

## **Detachment of Texas**

**Commander's Travel Notes** 

January 14, 2023

To all proud possessors of a priceless heritage:

I just left Bryan, Texas where Earl Graham Post 159 The American Legion hosted the 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Oratorical Contest. I witness high school students put on a spectacular

display of knowledge on the U. S. Constitution of the United States of America.

In case you didn't know The American Legion Oratorical Contest exists to develop deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students. 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.

The Division committee and Post 159 I must say was excellent in their production of this event in front of a Who's Who of the Department of Texas past and present officers such as Department Commander Gerry Hince and 2nd Division Commander Jimmy Mitchell and of course, contestants' families and friends.

The contestants were extremely knowledgeable about being an American citizen and these young people have proved to me that our future is in good hands. I may not remember everything they said but I know how they made me feel.

Let me give a loud and enthusiastic thank you to everyone involved in making this guy enjoy another memorable American Legion event.

Honoring our priceless heritage

**Clifton Guillory** 

**Commander, Detachment of Texas**