

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

MISSION – REKINDLE THE SPARK

MISSION STATEMENT – TO NOT ONLY HONOR OUR FATHERS AND GRANDFATHERS BY OUR CONTINUED SERVICE TO GOD AND COUNTRY, BUT TO REKINDLE THE SPARK OF OUR VETERANS AND COMMUNITY WITH THE IDEALS OF PATRIOTISM, CITIZENSHIP AND THE AMERICAN FLAG.

1 – THIS IS GOING TO BE A GOOD YEAR FOR THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION. WE ARE COMING OFF A BASICALLY 2 YEAR DEAD ZONE. NO ONE COULD GET OUT AND PROMOTE THE PROGRAMS, NO ONE COULD GET OUT AND GET MEMBERSHIP, BASICALLY NO ONE COULD GET OUT. I REALIZE THAT THERE ARE STILL SOME AREAS THAT MIGHT STILL BE AFFECTED AND I WANT YOU TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELVES AND WATCH WHERE YOU GO AND WHAT YOU DO, BUT I WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE YOU TO GET OUT. PROMOTE MEMBERSHIP, PROMOTE THE PROGRAMS ESPECIALLY THE 5 STAR AND 10 IDEALS PROGRAMS. PULL SOME QUESTIONS FROM THE HANDBOOK AND ASK EACH SQUADRON YOU VISIT THESE QUESTIONS. LET'S GET BACK TO THE BASICS – COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN US IS GOING TO BE VERY IMPORTANT. I WILL LET YOU KNOW WHAT AND WHERE I WILL BE, PLEASE LET ME KNOW WHAT AND WHERE YOU WILL BE. WE ALSO MUST COMMUNICATE WITH THE SQUADRONS. WHAT EVENTS AND/OR FUNCTIONS ARE THEY HOLDING – LET US KNOW SO THAT THE ADJUTANT CAN COMMUNICATE THAT OUT TO ALL AND MAYBE OTHER SQUADRONS CAN PARTICIPATE AND THE DETACHMENT CAN BE THERE IF FOR NO OTHER REASON BUT TO SHOW OUR FACE.

2 – WHEN YOU SET A VISITATION, PLEASE LET ME KNOW. IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, I WOULD LIKE TO BE THERE WITH YOU. I KNOW I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE THEM ALL, BUT MY GOAL IS TO MEET WITH EVERY SQUADRON THIS YEAR AT LEAST TWICE.

3 – IT APPEARS THE MEMBERSHIP CARDS WILL NOT BE IN UNTIL SEPTEMBER, MAYBE. IF WE ARE LUCKY, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET THEM AT NATIONAL CONVENTION. IF SO, THAT PUTS THE SONS THREE MONTHS BEHIND THE CURVE

AND THAT IS NOT GOOD. COLORADO SPENT ALL LAST YEAR AT OR AROUND NUMBER 50 IN THE NATION. WE ARE SO MUCH BETTER THAN THAT. THIS MEANS WE REALLY NEED TO PUSH MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL HARD. WE CAN DO THIS, IF WE WORK TOGETHER.

4 – I HAVE ALSO IDENTIFIED 9 POSTS THAT HAVE OVER 85 LEGIONS MEMBERS AND NO SQUADRONS. THERE IS NO WAY WE CAN'T GET NEW SQUADRONS IN THESE POSTS. I HAVE TAKEN THE LEGION DISTRICT REPORT AND ADDED THE SQUADRON AND AUXILIARY TO IT. SQUADRON MEMBERSHIPS ARE GOING DOWN, LEGION MEMBERSHIPS ARE GOING DOWN, AUXILIARY ARE GOING UP. WHY??? THEY TALK, THEY COMMUNICATE, THEY GET OUT AND HUSSLE. GENTLEMEN, WE NEED TO DO BETTER. WE ARE THE SONS, REMEMBER RON'S SHIRT A FEW YEARS AGO, "YOU NEED IT DONE, CALL A SON" WELL, THE DETACHMENT NEEDS IT DONE. THE DETACHMENT NEEDS NEW MEMBERS, IT NEEDS RENEWALS IN A TIMELY MANNER, THIS DETACHMENTS NEEDS TO GET BACK TO BEING THE BEST IN THE WEST.

5 – THERE WILL BE NEW OFFICERS TAKING OVER. THERE WILL BE SOME NEW MEMBERS COMING IN, HOPEFULLY. ARE INITIATION CEREMONIES BEING DONE TO LET THE NEW MEMBER KNOW WHO THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION ARE AND WHAT WE STAND FOR OR ARE THEY JUST GETTING A CARD AND A FREE DRINK? ARE THEY BEING SHOWN HOW TO WEAR THE CAP OR ARE THEY EVEN GETTING A CAP; AND WHAT IT STANDS FOR? HAVE THEY SUBMITTED THEIR OFFICER REPORT; CONSOLIDATED REPORT; OR SQUADRON DATA REPORT.

6 – ADJUTANT – COULD YOU PLEASE FORWARD A MEMBERSHIP REPORT TO ALL VICE COMMANDERS AT THE END OF EACH MONTH. VICE COMMANDERS, THIS WILL BE YOUR WAY OF KNOWING HOW EACH SQUADRON IN THE AREA IS DOING; WHETHER THEY HAVE SUBMITTED THEIR REPORTS; HOW THEIR MEMBERSHIP IS GOING. GIVE YOU SOMETHING YOU CAN TALK TO THE COMMANDER AND ADJUTANT ABOUT WHEN YOU VISIT.

7 – MONTHS TO COME ACTIVITIES – OCTOBER – HALLOWEEN

NOVEMBER – VETERANS DAY

8- THE BUDDY CHECK ACT HAS NOT PROSESSED CONGRESS, BUT THE AMERICAN LEGION HAS BEEN USING THIS PROGRAM FOR MANY YEARS. I'M SURE SOME OF THE SONS SQUADRONS ARE ALSO USING THE BUDDY CHECK PROGRAM. CHECK ON YOUR MEMBERS, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO HAVE NOT BEEN TO A MEETING IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS.