

**LEWIS G
WATKINS
DETACHMENT**



**DETACHMENT
OFFICERS**

Commandant

Robert Walker
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Sr. Vice-Commandant

Morris Carver
(864) 882-2277

Jr. Vice-Commandant

Steve Slagle
(864) 710-6739

Judge Advocate

Bill Thompson
(678) 296-6131

Past Commandant

Skip Wakeman
(678) 300-4272

Paymaster

David Wessinger
(864) 882-5538

Adjutant

Del Williams
(864) 903-2160

Chaplain

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Tip of the Spear

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Commandant's Corner

Fellow Marines

It has been too long since all have gotten together. Since we have meet, we have had elections and installation of officers with the help of Go to Meeting on the Web. I would like to welcome our newest member and Jr Vice Steve Slagle who lives in Cross Creek. Welcome aboard Steve. I have asked the Department when we can have meetings and at this time, I haven't gotten a response. The National Convention is a go I am told at this point. If anyone needs help in any way please call me or e-mail me.

We will do what ever it takes to help you. I want to thank John Stump and the members of the Yellow Footprints Detachment #1154 for sending a donation to the tornado relief fund in Seneca SC.

Thanks, Yellow Footprints. Hope to see you all real soon

Semper Fi

Bob Walker

Commandant #1131

Paymaster's Report

Because of the coronavirus, the Detachment's income took a hit in April when Belk's Stores cancelled the Belk's Charity Day sale.

| Month | Income | Expense |
|----------|-----------------|----------------|
| January | \$ 0.00 | \$370.00 |
| February | \$ 93.00 | \$ 11.00 |
| March | \$ 60.00 | \$428.13 |
| April | \$ 0.00 | \$247.00 |
| May | \$ 0.00 | \$204.00 |
| June | <u>\$ 53.84</u> | <u>\$ 0.00</u> |
| Totals | \$206.84 | \$1,260.13 |

The coronavirus may have effected our income but the Detachment has expenses, whether we have meetings or not, i.e. rent, post office box and others.

A reminder to all annual members, annual dues are to be submitted before August 30, 2020. Dues must be made by check or cash, the Marine Corps League does not have a program in place to pay dues by credit card. National says they are working on a program, but it is not in place now. Make checks payable to MCL Det 1131 and give to the Paymaster, David Wessinger. Thanks for your help. *David*



Morris Carver Senior Vice Com- mandant

As the Senior Vice-Commandant, probably the most important thing concerning my duty is

the yearly budget. As all of us know this virus has put us behind in our ability to meet and discuss the issues. Since most of our income has been from the ticket sales at the Belk charity, and we have not been able to participate due to their closing, it has put a crimp in our revenue, we will have to look at another avenue. We will accept any input from all members if they have ideas. I have asked the committee to meet with me on June 16 to look at our upcoming Budget. If you have any questions just give me a call.

No photograph available at this time.

Steve Slagle Junior Vice Com- mandant

As the newly elected Junior Vice-Commandant of Detachment #1131 as of April 2020, I look forward to assisting in growing the Detachment's membership. According to the Detachment's SOPs one of my responsibilities is to manage the Membership Committee and more importantly, recruit new members to our Detachment here in Oconee County.

I began implementing a plan in June to identify prospective members and to contact them to verify their contact information and their status. The plan includes the following steps:

On June 2, 2020, I emailed the active members of Detachment #1131 and asked for their assistance by letting me know of any prospective members and how we might contact them. We have a few active members on our roster who have not provided an email address, so I have mailed the same request to those individuals. Our prospective member list includes nearly 40 names of individuals who were at some point in the past identified as a potential MCL member.

I have begun contacting each of the nearly 40 prospective members in our area. by telephone, email, or by mail (depending on the contact information we have) to hopefully obtain current contact information for them and seek their interest in joining Detachment 1131 or otherwise supporting our activities. From the calls made so far, I have discovered that some telephone numbers we have are no longer in service, that some individuals have moved out of the area, some are deceased and some are interested in getting involved. I plan to follow up when possible by mail if the prospects cannot be reached by telephone or email.

Once they are verified as prospective members still living in our area, I will share the list with our Detachment Trustees and try to identify sponsors for these prospective members from among our active members.

So, I am asking again in this newsletter for all active members to let me know of Marine veterans who are living in or around Oconee County. If you do, please email or call me (864-710-6739) with a name, any contact information you may have, and I will double-check your information against the list we now have.

When we are again able to hold a Detachment Business Meeting, we can invite prospective members to join us for fellowship and to extend our hospitality to them. Hopefully, we will be able to increase our membership, serve those members and have them support the activities of the MCL.

I thank you in advance for any help you can provide. Semper Fi, Steve Slagle, Junior Vice-Commandant



Bill Thompson Judge Advocate

Greetings from the Judge Advocate's "bench". Hope all of you and your families are well considering the "quarantine" and all the

trash and misinformation in the media.

As usual, news and feedback from National and the Department Judge Advocates' has been nonexistent. The really good news is apparently there has not been a single Disciplinary Case escalated to the National level since February 2019. Or, they are just not reporting that information any longer. However, there may be quite a discussion at the National Convention in Daytona Beach, Aug. 9-14, 2020 (if it is decided to definitely have the Convention). As you know, the National Bylaws and National Administrative Procedure were totally re-written and approved in August 2019 at the National Convention. Since then several Members, Detachments, Departments, and National Board of Trustee Officers have now submitted "changes". Somewhere between 26 and 30 "changes" are to be considered at this year's National Convention. Department Commandant Larry Holt stated in the May 2020 Department Newsletter, "some are trivial, some are technical or administrative changes that few of us will notice, others are pervasive". I think you should make that decision.

Please access the National MCL Website, www.mclnational.org then "click" 2020 National Convention and scroll down to the 26 proposed changes listed. You will see that there are more than 26 changes because several propose changes to both the Bylaws and Administrative Procedures. If any of you have insomnia, reading these changes will solve that problem. After finally reading all of them, and after intent cogitation, please E-mail, text, or call me should you wish to discuss by July 31, 2020. In any event, please let me know if there are any you wish to vote against. That way we can let our Detachment Representatives vote accordingly at the Convention.

I look forward to seeing all of you and breaking bread at our Monthly Meeting soon.

Semper Fi, Bill Thompson
Judge Advocate Det. 1131

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Lewis G. Watkins Unit Marine Corps League Auxiliary

This is a very crazy time for all of us but maybe the "end of the tunnel" will be coming soon. Our love and prayers

go out to any who might have suffered or are suffering.

Everything seems to be on hold for now. We missed seeing our MCL/MCLA friends at the SE Division conference and the South Carolina Department Conference because of cancellations. Charlie and I did log on to the Quarterly tele-session. It was great to see our friends...not in person but on the computer screen.

Unit members have not met but try to keep in touch by e mail and phone. We know we will welcome at least one new member at our next "live" meeting. She is a friend of Nancy Melton and married to a Marine.

Our flag project was successful for Memorial Day. Carol and I placed flags at 8 cemeteries in the Salem/Seneca area. Jane and I placed flags at 4 cemeteries in Westminster. Jane and Perry did the southern part of the county. Charlie and I went to 3 cemeteries in Walhalla. Doris helped for the first time at Corinth Church cemetery and Nancy and Bob Walker had the difficult job of finding all of the Marines buried at Oconee Memorial. I think Deborah Stone and her daughter Danielle placed some at the cemeteries in Greer. We also managed to retrieve all of our flags the following week. Both placing and retrieving were done between rain storms. That's a lot of mileage to add to our Auxiliary Service report. We have 79 Marines buried in Oconee County at 21 cemeteries. Again, please let us know of any deceased Marines buried in the county who have not received flags.

I was honored to participate in the tele-chartering and installation ceremony of the new S.C. unit, the Holy City Unit It is located in the Summerville/Charleston area. We send our congratulations and are happy to have them as our partners and friends. Our member Deborah Stone was also invited and attended.

Charlie and I are hoping the MCLK/MCLA National Convention will still take place at Daytona Beach in August.

Semper Fi, Joyce Brickett
PNVP Southern Division

Upcoming Meetings and Events

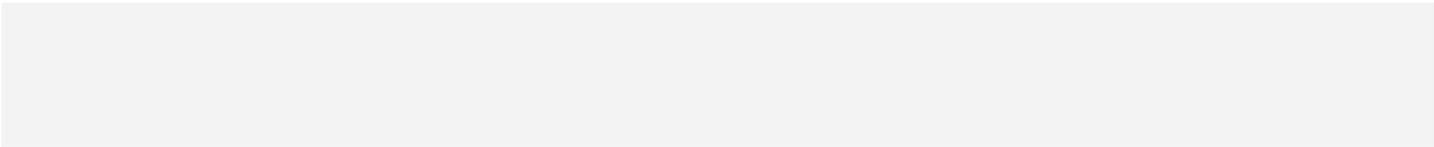
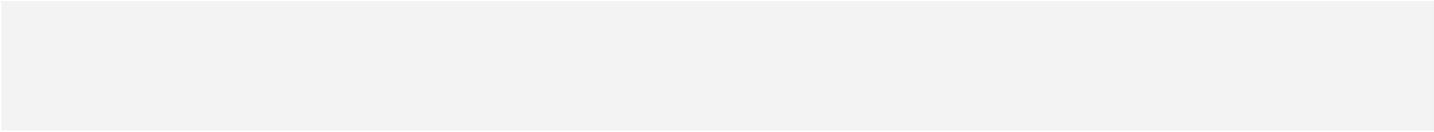
Date & Time

Event/Activity

Location

Coordinator

Uniform



Postage

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