

Marine Corps League Auxiliary



www.nationalmcla.org

Volume 6, Issue 2

October 2024

National President Dotty Sanning



Happy Fall, Y'all

I don't know about you, but I am so engrossed in the reading of the Proceedings from National Convention in Rancho Mirage, California. They have been emailed to the Board of Trustees, Past National Presidents, Division Vice Presidents and Assistants, and Department and Unit Presidents. The Bylaws and Administrative Procedure changes that the membership voted for have been approved, and our outgoing Judge Advocate Darlene MacCubbin is making sure all the changes get made and new Judge Advocate Lynn Cortright is doing the double-check. We depend on each other to make sure our information is correct so you, our members, have the information you need to be successful.

Department and Unit Presidents, please share this information with your membership. As attendees, it is our responsibility to read the proceedings carefully to check for errors, omissions or corrections. We all make mistakes, and we trust in each other to help us with corrections. Please ensure you send any corrections to your Division Vice President who will then bring them up at the Mid-Winter Staff Conference. We want to make sure everyone's name is spelled correctly, and kudos are given to the correct person.

Also, remember to work on your turnover file – information that should be shared with your successor if you are leaving an office or changing positions. Each officer should have something for the new person that tells them what is required, such as any forms that need to be completed and where to send them, as well as how to complete them. If you are a new person and there is no turnover file, sit down with your predecessor and work on one together – it is much easier to get your questions answered before you feel like you are behind.

National President (Con't)

Very soon, Headquarters will begin mailing out Life Member Distribution checks to units and departments. Per the National Bylaws 645 (B) Life Member dues interest shall be distributed 1/3 to the unit, 1/3 to the department and 1/3 stays at National. It is vital that you make sure you have touched base with all the life members on your rolls and notify Headquarters if they have passed away. If your Unit or Department would like to return the funds to National, you may simply mail the check back marked VOID and we will give you a hearty thank you! If you wish to cash the check, please DO SO IMMEDIATELY. It can cause big headaches if the checks are held onto after their stale date. Cancelling a check costs Headquarters money and then if the check is deposited afterwards, it can really throw a fly in the soup. We need a hearty stock to get us through the cold days.

Currently, I am preparing to head to Washington, D.C., and I look forward to representing the MCLA and attending the Veterans Day Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. It is such a moving ceremony, and I encourage everyone to attend, if your circumstances permit. I will also be heading to Headquarters to assist Ramona with transmittals and whatever else she needs. I look forward to helping her out at Headquarters and processing all of the transmittals that I am confident are on the way to her.

Semper Fidelis,

Dotty Sanning

MCLANatPres2024@gmail.com



Key Takeaway: SOPs provide a framework for employees to work within, helping businesses maintain quality standards and reduce errors. Thoroughly documenting processes and policies ensures that everyone involved understands their responsibilities clearly, leading to improved compliance with regulations and increased productivity - the key ingredients of successful operations.

5 STEPS TO WRITING AN SOP





From Ramona's Desk:

Happy Fall, Y'all,

A special thank you to our Past National President, Linda Chamberlain for your leadership, guidance, and support these last few years!



All Units and Divisions will be receiving Life Member Distribution checks soon. Please cash these ASAP! Checks from National Headquarters are only good for **90** days. If your Unit or Department is not going to cash the check - for any reason - please mark it VOID and return to HQs. This will assist me with record keeping.

Transmittals are coming in very slow for this time of the year. Please ensure you get your organizations records updated soonest to ensure your members remain in good standing.

Ramona Smith

WINNER!

Marine Corps League Auxiliary Pappy Boyington Unit, from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho recently sponsored a gun raffle. Congratulations to the winner Garrett Jensen! This was their first gun raffle, and it was a great success!



Pictured from left to right: Stephanie Magajna, Julia Mangan, Tina Batha, Garrett Jensen, Helen Nelson and Julie Bishop

Last month I gave each of you a challenge to recruit 1 new member. Have you recruited yours? I did, in fact I recruited 2 new members.



Are you scratching your head and saying no one I know is interested in becoming a member? Let me help you think outside of the box of your current friends and associates by telling you a little bit about my new members.

For years I have attended a painting class that is comprised of older ladies except for one young lady who we have watched blossom from a shy teen to a young lady who is now in her senior year of high school. We have gone to her different school plays to support her, and she is truly a wonderful and kind person. Since she is a senior, I was asking her about what her plans were for next year, not wanting to assume that everyone needs to go to college. She shared with me that she has been dual enrolled as a college student while attending high school!

I knew that this time of year is busy with the “lasts” of every part of high school, senior pictures, ordering caps and gowns, yes even before Christmas! But did you know that as a senior they need to start placing applications for college and scholarships? This brings me to your opportunity for you to recruit your 1 new member.

I went home and messaged her mother to ask her if I could come over to visit about a great opportunity for her daughter, and oh by the way, “Are you related to a Marine Veteran?”. Her answer was, “YES, her Uncle was a Marine, but he just passed away this last spring”. She was able to get a copy of the DD214 and I went to visit them. I explained all the different things that our local Marine Corps League Auxiliary participates in and offered both an opportunity to become part of the sisterhood. I also happened to mention that the Department of Michigan offers scholarship opportunities in addition to the ones that are offered at the National level.



Not only will the gal have an opportunity for scholarships, but she also has an opportunity to put the fact that she belongs to an organization that helps veterans on her college applications and her resume. Mother and daughter both have placed an application for regular membership in the Marine Corps League Auxiliary.



Two lessons to be learned from this story. First, just because you have acquaintances for years doesn't mean they know and understand what you do to help others. Second, think outside the box to see how you can help others, especially young people. In my case, I was able to recruit two new younger members, (Mom and Daughter) who will bring new ideas and energy to our Unit while benefiting from the programs we offer.

Look around at the people you know, do you know any undergraduate college bound ladies that could benefit from having a relationship with your MCLA Unit?

Semper Fidelis,

Mary Brief

National Senior Vice President

Scholarships:

There are opportunities for eligible MCLA members and their families to obtain a national scholarship foundation. Even if you are returning to school, you may be eligible. More information is available on the National Marine Corps League website at <https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org>. Search under the "Library" and "Youth Program" tabs, you will find further information and requirements for scholarship opportunities.





From the Desk of the Central Division Vice President

Greetings to all Auxiliary Members,

It's a new beginning to a new year. It's time to reboot, restart and refresh!

The 2024 National Convention in Palm Springs, California is now behind us and I would like to congratulate all our newly elected National Officers. I know they will have the support and cooperation of all of us to make this a successful and productive year.

As stated in our last Newsletter, every Unit and Department should be operating in the same fiscal year. The fiscal year for the National Marine Corps League Auxiliary is for the period of July 1st to June 30th. Also, your 990-N filing is due every year by November 15th. (The 15th day of the 5th month after the close of the fiscal year). Don't forget to keep a copy of the email acceptance receipt that you receive from the IRS for your Unit and send copies to your Department Treasurer, Division Vice President and National Headquarters.

Please remember that dues are due August 31st of each year and should not be sent to Headquarters until after the National Convention. Treasurers, please forward all dues immediately to your Departments and Department Treasurers please send dues as soon as possible to National Headquarters.

Let us all strive and work together to help and assist those around us to reach new goals and move our organization forward. Let us start the year with a positive attitude and remove all negativity. In quoting one of our Marine slogans, we need to "Adapt, Improvise and Overcome"! We all need to be more accountable to our leadership and our leadership needs to be held accountable to the members. With the help, support, and cooperation of each of us we can accomplish great things in the year ahead. I look forward to serving to the best of ability. Please email or call if I can help in anyway.

Semper Fidelis,

Patti Morgan



Greetings!

I would like to start my October Newsletter article to encourage all members of the MCLA to keep track of your hours and give them to your Unit on a monthly basis. I do have a form that you can keep on your computer and save it as the month of your hours reported. I can send it to anyone that's interested. All it would take is an email from you to me requesting the form. I'll send it to you the same day as requested.

It's so much easier trying to figure out what you did during that month, versus trying to figure out the entire year in April. The reason I specified April is because our Auxiliary year for reporting hours to the Department level covers 1 May – 30 April each year. The reason being is report hours need to be submitted to your Department Chairperson 30 days prior to your Convention. If no Department exists, your hours need to be sent to the National Chairperson 30 days prior to the National Convention.

Here it is October, and I know for a fact that a lot of you already have many hours for Americanism. Examples in May through July: Flying the AM flag, Memorial Day Celebrations, 4th of July Celebrations, Monthly Unit Meetings, Department and National Conventions. All of these events will have the following things to report; Hours, Mileage, money donated, travel costs, etc. I know you do a lot of things in this category, but we all sometimes forget to write it down.

This time of year, most people are thinking of getting ready for Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, BUT I do know that a lot of us are also getting ready for the following upcoming events: Voting (voting/working the polls); Marine Corps Ball; Veteran's Day (Ceremony/Parade); Wreaths Across America; all of the events mentioned here get reported on the Americanism Report.

I can't stress enough to get a pocket calendar and keep it in your purse or car and get in the habit, when you are getting in your car to go ANYWHERE, keep all of your times, hours, mileage, and donations for each category (not just Americanism) include Child Welfare, VAVS, Rehabilitation, and Civics. Any event you are going to and not being paid to do it, write down the time you leave along with the car mileage. When you get home from this event, write down the time you get home along with the ending mileage.

Any questions, my email address is below, feel free to use it.

Tracey G. Killinger, Nat'l Chairman
Americanism Committee

traceykmcla@comcast.net



CIVICS COMMITTEE



As Volunteers the most valuable gift we can give is the gift of our time so we can listen, help, inspire and teach others.

Your Civics reports are for activities done for adults who are not veterans. This is the time to start logging your times volunteered, hours, miles, clothing and cash or cash value of donated items.

Some examples would be driving people to hospitals, doctor's offices, drug and grocery stores. Also, Meals on Wheels, visiting hospitals, homes, nursing homes, church and choir work and work in civilian hospitals. Report time and miles driven to and from an activity. Do not include activities or donations given to your own family members.

When doing your reports refer to the General Report Guidelines and use the Volunteer Worksheets as a guide. When you have your auxiliary meetings, you can have a log and have members write down what they did each month. Also, you can carry a calendar to keep track of and write down your hours, miles and donations.

Our volunteer reports are important and let everyone know we are active and support our Marines, all Veterans and their Families.

Thank you for all you do,

Judy Blackmer
Civics Chair





Social Media in the Auxiliary

Elizabeth J. LaPouttre,
Social Media Chair



Social Media marketing is more important than ever now. Many people don't watch television like they used to, newspapers and magazines aren't in print at the rate they were a decade ago, and people aren't even listening to the radio in the same way. It is a digital era full of zoom meetings, streaming, and online communities.

Although it seems like it isn't like the "good old days" and in many respects it is not, this age of digital marketing through social channels have given many non-profits such as ours, a way to reach audiences we couldn't reach before and in ways we couldn't before.

I encourage you all to use your social media channels to advertise your Marine Corps League Auxiliary Unit. Many of you aren't certain how to do that, and if you are interested, I can help train members in best practices of social media and how to create effective, engaging posts. It's actually quite a simple formula to produce effective digital marketing content.

The beauty of social media is that for the most part it's **FREE**. Yes, there may be a few times that you may want to pay for your content to be circulated; however, social media content that is popular organically is the best way to reach qualified, new recruits. And in my professional experience, organic content usually outperforms paid content or reaches a very similar number of people.

What type of content should you be creating and pushing on social media? Content that will attract the recruits we need to sustain and grow the Marine Corps League Auxiliary. Think about creating content that is visually appealing with a simplistic design, GOOD and CLEAR photos of members in action (not just posed photos), interview clips, community events, and ways your unit is impacting the lives of our veterans or youth through our OLA program.

I am here as a resource for you to connect with on training, consultation, and understanding of this ever-changing social media world where the potential of reaching new recruits and creating awareness of our organization in the digital world is endless.

If you would like help, please reach out.



The Scholarship Program is sponsored by the Marine Corps League Foundation. The monies awarded are based on two things: how much money has been donated to the Foundation and the number of approved scholarships. The Scholarship Program is something that any member of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary, Marine Corps League, or family member, can apply for they are enrolling in a college/university that is an accredited undergraduate institution. Scholarships may be awarded for a maximum of four years, and they do not have to be consecutive years.

It is so easy to apply. It is a one sheet application. It just asks for basic, straightforward information. The applicant needs a sponsor from either the Marine Corps League Auxiliary or the Marine Corps League. The applicant can also be a member of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary or the Marine Corps League.

*We are the home of the FREE
because of the Brave!*

Applications for the ensuing year of 2025 will be available on the Marine Corps League Foundation website, under Youth Programs, after January 2025. Applicants will need to have their final certified school transcripts sent with their application. Application and transcript can only be submitted online. Snail mail applications and transcripts are not accepted. I actually took my granddaughter's application to the school, and they sent it along with her final certified transcript for me. This is so simple to do and takes hardly any time to complete. It is definitely worth your time.

Our Scholarship Chair is very good about notifying each applicant when their application is received and if there are any issues that need to be corrected or added to the application. Sometimes the simplest things are not filled in, like a date on the application, a signature, sponsor's ID number, etc. The important thing is to make sure the application is completed entirely, and no items are left blank.



So, start looking at the Marine Corps League Foundation website sometime in February or March 2025, and get that application completed and signed by an Auxiliary or League member and then contact the school right after graduation for the certified transcript. Deadline for submission is mid July 2025.

A reminder and more information to come in May 2025.

God's Blessings always,

Mary Lou Webb
Scholarship Committee

MCLA Southwest MO Unit, Chaplain
marylou@papermywalls.com





All -

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the Veterans Day National Committee are pleased to provide you with this Teacher's Resource Guide. There are about 18 million Veterans living among us, in every state and territory and from every walk of life. The guide will help students engage in discussions about these crucial members of our society. It is hoped, you or your membership will assist local teachers as they engage students about those who helped shape U.S. history.

This resource guide, along with another group of America's finest — our teachers — will assist students to learn more about the role our brave Veterans have played in defending and preserving our nation. It is hoped that by thanking America's Veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice, we can reward them with the honor they so richly deserve.

I ask you to share this with ALL of your members. Pay particular attention to page 21, 3.5 pages of scholarships have been identified. A conservative estimate is well over a million of money for higher education.

2024 VETERAN DAY TEACHERS RESOURCE GUIDE

Semper Fi
Ken

Paul K. Hopper/Col USMC (Ret)/National President/ Marine Corps Reserve Association/ (214) 693-6249/ Ken.Hopper@usmcra.org/ www.USMCRA.org 3619 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Suite 115 Stafford, VA 22554



From the Department of Louisiana



On September 11, 2024, Houma, Louisiana, home of the PNP Norma A. Liner Unit, once again took a direct hit from Category 2 Hurricane Francine. Our hometown is hurricane weary and still recovering from Category 4 Hurricane Ida in 2021. Luckily, all our members are safe with some minimal damage, and most had power back within 5 days. Our Unit worked with other non-profits to help distribute plate lunches and supplies to our community, and were visited by Local and State officials, including Louisiana Governor Jeff Landry, Congressman Steve Scalise, and Parish President Jason Bergeron. Please keep Louisiana in your prayers, as we have just reached the peak of Hurricane season, and we are praying that no other storms impact our area.

#louisianastrong

#houmaswheretheheartis





Programs of Pride



General Smedley D. Butler joined members from two Detachments in providing and serving all kinds of goodies to the ambulatory residents at the Coatesville VA.



Corporal Mason O. Yarbrough unit hosted their first Operation Plan Service Project. Thanks to all the Units in Missouri and beyond that collected plastic bags for them to turn into plarn balls. These plarn balls are used to make plastic mats for the homeless.



Department of Pennsylvania President Tammy Rivera was joined by Karen Mastriana at the Lancaster County Airport for the air show, in which the Marine Corps League Auxiliary and Marine Corps League were represented.



Rocky Mountain Diamonds Marine Corps League Auxiliary participated at a Drive-thru Baby Shower for the VA Hospital in Denver, Colorado.

Happy Birthday to our Fabulous Members with October Birthdays!

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2-Oct Janet Severn | 16-Oct Kathryn Denich |
| 4-Oct Rhonda Wesseln | 18-Oct Janet Allquist |
| 5-Oct Regina Harkin | 20-Oct Donna Survant |
| 7-Oct Margaret Gulbranson | 20-Oct Victoria Passov-Adams |
| 7-Oct Helen Nelson | 21-Oct Cheri Tarpley |
| 8-Oct Lois Laughlin | 22-Oct Jean Semanco |
| 9-Oct Jeanette Winder | 26-Oct Margo Reed |
| 9-Oct Joanne Watts | 26-Oct Kathleen Rottino |
| 10-Oct Rosalie Huebener | 26-Oct Paulette Stofiel |
| 10-Oct Kelsey Heath-Sukalski | 27-Oct Lois Allen |
| 12-Oct Christine Fay | 29-Oct Sue Reitzel |
| 12-Oct Faith Hartman | 31-Oct Kathleen Thompson |
| 14-Oct Nancy Kearney | |

We love recognizing our member's birthdays and would never intentionally leave out a celebration! Please make sure your member profile in the MCLA database has your birthday listed by sending an email to MCLAHQ@nationalmcla.org.

2025 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE

Sheraton Pentagon City

900 South Orme Street, Arlington, VA 22204
Phone: 703-521-1900 (Hotel)
or 800-325-3535 Reference National Marine
Corps League



2/27/2025 – 3/1/2025
(check-in 2/26, check out 3/2)

Hotel Rate: \$131 per night plus tax)

Reservation Deadline: February 4, 2025

Parking: On-site garage parking is \$10 per day,
Free shuttle to/from Reagan Airport (DCA)

Cancellation Policy: Any cancellations after
February 10, 2025, will forfeit the one-night deposit.

Other: Complimentary WIFI is included.

The hotel overlooks Arlington National Cemetery and is adjacent to Henderson Hall and the Fort Myer Exchange. The hotel has 4 double ADA rooms with 1 with a roll-in shower, and 10 King ADA with 3 with roll-in-showers. If ADA room is needed, call the reservation number.



2025 NATIONAL CONVENTION AUGUST 11-15, 2025



HOST: MCL Department of Texas

HOTEL: Hyatt Regency DFW International Airport

RESERVATION PHONE #: 1-800-233-1234 (Reservations opened at 9 AM (Central Daylight Time) on Monday, August 19, 2024. Website: <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/DFWAP/G-MCL5> Block Code: G-MCL5

ROOM RATE: \$162/night includes taxes, breakfast for 2 and parking (RV parking is available at Terminal B at the airport) – Check in 3 PM, Check out 12 noon.

Each room features complimentary Wi-Fi, single cup Keurig coffee maker, mini refrigerator, and hair dryer.

AMENITIES: Fitness Center, Pool, On-site restaurants (including a coffee bar), Business Center, Pet Friendly Hotel. There is limited food delivery to the hotel.

Free shuttle from airport to hotel and from hotel to downtown Grapevine

Grapevine Main Street will offer Military Discounts or shoulder badge discount.

Events will be listed on the Website MCL250.org beginning Monday, August 19, 2024. Tickets will go on sale starting February 1, 2025. Tickets for all events can be purchased in one transaction.

They are planning both daily and evening events:

- **Cowboy BBQ Meet and Greet**
- **Daily trips to Grapevine & Arlington, TX**
- **National Medal of Honor Museum Banquet**
- **MODD/MODD Fleas Dinner & Silent Auction**
- **Convention Banquet**



Updates will be published in the Newsletter as they are received. Do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

PNP Linda S. Chamberlain

**MCLA Convention Liaison
natlpresmcla22@gmail.com**

Chaplain's Corner Notes

Great News: we received no loss of members at this time!

Phyllis Kostur lost her Spouse Michael J. Kostur July 29,2024.

Condolences cards may be sent to her and the family at: 1025 E. Hoffman Ave, Coeur D'Alene, ID 83815. The service will be September 13th. Thank you for all you do.

Marti and George need prayers as they deal with George's continued back issues. Should you want to send a card, the address is: NE 40th Ave, Mitchellville, IA 50169-9697.

The National Scholarship Chair Marine Ronnie Broussard was in a serious auto accident. He was on his way to a funeral detail when a driver cut him off the highway. His committee needs his guidance as this is a busy time of the year for this important committee. Pray for a full recovery. Cards may be sent to 407 Southwood Dr, Lafayette, LA 70503.

Prayers go out to all our members and others recovering from the devastating hurricanes & fires. Many have a long way to go for recovery and getting their lives back to normal. My thanks to all who have and are providing helping hands to those in need.

You cannot be kind too soon, because you never know how soon will be too late!

Encourage one another day after day if it is still called "today" Hebrews 3:13

*The pray list emails are being updated
if you want to be included on this list please email:*

National Chaplain Evelyn Joppa
nationalchaplain.evelyn@gmail.com

*Please keep all members in your daily prayers.
We never know who may be suffering in silence.*

ELECTED OFFICERS

President Dotty Sanning	MCLANatPres2024@gmail.com
Sr. Vice President Mary Brief	marybmimcla@gmail.com
Jr. Vice President Darlene MacCubbin	darlenemaccubbin@gmail.com
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Dated Material: October

Address Service Requested