



Marine Corps League Auxiliary, Inc.

SEPTEMBER 2008 NEWSLETTER

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

What a privilege and honor it is to have been elected to serve as your National President as we approach the 72nd year of our Auxiliary. You are among the finest, most dedicated, talented, generous women I have ever met. I look forward to becoming better acquainted, working closely with, and representing you. I am truly grateful for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. The confidence and trust you have shown in me is inspiring. I will do everything in my power to fulfill the purpose of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary.

Many thanks to the Convention Committee for the years of planning, hours of service, and tremendous effort to achieve such a successful convention. The accommodations, hospitality, and events were superb. All those who attended now have great memories to treasure.

Congratulations to Jr. Past President, PNP Karen Washabaugh for an excellent convention and two tremendous terms. As our National President, Karen has worked tirelessly to “band together in comradeship the members of this Auxiliary, and to create a bond of comradeship between this Auxiliary and the Marine Corps and the Marine Corps League.” Highlights of Karen’s terms include meeting many of you at your Division Conferences and Department Conventions; representing you at the opening of the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico, VA;; and chartering 16 new MCLA Units and one new Department since September of 2006.

“Reaching Further, Touching More”

As we move forward the goal for the coming year is “Reaching Further, Touching More”.

In order to fulfill this goal, I challenge each one of you to

- Recruit two new members this year
- Showcase your excellent programs and great accomplishments – Brag-
- Shop more at our National MCLA Ship’s Store.

Congratulations to the new officers elected at the National Convention to lead the Marine Corps League Auxiliary for 2008-2009: President - Caroline Ruhmshottel, Senior Vice President - Alice Blackford, Junior Vice President - Gerri Tuohy, and Judge Advocate - Jackie Hunter.

Congratulations also to all of our newly elected and installed officers of the Auxiliary and the League around the country. Together we will reach further and touch more during the coming year.

Semper Fidelis,

Caroline Ruhmshottel

Caroline Ruhmshottel
62nd MCLA National President



September 2008

TO: All Members

FROM: Alice Blackford, National Sr. Vice President

This letter is full of congratulations and thanks along with a few reminders.

Thank you for the opportunity to have served as your National Jr. Vice President the past 2 years and to serve you now as your National Sr. Vice President. I will do all in my power to assist you and fulfill the duties of this office.

Congratulations to our new National President Caroline Ruhmshottel. I wish her much success. Thank you to PNP Karen Washabaugh for her guidance the past 2 years and thank you to the Board, Past National Presidents, Staff and most importantly to you the members who volunteer to and for this great organization.

From my last report as NJVP at the National Convention we are composed of 10 Divisions, 22 Departments and 203 Units in good standing (having 5 or more members). Our present total membership is 3901 with 394 new members recruited this year. Nineteen members received recruiting awards. The complete list is to be published in the minutes of the National Proceedings.

Six new Units were chartered this year:

Midwest Division:	Department of Iowa	NE Iowa Unit, Waverly, IA
	Department of Missouri	Pvt George Phillips Unit, Baldwin, MO
	South Dakota	Kampeska Northeast Unit, Watertown, SD
Northeast Division	Dept. of Pennsylvania	Lewis B. Puller, Jr Unit, Carlisle, PA
Rocky Mountain Division	Department of Utah	Staff Sgt. James W. Cawley Unit # 476, Orem, UT
Southern Division	Arkansas	River Valley Claude Rogers Unit, Ft. Smith, AR

Congratulations to Past National Big Flea Merveena Wing for her successful year in office. Thanks to Merveena we have a new Flea Ritual, forms, web site, at <http://www.nationalmoddfleas.org> and a Charter for the Flamingo Flamingos, a new Hide in Florida. Tracey Killinger has graciously agreed to remain our Scratchy Flea and we celebrate with her on receiving the National Flea of the Year Award.

Congratulations to PNP Gloria Lutz for completing a successful year as the National Regent of the Past President's Club. This club was chartered September 4, 1947. You must be a member in good standing and have completed a term as an elected President at the Unit, Department or National level. Dues are \$1.00 each year and due in June. Meetings are social but projects may be adopted. The purpose is to provide counsel, advice, and unity. A club may be organized on the Department level. (Information is from the Ritual). My unit pays the dues as a gift to our Past Presidents. If you wish an application for yourself or your unit contact PNP Virginia Hanson, 19459 Orchard St., South Bend, IN. 46637-1925 or mrscw04@michiana.org. I wish more members would join and show support for this club. Your Past Presidents are a great source of information.

Reminders:

1. A member is not in good standing if dues are not paid by 29th November.
2. The Recruiting Year is from June 1 to May 31 (details Administrative Procedures , Chapter 7 , Section 705 and National Bylaws , Article Six, Section 606, A - E.
3. The application should NEVER leave the Unit Junior Vice President or the Unit Treasurer without the required information and this includes the recruiter's name.
4. An email does not take the place of Enclosure # 21 Notice of Death. .
5. Only the Life Members in alphabetical order are to be on the 1st transmittal even though no dues are required. This is important for the Units, Departments and National HQ to receive the percentage of Life Membership dues and in planning the National Budget.
6. Life Members at Large please send a note to HQ every August (or when needed) to verify the information as to name, address, etc on file is correct. Request a family member notify the National Chaplain if you have a change in health - PNP Barbara Nobile, National Chaplain 8610 E.P. True Parkway # 2007, West Des Moines, IA , 50265.
- * 7. Mentor your new members, retain you current members and above all think and conduct your activities and meetings for the Good of the Order.

Respectfully and Faithfully,
Alice



Marine Corps League Auxiliary, Inc.

September 2008

To: All MCLA Members

From: National Jr. Vice President Gerri Tuohy

Returned from National Convention in Orlando, Florida where I had the privilege of being installed as National Jr. Vice President. It is with great honor and pride that I accept this position. I have much enthusiasm as I attempt to fulfill the duties of my office. Thanks to everyone who supported my decision to ascertain this endeavor.

My ultimate goal will be to strive for membership growth. We currently have approximately 3900 members comprised of 10 Divisions, 22 Departments and 237 Units.

Some highlights and ideas as “how” to attract new members could be:

Be visible in your community – wear MCLA logo shirts when participating in a community program.

Wear official uniforms at Department meetings or funerals.

Fundraise by flag distribution at different shopping centers with the permission of management. You can also participate in the Marine Rose program.

Always have applications available. Be ready to tell what we are about and what we do. Perhaps you could have a poster of different events the Unit or Department has done.

Contact league members who may have an eligible person to join. Invite them to a meeting – have a tea or luncheon introducing what the Auxiliary in all about.

Have a column in your Department newsletter highlighting your meeting details and always make it known what projects your are and have been working with.

At National Convention there were several proposed by-law changes. First one on the docket was for eligibility to be frozen; this proposal failed. Next one was for “Aunts to be included in the eligibility requirements – this proposal did pass. However, the proposal to have “Aunts” included in the Preamble did not pass. There were two different voting procedures in place. A delegate vote was in place for any by-law change. The Preamble change was a civil factor do to the DC Code therefore needing a member present vote. Next proposal was for “Nieces” – this did not pass. By-law proposal to revise, amend or repeal by-laws every year was approved. There was much time and effort put into these changes by the by-law committee – my sincere thanks to all who persevered and assisted with this.

My journey has just begun! I am looking forward to working diligently with everyone. I am and always will be open to new ideas. You can contact me at 810-695-3241 or wildgerri323@aol.com. Feel free to share any recruiting tools you may have attained. Find time to be kind and thoughtful!

Semper Fidelis,

Gerri Tuohy

How Do We Attract New MCLA Members?

1. Be visible in you community:
 - a. Participate in community programs as a group
 - b. All wear shirts that have the MCLA logo
 - c. Add your local Unit name
 - d. Wear official uniforms at Department meetings, funerals, and appropriate events.
 - e. Fund raise in the community. Pancake breakfasts, the Marine Rose Program the day after Thanksgiving, and Flag donations on Memorial weekend are successful fundraisers.
2. Create a membership focus:
 - a. Initiate the goal of every member to duplicate themselves each year
 - b. Memorize those who are eligible (ritual – Sr. Vice – opening ceremony)
3. Membership drive – booth at the fair or veterans’ parade etc. publicity, etc.
4. Have brochures with your local information at all of your activities
 - a. National Web site download
 - b. Personalize to your Unit – Might use letter of introduction on the back
 - c. Be sure to list what you do
 - d. Print on plain or special paper
 - e. Have both member and associate member applications available
5. Create personal and/or Unit business cards to distribute at events and have at-the-ready
6. Place both the League and Auxiliary brochures with cards under the windshield of cars with Marine stickers,
7. Always have an application with you.
8. Marine Corps League Detachment newsletter
 - a. Ask the League Detachment for a section and maybe an add in the League newsletter
 - b. Offer to help with printing and mailing costs
9. Public Service Announcements:
 - a. Contact your local radio and TV stations and ask for the person in charge of PSAs. Also the local newspaper for community activities - announce your specific activities
 - b. Create a generic announcement including your purpose and meeting location, day of the month, and time. Include what you do.
10. The Marine Corps League Detachment is a golden source for recruiting because it is their family members that know and love Marines.
 - a. Ask the Detachment Commandant if you can make a brief presentation to the League. You might suggest a brief joint opening.
 - b. Look sharp and present to them the history of the MCLA, who is eligible and then tell them what you do.
11. Have informal levels of membership participation to adjust to member’s lifestyles
 - a. Active member
 - b. Supporters from a distance –
 - i. Those who live in different areas who want to work on some programs such crocheting scarves, lap robes, sewing Christmas stockings etc.
 - ii. Those who live far away who want to pay annual dues may want to start another unit in their area, fulfill some needs that can be done by phone or E-mail.
 - iii. Those who live in different areas who want to start a Unit in the future and want to learn about the MCLA in your Unit. Consider your Unit as an incubator and yourselves as mentors.
12. Focus on just a couple of programs or rotate your passions
 - a. Have some great programs that fit different talents
 - b. Pace your programs to the energy of your members. You may want to rotate your focus every other year such as Operation Little Angel one year and a special veteran program the alternate year
13. Pace your fundraisers to the energy of your members

Feel free to add your ideas to this list and send them to the National Jr. Vice President



Marine Corps League Auxiliary, Inc.

FINAL ROLL CALL SEPTEMBER 2008

Beryl Thayer * 6/22/08
Brattleboro VT Unit 778
Condolences to: Norman Graves
Northampton, MA 01060-2439

Helen McDonald * 6/26/08
James Earl Kennedy Unit, Burlington, NJ
Condolences to: Rhonda Kuhn, daughter

Mary Louise Kelsey* 7/27/08
Capt. William Dale O'Brien Unit, Albany, NY
Condolences to: Caroline Smith

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Luella Pomeroy of the Landis McCleaf Unit in PA lost her husband, Les.
Keep her and son Alan in your thoughts and prayers.

Strong supporter of the MCLA, Marine Sandy Morrongiello passed away after gall bladder surgery. He will be missed by many of the MCLA ladies.

Maryellen Naples had knee surgery and is now home recuperating with the help of home health care therapy. Her husband Dominic is in a rehab nursing home doing better getting around after a terrible bout of cellulites in his legs.

MCLA member Maria Cullota is watching over her husband Marine Buddy Cullota after his recent stroke. Cards may be sent to them in Oceanside, CA. Both were formerly NJ residents.

Past Big Flea Sadie Smiley had successful eye surgery and is back in school furthering her career. However, Son, Levi has had some tough time lately. He took a spill on his bike and is in a cast, then had a car accident. He will mend with time and not too many more cast changes.

Those who need to be in our prayers are: Jean Creedon who was hospitalized recently. Phyllis Dale who had cataract surgery. Clem Cardow who continues to heal after her health issues. Karen Nonnemacher who continues to deal with her lung cancer.

PNP Pat Hortsch is now back home in VA. She does not have email but I am sure would love to hear from you with a card. Pat had a stroke and was in LA with her daughter for some time.

Please pray for our new National President, Carolyn Ruhmshottel, that her days ahead be wonderful and full of great memories.

Pray also for the new board and all officers around the country as they go about the work of the MCLA with purpose and zeal.

The very fact that God has placed a certain soul in our way is a sign that God wants us to do something for him or her.
It is not chance.
It has been planned by God. We are bound by conscience to help him or her.

Once we take our eyes away, from ourselves, from our interests,
From our own rights, privilege, ambitions-
Then our eyes will become clear to see Jesus around us.
Keep the joy of loving Jesus in your heart and share this joy
With all that you meet, especially your family.

I thank Jr. Past President Karen for her trust in me and for the honor of serving our new president, Carolyn.
This is the job I need to do at this time.

At the National convention I read a poem by Mother Teresa. So many of the ladies asked for a copy, I decided to print it here. You will find it attached here.

Respectfully Submitted,
PNP Barbara Nobile, National Chaplain

DO IT ANYWAY

PEOPLE ARE OFTEN UNREASONABLE, ILLOGICAL AND SELF-CENTERED:
FORGIVE THEM ANYWAY.

IF YOU ARE KIND, PEOPLE MAY ACCUSE YOU OF SELFISH ULTERIOR MOTIVES:
BE KIND ANYWAY.

IF YOU ARE SUCCESSFUL, YOU WILL WIN SOME FRIENDS AND TRUE ENEMIES:
SUCCEED ANYWAY.

IF YOU ARE HONEST AND FRANK, PEOPLE MAY CHEAT YOU.
BE HONEST ANYWAY.

WHAT YOU SPEND YEARS BUILDING, SOMEONE COULD DESTROY OVERNIGHT:
BUILD IT ANYWAY.

IF YOU FIND SERENITY AND HAPPINESS, THEY MAY BE JEALOUS:
BE HAPPY ANYWAY.

THE GOOD YOU DO TODAY, PEOPLE WILL OFTEN FORGET TOMORROW:
DO GOOD ANYWAY.

GIVE THE WORLD THE BEST YOU HAVE,
AND IT MAY NEVER BE ENOUGH:
GIVE THE WORLD THE BEST YOU'VE GOT ANYWAY.

YOU SEE, IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS,
IT IS BETWEEN YOU AND GOD:

IT WAS NEVER BETWEEN YOU AND THEM ANYWAY.

THE WORDS OF MOTHER TERESA

1910-1997

**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
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**Patriot Day
Sept 11**

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