



Marine Corps League Auxiliary, Inc. Department Of Pennsylvania

October 21, 2017 President Council 09:00 A.M.

A portion of the time was allotted to JVP Karen Mastriana to take care of the distribution of calendar books and sunshades to the members present. Once all calendars and sunshades were distributed SVP Kathy Hoffman spoke on membership and welcomed a first time attendee Janet DeSantis from General Smedley D. Butler unit, welcomed back Peg Curley and PDP Joan Devlin and introduced Karen Bressler visiting from Colorado.

October 21, 2017 Staff Meeting

President Teen Engel opened the meeting according to ritual at 9:30 AM. Chaplain PDP Syd Minchin opened the Bible and gave the opening prayer. Chaplain PDP Syd Minchin draped the Charter in respect for deceased members. Americanism Chair PDP Twila Gensel led the group in the salute to the flag.

Purpose of MCLA read by Sr. VP Kathy Hoffman

Eligibility of MCLA read by Jr. VP Karen Mastriana

Replacement of Chairs

Pat Gilbert for Captain of the Guard Breanna Witman

Distinguished Guests in Attendance

PNP Ruth Moyse

NE Division VP PDP Sydney Minchin

Assistant NE Division VP PDP Twila Gensel

National Judge Advocate PDP Linda Chamberlain

Karen Bressler National VAVS Chair. Karen is a member of the Windsor Marine Unit in Colorado

Introduction of Past Presidents in attendance:

PDP Joan Devlin, PNP/PDP Ruth Moyse, PDP Twila Gensel, PDP Tracey Killinger, PDP Pat Engel, PDP Sydney Minchin, PDP Linda Chamberlain, and PDP of Colorado Karen Bressler .

Roll Call of Officer's, Units and Chairpersons

Roll call was taken

Reading of the June, 2017 Convention Minutes

A motion was made by PDP Twila Gensel and seconded by PDP Pat Engel to dispense with the reading of the minutes as they have been published but to leave open for discussion, corrections or additions. There being no discussion, errors, corrections or omissions. **Motion Passed**

Reading of Bills by Secretary PDP Linda Chamberlain

- President Teena Engel \$25.00 gift card for Pat Owens
- PDP Secty/Treasurer Linda Chamberlain \$32.10 for postage to mail transmittals, call to meeting, minutes and printer paper.

The bills will be referred to the Auditors.



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Treasurer's Report – PDP Linda Chamberlain

The reported on the period June 22, 2017 through October 17, 2017 was read. President Teena Engel requested the Mary Cody Fund be notated as such on future reports. The treasurer's report was received into record and will be filed for audit.

FY2018 Approved Budget

The approved budget was placed to the table. The approved budget for FY 18 has a negative bottom line which is reflective of the loss of income from the card program. Discussion was held at the June 2017 Department Convention related to fund raisers to offset this deficit. The actual net ordinary income for FY17 was adjusted to include monies received at the convention.

Reading of Communications by Secretary PDP Linda Chamberlain

Notes were read from Debbie Kruger, National Memorial Fund Chair acknowledging and thanking us for our donation, PNP Barb Nobile and the members of the Operation Little Angel Committee thanking us for our donation, and National President Karen Aune for our monetary gift and for having her as our Convention guest.

Guest Speaker Deputy Adjutant General for Veteran Affairs; Maj. General (Retired) Eric Weller

Maj. Gen. Weller thanked us for our support to the Veterans Homes. The main mission at the Department for Military and Veterans Affairs is to create awareness in relation to benefits, educate people in what their benefits are and provide access to their benefits. They also try to get all of the organizations (i.e., MCL, VFW, American Legion) along with the state agencies that have something to do with veteran's affairs to work together and at the same time draw in the legislators to keep them aware of issues related to veteran's affairs. There are six Veterans Homes in Pennsylvania which amounts to about 1400 residents. They have just taken a significant cut probably a 10% in state funding. That's \$14 million dollars. Trying to figure out how they are going to survive the year makes every day a battle with the Governor's budget office and with the state legislature. They have had some success with the establishment of a 5 year plan for the budget office to follow and if they agree to it he feels they should be fine but in the meantime he has 1400 veterans that are depending on them to have a place to live. Most of the people who live in the homes cannot afford to live in homes in the private setting due to the cost. We have some folks cannot pay anything so we foot the entire bill, while some other folks can pay something and we cover the remainder. We don't go after estates like the private sector. We negotiate with families and we do not put a spouse out when their spouse passes. There are a total of six homes; 2 in the Philadelphia area, one in Scranton, Erie, Hollidaysburg and Pittsburgh. They are trying to expand the number of homes. Since there is no money to put up new homes they are looking at a partnership with some of the county home in an effort to expand their reach. They have been told that the number of people needing their help will only increase from the current 1400 to increase to 2500 within the next 10 years. We were invited to look at the calendar on the web site (HYPERLINK "[HTTP://WWW.DMVA.PA.gov](http://www.dmva.pa.gov)") and go to Veteran's Affairs for opportunities we can participate in. Also donations can be made to the Veteran's Trust Fund through your renewal of your driver's license and car registration. He invited us to visit any one of the six veterans home at any time.



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The meeting broke to allow members to attend the Joint Presentation of the new website.

Chaplains Report – PDP Sydney Minchin – We had one death since our June Convention. They have started something new on the Department's web site they are going to post the names of the deceased in memory of them. They are including the Auxiliary. Get well and thinking of you cards have been sent and only a few sympathy cards. A thank you was received from Pauline Roberts who is still asking for prayers for members of her family, Freda Fasnacht of Lancaster County recently lost her husband. PDP Minchin requested we call or text her at 717-805-9894 with card needs.

Sick/Distressed/Deployed

Sue Cummings, Landis-McCleaf Associate Member is in need of prayers for her entire family. Joan Devlin thanked everyone for their outpouring of love and friendship, Pat Gilbert asked a card be sent to her friend who is suffering from kidney cancer. Karen Bressler remarked how much she appreciated all of the cards, emails and phone calls from her auxiliary sisters prior to and following her back surgery.

Department Commandant

Commandant Natali reported on the card program. At National he went to the Board meeting and wouldn't leave until he got some time in front of the Board. The good news is there is a resolution but it hasn't actually occurred yet, he agreed to a one time settlement of \$10,000. The Auxiliary will receive \$2,000.00 once the check is received.

Officer's Reports (written or oral)

The following Officer's Reports were presented: President Teena Engel, SVP Kathy Hoffman, JVP Karen Mastriana, and Judge Advocate PDP Tracey Killinger

District Vice President Reports (written or oral)

The following District VP Reports were presented
PDP Pat Engel Central District VP – No report
Southeast District – No report

A motion was made by PNP Ruth Moyses to receive into record all reports that have been given and will be given. Seconded by PDP Tracey Killinger. Motion carried.

Unit Reports (written or oral)

All Division (Linda Chamberlain)
Keystone Headquarters (PNP Ruth Moyses)
Landis-McCleaf (Kathy Hoffman)

The Bible was closed for lunch and reconvened at 1:05 PM according to ritual.

Continuation of Unit Reports (written or oral)



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Susquehanna Valley (Twila Gensel)
General Smedley D. Butler (Evelyn Brimble)
Lancaster County (Karen Mastriania)

National Northeast Division Vice – PDP Sydney Minchin

Prior to PDP Minchin giving her report Past Northeast Division Vice PDP President Linda Chamberlain distributed the volunteer hours certificates she received at the National Convention to the department and units in attendance.

Northeast Division Vice PDP Minchin spoke on the following topics:

- Phone number correction for Asst. Northeast Division Vice PDP Twila Gensel read
- The new Chief Operating Officer for the Marine Corps League is Robert Borka
- EIN Numbers most people have, the next step is getting their Incorporation number which is more difficult
- 990N filings. Remember when you go in you are going in under the Marine Corps League
- New York has lost a few units because they do not want to get an EIN number or become incorporated.
- New York & New Jersey have the most units who are not incorporated
- If you receive a call on your cell phone from a 512 area code without a name it is scammers.
- Email if you click on the address it is from and if you do not recognize the address delete it
- Any honorably discharged veteran will be eligible to purchase off the internet from any exchange. You need to go to Vet Verify to register first. This is strictly for online purchases.
- No exact dates for the Division Meeting at this time the meeting will be at the Holiday Inn in Downtown Binghamton, NY

Asst DVP PDP Twila Gensel spoke on an email she received asking a question but there was no information in the subject line identifying the person or unit. All were reminded to put an identifier in the subject line so we know who is sending the email.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship Liaison – JVP Karen Mastriania

No auxiliary members were scholarships sponsors this past year. 40 scholarships were given out this year. The Foundation has tasked the committee with making the application simpler; the committee agreed the current application did not require any changes. They clarified the instructions a little more and at the top of the application put in “every line must be filled out”. The applicants who applied and did not receive scholarships were all because of omitted information from the detachments. The suggestion was made that every detachment put someone in charge to be sure every line is completed and all initials are filled in.



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Scholarship Donation Chair – PNP Moyse reported donations to the scholarship fund for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 totaled \$1785. Donations received thus far for the 2017-2018 fiscal year total \$130.00.

Membership – SVP Kathy Hoffman

Transmittals have not been received from 6 units.

Total Members to date	299
Regular Members	101
New Regular Members	1
Life Members	122
New Life Members	0
Associate Regular	65
New Associate	2
Associate Life	6
New Associate Life	2

Last year our total strength count given at the convention was 502. Let's try to make it at least 503 by January.

Treasurer PDP Chamberlain mentioned the application sent to her with transmittals from National Secretary Karen Grady for a Hope Lynnn LaRusso. Hope's husband is a member of the Westmoreland County Marines Detachment #1416. Karen sent the application with a note saying she put her in as a member at large and that maybe I could hook her up with a unit in Pennsylvania. I spoke with Hope on the phone and advised her that we did not have an auxiliary unit in western Pennsylvania but that I would be happy to place her in a unit here in Eastern Pennsylvania. Hope did state she is not too far from Wheeling West VA. I told her I would bring this up at our meeting today. PDP Chamberlain is to call Hope and see how active she wants to be, tell her we will be place her in an existing unit rather than keep her as member at large and ask her to see if she can maybe start her own unit.

Ways and Means – JVP Karen Mastriania

Currently we have 90 challenge coins left at a cost of \$8.00 each. Since the convention 32 coins have been sold the \$256 will be turned over to the treasurer at this meeting. We ordered 100 pocket and 50 desk 2018 calendars, six (6) desk and six (6) pocket calendars were pre-sold and seventeen (17) desk and thirty-two (32) pocket calendars were ordered by the units. Currently we have only five (5) desk calendars left but there are several pocket calendars left to sell at a cost of \$5.00 each. A total of \$305 will be turned over to the treasurer at this meeting. We ordered 100 auto shades, twenty-two (22) were pre-sold and thirteen (13) were ordered by the units for a total of \$540 which will be turned over to the treasurer today. There are 65 shades which remain unsold at a cost of \$15 each. The total for today's 50/50 was \$196.00 the winner was Dave White who donated his winnings to the Foundation. Karen asked for ideas for the 2018 Fundraiser.

Chapel of 4 Chaplains – PDP Tracey Killinger

PDP Killinger spoke on the six (6) different award categories under the chapel.

A copy with an application will be attached to the minutes.



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Girl Scouts – PCP Sydney Minchin

A member from the Lancaster County Unit contacted Syd regarding being the Girl Scout chair for their Unit. The Boy Scouts are now accepting girls. Girls and boys in Cub Scouts will be kept separate.

Convention Committee Report – President Teena Engel

President Engel reported:

- The January 2018 Members Meeting will be held on January 19 & 20 at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey. The uniform for officers on Saturday will be our dress uniform for all others it will be MCLA or business casual attire. The cost is \$92/night and the deadline for reservations is December 8, 2017. Saturday night will be the Foundation Fundraiser banquet and auction, ticket cost is \$47. The Foundation is looking for auction items. The banquet and auction form is on the table and will be available on the web site as an interactive form
- For the June Convention do we want single pictures or a group picture for our officers? We decided on the group picture. Our convention guest will PNP Barb Nobile. The ad form is being revised. Ads will be due May 15th. The menu for the convention and the price will be voted on at the January Convention Committee Meeting.
- The National Mid-Winter Meeting will be March 1-3, 2018 at the Hospitality House in Fredericksburg, VA.
- The March Members Meeting will be at Fort Indiantown Gap March 16-17, 2018, hotel will be the Days Inn. .

MCL Liaison Report

President Engel read the following report from the league's liaison. The MCL of PA and Auxiliary need to work together to come up with some fundraising ideas. By working together both units will benefit from the effort. Let's start thinking of some ways to have some successful fundraisers. Remember ways you can help assist the League are: 2018 Veterans and Youth raffle, 2018 Department Calendars, and Membership remember when you recruit a new auxiliary member recruit the marine for the league and they will do the same for us.

Auditors Report – Peg Curley

Auditor Peg Curley stated all is in order. The bills were approved for payment.

Unfinished Business

President Engel showed those present the certificate for Pat Owens our Former Financial Advisor from Morgan Stanley who has recently retired. Two cards were passed around for signature for Pat Owen one for his retirement and the other a thank you card. A thank you card was also passed around for Lynette Chambers for all of her help with the Soldiers & Sailors Home Veterans Christmas Gifts. President Engel also showed everyone the Certificate of Appreciation she did for Lynette. President Engel will arrange to have them both mailed.



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Empty Chairs: The Scholarship Liaison Position last year was held by Breanna Witman, we are now going to be replacing her with Debbie Stevens a member of the Lancaster County Unit who has volunteered to take her place. Our two scholarship liaisons will now be Karen Mastriana and Debbie Stevens.

Wall of Faces: Still continues down to 61 names that do not have pictures.

New Business:

Summary of changes from the National Convention:

- Linda Chamberlain is now our new National Judge Advocate.
- Bylaw and Administrative Changes
 - National Board of Trustees section was changed to reflect the change in the month for the mid-winter meeting
 - The section on Incorporation was clarified enforcing the requirement for all units and departments to be incorporated.
 - Review and revision of bylaws can now be done every year.

NEDVP PDP Syd Minchin mentioned there is talk about changing the location of the mid-winter meeting to various locations other than Fredericksburg VA.

Soldiers & Sailors Home Wish List. The Christmas wish list was reviewed. This year there are only ten (10) names on the list. Nine (9) of which are from last year and one (1) new name was added. Gifts should be sent to Lynnette Chambers, 3204 East Avenue, Erie, PA 16504, Phone # 814-454-7009. All gifts are due to Lynnette by December 1st. Calling Lynnette when you are mailing your gift is helpful so she can be looking for them. The list is attached to the end of these minutes. A letter from Lynnette was read.

PNP Moyse would like to ask Lisa Solarczyk to check with the Gino J. Merli Veterans Home to see if we could do the same thing there. We would not necessarily need to do Christmas. We could be spring or just send cards.

Web Site Enhancement: The web site is being revamped, it will now include a calendar and they would like pictures of our activities. Madam President & Linda Chamberlain will be meeting with PCDD/PDD Leanna Dietrich following today's meeting to learn how to add information to the web page. SVP Kathy Hoffman suggested a member of the auxiliary who is tech savvy be the Auxiliary web sergeant rather than an officer. To be legally safe prior to taking a picture be sure those being photographed are ok with their photo possibly being published on our department web site. Madam President asked if there were any officers who did not want their address, phone number or email address published on the web site to let her know so she can have the information removed. The web site address is [HYPERLINK "http://www.pamcleague.org"](http://www.pamcleague.org).

Veterans Day Ceremony at Fort Indiantown Gap National Cemetery will be on Sunday, November 5, 2017 at 2:00 PM.



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Tree of Lights ceremony will be held on December 5, 2017 beginning at 11:00 at National Headquarters, 3619 Jefferson Davis Highway, Stafford, VA. The Auxiliary will once again purchase a light for \$100.00 in memory of the deceased members of the Department of PA. Cut off is December 1st. The money goes to the Youth Foundation.

PNP Moyses spoke on the Resident Wish List from Gino J. Merli Veterans Home. All of these items are things we could do for Christmas if we can get the names of the Marines. PNP Moyses would like to see us do this at our March Meeting in lieu of the goodie bags. A motion was made by Pat Gilbert to try this for 1 year and do bags in March using the list from Gino Merli, seconded by PNP Ruth Moyses. Discussion: SVP Kathy Hoffman asked as we just addressed asking Lisa Solarczyk to see if she can be the "Lynnette at the Gino J. Merli Veterans Home". Is it your intention that this wish list is going to rotate to whoever we can send the items to? Yes this is the intention. This is the first hospital that has actually sent a wish list notifying us of what they can use. PNP Moyses would like to reach out to the other five homes for a list. Discussion completed. **Motion Passed.**

Good of the Order

President Engel gave an update on the charters of J H Pendleton and Greater Greensburg Units. Both units have turned over their charters to us. The reason J H Pendleton turned in their charter was they did not want to do what was necessary to remain a viable unit by getting their EIN number and becoming incorporated. The said all of their members were going to roll over into associate members of the league. We are not certain if all members agreed to this. NEDVP PDP Sydney Minchin will be sending a letter with a transfer form and return address envelope so they can respond directly to her of their intent. The life members need to either transfer to another unit or become a member-at-large. PNP Moyses mentioned to include in the letter that if we do not hear back from them they will automatically transferred to another unit.

Just a reminder the new address for National Headquarters is: 3619 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 115, Stafford, VA 22554

Announcements:

2018 Winter Department Membership Meeting: January 19-20, 2018. Holiday Inn, Harrisburg/Hershey. Deadline December 8, 2017. 888-465-4329 or 717-469-0661 or online using code MCL. Room Rate is \$90/night.

National Mid-Winter Conference: March 1-3, 2018. Fredericksburg Hospitality House, Fredericksburg, VA. 540-786-8321 or HYPERLINK "<http://www.mcnational.org>". Room rate \$89+tax.

2018 Spring Department Membership Meeting: March 16-17, 2018. Meeting at Headquarters Building, Sleeping arrangements: Days Inn, Lickdale. Deadline: February 16, 2018. 717-865-4064. Room Rate is \$55.00 double, \$60.00 king.



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National Northeast Division Conference: date being verified. Holiday Inn Downtown Binghamton, NY. Deadline March 1, 2018. 607-722-1212. HYPERLINK "http://www.northeastdivmcleague.org".

The Bible was closed and the meeting ended at 1525 to reconvene with the Presidents council at 0900 on January 20, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda S. Chamberlain
PDP Linda S. Chamberlain
Secretary, MCLA of PA Inc.



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SOLDIER & SAILORS HOME 2017 CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

John McCray –Wal-Mart Gift Card	Department
Paul Warner – Baseball Cap with Marine Corps Emblem	Lancaster County
Phyllis Prowaznic – Lt. Colored Tee Shirts (2X)	All Divisions
Dorothy Martone – Millcreek Mall Gift Card	Keystone Hqtrs
James Brown – Pullover Sweater or Sweatshirt (3X)	Susquehanna Valley
Alfonso Ferrante – Cardigan Sweater (XL)	Smedley Butler
Larry Juchno - Cargo Pants (38x30)	Landis-McCleaf
Dwain Fugate – Longhorn Steak House Gift Card	P. W. Milano
Edward Watson – Marine Shirt (3x)	Landis-McCleaf
Michael Clark – Hoodie (XL)	Pat Gilbert