



**DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA  
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

**P.O. BOX 6687, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17112-0687**

## **Commandant Report – June 2025**

Greetings to all members of the Department of PA:

As I write my final Commandant's report, I find myself reflecting on my journey through the chairs of the Department of PA, culminating in these last two years as Commandant. I have met some wonderful members, and I have met some who made me want to pull my hair out. At the end of the day, I would still agree to take this responsibility, and I hope that you feel I have done a good job. I have done the best job that I could and have given 110%.

Since our meeting in March, I have spent time traveling to detachments that I had not gotten a chance to visit in my two years as Commandant. Unfortunately, one of my visits involved stopping at a member's house to collect a charter that was surrendered due to lack of members to carry on the detachment. This is becoming an all too common theme. In the last two years the Dept of PA has lost 4 detachments. I wish I had a magic solution to this issue, but I don't. I do know that there are some great guides and tools on the National website to help detachments with recruiting and retention. I encourage all members to look at them.

I also attended various PAWVC, State Veteran Commission meetings, Memorial Day Ceremonies and other duties required as Commandant. I was honored to be chosen as the Honorary Grand Marshal of my hometown (Gettysburg's) Memorial Day Parade, and I have to say it was a very emotional experience to ride through that town and have everyone waving and staring. I much prefer to be in the background.

I have spent time throughout this last year developing a timeline to leave to my successor to help with all of the little things that the Commandant needs to take care of, or events to attend, that often get forgotten in the push for the big items. I hope that each of you will support the next Commandant the way that you have supported me. Just remember, the Commandant is not sitting next to the phone waiting for someone to call so they have something to do. Please use your chain of command as much as possible so that the Commandant can work on the day to day tasks required of the job. However, if there is a problem in that chain, please reach out and make the Department staff aware of it. As they say, we can't fix what we don't know is broken.

There are many things I did not get accomplished in my two years as Commandant, that maybe I will get a chance to do as a PDC. As most of you know, I plan to retire to the state of Tennessee, and as a matter of fact I am writing this letter from my new home there. But I am not abandoning my home state and will still support my Marine Corps League family. It will just be mostly long distance. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at convention and hope that you make every effort to attend.

Semper Fi,

Diana Henry, Commandant, Dept of PA