



Marine Corps League Auxiliary of Pennsylvania, Inc.

Saturday, January 18, 2025 MCLA Department Membership Meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 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 Central District Vice President Pam Beaver

Past Department Presidents (PDP) in attendance:

PDP Twila Gensel, PNEDVP Tracey Killinger, PNP Ruth Moyse, PNEDVP Syd Minchin, PDP Karen Mastriana, PDP Teena Foster and PNP Linda Chamberlain.

Replacement Officers/Chairs:

Central District VP Pam Beaver for JVP Faith Hartman

PDP Twila Gensel for Captain of the Guard Jennifer Coolbaugh

Roll Call of Officers, and Units:

Roll call was taken.

Reading of the October, 2024 Meeting Minutes:

The minutes were not read as they had been emailed out to everyone prior to the meeting.

PNEVPD Tracey Killinger noted two (2) corrections: page two (2) **Past Department Presidents**. PNEDVP was missing from PDP Syd Minchin's name and on page three (3) **Committee Reports: Scholarship Liaison** Karen Mastriana's first name was missing the "a". There being no additional corrections a motion was made by PNP Ruth Moyse and seconded by PDP Teena Foster to accept the minutes as corrected, there being no discussion, **The Motion PASSED**.

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 PNP Moyse. There being no discussion **The Motion PASSED**. Central District VP Beaver reported she is planning a meeting for the spring. There was no report submitted from the Southeast District VP.

Unit Reports:

Unit reports were received from:

All Divisions

General Smedley D. Butler

Keystone Headquarters

Lancaster County

Landis-McCleaf

Northeastern

Susquehanna Valley

Upper Darby Unit



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Bills Presented:

There were no bills presented.

Treasurers Report –PNP Linda Chamberlain:

The report for the period October 6, 2024 through January 13, 2025, was presented. The Morgan Stanley report as of December 31, 2024, was read.

Treasurer PNP Chamberlain noted there was a .02 error (in our favor) by the bank which was added to the interest income.

Chaplains Report: PNEDVP Sydney Minchin

The Chaplain reported she sent two (2) Sympathy Cards since our October meeting.

Members Sick or in Distress:

- PNP Chamberlain asked for prayers for MCLA member Karen Neary who is in the hospital.
- PDP Gensel asked for prayers and cards for Susquehanna Valley Detachment member Gregory Schlegel who is in Coatesville VA. Cards can be sent to Gregory at 1400 Blackhorse Hill Rd., Bldg 8B, Coatesville, PA 19320
- Prayers were asked for JVP Faith Hartman and her Mother Beverly Evans who was hospitalized early this morning.

Communications:

Secretary PNP Chamberlain read:

- Thank you letter from Katy Dillinger, Therapeutic Recreation Service Supervisor at the Soldiers and Sailors home on behalf of our adopted Veteran, John McCray who was enjoying wearing his new shirt and his Walmart Gift Card. Katy noted John was a very simple and humble man.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship Liaison: SVP PDP Karen Mastriania

The remainder of the scholarship checks have been mailed. There were eight (8) students who did not submit their verification letter therefore no check was sent. The names of the recipients of scholarship checks are posted on the web site. The 2025 application form and instructions will be on the website February 1, 2025. Everything will be done electronically this year.

Scholarship Donations: PNP Ruth Moyse

Total Scholarship donations from July 1, 2024, to January 15, 2025, totaled \$240.00. Donations were received in memory of Marine Charles Chamberlain and PDP Karen Mastriania's Birthday.

Membership/Unit Strength Report: SVP PDP Karen Mastriania

As of January 7, 2025 we have 383 members.



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Regular Members	132
New Regular Members	3
Associate Members	45
New Associate Members	0
Life Members	192
New Life Members	2
Associate Life Members	9
New Associate Life Members	<u>2</u>
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	383

PDP Gensel inquired if the bond for Susquehanna Valley was received since it was not indicated as such on the membership report. Treasurer PNP Chamberlain said it was received.

Ways and Means: JVP Faith Hartman

PNP Chamberlain read the report submitted by the Chair. There are still 58 coins and 33 draw string bags remaining. A check will be sent to the Treasurer for ten (10) bags purchased since the October meeting. Additional adult bibs as well as the 2025 raffle tickets will be available at the March meeting. There was no mention of the insulated grocery bags on Faith's report President. Rivera will check with her as to the status of this potential fundraiser.

Chapel of Four Chaplains: PNEDVP Sydney Minchin

PNEDVP Minchin reported the banquet will be held on February 4th with tickets costing \$150.00. This is the Chapel's major fundraiser.

Girl Scouts: PNEDVP Syd Minchin – No report

Convention Committee:

- The 2025 Department Convention will be held at the Penn Harris Hotel, in Camp Hill, PA June 26 to 29. National President Dotty Sanning will be the Auxiliary's guest, Chief Jeff Jones will be the MODD guest and Commandant Henry will be asking PNC Dennis Tobin to be her guest. The committee will be checking with Cumberland County on the possibility of a grant to help with the cost of the convention. The meetings will be on Friday and Saturday with the banquet being held on Friday evening. The dress for the banquet will be business casual. There will be a hospitality room on Thursday evening with a Woodstock theme. The Joint Opening, Memorial Ceremony and Chapel of the Four Chaplains will be on Friday morning. Room rates are single \$143.31 Double \$165.63. The rates include breakfast. The cost for the buffet banquet is \$60 for advance ticket purchase, tickets, if available, purchased at the convention will be \$75.00. Since this is a shortened convention, a discussion was held regarding both our scratch and the President's social as well as nomination of officers. Coverage is still needed for the hospitality room for Thursday evening and for Friday night following the banquet. Lunches will be available on both Friday and Saturday. All necessary forms will be posted on the MCL Department web site.



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- The Spring Meeting will be March 14 & 15 with lodging at the Best Western, Grantville. Room rate is \$92 plus tax (\$102/night including a hot breakfast). The deadline for reservations is March 1, 2025. There are microwaves, mini refrigerators, and pull-out sofa in each room. The hotel has 24-hour hot coffee and tea available in the lobby and the indoor pool is open until 10 PM. The MCLA will be responsible for the hospitality room. The Hastings family will be providing the croissant sandwiches for the meeting, and as in the past the Auxiliary will provide the sides and dessert. PNP Chamberlain will work with Libby Knapp to develop a list of needed items for both the hospitality room and lunch which will then be emailed to the contact list. Just a reminder arrivals prior to 3 PM may be charged \$20 for early check-in, the Convention Committee will be addressing this with the hotel for next year.
- 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 Mastriana:

Due to the shortened Convention Madam Big Flea is thinking of having an old fashion scratch (no theme). At present there are no potential initiates. PDP Foster asked if we could put together snack bags and sell them along with our raffle tickets.

Auditor's Report: No report as meeting was held via Zoom.

Old/Unfinished Business:

- Web Page: Webmaster PDP Foster asked for a list of Flea Officers for the web site.
- Zoom Capabilities: Worked well today. Continue with zoom.
- Soldiers & Sailors Home: President Rivera thanked everyone for their support.

New Business:

- 2025 Raffle: Tickets will be available at the March meeting.
- President Rivera asked if anyone had an upcoming event or something happening in their unit that they wanted to share. Nothing at this time.

Good of the Order:

Past National President: Linda Chamberlain

- The Department of Texas Convention Committee has not held a meeting since the fall. Information for the National Convention is on the MCL National website but there is no link to the Department of Texas regarding events although they are supposed to be on the website in February. The ML Convention Committee is scheduled to meet at the Midwinter Conference with the National Convention on the agenda.
- The MCL and National Convention Committee will be visiting the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Texas in April in final preparation for the convention.



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- President Rivera sent me the Department's ad for Midwinter however prior to submitting I wanted the body's input on how to proceed. The cost of the ads have increased significantly from last year. A one-half page ad now costs \$150 rather than the budgeted \$60 (cost last year). I can modify the ad to a quarter page for \$100 or go with the full-page ad. A motion was made by PNEDVP Killinger and seconded by PNP Moyse to keep the half page ad. There being no discussion **The Motion Passed.**

Northeast Division Vice President: PNP Ruth Moyse

- The Northeast Division Conference will be held April 4-6 at the Holiday Inn in Binghamton, NY. Room rate \$129.00 + tax. Advanced registration is \$10.00, registration at the conference is \$15.00. Advanced banquet tickets are \$50.00, tickets (if available) at the conference will be \$60.00. All forms can be found on the Northeast Division web site NEDMCL.org. All forms are pdf fillable. Information and forms were included with the meeting reports emailed by the Secretary for today's meeting.

Announcements:

PDP Mastriana noted she and President Rivera ran the hospitality room last evening when the dog's sponsorship of the hospitality room fell through.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM

Respectfully submitted,

PNP Linda S Chamberlain

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