



DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA MARINE CORPS LEAGUE Convention Committee Meeting

March 2026

MCLPA Headquarters

March 14, 2026

Meeting was called to order by Karen Mastriania.

Roll Call of Committee Members

<u>Member</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Attendance?</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Committee chair	Karen Mastriania	y	
Committee Vice Chair	Mike Mastriania	y	
Commandant/Program Book	Victoria McCoy	y	
Sr. Vice Commandant	Jim Diamond	y	
Jr. Vice Commandant	Doc Hockenbury	y	
Judge Advocate	Joel Sofranko	e	
Paymaster	Jacob Bertin	y	
Adjutant	Peggy Hodgden	y	
Northeast Region Liaison	Jim Casella	e	
	Faith Hartman	y	
	Scot Hartman	e	
Auxiliary President/Committee Member	Tammy Rivera	e	
Public Affairs Officer	Jeff Line	y	
Asst. Public Affairs Officer	n/a		
Protocol Officer/Lunch Committee	Lisa Solarczyk	e	
Credentials Chair/Lunch Committee	Phil McCoy	e	

Others in attendance:

	J R Wells
Dist 5 Vice Commandant	Gary Anspach
	Rosemarie Soto

Opening Remarks

- Commandant – will cover final site tour
- MCLA President Rivera – not here
- Pack Leader Erb-not here
- Committee Chairperson Karen Mastriania-Thanks. Final tour worked out great!
- Committee Vice Chairperson Mike Mastriania-Thanks



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2026 Convention — Kalahari Resort & Conference Center

- MCL Commandant Guest – Jim Breen (Commandant, Dept of SC) – launching new website
- Pack Leader Guest – Tentative – Joe D’Angelo
- Auxiliary President Guest – PNP Linda Chamberlain
 - Hospitality Room: Northeast Detachment, Thursday night only; snacks, All beverages are on each person.
 - Will work out issues at April meeting.
 - June 1st for small games of chance license-Monroe County will need copy of detachment license.
 - Lunches: 2 days?
 - Lunches will be bagged at member cost
 - hoping to get enough sponsors to get free breakfast.
 - Raffles: 2 free nights / Visa gift card; drawing in May
 - Almost sold out; 6 tickets left.
 - Some electric carts will be available
 - Faith looking to possibly renting more carts
 - Friday Night Banquet menu – Commandment Victoria Corey was checking with hotel for Sample menu. \$60.00 per person, \$75.00 at the door. (see attached catering menu)
 - Dinner Table 2 is the choice
 - Might need to drop salmon in order to make price point.
 - \$8000.00 for Breakfast needed.
 - Eggs/meat/potatoes-simple
 - Jim Casella looking for “local” sponsors.

Quarterly Lunches

Fall 2025:	Hot dogs, beef BBQ, sides	MCLPA	DONE
Winter 2026:	4th Annual Chili Cook-Off	MCL Dept / MCLA	DONE
Spring 2026:	Hastings Ladies Auxiliary Sides	Keystone Unit	

Hospitality Room

Fall 2025:	Pink Party	Jim Diamond, Karen Mastriana, Tammy Rivera	DONE
Winter 2026:		Keystone Headquarters	DONE
Spring 2026:	MCLA	Dept of PA	



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Lunch Committee Raffle

- Fall 2025:** Roadside Emergency Kit
- Winter 2026:** 50/50
- Spring 2026:** open for suggestions - Electronics bundle

**Ideas are always welcomed. Keep in mind the items should be small enough for the member to carry back home, but large enough to encourage ticket sales. This cannot take precedence over the MLCA 50/50 raffle and should always be encouraged as an addition to all other raffles.

Karen Mastriana is checking on a bench from Tractor Supply for the Convention.

2026 Convention — Contract Signed

Kalahari Resort

Dates: June 17–21, 2026 –second shortened convention. Can book room 2 days prior and 2 days after.

Occupancy: All rooms can receive up to 4 waterpark passes. If you are on the “master” list – you cannot bill to the room.

Room Rates

Rate	Room Type
\$199.00	Single (up to 4 occupancy); 5+ add \$50.00 per person
\$299.00	Two Bedroom Suite
\$599.00	Three Bedroom Family Suite
\$799.00	Three Bedroom Penthouse Suite
\$1250.00	Five Bedroom Suite

Room rate plus tax, the resort fee of \$44.99 per room

Date you can begin to call for reservations-

Guest room rate valid until **May 18, 2026** (cutoff date) or until block is filled.

Hospitality Suite: We struggle each year to get a host for hospitality suite. Although we prefer it to be someone in the district, any Detachment is welcome to step up to the plate. Planning this type of hospitality hosting takes time but can benefit your detachment monetarily if done properly. Reminder, this is a shortened convention, and we should need it to be hosted only 2 nights. One short night and one longer. No outside food.



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Convention Lunches: No outside food in common areas, function rooms, or other public areas.

Theme Party: Each year a new theme is selected where we can relax, let our hair down and enjoy the camaraderie we all come to the convention for. This year's theme is **SAFARI**

There are several restaurants in the hotel's main lobby.

Mobility scooters will be available

Door key is a bracelet

Everything is cashless, using a credit/debit card is fine or you can put money on a card through a machine.

Kiosk in pool area to put your things in

Registration will take place at Registration 3 in the convention Lobby – MCL, Pack and Auxiliary will take place here in the booth.

We have Kilimanjaro suites 1,3,4,5,and 6. All suites open to the large meeting room and the corridor.

Suite 1 - League

Suite 3 – Auxiliary

Suite 4 – Ship's Store

Suite 5 – Pre-board meetings and hospitality room

Suite 6 – MODD

Kiosk is where you register for your room

Banquet will be in the Zambezi and Nile room – next hallway up from meeting room

We will have a person from Kalahari to help at the kiosk for 1 hour

We will have an all day beverage station in the hospitality room – water and coffee.

Registered person or persons per room – name must match what is on their license.

Phones in hall – can pick up and push help line and someone will be there

Anyone on master bill does not register through hotel directly – contact Commandant McCoy



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League, Pack, and Auxiliary guests get 2 free nights

Bring your own snacks and beverages for your room. Cannot be in common area or conference rooms. **If you eat or drink anything off the tray in your room you will be charged the price that is posted. (ex. \$7 for water, \$8 for raisins).

Each room has microwave and refridge

Karen and Mike are in room 2247.

Elevators do not have a "2" – look for *L

Lobby has following restaurants: Italian, steak, Mexican, and pastries

Quarterly Meetings

Location: Best Western Hotel near Holiday Inn Grantville/Hershey. We have secured discounted rooms and a larger hospitality suite

- Room Rate: \$92.00 + taxes/fees
- Complimentary hot breakfast
- Indoor pool
- 24-hour coffee station
- Rooms include microwave, mini refrigerator, pull-out loveseat and coffee makers

If any issues, contact Karen

Meeting Dates for next year - waiting on tentative contract from Zayne

- October 16-17, 2026
- January 15-16, 2027
- March 19-20, 2027

2027 Convention

BIDS ARE NEEDED! If you feel we could host our Department Convention in your "back yard" please speak with Chairman Karen or Mike Mastriana. We have the criteria needed to host and what is required from the hotel. Karen Mastriana will check with Chris Giblin for 2027 location. Commandant would prefer either District 1 or 5.



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Discussion –

Commandant McCoy made a motion to have “82nd Convention” added to convention book
PAO Line – seconded the motion
Motion passes

Announcements

- Next Convention Committee Meeting: during Department Convention on June 18th @ 1400 (time subject to change – see updated agenda when available)
- Northeast Division Conference: **May 15–16, 2026**

Proceed to Close

Meeting Closed