

The American Legion



POST 240

Mr. Michael McDaniel, Adjutant
Department of Florida
P.O. Box 547859
Orlando, Florida 32859-7859

13 April, 2021

At the regularly scheduled membership meeting of April 13, 2021, the membership of Post 240 voted to endorse John M. Edens as a candidate for the high office of Western Area Commander, Department of Florida, for the upcoming 2021-2022 term of office.

John Edens earned his eligibility for membership in the American Legion by serving on active duty from August, 1976 to August, 2000 in the U. S. Air Force. He served as an Aeronautical Engineer for three years at Wright Patterson A.F. Base in Ohio. He then went to pilot training, and flew the B-52 bomber for twenty years. He served in Desert Storm, flying over 150 combat hours over Iraq. He received various meritorious joint service medals and combat medals. His last few years in the Air Force was spent building the Air Force's first ever B-52 Reserve Bomber Squadron at Barksdale AFB in Shreveport, Louisiana. After his 24 years on active duty, John returned to the Air Force as a T-6 Simulator Instructor Pilot for the past 19 years, instructing Undergraduate Pilot Training for 8 years and Combat Service Flight Officers for 11 years.

John Edens got his start with the American Legion in 2002 while serving as an Air Force contractor, civilian, Instructor Pilot at Moody AFB, Georgia. In the past 18 years, he started out as a Post Finance officer for one year, and for four years as the Commander of Post 240 in Pensacola, Florida. His Post received the coveted **"Post of the Year"** for Florida during his 2016 -2017 term as Commander. John received the coveted **"Legionnaire of the Year"** award for Florida for 2017-2018. He has also served the Florida 1st District the past four years as Boys State Chairman; one year as Finance Officer; two years as their 1st Vice Commander; 1st District Commander (2018-2019) and Western Area Commander for two years (2019-2021).

The membership of American Legion Post 240 proudly endorses John M. Edens for the high office of Western Area Commander, Department of Florida for the 2021 - 2022 term.

Steve Stillwell, Commander
American Legion, Post 240

Tony Hammerling, Adjutant