

To: Membership, Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania
From: Leanna Dietrich, Commandant
Date: 9 August 2009
Subject: National Convention Report

The bulk of the convention was spent discussing bylaws, budget and the 2011 National Convention.

Pennsylvania Detachments on board – Chester County Detachment, Landis McCleaf Detachment, Northampton County Detachment, Patrick Wm Milano Detachment, Northeastern Detachment, Susquehanna Valley Detachment, Turklay-Richards Detachment, Central Bucks Detachment, Bantam Marines Detachment and Upper Darby Detachment.

Modern Day Marine Expo will be held at Quantico 29/30 September and 1 October.
Marine West Expo will be held at Camp Pendleton 27/28 January 2010
Marine South Expo dates were not announced.

The Youth Physical Fitness Program is extending the program to include a “Postal Program” for Marine Corps JROTC Units. The Department of Defense is interested in having the program extended to all JROTC Units.

National Headquarters was given permission purchase and implement a new membership database that will allow the detachments and departments to pull their membership rosters at will. With this new system members will be able to renew their dues online using a credit card. Also new members will be allowed to join online. The goal is to have this system operational in one year. The Departments will be responsible for pulling reports for any detachment who does not have the ability to so. National Headquarters has asked all Division and Department Commandants to set aside time to train the Detachments on the new database and reports. It was suggested that detachment use Facebook and Twitter as a tool to recruit new members.

Bylaws:

Proposed Change 1: Section 540(a) – Members - Amended first part, line 7 on the floor to strike “and whose name appears on a sexual offender/predator list”. Amended second part CH13-07 line 13 on the floor to strike, “If the date of my application is subsequent to August 10, 2007,” Proposed Change 1 passed as amended.

Proposed Change 2: Section 600(a) – Membership Eligibility – was rejected on the floor.

Proposed Change 3 – Section 600(a) – Membership Eligibility – fix a typographical error – was passed on the floor.

Proposed Change 4 – Section 603 – Exclusion from Membership Eligibility – was rejected on the floor.

Proposed Change 5 – Section 300(d) – National Card and Label Program Committee – was passed on the floor.

Proposed Change 6 – Section 300(h) – National Corporate Membership Committee – was passed on the floor.

Proposed Change 7 – Chapter 9 – Section 900(g) – Service of Notices – Amended first sentence to read “All notices and correspondence from and to the Petitioner and/or Respondent required by this chapter must be served by certified mail and return receipt requested.” Striking the second sentence in its entirety – was passed on the floor as amended.

Proposed Change 8 – Chapter 9 Attachment 2 – Ritual for conducting a hearing board – was tabled on the floor and forwarded to the Administrative Review Committee.

Proposed Change 9 – Chapter 9 Attachment 4 – Findings of the disciplinary hearing board - was tabled on the floor and forwarded to the Administrative Review Committee.

Proposed Change 10 – Chapter 9 Attachment 5 – Findings of the hearing board for grievance - was tabled on the floor and forwarded to the Administrative Review Committee.

Proposed Change 11 – Section 901(h)(1) – Amended to include the National Commandant – was passed on the floor as amended.

Proposed Change 12 – Section 904 – Discipline of a member, detachment, department officers and board of trustees - was rejected on the floor.

Proposed Change 13 – Section 909 – renumbering issue – was passed on the floor.

Proposed Change 14 – Section 909 – Procedures – Duties of Petitioner (a)(3) – was rejected on the floor.

Proposed Change 15 – Section 909 – Procedures – Duties of Respondent (a)(3) – was rejected on the floor.

Proposed Change 16 – Section 909(D)(b)(9) – Procedures – typographical error – was passed on the floor.

Proposed Change 17 – Add Section 909(D)(b)(10) – was rejected on the floor.

Proposed Change 18 – Add Section 909(D)(b)(11) – was rejected on the floor.

Proposed Change 19 – Add Section 909(H) Duties and Responsibilities of the National Judge Advocate – was passed on the floor.

Proposed Change 20 – Add Section pertaining to Unauthorized activities propagated through the use of computers and/or the Internet – was tabled on the floor. This item never came off the table during convention so it was automatically rejected.

Proposed Change 21 - Chapter 10 – Section 1005 – Respect – was rejected on the floor.

Proposed Change 22 – Enclosure 3 (V) Marine Corps League Covers (C) – Insignia – was passed on the floor.

Proposed Change 23 – Enclosure 3 Ceremonial Uniform – Amended on the floor to eliminate the Ceremonial Uniform as a viable Marine Corps League Uniform – was passed as amended. EFFECTIVE

IMMEDIATELY WE ARE NO LONGER AUTHORIZED TO WEAR THE KHAKI SHIRT AT ANY TIME.

Proposed Change 24 – Enclosure 3 – was not properly submitted – rejected automatically

Proposed Change 25 – Enclosure 3 – authorizing the wear of the Kilt of the Leatherneck Tartan – was rejected on the floor.

Proposed Change 26 – Add Enclosure Three Paragraph III(E) - Amended to add the wording “ with Marine Corps League medals only” at the end of the sentence – was passed on the floor as amended.

Proposed Change 27 – Enclosure Three – Casual Uniform – was rejected on the floor. We are not authorized to wear the dress blues trousers with the red blazer.

Proposed Change 28 – Enclosure Four - Marine of the Year ribbon – was tabled until proof that the ribbon was adopted at a prior convention.

Proposed Change 29 – Enclosure Four – Marine Corps League Community Service (JROTC) ribbon – change was rejected on the floor.

Proposed Change 30 – Enclosure Four – Marine Corps League Unit Commendation Ribbon Award (MLR) – was passed on the floor.

Proposed Change 31 – Enclosure Four – Ceremonial Color Guard Ribbon – was rejected on the floor.

Proposed Change 32 was the second page of Proposed Change 31. Proposed Change 33 was renumbered on the floor as Proposed Change 32.

Proposed Change 32 – Add Enclosure for Web Sergeants – was rejected on the floor.

The body voted to bestow the title of Honorary Past National Commandant to Bud Randall and John Serpa.

The body vote to award the 2011 National Convention to Boise ID. Other sites in the running were Reno, NV and Scottsdale, AZ. A motion was made to reconsider the vote and it failed. A second attempt to reconsider the vote failed because the body did not vote to suspend the rules of convention to allow the second reconsideration.

National Scholarship Committee reported 188 of the 244 first time application for scholarship were approved and 145 of the 86 renewal applications were approved. A total of 97 applications were rejected. At this time it look like each applicant will receive between \$175 - \$200.

Toys for Tots – First place went to Pocono Marines Detachment, Pennsylvania – John Dickson received a Distinguished Citizen Medal Gold.

Americanism – Certificates of Participation were awarded to Bantam Marines, First Capital and Northampton County.

Newsletter – Category II – Second Place – MGySgt John W Zaengle Detachment. Certificates of Participation were awarded to Wayne Pike Detachment, Allegheny Valley Detachment, Central Bucks

Detachment, All Divisions Detachment, Northampton County Detachment, General Smedley D Butler Detachment, Ohio Valley Marines Detachment.

Recruiter Awards – Dennis Pentrack Conemaugh Valley Detachment (5), Edward Forster Conemaugh Valley Detachment (5), Gerald Horvath Conemaugh Valley Detachment (5), James V Mineo Northampton County Detachment (13), Jody E Stevens Northampton County Detachment (6), James R Washington Jr Lewis B Puller Jr Detachment (6), William J Myers Lewis B Puller Detachment (5), Leanna Dietrich Upper Darby Detachment (7).

Membership – Those detachments who maintained 100% membership from 30 June 2008 until 30 June 2009 – Delaware County Detachment, Dutch Helwig Detachment, Patrick Wm Milano Detachment, Mountain Cities Detachment, Northeastern Detachment, Williamsport Detachment, Anthracite Detachment, Penn-York Detachment, George Pron/Paul Seton Detachment, Pocono Marines Detachment, Lewis B Puller Jr Detachment, Hannings-Linderman Detachment, TriBoro Detachment, Schuylkill-Carbon Detachment, Central Bucks Detachment, Bedford County Detachment, Gettysburg Battlefield Detachment, Laurel Highlands Detachment, Rolling Rock Detachment, General Smedley D Butler Detachment, Allegheny Valley Detachment, Greater Greensburg Detachment, Tri-State Gung Ho Detachment, PFC Raymond F Dewey Detachment, Keystone Headquarters Detachment, MGySgt John W Zaengle Detachment, White Haven Detachment, Patriot Detachment.

Resolution to adopt the “Forever Wave” program as a Marine Corps League program was adopted.

Resolution to buy only American Flags manufactured in the United States (including base materials) was adopted.

VAVS – Category I – Third Place – Turklay Richards Detachment, Category II – First Place – Bantam Marines Detachment. Certificates of Participation - Delaware County Detachment, Northeastern Detachment and Department of Pennsylvania.

Chapel of the Four Chaplains – Legion of Honor Awards – Gary Farole (Ohio Valley Marines), Marilou Farole (Ohio Valley Marines), Joseph Mazzie (Ohio Valley Marines), Phil Stebler (Ohio Valley Marines), Ralph Ussack (Ohio Valley Marines), Donald Wilson (Ohio Valley Marines) and Robert Wagner (Ohio Valley Marines).

Marine Corps League National Officers for 2009 – 2010:

Commandant - James R Laskey
Sr Vice Commandant – Vic Voltaggio
Jr Vice Commandant – James Tuohy
Judge Advocate – John Kovalcik

Northeast Division

Vice Commandant – Dick Brown
Asst Vice Commandant – John Rymer
Aide de Camp (PA) – Ray Devlin
Adjutant – Leanna Dietrich
Paymaster – PNC Paul Hastings
Chaplain – Tom Minchin