

**LEWIS G
WATKINS
DETACHMENT**



**DETACHMENT
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**Detachment #1131
website is:**

mcl1131.org

Tip of the Spear

VOLUME X

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Commandant's Corner

Fellow Marines and ladies it is once again time for the Belk Charities Day Sale. Please call Skip and sign up to work the doors. This is our only fund raiser.

We will be having our Marine Corp birthday dinner at Sole Grill and Sushi Bar on Saturday, November 13th. Happy Hour is at 6 PM and dinner and cake cutting ceremony to follow. I am looking forward to seeing every one there.

Our State Commandant Jim Stone was at our last business meeting along with our Southeast Division Assailant Commandant Jerry Holt. A good time was had by all.

Due to the weather we had to cancel Lewis G. Watkins Day at the grave site. We will do it in the Spring in downtown Walhalla.

Semper Fi, *Robert Walker*

Commandant, Detachment 1131

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at 6:30 pm: Detachment Business Meeting at American Legion Hall, 575 N. Fairplay St., Seneca, SC

Saturday, October 30, 2021 at 8:00 am: Monthly Family Breakfast location will be announce later by email or next business meeting.

Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at 8:00 am: Detachment Trustees Meeting at American Legion Hall, 575 N. Fairplay St., Seneca, SC

Monday, November 8, 2021 at 10:00 am: Toys for Tots Golf Tournament at Cross Creek Golf Course, Seneca, SC

Thursday, November 11, 2021 - Veterans Day

Saturday, November 13, 2021 at 6:00 pm: 245th Marine Corps Birthday Dinner, Sole` Grill and Sushi Bar, 700 By-Pass 123, Seneca, SC 29678



Steve Slagle
Senior Vice-Commandant

**2021 Toys for Tots
Campaign Underway**

Our Detachment's 2021 Toys for Tots Campaign launched on October 6 and will conclude with toy distributions to about 15 community organizations in mid-December. Those organizations will in turn provide the toys and books to the families who applied for and are approved to receive gifts for their children. We are expecting the requests and applications to be a bit higher this year due to the long-term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and we are hopeful our efforts will result in more donations and toys to meet the needs.

2020 Activity and 2021 Plans

In 2020 more than 7,000 toys, stocking stuffers, bicycles, kindles, and books were either collected or purchased with cash donations. 698 children in our area of responsibility of 692 square miles each received at least five toys, a stocking stuffer, and a book. The program serves children in the target ages from birth to 14.

The campaign includes toy collection boxes at approximately 190 businesses, restaurants and stores throughout Oconee County, the Pickens County towns of Central, Liberty and Clemson and the Anderson County town of Pendleton.

Bob Walker, Detachment #1131 Commandant, is the overall coordinator for the 2021 campaign. He is assisted by some 20 volunteers who are responsible for distributing the collection boxes, signs, and brochures and for picking up toys from the 190 locations from early October until early December on a regular basis. They are supported by members of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary. It is my privilege to serve as the coordinator of the toy collection and pickup process again this year.

The annual Toys for Tots Golf Tournament will be on November 8 at Cross

Creek Plantation in Seneca. Kickoff is 9:00 am with breakfast and an 11:00 am shotgun start for the two person teams. Last year's tournament featured 80 golfers providing 230 toys, 19 bicycles and a significant cash contribution to the campaign. The tournament, which will be our 8th year, will again be coordinated by Eddy Brown and T.J. Grove. Entry forms and rules are available from Eddy Brown at bop-brown@bellsouth.net.

A centrally located Toy Store at 205 Stork Way (corner of Stork Way and Radio Station Road) in Seneca will serve as the hub of the campaign and all toys will be taken to the store once they are collected by the volunteers. Another Detachment member, Len Rock, and his wife Carol, manage the immense task of sorting and organizing the toys, and Jim Day coordinates the books and Kindles, based on age and gender appropriateness, and prepare them for the community organizations that subsequently deliver the gifts to the families.

The volunteers who are assisting by collecting toys this year are:

- Howard Barefoot
- Charles Brickett
- Morris Carver
- Leon Davis
- James Day
- Ted Edwards
- Denise Fontana
- Jim Hasick
- Greg Houck
- Perry and Jane Paradise
- Steve Slagle
- Bill Thompson
- Dan Thompson
- Skip Wakeman
- David Wessinger
- Del Williams
- Dean Wright

The Detachment's Toys for Tots website is <https://salem-sc.toysfortots.org>. The website provides the public with information about

the program, how it works, how to donate toys or cash, where the collections boxes are, and how families may apply to be considered.

We encourage all MCL #1131 members to talk about the program to their neighbors and to any churches, non-profit organization with whom they are affiliated, and to any businesses you believe would serve as a suitable location for a collection box. Any suggestions for additional locations may be given to me by calling 864-710-6739 or Bob Walker at 864-882-3532.

Please support this program this year as we really need to make sure that deserving children can enjoy Christmas during a particularly challenging time for our country. If you are willing to volunteer and help us, call me. Donate a toy, make a contribution or volunteer your time to help ensure the Toys for Tots campaign is a success this year. The program has been a signature activity for the Marine Corps, the Marine Corps Reserve, and now the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Foundation since 1947. Detachment #1131 has been managing and implementing this campaign in Oconee County since 2004.

Semper Fi! *Steve Slagle*



**Skip" Wakeman
Jr. Vice-Commandant**

Annual Belk's Charity Day Sale

During the first week of this month, Belk announced the beginning of the Belk's Charity Day sale. During the second week of October, Belk did not provide a schedule of the days that this event would be running. This did not leave enough time to get people signed up to assist in this event; therefore, we could not get people signed up in advance.

At this time, we still need your support to help in the sale of the Belk's Charity Day tickets. The following dates are still in need of volunteers to man the doors:

- 10/20 from 1000 to 1200
- 10/22 from 1000 to 1200
- 10/24 from 1200 to 1400
- 10/26 from 1000 to 1200

The daily need is for (2) members per day. The dress is for you to wear the red cover. Your will be trained on how to sell the tickets. If you would like to help, please call 678-200-4272.

Annual Audit Performed

The audit was performed during September. During this audit, I found no incorrect entries and/or omissions during FY-21. David has done a great job for us.



**Bill Thompson
Judge Advocate**

Greetings and comments from the Judge Advocate's bench. I sincerely hope that you and your families are well. I believe it is in everyone's interest and protection to seriously consider getting the Covid 19 Vaccine shots, the Booster Shot when available, and don't forget about the FLU Vaccine this year.

It appears everyone has been playing together well and cooperating throughout the Marine Corps League as I have NO information or issues to pass along.

Since that is the case, I would like to remind everyone that the Belk's Charity Day Sale is in progress until October 27 and help is desperately needed to sell Tickets at the Belk's Door. Additionally, we are putting out Toys For Tots Boxes, and will need help moving into our new Toy Store location. Help will be needed at the Golf Tournament on Monday, November 8, the Veterans Day Parade on November 11 as well as your attendance at the Marine Corps Birthday Dinner.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our next Business Meeting on Tuesday, October 19 and Family Breakfast Saturday, October 30.

Semper Fi, *Bill Thompson*

Upcoming Meetings and Events

<u>Time & Date</u>	<u>Event/Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>	<u>Uniform</u>
6:30 pm Tuesday October 19, 2021	Detachment Business Meeting	American Legion Hut 575 N. Fairplay St. Seneca, SC 29678	Robert Walker	Basic
8:00 am Saturday October 30, 2021	Detachment Family Breakfast	Seneca Family Restaurant, 515 By-Pass 123 Seneca, SC 29678	Robert Walker	Casual
8:00 am Tuesday November 2, 2021	Trustee's Meeting	American Legion Hut 575 N. Fairplay St. Seneca, SC 29678	Robert Walker	Basic
10:00 am Monday November 8, 2021	Toys for Tots Gold Tournament	Cross Creek Golf Course Seneca, SC	Robert Walker	casual
6:30 pm Tuesday November 16, 2021	Detachment Business Meeting	American Legion Hut 575 N. Fairplay St. Seneca, SC 29678	Robert Walker	Basic

Postage

Lewis G. Watkins Detachment #11321, MCL
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