



**CARRY-ON DETACHMENT
#1236
JOHNSTON COUNTY,
NORTH CAROLINA**

**JAN
2023**



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COLORING PLEASURE.**

DO NOT EAT THE CRAYONS!

OUR FUTURE

Tuesday, Jan 10th, 7 pm: Carry-On Business Meeting.

Saturday, Jan 21st: M.O.D.D. Jesse O Price Pound #210 Growl. Elm City American Legion Post, 100 American Legion Lane, Elm City, NC 27822. Chow begins at 11:45. Growl begins at 13:00.

Feb. 23-25: 2023 National Midwinter Conference. Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel, Norfolk, VA.

OUR PAST

1 January 1944 - LtGen Alexander A. Vandegrift became the 18th Commandant of the Marine Corps relieving LtGen Thomas Holcomb.

21 January 1918- The 1st Aeronautical Company arrived at Ponta Delgada, Azores, for anti-submarine duty. That unit was one of the first completely equipped American aviation units to serve overseas in World War I.

25 January 1943 - Composite Army-Marine Division (25th Infantry and 2d Marine units) established to complete defeat of Japanese on Guadalcanal.

29 January 1991 – The first serious ground fighting of Operation Desert Storm broke out when Iraqi troops mounted an attack into Saudi Arabia along a 40-mile front. Company and battalion-sized Iraqi units centered their efforts on Khafji, a deserted port city, six miles south of the border. Saudi and Quatari troops, supported by artillery and attack helicopters from the 1st Marine Division and aircraft from the anti-Iraq coalition, recaptured the town two days later. The fighting produced the first ground casualties of the war as 11 Marines were killed when their light armored vehicles were destroyed in a clash with Iraqi armored forces.

30 January - 28 February 1968 - Communist forces launched a countrywide offensive during the Vietnamese Tet holidays. On 30 January, their main force units launched an aborted attack upon Da Nang. Units from the U.S. Army Americal Division would reinforce the 1st Marine Infantry Division at Da Nang. Fighting in the Da Nang sector would continue sporadically until the end of February. Communist offensives also would occur in Hue, Quang Tri City, Hoi An and Quang Ngai City in I Corps.

31 January 1944 - Troops of the 4th Marine Division, as part of V Amphibious Corps, landed on and captured adjoining islands to Roi-Namur, Kwajalein Atoll. 7th Infantry Division, also under V Amphibious Corps, similarly captured islands lying off Kwajalein Island.

OUR FALLEN



Tom Barrie. John Bullock. George Gillespie. Robert Moore. Willard Pleasants. Gordon Young. Mark Wayne Williams. Linwood Johnson. George Hartley. Patrick Goodrow. Ken Parker



2023 CHRISTMAS PARADES

The Carry-On Detachment participated in three parades over eight days.

Four Oaks, Cleveland Fire and Clayton.

Stanley Burton, Tim Daniel, Andrew Gould, Bob and Debbie Long, James Lee, Bill Dunn, Steven and Lauren Narron with their boys, Carter and Cole.

The Toys For Tots Train is always a hit.



A great turn out for the Detachment's Christmas Dinner and Dirty Santa gift exchange at Smithfield's Golden Corral.



Past Commandant Devell Durham visited the Farm Bureau Insurance of Johnston County, where their employees collected over seven hundred dollars to donate to the Toys For Tots program.



Carry-On was very busy this year for the Toys For Tots program. Starting with dropping off collection boxes to businesses in October, then collecting the boxes and delivering all toys to the Marine Corps Reserve Center in Raleigh with the final drop off date of December 16th. As a Detachment, we've collected almost three thousand toys for the 2022 Christmas season.

FROM THE COMMANDANT'S DESK



2022 is gone. Bring on 2023.

The Carry-On Detachment did some good things last year. The Mud Run in June is always a good time for a great cause. Next, for a change of pace, we decided to forgo our July business meeting and go to a Mud Cats Baseball game. We had a pretty good turn out and got some publicity by getting our Detachment on the jumbotron. Our own Bob Long got some on screen glory by being the 'Hero of the Game'. He may not be the prettiest, but any promotion of the Marine Corps League and our Detachment is a good thing.

For the first time since I've been with the Carry-On Detachment, we held a raffle of a rifle in the attempt to raise funds for our scholarship program. We've raised \$2250. I think we could've done better, but I'm calling this a success.



Lauren and Steven got married! During a hurricane! What an amazing couple. I'm so proud of you both with all your accomplishments together. Still a long road ahead, but you are a truly blessed family. I know the rest of the Carry-On family will always be there for you when you need anything. Thank you for adding Carry-On to be part of your lives. Congratulations, Marine and Mrs. Narron!



To finish the year, the Toys For Tots program put us to work again. It was business as usual getting the boxes to the businesses, then collecting the toys to give to the Marine Corps Reserve in Raleigh. Carry-On collected just under three thousand toys! To promote Toys For Tots and our Detachment, we also participated in three Christmas parades during an eight day period. It's a job with the set up and breakdown of the train, but it's nothing compared to the reactions of the parade watchers, especially the children, when the train goes by. I think all of us that do a parade, sort of revert to the inner child, while we're doing these. It's just a lot of fun. Especially whoever is driving the train!

Along with all the good, there are the moments that aren't so good. Covid is still around and has affected several of our Marine's families. Alfred Peavy and his wife have been shut in for a while. Greg Quinn's wife is still fighting cancer and then they both tested positive for Covid.

Just recently, a couple families lost a loved one. Associate Debbie Long lost her father and Marine Manuel Cruz lost his wife.

Throughout the year of 2022, there have been more occasions of our members' families having illnesses or loved ones passing. I apologize for not addressing each of them, but as a Detachment, please hold up all these families in prayer for healing.

Now for 2023. We've already had somewhat of a bad start. We've just received our roster from National and at least ten members have fallen from the roster. Sorry to say, but most have been expected. A couple have moved to another state and transferred their membership to another Detachment. A couple have moved and just let their membership drop. The rest are still local, but either decided to end their membership or just disappeared, not responding to any of our attempts to reach out to them.

Unfortunately, this is happening to all Veteran's organizations across the country, but we are the Marine Corps League. We are Marines! Almost every day, we are running into Marines out in public. Grocery stores, malls, restaurants, golf courses, bowling alleys, et cetera, etcetera. We're everywhere! What do you do when you meet a Marine? "Semper Paratus, Marine!" Then keep walking on by focused on why you are wherever you are. I'll admit it. I've done that a few times. I can tell sometimes that when I meet a Marine whether they're interested in conversation, or just responding to my greeting and they want to keep on with their own reason for being there. For those who decide to have a conversation, I have our Detachment's business card ready to hand over.

That one-on-one experience is fantastic. Usually when the Marine speak begins, my wife will keep going with the shopping and hope to see me when it comes time to check out. But another tool is exposure. The Carry-On Detachment #1236 needs to be seen. We are the Detachment that covers Johnston County, NC. Our logo is the Marine Corps League logo, but with the outer ring being the names of all towns located in Johnston County. Our Marines live all over Johnston County, but has the Detachment ever done anything in, let's say, Micro? Pine Level? Kenly?

This year, we need to focus on Detachment exposure. We need to get out into our County. For that to happen, we need more of our Marines to be active in this. Where is everybody?

These past three parades we did over the Christmas season, we averaged five of our members present for each. God bless, James Lee. He came to all three! The minimum number of participants needed to do a Christmas parade is three. Two to carry our banner and one to drive the train. Now, I've been putting my truck in these parades for two reasons. I have Toys for Tots logos on it to advertise, and it's a backup vehicle for two purposes. If the train happens to quit, I can tow it. If some of our older members want to participate, but either can't walk or can walk for a little bit, they can ride in the truck. This requires a fourth member. (Oh, a third reason is for when we've handed out stuffed animals along the Clayton parade route.) The Tuesday night Cleveland Fire Department parade was a sort of disappointment. I drove the train. Bob, Deb and James rode in my truck. Who carried the banner? Bob hired two of the teenagers who were in the Middle School Dance troupe walking the route behind us to carry the banner. That should've never happened.

For 2023, we will try to repeat the events from last year, but I would like for you to think of other ways we can get the Carry-On Detachment seen in Johnston County. I don't know all of what happens in the county. Benson has the Mule Days. The Johnston County Airport has an air show. What kind of festival or event happens in Selma, Micro, Princeton...?

I would like to ask of you one more task. We need to be seen, yes. But as a Detachment we need to add more focus on our individuals. Our Marines. Our Associates. Please reach out to each other. It doesn't have to be because something bad has happened. It can be just to BS. We're Marines. We're good at BS. I feel that I should be doing this more myself, being the Commandant. And I apologize if I haven't. It may sound a bit cliché, but let's make 2023 the best yet!

Respectfully submitted, Commandant William Dunn





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Promoting the Future
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- Funeral Honor Guard Support
- Rifle & Pistol Matches
- Veteran Service Officers
- Volunteer Assistance Veterans Service
- College Scholarships
- Color Guards
- Youth Physical Fitness

www.mclnational.org

info@mcleague.org



Past Commandants Greg Quinn, Devell Durham and Robert Long all were present to lead the Pledge of Allegiance at the Johnston County Courthouse for the opening of the final Commissioner's meeting of 2022.

Marines!

Let us help our building host, American Legion Pou-Parrish Post 332, with collecting pop/beer tabs for the Durham/Wake Ronald McDonald House!



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