



## **OUR HOUSE**

*Newsletter*

*December 2022*

*Editor: John F. Healy (P.C.)*

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**Principles: The members of the Marine Corps League join together in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving the traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps. Those who belong have the respect of a nation, the loyalty of their own, and the pride of being a part of history.**

**DECEMBER-** The month began with our annual Gifts for Children fund raiser. West Hudson Marines took turns manning posts at the local Shop-Rites, collecting for families in need. Each year, it's amazing seeing these dedicated veterans out "shaking the cans", meeting people, talking about us, and the fund, and how we're all Marines. A huge thank you goes out to Shop-Rite in Belleville, and in Nutley, for the use of their stores.





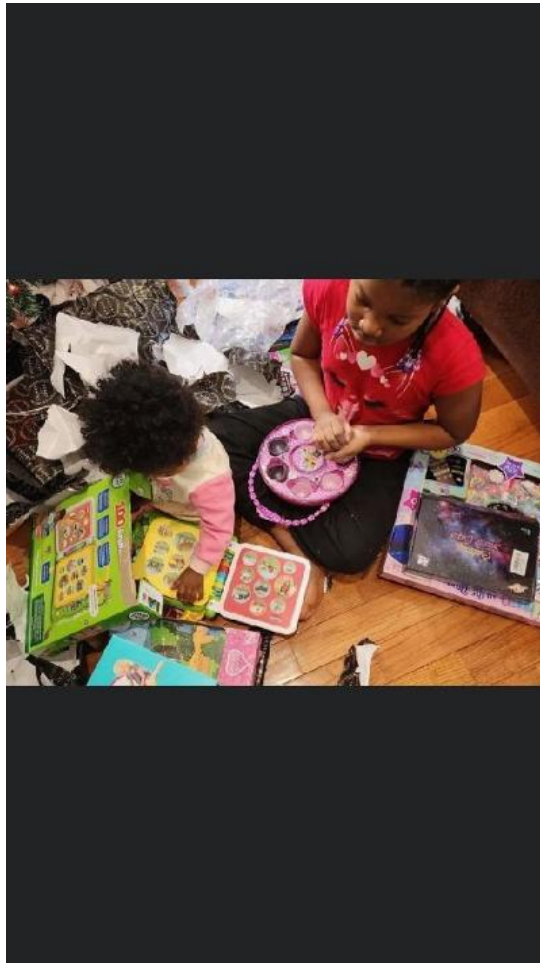


Later, on the 17<sup>th</sup>, Commandant Engdahl and others met at the house in preparation for the distribution to the families. Numerous toys and games being sorted out, and packaged for the listed families. Just like Santa, made up a list, checking it twice!



Then, on the 18<sup>th</sup>, the distribution. Families arrived at the house, or we sent some of Santa's helpers out, delivering packages to some of the families. It's a humbling experience when the families thank you, almost crying. And while they're here, they get to see we're their neighbors, veterans, and here to help. What Marines do!





Once again, we've brought some joy to families and children, which is what the season is about. Thank you to all the Marines involved in this effort. *Merry Christmas* to all!

On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, Cmdt, Engdahl and P.C. Healy once again provided an afternoon of Bingo at the Menlo Park Veterans' Home. A decent turn out, yet one wing still down in quarantine, so we played real life and virtual. That's how we roll. Get the job done, and show our appreciation to our predecessors and families.



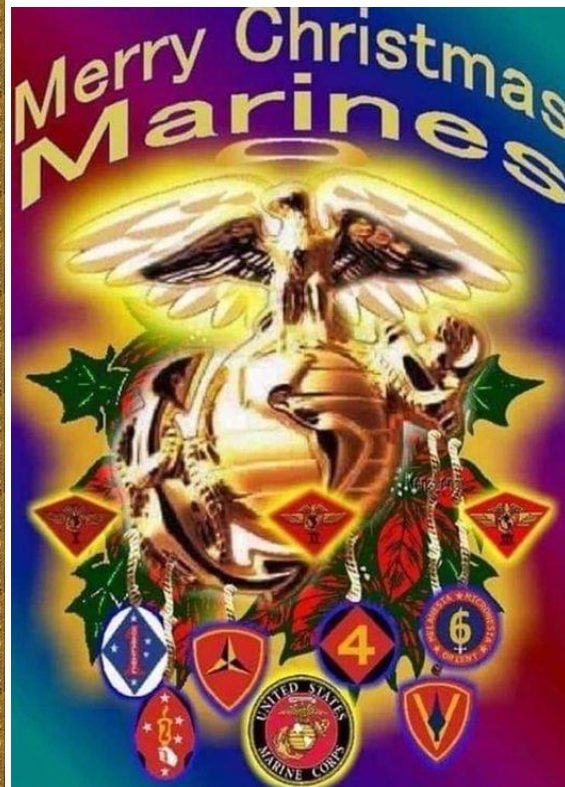
A great day was had by all. And, as always, they thanked us for coming there. We thanked them for allowing us to be there. Giving back to those who came before! Veterans all!



Finally, on the 24<sup>th</sup>, Commandant Engdahl again made the rounds. Distributing the remaining toys and games to both the Belleville Police, for their donation program, and then to St. Peter's Church, for their dinner and distribution of gifts.



It's been a busy month, and the members are already planning for the future. From myself and the staff of West Hudson Detachment, we wish you all a very *Merry Christmas.*



*Semper Fi, Marines and families!*

