



SITREP

LEHIGH VALLEY DETACHMENT 296

[HTTP://WWW.LVMCL.COM](http://www.lvmcl.com)

DETACHMENT MEETINGS:
Every 4th Wednesday @ 1930
EMAUS FIRE CO. No. 2
1017 Pennsylvania Ave
Emmaus PA 18049

DETACHMENT OFFICERS

- *Commandant*
Jason Smith

- *SR Vice Commandant*
Howard Schaeffer

- *JR Vice Commandant*
John Eyer

- *Judge Advocate*
William Stoudt

- *Adjutant/Paymaster*
Ron Heckman

- *Chaplain*
Joseph Malia

- *Sergeant at Arms*
Milton Solares

February marks the 74th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima, which took place between 19 February and 26 March 1945; producing the following casualties:

United States - 6,812 killed/missing

2 captured

19,217 wounded

Japan - 21,844 killed

216 captured

There were 27 Medals of Honor awarded to Marines and US Navy sailors, more than for any other operation during World War II. Many were given posthumously.



Rosenthal/AP

One day after the initial landing, 28th Marines secured the southern end of the island and moved to take Mount Suribachi. By February 23rd, Marines from the 28th reached the top of Mount Suribachi and raised the American flag. 3rd Marine Division was put into the fight on day five of the battle and was given the mission of taking the center sector of the island. At the same time 5th Marines moved up the western coast of the island to the northern tip, while 4th Division simultaneously moved to take the eastern section of the island. The Battle of Iwo Jima would see the largest body of Marines committed in combat in a single operation during the entire war. The island was declared secure on March 26th.

THE MONTH IN REVIEW

2019

OFFICER INSTALLATION CEREMONY



During January's meeting, SR Vice Commandant Schaeffer was able to join the meeting via FaceTime. This allowed him to "attend" the meeting as well as be sworn in despite the fact that he was not physically present.

Due to the success, the Detachment is currently exploring the possibility of making this option available to any member who is unable to attend a meeting.



SCUTTLEBUTT FROM THE FLEET

Follow the link below to find out what is happening now in the FMF:

<https://www.marinecorpstimes.com/news/your-marine-corps/2019/02/25/your-next-combat-tour-where-mountains-of-supplies-any-comforts-of-home-will-be-a-thing-of-the-past/>

If you would like to submit something to *The Sitrep*, please contact me via email or text. I welcome any input you, as a Detachment, may have. My apologies in advance if I have omitted any matters of importance for this month's edition and ask that you let me know if I have done so.

Semper Fi Marines!

Ria Mattix

dumagirl4@gmail.com

484-788-2980

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Last month's meeting was held on Wednesday, January 23

Minutes are as follows:

Minutes from the previous meeting were accepted by a vote

15 For

0 Against

0 Abstentions

Correspondence:

Commandant Smith received another request for an Eagle Scout Court of Honor Ceremony on Feb. 23rd at Upper Nazareth Township Building beginning @1400. Several other members volunteered to attend as well

Paymaster Keiser reported that he received a notification that our CD was about to be up. Due to the multiple votes we have had on the issue in the past, Commandant Smith ordered that the CD be cashed in and the funds be placed in the checking account until the financial committee gets a chance to look in to a better use for the funds

Report of the Paymaster:

The money market account is at \$3037.00

The checking account is at \$679.78

The report was accepted with a vote

15 For

0 Against

0 Abstentions

Report of any member of family member sick or in distress:

Ria Mattix has been cleared to go back to work after her surgery

Committees:

PR Committee:

Website has been updated with all current events.

There is a plan to update the officer's page, the roster page, creating a 2018 a year in photos page, all the photo pages will be put in storage and taken off the website, updating awards pages for 2017 and 2018, and opening a PayPal account in the hopes of creating a donation page for both the website and Facebook

Photos of time in service were requested to help fill space in the newsletter

Marine of the Year committee:

Three nominees will be selected. We will vote in April and the elected Marine will receive their award in May

Marine Corps Ball Committee:

Committee needs to get together to start pricing locations and catering. Members of the committee are Commandant Smith, SR Vice Schaeffer, and Ria Mattix

Unfinished Business:

Gun Raffle: We are still in the process of getting a small games of chance license. Once we get the license, we can print tickets. As of now we hope to have the tickets for the February meeting and the raffle will go off at the May meeting

SR Vice Commandant Schaeffer joined the meeting via FaceTime and reported on the blood drive. We will be picking a Saturday in April to hold the event

While online he showed us videos from the Reagan Library

Installation of the 2019 Officers Ceremony was preformed

Good of the League:

Gold Star Mother and Associate Member Anna Rodriguez reported that she and Sr. Vice Commandant Schaeffer have set up a carwash at Ace Hardware in Northampton on Saturday July 20th. More details will come closer to the date. She also commented on how much she appreciates the support she has received from the Detachment over the last year

Chaplain Malia reported that WAEB Personality Dan Holzman's mother passed away and he has a card for the Detachment members to sign. For those of you that are unaware WAEB has been very supportive of the Detachment, interviewing several members, doing birthday announcements, and reporting on several of our events

Announcements:

Bill Stoudt won a birthday breakfast at Hotel Bethlehem from WAEB's birthday announcement contest

The pavilion was secured for August 17th for the picnic. This year Detachment members will be free, adult family members will be ½ price, and children under 13 will be free. The reason for the change is that for the last 2 years there were quite a few members/families expected to come that didn't. Emmaus Honor Guard are invited with the same pricing; members free, families ½ price. We will be using the same caterer. An official Picnic Committee will be formed at next month's meeting

A moment of silence was held for Gunnery Sergeant R. Lee Erme

There being no further business the meeting was closed to be reopened for business on February 27th @1930