



Detachment of Texas

Commander's Travel Notes

February 20, 2023

To all proud possessors of a priceless heritage:

I and my wife Judy thoroughly enjoyed our first Department of Texas The American Legion State Oratorical Contest held at the fabulous Renaissance Hotel in North Dallas. Thanks, Jeff Perkins for coming through for the Department by finding and organizing this event with only weeks to do so after the unexpected closure of the original reserved location. Job well done. We were extremely impressed by these young students. There were two sophomores, one junior, and one senior all displaying the poise and confidence of seasoned Orators.

We along with Department Gerry Hince, Department Auxiliary President Myra Cooper, 2nd Division Commander Jimmy Mitchell, 1st Division SAL Commander Jeff Perkins, Department Auxiliary Vice President Holly Heatly, Detachment Alternate Executive Committeeman Bill Kuehner, Past Detachment Commander Tom Arista, and many other Department Headquarters brass such as Mike Simon witnessed high school

students put on a spectacular display of knowledge on the U. S. Constitution of the United States of America.

This voluminous knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among these high school students were immediately recognized by all. Since 1938, the program has presented participants with an academic speaking challenge that teaches important leadership qualities, the history of our nation's laws, the ability to think and speak clearly, and an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, rights, and privileges of American citizenship.

This outstanding group of Legionnaires that were tasked with the execution of the contest I must say was excellent in their production of this event.

The contestants were extremely knowledgeable about being an American citizen which is a testament to the lifetime of support from their wonderful parents. Kudos to The American Legion. By the way, the Senior won.

Honoring our priceless heritage

Clifton Guillory

Commander, Detachment of Texas

