

KEYSTONE LEATHENECK *(e-issue)*

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 1

WINTER, 2009

Convention in New Cumberland, PA June 23-27, 2010

These past few months have been educational, busy, fast-paced and fun! It has been a pleasure working with the elected and appointed staff. There are many new faces on the staff; all of them working hard to serve the membership of this Department.

We are making every effort to move into the 21st Century but we do not want to leave anyone behind. Your elected Board of Trustees does recognize the need to improve communications within the staff, with the Detachments and most of all with our Membership. We realize that not all of our members are computer "savvy" or even have computers available to them.

In an effort to improve communications the Board of Trustees has authorized four (4) mailings this fiscal year. We are going to make every attempt to ensure the mailings are in the hands of the Detachment Commandants, Adjutants and Paymasters no later than five (5) weeks prior to the quarterly meeting and convention. The Board has also authorized an "all hands" newsletter; look for the Spring Edition to be electronic and hard copy. All the information in these mailings and in the newsletter can be found on the Department Website.

In October the Department officially launched its own Facebook page. In the age of "social networking", Facebook is a popular communication tool with the younger generation of Marines. If you are on Facebook you can search for Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc and become a fan. We are planning to use this page to help launch updates and timely information to our membership. This page will be directing "fans" to our Department website for more detailed information. The Public Relations team is still working on a few aspects of the page. visit the page and send a message to the administrators and they will guide you through the process.

If any detachment is interested in this tool to reach your membership and new members please visit the page and send a message to the administrators and they will guide you through the process.

The Department Bylaws require ANNUAL installation forms to be filed. They also state that detachments must request an installing officer from the Department Commandant. If you have a specific installation officer in mind please contact me with the name and date of the installation. If the installing officer requested is not available or you do not have a specific installation officer in mind, your District Vice Commandant will be tasked with the responsibility of finding an installing officer. We will do our best to accommodate all requests. A reminder that a change of officers requires a submission of proper forms to the Corporate Bureau of PA. See website.

I would like to thank the membership for everything they have done since convention to advance their detachments, the Department and the Marine Corps League. With continued teamwork we will be able to grow the Marine Corps League and better serve our fellow veterans and our communities.

Semper Fidelis,
Leanna L Dietrich, Commandant
MCL of PA, Inc

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *MCL Life Membership is still a bargain.*
- *Show Marine Pride. Put a League License Plate on your vehicle*
- *Bulletin from National Commandant*
- *Attend the 2010 Winter Staff Meeting in Grantville,, PA*
- *Attend the 2010 Spring Staff Meeting in Fort Indiantown Gap, PA*



For those Marine Corps League members that wish to "Go Life" with their membership, saving money over the years, eliminating having to remember to renew each year, and saving your overworked Detachment Paymaster/Adjutant much paperwork and time, these are the rates, depending on your age:

From January 1, 2009 and thereafter

Up to 35.....\$500.00

Age 36 to 50.....\$400.00

Age 51 to 60.....\$300.00

Age 61 and older.....\$150.00

To become a Life Member, you must already be a "Member in Good Standing". That means becoming a member and paying your initial dues first. Yes, according to the Bylaws, you could join the League, pay your dues and then pay your Life Membership Dues all in the same day.

As a footnote please be aware that some Detachments have set up an "installment payment" plan to allow members to make payments in smaller increments. Please check with your Detachment Adjutant/Paymaster to see if such a plan is in place.

<u>Office</u>	<u>Officer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>Email</u>
Commandant	Leanna Dietrich	610-583-3419	shortdevildog99211@comcast.net
Senior Vice Commandant	Neil Corley	309-934-1829	ncorley@mchsi.com
Junior Vice Commandant	Gordon Sheriff	717-755-8108	sdeputydog@aol.com
Judge Advocate	Edwin Ringer	724-356-7715	Ering35@comcast.net
Adjutant	Eric Fussenegger	717-877-7965	l.shortfuse@verizon.net
Paymaster	Kathy Van Gorder	610-489-3756	Vangorders2@aol.com
Chaplain	Johnny P. Gill	610-437-9712	PrdsBaNVN@aol.com
Sergeant-at-Arms	Ed Baranski	610-261-9086	dex956@yahoo.com

Once a Marine, Always a Marine

Marine Corps League License Plates ——— \$30.00



PENNSYLVANIA MARINE CORPS LEAGUE SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATES

MAKE YOUR CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$30.00** PAYABLE TO "MCL of PA, Inc.".

SEND APPLICATION TO: PAUL F. HASTINGS, PNC
1631 BRIDGE STREET
NEW CUMBERLAND, PA 17070-1174

Application Form MV-904SO (09-04) can be downloaded from the
Department of PA Website

APPLICATIONS SENT (directly) TO THE COMMONWEALTH WILL BE RETURNED TO THE SENDER AND NOT PROCESSED. CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO THE "PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION" WILL ALSO BE RETURNED NOT PROCESSED.

Processing to the Department of Transportation, then to the Bureau of Corrections to manufacture the plate takes approximately six weeks from date of mailing to the Department of Transportation. Applications are mailed in batches of at least 3.

TO ASK QUESTIONS BY PHONE:
CALL PDC HASTINGS : 800-747-1420 or email to: Phasti4321@aol.com

Remember, only the new application *Form MV-904SO (09-04)* can be used. This is the **ONLY** form that will be acceptable. **Do Not Use the Old Form MV-904SO (02-04)**

The following persons are eligible to apply for Marine Corps League Pennsylvania license plate:

1. Individuals who are members in good standing of one of the Department's chartered detachments.
2. Active duty Marines belonging to an out-of-state Marine Corps League detachment who have Pennsylvania as their home of record.

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Bulletin from MCL National Commandant

Marine Corps League Members and Board of Trustees -

I have reviewed once again, the National Bylaws as they relate to the issue of Khaki shirts that was brought up on the floor at National Convention. I have read and concur with the National JA John Kovalcik's interpretation of the intent of our Bylaws. Both Gerry Devlin, the National Parliamentarian, and John have pointed out numerous times in "Roberts Rule of Order Revised", that say that if a mistake was made at Convention, then a "point of order" must be raised at that time and not after the Convention has closed.

JA Kovalcik clarifies this point in his statement, "Normally a point of order must only be raised at the time of the alleged breach of order. Failing to raise a point of order usually waives any right to object. There is an exception, which may have confused some. If the question that a proposed action violates the constitution or bylaw it may be raised at any time (section 21 Roberts Rules of Order Revised) this means that it may be raised at any time during the Convention not three months later. When a convention adjourns Sine Die (the final adjournment as opposed to a day to day recess or adjournment) it carries with it all pending business Section 18 Roberts Rules of Order. *There is no Parliamentary way for the will of the convention to be modified once the final gavel has fallen.*" In other words, once the Convention is CLOSED, it would be *illegal in accordance with "Roberts Rules"* to disregard the will of the "body" (that being the properly elected, registered, and approved Delegates in good standing, on the floor), and alter a proposed Bylaw change or amendment thereto. More importantly, perhaps is the fact that it would do a great disservice to those who attended and participated as Registered Delegates and voted their will, at the National Convention. I would re-iterate here, that this amendment did not originate with the National Board of Trustees, or Marine Corps League National Headquarters. It in fact came from the floor and was approved on the floor.

In reading National Bylaws, Article 100 the intent clearly vests the supreme legislative and policy making power of the Marine Corps League in the National Convention composed of the properly elected, registered and approved Delegates in good standing. The confusion I see between Article 100 and Article 800 of the bylaws involves the implied intent of the delegates' authority at a convention to make Marine Corps League policy. While Article 100 gives the supreme authority to the delegates at a convention to make policy, Article 800 CH4-95 appears to want to restrict that authority of the delegates to only those bylaw changes submitted for revision, amendment or repeal that were properly submitted to National Headquarters prior to April 1st.

If the current approved amendment on the issue of Khaki shirts were to be changed it would devastate the power of the aforementioned Convention Delegates to act as a body and conduct League business and it would force the will of a relative few members who "after the fact", disagree with the ruling. This is why a challenge must be brought during the Convention. That would allow those same delegates to debate the validity of the challenge. NJA Kovalcik is correct when he says that "Red Hats Rule". As your National Commandant I believe in the power of the *properly elected, registered, and approved Delegates in good standing* to dictate to the duly elected National Officers, the direction of the Marine Corps League and as such, approve or disapprove all amendments brought before the floor of a National Convention. In this context the "National Registered Delegates, present at Convention, rule". To now remove the rights of the majority of the delegates to decide an issue would be a monumental blow to the rights of the membership to decide any question. Marines, remember it *was the majority of the delegates* on the convention floor who overwhelming approved the removal of the Khaki shirt from our dress code.

With that being said; I have suggested to the National Judge Advocate that Article 800 should be closely reviewed and consideration given to restating that portion of the Article that might be confusing. It is important to restore the intent of Article 100. The delegates at a National Convention must be able to conduct business and shape Marine Corps League policy, without the interference of a few. This should curtail further problems dealing with all business conducted at the National Convention.

Semper Fidelis

James R. Laskey

National Commandant

Census Taker Jobs for Veterans

PART TIME CENSUS TAKER JOBS AVAILABLE FOR VETERANS - The U.S. Census Bureau is now recruiting temporary, part-time census takers for the 2010 Census. Veterans' preference applies for qualifying military service. Most hiring will begin in the spring of 2010. Visit the 2010 Census Jobs site at <http://2010.census.gov/2010censusjobs/> to learn about 2010 Census jobs and download application materials, including a practice test. For more information, contact Clif Taylor at (301) 763-2113 or email clifton.j.taylor.jr@census.gov.



All Detachment Newsletter Editors should take note of Department of Pennsylvania M.C.L. By-Laws (Enclosure Two), which spell out the criteria for newsletter recognition at the state level.

Especially note that copies of Detachment Newsletters are to be sent to the Department Commandant, the Department Senior Vice Commandant, and the Department Public Affairs Officer.

Also send newsletters to the Keystone Leatherneck Editor via e-mail or snail mail.

Keystone Leatherneck
Leanna Dietrich/Commandant

17 E Cooke Avenue
Glenolden, PA 19036-1401
Email: shortdevildog99211@comcast.net
Phone: 610.256.2757

Keystone Leatherneck
Neil Corley/Sr. Vice Commandant

23132 Lakeview
Millsboro, DE 19966
Email: ncorley@mchsi.com
Phone: 309.934.1829

Keystone Leatherneck
Liz McCleaster/Editor
and Public Relations Officer

43 North Spring Garden Street
Ambler, PA 19002
E-Mail: lmccleaster@ltk.com
Phone: 267.736.5066

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Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc

1631 Bridge Street
New Cumberland, PA 17070

The **Keystone Leatherneck** is an official publication of the Department of Pennsylvania Marine Corps League. News-letter articles, suggestions, and comments may be sent to :

Keystone Leatherneck

C/O Liz McCleaster; Editor
43 North Spring Garden Street
Ambler, PA 19002
E-Mail: lmcleaster@ltk.com
Phone: 267-736-5066

Mailing Label

(if needed)

Address League and Department of Pennsylvania Public Affairs Correspondence to:

Public Relations Officer

Liz McCleaster
43 North Spring Garden Street
Ambler, PA 19002
Phone: 267-736-5066/E-mail: lmcleaster@ltk.com

2010 MEETING SCHEDULE

2010 Winter Staff Meeting

8 – 10 January 2010
Holiday Inn, Grantville
604 Station Road
Grantville, PA
888-465-4329
or
717-469-0661
Room Rates: \$79.00

Deadline: 9 December 2009

2010 Spring Staff Meeting

19 –20 March 2010
Meetings at
Headquarters Building
Sleeping Arrangements
Days Inn, Lickdale
3 Everest Lane, Jones-
town/Lebanon, PA
717-865-4064
Room Rates: \$50.00 double
/ \$54.00 king

Deadline: 1 March 2010

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