



MCLA NEWS

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

DECEMBER 2017

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

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Karen Aune

National Sr Vice President:

Carol Smith

National Jr Vice President:

Evelyn Joppa

National Judge Advocate:

Linda Chamberlain

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National Big Flea:

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



From the Desk of the National President

Members of the Auxiliary

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! I hope that everyone is feeling the warmth and love of family and friends this season.



It has been a busy couple of months, but I was able to spend a full day at the national office, assisting our secretary with various tasks and answering questions. A good amount of that day was also spent with the MCL Commandant, Wendall Webb and the COO, Bob Borka. We also enjoyed some time together the following morning, over a leisurely breakfast, after attending the Birthday Wreath Laying at the WWII Memorial. This time was well spent and very productive, I believe, for both groups. We discussed membership and the challenges that we both face, the expectations we have for the future and basically sharing information and ideas and getting to know each other.

It was a wonderful experience and something that I feel every Unit or Department should try to do with their counterparts. It is amazing what simple communication can accomplish. So, that is your challenge for the coming year. I would like for the Unit or Department officers to make a point to sit down with the Detachment or Department officers and discuss your visions for the future of the Marine Corps League and Auxiliary. Try to find a common ground that speaks to both and build on that, remembering to be open minded, respectful and committed to our purpose. It can help strengthen your relationship and, in turn, make our Veterans lives better for the joint effort we can provide.

Thank you for all that you do to support the League and strengthen the Auxiliary and providing much needed assistance to our Veterans, their families and the communities you live in. You are each an amazing example of kindness, caring and strength.

Please remember our service men and women who will not be with family or friends at home this holiday season, and those who have no one to share this time with. Keep them in your prayers, along with those who are still suffering from the many recent weather or nature related disasters.

I wish for you all a wonderful season filled with love, warmth, caring, lots of family and friends around and much joy!

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
-

Division Conferences:

Calling all Division Vice President's: Send in the Dates of when you're Division Conference to be listed here.



National MCLA Website:
www.nationalmcla.org

National MODD Fleas
Website:
www.nationalmoddfleas.org

National Marine Corps
League:
www.mclnational.org/

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,

This past month, I attended a wonderful ground-breaking ceremony for a Gold Star Families Memorial Monument at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL. Other Marine Corps League Auxiliary members present were our Department of Illinois President Deb Sosnowski and Department Judge Advocate PDP Renee McGuan. About a dozen Marine Corps League members were also in attendance. Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, Marine Hershel "Woody" Williams, the only surviving MOH recipient from the Battle for Iwo Jima and Chairman of the Hershel Woody Williams Medal of Honor Foundation, served as the keynote speaker.

The MOH Foundation encourages, with the assistance of the American public and community leaders, the establishment of permanent Gold Star Families Memorial Monuments in communities throughout the country and provides scholarships to eligible Gold Star Children. The most poignant part of the ceremony was that all of the Gold Star family members in attendance were given the opportunity to speak about their deceased loved ones. Their stories brought tears to many in the audience. I hope that you will have the opportunity to support one near you and attend one of the ceremonies.

I hope each of you were able to attend a celebration of the 242nd birthday of the Marine Corps and a Veterans Day parade and/or ceremony. Now it is time to prepare for our local Toys for Tots programs and plan holiday visits to veterans in nursing homes, veterans' homes, and hospitals. Let's provide a happier holiday for less fortunate children and show our veterans that they are appreciated and remembered.

Semper Fidelis and Merry Christmas,

Semper Fidelis,

Carol Smith

National Sr Vice President

From the Desk of the National Jr Vice President

Ladies,

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

The success of the Marine Corps Birthday, Veteran's Day Celebrations, and the beginning of the season of Christmas brings continued joy for the coming season for family & friends. May this season bring great success to this Nation, founded under God and blessing to each one of you.



Thank you to the Units who have completed the transmittals for life & renewing members. May this serve as a reminder for units not processing those transmittals. Please do so at your earliest opportunity.

Please process the new members and change of addresses as soon as possible, this helps keep our records up to date. Remember to fill in the date of acceptance on the application. This information is a help to the office.

The Christmas season is a great time to recruit new members. Don't forget to sign the applications as recruiter.

Most of all thanks to each one for all you do for the auxiliary & Veterans.

Remember "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

Dear Auxiliary Sisters:

This month I'd like to share two recent opportunities I had to represent the MCL Auxiliary.

The first was in October when I volunteered to help out with our County's Tour of Honor (also known as Honor Flight). I had no idea what to expect as we returned on six buses filled with veterans who had spent the day in Washington, DC. I cannot explain the feeling I got when I heard the roar of the motorcycle engines and the squeal of the police car sirens and finally saw the flashing lights as the motorcade turned the corner into the casino parking lot. As the motorcade continued under the American flag hanging between two aerial trucks, I could feel the tears begin. The people there to greet these men and women began to cheer and applaud, waving flags and yelling "Welcome home!" and "Thank you for your service!" Families proudly held up signs reading "Welcome Home Pop," while others held Thank You signs. I cannot imagine what the veterans on the bus must have been thinking when the doors opened and they heard all the noise and patriotic music. The looks on their faces said it all: Some were surprised; while others had the look of a kid who found that shiny new red bike he wanted under the Christmas tree. Some wiped away tears. These men and women who proudly served our country were treated like kings and queens for a day. Please believe me when I tell you this is the most rewarding experience I have had in a long time. Our county's next trip is scheduled for the beginning of May, and I am going to see if I can get a few women from my unit to volunteer with me so they can experience for themselves the wonderful feeling you get from this activity.

The second opportunity was just a few days ago when I wore my uniform to attend a Marine Corps Birthday Cake Cutting Ceremony. Now, I've been to these before, but for some reason this one seemed different. Maybe it was because it was being held on my husband's birthday, or that a member of our detachment was being honored as the oldest Marine in attendance. What I do know is that the civilians attending the ceremony stood tall and proud during the singing of the National Anthem.

Prior to the introduction of the guest of honor, the official cake cutting took place. As I mentioned, the oldest Marine is a member of our MCL Detachment. Mr. Kelly was born in 1924, hails from Scranton, PA, and enlisted in the Marines in 1943. The youngest Marine was LCpl Seth Freeman, born in 1997 in Lehigh, PA. Col. McDoniel then introduced the guest of honor, Jim Thompson, a Vietnam veteran who served with Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines, better known as the “Walking Dead.” The story of his service was quite interesting and very impressive. Cpl. Thompson was awarded 3 purple hearts and 2 Presidential Unit Citations, as well as several other citations and medals. Mr. Thompson then gave a few short remarks. At one point while speaking of the Marines he served with, he had to choke back tears before he could continue. The ceremony concluded with the playing of the Navy Hymn, followed by the Marines’ Hymn. As I glanced around the room, all of the 70+-year-old attendees were standing at attention. It never fails to amaze me that no matter how old they are or what their medical condition is, when the Marines’ Hymn is played these same gentlemen are 20 years old again and standing tall and proud in their Dress Blues. I felt so proud to see the Marines shaking the hands of the veterans in attendance and thanking them for their service, as well as the way they shook the hands of their brothers when they thanked them and wished them a Happy Birthday. A number of Marines also thanked me for attending and for what we do to support and help our veterans.

I want to wish everyone a very Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving and ask that when you sit down to dinner with your family or friends to remember our servicemen and women who will not be spending the holiday with their families. Say a little prayer for their safe return home.

Until next month.

Semper Fidelis

Linda Chamberlain

National Judge Advocate

From the Desk of the Memorial Fund Chairman

Ladies of the Marine Corps Auxiliary;

I like to say “Thank You” to the Membership of the Auxiliary as well as the League for their continued support. From the National Convention in Overland Park, KS the National Memorial Fund did very well. With all the donations we were able to help 3 individuals with Aid. The National Memorial table will set up at the Mid-Winter Conference and the theme is “Honor our Heroes”. The theme for the National Convention will be “Saluting our Flag”. I ask that all members always keep the National Memorial Fund in their thoughts. The National Memorial Fund is always here for those members that need the support. The National Auxiliary web site has the application and info on how to apply for Aid / Assistance. The National Memorial Committee is always looking for members to help us at Mid – Winter and National Conventions, so if you’re looking to get involved please speak to myself or one of the National Memorial committee members. Thank You once more for all the support and gracious donations.

Debby Krueger and Committee
MCLA National Memorial Fund

From Operation Little Angle Committee



OPERATION LITTLE ANGEL PROJECT FOR MIDWINTER 2017

EMPOWERHOUSEVA.ORG. is a 37 year old nonprofit 501 c 3 Virginia accredited, domestic violence program serving: FREDERICKSBURG, CAROLINE, KING GOERGE, and SPOTSLYVANIA AND STAFFORD.

Their mission is to empower survivors of domestic violence and their children to believe in themselves and build new lives filled with dignity, respect, safety and hope.

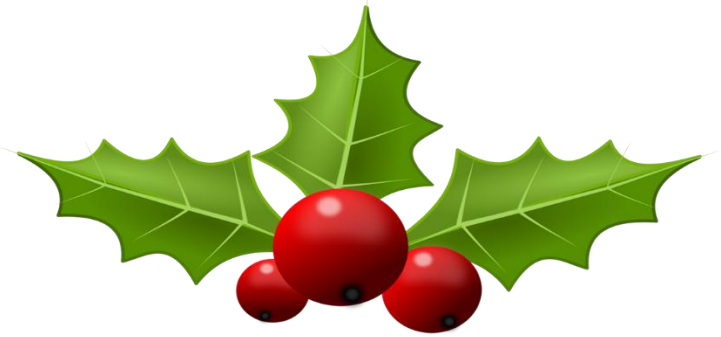
Empower house is dedicated to creating a diverse network of community members working together to promote safe relationships, home and community.

We will be visited by a member of the group during our Midwinter meeting in March, who will share what they do for the children and family members.

Ladies your donations are what make the lives of these families so much better. Our gift to this facility will be \$1000.00.

Blessings to all, PNP Nobile and the OLA committee.

NATIONAL CHAPLAIN DECEMBER 2017 NOTES



Frieda Fasnacht from the Lancaster, PA unit lost her husband, Jerry. He had been a life member of the detachment. Condolences go to her at: 9 Martin Circle, Denver, PA. 17517.

Elaine Schieffer, from the Dept of Ct. took a nasty fall and landed on a metal bar that hurt her throat. This sounded very scary and we are praying that it did not damage to her vocal chords. Elaine loves to share her voice with others and it would be a terrible waste of talent if this were damaged. Cards could be sent to her at: 133 Cook Road, Prospect, CT.06712.

Darcy Andersen, from the Dept of Utah had a liver transplant. She had been on the wait list for some time. She came through the surgery very well and now has recovery time. Her address for cards of cheer: 2915 South HWY. 89. Wellsville, Utah, 84339.

A couple of Marines needed our prayers as well as their spouses who love and take care of them.

Jerry Pino from the Pueblo, CO area needed our prayers for his diabetic neuropathy issues. He has injured himself and could not feel it; it was his wife who noticed the wound. His wife, Rebecca takes him to therapy three days a week. Keep these folks in your thoughts and prayers. Jerry Pino 1914 E 11th. St. Pueblo, CO. 81001.

Barry Georgopulos took a fall and had to visit the hospital. He has had surgery that will hopefully take care of his pain. Keep Bea and Barry in your thoughts also. They have been through a great deal lately. Cards of cheer for both of them: 595 S. Alton Way, #4D, Denver, CO. 80247-1614.

The President of the Lewis G Watkins Unit in S.C. Jane Paradise fell and broke her arm in 3 places. After having surgery she will have many therapy sessions. I know she would love cheerful greetings during her recovery. Her address is: Mrs. Jane Paradise, 695 Paradise Place, Seneca, SC 29678.

As always we ask for your prayers for those who may be sick and feeling lonely at this time of year. Keep all our officers in your prayers this season.

MAY GOD BE CLOSE, WHEREVER YOU ARE,
AND BE YOUR GUIDE LIKE THE CHRISTMAS STAR.
MAY HAPPINESS BE YOURS TODAY, AND ALL YEAR LONG, FOR
THIS I PRAY.

MAY ANGELS GUARD YOU BOTH DAY AND NIGHT,
MAY YOUR WAKING HOURS BE WARM AND BRIGHT,
MAY ALL GOOD FORTUNE, PEACE AND LOVE,
BE YOURS WITH BLESSINGS FROM GOD ABOVE.

For God commands the Angels to guard you in all your ways. Psalm 91:11

My Wishes for a Wonderful Holiday Season in whatever way you and your
loved ones share.

PNP Barbara Nobile, National Chaplain





**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AUXILIARY**
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*DATED MATERIAL
December 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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