



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*

Marie "Ria" Mattix

• *SR Vice Commandant*

Bill Stoudt

• *JR Vice Commandant*

John Eyer

• *Judge Advocate*

Cory Shellhamer

• *Adjutant/Paymaster*

Dave Newcomer

• *Chaplain*

Joseph Malia

• *Sergeant at Arms*

Rondell Anderson

• *Web Sergeant*

Jason Smith



National Vietnam War Veterans Day is celebrated on March 29th. It was recently made a recognized annual holiday in 2017 when President Trump signed it into law. March 29th is the day that the last of the troops were withdrawn from Vietnam in 1973. The Vietnam War was one of the longest wars in US history lasting almost 20 years. The War began on November 1, 1955 and ended on April 30, 1975. It took place in Laos, Cambodia, and North and South Vietnam and resulted in the victory of the communist government and army of North Vietnam, also known as the Viet Cong, over that of South Vietnam. The United States, along with other nations including Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Korea, and Thailand fought with the Southern Vietnamese Army in an effort to prevent the spread of communism across the border of North and South Vietnam. In 1982 the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated in Washington, D.C. The Memorial (a portion of which is pictured above) is inscribed with the names of 57,939 members of U.S. armed forces who had either died or were missing as a result of the war. Over the following years, additions to the list brought the total past 58,200. It is estimated that as many as 2 million civilians on both sides and some 1.1 million North Vietnamese and Viet Cong fighters, along with between 200,000 and 250,000 South Vietnamese soldiers, lost their lives during the War. The Vietnam War was technically defined as a conflict since the United States Congress never declared war against Vietnam. However, war is defined as "a situation wherein two or more countries, states or parties within a country fight against each other over a period of time". By that definition, Vietnam was indeed a war. Vietnam today is one of only five communist countries in the world (the other four being North Korea, China, Cuba, and Laos). The war in Vietnam was very unpopular with the American people and the men and women who served in Vietnam did not receive the hero's welcome given to those that had gone before them. Follow the link below to read more about the struggles faced by Vietnam Veterans upon returning home.

<https://www.history.com/news/vietnam-war-veterans-treatment>

THE MONTH IN REVIEW

HAPPY 96TH BIRTHDAY

MARINE BOB LONGENBERGER



On 31 March, members of Detachment 296 gathered to celebrate the 96th birthday of Marine Bob Longenberger.

Bob served between 1942-1946 and is a WWII Veteran. Happy Birthday and Semper Fi Marine!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 28 APR 1930 hrs.: Detachment Meeting
- 16 MAY 1400 hrs.: Flag Replacement (Memorial Day), for Calgary Cemetery, St. Ann's Church
- 23 MAY time TBA: Roses - Emmaus Farmer's Market in the Triangle in Emmaus
- 21 AUG time TBA: Detachment Picnic. Pavilion has been reserved, Emmaus Community Park
- 29 AUG time TBA: Roses - Emmaus Farmer's Market in the Triangle in Emmaus



~ WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY ~

Our thoughts and prayers are with Detachment member Colyer James and family. Colyer's brother, Michael Edward James passed away 8 March 2021.

SCUTTLEBUTT FROM THE FLEET

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

<https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-army/2021/04/05/all-volunteer-force-cant-meet-pentagons-future-needs-advocates-warn/>

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

riamcl296@gmail.com

484-788-2980

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Last month's meeting was held on 24 MAR 2021

Minutes are as follows:

Roll Call of Officers finds All Present

Application for Membership: None

Motion was requested to accept previous month's minutes. Motion was made and seconded.

For 21 Against 0 Abstentions 0

Correspondence: None

Report of the Paymaster:

Beginning Balance \$14,916.72, No Deposits, Debits \$45.00-Dues, CD \$3377.84, Liability Insurance Payment \$395.00, Business Cards \$25.00. Ending Balance \$18,464.54. Motion to Accept was made and Seconded.

For 21 Against 0 Abstentions 0

The need and purpose for a Detachment Laptop was discussed. It was decided at this time as not necessary. It is tabled until such time as it may be deemed necessary.

Sr. Vice Commandant Stoudt Reports as Follows:

Rifle Slings are ordered but presently Back Ordered, Ammo and Clips are received and stored in a Secure Location. Sr. Vice Stoudt has researched and recommends a 26 Gun Safe for an approximate cost of \$500.00. He advises if acceptable he would be willing to purchase, transport to a secure location and install. Motion to proceed on his recommendation was requested and Seconded.

For 21 Against 0 Abstentions 0

Standing Committees: Nothing

Special Committees: Nothing

Sick and In Distress:

Jason Smith reports on his Family Members with their continuing health struggles. He asks that the Detachment continue to keep them in their prayers. The Detachment offers their Condolences to Colyer James on the passing of his Brother. Please keep Colyer in your prayers. Dave Newcomer's neighbor's family suffered an accidental death. Please keep their family in your prayers.

Unfinished Business:

Jr. Vice Commandant Eyer read a letter from the Coach of the Emmaus Fitness Team. They have begun some outdoor practice. No meets are expected this year because of the Wuhan Flu

Jr. Vice Eyer also has requested dates for Marine Rose Campaign at the Emmaus Farmers Market. Present request are 23 May and 27 June. Will confirm when approved.

Motion to donate to the Emmaus Fitness Team was revisited. Motion was made and seconded to donate \$200.00.

For 22 Against 0 Abstentions 0

Room rent at Citizens Fire Company #2 will be \$50.00. Members are asked to "donate" \$5.00 per meeting. Leave at table of SGT at Arms at sign in.

New Business:

Vet Fest is cancelled. Our full page add is still pending.

Detachment Picnic: Pavilion has been reserved, Emmaus Community Park, with a date of 21 August. Howard is planning with Catering.

Flag Replacement (Memorial Day), for Calgary Cemetery, St. Ann's Church, will be 16 May, 14:00 hours. Members, Family and Volunteers are invited.

New Email for the Detachment: mcldet296@gmail.com

Vietnam Veterans Day 29 March. Mission Barbecue is offering free sandwich.

Commandant Mattix has been approached by Marine Doug Graves, Bethlehem Detachment, to assist in starting a Young Marine Detachment. The commitment of time and expense was somewhat outlined. It appears to be a major commitment on both fronts. Commandant Mattix will discuss further next month and request the decision of the Membership.

Good of the League:

Pending By-Law changes are in process for approval with State.

Two Awards were received in the way of Banners for the Detachment Flag.

Jason Smith offered thanks to the Membership for their support.

Detachment Member Bob Longenberger is celebrating his 96th Birthday. Chaplain Malia suggested some type of remembrance. Details later.

Meeting was closed until 28 April 2021 at 19:30 hours