



## Detachment of Louisiana

JOHN C. LAWRENCE, Commander

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## Newsletter November - December 2016

### \*\* Commander's Comments \*\*

Dear fellow Sons

As we approach the second half of my second term as Commander for Louisiana, I hope that I am still encouraging you to act, to be motivated to do something for the Sons of The American Legion. I hope I am being a good leader for the Detachment. I have had a number of calls regarding different aspects of the Sons and I help out where I can or I will gather people to discuss the issues and come to a resolution. I have received requests from a number of Squadrons to help with interpretation of procedures or other items. As stated in the quote below hopefully this is a sign that you trust me to be the leader of the Detachment and that I am living up to that trust and expectations. Finally should you need help with anything I am willing to assist you.

We have just have just completed our Fall Conferences and I would like thank all the Sons that attended the Fall Conferences with me. I would like to thank my Vice Commanders and NEC/Adjutant for attending the conferences as well, especially if I was unable to make the conferences. If you have not attended a Fall or Spring Conference in your District please try to attend.

### \*\* American Legion Endowment Fund \*\*

I would like to reiterate that I want to concentrate on The American Legion Endowment Fund this year as my project. By May 31, 2017 I would like to have in excess of \$2,700 to bring to the Spring NEC and donate to this fund. I look forward to every Squadron helping in this endeavor. I, as the Commander challenge each Squadron to donate \$1 per member to the Endowment fund and Squadron 218 will match those donations dollar for dollar up to \$1,200.

### \*\* Membership \*\*

Our Adjutant Camille LeJeune continues to send out membership reports. I just received the national report and we are currently 3<sup>rd</sup> in the nation. Let's keep the membership rolling in. We still have a number of Squadrons that have not turned in any membership. I want to see 105% membership this year. Go to your old rosters and reach out to former members and ask them to become a member again and while you are talking with them find out why they stopped being a member. Maybe you can do something different that will make them want to stay and be active.



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### \*\* Upcoming events \*\*

January 20, 2017 DEC meeting - Best Western in Alexandria times TBA

January 21, 2017 Mid-Winter Conference - Best Western in Alexandria times TBA

### \*\* Lagniappe \*\*

Detachment Convention pins year are still available I am asking that each Squadron buy ten or more pins.

Don't forget to start thinking about pin designs for Convention. We will vote on the pin design at the Mid-Winter Conference.

We will have our medallions available at Mid-Winter and again I am challenging each Squadron to buy 5 coins.

### \*\* Quote \*\*

“Leadership is solving problems. The day soldiers stop bringing you their problems is the day you have stopped leading them. They have either lost confidence that you can help or concluded you do not care. Either case is a failure of leadership. “

Colin Powell

For God and Country

John C. Lawrence

State Commander Detachment of Louisiana

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<http://www.lalegion.org>

<http://louisianasal.org/site/>