

**Next Detachment
Meeting:**
Emmaus VFW
#7088
316 Main St.
Emmaus, PA
Aug. 27th @ 1930

**Current
Elected/Appointed
Officers**

- **Commandant -
Jason Smith**
- **Sr. Vice
Commandant -
Fred Babcock**
- **Jr. Vice
Commandant -
Robert Hoffman**
- **Judge Advocate -
Howard Schaeffer**
- **Adjutant -
Terry Keiser**
- **Paymaster -
Terry Keiser**
- **Chaplain -
Charles Helfrich**
- **Sgt. at Arms -
Michael Donatacci**
- **Web Sgt. -
Jason Smith**



Message from the CP

Marines we have come a long way in our efforts to get our detachment up to snuff and get us noticed by our community. We have our website up and running. With that tool we will be able to not only get more recognition for ourselves, but we will also be able to assist fellow veterans organizations in their efforts as well. With the way that veterans organizations are slowly disappearing the only way we will all be able to survive is to join together in a united front. We already have links to the National and Department Marine Corps League websites. Shortly we will be adding a link to the Lehigh Valley Veterans History Project. This is an organization whose primary mission is to collect, documents, and preserve the personal experiences of U.S. wartime veterans as well as home front workers and volunteers who supported the war effort. These are the type of organizations that we need to start supporting more now that we have gotten our feet back beneath us. If you know of any other organizations that you believe would be beneficial to the detachment to partner up with please let us know.

At last month's meeting a discussion was held on whether we should continue to do the meat raffle. My belief is that the meat raffle is a positive fundraiser for the detachment monetarily, and it also affords the detachment an opportunity to get together in a not purely business related way. That being said, we are always open to suggestions for other fundraising opportunities. Anytime an organization continues with the status quo and doesn't attempt to remain fresh people start to lose interest. If you would like to submit an idea, with proper planning included, please bring your idea to a future meeting.

Meeting Minutes

- ❖ Commandant Smith read a flyer presented by the Marine Corps League Foundation announcing the 3rd Annual Golf Outing. It will be held at Penn National Golf Club & Inn on the 23rd of August. Registration will begin at 11:30 AM with a shot gun start at 1:30 PM. If there is any further interest contact Commandant Smith.
- ❖ Further support of the Marine Corps League Foundation was discussed and a motion was raised and unanimously passed to donate \$200.00
- ❖ Adjutant Keiser passed out invitations to the Annual Detachment Picnic, to the members present. The picnic will be held on August 10th at Adjutant Keiser's house. It is set to begin at 11:00AM. The main dish this year will be bbq ribs. If you haven't received your invitation please contact Commandant Smith or Adjutant Keiser.
- ❖ Joe Malia announced that his daughter has been medically cleared to report back to work after months of rehabilitation from her skating accident.
- ❖ Sgt At Arms Donatacci will be looking into getting new covers for our Detachment Colors and American Flag for the purpose of transport during color guard duties.

Meeting Minutes Continued

- ❖ Senior Vice Commandant Babcock reported that he was able to get a hold of Reverend Staub. They were able to receive enough money to pay for the cremation and are waiting for burial at Fort Indiantown Gap. The deceased marine's children are currently living with relatives.
- ❖ A further report was given on the Breinigsville Fireworks display. The members present were given VIP parking and were able to collect \$216.00 for Marine Corps Rose donations. A thank you letter will be written and given to Carl Schmoyer for allowing us to have a table at their event.
- ❖ A discussion was held on the topic of a future nursing home visit. A decision was made that we will take a trip to Mosser Nursing Home and possible others on the 6th of September.
- ❖ Chaplain Charlie Helfrich reported that the wife of Kenny Marks is now in a nursing home and is battling complications from cancer. Please keep her and the Marks family in your thoughts and prayers
- ❖ Commandant Smith gave a report on the website and its contents. If you haven't checked it out please do so; it is constantly being updated. The more the site gets visited the more it will show up in search engines. It was also announced that if you are a part of any other veterans organizations and would like to get their web pages or Facebook pages link to our site, please submit them to Commandant Smith.
WWW.LVMCL.COM
- ❖ Sgt At Arms Donatacci has gone around to get prices for new frames for our Detachment Charter and Original Board Members. He gave a report on his findings to the detachment and a vote was held to spend \$223.60 at Hobby Lobby to get those items upgraded.
- ❖ Henry Brokate announced that he has gotten permission to have a table at the Vera Cruz Homecoming Association Picnic on August 17th. Set-up begins around 11AM and runs into the evening. The purpose of the table will be to raise awareness for the Marine Corps League and the Emmaus American Legion. If you are interested in assisting Hank the effort please contact either him or Commandant Smith.
- ❖ A discussion was held about possibly getting a van to travel down to Cookie's Tavern this year for the Marine Corps Birthday celebration. If you have any interest in doing this please contact Commandant Smith or Judge Advocate Schaeffer.
- ❖ Joe Malia was able to get some additional tickets for the Kuhnsville Carwash. The cost of the tickets is \$10.00 with \$5.00 going to the detachment. If you would like tickets please contact Commandant Smith.
- ❖ Paul Fisk, co-chairman and founder of the Lehigh Valley Veterans History Project, was a guest speaker. He presented their plans for a Lehigh Valley Gold Star Mothers' Veteran Center. The purpose of this center is to assist local veterans in their efforts to create future entrepreneurial ventures. There will also be a private lounge and library for veterans and their families to have a place to relax and congregate. Mr. Fisk also brought up the Whitehall PA Area Chamber of Commerce Veterans Day Celebration and discussed their proposed agenda. He asked if the detachment would be able to provide a color guard for their event. Commandant Smith, Senior Vice Commandant Babcock, Judge Advocate Schaeffer, and Sgt At Arms Donatacci volunteered to form the color guard. If any other volunteers will be needed for this event the detachment will be notified. Mr. Fisk also said that he looks forward to working with our detachment in the future and hopes that we can assist him in future projects.

This Month's

Birthdays/Anniversaries

- John Balliet joined the MCL in Aug. of '99

- Joe Deddo turns 65 on Aug. 9th

- Richard Cuth turns 77 on Aug. 18th

- William Remo turns 71 on Aug. 19th

- Fred Babcock turns 69 on Aug. 28th

- The Marine Corps League was chartered by congress on August 4th 1937.



Paymaster's Report

- ❖ As of 07/23/14 the money market account has a balance of \$3,239.88
- ❖ As of 07/23/14 the checking account has an available balance of \$3879.16



Medal of Honor Recipient Corporal Kyle Carpenter

For those of you that did not know, on June 19th 2014 Marine Corporal Kyle Carpenter was officially awarded the Medal of Honor. He became only the second living marine to receive this honor for actions during the Afghanistan and Iraqi wars. His official citation is below:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as an Automatic Rifleman with Company F, 2d Battalion, 9th Marines, Regimental Combat Team 1, 1st Marine Division (Forward), I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), in Helmand Province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom on 21

November 2010. Lance Corporal Carpenter was a member of a platoon-sized coalition force, comprised of two reinforced Marine rifle squads partnered with an Afghan National Army squad. The platoon had established Patrol Base Dakota two days earlier in a small village in the Marjah District in order to disrupt enemy activity and provide security for the local Afghan population. Lance Corporal Carpenter and a fellow Marine were manning a rooftop security position on the perimeter of Patrol Base Dakota when the enemy initiated a daylight attack with hand grenades, one of which landed inside their sandbagged position. Without hesitation and with complete disregard for his own safety, Lance Corporal Carpenter moved toward the grenade in an attempt to shield his fellow Marine from the deadly blast. When the grenade detonated, his body absorbed the brunt of the blast, severely wounding him, but saving the life of his fellow Marine. By his undaunted courage, bold fighting spirit, and unwavering devotion to duty in the face of almost certain death, Lance Corporal Carpenter reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

Upcoming Events

- **National MCL Convention to be held in Charleston, West Virginia from Aug 3rd- Aug 9th.** For more information see website: <http://www.2014mclnationalconvention.com/>

- **Annual Detachment picnic to be held at Adjutant Keiser's house. Set to begin at 1100 on Aug 10th**

- **Detachment meeting on Aug 27th scheduled to begin @ 1930**

- **September 6th Mosser Nursing home visit. More information to come.**

- **Bethlehem Detachment bus trip to the Statue of Liberty. Scheduled for Sept. 27th. For more details contact Commandant Smith**

- **Whitehall PA Area Chamber of Commerce Veterans Day Ceremony. To be held at the Fellowship Community in Whitehall on Nov. 13th, more details to come.**



Howard Cooper all packed up and waiting to leave Saudi Arabia

***“YOU EARNED THE TITLE
“MARINE” UPON
GRADUATION FROM
RECRUIT TRAINING. IT
WASN’T WILLED TO YOU; IT
ISN’T A GIFT; IT IS NOT A
GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY.
FEW CAN CLAIM THE
TITLE; NO ONE MAY TAKE
IT AWAY. IT IS YOURS
FOREVER “***

***- MSGT THOMAS P. BARTLETT
MANAGING EDITOR,
LEATHERNECK MAGAZINE***

Marine Corps League Detachment 296

Official Website:
<http://www.lvmcl.com>

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