion and the community. Some other areas that we should put a strong focus on are:

1, Membership - This is our life blood. We did an excellent job in 2009 ~ 2010 and we are very close to achieving 100% membership. But I believe we can do even better in 2010 ~ 2011. Therefore, I would like to ask every member of our Detachment to put an honest effort into recruiting one or more new members this coming year. It would be great if we could reach an all time high of 6,000 members this coming year.

2, Communication - As Detachment Officers it is our responsibility to make sure information is sent to all the Squadrons and members as soon as possible. In the coming year Adjutant Smith and myself will make sure this is done. We also ask that you to send us any information that you have. Whatever it is, either a Squadron or personal achievement, a Squadron event etc. This way we can put it on the website and share your successes and events with the rest of the Detachment.

3, The Partnership for Kids Program – Again this year we are teaming with Baystate Children’s Hospital in Springfield, UMass Children Hospital in Worcester and Boston Children’s Hospital in Boston. These hospitals treat many thousands of children each year with all types of ailments. This program is open to the entire Legion Family. Any Squadron, Post, Unit or Salon that donates \$250 or more to any of the Children’s Hospitals listed above will become a Dream Maker and receive a certificate that can be displayed at their Post. For more information and forms on this program visit the Detachment website.

4, Commanders Project – This coming year I have again chosen The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation as my Commanders Project. Last year \$3,100.00 was donated. Having had three cousins who passed away from this illness, I have seen first hand how this affects the lives of the patients and their families. Although there is still no cure for CF, they have made great advances over the years. I would like to invite every Squadron to help me this year in achieving my goal of raising \$5,000.00 or more. The Squadron who donates the most money to CFF will be awarded a plaque at convention next year that can be displayed at their Post. There is a donation form and Commanders Project Memorial page enclosed in the mailing.

Again, I am honored to be your Detachment Commander. I would like to thank everyone for your support and confidence in me. I look forward to meeting as many members as I can in the coming year. Remember, we have a strong Detachment and if we work together as a team we will only get larger and stronger. If I can be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours in Comradeship,
David L. Johnson, Jr.
Commander
Detachment of Massachusetts
Sons of The American Legion