

Courtesy WPVI-TV, Philadelphia

Marine Mom Spreads Holiday Cheer

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[Denise James](#)

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By Denise James

WILLOW GROVE, Pa. - October 13, 2006 (WPVI) -- Pat Lewis is on a mission to equip 1,100 Marines stationed alongside her son in Iraq with the tender touches of Christmas. The Willow Grove mom is collecting stocking stuffers to bring them holiday cheer overseas.

"I've got 11-hundred sons. And damn, I'm going to have every one of them smile on Christmas day," said Lewis.

Pat's 21-year-old son, Lance Cpl. Brian Lewis, joined the Marines on this date three years ago.

"I could either sit here as a Marine mom having a third deployment and cry and worry, or I can be positive and do everything in my power to support these guys."

Pat's living room is stacked high with boxes of pens, playing cards, socks and assorted items donated by friends and strangers.

She hopes to collect enough to put hand held electronic games in every stocking, a small distraction in the midst of war.

"They're in combat every day," said Lewis. "They're dealing with things that are not really the norm they see something come like this and they know like, my country is behind me."

Lewis is one in a battalion of parents from across the country working to support their children in the Marines. She hopes to get enough holiday items to stuff the stockings and seal the holiday care packages on November 12th and send them off the next day.

"All the families are making ornaments for the family trees in the mess hall," said Lewis.

They are the 3-2 Parents Network, the unofficial parents group supporting the 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment. They will send wreaths and Christmas trees to be set up in the mess hall.

Lewis chokes back tears as she reads from specially made greeting cards that will accompany whatever she sends to the Marines.

"Because of you, our flag waves proudly as you pave the future generations way," she said. "We miss you all so very much."

DONATIONS

If you would like more information on how to donate, [please click here](#) or contact Pat Lewis at mom4rmarines@msn.com.

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