



DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
Membership Meeting March 2025
MCLPA HQ Building 3-95
Ft. Indiantown Gap, PA

15 Mar 2025

1051 - Opening Ceremony -Meeting was called to order at 1051 by Commandant Henry, Sergeant at Arms Sundling led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, and Chaplain Schreiber led us in prayer.

Past National Commandants: PNC Hastings - acknowledged he was also the oldest Marine present at the Mid-Winter Conference

Past Department Commandants: PNC Hastings, PDC Craig Reeling, Dept. of MD.

National and Division Staff on Board:

NE DIV Sgt. at Arms, National Protocol Director, National Uniform Committee and National Sergeant at Arms- Lisa Solarczyk

Assistant Sergeant at Arms - Rick Andis

National Asst. Sgt. at Arms - Gene Irvin

National Americanism Committee- Sue Irvin

National PAO Chair - John Taylor

NE DIV Aide de Camp and NE DIV Compliance Officer and AV Committee member- Jacob Bertin

National AV Committee Chair - Phil McCoy - downstairs preparing lunch

Assistant MidEast DVC - Craig Reeling

Past Department Marines of the Year:

Lisa Solarczyk

Jim Mineo

Victoria McCoy

Diana Henry

Craig Reeling - MD and NJ

PNC Hasting

Joe Pokjoni

Detachment Marines of the Year and Associate Members of the Year recognized

2024 National and 2023 Northeast Division Associate Member of the Year and Past Department Associate Member of the Year- Carol McIntosh

2024 Department Marine of the Year - Dean VanZanardi

2024 Department Associate Member of the Year - Jim Schreiber

Roll Call of the Officers - Chief of Staff McIntosh

All Officers present or accounted for with excused absences

Quorum:

If at least 8 are present : In accordance with Article VI, section 635 of the Bylaws of the Dept. of PA, MCL, the Commandant declared that a quorum is present for the conduct of official business.

Roll Call of the Detachments - Adjutant Cook

25 Detachments present :



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Bethlehem, Cpl. Brandon Hardy Chester County, Dutch Helwig, Lancaster County, Landis-McLeaf, Lehigh Valley, Northampton County, P W Milano, Northeastern, Pennndelphia, Susquehanna Valley, Three Rivers Leathernecks, Valley Forge, Williamsport, Black Sheep, First Capitol, Lewis B Puller Jr, Central Bucks, Gettysburg Battlefield, South Hills Pittsburgh, Forbes Trail, Keystone Headquarters, Patriot, Leatherneck Square, Stuart Tank.

Sick or in Distress -

- Marshal Houston, Pennndelphia Commandant reported Paymaster David Fortune is in the hospital for wounds suffered in Vietnam. Spirits are high, keep in prayers.
- Doug Graves, Past Commandant Bethlehem Det 284 reported LtGen Richard Kramlich's mother passed away.
- Gary Anspach from Susquehanna Valley reported Greg Schlegel went for treatment for PTSD, did get help but something else is wrong, needs prayers. Gary takes him to his doctor's appointments.
- Victoria McCoy, Keystone Paymaster and SVC for Dept. reported daughter Vinessa Sipe, associate member, has been struggling with personal family issues. McCoy and Sipe family could use prayers this year, both have achieved one year sobriety.
- Craig Reeling - due for liver transplant.
- Bob Kessler, Commandant Lewis B Puller Jr reported 5-6 "OG" members are sick - Jim Grove is fighting cancer currently and others fighting issues, keep Detachment in prayers.
- Commandant Henry reported visited Leatherneck Square Det, their paymaster was just out of the hospital for a major heart attack. Currently recovering, attending the Detachment meeting and in good spirits. Also, our bookkeeper found out her brother has stage 4 cancer.

Dedication of Meeting:

- Stephen Smalley, PW Milano - lost life member Ronald Luckenbaugh.
- PNC Hastings dedicated meeting to Ron Luckenbaugh and JR Wells made the second but not required.

Commandant asked Chaplain to drape the charter.

Elected Officers Reports -

All but one report was posted to the website. Only report anything new since the posting of their report.

JVC Diamond - one addition - some vehicles missing license plate holders Marine Corps League, buy for \$10. Still has 19 unsold calendars and many Veteran's and Youth tickets.

Commandant Henry - report not written or posted. Commandant has been very busy and will pass along notes from MidWinter Conference later in the agenda.

Commandant Henry - asked for motion to receive all elected officer reports as presented. Motion by D5 VC Anspach, and second by D4 VC Hartman. Motion carried.

Appointed Officers Reports:

Commandant Henry advised the membership that she asked Paymaster Sipe to step down and appointed Associate member and Dept. Chief of Staff Carol McIntosh to replace her as Paymaster and fill in until Convention in June. The Paymaster email will stay the same for correspondence purposes.

Sergeant at Arms Sundling reported 46 members have signed in.

Quartermaster - Ships store made \$362 today. Some new things received. Let him know if you want new things for next meeting.

Commandant Henry - asked for motion to receive all appointed officer reports. Motion by D3 VC and second by D6 VC Sylvia. Motion carried.



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PNC Hastings asked to address the floor as he has to meet his 22nd great grandson. Presenting a check to the Foundation, Paymaster McIntosh will accept the check on behalf of the Foundation. In memory of Joan Hastings.

Standing and Program Committees Reports:

- Commandant's Council - SVC McCoy - discussed retention and recruitment. Work on cleaning the rosters.
- Convention Committee - Karen Mastriana - quarterly lunches: still need someone for June lunches. PNC Hastings said he will help with need. Still open need for hospitality room, looking for snack donations or money to buy the snacks. Looking for 2-3 bodies to help with lunches for cleanup. Woodstock theme for Thursday night party. Fall 2025 quarterly lunch is open and looking for volunteers to step up. Briefed the membership on the 2026 convention at the Kalahari resort in the Poconos.
- Awards and Citations - SVC McCoy - the start for tenure awards. Tenure awards can be submitted the year they become eligible, at any time, the deadline being June 1st. Get these in as soon as possible. Other awards presented at convention do not come directly to the SVC, submit through your DVC.
- Training - SVC McCoy - Try to have annual training. Still happening in calendar of 2025 - will be in September. Looking to pass training to Division and include NY and NJ Departments for training, more to follow.
- PDC Council - PDC Brady - excused absence, report posted online and nothing new to report.
- Marine of the Year Society- President PDC Brady - Commandant Henry advised membership to talk among Detachments and send in correct paperwork submissions in correct format, check National and Dept. website and check deadlines.
- Budget and Audit Committee - JVC Diamond - looking good for third quarter, at 67.66% of the budget. Committee and Dept leadership will be meeting to get the Convention budget going.
- Americanism Committee - Chris Shaw - not present. Commandant encouraged all Detachments to submit an Americanism book.
- Scholarships - Gene Irvin - using email to make easier. Follow instructions, use the correct new form, received 6 applications now. Only accepting until the end of May, no extensions.
- Samuel Nicholas Committee - Doug Forsythe - also not present. Report was submitted. Actual Samuel Nicholas burial site located at a quaker meeting house in downtown Philadelphia. Chester County Detachment recognizes him 3 times a year. Date for those in 2025 are - 25th of May, July 5th, Nov 10th. Muster times are 1100, but 0930 on Nov 10th.
- Marksmanship Committee - Jim Schreiber - report was posted to the website. Direct members interested in marksmanship to the website, or to call/email Jim directly. Department earned 16 rifle and 21 pistol medals. Marksmanship awards presented by Chair Jim Schreiber.
- Medical Assistance Committee - Bonnie Shaw - not present. New battery for our AED machine.
- Toys for Tots - Dean VanZanardi - report given.
- VVS report - Jacob Bertin - 3rd quarter reports are due April 1st. Second half stipends will be distributed at convention.
- Scouting - Greg Schlegel- not present. A lot of activity in Dept. of PA.

Commandant Henry - asked for a motion to receive all Committee reports as presented. NEDIV Compliance Officer Jacob Bertin made the motion and Assistant PAO Jeff Line made the second. Motion carried.

Subordinate, Subsidiary and Independent Organization Reports:

- MODD PA PACK - Pack Leader Mastriana - had a good growl. Any pup that wants to move up, get your paperwork in.
- MCL of PA Foundation - PDC Ziltz - not present.



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- MCL Auxiliary - President Rivera - need everyone to take time to participate in this organization and do things for others and Veterans. Sandwiches were donated by Paul Hasting's daughters. Please thank them. 250th anniversary year this year. Hope to see everyone at the Convention in June.

National Officer Reports:

- NE DIV VC Ziltz - not present. Passed Division conference information to membership. Deadlines are fast approaching. Consider an ad in the conference book.

Unfinished Business:

- Website - still working on the redesign.
- PLM Audits - 27 detachments do not have PLM audits on record at National. 6 Detachments admitted to sending theirs in late. Will be advocating for the 7 Detachments that definitely sent theirs in on time and in the correct way. PLM audits are not a suggestion, they are a requirement.

New Business :

- Report from Midwinter - new member database portal. 18 proposals for bylaws and AP changes. Will be a chapter 9 update. V on member numbers to identify which associate members are also Veterans. Commandant will be asking each Detachment to go over rosters and identify associate Veteran members.
- Convention - need members to start thinking about a proposal to have the 2027 convention in their area. Need to get back to the procedure of having location more than 12 months out.
- Convention 2025 - Information is posted on the Dept. website. Dates are 26-29 June at Penn Harris Hotel in Camp Hill. JVC report on coin - 80th Dept of PA anniversary and 250th USMC birthday. Will be selling this coin. Coins will sell for \$10, cost is \$4. Motion made by SVC McCoy for Department of PA to order 500 coins to be sold at \$10, and second by SAA Bob Sundling. Motion carried. JVC will send a color flier for Detachments to see the coins.
- Donations - at the BOT meeting last evening we voted to make our special contributions donations. Some are based on correspondence received, some are historical. Commandant briefed the membership on the donation list.
- D1 VC Brown had a 50/50 at his District meeting and wants to give the \$100 winnings to PA Wounded Warriors.
- SVC McCoy - Keystone HQ Det, Paymaster, created a Zelle account to allow electronic money payments. Would like to see Dept. doing this, or an MOU between Dept and Keystone HQ Det so money received can be transferred to Dept.

Good of the League :

- Announcements for Dept. Officers. If vacancies are not filled by convention, the Department charter will be suspended and all PA detachments will answer to National. SVC McCoy and JVC Diamond announced their desire to step up to Commandant and SVC roles respectively. JA Sofranko also announced desire to continue on as JA. D1 VC Brown announced he will continue on as D1 VC. Jacob Bertin - seeking election for D5 VC. D6 VC Sylvia - looking to continue as D6 VC. D8 VC Popovich - looking to continue as D8 VC. D4 VC Hartman - looking to continue as D4 VC. D5 VC Anspach - looking to continue as D5 VC. Dean VanZanardi - seeking election for D6 VC. Commandant mentioned the process for District VC candidacy and voting.
- JA Sofranko - dept bylaw or AP changes have to be done by April 1st and sent to the Adjutant.
- National convention is in August in Grapevine, TX. 10-16 August.
- Doug Graves, Bethlehem Det, Past Commandant - asking Commandant to share the importance of Detachments showing their charter at meetings. Commandant Henry responded that it is required to have at least a copy at every meeting, not necessarily the original. If detachments have an original charter, it should be at the meetings vice a copy. Second question - is it important for Detachment Officers to attend Department meetings? Commandant responded it is very important.



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- Stephen Smalley, Paymaster for PW Milano, asked to donate for two scholarships. Would like to present a check to the Foundation for scholarships \$1500.
- Craig Reeling, Assistant National VC Mideast DIV - uniforms. Offering purchase of shirts. Stressed the importance of wearing a name tag. Raffle idea - \$1000 walmart gift card.
- Carol McIntosh, Chief of Staff - asked Commandant to speak about Gettysburg Memorial Day Parade - 26th of May, Commandant Henry has been asked to be the Grand Marshall. Would appreciate MCL support.
- D6 VC Sylvia - Marines have a physical workout. Please look over the MCL workout.

Announcements:

- Next Dept. Meeting- TBD on time on 26 June 2025 at the Penn Harris Hotel in Camp Hill.
- Mailing Preparation - mid May 2025.
- Quarterly Reports due to the Adjutant by 9 June 2025.

Closing Ceremony: Meeting was adjourned at 1605 hours by Commandant Henry assisted by SAA Sundling and Chaplain Schreiber.

Respectfully Submitted by Sarah Cook, Adjutant, MCLPA