



SITREP

LEHIGH VALLEY DETACHMENT 296

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

...On Being a Marine Veteran

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*

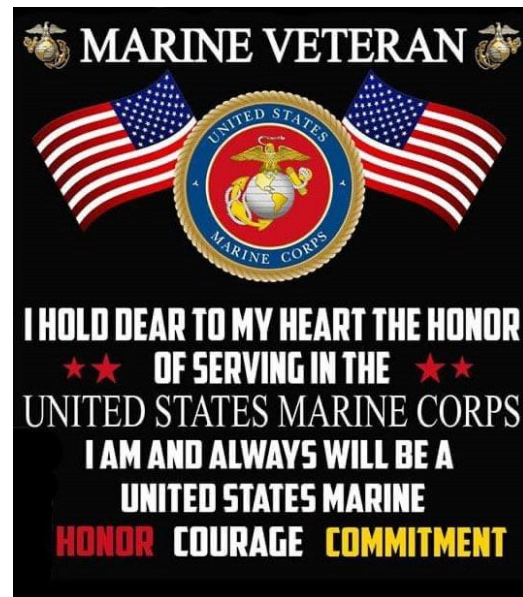
Joseph Malia

• *Sergeant at Arms*

Rondell Anderson

• *Web Sergeant*

David Guldin



There are several days throughout the year dedicated to honoring our great Nation and those who have served her. For those of us who served in our beloved Corps, November marks the observance of two of those days. There are several memes that make their way around the various social media platforms each year jesting about how Marines view the celebration of the birth of our Corps as some form of national holiday; and one of paramount importance at that. And how do we, as Marines, respond to these memes? We **embrace** them because we know that there are, in fact, very few days more important to us than the birth of our Corps. Much more than a mere fighting force was born that day, it was the birth of the most **elite** and **diverse** fighting force; a brotherhood so strong and steeped in tradition that today's Marines believe we are somehow directly descended from those recruited at Tun Tavern on that historic November day. Call us boastful, the few, the proud (sometimes to the point of arrogance), heroic, brave, even "cultish"- we will embrace all of these terms for we, and all who know us, know firsthand what it takes to become one of us. Being a Veteran is a tremendous honor. Being a **Marine** Veteran, to us, is more than an honor. It is who we are as we did not just **serve** as Marines, we **became** Marines. And as the old saying goes...*Once a Marine, always a Marine*. So Happy Birthday Marines. Embrace who we are and all we stand for! And on this Veteran's Day, thank you for your service and Semper Fi.

(photo shared at the request of Fred Babcock)

THE MONTH IN REVIEW

THERE'S STILL TIME...

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

LEHIGH VALLEY 245TH MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BALL

The Marine Corps Birthday Ball will be held on 13 November 2020 at 1800 at the Lehigh Valley Hotel and Conference Center (Best Western on RT 512). Tickets are \$100.00/person. Block rooms are available. Please let Commandant Smith know if you plan to attend.

ATTENTION:

CHANGE IN MEETING TIME!

After many months, we are back to holding our monthly meeting at EMAUS FIRE CO. No. 2. Please note due to COVID restrictions, meeting time has been changed to 1815 hrs. Due to Thanksgiving holiday, our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, **17 November 2020**. Please note this is a change in day as well. Officer nominations will continue at November's meeting, with elections being held in December. Please plan on attending if you wish to nominate a Detachment member.

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/2020/10/30/marine-corps-celebrates-105th-anniversary-of-recruit-depot-parris-island/?utm_source=clavis

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 23 SEP 2020

Minutes are as follows:

A brief meeting was held at the Detachment picnic. A motion was made to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded

For: 16

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Applications for Membership: NONE

Correspondence: NONE

Report of the Paymaster:

-Beginning balance: \$18,640.32. There was a deposit of \$170.20 for dues which brought the total to \$18,810.52. 6 checks were written: \$1,000.00 donation to the Emmaus Fitness Team, \$75 to Fire Company no 2 for room rental, \$595.00 for food for the Detachment picnic, \$98.00 to Marie Mattix for beverages and ice for the picnic, \$150.00 for Hank Brokate's banner and \$50.00 refund for overpayment of membership dues which brought the total to \$16,842.52. Balance of the Detachment CD is \$3,377.18. Detachment assets total: \$20,220.20. A motion was made to accept the Paymaster Report. The motion was seconded

For: 16

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Report of Family Members Sick or in Distress:

-Beth Smith's best friend's mother passed away. She was like a second mother to Beth. Thank you to all those who served on her Honor Guard

Report of Officers: NONE

Standing Committees:

-PR: The Website and Newsletter are up to date

-Marine of the Year: John Eyer has been selected as Detachment 296 Marine of the Year. His award will be presented at the Marine Corps Ball on 13 November 2020

Unfinished Business:

-The Marine Corps Birthday Ball will be held on 13 November 2020 at 1800 at the Lehigh Valley Hotel and Conference Center (Best Western on RT 512). It is being called the "Lehigh Valley Marine Corps Birthday Ball hosted by Lehigh Valley Detachment 296" to encourage other Detachments to join us. The invitation was posted on the Detachment Website, on the Detachment FB page and on the Department Website. The Marine Corps League National Commandant is this year's guest speaker. Tickets are \$100.00/person. Block rooms are available. Please let Commandant Smith know if you plan to attend. Tickets are fully refundable due to the COVID-19 pandemic

New Business:

-An open invitation has been extended to the Detachment by the Reading Military Order of the Devil Dogs to attend their Growl on 25 October 2020 at 1400 at MT Penn in Reading

Good of the League:

-Chaplain Joe Malia has a cover size 7 ¼ if anyone needs. Please see SR Vice Commandant Howard Schaeffer if you need a Detachment polo. Fred Babcock is looking into options for Detachment jackets

-The Detachment needs a new computer. Dave Newcomer will research options and present to the Detachment. A motion was made to purchase a new Detachment computer

For: 16

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Next month's meeting will be held on 28 October 2020 at Fire Company number 2. Due to COVID, the building must be vacated by 2000. Meeting time will be changed to 1815 hrs. Please plan to be there at 1800 as the meeting will start promptly at 1815 and end at 1945. We will continue to broadcast the meeting via ZOOM for any members who are unable to attend in person

The meeting was closed until 28 October 2020

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

This month's meeting was held on 28 OCT 2020

Minutes are as follows:

Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made. The motion was seconded

For: 14

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Applications for Membership: NONE

Correspondence: NONE

Report of the Paymaster:

-Beginning balance: Checking-\$16,842.52. There were zero deposits/debits. Ending balance \$16,842.52. CD account-\$3,377.70. Total-\$20,220.22 A motion was made to accept the Paymaster Report. The motion was seconded

For: 14

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Report of Family Members Sick or in Distress:

-Dominick Amedeo's brother Salvatore is experiencing heart valve issues, and his brother-in-law Russell is paralyzed from complications due to diabetes

-Joe P from the Hospice Vet-to-Vet program is suffering from cancer and recently fell ill. He was placed in LV Hospital Critical Care. He is currently recovering

-Dave Newcomer's cousins' son in law's brother was killed in a drunk driving accident

Report of Officers:

- November's Detachment meeting will be moved to TUESDAY, 17 November 2020
- Bill Stoudt has been in contact with a gentleman, Mike Seward, who runs the website <http://www.lvveteranshistory.org/> They will document your military experiences, free of charge, for the National Archives in Washington DC. They also do bus trips for Veterans, free of charge, to the monuments down in Washington DC
- Please pay your membership dues if you have not done so

Standing Committees:

- PR: The Website and Newsletter are up to date
- Marine of the Year: John Eyer has been selected as Detachment 296 Marine of the Year. His award will be presented at the Marine Corps Ball on 13 November 2020
- Marine Corps Ball Committee: The Marine Corps Birthday Ball will be held on 13 November 2020 at 1800 at the Lehigh Valley Hotel and Conference Center (Best Western on RT 512). It is being called the "Lehigh Valley Marine Corps Birthday Ball hosted by Lehigh Valley Detachment 296" to encourage other Detachments to join us. The invitation was posted on the Detachment Website, on the Detachment FB page and on the Department Website. The Marine Corps League National Commandant is this year's guest speaker. Tickets are \$100.00/person. Block rooms are available. Please let Commandant Smith know if you plan to attend. Tickets are fully refundable due to the COVID-19 pandemic. 60 glasses have been ordered. The final head count is due 9 November 2020. Victoria Motter will be the photographer for the entire evening-the first hour will be individual portraits followed by candid shots of the rest of the evening

Unfinished Business:

- Dave Newcomer presented three options for a new Detachment computer, the best of which was a HP from Costco for \$549.99. A motion was made to purchase. The motion was seconded

For: 14

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

New Business:

-Officer nominations will continue at next month's meeting. John Eyer has accepted the nomination for JR Vice Commandant, Bill Stoudt has accepted the nomination for Judge Advocate. Elections will be held at December's meeting

-A motion was made to donate \$500.00 to the Allentown Rescue Mission for their Veterans Day program as participants were unable to attend their spaghetti dinner due to COVID. The motion was seconded

For: 14

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Good of the League:

-Chaplain Joe Malia and Detachment member Fred Babcock have contacted A&D Tailoring about lightweight jackets. The cost of the lightweight unlined jacket with no hood is \$55.00. Cost of the lightweight lined jacket with hood is \$69.00. Both jackets have the Marine Corps League and Detachment 296 logos on each breast. There is no minimum order, however it would be easier if all orders are placed together instead of individually

-Please check before heading down to Philadelphia to Cookie's Tavern this year to make sure they will be open

-The Marine Corps Birthday ceremony and cake cutting WILL take place this year at Cedar Beach Veterans Memorial on 10 November 2020 at 1600 hrs

-Emmaus Veterans Committee will be holding a Veterans Day ceremony at the Triangle in Emmaus. Time TBA

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