

MCLA Fundraisers

Successful Fundraisers From MCLA Units And Departments Across The Nation

Marine Corps League Auxiliary
Compiled by Caroline Ruhmshottel

FUND RAISERS

Fundraisers that go beyond the ranks of your Unit and Detachment where the surrounding community supports your programs will be very affective. The benefits of involving your community for support are many:

You are presenting an opportunity to help others. Many people want to help others and just need an avenue.

You are presenting your Unit or Department to your community. Wear your MCLA uniforms, formal or casual, but look alike – you will look sharp and people will ask about the MCLA

- Display a large MCLA banner
- Hand out MCLA brochures answering the question, “What do you do?”
- Have applications on hand. You may draw members.

Participate annually. The community will remember you.

1. FUND RAISERS

#	Title	Description	Contact Information
1	Date with Dessert For CD of organization process send \$3.00 and contact Caroline Ruhmshottel: sewwoodu@comcast.com	An event supported by the community donating delicious desserts (from competing restaurants), silent auction items, and door prizes. The fund raising committee met months in advance to contact businesses for donations, confirm with them, arrange servers, music, the silent auction, pulls for prizes, advertisements, and keep the event moving forward. A CD is available with the organizational documents scanned in.	Contact: Dorcas Simpson, Waco, TX for questions phone: 254-666-4081 Raised \$13,000 the first year and \$20,000 the second year. The event was raising funds to benefit an Alzheimer’s Care Center. Dorcas shared her idea with us in hopes that our Units across the country could use a similar event to help communities to support their veterans. We have received permission from her committee to use the idea, but not the event title or logo.
2	Publish Your Own Cookbook and Profit	Recipes are gathered, committee makes sure they all fit a template, sends them to the company, company prints and binds with chosen cover. Unit or Dept. sells them to cover printing and the rest is for a profit. For this Unit, the Charlotte 750 Detachment loaned the Unit \$450.00 to pay for the books. After the detachment was paid the \$450.00 the Unit cleared \$935.00. “We were quite proud of ourselves.” With some companies, you can sell advertising in the cookbook then the ads cover the cost of publishing and the sales of your	Contact: Janice McCluskie E-mail: mcluskie@bellsouth.net Phone: 704-566-8812 Charlotte 750 Unit Charlotte, NC Or contact the company direct @ Cookbook Publishers Inc 10800 Lakeview Ave. PO Box 15920 Lenexa, KS 66285-9802 800-227-7282

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		cookbook are all profit.	
3	Mardi Gras Dinner Auction	<p>Advertised in League and Auxiliary newsletter and Web Page. Done on Fri. evening 6-10 PM. \$5 paid at the door for dinner. (Members agree on menu and recipes for entre, make and donate the food) Guests are welcome. All bring a gift of approx. \$20 value elegantly wrapped. Decorate tables and walls with theme. Beads given out. All encouraged to dress up. One auctioneer, 1 to spot, treasurer records bid and collects money. Two children took the gift to the winning bidder. Opening bids at \$5. A wrapped gift adds an element of surprise. Can become a community event.</p>	<p>Contact: Debbie Bruns deb5085964@comcast.net</p> <p>Phone: 360-573-6225 Columbia River Unit Vancouver, WA</p> <p>Proceeds approx. \$500. The recipients of the proceeds can vary each year. Often this event supports the local and national Operation Little Angel Program</p>
4	Pendleton Blanket Raffle	<p>Methods to acquire the blanket: 1. Member purchased and donated the Grateful Nation Pendleton Blanket in honor of her Marine son. 2. Write a personal letter to Pendleton's donation dept. asking for reduced price to purchase a blanket for the cause. www.pendleton-usa.com/ Permission was requested and received from detachment hosting Dept. convention. Pictures with tickets mailed to many detachments & units 4 months in advance. Tickets also sold at convention for drawing at the banquet. Blanket was displayed in silent auction area</p>	<p>Proceeds: \$570 Flyer available: <input type="checkbox"/>_X_ yes Contact Person: Caroline Ruhmshottel, Dept. of WA E-mail/ phone: sewwoodu@comcast.net Proceeds went to the department general fund supporting veterans and veterans' events noted on tickets and flyers.</p>
5	Basket Bingo – Longaberger Baskets	<p>Work with a Longaberger rep to set up. Ask local businesses to donate a basket as a prize for a bingo game. Should have a total of 20 games bingo games so you will have 20 baskets donated, one for each game. Charge for playing and for the extra “paper” bingo games. It helps to have a facility that will let you use their bingo system. Sell beverages and light food or dessert items. This will require all members helping to “man” the floor or call numbers and to sell food or tickets to enter at the door. Advertise with flyers at your local grocery stores, Laundromats, in newspapers, etc. Suggestion: if not already a bingo player goes to one and see how it is run from a business standpoint.</p>	<p>Contact: Carol Coreley E-mail: ccorley@mchsi.com Phone: 302-934-1829 Proceeds depend upon number of tickets are sold and number of donations received. A beneficial fundraiser. Cooperation from everyone is a must Company contact: to find a rep to help you plan http://www.longaberger.com/ Click on “Host a Show” the “... looking for a home consultant...” at the bottom, or “contact us” at https://www.longaberger.com/contact.aspx</p>
6	Theme baskets to raffle	Theme baskets that sell tickets well are: Marine Corps Treasures, Garden, Dinner and a Movie,	

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		Car Care. In some Departments, each unit donates a theme basket and the money earned goes into the MCLA Department funds.	
7	Town-wide tag sale	A couple of small towns in CT have a spring and fall town-wide sale. The town hall organizes it. People just stay at home with their stuff and others drive around to buy it. People come from all over CT to attend. The Town Hall just takes the addresses of those who want to participate and then makes a list of the addresses on one sheet of paper with a map of the town on the reverse side. The mayor's office also contacts the local newspapers and radio stations and also provides free tag sale signs. Our Auxiliary sets up on the main road in a big church parking lot next to the American Legion. We collect stuff all year long and get donations from local consignment shops. We advertise on freecycle.com to tell people to come and get whatever is left over. What doesn't sell goes to a shelter.	Contact: Elaine Schieffer elaineschieffer@sbcglobal.net 203-758-3865
8	Car show fund raiser	We get a free space to set up at one of the largest car shows in CT. We have a "Support Our Marines" donation jar and the marine roses. We also sell my famous "Prospect Cow Chips" cookies for \$1.00 each. (See attached recipe) We sell other baked goods too. They sell very well.	Contact: Elaine Schieffer elaineschieffer@sbcglobal.net 203-758-3865 We set up a table in any event open to the public- county fairs, parades, Christmas bazaars etc. We collect donations and hand out information about our Unit (see letter). We all wear our Auxiliary polo shirts.
9	Red, white, and blue photo card	One of our Auxiliary members is a photographer. She took a photo of a heart-shaped flower with red and blue flowers in the background and titled it "God Bless America" and put an explanation on the back. They are sold for \$3.00 each. The photos were printed for free by an online company. The Unit bought the photo card holders and envelopes at an art supply store. They are now contacting area gift shops to sell the cards.	Contact: Elaine Schieffer elaineschieffer@sbcglobal.net 203-758-3865
10	Free coffee & tea fund raiser	At any public event where we can have access to electricity and water we give away free coffee, tea, hot chocolate, water, and ice tea. We have a "Support Our Marines" donation jar on the table. We collect more in donations than if we sold the drinks. We also give a R-W-B ribbon on a pin or a flag magnet and always hand out our "Unit Greetings Letter - MCLA info"	Contact: Elaine Schieffer elaineschieffer@sbcglobal.net 203-758-3865 We set up a table in any event open to the public- county fairs, parades, Christmas bazaars etc. We hand out information about our Unit (see letter). We all wear

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			our Auxiliary polo shirts.
¹ 1	Girls' Night Out Pajama Party – A wonderful women's event open to the public	Venders: spas and nail/skin care/massages, holistic health, angel readings, wine tasting, chocolate samples, etc. Prizes and raffles, Entertainment, meditation/visualization, nail workshops, music. Note: This is not a sleepover. It goes from 6 PM to 10 PM	Contact: Elaine Schieffer elaineschieffer@sbcglobal.net Phone: 203-758-3865 Address: 133 Cook Rd Prospect CT 06712-1816
¹ 2	Support our Troops Christmas Party	The Unit Christmas Party was actually a "Support our Troops" fundraiser at a local coffee house, the public was invited, we put up flyers (someone donated them) and advertised for free (Public service announcements) in our local papers. The local coffee house did a limited menu (3 soups and 3 kinds of sandwiches, at a special price). An entertainer donated his time & talent and we also had a Christmas sing-along. We raised \$ 350.00 in 4 hours. As you can see from the pictures, we looked very festive.	Contact: Elaine Schieffer elaineschieffer@sbcglobal.net Phone: 203-758-3865 Address: 133 Cook Rd Prospect CT 06712-1816
¹ 3	Community Duck Race	We sold tickets for the community Duck Race in front of a busy grocery store. We also bring a big donation jar (we have to eat all the pretzels out of it first) and we have signs posted that say, "Support our Troops" and "Support our Marines." We did good selling tickets, but our donation jar collected \$138.00 in just a few hours.	Contact: Elaine Schieffer elaineschieffer@sbcglobal.net Phone: 203-758-3865 Address: 133 Cook Rd Prospect CT 06712-1816