

Marine Corps League Auxiliary



www.nationalmcla.org

Volume 5, Issue 9

May 2024



National President Linda Chamberlain



Ladies

If April showers bring May flowers, then I should have a beautiful garden this year, or I will have the best and brightest weeds in the neighborhood. I only hope the summer is not as dry as the spring has been wet.

I spent a most enjoyable early April weekend with the ladies of the Central Division at their conference in Kalamazoo, MI. Kudos to Central Division Vice Ann LeClair for an informative conference. Partners in Housing Transition was a most deserving OLA gift recipient and Carla, their representative, a delight. Congratulations to Patty Morgan on her nomination and election to the position of Central Division Vice President and to Maureen Ailor, Department of Michigan President, on her nomination and election to the position of Assistant Central Division Vice President. I am looking forward to seeing these ladies installed at the National Convention in August.

Then, on to the Northeast Division Conference in Plainfield, NJ, where I spent another enjoyable weekend with the ladies from my own division. Northeast Division Vice PNP Ruth Moyse also conducted an informative meeting. The meeting concluded with those in attendance assembling 50 "Blessing Bags" for the homeless. What a great idea!

So here we are in the month of May, the unofficial start of summer, the month we honor moms and graduates, but most of all the month that commemorates those who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle. The purpose of Memorial Day is to memorialize the veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. Many of us will do this by participating in flag placement at cemeteries or attending/participating in Memorial Day parades or remembrance ceremonies. However you celebrate Memorial Day, please participate in the National Moment of Remembrance, an annual event that asks Americans, wherever they are at 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day, to pause for a duration of one minute to remember those who have died in military service to the United States. I will once again this year have the privilege of spending Memorial Day at Arlington National Cemetery and, along with Commandant Griffin, present the Marine Corps League wreath for placement at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.



National President (Con't)

Remember, volunteer hours reports are due this month. These reports **are very important**, so please be sure you submit your volunteer hours to either your unit volunteer hours coordinator or appropriate chair so they, in turn, can submit the unit's hours to the Department committee chairs, so they can submit the hours for the Department to the National Committee Chairs. Each one of us volunteers in one way or another, from flying the flag to picking up groceries for a neighbor who is recovering from surgery or cannot get out. No good deed goes unnoticed...and by keeping track and submitting your volunteer hours, you are proof of this.

Bylaws, Administrative Procedures, and Enclosures/Forms: I know some of you have been busy submitting proposed changes. Please remember to follow the format that was sent out by our National Secretary, and which can also be found in the LIBRARY tab on the website under FORMS. Remember, if you are submitting a bylaw or administrative change, be sure to check that what you are changing is not included somewhere else in either the bylaws or administrative procedures or both, and if you are amending an enclosure/form, please check the administrative procedures to be sure something does not need to be amended there, as well.

Well ladies, I guess that is all for this month.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the Moms, Grandmoms, Stepmoms and those who have been like a mom to someone a very happy Mother's Day.

I wish you an enjoyable Memorial Day weekend, time to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice so we can enjoy our freedom.

Until next time, stay safe.

Semper Fidelis

Linda S. Chamberlain
nationalpres@nationalmcla.org
natlpresmcla22@gmail.com



We may not have it all together, but together we have it all, and together we can make anything happen.





Life Memberships for the MCLA is available to any member, associate or regular, of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary who is in good standing. She may become a Life Member, upon proper payment of the fee, as is required herein. A Life Member shall be subject to the payment of no further dues of a Unit, Department or National. Such members shall have all the privileges, rights and benefits enjoyed as a member so long as that Life Member shall live. The life membership fee shall be as established by the National Convention. Date of birth must be submitted when applying for life membership. The name must be shown on the transmittal exactly as it should appear on the card.

Once you join the Auxiliary and your initial membership request is accepted, you pay your first year's dues, you are now part of the membership in good standing. Then you will receive your membership card and pin. Anytime going forward, you can request a life membership and pay the associated dues required of that one-time payment.

The current life membership fees for 2023-2024 are:

- Up to age 35 \$500
- Age 36 to 40 \$400
- Age 41 to 50 \$350
- Age 51 to 60 \$300
- Age 61 and Over \$150

As with any membership, you are required to keep your personal information such as address, email and phone numbers updated with the Unit. You will remain in the Unit or as a member at large until such time as you request a transfer, or you are deceased.

It is important that you instruct your family to let the MCLA know when you are deceased for two reasons. First is that you can have the MCLA burial ritual service performed for you upon your request, but your family needs to notify the Unit so this honor can be performed. Secondly, your information and status need to be updated with National MCLA.

I have made a sheet that you may find useful to place with your final wishes packet. This form is not part of our by-laws or forms. This is just something you can fill out and have with your other items so your family knows how to contact us and let us know of your decision if you would like to have the honor of the MCLA burial ritual performed at your service.

God's Blessings and Semper Fi,

Mary Brief



From Ramona's Desk:

Greetings everyone. A reminder we are 90 days away from National Convention. If you are planning to attend, please submit your completed banner and credential forms to the Headquarters by 1 July.

Also, remember to submit your volunteer reports so that those can be reconciled for convention.



It has come to our attention that certain email providers are blocking emails sent from the Headquarters, to include the monthly Newsletter. If your members are experiencing this issue, please share with them that they should check their junk mail frequently or save the National Secretary email address to their contacts to help ensure delivery. Additionally, if you would like to receive a printed newsletter, please submit the newsletter form and \$10 to be added to the distribution.

Ramona Smith

With National Convention approaching it is time to look at any Bylaw or Administrative Procedure changes you might want to propose. These proposals must be submitted to the National Office no later than May 14, 2024.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I am looking forward to seeing each of you in Palm Springs, CA in August.

Darlene MacCubbin

National Judge Advocate





May: A Month of Reflection, Growth, and Legacy

As the Marine Corps League Auxiliary welcomes the month of May, we find ourselves amidst a season ripe with renewal and opportunities for growth. This time of year, is not just about the physical beauty that surrounds us, but also about the deep reflection and commitment to the values that bind us as an organization. Our efforts are dedicated to honoring our legacy, strengthening our community bonds, and addressing the insights we've gained from our members and potential members alike.

A cornerstone event in the Southeast Division that embodies our dedication to legacy and remembrance is our Annual Memorial Paint and Tea. Held in March during the Southeast Division Conference, this year's gathering focused on Inspirational Women, celebrating the lives and contributions of those women who inspire us and the remarkable ladies we've lost in the Southeast Division. This event, open to all women in attendance, exemplified the inclusivity and warmth that the MCLA stands for, fostering connections across diverse backgrounds through shared stories and artistic expression.

The feedback received from non-members at the event highlighted two significant barriers to joining the MCLA: the overwhelming nature of their current commitments and the desire for more engaging and inclusive events like the Paint and Tea in their local areas. These insights guide our efforts to not just grow our membership but also to deepen the engagement and satisfaction of our current members. Each member we lose, and each unit we close, represents a fading piece of our legacy, prompting us to reflect on how we can more effectively share and preserve the values we hold dear.

I challenge each member to focus on initiatives that not only celebrate our history but also pave the way for a vibrant future. We're looking to replicate the spirit of our most impactful events across all our units, ensuring that the legacy of support, community, and inspiration is felt everywhere. Our goal is to make the MCLA more accessible and appealing, creating a welcoming environment for all those who share our commitment to service and community.

As we celebrate the beauty and renewal that May brings, let's also commit to the growth and enrichment of our MCLA community. By embracing the insights from our members and potential members, we can ensure that our legacy not only endures but thrives. Together, we can make this a turning point, a time when we not only reflect on our past achievements but also look forward to a future filled with growth, inclusion, and continued service.

Thank you for your dedication, your service, and your commitment to the Marine Corps League Auxiliary. Here's to a year filled with meaningful reflections, renewed commitments, and the blossoming of our collective efforts.

Rebecca "Becky" Marcel
Southeast Division Vice President



INSPIRATION



Southeast Division Annual Memorial Paint and Tea





Welcome to Spring! The weather has been a bit wild again this year with the crazy winds but I'm sure that this, too, will pass. I'm certainly looking forward to getting plants in the ground and picking all of those fresh veggies.

There were a couple of changes to forms this year. The National Memorial Fund Donation should be updated to read 'In Memory of' / 'In Honor of'. Enclosure #36 (National MCLA Memorial Fund Guidelines) has also been updated and revised at National Convention at Oklahoma City in August 2023. Please do not use the National Memorial Fund Cover Sheet that was revised in 02/2013 as it does have some incorrect information.

All requests for assistance must be sent to either MCLA National Headquarters or directly to the Committee Chairperson, Jan Crowe. The requests must be on Unit or Department letterhead. All approved requests received will be acknowledged with a thank you letter to the Unit or Department. The recipient will be sent a letter of acknowledgement as well.

The National Memorial Fund Committee is pleased to say that we have been able to assist several families this year and have received several donations since Mid Winter, however, the National Memorial Fund would not be sustainable without our your help!

All donations are welcome and are much appreciated. Donations can be made in Memory of or in Honor of someone and will be acknowledged according to your wishes. Donations will be acknowledged with a Thank You letter to the person sending the donation.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at National Convention in Palm Springs in August and the committee will again have our raffle table set up. As you know, the National Memorial Fund is fully funded by donations and the Committee appreciates your help. There will be donation forms and a donation jar at the table. The donation form is also available on the MCLA National website in the library (www.nationalmcla.org). Checks should be made payable to MCLA National Memorial Fund. Please stop by the table and visit with the committee members and purchase your raffle tickets.

Thank you to my committee members: Colleen English, Pauline Forsell, Mitzy Abeyta and ex officio member, National President Linda Chamberlain.

Semper Fidelis

Jan Crowe

National Memorial Fund Committee Chairperson





Happy Anniversary!



*Past National Commandant Lew Loeven and
his beautiful bride Past National President
Marilyn Loeven*



*Past National Commandant John Tuohy and
his beautiful bride Honorary Past National
President Peggy Tuohy*

*Happy Anniversary to these wonderful couples
celebrating 65 years of marriage!*



Hello from the Registration Chairperson's . . . chair! ☺

I learned a few things last year, and was reminded of a few others, pertaining to this responsibility.

I realized last year that not all Units fully understand the benefits of registering their full contingent of Delegates. I hope this article helps.

Why register for the National Convention and send at least one member to attend?

- Your Unit's voting strength is
 - Determined by your official transcripts received by the National Secretary
 - Based upon increments of 15, plus one (1) more for the partial quantity over the previous 15
 - Represented by the number of Delegates your Unit registers for each National Convention

How can each Unit help that plans to send at least one (1) Delegate?

- Register your full potential of Delegates, even if the listed Delegates are not going to the National Convention. This provides your Unit its full potential of votes.
- Submit your Unit's Credentials Form (Enclosure #1) well in advance of the July 1 deadline.
 - This allows for the National Secretary to
 - Verify membership of the member/s from your Unit who will attend the National Convention
 - Provide your Unit's voting strength to the Registration Chair, which is based upon your Unit's official transcript/s the National Secretary receives
 - If you miss the mail-in deadline:
 - Please complete the form correctly
 - Especially the mandatory signatures of you Unit Secretary and Unit President (NOT printed names or computer text) and bring it with you to register at the National Convention
 - The National Secretary or the National Jr. Vice President will validate the form
 - Upon authorization, the Credential Convention Badge will be printed for pickup, usually by the next day, and used in lieu of presenting your membership card every time you attend the meeting.

Registering your full contingent of Delegate/s and possible Alternates for attending plays an important role when a roll call vote is required. A roll call vote occurs when several Auxiliary members are candidates for the same position within the election of the National Officers (President, Sr. Vice President, Jr. Vice President, and Judge Advocate). Each Unit's attending Delegate/s, or Alternate/s if necessary, then comes forward when called and casts her Unit's vote. Here's how registering and sending at least one representative helps.

I will use Unit X, Unit Y, and Unit Z as examples. All attending members are validated by the National Secretary as authorized voices for their respective Units. Remember that every increment of 15 members or portion thereof is equal to a vote strength.

Unit X has 19 members, giving it the voting strength of two (2), is sending two (2) Delegates and one (1) Alternate, and registered all three individuals. Unit X is fully represented by their registered Delegates.

Unit Y has 43 members, giving it the voting strength of three (3), is sending two (2) Delegates and no Alternates, and registered the two Delegates. Unit Y is partially represented by their registered Delegates, a maximum 30 votes of the 43 potential votes.

Unit Z has 118 members, giving it a voting strength of eight (8), is sending three (3) Delegates, two (2) Alternates, and registered eight (8) Delegates and two (2) Alternates. Unit Z is fully represented by their registered Delegates.

Scenario: Three (3) members are seeking the Sr. Vice President post; therefore, a roll call vote is required. Each of the three Units can put their Unit's voting strength into a single candidate or split their voting strength between the candidates, based on what each Unit's members expressed in their meeting prior to the National Convention.

- Unit X –
 - One of its Delegates is ill and cannot be present. However, the Alternate is present with the absent Delegate's Convention Badge. This Unit is unified and will cast their votes on one candidate (19 votes for this candidate)
- Unit Y –
 - One Delegate is present, the other is absent. This Unit's voting strength is three (3). However, the Unit only registered two (2) Delegates and no Alternates. One of the Delegates is now also sick and still has her Convention Badge in her possession, and the Unit itself is torn between the three candidates. This restricts Unit Y to a voting strength of 1, thereby giving only 15 votes instead of the potential of 30 from the 43 as they registered only two Delegates (30 votes total) and no Alternates and one Delegate is absent from the meeting.
- Unit Z –
 - One of their Delegates also became sick and gave her Convention Badge to one of the Alternates. This Unit registered eight (8) Delegates and two (2) Alternates, with five members attending the National Convention. One of the attending members signed for the non-attending Delegates' Convention Badges, so this Unit has all eight (8) Convention Badges in their possession. They have full voting voice (118 members) and are divided regarding who should be the next Sr. Vice President, so they are able to divide their votes as determined at their monthly meeting prior to the National Convention.

Don't want to register?

- Any member can attend the National Convention and have a voice and a vote
 - She must show her current membership card each time she attends the meeting.

My Committee and I look forward to this year's National Convention and meeting all who attend.

Linda Szura
Registration Committee Chair



Hello Ladies,

Ritual: a series of actions performed according to a prescribed order. Examples of this include the ceremony we perform at the funeral home for a deceased member or talking about how we run our meetings. Our meetings follow the Robert Rules of Order format. This is to have semblance to what we do consistently and in the same order. It helps with making sure things do not get overlooked. Not only does it help keep things running smoothly but the ritual reminds us of how proud we are to be part of the MCLA and the reasons why you are able to belong to this prestigious organization.

Submission for By-Law changes are due to National Headquarters by May 14th. Keep in mind that if you are requesting a change to a by-law, it may affect the ritual and that change may need to be made in the Ritual Book also. Or you can look at it in reverse, if you want to propose a change in the Ritual book, you may need to submit a by-law change by the due date of May 14th. However, this may not always be true as your idea may pertain to the order of service. This is where Roberts Rules of Order comes into play.

Traditions are good, but don't let this discourage you from putting forth new ideas. You may see something in a different way than our previous members have, and it may breathe freshness into what we do. Especially as the times are changing in the world and how things are done.

Semper Fi,

Ritual Committee

PNP Gerri Tushy - Chairman
wildgerri323@aol.com

Mary Brief - Member
marybmimcla@gmail.com



SCHOLARSHIP

Ladies,

May is such a special time for us – it is Graduation Day for you or a member of your family!

We might be able to sit in the stands or watch on the computer so we can be a part of the ritual of watching our loved one walk across that stage to receive their diploma. What might come next is technical school or college.

How can I find information on the Marine Corps League Foundation Scholarship?

Go to: www.mcleaguelibrary.org

Scroll down and click on Youth Programs

Scroll down and click on Scholarships

Scroll down and click on 2024 Scholarship Application

Click on the College Locator tab to check your community college, technical college or university

It really is that easy to find!

What is the Marine Corps League Foundation Scholarship?

PURPOSE

To provide a MCL Scholarship to qualified applicants who are pursuing an undergraduate degree and will be enrolled as a full-time student (12 semester hours minimum) in the upcoming 2024 academic year Fall Semester and will be attending an accredited undergraduate institution. The MCL Scholarships will only be awarded for a maximum of four (4) years and must be reapplied for each year. The scholarship does not have to be in consecutive years.

ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS

Paid members of the Marine Corps League or Marine Corps League Auxiliary in good standing (i.e., Dues must be current). Spouses, Children, Stepchildren, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren of paid members of the Marine Corps League or paid members of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary in good standing. Children of U. S. Marines, FMF Navy Corpsmen and Navy Chaplains serving with a Marine Unit who were Killed in Action. The student must currently have a Cumulative unweighted GPA of at least 3.30 on a 4.00 scale.



NON-ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS

Students who already have their first undergraduate degree; are pursuing their second bachelor's degree; are attending graduate school of any kind; or are attending Federal Service Academies are not eligible. Students who do not currently have a Cumulative Unweighted GPA of at least 3.30 on a 4.00 scale are not eligible.

High School Students: Do not submit your application until you have received your final high school transcript which indicates your graduation from high school and your final GPA.

All Applicants: Original completed forms with signatures are not required. Copies of the original completed application with appropriate signatures must be scanned and emailed to:

Scholarship@MCLeague.org

**DEADLINE IS JULY 21, 2024
FORMS MUST BE SCANNED
NO PICTURES WILL BE ACCEPTED**

The amount of the award is totally dependent on you, as the Marine Corps League Foundation Scholarship Program is funded from donations. If you, your unit, or department would like to donate to this worthy program please send your checks **MARKED SCHOLARSHIP FUND** to the Marine Corps League. In addition, you could always do a fundraiser and send your donation with your representatives to the National Convention in Rancho Mirage, California.

Respectfully,

Dotty Sanning

Liaison, Marine Corps League Scholarship Committee



National Chaplain PNP Barbara Nobile



LYNN MALEVICH

25 February 2024 - Unit 137 Florida
Condolences to - Brian Malevich, 35 Highland Terrace East,
Hampton, CT 06424



OBITUARY

Mary Serritos

APRIL 17, 1928 - APRIL 28, 2019



IN THE CARE OF

Ridge Funeral Home

Mary Serritos (Vasquez), age 91, of Brighton Park. Beloved wife of the late Manuel Serritos; loving mother of Manuel S. (Evette) Serritos, Kim Serritos, the late Esther Serritos, and the late Kenneth Serritos; cherished grandmother of John R. (Beth) Serritos, Rebecca Komperda, Sara Serritos, and Manuel F. Serritos; cheerfully expected great-grandmother to a baby girl of John & Beth; dear sister of Peter (the late Mary) Vasquez, Louis (the late Esther) Vasquez, the late John Vasquez, and the late Richard (the late Frances) Vasquez. Adored aunt, great-aunt, godmother, and friend to many.



Convention Location: _____ Date: _____

Del/Alt/ Member	Name	City, State	Office Held (if applicable)	Amount Paid	Pre Reg Y / N
	1.				
	2.				
	3.				
	4.				
	5.				
	6.				
	7.				
	8.				
	9.				
	10.				



Banner Form



We will be bringing our Unit/Department Banner to the National Convention.

Please reserve a commemorative streamer for us.

Unit or Department Name

Contact Person

Address

Home Telephone Number

Email Address

Please PRINT all information and return this form by July 1st, to:

Marine Corps League Auxiliary
National Headquarters
P.O. BOX 3038
Stafford, VA 22555-3038

Our National Secretary's young son, Danny, had surgery with a scar that is quite extensive. It sounds as if his recovery may take a while. Let's shower Danny with those wonderful MCLA cards - 38 Saint Roberts Dr., Stafford, VA 22556.

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PNP Marilyn Loeven had bypass surgery on her leg. Her hubby, Lew, is in a lot of pain and could use our prayers as well. These two Loyal MCL and MCLA members will have been married 65 years on May 23rd. Let's let them know we are thinking of them - 3556 Raven Street, Levittown, NY 11756.

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Sue Hornbeck from the Dept of Missouri has been having some health issues. Cards of cheer may be sent to her at - 1516 E Washita St., Springfield, MO 65804-2333.

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Life member of the Central Mo Unit, Eleanor Haller lost her brother, Norbert Sandbothe on Easter Sunday. Cards of condolence - 214 Eastwood Dr., Jefferson City, MO 65101.

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Stepdaughter of Mary Lou Webb, Midwest National Assistant, passed away on March 30th, 2024 at the age of 49. Her father, Bill Webb is a long time MCL member from the Dept of MO. Condolences to Mary Lou and Bill Webb, 2709 East Madison Street, Springfield, MO 65802.

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Debbie Snowden, Long time member of the Hamilton Walters Unit in Iowa, lost her husband Gene. Gene had been ill for some time, he was 85. Cards may be sent to her at - 1201 Campbell Ave., Burlington, IA 52601.

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Cornhuskers League of Sisters member, Katherine Carey is mourning the passing of her grandmother, who died from a heart aneurysm. Condolences to Katherine and Ben Carey, 2841 N. Cotner Blvd., Lincoln, NE 68507.

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Sallie Jacobs, Central Mo member, has undergone some minor surgery lately. Cards of cheer would be most welcome - Sallie Jacobs, 2920 A Skyview Dr., Jefferson City, MO 65101.

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Sheila Malmstrom lost her husband, Life Member and PDC, Mike Malmstrom. Cards of condolence may be sent to her at - 5107 48th St., Moline, IL 61286-7516.

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Condolences are sent out to Barry Georgopulous on the passing of his son, Michael who was 55 years old. Cards of condolence may be sent to - 595 S Alton Way, #4D, Denver, CO 80247-5816.

PNP Barbara Nobile



ELECTED OFFICERS

President Linda Chamberlain
Sr. Vice President Dotty Sanning
Jr. Vice President Mary Brief
Judge Advocate Darlene MacCubbin
Jr. PNP Evelyn Joppa

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DIVISION VICE PRESIDENTS

Central Div VP
Mideast Div VP
Midwest Div VP
New England Div VP
Northeast Div VP
Northwest Div VP
Rocky Mountain Div VP
Southeast Div VP
Southern Div VP
Southwest Div VP

Ann LeClair
Patricia Smith
Jan Crowe
VACANT
PNP Ruth Moyse
Vickie Brown
Tamara Yatt
Rebecca Marcel
Antonia Hurtado
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National Chaplain
Operation Little Angel

PNP Barbara Nobile
PNP Barbara Nobile

pnpchaplainbarb@gmail.com
pnpchaplainbarb@gmail.com



Volunteer Reports are due to Committee Chairs by 30 June 2024



Send to the following:

Americanism: Tracey Killinger, 1775 Molly Pitcher Hwy S, Chambersburg, PA 17202-9202
Child Welfare: Teena Foster, 3888 Ricklyn Drive, Chambersburg, PA 17202-8673
Civics: Judy Blackmer, 4530 W. Marquette Road, Chicago, IL 60629
Girl Scouts: Angie Pitts, 285 Turkey Town Road, Gadsden, AL 35901-7379
Rehabilitation: Viola Trevino, 3337 Casa De Amigos, Corpus Christi, TX 78411-3309
VAVS: Evelyn Joppa, 416 N Dartmouth Ln, Spokane Valley, WA 99206



Marine Corps League Auxiliary
PO Box 3038
Stafford, VA 22555-3038

Dated Material: May

Address Service Requested