

**LEWIS G  
WATKINS  
DETACHMENT**



**DETACHMENT  
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# Tip of the Spear

VOLUME IX

ISSUE 4

APRIL 2020



## Commandant's Corner

Once again, Fellow Marines, we are under attack. This time is by an enemy we cannot see.

I ask each one of you to please do what the Government, CDC and local government is asking us to do. We can do this together.

If any one needs help or needs anything done, please feel to call me at 864-884-3532 or E-mail me at BOBCPSC@BELLSOUTH.NET.

Your officers and I will hold off to the last minute in regard to deciding on canceling the April meeting. I am waiting to see what our Governor decides. We are in this for the long haul so please be patience.

Semper Fi, *Bob Walker*

### Upcoming Events:

**Tuesday, April 7, 2020 0800**  
**Detachment Trustees Meeting**  
Detachment Trustees will meet Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. in the American Legion Hut, 575 N. Fairplay Street, Seneca, SC 29678. Subject to change, depending on Governor's guidelines.

**Saturday, April 18, 2020**  
**Department of SC Quarterly Meeting 10:00 AM**

Department of South Carolina, MCL will have Quarterly Meeting on Saturday, April 18, 2020 at Scottish Rite Center, 7230 Garners Ferry Road, Columbia, SC 29209

**Tuesday, April 21, 2020**  
**Detachment Business Meeting**

Detachment #1131 will have a Detachment Business Meeting Tuesday April 21, 2020 at the American Legion Hut, 575 N. Fairplay Street, Seneca, SC 29678. Dinner will be at 5:30 p.m. Business Meeting starts at 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday April 25, 2020**  
**Detachment Family Breakfast**  
Location and details will be announced later

**Tuesday, May 5, 2020**  
**Detachment Trustees Meeting**

Detachment Trustees will meet Tuesday, May 5, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. in the American Legion Hut, 575 N. Fair play Street, Seneca, SC 29678

**Stay safe and remember Distancing is the key word. Wash your hands often.**

## **Judge Advocate Report for “Tip of the Spear”**

Good Day and Greetings from Fort LIVING THE LAKE LIFE. General Nancy and 1st gofer, Bill, are fine as well as our Family. Hope all of you are well and your Families, and are enjoying government assisted Quarantine.

As Judge Advocate of Lewis G. Watkins Detachment 1131, I am well aware that most of you are quite concerned that Detachment 1131 is violating many Marine Corps League National Bylaws, Administrative Procedures, Special Rules, and “good ‘old boy” Edicts by having to cancel/postpone Meetings, Functions, Gatherings, and Breakfast!

Needless to say, National, Division, and Department Marine Corps League have Not provided any guidance, suggestions, ideas, or sympathy. However, I believe we have received messages about Dues needing to be paid by the end of August.

Your ever diligent but annoying Judge Advocate has spent many microseconds reading, researching, etc. the various sacred documents and websites from Mount Stafford to recommend a course of action or possible solution to your highly intelligent and hard working Board of Trustees.

So, I am providing the following excerpts from a Congressional Act approved by President Roosevelt on August 4, 1937 that incorporated the Marine Corps League, and our Oath of Membership taken when we joined the Marine Corps League:

Act of Congress, Section 3e “may adopt and alter by-laws not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States or of any State”

Oath Of Membership “ that I will uphold and defend the Constitution and Laws of the United States of America”.

Seriously, your Commandant and Board of Trustees voted before our regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 to suspend/postpone all Meetings and functions, etc. until further notice based upon directions and recommendations from President Trump and South Carolina Governor McMaster. As of March 23, 2020 National Commandant Tobin announced that the Marine Corps League would temporarily suspend providing Military

Honors at Funerals in accordance with Veterans Administration Guidelines. I understand Commandant Tobin is sending a letter through the chain of command recommending what Detachment 1131 has already done concerning suspending Meetings, Conventions, etc.

Let us all continue to Pray for our Country, President Trump , and other Leaders as well as ourselves that all of us have the courage, knowledge, patience, and interest of others to make the correct and right decisions.

## ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ **Remember the Good Times.**

Detachment Family Breakfast. Last Saturday



of each month we try to gather as family and share our love for each other.



Medal of Honor Day March 25th each year. We honor SSgt Lewis G. Watkins, USMC. The only Medal of Honor recipient from Oconee County, South Carolina. We gather to honor the namesake of our detachment.



## Lewis G. Watkins Unit Marine Corps League Auxiliary

If anyone asks what the weather like is in S.C. just say..."anything changing to everything".

The unit is off to a great start for 2020 even though we have lost one of our most faithful members. Sally Youngs (wife of deceased detachment member George Youngs) has sold her home and moved to Kentucky to live with her daughter. We will miss her.

Members Carol and Joyce attended an organizational meeting of a new S.C. unit in Summerville. The Holy City unit is close to receiving their charter. One more unit and S.C. will have an MCLA department. The new unit will have about 12 members and all are excited to start their service projects

Jane, Doris and Nancy enjoyed the detachment dinner last month. We are looking forward to participating in the Medal of Honor ceremony on March 25th. If invited by the detachment, we will also participate in the installation ceremony in May.

Unit members will continue with our cemetery flag project for Memorial Day with new assignments made where needed. We will also continue to collect and donate soda can tabs for Ronald McDonald House, paper products for the Rosa Clark clinic, and personal health products for the veterans' clinic. Please help us with these donations if you can. Service reports will be due at our March meeting. Each MCLA unit receives credit points for participating in Americanism, Child Welfare, Civics and Rehabilitation projects. Certificates of Appreciation will be awarded at the next national MCL/MCLA convention.

Joyce and Charlie Brickett will be attending the Mid-Winter staff conference at Norfolk, the Southeast Division Conference at Warner Robins and the 2020 National Convention at Daytona Beach. These gatherings are wonderful learning experiences and fun. Many life-long friendships are made. Participants benefit by learning about work being done on behalf of veterans, especially our Marines, by both the MCL and the MCLA.

The Lewis G. Watkins unit meets monthly on the third Tuesday at Ye Old Sandwich Shop in Seneca at 6:00. All ladies who love a Marine are welcome to join us.

Semper Fi, Joyce Brickett, Secretary

## Marine Corps History

**3 April 1945:** On Okinawa, Marines of the III Amphibious Corps continued to make good progress all along their front, clearing Zampa Misaki and seizing the Katchin Peninsula, thus effectively cutting the island in two. By this date (D+2), III AC elements had reached objectives thought originally to require 11 days to take.

**5 April 1947:** Five Marine guards were killed and eight wounded when attacked by Communist Chinese raiders near the Hsin Ho ammunition depot in Northern China. This last major clash between Marines of the 1st Marine Division and Communist forces occurred shortly after withdrawal and redeployment plans from China were issued for the 1st Division and 1st Marine Aircraft Wing on 1 April.

**12-13 April 1918:** Marines of the 4th Brigade suffered their first gas attack on the night and early morning hours of 12-13 April when the Germans bombarded the 74th Company, 6th Marines near Verdun with mustard gas. Nine Marine officers and 305 enlisted Marines were gassed and evacuated, and 30 Marines died from the effects of the gas shells which hit in the middle of the reserve area cantonments in which they were sleeping.

**15 April 1962:** Marine Corps operational involvement in the Vietnam War began on Palm Sunday when HMM-362 with its Sikorsky UH-34s arrived at Soc Trang in the Delta south of Saigon. The task unit was called "Shufly" and its first operational employment involved lifting Vietnamese troops into battle.

**18 April 1983:** One Marine Security Guard was killed and seven were wounded when a large car bomb exploded just outside the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon. Lance Corporal Robert McMaugh was standing guard at Post 1, just inside the front entrance when the bomb exploded outside the door. The explosion killed 61 people including 17 Americans. LCpl McMaugh was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on 26 April.

**27 April 1805:** First Lieutenant Presley N. O'Bannon, who with seven other Marines was part of a force of Greeks and Arabs led by American Consul William Eaton, raised the United States flag for the first time over a conquered fortress of the Old World at Derne, a stronghold of the Tripolitan pirates. Two Marines were killed and one wounded in the assault on the walled city.

## **Upcoming Meetings and Events**

<b><u>Date &amp; Time</u></b>	<b><u>Event/Activity</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Coordinator</u></b>	<b><u>Uniform</u></b>
Tuesday Apr 7 0800	Board of Trustees	American Legion Hut 575 N. Fairplay St., Seneca, SC	Bob Walker	None
Tuesday Apr 21 1730 –Dinner 1830— meeting	Detachment Business Meeting	American Legion Hut 575 N. Fairplay St., Seneca, SC	Bob Walker	Basic
Saturday April 25 0800	Detachment Family Breakfast	Seneca Family Rest. 515 Hwy By-Pass 123 Seneca, SC	Bob Walker	None
Tuesday May 5 0800	Board of Trustees	American Legion Hut 575 N. Fairplay St., Seneca, SC	Bob Walker	Basic
Tuesday May 19 1730 –Dinner 1830— meeting	Detachment Business Meeting	American Legion Hut 575 N. Fairplay St., Seneca, SC	Bob Walker	Basic

Postage

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