



**Chicago Section IFT making a difference in this
Season of Caring and Giving**

Making Chicago Section IFT a special and energizing membership community at this wonderful time of year.

Please bring a new, unwrapped toy to our December 10th Holiday Gathering. Ages include newborn to 16 years old. Heavy need for toys in the age range between newborn and 10 years of age. Toys for Tots prefers not to accept realistic looking weapons and gifts with food.

Two Marines have volunteered to join us for the evening as they were very impressed with our organization mission and the diverse range of work and life we represent. Please email Wendy Munz-Behr with any questions at wendymunz@aol.com

About Toys for Tot

Since beginning the U.S. Marine Corp Reserves Toys for Tots Program in 1947, Marines have distributed more than 452 million toys to more than 209 million needy children. This charitable endeavor has made U.S. Marines the unchallenged leader in looking after less fortunate children at Christmas. Over its life span, the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation has supplemented local toy collections with more than 98 million toys valued at more than \$694 million; plus provided promotion and support materials valued at over \$8.5 million.

MISSION: The mission of the U. S. Marine Corps Reserves Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in the community in which the campaign is conducted.

GOAL: The primary goal of Toys for Tots is to deliver, through a new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to less fortunate youngsters that will assist them in becoming responsible, productive, patriotic citizens.

OBJECTIVES: The objectives of Toys for Tots are to help less fortunate children throughout the United States experience the joy of Christmas; to play an active role in the development of one of our nation's most valuable resources – our children; to unite all members of local communities in a common cause for three months each year during the annual toy collection and distribution campaign; and to contribute to better communities in the future.

ACTIVITIES: The principal Toys for Tots activity which takes place each year is the collection and distribution of toys in the communities in which a Marine Corps Reserve Unit is located. In communities without a Reserve Unit, the campaign can be conducted by a Marine Corps League Detachment or group of men and women, generally veteran Marines, authorized by Marine Toys for Tots Foundation to conduct a local Toys for Tots campaign. Local Toys for Tots Campaign Coordinators conduct an array of activities throughout the year, which include golf tournaments, foot races, bicycle races and other voluntary events designed to increase interest in Toys for Tots, and concurrently generate toys and monetary donations.