



MCLA NEWS

The Monthly National Newsletter for the Marine Corps League Auxiliary, Inc

APRIL 2017

WE'RE ONLINE! VISIT US AT: WWW.NATIONALMCLA.ORG

National President:

Karen Aune

National Sr Vice President:

Carol Smith

National Jr Vice President:

Evelyn Joppa

National Judge Advocate:

Collen English

Jr Past National President:

Deborah Evans

National Chaplain:

Barb Nobile, PNP

National Big Flea:

Rogene Hackbarth

National Regent:

Dorcas Simpson

Newsletter Editor:

Meg Krebs

mcla-newsletters@msn.com



Dates to Remember:

April 9 – Palm Sunday

April 14 – Good Friday

April 16 – Easter

From the Desk of the National President

Members of the Auxiliary

Welcome Spring! I hope that you are all enjoying the warmer weather.

What a great time we had at Mid-Winter Conference. There was a great turnout and lots of participation. We even managed to have some fun. On Friday evening, some of us took a trolley tour of downtown Fredericksburg and then a candle light tour of the Rising Sun Tavern. Both were wonderful experiences.

We also accomplished a great deal of Auxiliary business as well. This information will be shared by your Division, Department and Unit Presidents that were able to attend. I want to assure you that the Auxiliary continues to be a thriving organization and, with your help, will continue to be so for a long time. Of course, the backbone of any organization is membership. I cannot stress enough the importance of maintaining and growing our membership. This will allow us to continue our volunteer work and taking care of our Veterans, their families and the communities we live in. Now it's time to start preparing for those Division and Department meetings!

One item that was discussed at Mid-Winter is the requirement for every Unit and Department to be incorporated. Realizing that every state likely has different guidelines and processes for this, there isn't a specific process. You must obtain that information from your state. But, please note, being incorporated isn't optional, our By Laws state that this must be done. If you have problems or questions, please reach out for assistance.

Just some updates, the office is pretty much on track and our secretary has gotten the ships store restocked. We have lots of membership pins, both regular and associate, available. I want to mention as well that the MCLA Bars for the associate uniform have been in stock for some time and if this is what your uniform should have, please be sure to get these as soon as possible. The Starburst should only be worn on the regular member uniform.

A reminder too, that when you are completing forms, please obtain the most recent form from the website. These should be the latest and greatest versions so that everyone is reporting the same information in the same format.

As we move in to the warmer months it is the perfect time to get out and let others see what we are about. Remember, we are one of the best kept secrets around, and we really want to change that! We want others to see what we are



In History:

April 6, 1776 –
Continental Marines on
USS Alfred participated
in the first Naval
engagement.

April 7, 1958 – 8th and
6th Marines landed in
Beirut, Lebanon.

April 7, 2008 –
Wounded Warrior
Regiment Established.

April 9, 2003 – 1st Tank
Bn pulls down Statue
of Saddam Hussein in
Baghdad.

April 13, 1847 –
Marines captured
LaPaz, CA during the
Mexican-American
War.

April 26, 1965 – Female
Marine awarded the
combat action ribbon
in Santo Domingo,
Dominican Republic.

April 27, 1805 – Lt
Presley O'Bannon
raised the American
flag over Derna, Tripoli.



Division Conferences:

Calling all Division
Vice President's: Send
in the Dates of when

doing and how important it is to our Veterans. Hopefully, this will give them the incentive to join us. Try to always have an application handy and the pamphlet 'What is the Marine Corps League Auxiliary'. You will find these to be very helpful recruiting tools.

Thank you for all that you do every day in service to our veterans, their families and communities.

Semper Fi,

Karen Aune

National President

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.

From the Desk of the National Sr Vice President

Ladies of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary,

We had a very successful Mid-Winter Conference! The management and staff at the Hospitality House and Conference Center were very welcoming and helpful. I would like to thank the members who attended the Department Presidents Council meeting while there. Hopefully, everyone gained new and useful information to share with their departments and units. I would also like to express my appreciation to New England Division Vice President Elaine Schieffer for serving as secretary for the meeting and typing the minutes for my report to the body.

Thank you also to those who showed their support for Madam President by attending Saturday morning's breakfast in her honor. It was very well attended. I know that President Karen was very pleased by your presence.



National Officers gathered for a group photo following the Saturday meeting at the Mid-Winter Conference. L to R: Junior Vice President Evelyn Joppa,

you're Division
Conference to be listed
here.

New England Division Conference & Quad State Convention

April 21 - 23, 2017
Mainstay Inn
151 Admiral Kalbfus Rd.
Newport, RI
401-849-9880
MCL rate - \$65.00 per
night

Mideast Division Conference

June 23-25, 2017
Doubletree by Hilton
Raleigh Durham
Airport
4810 Page Creek Lane
Durham, NC 27703
(919) 941-6000
MCL room rate \$99.00
plus room tax.
Includes free breakfast
and parking

3 Things.....

Without you, the
member, there is no
Units of the Marine
Corps League
Auxiliary. There are 3
things each one of you
are encouraged to do:

1. Attend monthly
meetings;
2. Recruit New
Members & renew
current Members;
3. Volunteer

Senior Vice President Carol Smith, President Karen Aune, Judge Advocate
Colleen English, Junior Past President Deborah Evans.

Photo by Rocky Mountain Division VP Debby Krueger.

I hope that all of you will be able to attend your upcoming Division
Conferences. These conferences are excellent opportunities to share
information and learn more about the great things that various units and
departments do for our communities and veterans. I look forward to seeing
our Central Division ladies next week in Richmond, IN.

Semper Fidelis,

Carol Smith

National Sr Vice President

From the Desk of the National Jr Vice President

Members of the Auxiliary

Our number one goal is always to maintain and grow our membership. At our
Mid-Winter Conference in Fredericksburg, VA, we were delighted to have a
lady from New York ask to be a guest. We promptly obtained a guest badge
for Bonnie Lawton. Wow! A future member coming to us. Bonnie plans on
becoming a member and starting a new auxiliary unit. This does not happen
often; however, it does tell us that our organization is making a difference. Is
your unit getting the word out to perspective members, are they being invited
to attend as a guest? Remember according to our bylaws they can visit three
times before becoming a member. Are our meetings friendly and
worthwhile? Most all units I have visited are fun and upbeat about what they
are doing. Can a visitor promote your unit? (you bet, if you believe in what
you are doing) Do you as a member carry an application and directions to
your next meeting or event. You are the face of our auxiliary step out of your
comfort zone and promote your unit with unwavering zeal. Have fun!

**"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." – Helen
Keller**

Semper Fidelis

Evelyn B. Joppa

National Jr. Vice President

From the Desk of the National Judge Advocate

Midwinter conference has come and gone and a few things were brought to my
attention. I will be addressing the issues individually but I'd like to open an
issue of concern that keeps arising in many, many units in this month's news
message. It all starts at the unit level so I'm going to address the unit level
members and start there. All organizations are made up of many, many



Deadline for *ALL* articles is the 15th of each month.

National MCLA Website:
www.nationalmcla.org

National MODD Fleas
Website:
www.nationalmoddfleas.org

National Marine Corps
League:
www.mclnational.org/



different individuals and different personalities. This is what makes our organizations grow, different ideas, different inputs, different mindset creations. As members of this auxiliary, we can't be so head strong that we think our ideas are the only way things should be done. Everyone has their own personality and too many members are letting their strong individual personality get in the way of doing what's right for our organization and getting along with other unit members. Ladies this major issue needs to be addressed at all our unit meetings. We need to work together, put our differences aside and get along with our auxiliary sisters for the good of our organization, the greater good of service to our Marines, Marine families, our communities, our mission. Please take this message to heart, work together in working our personality issues out.

Annual Election of officers is upon us and we have to have them completed by May 15th, in reference to our bylaws, Article Five, Section 530 – Election, Installation of Officers, page 18. Do note that our elected unit president and elected judge advocate may not hold two elected offices and may not hold the elected or appointed office of Secretary or Treasurer or Secretary/Treasurer. (Article Five, Section 510, page 17. Do make sure this is all being followed in your units and also holds true to department levels.

I cannot emphasize enough how important it is to move forward in our goals to help support our Marines, Marine families, children, community, and veterans. Again, I say, dwelling on the past **Will Not** get our mission done. For the greater good of our auxiliary, let's move forward with togetherness in our units and we can do wonderful things.

Truly want to wish you all a wonderful Easter and may you and your family have a Blessed one.

I promise to do my very best for all of you.

My Motto is: "Let's Flip the Light & Do What's Right"

Colleen M English
National Judge Advocate

From the Headquarters' Office:

It was wonderful to meet so many of you at the Mid-Winter Conference! I truly have a very unique and wonderful job here with MCLA. Thanks so much for making me feel so welcomed!

The Ship's Store was very busy during the Conference; over \$4000 of merchandise was sold. We had a few new items which were big hits— a credit card protection sleeve and a Roberts Rules of Order booklet – both are still available through HQ. If you ordered a Cap at the Conference – it has been ordered and should arrive to you around April 17. Please let me know if you haven't received it by April 25.

Blessings – Karen G

APRIL 2017 NATIONAL CHAPLAIN NEWS



Bea Georgopulos was in the hospital and is now in a Life Care Center in Aurora, CO. Cards of cheer may be sent to her home at: 595 S. Alton Way #4 D, Denver, Co. 80247-5816.

We received a wonderful thank you note from Garry Gibson, Sr. vice Commandant, Dept. of Co. for all the wonder cards. His Wife Marjorie was the recipient of one of those cards signed at Midwinter and could not believe all the signatures. His wishes to thank all of you for your support that meant so much.

Karen Bressler thanks all for the prayers as she prepares for knee surgery.

Sam Dressler was in need of our prayers for her mom, who is now back home.

Marjorie Gibson from the Dept. of CO. was to have her last Chemo treatment and we wish her well. Cards of cheer for her go to: 6475 Burrows Road, Black Forrest, CO. 80908.

Dale Wright from the Dept. of CO. was to have breast surgery. We ask for prayers for her. Address for cards: 4267 Fern Ave. Brookfield, CO. 80020.

Carol Shea, from the Dept. of MD is in rehab facility. Cards of cheer for her go to 3811 Canterbury, RD. #603, Baltimore, MD. 21218-2363.

Peg Curly from the Smedley D Butler Unit in PA has had her cancer return. She is home now after staying in the hospital and will start chemo again. Cards of cheer for her: 705 Rively Ave. Glenolden, PA. 19036-1118.

Sharon Pavey from the Keystone Unit in PA had back surgery. Cards for her go to: 207 Pine Street, Towanda, PA. 18848-1713.

Jean Lawrence, Dept. of CT president had back surgery. She had a small infection in her back after surgery but is home and walking with no pain. Even though she was under the weather, she found time to send me a cheerful card for my health. Cards of cheer are always welcome: 370 High St. Apt. 114, New Britain. CT. 06051.

Margaret Earley, President of the MCLA in Bangor Maine had heart surgery, to repair a previous heart surgery. She spent 17 days in the hospital and is now home, 4527 Bennoch Rs. Alton, Maine, 04468.

I sincerely want to thank the members for their wonderful cards during my sinus illness. It is still hanging on, but I will prevail.

It was obvious at Midwinter that many of our members have some serious health issues. I am sure there are many more we do not know about. I ask our members to say a prayer for all our members. Blessings this Season to all.

WHEN YOU CONSIDER WHAT YOU DO EACH DAY, YOU MIGHT IMAGINE YOU ARE LIMITED IN YOUR ABILITY TO SERVE OTHERS. NOT SO.

GOD USES YOU TO BRING REALITY OF HIS PRESENCE WHEREVER YOU ARE, AND HE OFFERS YOU OPPORTUNITIES TO ACT AS HIS VOICE AND HIS HANDS AS YOU GO ABOUT YOUR DAILY TASKS. WHEN YOU SPEAK AFFIRMING WORDS AND OFFER KINDLY HELP, AND WHEN YOU WILLINGLY STEP OUT TO ASSIST THOSE IN NEED OR SERVING WORTHY CAUSES, YOU ARE SERVING OTHERS.

TAKE A MOMENT TO REFLECT ON HOW YOU CAN SERVE OTHERS TODAY, AND YOU WILL FIND AS MANY WAYS AS THERE ARE GODLY THOUGHTS, DESIRES, WORDS AND ACTIONS.

IF ANYONE SERVES, HE SHOULD DO IT WITH THE STRENGTH GOD PROVIDES, SO THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE PRAISED THROUGH JESUS CHRIST. 1 PETER

NATIONAL MCLA CHAPLAIN, PNP BARBARA NOBILE

Mary Lou Webb, Assistant National Chaplain



Mid Winter Staff Meeting

March 2, 2017

National Chaplain Barbara Nobile read an opening prayer. National President Karen Aune welcomed all. Southwest chair is being filled by PNP Geri Tuohy. Tom McIlwee of Morgan Stanley was admitted to the room. He discussed the financial position of the Auxiliary and passed out information to board members. National Comptroller Peggy Tuohy will work with Morgan Stanley to move some funds to the American Balance Fund which has a high return.

National President Karen Aune introduced Karen Grady, National Secretary. All board members and others introduced themselves to Karen. The Ships Store is located next to registration on the 1st floor.

National President Aune reported on the status of National Headquarters. The office is running smoothly, as well the computer. Quick Books has been upgraded, which includes 24/7 access to support and backup. The move to the new headquarters caused the rent to increase to \$350/month. Liability insurance remains the same. New supplies have been ordered for the ships store. Kathy Ashley will handle the ships store at this meeting. Hours will be before meetings, during lunch and for a period of time after meetings.

The Auxiliary is looking into changing merchant banking to BB&T for credit card transactions.

PNP Jackie Hunter passed out a list of units/departments that showed the status of 990 filing. Some units/departments have been revoked, some have never filed and others are using a non-acceptable EIN number. The ones that have never filed can be listed as new on the parent list. All departments and units must be incorporated. It is in the bylaws. The national office can impose a fine if not incorporated. The Marine Corps League is pulling charters if detachments are not incorporated.

National President Aune read the very favorable review of the National Secretary. She is very dedicated and is fully invested in the organization.

Life membership checks have not been mailed but they will be in the mail soon. The amount of the disbursement is based on a three year average (past three years) of the fund. The payout is 4% per life member. There is no minimum amount that a check can be written for.

A discussion was held on reporting PNP's on the life membership transmittal and how to distinguish if they paid life member dues before becoming a Past National President and were given a complimentary life membership. It was decided there is no reason to distinguish between the two and all life members should be included in the life membership disbursement. The forms chair will delete the PNP column from the report.

The budget committee will meet in this room immediately following the pre-board meeting. The president's council will meet at 7:45 am on Friday. The joint opening will be at 9am followed by the memorial service at 10 and at 11 will be the Chapel of Four Chaplains. The Auxiliary will meet 90

minutes after Chapel of Four Chaplains concludes. The Saturday morning Presidents breakfast will be in the meeting room. Pick up your included breakfast and bring it into the meeting room.

National Chaplain Barbara Nobile read a closing prayer.

March 3, 2017

National President Karen Aune called the meeting to order at 2:15 PM. National Chaplain Barbara Noble read a prayer and draped the charter in memory of PNP Joyce Orr, PNP Gurvis McNulty and other members that have been lost.

Senior Vice President Carol Smith read the purpose of the auxiliary. Junior Vice President Evelyn Joppa read the eligibility.

PNP Geri Tuohy will fill the vacant chair of the southwest division.

The secretary called the roll of the staff officers.

Evelyn Joppa will make a correction to the 2016 national convention proceedings at the next national convention. This correction is regarding Enclosure #20, which is correct in the current Administrative Procedures.

The 2016 post convention minutes were read.

The minutes of the pre board meeting were read. It was noted that Karen Grady is the national secretary not the executive secretary.

Senior Vice President Carol Smith stood as National President Aune read her report. Geri Tuohy made a motion to receive Madam President's report and all following reports into record, seconded by Joyce Brickett. Motion carried.

Senior Vice President Carol Smith read her report followed by Junior Vice President Evelyn Joppa, National Judge Advocate Colleen English and Junior Past President Deborah Evans. The bible was closed for a short break.

The bible was opened. It was stated that the Division Vice President's reports are on the back table.

National Chaplain Barbara Nobile read her report followed by the report of forms committee chair Mary Brief. The Ritual Committee report received from committee member Marilyn Loeven was read by National President Karen Aune.

VAVS Representative Nancy Calleja read her report. It was noted that the VAVS pin is given after 50 hours of service.

Debby Kreuger read the report of the memorial fund.

National Junior Vice President Evelyn Joppa read the membership report. As of December 31, 2016, the Auxiliary has a total of 2632 members.

PNP Ruth Moyse asked a question regarding the membership count. Are dual members being counted twice? Dual members are not to be reported as such on transmittals. There is a form to be filled in for dual members (enclosure #38). They are counted twice in the membership count but are shown as dual members in the voting strength numbers and not counted twice. The Senior Vice stood as President Karen talked about dual membership. If the application for membership is filled out properly, the national secretary will be aware the member is a dual member.

Barbara Nobile read the report of Operation Little Angel and recognized her committee.

Kathy Ashley reported Ships Store sales on Thursday of \$1,745.55.

President Aune said she met two ladies representing military organizations. They are Pikkwan Boston from the National Military Family Association (www.MilitaryFamily.org) and Tracy Della Vecchia from Marine Parents (tdv@marineparents.com).

The bible was closed and the meeting recessed until Saturday.

March 4, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 9AM by National President Karen Aune. National Chaplain Barbara Nobile opened the bible and read a short prayer.

The secretary called the roll and minutes were read and corrected.

Report of the Chief of Staff was given by Geri Tuohy.

National Comptroller Peggy Tuohy gave her report.

Peggy explained why there was no money deposited in the PLM account in the last 12 months. The money went into the general fund and will be transferred into the PLM account.

Tim Toomey, Operation Awakening program, spoke to the assembly. He explained he will be walking the Pacific Coast Trail to be able to present the Wounded Warrior program with \$100,000. He will have a spot tracker to show his progress on the Pacific Coast Trail. The web site to track his progress is www.opawakening2.com. His hike will start in Everett, Washington on June 15.

Chief Devil Dog C.O. Smith was escorted to the podium. He presented a check in the amount of \$1,250.00 from the Devil Dogs to the Auxiliary. Also a check in the amount of \$1,250 to Big Flea Rogene Hackbarth.

Convention report was given by Jackie Hunter. The 2017 convention will be held August 11 - 18 at the Sheraton Hotel in Overland Park, Kansas. The 2018 National Convention will be held in Buffalo, NY, August 10 - 19, 2018. There are no bids for 2019.

President Aune recognized Bonnie Lawton, who will be a new member and would like to start an Auxiliary in New York. New attendees at a Mid winter conference were recognized.

Budget report was given by Gerri Tuohy.

National Senior Vice President Carol Smith read the report of the President's Council meeting.

Jessica Cruz from Beauty for Ashes Women's and Children's Home was escorted to the podium. She explained the program and answered questions from members. She was presented with a check for \$1,000 from OLA.

Marine Corps League National Commandant Richard Gore was escorted to the podium. He thanked the Auxiliary for all their support.

Tom McIlwee from Morgan Stanley was escorted to the podium. He spoke about the PLM account and the disbursement of payments. The payments will be based on a three year average at 4%. In 2016 there was \$8,489 to distribute. Of that amount, 1/3 will go to National Headquarters, 1/3 to departments and 1/3 to units. He will develop an investment and spending policy statement for the auxiliary.

The bible was closed for a short break.

Foundation President & National Convention Chairman Greg Hunt was escorted to the podium. On April 1 the information for Overland Park activities will be available on the website. The website is www.2017mcNationalconvention.com. The early bird will be held at the National WWI Museum. The hotel bar will be turned into Tun Tavern. He reported the foundation has helped 8 Marines and their families since Tulsa. 133 scholarships were funded @\$500 per student. The foundation is still collecting for the Corrigan Fund, a fund specifically for mothers of Marines. The foundation has assets of \$1.3 million. \$51,000 was received last fiscal year in donations. The Combined Federal Campaign number is 10195. The foundation is one of the best independent charities in American. Memorial certificates are \$25 each.

He asked the members what they thought about rotating mid winter around the quadrants. The League will decide. His email address is n8tvwarrior@outlook.com, phone 828-342-2024.

The bible was closed for lunch.

The bible was opened and the meeting resumed. The Buffalo contingency was welcomed to speak about the 2018 convention.

\$209 was collected for OLA.

David Hatfield, Scholarship Committee Chairman was admitted to the room. Less than 50% of the scholarships that applied were for were successful in obtaining a grant.

Suzie Lee, uniform chairperson, read her report. Cintas is no longer supplying uniforms to the MCLA.

Elaine Scheiffer read the report of the insurance chairperson. She asked to have some clarification on questions she has received. There is no mention of Rush Insurance in the Auxiliary bylaws.

Darlene MacCubbin reported on the Legislative Committee. Alima Zimmer gave a report on what was discussed at the Pentagon.

Peggy Tuohy reported on the Headquarters project. 1st prize of \$250 was won by Greg Wells, 2nd prize of \$150 was won by William Peless and 3rd prize of \$100 was won by Amato Trevino.

Jackie Hunter reported on the Bylaw changes and Administrative Procedures. They must be postmarked 90 days prior to convention for Bylaws (May 16) and Administrative Procedures can be brought on the floor at National Convention. Bylaw changes must be sent to National Headquarters. Proper procedures will be included in the newsletter on how to submit bylaw changes.

Ships store sales as of Friday were \$2245.

Madam Big Flea Rogene Hackbarth told everyone to plan on a good time in Overland Park. The theme of the Flea Scratch will be patriotic and God bless America.

Judy Horensky asked if the unit receives information from the league if there is a problem with 990 filing. PNP Jackie Hunter said the League does not notify units. Jackie Hunter addressed the body about her report on delinquent and revoked EIN numbers.

Convention questions should be directed to Jackie Hunter rather than Greg Hunt. Contact Dottie Sanning with scholarship questions.

Under unfinished business, Peggy Tuohy pointed out that Life Member checks will be issued every year. Fall checks will be issued within two weeks.

Roster corrections were made. The correct email for Twila Gensel is genseltwila@gmail.com. The correct email address for Karen Bressler is kkb1959@icloud.com. Jackie Hunter should be listed as Convention Liaison.

PNP Barbara Nobile thanked Mary Brief for arranging the tour of Fredericksburg. PNP Jackie Hunter thanked National President Aune for her gracious handling of her position since becoming National President. PNP Cindy Pranger brought regards from PNP Shirley Keyes.

Karen Aune announced she will be running for National President. Carol Smith will be running for National Senior Vice President. Evelyn Joppa will be running for National Junior Vice President. Colleen English will be running for National Judge Advocate.

The following Division Vice Presidents were announced:

Central - Judy Blackmer, Assistant Mary

New England - Suzie Lee

Northeast - Linda Chamberlain, Assistant Sydney Minchen

Northwest - Susan Douglas, Assistant Vicki Brown

Rocky Mountain - Debby Kreuger, Assistant Cindy Stettler

Southern - Viola Trevino, Assistant Linda Blair

National President Karen Aune declared the Staff Meeting closed.

Lynn LaBerge



**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AUXILIARY**
3619 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 115
Stafford, VA 22554-7771

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*DATED MATERIAL
APRIL 2017*



Article Submissions: The Deadline for all articles is the 15th of each month, without exception and is strictly upheld. All articles will be subject to both appropriateness and to space available, and should be of interest to all Members not just one individual or Unit/Department. Email your articles to Meg Krebs at MCLA-Newsletters@msn.com in a Microsoft Word formatted document.

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