



## **James Durkin State Commander 2012-2013**



James was born on December 6, 1955. He entered the U.S. Marine Corps April 1974 and was discharged in 1984. He was attached to Marine Air Squadron VMAQ-2 for nine years. He was detached to the USS Midway, USS Nimitz and other carriers in the fleet; He earned Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal during Iran Hostage Crisis 1979-80. He received 3 Marine Good Conducts, 2 Navy Unit Commendations, 2 Navy Meritorious Unit Commendations, 5 Sea Service ribbons and Marine Corps Recruiting Medal.

James has been in the VFW for 32 Years. Jim is currently a member at Post 7414 in Canandaigua NY. He has been All State Commander and All State Quartermaster three times.

At the County Council level, James held position of Finger Lakes County Council Commander.

At the District Level James was Membership Chairman for 3 years and Quartermaster for Four years.

At the Department level, he served as State Inspector 2009-10,

State Budget Chairman 2008-09, State Jr. Vice Commander 2010-11, State Sr. Vice Commander 2011-12 and has worked on special assignments for many Past State Commanders.

James was elected as State Commander at the 93<sup>rd</sup> State Convention, June 16, 2012 in Albany, New York.

In addition to his VFW duties James works for the Gleason Works in Rochester. He was hired as lead electrical engineer and is the first electrical engineer to head up all of Engineering. He has held various other positions with the company.

James was married in July 1975 to Barbara Jane MacDonald and has one daughter, Elizabeth born in 1986.

James also is a member of the American Legion for 23 years, DAV Life Member for 33 years and the Marine Corps League 7 Years.