

October 25, 2010

Good morning, Sharon!

I just wanted to say from the bottom of my heart—THANK YOU!! You have been our champion from the very beginning, and I can't tell you how much we appreciate it.

All of the cadets had a tremendous time. We had an after action when we got back and while they thought the goodie bags and T-shirts were "really cool", I heard many more remarks about how they felt appreciated, how the St. John folks were respectful to them and treated them like "good people" (a remark that broke my heart—because that shows you how they're used to being treated!!!) Overall, they thought it was a great day, and they really enjoyed meeting so many diverse people and being trusted to help "run" their respective posts/areas. And then to be told we were going to get \$15,000! It was all overwhelming and a bit surreal.

It was a great success on so many levels for Freestate ChalleNGe, and all of us are cognizant that there are many other groups that St. John could have chosen instead of us. So, thank you, thank you, thank you!!!! Maybe by the time I got to a million times, I would have said it enough.

I sincerely hope we did not disappoint you in any way, and that we actually assisted where and when you felt you needed it. Please let Ed St. John know how much our Academy is appreciative, and how much we enjoy partnering with the St. John properties and foundation.

We have been honored, and we are truly grateful.

Sincerely,

Susan

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