

Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc.

Keystone Leatherneck

January 2024



Commandant's Message

Greetings to all the members of the Department of PA. Since our member meeting in October at Fort Indiantown Gap I have visited with several detachments around the Department, attended many birthday ball celebrations, helped with Toys for Tots, and travelled with the Acting Convention Committee chair to investigate sites for a 2025 Department convention.

Sadly, I also travelled to attend the funeral services for one of our member's children. I also received notification that several of our members are beginning treatments for cancer. Not a good way to end 2023. Here's hoping that 2024 brings better news and happier events.

As we enter the new year and prepare for our January meeting, I want to remind everyone that you must enter Fort Indiantown Gap from Exit 85 of I-81 and not from the Lickdale Exit (back gate). Be prepared to show identification to access the post. Be patient with security as we all learn this new process.

At October's meeting I appointed PDC Bob Ziltz as chair of our Department Foundation and he has been working on updating the bylaws and establishing responsibilities for the Board of Director's. He and I will be working to interview and get a new board up and running in the coming months.

I have had several members step up to fill a few of our vacant Committee Chairs and other committee positions. I and the rest of the Board will be working to get these individuals the information that they need to fulfill their roles in these positions.

Included in this newsletter is a calendar for upcoming Department and National events, a Communication Information Page telling you where to send documents, and a copy of the agenda for the January meeting. All of these documents are also available on the Department of PA website at www.pamcleague.org.

I hope that everyone enjoyed a good holiday season with safe travels and good health. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our meetings on 19 and 20 January.

Semper Fi,

Diana Henry
Commandant, MCL Dept of PA



Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania 2023 - 2024 Meeting Schedule

ALL EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

January 19-20, 2024: Department Winter Meetings

Meetings at Headquarters Building, Ft. Indiantown Gap

Accommodations - Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey (I-81 Exit 80)
604 Station Road Grantville, PA 717-469-0661
\$98/night +tax Code: M9C Deadline: 19 Dec 2023

February 21-24, 2024: National Mid-Winter Conference

Sheraton Pentagon City - Arlington, VA

Accommodations – 900 South Orme Street, Arlington, VA 22204
Phone: 800-325-3535 Reference National Marine Corps League
\$129/night + tax (about \$148 total) Deadline: 30 January 2024
Parking: Onsite garage - \$10 per day

March 15-16, 2024: Department Spring Meetings

Meetings at Headquarters Building, Ft. Indiantown Gap

Accommodations - Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey (I-81 Exit 80)
604 Station Road Grantville, PA 717-469-0661
\$98/night +tax Code: M4L Deadline: 13 Feb 2024

April 12-13, 2024: Northeast Division Conference

Crowne Plaza Princeton, Plainsboro Township, NJ

Accommodations – 900 Scudders Mill Rd, Plainsboro Township, NJ 08536
Phone: 609-936-4200 Group Code: NED \$119/night + tax (about \$136 total)
Conference Registration is \$10 Deadline to register is: 20 March 2024
Banquet 13 April – Tickets are \$60 each [Conference Registration & Banquet Form](#)

June 19-23, 2024: Dept of PA Convention

Penn Harris Hotel – Camp Hill, PA (more details to come)

Accommodations – 1150 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill, PA
Phone: 717-763-7117 ask for Marine Corps League rate; includes breakfast
Single: \$124.91 (total); Double: \$141.91 (total) Deadline: 29 May 2024



CONTROLLED ACCESS
to Indiantown Gap
 Use Gate on Fisher Ave.
Exit 85 of I-81
 Be prepared to show ID

WINTER 2024 Department of PA
Meetings 19-20 January 2024 Agenda (subject
 to adjustments)
Department of PA Headquarters, Ft. Indiantown Gap
Bldg. 3-95, Lackawanna Street, Ft. Indiantown Gap (GPS)

Friday – 19 January 2024

- 0930 – 1030 Budget Committee – Board Room, HQ Building
 1030 – 1100 Audit Committee – Board Room, HQ Building
 1400 – 1530 Department Convention Committee Meeting – Board Room, HQ Building
 1600 – 1630 Keystone HQ Detachment Meeting
 1700 – 1830 Board of Trustees – Board Room, HQ Building
 1900 – ? Pennsylvania Pack – M.O.D.D. Growl – Upper Deck, HQ Building
- 1500 – 2300 Hospitality Room – Holiday Inn, 604 Station Road, Grantville, PA
 (hosted by Auxiliary – Thank You!)

Saturday – 20 January 2024

- 0900 – 1130 Commandants Council w/training– Upper Deck, HQ Building
 1130 – 1230 Lunch Break
 1230 – 1600 Department of Pennsylvania Membership meeting – Upper Deck, HQ Building

ALL MEETING TIMES & LOCATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Uniform of the Day

The uniform of the day for Saturday meetings will be “red cover”
 and the “Undress” uniform (short sleeves)

OFFICERS & COMMITTEES: Reports are due to the Adjutant
by 6 JANUARY – send to pamcl.adjutant@outlook.com

PA MCL Keystone Leatherneck

From The Desk of the Senior Vice Commandant:



G. Victoria McCoy, Sr. Vice Commandant
Department of PA, Marine Corps League

A Message From Your Senior Vice Commandant:

Happy New Year!!

Recruitment:

Getting new members is a struggle for everyone in the Marine Corps League. Here are some ideas as to how to recruit:

1. Be present in your community - table set ups selling V&Y raffle tickets or similar
 2. Donate your time to a community event - parade, soup kitchen, etc
 3. Wear your MCL attire. Be specific to wear your "LEAGUE" polo or Tee. A shirt or hat that states "USMC" or "Marine" just shows you as a Veteran not a member of the Marine Corps League.
 4. Be ready to answer the question "What is the Marine Corps League"
- Have membership applications with you at all times.

Retention:

Keeping those new members can be challenging. Here are some tips to retain new members:

1. MENTOR new members, do not leave them to sit alone in a meeting.
2. Have more social events. We need the business meetings, but social time is just as important, camaraderie is what Veterans miss the most.
3. Consider alternating meetings - one month is business, the next month is social (breakfast or lunch).

Award your members for going above and beyond. There are a variety of different awards you can offer at a Detachment and/or Department levels. More information can be found on the Department website.

Remind your members that they need not be an officer of the Detachment to attend a Department level meeting. This is a great opportunity to see the Marine Corps League at a higher level and meet members from all over the Commonwealth.

Members, the MCL Department of Pennsylvania thanks you, and requests you to secure new members, and further, that you favor us at every future meeting with your presence so far as your circumstances will permit.

Semper Fidelis!

G. Victoria McCoy, Sr. Vice Commandant
Department of PA, Marine Corps League
717-675-9917



COMMUNICATION INFORMATION

DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Revised 11/30/2023

DETACHMENTS SHOULD SEND DOCUMENTS
TO THE DEPARTMENT P.O. BOX (at right)
EXCEPT WHERE NOTED BELOW

Marine Corps League of PA, Inc.
P.O. BOX 6687
Harrisburg, PA 17112-0687

DOCUMENT	How many copies?	Additional Instructions Additional Recipients
TRANSMITTALS	Original & ONE (1) copy	Attn: PA YMASTER
You should include <i>this information</i> in the DEPARTMENT section of your Transmittal: Paymaster name: STEPHEN SMALLEY // Phone 914-941-7413 // email: 53marine1973@gmail.com		
DSCB 15-5110 Penna. Non-Profit Annual Report	ONE (1) copy of Accepted filing. You may email to 53marine1973@gmail.com	Attn: PA YMASTER
PLM Audit due by 31 DECEMBER	Original with signatures see National Administrative Procedures Section 7055	Attn: PA YMASTER Department Sends to National HQ
IRS 990 Confirmation	ONE (1) copy Send the page that reads <u>Accepted</u> not Pending. email preferred to 53marine1973@gmail.com	Attn: PA YMASTER Department Sends to National HQ
VVS Report	ONE (1) copy See rules for submission at: pamcleague.com/veterans- administration-volunteer-services	Attn: VVS Chair Snail mail: Jacob Bertin 25 Cherokee Lane Williamsport, PA 17701 e-mail aaronber50@outlook.com
Report of Installation and Supplemental to report <u>any</u> changes	ONE (1) copy with original signatures no other copies are required or needed	Snail mail <u>only</u> (#10 envelope 1 stamp) Attn: ADJUTANT
NOTICE of DEATH Also include on a transmittal to the Paymaster	ONE (1) copy Email transmittal preferred Chaplain James Schreiber willys1948@hotmail.com	Snail mail if necessary Attn: CHAPLAIN
Marine and Associate of the Year nominations	ONE (1) copy See rules for submission in Department Administrative Procedures ENCLOSURES NINE and TEN	Snail mail Attn: Commandant Hand deliver to: Secretary, Marine of the Year Society no later than close of business Thursday of Convention. e-mail MOYSociety.PA@gmail.com
POSTINGS for Dept. FACEBOOK page	https://www.facebook.com/MCL DEPTPA/	PAO John Taylor johntaylor713@hotmail.com
Update/Correction to Department WEBSITE (Changes related to Detachment Officers, Meeting Place & Time must be submitted by way of a supplemental Report of Installation to the Department Adjutant)	www.pamcleague.com	Commandant Diana Henry mclpa.department@gmail.com

from the desk of the Department Auxiliary President . . .

From the desk of the Department President...

The hustle and bustle of the holiday season is behind us and we can now regroup and devote more time and energy toward making strides forward in membership. It is necessary for everyone to "step up to the plate" and help the Auxiliary recruit new members and renew those who may have accidentally slipped through the cracks. January is Membership Drive Month. We must continue to grow if we are to meet our joint commitment to our veterans, our youth and our communities. They are all counting on us!

As a reminder to all members, Unit Presidents and Treasurers, all dues were due September 1. Anyone not having paid dues by the end of November is not a member in good standing. Any Unit that has not submitted all their paperwork may have their charter revoked.

All of the information needed for the Midwinter Staff Meeting is available on the National webpage. This meeting is open to all members. However, it is only the Board that will be able to vote on the issues that need attention.

When using any of the Auxiliary forms, please be sure to use the most up-to-date form. If you have old forms, please dispose of them.

As always, your prayers are requested for those members of our Marine Family dealing with personal loss and/or health issues. The Mastriana family is especially in need of all the prayers and positive energy we can send them. Our hearts are with them, as well as with our other Marine Family members and the members of the military who are defending the freedom and liberty that we all enjoy.

Best wishes to you all for a very happy, healthy and safe New Year. May it be a year of growth and prosperity for our Auxiliary.

Semper Fidelis,

Ruth S. Moyse

PNP Ruth S. Moyse
President MCLA of PA, Inc.

Nominations for the Northeast Division MOY/AOY must be received by the Department MOY/AOY Society President Victoria McCoy no later than 0900 on January 20th. This is to allow anyone hand carrying a submission to the society the day of the Department Winter Meeting.

Questions about how to submit to the Department can be found on the Department website at <http://www.pamcleague.com>. Follow all procedures as they pertain to the Department level nomination process.

Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania

Preserving Traditions...

Providing Fraternity...

Promoting the Future

Mission Statement *The mission of the Marine Corps League is to promote the interest and preserve traditions of the United States Marine Corps; strengthen the fraternity of Marines and their families; serve Marines, FMF Navy Personnel who wear or have worn the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor; and foster the ideals of Americanism and patriotic volunteerism.*

Do you want to tell your story in Keystone Leatherneck? Submit your photos with captions to the Keystone Leatherneck!

Pictures must be jpg. Format and of high resolution. Keep a good light on the faces. Automatic cameras usually expose for the brightest object in the frame. So you want the brightest light on the faces.

Captions with the story should identify everyone in the picture. Please use this format: As you look at the picture, ID each person from left to right...just as you read a book. If people are in a group, try to list them by row from left to right. For example, Front row, left to right: name, name, name. Then 2nd row or middle row from left to right, etc.

In your paragraph explain what is going on. Use this checklist: Who was involved? What was the event? Where and when was the event?

Include your phone number and email so that I can clarify any details. Send to doug@graves.org —Editor



Marine Corps League of
Pennsylvania Foundation, Inc.



Assisting Marines in Need



James Ulinski wrote:

Bringing Back Tun Tavern!

Every Marine knows the name of our birthplace, **Tun Tavern**. However, for many years there was no physical establishment that existed. Its original location was located at Water Street & Tun Alley.

Now, thanks to the hard work of the **Tun Tavern Legacy Foundation, Inc.**, "a registered 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization formed by members of these organizations with origins at Tun Tavern that are still in existence:"

"United States Marines (1775), Pennsylvania Freemasons (1731), St. Andrew's Society (1747), Society of St. George (1729), The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick (1771) and the United States Navy (1775) whose members are represented on the Board of Governors and are working together to re-establish The Tun™ in Philadelphia."

Their Mission: "To rebuild and re-establish The Tun™ as it was, a functioning mariner's tavern reminiscent of colonial Philadelphia, serving period-influenced refreshments, food, and entertainment and offering an educational experience through exhibits, historical documents, and special events."

"All profits from operation of The Tun™ will be donated in perpetuity to support veteran causes, Masonic charities, educational scholarships, and qualified charities as determined by The Tun Tavern Legacy Foundations independent Board of Governors."

For more information about The Tun™ and/or the other organizations with strong ties to it, visit www.thetun.org Fascinating facts about our history and also a place to donate as a company or an individual. Contributions can also be made in honor or memory of someone!

"Marines we succeed or fail based on our ability to be accountable to those we fight alongside." It's in "our collective DNA."

Perhaps, the truest words said were by Commandant Amos "There is no such thing as a former Marine. When you earned the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor at Parris Island, San Diego, or Quantico, you earned it for life."

Our guest speaker on March 16th, 2024 will be **Marine, Pat Dailey**, who will speak about this fantastic project! **Semper Fidelis!**

Jim Ulinski

Family Connections

Story by Joe Blake, Member Bethlehem Detachment 284

Not long ago I shared with you the picture of my father-in-law Lt. Gen. John R Chaisson (1916-1972) with John Wayne taken [in South Vietnam in] 1966. A family member recently found this link showing a film made in 1967 which was a Navy Department public information film about the war. Some might call it propaganda. It is narrated by Jack Webb of "Dragnet" fame.

I was pleasantly surprised to see then Colonel Chaisson doing a briefing describing the regional military areas with particular emphasis on I Corps. I Corps was the major area for Marine units under the command of Lt. General Lewis Walt of the III Marine Amphibious Force. Colonel Chaisson was then the G-3 of Operations for III MAF. Chaisson was always a very articulate spokesman for the Marines and for the role of US military forces. Shortly after this film was made he was promoted to brigadier general and reassigned to be the Director of the Combat Operations Center, MACV in Saigon under General Westmoreland. The film clip may demonstrate why he got the assignment.

As an aside, as a young major during WW2 he was sent home in 1944 to participate in the drive to sell savings bonds to fund the war. He had served with the 11th Marines in Guadalcanal, New Guinea, New Britain and Peleliu.

Here is the link to [the film] The film is just under 30 minutes but the section with Colonel Chaisson is near the beginning. Thanks for your interest.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xum-1Qdd7NI>



Lt. Gen. (then Col.) Chaisson (left) here seen with the actor John Wayne in the middle and then Brigadier General Jonas Platt

News from around the Pennsylvania Department



At the USMC Birthday Ball in York, Anthony Stabile was recognized by the First Capitol Detachment #521 for **70 years** of service to the Marine Corps League. Marine Stabile, who was also the most senior Marine on board at 96 years, joined the League while serving with the USMC Reserve. First Capitol Commandant Todd Hyson made the presentation.



From the left: Victoria McCoy, Diana Henry and Lisa Solarczyk Nov. 5, 2023

From the Facebook page of the MCL-Department of Pennsylvania



October 28, Carol McIntosh, John McQuain and Dean Van Zanardi were invited to attend the Lewis Puller Jr. Detachment 524 Marine Corps Ball. Their Commandant, Rick Adams, proudly performed his duty as Master of Ceremonies. The Marines and Associate members of this Detachment had also requested their own award to be given to him for his leadership and his commitment to his community - The Distinguished Service Award (bronze). All present Detachment members were in Dress Blues or red blazers. The food was great, the DJ fantastic and a Marine even asked his girlfriend to marry him and she replied "Yes"! Great to have this Detachment back enjoying our Birthday with good food and good friends!

From the Facebook page of First Capitol Detachment #521,,York Pa.

Penndelphia Detachment 306, The Marine Corps League

From Det. 306's Facebook page. Good Job!



News from around the Pennsylvania Department



Eagle Scouts Court of Honor Awards for three Scouts, Troop 168, held at St. Patrick Church, Carlisle Pa. On 11/16/23. Marines from Marine Corps League Detachment #524, Carlisle Pa., Participates are pictured: L-R, R. Adams, MCL Commandant, J. Smith Scout Leader; Greg Rothman, Pa. St. Senator; L. Kipp, Eagle Scouts: J. Bayley; S. Kunick; J. Smith; P. Wallace; Barb Gleim, Pa. St. Representative ; R. Heisman ; M. Culbertson, Scout Leader.



Veterans Day Parade 2023 New Bloomfield, PA

From the Facebook page of the Lewis B. Puller Jr. Det 524, Carlisle, Pa

News from around the Pennsylvania Department



The Marines of the Sgt William L. Dixon Detachment would like to thank the ladies of the VFW Post 813 Auxiliary for their donation from the annual ladies night out!

From the Facebook page of Detachment #289, Clearfield County, Pa.



Local elected leaders have been participating in the Toys-for-Tots distribution at Allentown's Salvation Army for several years. Great community outreach!

From the Facebook page of Bethlehem Detachment 284.



Ten ladies of the Upper Darby Unit, MCLA of Pa., joined together for a special holiday dinner. Those who were unable to attend were missed!

From the Facebook page of Marine Corps League Auxiliary of Pa.



News from around the Pennsylvania Department



First Capitol Detachment #521, Marine Corps League, York PA November 12, 2023

From the Facebook page of Detachment #521

Members of First Capitol Detachment had the opportunity to recognize Daniel Gieselbach of Troop 25 on his promotion to Eagle Scout on January 2, 2024 at Advent Lutheran Church in York. For his Eagle Scout Troop Project, Daniel led a team to replace a trail bridge at Spring Valley County Park in Southern York County. Daniel is a Freshman at the Naval ROTC Program at Drexel University! Presenting the MCL Good Citizenship Award and a First Capitol Challenge Coin is Marine John McQuain. Congratulations Daniel!

From the Facebook page of First Capitol Detachment #521, Marine Corps League, York PA



News from around the Pennsylvania Department



Bethlehem Det. 284 Paymaster Tom O'Rourke and Commandant Doug Graves pose with the "Three Kings" and Eintein The Sno Camel



The Marines acted as King's assistants during gift distribution by bringing age-appropriate gifts from behind the curtain so the King can give it a child.



Bethlehem Detachment #284 Adjutant Fred Gould with the boxes of extra toys donated by the Toys-for-Tots program held in December to the Three Kings Day program held the following month in January.