

# MICHIGAN MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AUXILIARY BUGLER

## Department of Michigan

October 2014 Volume 1, Issue 2



This summer has gone by so fast! I attended the National Convention in Charleston WV and was absolutely amazed at how much information there is out there for all of us to learn. The bylaw process was very interesting to me as we are looking to update our own for the Dept. of Michigan. The National bylaws can be printed from the National MCLA website. The MCLA has a new eligibility for membership which includes Navy Chaplain so this allows our new member eligibility to expand.

I was fortunate to be able to visit SGT GP Porta Unit in August for their meeting! It was exciting to meet the ladies that work so hard to serve our veterans at the VA Hospital in Detroit. It is always nice to meet the ladies that give so much of themselves to this Auxiliary.



I was also honored to help with the installation of two of our Units, Macomb County and Flint Unit.



Being part of the installation team has shown me how many wonderful women we have in our organization that lead by their heart and kindness.

There are Marine Corps birthday celebrations going on around the state. I hope you are able to attend one and enjoy the camaraderie.

Before you know it the Holidays will be here and we will be spending time with our families. Let us not forget the service men and women who are away during the holidays.

God's Blessings,  
Mary Brief

## Recruitment Challenge

The challenge is very simple; the person who recruits the most new members between July 1, 2014 and May 20, 2015 will win.

**THE PRIZE:** The winner will receive a paid one night stay at the 75th Michigan June 2015 Convention. Value up to \$120. This prize has no cash value and is not transferable.

**THE RULES:**

- Only one person may win
- A unit may not combine

- the total of new members to award prize to one person in said Unit.
  - Winner must attend the convention to collect the prize
  - In the event of a tie, winner names will be placed in a drawing and one winner will be drawn from the group
  - The winner will be announced at the June Convention and **MUST** be present to collect on the prize.
  - New members may NOT include a President, Sr. VP, JrVP, JA, Chaplain, Secretary, or Treasurer.
  - The member may be regular or an associate and must be in good standing.
  - The President's decision will be final upon numbers received.
- REMEMBER:** To forward your new member applications to the proper people or they will not be counted.

### In this issue:

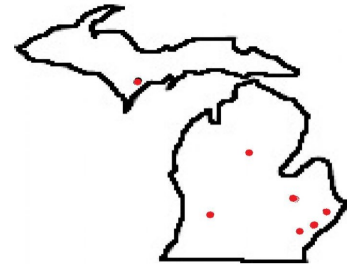
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### Positive Thought to Ponder:

- Optimism is the most important human trait, because it allows us to evolve our ideas, to improve our situation, and to hope for a better tomorrow." ~ Seth Godin



# What's Happening Around the State



The U.P. Unit participated in the Pumpkin Parade with the Detachment on Oct. 4th which is their kick off for the Toys for Tots campaign.

## From the Desk of Judge Advocate:

My name is Sandy VanTol and I was elected as the Department of Michigan Judge Advocate at our June Convention. Although I have been married to Marine Jonathan VanTol for 35 years, I have only belonged to the Marine Corp League Auxiliary for two years. There is much for me to learn and with your help and patience; we can build a stronger auxiliary that continues to focus on veterans and their families.

At the National Convention in Charleston, West Virginia, in August, many by-law changes were voted on and approved. Some of these changes affect our Michigan by-laws since state by-laws must align with National by-laws. Your Department by-laws committee has been working on housekeeping issues (such as grammar, formatting, and punctuation) which will make our by-laws easier to understand.

We welcome your submissions for any by-law revisions, amendments, or repeals for the committee to consider at the June Convention.

Submissions must be made in triplicate typewritten form in the exact wording and be received by the Department of Michigan Judge Advocate at least 90 days before the opening of the June convention, to be considered for the 2015 Convention. The change requests should be sent by certified U.S. mail or other carriers where certified delivery may be verified, and a return receipt may be requested. You may refer to the National by-laws for additional by-law change specifics. In your submission, to be sure to reference the Article and Sections numbers. Indicate how the by-law currently reads, how you would like to amend it to read, and the rationale for your proposed change.

Best Regards,

Sandy VanTol

mijamcla@gmail.com

# Mid-Winter Convention

Mid-Winter Convention will be held at the fabulous destination of Frankenmuth!

Dates: January 29—February 1, 2015 (Joint opening will be at 2:00pm on January 30th)

Place: Bavarian Inn Motor Lodge, Frankenmuth MI

1-800-652-7200

Room Rates: \$89 (standard room), \$99 (courtyard room), \$149.99 (suite) plus 11% tax.

Mention Marine Corps League when making your reservations.

**Hotel Reservations must be made by Jan. 9, 2015.**

The strip ticket cost is: \$55 which includes registration, hospitality, and the banquet on Saturday night.

The convention packet can be found on [www.michiganmarines.org](http://www.michiganmarines.org) or

you may contact me at: [mipresmcla@gmail.com](mailto:mipresmcla@gmail.com) or Gerri Tuohy at: [wildgerri323@aol.com](mailto:wildgerri323@aol.com)

## Project Operation Little Angel Wish List

At the Mid Winter Rally, we have chosen the , “Mustard Seed” Organization to give our donations to. They have served 750 homeless women and their children during their 15 years of existence. Now more than ever their need is great.

Soft Fleece Blankets	Preschool Educational Toys	Conditioner
Pajamas	Art Supplies	Black hair products
Socks	Towel Sets & Wash Cloths	Hair Products for Children
Underpants	New Pillow	Cash/ Gift Cards always welcomed
Under shirts	Women's Personal Hygiene	
Tennis Shoes (ages 5-12)	Deodorant	

\*variety children sizes needed for clothing items

\*each Woman and child receives a NEW bath towel, hand towel, wash cloth and pillow when they come.

*We will have a representative from Mustard Seed to speak with us on Saturday . I encourage all Units to participate in this years OLA project even if you are unable to attend.*



## DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN MID WINTER RALLY

JANUARY 30 – FEBRUARY 1, 2015

We are looking for a few good men and women to help with this Department event. Raffles, Registration, Hospitality and Bartending are some needed areas. We are also in need of raffle items. Check out your closets and secret hiding places and see what you think would be a good item to donate to a great cause. Anyone wishing to donate any type of beverage (liquor, beer, wine, pop or water) would be appreciated.

If you feel like this is something you would like to participate in, either donating or helping, please contact one of the people listed below. We can arrange to pick up donations of any kind.

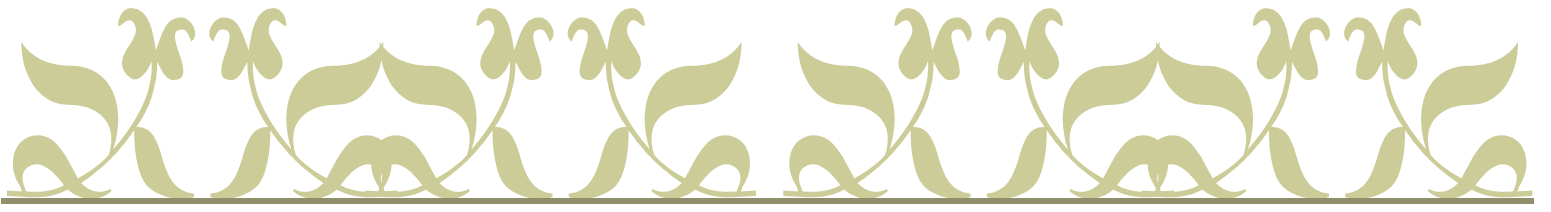
Remember, this is your Department and it always turns out well when we work together for one common thread!!!

Chair Gerri Tuohy	Chair Mary Brief	Cmdt Norm Pfaff
810-695-3241	989-550-9540	586-263-3448
<a href="mailto:wildgerri323@aol.com">wildgerri323@aol.com</a>	<a href="mailto:mipresmcla@gmail.com">mipresmcla@gmail.com</a>	<a href="mailto:norjo2@yahoo.com">norjo2@yahoo.com</a>

## ABC;s for Being a Good Member

- A. Attend your unit and department meetings regularly.
- B. Be a working member, a few minutes or hours monthly.
- C. Check out the facts before repeating things told you.
- D. Do not walk .....
- E. Express yourself feely and honestly at meetings– not after.
- F. Familiarize yourself with each project.
- G. Give proper respect to all officers in their official capacity.
- H. Have adequate knowledge of parliamentary procedure.
- I. It is your duty to vote on matters and your opinion counts.
- J. Join in discussions at the meetings and join group activities, you will learn and have fun doing it.
- K. Kindle that spark of friendliness and enthusiasm within yourself .
- L. Listen to and respect the opinion of others.
- M. Membership is everyone’s responsibility .
- N. No speaking across to members, always through the chair.
- O. Obey the rules of the organization.
- P. Pay your dues on time– the earlier the better.
- Q. Question reports and actions you don’t fully understand , this is how we all learn.
- R. Refrain from talking while business is being transacted or while a speaker is giving a report.
- S. Study Unit, Department, and National Bylaws.
- T. Take an active participation in the meetings, but do not monopolize time.
- U. Unite your talents and ideas with other members to insure successful ventures.
- V. Volunteer.... Your time , energy, and your best efforts.
- W. Wear your MCLA pin proudly!
- X. ....Marks the spot on the membership application forms where new members sign their name.
- Y. **You**, the member, are the most valuable asset of the MCLA!
- Z. Zealous members make our organization prosper and grow.

This article is borrowed from another organization. I thought we could use these words to us to remind us to be ever mindful MCLA members.



## Officers for the 2014-15 year

<b>President:</b> Mary Brief	mipresmcla@gmail.com	7120 Brief Rd. Kingston, MI 48741	989.550.9540
<b>Sr. V.P. :</b> Colleen Chmiel-Rieck	misrvpmcla@gmail.com	45234 Claymore Dr. Canton, MI 48187	734.493.2045
<b>Jr. V.P. :</b> Ann LeClair	mijrvpmcla@gmail.com	5283 W Wilson Rd. Clio, MI 48420	810.687.6091
<b>Judge Advocate:</b> Sandy VanTol	mijamcla@gmail.com	not available	989.225.4583
<b>Chaplain:</b> Sylvia Wurn	snookyfritzy2001@yahoo.com	5790 Van Dyke Rd Almont MI 48003	810.798.3716

<b>Auditors:</b> Jen Bryan	<b>Secretary:</b> Gerri Tuohy	<b>Ways and Means:</b> Ann Streichert
Joan Pfaff	<b>Treasurer:</b> Janet LeBeau	<b>Captain of the Guard:</b> Benjawan Miller
Doris Roberts	<b>Fundraiser Treasurer:</b> Peggy Tuohy	

We are always looking for Volunteers to help work on projects. If you are someone that would like to work on the Department Level please contact one of the officers above , we would love to have you!

## MCLA Michigan Units

### Cpl Jack A Davenport Unit

Prudenville, MI 48651  
 President : Celine Smith  
 They meet @ 7pm at the American Legion Post the 2nd Wednesday of Every Month.

### Upper Peninsula Unit

Escanaba, MI 49829  
 President: Susan Rivard  
 They meet @ 7pm the 4th Wednesday of Every Month

### Down River Unit

Wyandotte, MI 48192  
 President : Janet Lebeau  
 They meet @ 7pm the 2nd Tuesday of Every Month

### Sgt. G.P.Porta Unit

Rocky's Restaurant ; Wayne or Westland, MI  
 President: Carol Ringvelski  
 They meet @ 6pm the 3rd Thursday of the Month

### Flint Unit

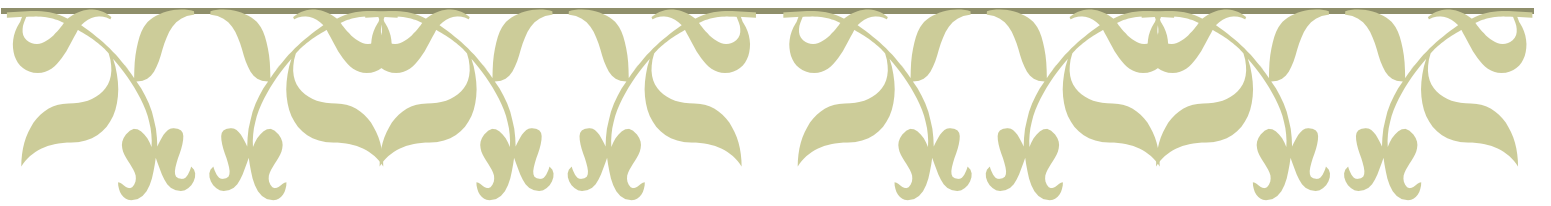
Mt. Morris, MI 48458  
 President: Sylvia Wurn  
 They meet 7:30pm the 3rd Thursday of every Month.

### Michigan Cochran Unit

Kent City, MI 49330  
 President: Virginia Johnson  
 They meet when they can approx., every other month; usually on a Monday

### Macomb County Unit

President: : Sherry Teeples



Department of Michigan

Mary Brief  
7120 Brief Rd  
Kingston, MI 48741



Marine Corps League Auxiliary Member

If any member would like to get **The Bugler** by email please contact me via email.  
**Mary Brief : mipresmcla@gmail.com**



**The next newsletter I would like to feature what some of the Units are doing around our state. Please feel free to send me an article and a couple of pictures so we can all share!**

**Mipresmcla@gmail.com**

**Recipe: from MCLA member Nancy Henn**

**Banana Nut Cake**

<i>1/2 c.. butter</i>	<i>2 c. flour</i>	<i>1 tsp. vanilla</i>
<i>1 1/2 c . Sugar</i>	<i>1 tsp. baking soda</i>	<i>1/2 c. Pecans</i>
<i>2 eggs</i>	<i>1/2 tsp salt</i>	<i>(chopped)</i>
<i>3 small <u>green</u> banana's</i>	<i>4 Tbsp. Buttermilk</i>	

Cream the butter and sugar together, then beat in the eggs plus the green bananas. The bananas should NOT be ripe, a bit on the green side is best.

Combine the flour, baking soda, and salt. Add alternately to the first mixture with the buttermilk, vanilla, and pecans.

Bake in layers at 350 degrees for 20-25 min. Use circle cake pans that are oiled and floured.

When cool cover with an icing made of the following:

Cream together : 1 stick of butter, 1 (3 oz) cream cheese, 1 small banana (mashed), 1 box powdered sugar, lastly fold chopped pecans.

Spread on the cake layers, be sure to ice all of the cake. Keep in the refrigerator and it is better to eat the second day.

Visit : [www.Michiganmarines.org](http://www.Michiganmarines.org) for more Auxiliary info.