

Loudoun Detachment 1205 News

2021 In Review



Started out the Year with...

- ...an Eagle Scout recognition. Jack Gray restored the Lyon's family cemetery.



Honor Guard

- We got an urgent call for not the Honor Guard, but for the use of our Marine Corps Colors. It was for the funeral of a Marine tragically killed in a collision on 95. We provide the flag and stayed for the ceremony.



2021 Officers

Rich Klein	Commandant
Tom Quigley	Sr. Vice
Chris Cicotello	Jr. Vice
Joe Newcomer	Paymaster
Steve Hildner	Adjutant
Thomas Dougherty	Judge Advocate
Eddie Johnson	Chaplain
Vince Marino	Sgt at Arms
Ron Clark	Service Officer
Rich Klein	Honor Guard
Joe Newcomer	M for L Liaison
Stirling Rasmussen	Web Sergeant.
Stirling Rasmussen	Historian
Frank Holtz	TfT Coordinator
Rita Sartori	TfT Coordinator
Richard Oakley	TfT Warehouse Mgr.

Departed Members Remembered

- Detachment and American Legion member Robert Richie passed away, and our Honor Guard and the American Legion's worked together to stand Death Watch and funeral honors.
- Death Watch was stood by detachment members Klein, Holtz, Marino, and Rasmussen.
- Flag honors and presentation was done by Klein, Marino, Holtz, and Rasmussen.
- Post 293 played taps and fired the rifle volley.



- Honor Guard bugler Ralph Horan was called away to cover Taps for Heaven's Guard.

- We said goodbye to member Joel Gardner at his Naval Academy interment.



April Distinguished Service Award

- We gathered at past-Commandant Harry Burkart's house to present his Distinguished Service Award and honor him for his many years of service to the detachment.



A Very Busy Remembrance May

- Memorial Day observances began with a suggestion by American Legion member Sam Barr that we honor Purcellville native, Marine Captain Quin at his memorial in town. Captain Quin had been killed in a helicopter training accident in 2012.
- Commandant Klein had a commemorative plaque commissioned for present to Quin's parents, and the detachment put on a fitting presentation.



Memorial Day

- Flag placements were the rule of the day as detachment members placed flags in three cemeteries: Union Cemetery in Leesburg; Lincoln's Burial Ground; Lincoln's Mt. Olive Cemetery.
- The Mt. Olive Cemetery was a special one, since it was detachment member Horace Lassiter's burial site from last year at which we had the honor of folding and presenting his burial flag.



Leesburg Memorial Day Ceremony

- The detachment's Color Guard was able to be a last-minute replacement for the Naval ROTC color guard which unfortunately had to cancel.
- Color Guard members were Klein, Marino, Holtz, and Rasmussen.
- Standing by with the guidon was Newcomer.



More May Activities

- Attending a Veteran's recognition event at the George C. Marshall International Center in Leesburg were detachment members Kirk and Holtz, and VFW Post 1177's Commander, Ray Delpesche.



- Taking part in Lovettsville's Memorial Day activities were members Eddie Johnston and Wesley McCaskill, here flanking McCaskill's son, Cameron.



- We joined Post 293 in sending off the Ruck-to-Remember on their home stretch to Arlington.



- June arrived and found member Eddie Johnston helping the Cub Scouts retire Lovettsville flags.



Leesburg 4th of July Parade

- Detachment members Holtz, Johnston, and Marino, became part of VFW 1177's parade color guard.
- Being out of uniform, the dog could not take part.



Annual Picnic

- Once again, we had our August detachment picnic at member Ron Clark's house.



9/11 Ride Salute

- As the 9/11 Ride roared into Leesburg on their way to D.C., member Frank Holtz was again there to greet them.



Leesburg Halloween Parade

- The Kiwanis' Leesburg Halloween Parade returned to its pre-COVID form and once more we were in it, showing Loudoun County our presence and reminding them that Toy for Tots was coming.



Remembering *Abbey Gate*

- The detachment gathered at a Marine-owned local brewery to remember our brothers and sisters who had recently died at Abbey Gate.



November Library Display

- Every November we set up a month-long display at the Purcellville Library to promote the Detachment, the Marine Corps, and the National Museum of the Marine Corps.



Community Presence

- It is important to have community presence, so members Rasmussen and Valle (#12) were at Leesburg's re-dedication of its WWI Memorial plaque.



U.S.M.C. Birthday at the Black Hoof Brewing Company

- Every Birthday Marine owner/brewer Bill Haase has a celebration that features the cake ceremony and, of course, beer on the house. There had been a COOVID break but renewed this year.



Marine Corps Birthday

- We began easing back to a more formal celebration of the Marine Corps Birthday, with assurances, thanks to a \$10,000 donation from our Junior Vice's company, C2 Operations, that in 2023 we will return to our full-blown formal Birthday Ball.
- This year we gathered at Spanky's Shenanigans for the ceremony.. We were flanked by civilians, who quietly observed and seemed to appreciate it. They did learn a bit more about the Corps.



Veterans Day Activities

- Detachment members Corey Lewis and Eddie Johnston participated in a ceremony in Lovettsville, and Michael Gauvreau sang in a remembrance at the George Marshall Center in Leesburg.



Toys for Tots

- Due to the pandemic, Rita Sartori and Frank Holtz repeated their 2020 season solution that made it safe for all involved and still provided toys to children in need. Requirements for touch-free toy acquisition and prevention of close-contact sorting prevented our usual pre-COVID operations.
- The solution is to raise donations and use these to purchase toys based upon community service organization requests. The Tft team then manages the toy shelf selection by employees of volunteer businesses, and the fire department. The community service organizations then pick up the purchased toys at the store, taking them for wrapping and distribution to the families.
- Advertising and publicity by Frank and Rita, coupled with collection events, these supported by detachment members Holtz, Sartori, Oakley, Klein, Marino. McDonald, Johnston, and Rasmussen, brought in the funds, and Rita, Frank, and Richard and their volunteers purchased the toys.
- It worked as it had in 2020, this time with 7,421 Loudoun County children receiving toys.



VFW 1177 donating



Purchasing



Picking up

Raising the Funds

Events were hosted by these organizations: American Shine Detailing;; Century 21 Redwood Realty; Lamborghini/McLaren/Rolls-Royce Motorcars of Sterling; The Loudoun Kitchen and Bar; Loudoun Symphonic Winds; Noble Athletics; Radio Redline. A big Bravo Zulu to them all.

American Shine Detailing



Lamborghini/McLaren/Rolls-Royce Motorcars of Sterling



The Loudoun Kitchen and Bar



Loudoun Symphonic Winds

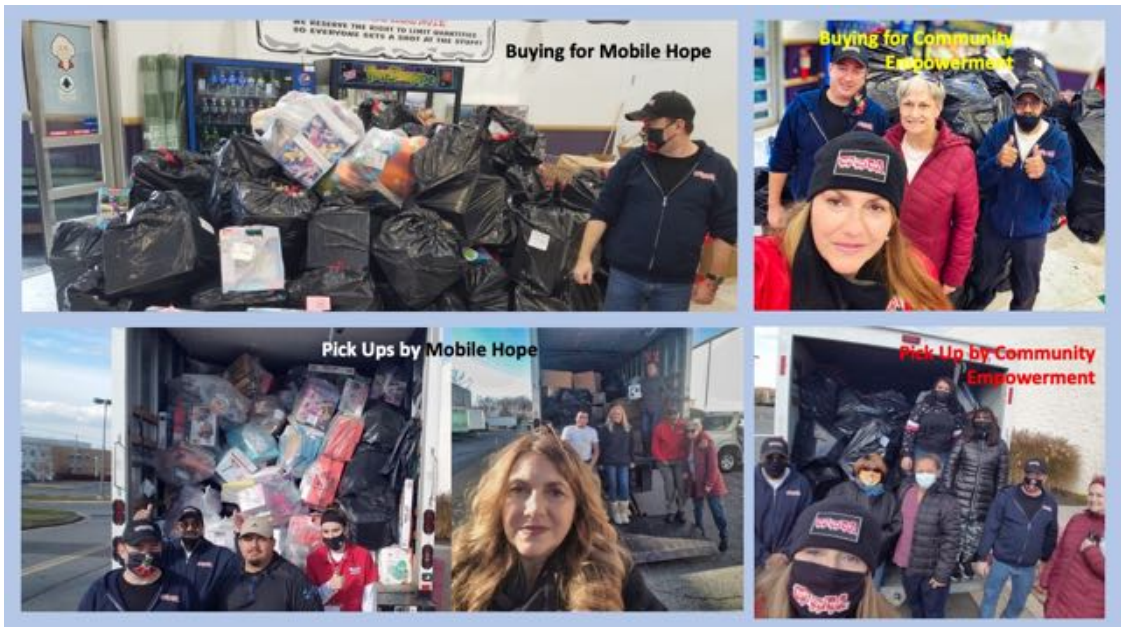


Toy Purchase and Hand-Off to Community Organizations



Organizations that helped us select the toys

AFCEA; Century 21 Redwood Realty; Falcons Landing; Loudoun County Fire Companies; Pegasystems; Yahoo.



Falcons Landing Toys to Boulder Crest



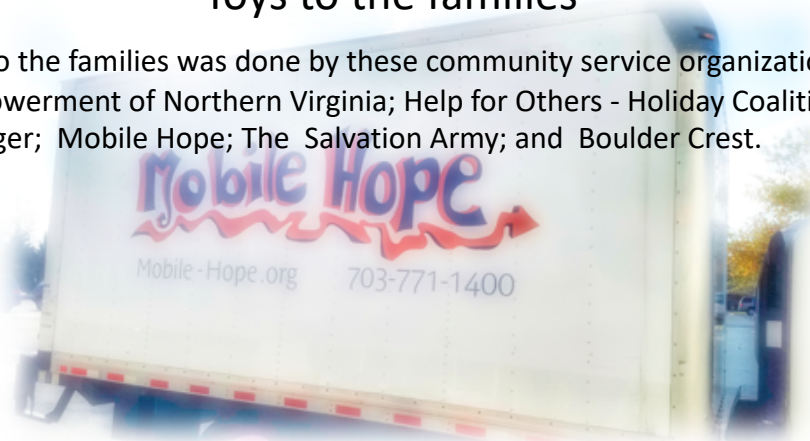
Despite all the publicity there were still loose toys to pick up.



These toys were added to the inventory that we will use to start next season's early distribution. Our thanks to Interstate Moving & Storage for providing a place to store both these and the supplies we'll need as we return to normal warehouse collection and sorting ops in November.

Toys to the families

The distribution to the families was done by these community service organizations: Community Empowerment of Northern Virginia; Help for Others - Holiday Coalition; LINK Against Hunger; Mobile Hope; The Salvation Army; and Boulder Crest.



So that was 2021. Still a COVID year, but also a busy one. We look forward to a return to a more regular order in 2022.



Semper Fidelis

