



Marine Corps League Auxiliary, Inc. Department Of Pennsylvania

Saturday, October 19, 2024, President's Council: 09:09 AM

SVP PDP Karen Mastriana held a discussion on email addresses.

Prior to the start of the meeting President Rivera introduced U.S. Marines Youth Foundation Program Manager Jeanette Eshoo who spoke on the Tree of Lights which supports the Marine Youth Foundation. This year's tree lighting will be in honor of General Alfred Grey at the Marine Corps Museum on December 12, 2024. The program will be recorded, Jeanette will check to see if it can be live streamed. Next year's tree lighting will be in Philadelphia in coordination with the opening of Tun Tavern

Guest Speaker Commandant Henry:

- Congratulated President Rivera on her election.
- Commandant Henry apologized for not having either a July or October issue of the Keystone Leatherneck. The articles submitted by Jr Past President PNP Moyse and President Rivera will be published in a future issue.
- Thanked us for our support of the League and is looking to closely working with Madam President during this year.
- Commandant Henry announced this is a transition year for her, as she will be relocating to Tennessee at the end of her term in June.
- Following Hurricane Helen, Commandant Henry contacted the Board of Trustees and requested a donation in the amount of \$2500 from the Disaster Relief Fund be sent to both North Carolina and Tennessee. The Department of North Carolina responded immediately, requesting the check be sent to the Department Paymaster. Tennessee was not as quick to respond and said to just send the check to one of the fire departments. When the Board met on Friday October 18th, they voted that the \$2500 for Tennessee would be sent to North Carolina who will also be helping those in Tennessee.
- Commandant Henry asked us to let her know if she or her staff could do anything for the Auxiliary.

October 19, 2024 MCLA Department Membership Meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 AM by President Tammy Rivera according to ritual. Americanism Chair PDP Twila Gensel led the group in the salute to the flag.

Purpose of the MCLA – read by SVP PDP Karen Mastriana

Eligibility of the MCLA – read by JVP Faith Hartman

Introductions of Guests and Visitors in Attendance:

Past National President – PNP Linda Chamberlain

Northeast Division Vice President – PNP Ruth Moyse

Assistant Northeast Division Vice President – PDP Karen Mastriana

MCL Foundation Program Manager Jeanette Eshoo



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Past Department Presidents (PDP) in attendance were recognized:

PDP Twila Gensel, PNEDVP Tracey Killinger, PNP Ruth Moyse, PDP Kathy Hoffman, PNEDVP Syd Minchin, PDP Karen Mastriana, and PNP Linda Chamberlain,

Replacement Officers/Chairs:

JVP Faith Hartman for Captain of the Guard Jennifer Coolbaugh
PNEDVP Tracey Killinger for Northeast District Vice Jennifer Coolbaugh

Roll Call of Officers, and Units:

Roll call was taken.

Reading of the June 2024 Convention Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by PNEDVP Syd Minchin to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 2024 Department Convention as they were emailed out to everyone subject to corrections. PDP Kathy Hoffman seconded the motion, there being no discussion, **the Motion PASSED**. President Rivera asked if there were any corrections or omissions. There being no omissions or correction the minutes were approved as distributed.

Officers Reports (written or oral):

President Rivera read her report. Following her report, SVP PDP Mastriana made a motion to receive the President's report and all reports that follow and that were submitted into record. The motion was seconded by Shirley Beaver. **The Motion PASSED**. There were no reports submitted from the Central or Southeast District VP's.

Unit Reports:

Unit reports were received from:

All Divisions

General Smedley D. Butler

Keystone Headquarters

Lancaster County

Landis-McCleaf

Northeastern

Susquehanna Valley

The Upper Darby Unit report was submitted after the reports were emailed out.

Bills Presented:

There was one bill presented for reimbursement by the Department Treasurer in the amount of \$24.32 for postage.

Treasurers Report –PNP Linda Chamberlain:

The report for the period July 1 through October 15, 2024, was presented. The Morgan Stanley report as of September 30, 2024, was read.



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Treasurer PNP Chamberlain reported she had to order new checks which cost \$296.00. PDP Hoffman suggested checking Checks Unlimited next time they are needed. There being no questions, the report will be filed for audit.

Chaplains Report: PDP Sydney Minchin

The Chaplain reported she sent five (5) Sympathy Cards and three (3) Thinking of You cards since the Department Convention. Copies of her report were on the table.

Members Sick or in Distress:

- PNP Chamberlain asked for prayers for two (2) Upper Darby Marines who are in the hospital, one (1) is on life support due to pneumonia and the other is in an induced coma.
- JVP Hartman asked for prayers for Northeast Division/Northeastern Unit President Jennifer Coolbaugh's husband.
- PNEDVP Killinger asked a Thinking of You card be sent to PDP Lauree Dile who fell.

Communications:

Secretary PNP Chamberlain read:

- Thank you letter from National Memorial Fund Chair Jan Crowe for our donation.
- Thank you card from Annette King for our donation.
- PNP Ruth Moyses for helping her to celebrate her birthday at the Department Convention in June.
- Thank you note from Joan Atkin for the donation to the Scholarship Fund in memory of her husband Thaddeus.
- PNP Linda Chamberlain for the Departments donation to her National President's gift.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship Liaison: SVP PDP Karen Mastriana

The first group of checks were issued on October 1st to the twenty-four (24) students who met all the requirements. Thirteen (13) were first time students and eleven (11) were renewal applicants. There were two (2) students who were awarded scholarships but did not meet all of the requirements as their sponsors' dues were past due. The Scholarship Chair is working to rectify this. PDP Gensel asked the question who made the decision which student receives an MCLA Scholarship. This is the decision of the Chair. The 2025 application form will be on the website in February.

The Bible was closed, and the meeting recessed for lunch at 11:35 AM. The Bible was reopened, and the meeting resumed at 1:00 PM

Scholarship Donations: PNP Ruth Moyses

Donations were received in memory of Marine Charles Chamberlain and Carolyn Golla and in honor of the Installation Team for General Smedley D, Butler Unit Officers and in honor of Evelyn Brimble.

Membership/Unit Strength Report: SVP PDP Karen Mastriana

As of October 10, 2024 we have 275 members. Three (3) Units have not submitted transmittals.



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Bond forms have been received from all units who have submitted their transmittals. One Officer Installation report has been received.

Regular Members	72
New Regular Members	0
Associate Members	29
New Associate Members	0
Life Members	163
New Life Members	2
Associate Life Members	9
New Associate Life	<u>0</u>
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	275

Ways and Means: JVP Faith Hartman

There are still coins and draw string bags remaining from the Convention. PDP Gensel displayed sample adult bibs made by Landis-McCleaf member Pat Gilbert, as a possible future fundraiser. Following discussion regarding the selling price for the bibs, PNEDVP Killinger made a motion to sell the bibs for \$20.00, with \$15 per bib going for the material, Evelyn Brimble seconded the motion. There being no discussion **the Motion PASSED**. A discussion was held regarding making additional bibs. A motion was made by PDP Hoffman and seconded by Pam Beaver to have additional bibs made when the inventory was down to five (5). There being no discussion **the Motion PASSED**. JVP Hartman asked if there would be any interest in once again having the grocery bags as a fundraiser. The members present thought this would be a good idea and would like them to be the quilted insulated type of bag. PNP Moyses made a motion for the JVP to investigate price and quantity requirements for the insulated type of grocery bag and to bring the information to the January meeting. PNP Chamberlain seconded the motion, there being no further discussion **the Motion PASSED**.

Chapel of Four Chaplains: PNEDVP PDP Tracey Killinger

PNEDVP PDP Killinger no report. PNEDVP PDP Minchin asked how the ceremony went at the National Convention. PNP Moyses reported the League's chaplain received many compliments on the ceremony and next year he will have it made into a power point presentation. PNP Chamberlain received the Bronze Medallion.

Girl Scouts: PNEDVP PDP Syd Minchin

PNEDVP PDP Minchin reported she is following them on Facebook and every time she sees a girl has receive a gold award she likes the post, making her now a "special friend." PNEDVP PDP Minchin is hoping to be able to meet with them personally by the January meeting.

Convention Committee:

- January 2025 lunch will be the Chili cookoff. The Committee is still looking for someone to do the Hospitality Room for the January meeting.



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- March Meeting the Auxiliary will do the Hospitality Room and Keystone HQ Unit (Paul Hastings' daughters) will provide the lunch (sandwiches like last year) and ask the auxiliary members attending the meeting to provide the salads and dessert.
- The contract for the 2025 Department Convention has been signed and will be held at the Penn Harris Hotel, in Camp Hill, PA June 26 to 30. It is a shortened convention. The meetings will be on Friday and Saturday with the banquet being held on Friday evening. The dress for the banquet will be casual. Thursday evening will the hospitality room with a Woodstock theme. The Joint Opening, Memorial Ceremony and Chapel of the Four Chaplains will be on Friday morning. Additional details will be forthcoming. The hotel has one (1) main restaurant serving Italian Cuisine. Lunches will be served in the hospitality room on Friday and Saturday. The League is looking for someone to host the hospitality room for the Convention.
- January meeting lodging will be at the Best Western, Grantville Room rates is \$92 plus tax (\$102/night) the dates are January 17 & 18, 2025. Hot breakfast included. Hot coffee and tea are available in the lobby. Indoor pool. Each room has a mini fridge and pull-out sofa. President Rivera noted arrivals prior to 3 PM may be charged \$20 for early check in, the League will be looking into this for the future.
- Spring Meeting will be March 14 & 15 with lodging also at the Best Western, Grantville.
- They are still looking for bids for the 2026 Department Convention, preferably in the Northeastern area. The league has hired HelmesBriscoe to assist in finding a site.

MODDF: Madam Big Flea Karen Mastriania:

No report.

Auditor's Report: Shirley Beaver:

Books are all in order and one (1) bill was approved for payment.

REGISTRTION REPORT PDP Twila Gensel

PDP Gensel asked if anyone has badge holders or lanyards to bring them to the next staff meeting to be recycled for future conventions.

Old/Unfinished Business:

- January Meeting: President Rivera asked for a consensus regarding the January meeting. PNP Moyse made a motion to hold the meeting via Zoom only, the motion was seconded by SVP PDP Mastriania, there being no discussion the **MOTION PASSED**. PDP Genel noted our decision should be made known to the lunch committee. All monies collected for the lunch would remain with the League.
- Web Page: No report.
- Facebook: NEDVP PNP Moyse noted she went to boost something and found not only did they want the money for boosting but they wanted an additional fee as well. Therefore, she has not boosted anything. We have budgeted \$300 but this would be an additional charge. We have had people look at the posts and like them, but we have not generated any new members from the postings.



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- Zoom Capabilities: Issues this morning but problem free this afternoon.

New Business:

- 2025 Raffle: A suggestion was made to use tickets that are pre-perforated. JVP Hartman reported in anticipation of the raffle she has purchased raffle card stock. PDP Hoffman will send the spread sheet she has used in the past to produce the tickets to the JVP so all she will need to do is change the date and license number.
- Soldiers and Sailors Home Wish List: President Rivera reported a letter was sent to Lynnette Chambers requesting the names of the Marines, as of yesterday she has not received a response. Secretary PNP Chamberlain suggested since she had last year's list with her, we go through the list and indicate if you wish to keep the same person as last year. Once the list is received the current list will be updated and sent to everyone. PDP Hoffman suggested when responding to be sure to respond all so everyone knows what is going on. Everyone agreed to keep the Marine they had last year. Susquehanna Valley will keep two (2) of the three (3) they had last year. PNP Chamberlain asked if FMF Corpsmen or Navy Chaplains were included, if not maybe they can be added to the list for next year.

Good of the Order:

JVP Jim Diamond won the fire pit.

No one claimed the 50/50 therefore the entire amount will go to the Auxiliary.

League SVP McCoy came into the meeting to thank PNP Moyse for her mentorship and presented her with an Infinity Scarf.

The lunch money donation from the League was received.

Northeast Division Vice President: PNP Ruth Moyse

- The Northeast Conference in 2025 will be held April 4-6 at the Holiday Inn in Binghamton, NY.
- Mike Waluk has resigned as the Northeast Division Vice, Bob Ziltz has been appointed to fill the position as the Northeast Division Vice, and Dean Lawton, Department of New York Commandant will be his assistant.
- The Northeast Division ended the year with 602 members, up 102.38% from last year. NEDVP PNP Moyse will be contacting some members once she can read the list sent from the National JA regarding verification of closed units and to obtain incorporation numbers and last date of your EIN filing.
- Congratulated the Units and the Department of Pennsylvania on the volunteer hours awards we received at the National Convention. Award certificates were presented to the Units and the Department.

Past National President: Linda Chamberlain

- Thanked everyone for their support during her terms of office.
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- Ramona should be working on the LM Checks this week, when they are ready to be signed, I will be going to HQ to sign them, so they do not get lost in the mail.
- Bylaw and Administrative Procedures should be going out once Ramona has heard back from the National President, the Past National JA, and the current National JA to be sure nothing was missed.
- PNP Chamberlain gave gifts to her staff who were not in attendance at the National Convention.
- PNP Chamberlain also had the honor of presenting PNEDVP PDP Tracey Killinger with her 40-year pin and presenting PDP Kathy Hoffman with her 2024 3rd Place Recruiter of the Year Award Certificate and a National President's award for recruiting 58 new MCLA Members from 2010 to 2024. She was also presented with a new ribbon with a gold star and two (2) silver stars. This is the first time this type of award has been presented. Effective with the 2024 National Convention your recruited members will be cumulative which means if you have recruited three (3) new members thus far you only need to recruit two (2) more new members to receive a recruiter ribbon.

Announcements:

Leftover packs of hot dogs are being sold for \$2.00 a pack with the proceeds going to the lunch committee. If interested see Phil McCoy.

NEDVP PNP Moyse thanked everyone who purchased the NE Division iron on patches. A check in the amount of \$76 will be sent to Pet Share. NEDAVP PDP Mastriana donated \$4 to bring the donation amount to \$80.

The Bible was closed, and the meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

PNP Linda S Chamberlain

PNP Linda S. Chamberlain, Secretary/Treasurer
MCLA of PA, Inc.