



## Marine Corps League Auxiliary, Inc.

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### APRIL 2009 NEWSLETTER

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

**Beautiful Spring** is finally here! May the beauty of budding flowers and trees be an encouragement to all, that life blossoms with new hope and regeneration.

Like spring and sunshine, your service and smiles also give encouragement. You may never know how much you touch a needy heart. Watch the inspirational story of women's service in North Platte, Nebraska during WWII when 6 million of the "Greatest Generation" passed through North Platte on their way to duty stations. They got a hug and a handshake, homemade cakes and cookies, and most of all a moment of caring that they treasured forever. Watch this wonderful story on <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07DGeLvDw8I> May your special touch reach further as we carry on the mission of serving active duty and veteran servicemen and women.

Be personally encouraged to keep up your good work as you attend the many unit, department, and division meetings this spring. Your efforts are encouraging to all those who attend. The work accomplished at the National Midwinter Staff Conference is recorded in the attached minutes. It is important for you to read and discuss them within your unit, as there are some issues that will be voted on on the floor of the convention. In preparation for our National Convention July 31 - August 8 in Rochester, MN, notice the enclosed National Credential/Delegate form, the Banner Form, and the call for nominations for Flea of the Year 2009. Unit treasurers be sure to send in your unit delegate form. The plan for the Operation Little Angel (OLA) project in Rochester, MN is in the March newsletter and is also posted on our Web site on the OLA page. Next month's newsletter will include more details on the convention and the addresses for the where to send the volunteer activities reports.

Also on our national Web site is a treasure that may be news to you. It is an answer to the question many ask, **"How can we let more people know about this supportive fulfilling organization?"** There is a page titled "Units Online". It is on the top menu to the far right. Every department in the nation is listed. This is a recruiting resource as well as an inspirational resource for programs and projects. Congratulations to those of you who are developing Web sites and using this venue to attract those looking for fulfilling ways to serve mankind and to Meg Krebs our National MCLA Webmaster for providing this service for us. Send your MCLA unit or department name and Web site information to Meg Krebs: [mystickcreature@msn.com](mailto:mystickcreature@msn.com)

Semper Fidelis,

*Caroline S. Ruhmshottel*

E-mail: [cruhshottel@comcast.net](mailto:cruhshottel@comcast.net)

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



To: All Members of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary

From: Rogene Hackbarth, National Central Division Vice President

In Central Division we are continuing to grow. I have (5) new starter kits out in the following departments. Ohio, Michigan, and in Illinois. There are some units that are struggling low attendance and attrition. We have been attending nursing homes at LaSalle Veterans Home, doing bingo parties, Christmas parties, cook outs and donating lap robes. Also doing scrap books for the Veterans.

Send boxes of personal items to the service men and women in Iraq and Afghanistan on a regular basis. Also we send coupons every month various organizations.

We participate in Memorial Parade, 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Veterans Day Parades. Also attend the Birthday Ball annually. This year we were in Wisconsin and were their Honored Guest and my husband was the Guest Speaker.

We attend POW/MIA vigils in our community, in all Installation of Officers that we are invited to all National Staff meetings and National Convention.

In 2008, I have attended all Department Conventions, all of the Department Staff meetings and some of the meetings twice. We attend the Quin Division and the Marine Expo West on a regular basis.

Our Dixon Area Unit distributes cookies to local schools in October, November, December, February, and April. Easter Baskets are given out to the schools to disabled children.

I have attended Marine and Auxiliary Members Wakes and Funeral when possible in my Division.

All of the Units in Central Division support the Toys for Tots program. In my Unit, I assist my husband with collecting Toys in our area for approximately (3) weeks every year.

Our unit also assist the Dixon Area Detachment with selling Poppies and the donations are given to the Veterans Nursing Homes.

Semper Fidelis,  
Rogene Hackbarth and Assistant Karen Aune

# Marine Corps League Auxiliary

## Programs of Pride

Mount Saint Helens Marine Corps League Auxiliary Unit in Washington State, a 9 member Unit proudly serving Marines, Veterans and our Community. Our members help in the following ways:

1. The last 2 years our Unit has helped our community with giving over \$2400.00 to our local Child Protective Services, this includes tangible items and monetary support, also many Angel Tags for Christmas and meals for many families. We also have supported a Life Skills program for a High School Class that is mentally challenged.
2. Gave \$150.00 to, "Give to the Troops."
3. Our Unit has helped support our Marines at our annual Birthday Party in November.
4. Our Unit helps with Bingo 3 times a year at the Veterans' Hospital in Vancouver, Washington.
5. Our Unit helps with the Red Rose Program, with our share of the proceeds, we return our share back to our Detachment for supporting Veterans for Bingo prize money.
6. Our Unit helps with Rest stops, 3 or 4 times a year. Our Detachment and Pound share proceeds with the Unit.
7. Every year our Detachment and our Unit take part in the Honor Guard, and Taps at our local Veterans' Memorial Cemetery. One of our ladies has the honor in performing the Taps on a ceremonial Trumpet.
8. Our Unit also participates in our local, 4th of July, and Highlander Parade



Left to Right - Sylvetta Zandi, Marcia Simmons, Linda Wilson, Judy Ridenour, and Rosemary Foster on Ceremonial Trumpet

## **FLEA OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS --2009**

**Fleas, it is time to make your nominations for the 2009 NATIONAL FLEA OF THE YEAR. There are many outstanding Fleas in our ranks. Please take the time to recognize your deserving members for the hard work they put into the organization as well as within their community.**

**Following are the guidelines for nominations:**

- 1. MUST be a Flea in good standing.**
- 2. MUST have done volunteer work in community.**
- 3. MUST have promoted Flea membership.**
- 4. MUST have promoted fun and frivolity with the Dogs.**
- 5. MUST have promoted harmony and goodwill within the Hide.**
- 6. MUST be a ready and willing volunteer.**
- 7. MUST not be self seeking.**
- 8. MUST have a team spirit.**
- 9. This is a National Award. The nominee Must attend the National Flea Scratch.**
- 10. The work done MUST be related to the Military Order of the Devil Dog Flea organization.**

**The nominations for the Flea of the Year are to be sent to the previous year's Flea of the Year, 2009. The judges will consist of the past seven (7) Flea of the Year recipients. Each judge will receive copies of the nominations prior to the National Flea Scratch.**

**Send your nominations NO LATER THAN JULY 01, 2009 TO:  
(update info for previous year)**

**Tracey Killinger  
1775 Molly Pitcher Hwy S.  
Chambersburg, PA 17201-9202**

Mid winter staff meeting – Pre-Board meeting  
February 12, 2009

National President Caroline Ruhmshottel called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM. National Chaplain Barbara Nobile read an opening prayer.

The President thanked the board for their attendance. Belinda Rischner, Southern Division Vice President was absent and Marie Williams filled her chair. There have been a lot of web site changes and 3,121 web site visits since August. Updated treasurers tips for success and legislative support packets are on line now. National President Caroline Ruhmshottel suggested the division reports be condensed by writing only a summary along with miles traveled. Include more things that are happening in the division. Regarding funding – the Auxiliary needs to do some work and not dig into savings. Costs have been cut in the office by cutting down on printing and sending more emails. There are only 31 newsletters being mailed out. Ships store has new items for sale. Caroline Ruhmshottel has designed a new challenge coin that says “You make a difference every day”. They are for sale for \$10 in the ships store. She purchased them from Symbol Arts out of Utah. She also made candy bar wrappers to go over flat Hershey bars. There is a CD available in the ships store for \$4 to purchase the wrapper information.

Caroline asked board members to give her a copy of the airline itinerary showing the price of the ticket. The cost for baggage cannot be paid. Those driving will be paid \$.15 per mile.

Many starter kits are out. President’s packets have changed to include a list of important forms and information added on how to retrieve forms over the internet. It was noted that on the website you see transmittals but everyone needs to know interactive transmittals are listed under transmittals. Suggestions were made to make the interactive forms easier to find.

Executive secretary Pat Hess was admitted to the room. She passed out vouchers to the board members for midwinter expenses. Please return the forms to Madam President on Friday. Pat Hess gave a state of the office report. The Auxiliary is cutting back on costs especially for postage and president packets. Alice Blackford said the administrative procedures state that in order to receive the newsletter, a fee of \$10 should be paid to be on the mailing list. The new copier is working out great, saving time and money. Pat Hess has added a column to the

data base that shows the EIN number for the department or unit. When bills come in, they are sent to Gloria Lutz every Thursday and everything is paid to date. Pat asked to have emails sent to her with reminders of things to do.

Pat Owen was admitted to the room to advise the board about the state of the investments. The bottom line was, after a review of the investments, the Auxiliary is where it needs to be.

The comptroller needs two decisions from the Board. First needs permission to transfer \$10,000 from the Bank of America to pay money due the League for the executive secretary salary. The salary payment was missed last year. There is \$29,000 in the account. Karen Aune asked where the monies come from on a monthly basis. She was advised the money comes from dues, ships store and the general fund. Karen Washabaugh said that there is an agreement with the League to pay the secretary salary. Gerri Tuohy made a motion to transfer the appropriate money from the Bank of America life member pending account to the general account so that the missed salary payment can be paid to the League. This is a loan from that account. Alice Blackford seconded. Motion carried.

The President briefly summarized the review of the Executive Secretary. There are no pending salary increases at this time. The Board voted to recommend a token bonus with improvement.

Comptroller Gloria Lutz asked for consideration to raise the dues to \$15 per member. Alice Blackford asked when the dues were raised last. It's been approximately 5 years. Barbara Nobile suggested that money come from fund raising rather than from the members. Due to current economic conditions, it was generally felt a dues increase at this time is not feasible.

Colleen English made a motion not to bring the issue of a dues raise to the body. Gerry Phillips seconded. Motion carried.

The professional fund raiser is underway but there have been logistical problems with time zones. The Department of Michigan fronted \$250 seed money for the project which is due from the Auxiliary. Caroline Ruhmshottel asked Peggy to submit a bill for the seed money.

Gerri Tuohy made a motion to consider a bonus to the Executive Secretary be paid in August depending on a performance improvement review according to the treasury funds. Rogene Hackbarth seconded. Motion carried.

There Forms Committee has recommended a change to the reporting of the Unit activity hours. This report is for Units only and would greatly reduce paperwork at the Unit level. It was suggested that a Unit meeting night be set aside to fill in the report. Minor revisions to the cover sheet for Department reporting of activities to include all information on one sheet. has been submitted. Ruth Moyse said that these forms must be approved by the delegates at the national convention. A Girl Scout Good Citizenship award sheet was submitted to include the name of the recipient and the name of the council. It was questioned as to why the hours need to be provided if they are no longer used by the League. Karen Washabaugh said that the most powerful thing to be used in asking for funds or recruiting is to be able to say that the Auxiliary provides over 100,000 hours of community service each year. On the Americanism form, driving to meetings needs to be included. When you drive or fly to a meeting, you can count the miles and that is included in the guidelines. Rosemary Bressler suggested activities be included on the VAVS form.

Jackie Hunter made a motion that the unit volunteer report be taken back to the Units or Departments for discussion at National Convention. Colleen English seconded. Motion carried.

Sr. Vice President Alice Blackford shared some information about how to conduct business and duties.

Barbara Nobile spoke about her job as National Chaplain and the number of emails she receives regarding members sick or in distress. Use good common sense on what is sent out. She has set some boundaries on what emails she will respond to. There should be no jokes and nothing political. No fundraising and no chain letters.

Jr. Past President Karen Washabaugh commended everyone for not bringing gift handouts. She handed out the Legislative brochure that the League uses.

On fundraising, looking at Internet Explorer, you have the option to pick your default search tool. Change that to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com). Every time you search, the Auxiliary receives about one cent a search. There is also a button to see how much is in the Auxiliary account.

The objective of the fundraising committee is to raise funds without competing with the local Units and Departments. Fundraising special committee chairperson Karen Washabaugh will investigate using Paypal or another way to

use a credit card to purchase merchandise from the Ships store. Please think about ways for the national Auxiliary to raise funds that don't compete with units or departments. The goal is \$20,000 for the first year.

National Judge Advocate Jackie Hunter passed out the Bylaw and Administrative Procedure changes to the board members. A copy of the changes along with a bonding form needs to be sent to Units and Departments.

Announcements were made. The Operation Little Angel social is at 7:13 pm on Friday in the main meeting room. Wear something black and white.

The memorial service is at 5 PM on Friday.

Gerri Tuohy made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Debbie Pierson. The meeting was adjourned at 4 PM.

February 13, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM by National President Caroline Ruhmshottel. National Chaplain Barbara Nobile read an opening prayer. The Charter was draped in memory of deceased members.

Senior Vice President Alice Blackford read the purpose of auxiliary. Junior Vice President Gerri Tuohy read the eligibility.

The secretary called the roll of elected officers. Janice McLuskie, Mideast Division Vice President was absent and Teresa Sarapata filled her chair.

There were no errors in the minutes of the final day of the 2008 National convention minutes and they stood approved as printed, as did the post convention minutes.

Helen Hicks, Foundation President, was admitted to the room. New England Division Vice Commandant Dick Gore presented a check to the National President in the amount of \$500 from the New England Division. PNP Hicks read a short report on the status of the Foundation. The CFC number is 10195. She also presented a check for \$200 from the foundation to the Operation Little Angel program and a personal check in the same amount.

West Central Illinois Leatherneck Unit presented a check in the amount of \$250 to the foundation. Helen Hicks advised the assembly that her mother is the oldest MCLA member at 98 years. Her name is Helen Israel.

Caroline urged the use of the Christmas and all occasion cards and to donate them if not used. She reminded everyone that the Auxiliary receives a portion of any money paid to the card and label program.

Members attending for the first time and guests were introduced.

National President Ruhmshottel reminded everyone that this is a meeting for the Board of Directors and only board members may make motions or speak on a subject. Members wishing to speak must do so through their division vice president.

National Jr. Vice President Gerri Tuohy presented certificates for 100% membership and she read her report.

Officer's reports were read. Senior Vice President Alice Blackford took the gavel while National President Caroline Ruhmshottel read her report. Alice Blackford made a motion to accept the report of the National President and all others following. Seconded by Colleen English. Motion carried.

Sr. Vice President Alice Blackford read her report followed by reports from National Jr. Past President Karen Washabaugh, National Jr. Vice President Gerri Tuohy and National Judge Advocate Jackie Hunter.

Colleen English, Midwest Division Vice President, brought up the question on charter names and should they have a number associated with them. She is compiling a note book containing copies of all charters in her division and challenged other division vice presidents to do the same. It was clarified that units have an MCLA number recorded at National and do not carry the detachment number. If a unit wants to add the detachment number to the unit name, it can be done.

Marie Williams advised that a detachment changed their name to the Zapata Detachment. The Auxiliary followed suit and changed their name also. In appreciation of the Unit changing their name, the detachment added a room to their club house and the chamber of commerce donated \$3000 to the Auxiliary.

Jeannette Geise said that the interactive transmittal forms are not allowing area codes and the added four numbers of the zip code. Nancy Calleja said she would check on it during the break.

The meeting was adjourned for lunch.

The meeting resumed at 1:15 PM and the chaplain opened the bible.

National Chaplain Barbara Nobile read her report on members sick and in distress.

Sandra Dressler reported ships store sales of \$2,638.68.

Teresa Sarapata thanked Evelyn Joppa for helping her to her room this morning.

National Sr. Vice President Alice Blackford read the report of National Comptroller PNP Gloria Lutz.

Evelyn Joppa, headquarters project midwinter, reported that sales have netted \$4,944.03. An additional \$115 has been collected at this meeting. The committee is sending out a flag letter which is a donation letter. Their estimated expenses will be \$942.36. Caroline Ruhmshottel said the letter would be sent to all the membership. Previously requests were sent only to unit treasurers.

Karen Washabaugh made a motion to provide the chair of the flag letter with \$1000 in seed money. Seconded by Inda Adams. It was clarified that proceeds from the midwinter project need to be deposited and a check then written for \$1000 for the flag letter. Motion carried.

Carol Corley, Memorial Fund Chairperson, read her report.

Nancy Calleja, co-chair of the Workshop Committee, read her report. There will be a workshop at the National Convention for surviving spouses. She asked for suggestions on desired workshops. Jeannette Geise asked about the interactive form. Nancy clarified that the four digit zip code is to be entered into one field.

She also reported that Girl Scouts will be taken off of the cover sheet since they belong on Child Welfare. The cover sheet was approved and other forms are being prepared. The mileage is \$.14per mile. There is a new Unit report which will be going to units and will be discussed in August. The purpose of the committee is to simplify forms. The form in the newsletter will reflect the \$.14.

National President Caroline Ruhmshottel read the report of Chapel of Four Chaplains Liaison PNP Marilyn Loeven.

Past National President Karen Washabaugh read the report of the National Fundraising Special Committee. The last budget showed a negative cash flow of \$25,000. The current efforts are not sufficient to raise the money to balance the

budget. The committee has two goals - one is to meet the immediate shortfall and also to move on and find more long term ways to fund the organization. She stressed the value of [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com). They are a secure website, with a maximum variety of vendors, and the money accumulating is immediately available. Set Goodsearch.com as your preferred search engine and every time a search is done, \$.01 to \$.013 will go to the Auxilairy. She is asking everyone that gets solicitations, please save the letters to give to the committee as well as ideas for special events to generate funding. The goal is not to interfere with local fundraising. Make a new member packet. Alice Blackford suggested the auxiliary needs to be aware of liabilities if they sponsor activities such as balloon rides. It was clarified that this would not be sponsored but only chances for the ride. Goodsearch guarantees they will not share information. Peggy Tuohy said that it is good diplomacy to check with units and departments before a fund raising activity is held so as not to interfere.

PNP Ruth Moyse read her report as National Website Monitor.

A distinguished service award was presented to Pat Engle and Tracey Killinger for their many years of service as color bearer and banner bearer.

Resolutions were read by Deborah Evans and National Judge Advocate Jackie Hunter. The following was submitted by Joan Devlin and Linda Chamberlain, Department of Pennsylvania.

SUBJECT: Resolution to Amend the Articles of Incorporation to agree with the Bylaw

Amendment to Article Six, Section 600 (A) –

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

approved by the Delegates at the 2008 National Convention

Be it resolved, The Articles of Incorporation of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary be amended to

include the eligibility of membership

### **Aunts**

Whereas, The Regular membership of this Auxiliary shall be open to include **Aunts** of a Marine

or a U.S. Navy Corpsman currently serving or has trained with Marine FMF Units in excess of ninety (90) days and earned the Marine Corps

Device or Warfare Device

worn on the Service Ribbon Authorized for FMF  
Corpsman, eligible to belong to the  
Marine Corps League, Inc., (not less than sixteen (16)  
years of age) and Women  
Marines, former, active and Reserves.

Rationale: To bring the Articles of Incorporation into agreement with  
the wishes of a majority of  
the membership, as represented by the Delegates at the  
2008 National Convention  
in Orlando, Florida.

Karen Washabaugh made a motion to pass this resolution on to the body at the  
National Convention in August 2009. Sydney Minchin seconded the motion.  
Approved.

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The following was submitted by Joan Devlin, Department of Pennsylvania, All  
Divisions Unit Judge Advocate.

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendment to bring the Preamble into agreement  
with the National Bylaw  
Amendment to Article Six, Section 600 (A) –  
MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY, as approved  
By the Delegates at the 2008 National Convention, Orlando,  
Florida.

THE PREAMBLE – (now reads):

In the name of the Beneficent God of all, we the Wives, Widows,  
Mothers, Grandmothers, Sisters, Daughters, Granddaughters, Stepmothers,  
Stepdaughters, Daughters-in-law of the men and women, who have honorable  
served, or are serving our Country in the United States Marine Corps, or a United  
States Navy Corpsman currently serving or who has trained with Marine FMF  
Units in excess of ninety (90) days and earned the Marine Corps Device or  
Warfare Device worn on the Service Ribbon Authorized for FMF Corpsmen, and  
Women Marines (former, active and Reserves) and Associate Members, for the  
common good of this Nation and people of our World, and in order that the

fundamental rights and freedom of every person may be preserved, to foster interest in the affairs of the United States Marine Corps and the Marine Corps League, Incorporated, to protect and advance the welfare of the wounded and disabled Marines and their dependents, and for the further purpose set forth hereinafter, do solemnly and firmly associate ourselves together in a nonprofit corporation known as the “Marine Corps League Auxiliary”, and ordain and establish these Bylaws under authority to a Charter duly granted by the National Headquarters of the Marine Corps League, Incorporated (Rev. 8/05)

THE PREAMBLE – (Revised to Read):

In the name of the Beneficent God of all, we the Wives, Widows, Mothers, Grandmothers, Sisters, Daughters, Granddaughters, Stepmothers, Stepdaughters, Daughters-in-law and **Aunts** of the men and women, who have honorable served, or are serving our Country in the United States Marine Corps, or a United States Navy Corpsman currently serving or who has trained with Marine FMF Units in excess of ninety (90) days and earned the Marine Corps Device or Warfare Device worn on the Service Ribbon Authorized for FMF Corpsmen, and Women Marines (former, active and Reserves) and Associate Members, for the common good of this Nation and people of our World, and in order that the fundamental rights and freedom of every person may be preserved, to foster interest in the affairs of the United States Marine Corps and the Marine Corps League, Incorporated, to protect and advance the welfare of the wounded and disabled Marines and their dependents, and for the further purpose set forth hereinafter, do solemnly and firmly associate ourselves together in a nonprofit corporation known as the “Marine Corps League Auxiliary”, and ordain and establish these Bylaws under authority to a Charter duly granted by the National Headquarters of the Marine Corps League, Incorporated (Rev. 8/09)

Sydney Minchen made a motion to pass the Resolution on to the body at National Convention in August 2009. Seconded by Connie Sexton. Approved.

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The following Resolution was submitted by Ruth Moyse, PNP, President Keystone Headquarters Unit.

Subject: Resolution to Amend the Articles of Incorporation

Resolved that the Articles of Incorporation of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary

be amended as follows:

“Qualifications, eligibility and rights of membership in this corporation shall be as stated in the Bylaws of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary”.

Rationale: While each sincere and well-meaning President and Judge Advocate of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary over the span of many years has given their own interpretation and/or ruling on the method of amending the eligibility of this organization according to the District of Columbia Code, each interpretation and/or ruling seems to have been different. This has caused the membership to experience, at times, confusion and frustration, as most recently demonstrated at the 2008 National Convention.

According to the District of Columbia Corporation Act, Chapter 5, ss29-512, **“A Corporation may have 1 or more classes of members or may have no members. If the corporation has 1 or more classes of members, the designation of such class or classes, the manner of election or appointment and the qualifications and rights of the members of each class shall be set forth in the articles of incorporation or the bylaws”**

Since the District of Columbia Code allows for the classes of membership and the qualifications and eligibility of each class to be listed in the Bylaws of the Organization, adopting this amendment to the Auxiliary Articles of Incorporation will allow the membership of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary to eliminate the need to vote on any future proposed changes using separate, and often, different e is no such stipulation methods. Any future vote would require only one vote according to the method listed in the Bylaws, Article Eight, Section 800. (Note: While Bylaws can only be amended every three years, there is no such stipulation in the DC Code.)

Gerri Tuohy made a motion to pass this resolution on to the body at National Convention in August 2009. Sydney Minchin seconded. Approved.

Peggy Tuohy spoke about the new scholarship application. It will be three pages long. Students will have to maintain a 3.0 or better GPA and submit letters of reference from school, sports, work and community involvement. It will be up and running on the web site.

Karen Washabaugh spoke about the National Legislative Committee. There are

some brochures available in the back of the room that the League Legislative committee uses with its efforts with congress and explain the processes talked about. The committee spends two days before this conference on Capitol Hill speaking to members of armed forces committees. Unique to the Auxiliary is that we were the only veterans service organization talking about women veteran's issues. Issues talked about were Full Funding, Medicare Subvention and Women Veterans Health Care.

Tracey Killinger was admitted to the room to receive the award from Madam President.

HR24 is the issue Walter Jones mentioned at the Joint Opening Ceremony regarding combining Navy & Marine. Please email, make phone calls or write letters to congressmen and senators.

The chaplain closed the bible and the meeting recessed until Saturday.

FEBRUARY 14, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 AM by National President Caroline Ruhmshottel. The Chaplain opened Bible and read a short poem.

The secretary called the roll of board members. The minutes of the previous meeting were read. There were no errors.

National Judge Advocate Jackie Hunter read from the Administrative Procedures 1000B, clarifying the procedure to use before initiating a fund raising campaign.

A majority of the ladies in the room had a membership application in their handbag. National President Caroline Ruhmshottel said she would like to have each member bring in two new members this year.

She asked everyone to make meetings fun and inviting.

Sandra Dressler reported that ship store sales have been \$2,857. The ships store will close at 1PM today. It was suggested that a warm vest be purchased to be sold in the ships store.

Sr. Vice President Alice Blackford read the report of the Department Presidents Council.

Scholarship committee Peggy Tuohy said the new scholarship application was

presented to the board and will come to the body for a vote. This year the application will be the same as it has been – if approved the new application will be available in 2010. Last year there were 525 applications received– 90 were rejected. Mostly because there were no signatures and they did not put a name and address for the detachment and unit home. 88 did not send in the final letter of verification. 347 received a scholarship. There will only be 80 granted under the new application.

President Ruhmshottel read the report of Meg Thoburn on the 990N form. There are no penalties for filing late as long as it is done within three years. Meg can be contacted at [Mthoburn@mcleague.org](mailto:Mthoburn@mcleague.org). Colleen English clarified that the 990 form does not have to be filed if there has not been over \$25,000 earned. The 990N form is much shorter.

The Bible was closed for a 15 minute break. The Bible was opened.

The report of Operation Little Angel was given by Barbara Nobile. The Operation Little Angel brochure is now on line at the National Auxiliary web site. The theme for next winter will be a Mardi Gras theme.

The Bible was closed for OLA donation.

Chief Devil Dog Laurel Hull was escorted to the podium. She presented a check from the MODD to Big Flea Alice Blackford for \$1000 and to Operation Little Angel for \$1000.

Carol Smith advised that \$275 was collected for Operation Little Angel.

Peggy Tuohy reported on the upcoming National Convention, August 1 – 8, in Rochester MN. at the Kahler Grand Hotel. Information can be viewed at [www.thormarinecorpleague.org](http://www.thormarinecorpleague.org)

2010 the convention will be August 6 – 14 at the Sheraton Hotel in Greensboro, NC. There has been a letter of intent received from Arizona for 2011.

Ron Short from Marines Helping Marines was escorted to the podium. Over \$132,000 was received in 2008 which in part assisted Marines to fly home for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Carol Smith of the West Central Illinois Leatherneck Unit presented Ron with a check in the amount \$250.

Ruth Moyse asked about forms. She was informed we are still using the old

forms with the exception of the cover sheet.

Colleen English asked about bylaw changes. The Bylaws require that the updated copies will be mailed to each department and unit.

Twila Gensel said the mailing list is not always accurate. It was suggested that when something is received by the wrong party, send it to the right party and contact headquarters with correct information.

Vic Voltaggio was escorted to the podium who spoke about mentoring and retaining members. He also brought greetings from National Commandant Laskey.

Big Flea Alice Blackford spoke. The Flea scratch at the National Convention will have a medical theme. There will be a "Best cap" contest. Initiates will get a prize for collecting the most money. Registration will start on Sunday. The Flea scratch will be Wednesday morning.

Connie Sexton said the Department of Connecticut is starting a cookbook.

President Caroline Ruhmshottel announced that she will run for a second term. Alice Blackford will run again as National Senior Vice Pres. Gerri Tuohy is running for National Junior Vice President and Jackie Hunter will run again for National Judge Advocate. National Jr. Past President Karen Washabaugh will retain her office.

The chaplain read a prayer, closed the Bible and the meeting was closed to resume in August.



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AUXILIARY, INC.

NATIONAL CREDENTIAL/DELEGATE FORM

National Convention Location:

ROCHESTER, MN

Date:

July 31 thru 8 August 2009

Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention shall be determined on the basis of Unit membership strength reported to and on record with National Headquarters on July 1st immediately preceding each National Convention. The Delegate voting strength of each Unit shall be as follows: For the first fifteen (15) Regular members, one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate; for each additional full block of fifteen (15) Regular members, one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate; for a partial number of fifteen (15) members, one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate. Only members in good standing are eligible for election as a Delegate or Alternate Delegate.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

NAME OF UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ UNIT STRENGTH \_\_\_\_\_ ALLOWED DELEGATES \_\_\_\_\_
LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_ DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_ (To be verified by Natl. Exec. Secy.)

Delegate \_\_\_\_\_
Title \_\_\_\_\_
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If additional names are listed on back of sheet, check here [ ]

Upon election, make three (3) copies and return immediately to National Headquarters, c/o National Executive Secretary, 8626 Lee Highway, Suite 207, Fairfax, VA 22031-2135. Delegate and Alternate Delegate must be prepaid to be approved as a Registered Delegate or Alternate. No recognition will be given Delegate/Alternate by Credentials Committee unless on this form and on file for National Headquarters. This rule will be strictly enforced at this National Convention.

In order for the Unit to obtain the Unit's full voting strength, all Delegates/Alternates must be properly registered and prepaid no later than July 1st.

Unit President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Secretary

Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_
(\$5.00 per Delegate - \$5.00 per Alternate)

Delegates \_\_\_\_\_ Alternates \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_ Check Number \_\_\_\_\_

National Executive Secretary \_\_\_\_\_



## Banner Form



We will be bringing our Unit/Department Banner to the National Convention. Please reserve a commemorative streamer for us.

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Unit/Department Name

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Contact Person

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Address

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Home Telephone Number

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Email Address

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Please PRINT all information and return this form by June 30, 2009 to:

Marine Corps League Auxiliary  
National Headquarters  
8626 Lee Highway, Suite 207  
Fairfax, VA 22031-2135



# Marine Corps League Auxiliary, Inc.

## FINAL ROLL CALL APRIL 2009

Pamela Gates \* 1/17/09  
Kansas City Unit MCLA, KC, Mo.  
Condolences to Husband: Larry Gates  
9005 NE Hwy. C, Lowry City, MO 64763

\*\*\*\*\*

Dept of Texas member Jackie Wilkinson lost her husband, Ducky. Ducky was well known to many of us as a very active MCL member for many years. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Jackie and their family. Skagit Valley WA. Unit member, Becky Frazier lost her husband.. We extend condolences to her. Dept of TN. Member Deborah Evans lost her 31 yr old nephew, Benjamin Klemm to diabetes.

\*\*\*\*\*

### UPDATES ON MEMBERS/ FAMILY MEMBERS FROM MARCH LETTER.

Pat Gilbert, (Lewis B. Puller Unit, PA) had back surgery and wants to thank members for all the cards, care and concern. She was amazed at all the MCLA members she has never met who sent greetings, Her Dr. says she is progressing well and maintains those powerful prayers are part of the reason.

Leisa Schmaltz, (Landis McCleaf Unit, PA) expresses her thanks for the prayers and cards for her mother-in-law, who had been diagnosed with a colon cancer tumor. They found no tumor after the last oncology visit. Her mother in law is overjoyed with the cards.

Shirley Otto, (Dept of Texas), started Chemo March 3<sup>rd</sup> for her breast cancer. This will take 5 months, after that she will start radiation for 5 to 6 weeks, with treatments everyday. Even with all this on their plates, Shirley and her husband plan to join us in Minnesota for National convention.

Donald J. Ruhl Unit, Montana member, Viola Johnson wishes our prayers for her daughter Casey Johnson who is having severe stomach problems.

Barbara Smith, President of Spring Hill Unit in Florida is in need of our prayers for her daughter Claudia Smith, who had surgery but is still experiencing problems. She stay in the hospital has lasted longer than expected.

Joan Gallagher, Dept of NY, needs our prayers for her 1-year-old niece, who has been diagnosed with cancer. Her husband Ed is a past chief DD and their daughter; Joan Marie is very active in the MCLA. This is a dedicated MCLA/MCL family that needs our concern.

A very sad situation has occurred in the lives of our beloved Chuck and Lynn LaBerge. Chuck's son was hit by a car while crossing a street in Houston, TX. He has suffered a severe brain injury. Our thoughts are with the entire family.

Upon returning home from Midwinter Conference, Madame President Caroline was feeling unwell. The hard work of this meeting would allow any bug to bring you down. We are in hopes that she is feeling much better by now and will take it easy on her next trips.



**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AUXILIARY  
8626 Lee Highway, Suite 207  
Fairfax, VA 22031**

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*DATED MATERIAL*

**APRIL 2009**



Welcome Spring

***PLEASE COPY THIS NEWSLETTER  
FOR YOUR UNIT MEMBERS***

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