



Marine Corps League Auxiliary, Inc.

JULY 2009 NEWSLETTER

To: All Members of the Auxiliary
From: Caroline Ruhmshottel, National President

Celebrate our independence and freedoms! Thanks to all of you who have served and sacrificed to preserve our country and our freedoms. We honor and salute you. We are living in a time when it is clearly evident to all that freedom is not free.

As all of you serve Marines, veterans, and your community your national staff is serving you. May and June have been quite busy keeping all the national business of the MCLA moving forward. We appreciate your patience as we work through the needed tasks without a national secretary. We are grateful to so many who have offered assistance.

- To send mail, continue to send it to our national headquarters office at this address: National Marine Corps League Auxiliary, 8626 Lee Highway, Suite 207, Fairfax, VA 22031.
- To order merchandise from our Ship's Store fill out our on line merchandise order form [http://www.nationalmcla.org/Forms/Order%20Form%20202.06%20\(1\).pdf](http://www.nationalmcla.org/Forms/Order%20Form%20202.06%20(1).pdf) and fax it to our fax at national headquarters 1-703-207-0264. Alisha Dickason is coming in to fill orders.
- To ask a question you may leave a message at this number 615-646-8749 or email aliceB1322@comcast.net. Please leave your name, spelling, phone, email, and message and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

Thank you for your patience and continued dedicated service.

Many of you will be attending the National Convention in Rochester, MN. We are so looking forward to seeing you. You will have opportunities to attend informative workshops, shop in our Ship's Store, attend a great Flea Scratch with Madam Big Flea Alice Blackford at the helm on Wednesday, see the Operation Little Angel Committee presentation of all of your donations to the Brodie House in Rochester on Thursday, hear the announcements of the recruiter awards for all of you who have recruited five or more members, reports of committees, the many hours, miles, and donations that you have reported, and participate in the important issues to be addressed in the business meetings. You can stock up on you unit and department needs at the Ship's Store as well as gifts and personal items. Let the Ship's Store Committee know what you like and what you would like us to add to the inventory.

Thank you to all of you who have already generously responded to our spring fundraiser to help us with our operating expenses at national headquarters. There is still time to send donations.

Our national newsletter is the best way for us to keep you informed on national news. Please email it to as many members as you can, and print it and pass it around to those who do not use email.

Semper Fidelis,

Caroline S. Ruhmshottel

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National Web site: <http://www.nationalmcla.org/>



Marine Corps League Auxiliary, Inc.

2009 National Assembly Rules

1. All Business Sessions of the Assembly shall be called to order promptly at the appointed time and shall observe the Ritual of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary.
 - a. All electronic recording/communications devices must be silenced during Business Sessions.
 - b. No smoking or alcoholic beverages shall be permitted during Business Sessions.
 - c. Proper attire shall be worn at all Business Sessions. No bathing suits or shorts, skirts, or culottes shorter than three (3) inches above the knee will be permitted. No offensive words or phrases on any garment will be permitted.
 - d. No animal other than a properly identified service animal shall be present in the Assembly Room during Business Sessions.
 - e. No person under the age of sixteen (16) shall be present in the Assembly Room during Business Sessions except by special permission of the Chair.
2. The number of Delegates and Alternates to the National Assembly shall be determined on the basis of a Unit's membership on record at National Headquarters (and confirmed by the appropriate National Division Vice President) as of June 30 immediately preceding the National Convention.
 - a. For the first fifteen (15) Regular Members, a Unit shall be entitled to one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate; for each additional full block of fifteen (15) Regular Members or fraction thereof, a Unit shall be entitled to one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate. The Unit's total delegate vote shall not exceed the number of Regular members.
 - b. Only Regular Members in good standing are eligible for election as a Delegate or Alternate.
 - c. Each Unit shall be represented by at least one properly registered, prepaid by July 1, and qualified Delegate in order to vote as a Unit.
 - d. Any paid Regular Member who is properly registered and in good standing is entitled to, and may not be deprived of, her individual vote.
3. Delegates must wear the Delegate's Badge at all Assembly Business Sessions. Alternates or Delegates substituting for absent Delegates must wear the absent Delegate's badge at all Business Sessions when acting in the Delegate's place.
4. All properly registered and approved Delegates, Alternates, Members, and Guests shall sign the attendance register at the first Business Session and thereafter check in with the National Outer Guard at the beginning of each subsequent session.
5. Delegates, Alternates, Members, and Guests must remain seated, and no one shall be permitted to leave the Assembly Room while reports are being read, while a speaker has the floor, or during the Election of Officers.
6. Voting shall be by voice acclamation unless otherwise ordered by a vote of the Assembly.
 - a. Upon such order, all properly registered and approved Delegates wearing Delegates Badge(s) will move to sit on the right side of the Assembly Room (the Chair's right). All properly registered and approved Alternates and Members will sit on the left side of the Assembly Room (the Chair's left).
 - b. The Chair shall call a five (5) minute recess if requested to allow Units to caucus on the question in case of a roll call vote.

7. All properly registered and approved Delegates, Alternates, and Members shall be permitted to make or second motions. All registered and approved Delegates, Alternates, Members, National Officers, Past National Presidents, and all current Department Presidents shall have the right to speak in a discussion or debate. Others aspiring to speak will request permission from the Chair prior to speaking.
8. Anyone wishing the privilege of the floor shall
 - a. Rise and go to the microphone
 - b. Address the Chair – “Madam President”
 - c. Wait for recognition
 - d. Announce her name and Unit
 - e. Speak on one subject.
9. Anyone wanting to put a Motion on the floor must
 - a. Rise and go to the microphone
 - b. Address the Chair – “Madam President”
 - c. Wait for recognition
 - d. Announce her name and Unit
 - e. State the motion concisely, covering one subject
 - f. Seconding a Motion: Rise, wait for recognition, announce name and Unit, state Second
 - g. Discussing a Motion: Announce name and Unit, state facts objectively and unemotionally.
10. Debate on any action or subject shall be limited to **two** minutes per speaker. No person shall speak on the same subject more than twice other than to make an explanation, except by majority vote of the Assembly.
11. Officers shall be referred to by their titles.
12. Anyone properly holding the privilege of the floor can be interrupted only for the purpose of raising a Point of Order.
13. Speakers shall confine their remarks to the question before the Assembly and shall refrain from unbecoming language, shouting or other disrespectful behavior of any kind toward other Members.
14. Any member failing to comply with these National Assembly Rules will be directed by the Captain of the Guard through the Chair to apologize to the Assembly for her discourtesy. If a member fails to comply with these rules **three** times during **one** Business Session, the Chair may request that the Captain of the Guard escort the Member from the Assembly Room.
15. Each motion should be phrased in the most clear and concise language possible. The motion should be legibly written and delivered to the Chair so she can restate the motion correctly for the vote and it can be properly recorded in the minutes.
16. Submissions of Amendments and Resolutions shall conform to the requirements of the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures and will be referred to their respective Committees to confirm that they are in order prior to coming to the Assembly for consideration.

National Veterans Affairs Voluntary Services (VAVS) Conference Report

The 63rd annual Voluntary Service National Advisory Committee meeting was called to order May 20, 2009 in Houston, Texas. The Wednesday morning session consisted of the training session for hospital representatives and deputies of the service organizations in the VA Medical Centers.

The number of volunteers is going down each year and the National Representatives and Deputies were asked to make concerned efforts to recruit volunteers in their VA Medical Centers. Places to recruit volunteers are volunteer centers, unions and trade organizations, veterans groups, churches/religious groups, college sororities/fraternities, youth groups and retired military/local military groups. Copies of VA brochures are available upon request. Job descriptions of volunteer opportunities are available at the Voluntary Service office of you local VA Medical Center. The current motto for recruitment of volunteers is "The Power Is In The Ask".

Volunteer hours for 2008 fiscal year were 11,479,008 from 126,991 volunteers. 2008 Voluntary Service Contribution at \$19.51 per volunteer hour was \$223,955,449 with donations at \$82,219,197 for a total of \$306,174,646 in time, talent, and donations. These VAVS hours and donations are reported to the US Congress each year.

Fiscal year 2008 priorities for VA Voluntary Service Office were to develop a tracking mechanism for volunteer training requirements; support Welcome Home Celebrations for the Iraqi service members, veterans, and their families; develop materials for patient feeding volunteer program; recruitment and retention of volunteers.

Other goals are to develop volunteer training materials for adaptive activities. Expand community based events for Veterans and their families, develop training materials for National Cemetery volunteers, and coordinate training materials to post on the Web.

The 2010 Salute to Veterans now includes all veterans and is not restricted to hospitalized veterans. Valentine Day concerts will be held in Baltimore, Battle Creek, Charleston, Chicago (Jesse Brown & Hines), Cleveland, Fayetteville, AR, Kansas City, MO, Memphis, Prescott and St. Louis. These concerts are free of charge.

The Veterans History Project is still ongoing. Form a committee and record your veterans' stories. The Library of Congress will furnish you with the necessary kit to get your started on the project.

With our country using the internet for so many valuable things, the VA is also opening up to the internet for volunteer assignments that can be done in your home. Some are VAMC volunteer newsletters, appointments to be kept, helping with fund raising projects by contacting donors. This will be a good way for people with disabilities to volunteer, and those who do not have transportation.

The \$20,000 James H. Parke Memorial Scholarship was awarded to a youth volunteer Paige M. Swartz from the Cleveland, Ohio VAMC. Paige has volunteered in the pharmacy department since 2008. Her intent is to study pharmacy with a goal of becoming a licensed Pharmacist. A collection of donations from the various service organizations was presented at the luncheon with a total of \$21,000 contributed.

Thank you, President Caroline and National VAVS Representative Margaret, for asking me to represent the MCLA at this conference. It was a very busy and productive session and we learned much more than I have included in this report.

Rosemary Bressler, National VAVS Deputy Representative

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AUXILIARY, INC.

TO: All members of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary
FROM: Rosemary Foster, National Northwest Division Vice President
SUBJECT: Northwest Division Report

In the Northwest Division we have 7 Units in Washington State that are active. In Idaho we have 2 Units, and one of them is struggling to stay active. In Montana, we have we have 2 Units that are active. All together the Northwest has 11 Units, no Units in Oregon or Alaska. The Northwest Division has 180 members including 74 life members.

WASHINGTON STATE:

In Washington State we have Columbia River Unit, where our Natl. President, Caroline Ruhmshottel is a member. The Unit has supported their CPS and YWCA Safe Choice, with donations through OLA. They have been present at numerous Memorials, Veterans Day Massing of the Colors at the VA Chapel, and Parades. They have Unit members who volunteer in helping for the Young Marines. They make neck coolers and send them to Unit 1/5 after they have been deployed to Afghanistan. They have taken Pledges over the phone at several Oregon Public Broadcasting Pledge Drives.

Mt. St. Helens Unit is very much involved with OLA Program, they help in the "Rose Program", and with their share of the proceeds, they give to the Veterans Hospital for BINGO, they also assist the Veterans with playing the game of BINGO.

Lewis County Unit is active with Garage Sales at their local Fairgrounds for their source of revenue. They are also very active in sending packages to Iraq.

Skagit Valley Unit has been mailing boxes to the troops overseas and greeting cards to ST. JUDE'S CHILDRENS HOSPITAL in Tennessee. They have assisted with TOYS 4 TOTS DRIVE.

Melvin M. Smith Unit helps with BINGO AT Nursing Home at VAMC, hosts a barbeque for patients, and also stuffs stockings for patients and families for Christmas. They are active in TOYS 4 TOTS. They have an annual spaghetti feed to raise money for T4T. They have an annual dinner and White Elephant auction to support families in need. They are active in OLA, to support "Sally's House."

MONTANA:

Donald J. Ruhl Unit has been very active. They have delivered baskets to families in need, during the holidays. They started ALIVE@ 5, a fundraising program, in which they do Indian Tacos & Fry bread, and it has done very well over the last couple of years. They have assisted in TOYS 4 TOTS. They also plan on using Pres. Ruhmshottel's candy wrapper idea for recruitment at ALIVE @ 5.

Semper Fidelis ---- Rosemary Foster NWDVP

FINAL ROLL CALL JULY 2009

NAOMI MURSCH * 4/19/2009

Herkimer County Unit, NY

No family as she lived in Nursing home and was 95 at time of death.

ANITA MARQUIS * 5/24/2009

Gulf Coast Unit, Florida

Condolences to: Maurice Marquis

2044 Sunhome St. Sarasota, Florida 34231

MARY E. DI BONAVENTURO * 6/02/2009

GEN Smedley D. Butler Unit, PA.

Condolences to: THE Di Bonaventuro Family

1116 Isabel Lane, West Chester, PA 19380

MARY RICHTER * 6/12/2009

James Earl Kennedy Unit, NJ

Condolences to: Marine Robert E. Richter

299 Tenby Chase Drive, Delmar, NJ 08075

FRANCINE PLAISANCE * 6/13/2009

James Earl Kennedy Unit, NJ

PNP NITA OVERTON * 6/14/2009

NATIONAL PRESIDENT 1982

Condolences to daughter & family

5138 Cordoy Lane, San Jose, CA. 95124-5603

MAY TODAY'S SORROW GIVE WAY TO THE COMFORT THAT COMES FROM KNOWING THAT OUR LOVED ONES ARE NOW IN A PLACE OF PEACE AND REST.

PRAYERS AND LOVE ARE SENT TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES:

PNP & PNC Marilyn & Lew Loeven were preparing to celebrate with their 50th wedding anniversary with family when an errant driver interrupted plans. They were hit by a home improvement truck which did nothing to improve the look of their car. Needless to say they have a new car and are hoping each of them does not need new shoulders. Therapy should do the trick.

All Divisions Unit PA, member Mary Lloyd Bailey fell and broke her arm. She is also the unit chaplain. She could use your cards. 2713 Dudley Court, Bensalme, Pa. 19020

Barbara Bergeron, Jr. Past President of Houma -Terrebone Unit, LA lost her husband. Cards of condolence may be sent to her at: 9196 Park Ave. Houma, LA. 70363

Lois Box, past big flea, Elaine Scheiffer of Ct., stroke-like symptoms, Marie Williams with her eye surgery.

Dept of Texas Capt of the Guard/Alamo Unit President Shirley Otto, who has been battling cancer, was re-admitted to hospital. Her address is: 5903 Fishers Bend, San Antonio, TX 78242-2908.

Belinda Rischner, Southern Division VP is coming along well with her cancer treatments.

Spring Hill Florida Member, Theresa Drew had eye surgery, her address is 7582 Marioh Ave. Brookville, Fl. 34613.

Janet Voltaggio, Newly elected Dept of Florida President, lost her sister, Susan. Cards may be sent to Janet as: 1049 Florian Way, Spring Hill, FL 34609. Her sister had been ill for some time; Janet had been able to visit with her prior to her death.

Mary Ann Wachsmuth, Skagit Valley, WA member, is battling cancer of the pelvic area and lung cancer. Her liver cancer has become very aggressive. Urgent prayers are needed for her and her new husband.

We have members who have fallen and have broken toes and other body parts. Our dear Karen Bressler has gone through her surgery for her elbow, but needed extra care and was admitted to a rehab facility for better care. Perhaps by the time you read this she will be home at: 6500 S. Dayton. Apt F-107
Centennial, CO 80111-6154.

Dept of NJ President, Carrie MacIntosh lost her sister in law due to an asthma attack and at the time of the writing of this newsletter, her brother was still in a hospital due to a stroke he suffered following this. Cards may be sent to Carrie at: 451 Fort Mott Road, Pennsville, NJ 08070

Nita Overton, PNP passed away on June 14th. She had been the first PNP from the Dept of VA. She lived in VA most her life, spending the last years in CA with her daughter. She was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Please add all these dear friends and all those known only to God to your daily prayers. Bless all the new Officers of All Depts as they take on new offices. May they have the utmost cooperation of those they have chosen to serve.

At this time of change at our National Office, Please pray for Madame President and her board as they deal with issues affecting our beloved Auxiliary.

I will be starting work on the final roll call for National convention soon. The League Chaplain and I have set a date of July 15th for our final toll. If you want names included get your paperwork to me in a timely fashion.

Respectfully Submitted,
PNP Barbara J. Nobile
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