This year in honor of the 250th birthday of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, I have chosen ***Americanism 250*** as my Commander's Project for 2026-2027. Through generous donations from our Vermont squadrons and additional fund raising efforts, I hope to raise at least $15,000 to share between two American Legion Americanism programs that are both very special to me. Whatever is raised this year, will be split equally between Vermont Boys State and the Vermont Oratorical program at our State Convention next year. Both of these fine programs have had financial challenges in Vermont during recent years and with everyone's help, we can assure these programs continue strong into the future.