



DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
P.O. BOX 6687, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17112-0687

Commandant Report – June 2024

Greetings to all the members of the Department of PA.

As I write my final report for fiscal year 2023, it's hard to believe it has been a full year since I was elected Commandant. It seems like just yesterday I was being sworn in. Where has the time gone? On to my report.

Since our meeting in March, I have attended the NE Division Conference in New Jersey. I would like to report that Pennsylvania was well represented there, and it was good to see. There was a very good speaker who gave updated information on filing a Camp Lejeune Water Act claim. The deadline is 8 August. If you qualify, get your claim in.

I also helped to teach a Leadership School from the home of Cpl Brandon Hardy Chester County Detachment. I want to thank them for allowing Department to invade for the day to pass on valuable information to our members. I hope that everyone who attended came away with more knowledge than when they arrived.

I performed 2 more Detachment Installations, attended Memorial Day Ceremonies in 2 different locations, attended the PA War Veterans Council meeting, and the State Veteran's Commission meeting. Any relevant information from these meetings has been forwarded as necessary.

One major item that was accomplished this Spring was the cleanup of our building 3-96. We as a Department have been storing certificates and booklets for the YPF program for over a decade. These items had exceeded their useful life and were taking up space. I would like to thank Jim Schreiber especially for getting in contact with the Post Recycling Center to get dumpsters at our building to make the clean out easier. Even better, he managed to get a group of Reservists/National Guard troops to come and help with moving everything out. It was quite an undertaking, but the results are fantastic. Next time you are at HQ, you'll have to check out the space we now have available.

Our convention is next week, and we have 178 members registered. Of those, about 100 are actually planning to attend. PA membership currently stands at 4186 total paid members, with 266 unpaid. I understand that we are an aging organization, but we must start getting back involved, or there isn't going to be a group to come back to. My staff and I are trying to find out what we can do to get more members involved. If you have an idea, share it with us and maybe together we can make it happen. I do know that I can't do it by myself.

Following our convention, it will be time to start getting ready for National Convention in Palm Springs, CA. National Commandant Griffin has decided not to run for a 2nd year for personal reasons, so there will be a moving of chairs and a new Judge Advocate elected. Currently there are 2 candidates who have announced for that position. Both ran last year, Bruce Rakfeldt from NC and our very own PDC Bob Ziltz. It is important that we get our votes to CA so that we have a voice in this election. Even if only one member of your Detachment can go for a single day, that provides Pennsylvania with your votes. Be a part of this decision.

Semper fi,

Diana Henry
Commandant, MCL Dept of PA