

**LEWIS G  
WATKINS  
DETACHMENT**



**DETACHMENT  
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# Tip of the Spear

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## Commandant's Corner

Fellow Marines

It was very good to have our second board meeting. The summer is almost over and Fall is fast approaching.

October the 7<sup>th</sup> will be Honoring Lewis G. Watkins Day at 11 AM at Wolf State Baptist Church on Wolf State Road at the grave site. We need 12 Marines to help us Honor SSgt Lewis G. Watkins.

The Trustee are working on the plans for the 2020 Marine Corp Ball. If you have any suggestions please let us know.

Steve our new Jr. Vice is making very good process on getting new members for our detachment. Please let him know if you come across any prospect.

It looks like we will not be having a Belk's Charity Day sale this year. If anyone has any suggestions on fund raiser please let us know.

Semper Fi, *Bob Walker*

### TOYS for TOTS

Once again it is time to start planning for the 2020 Toys for Tots campaign. We had our first meeting last week. This year will be a very different year like no other one we have had before. We are looking for ways to keep our workers safe and the people we are helping. It is going to take a lot of extra work for us to achieve this. We feel with everything that is going on the need will be greater than ever before. We will need a lot of workers this year. If you are able please let us know ASAP.

*Bob Walker*, 2020 Coordinator



*"Every kid deserves a.....  
..... little Christmas"*



**Morris Carver**  
**Senior**  
**Vice-Commandant**

At home, recovering from recent trip to the Hospital or Kidney Stones. Needs your prayers for a fast recovery and can get back to work for Detachment 1131.



**Bill Thompson**  
**Judge Advocate**

Comments from the Judge Advocate's Bench

Greetings and wishes of good health to all Members and their families. Missed seeing a lot of you at the July Meeting, but hope to talk with you at the August Meeting on the 18th.

In case you did not receive the information, Butch Raynes has been appointed to replace Archie Sweet as National Division Vice Commandant and Jerry Holt as National Assistant Division Vice Commandant for the Southeast Division until September 2021. Jerry Holt will continue to serve as Department Commandant for South Carolina.

The Department elections for 2020-2021 will be held at the October 10, 2020 Quarterly Meeting in Columbia. Lewis G. Watkins Detachment 1131 Commandant Bob Walker will be attending and will represent our Detachment at the meeting. Should you have a candidate for any of the Department positions, please share with our eminent, methodical Commandant.

We have not received any additional information from "mount MCL" in Stafford about National Elections. Activities have been a little slow in the J.A. arena, but I did obtain some data per the National Judge Advocate, T.L. Morgan. Between August 2019 and March 2020 there were 38 Chapter Nine Disciplinary Cases and 1 Chapter Nine Grievance filed from around the Marine Corps League. The results were not provided, but range from still pending under appeal to settled. I fully support N.J.A. Morgan in his plea for "mediation" instead of "filing charges". See you at the next meeting!

Semper Fi,  
*Bill Thompson*



**Steve Slagle**  
**Junior**  
**Vice-Commandant**

**SSgt Lewis G. Watkins Day.** Each October 7th we honor SSgt Lewis G. Watkins, USMC with a ceremony at the Wolf Stake Baptist Church cemetery. Please mark your calendar. We need twelve (12) members of the Detachment to hold the ceremony. Further detail will be published in the next *Tip of The Spear* newsletter.

**2020 Toys For Tots Campaign.** The 2020 Toys For Tots Campaign will begin on Thursday October 1, 2020. Please arrange to be available for this very important event. We will need all hands to do this event because of the Covid-19 Virus. Special handling of the toys will be required this year.

**245th Marine Corps Birthday.** Lewis G. Watkins Detachment 1131 will celebrate the 245th Marine Corps Birthday. More information will be published in the next issue of the Tip of The Spear newsletter.

## Paymaster's Report

Because of the coronavirus, the Detachment's income will be very limited this year.

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.

Thanks for your help.

*David Wessinger.*

## Adjutant's Report

The Annual August Family Picnic has been cancelled. The Covid-19 virus has taken a toll on Lewis G. Watkins Detachment this year. Many of the Detachment's activities have suffered. The August Family Picnic is no exception.

No decision has been made as to when we will restart the monthly Family Breakfast. As of now we are not able to do the Family Breakfast safely.

During the Detachment's meeting on August 18, 2020 the procedure will be:

- Everyone should wear a mask.
- Avoid personal contact, i.e. no handshaking
- Maintain proper social distancing.
- There will not be a meal before the meeting.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the August 18, 2020 Business Meeting.

Semper Fi. *Del Williams*

## This day in Marine Corps History

**1 August 1944:** After nine days of fighting in a battle termed "the perfect amphibious operation of World War II," MajGen Harry Schmidt, commander of V Amphibious Corps, declared the island of Tinian secured. The combination of surprise, heavy preassault bombardment, and effective logistical support was responsible for Tinian's recapture with a much lower casualty rate (344 killed and 1550 wounded) than had been experienced in previous landings.

**3 August 1950:** Eight Corsairs of VMF-214, the famed "Black Sheep" squadron of World War II, launched from the USS SICILY and executed the first Marine aviation mission in the Korean War in a raid against enemy installations near Inchon. After the F4Us delivered their incendiary bombs and rockets on their targets, the Marines concluded their greeting to the Communist troops with a series of strafing runs.

**9 August 1942:** With the Guadalcanal airstrip secure after heavy fighting with the Japanese, the 1st Engineer Battalion commenced work on the runway using captured equipment. Three days later, on 12 August, the first plane landed on Henderson Field, a Navy PBV which evacuated two wounded Marines. Nearly 3,000 wounded Marines would be evacuated from Henderson Field during the battle.

**17 August 1942:** Just prior to dawn, the 2d Marine Raider Battalion under LtCol Evans F. Carlson landed on Makin Island from the submarines NAUTILUS and ARGONAUT. The next day the Marines left the island after destroying a seaplane base, two radio stations, a supply warehouse, and killing about 100 Japanese soldiers.

**12 August 1968:** PFC James Anderson, Jr., was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor by Secretary of the Navy, Paul R. Ignatius, for heroism in Vietnam while serving as a rifleman with Company F, 2d Battalion, 3d Marines in February 1967. This was the first Medal of Honor presented to an African-American Marine. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Anderson, Sr., received the award during ceremonies at Marine Barracks, 8th and I.

## **Upcoming Meetings and Events**

<b><u>Time &amp; Date</u></b>	<b><u>Event/Activity</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Coordinator</u></b>	<b><u>Uniform</u></b>
6:30 pm Tuesday August 18, 2020	Detachment Business Meeting	American Legion Hut 575 N. Fairplay St. Seneca, SC 29678	Robert Walker	Basic
8:00 am Tuesday September 1, 2020	Board of Trustee's Meeting	American Legion Hut 575 N. Fairplay St. Seneca, SC 29678	Robert Walker	none
6:30 pm Tuesday September 15, 2020	Detachment Business Meeting	American Legion Hut 575 N. Fairplay St. Seneca, SC 29678	Robert Walker	Basic
8:00 am Tuesday October 6, 2020	Board of Trustee's Meeting	American Legion Hut 575 N. Fairplay St. Seneca, SC 29678	Robert Walker	none
11.00 pm Tuesday October 7, 2020	Lewis G. Watkins Day	Wolf State Baptist Church, Wolf State Baptist Church Road, Seneca, SC	Robert Walker	Red Blazer

Postage

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