



# THE SITREP

## LEHIGH VALLEY DETACHMENT 296

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

EDITION: NOVEMBER 2023

EDITOR: Cory Shellhamer

### DETACHMENT MEETINGS:

*Every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday @ 1930*

**EMMAUS FIRE CO. No. 2**

**1017 Pennsylvania Ave**

**Emmaus PA 18049**

### DETACHMENT OFFICERS

- *Commandant*  
Bill Stoudt
- *SR Vice Commandant*  
Cory Shellhamer
- *JR Vice Commandant*  
John Eyer
- *Judge Advocate*  
Jason Smith
- *Adjutant/Paymaster*  
Colyer James
- *Chaplain*  
Joseph Malia
- *Sergeant at Arms*  
Milton Solares
- *Web Sergeant*  
Jason Smith

The holiday season is just about upon us again. While we are all busy with everything going on seemingly all at once we must also try to remember that there may be veterans out there who do not have families to celebrate the holidays with. Please reach out to those if you know of any veterans (not just our Marine brothers and sisters) who may be having a rough go of it. It can be especially saddening for those who cannot spend time with loved ones for the holidays. Sometimes a simple phone call and a “hey how are you doing friend?” can be the perfect prescription for those with a case of the holiday blues.

I can personally say that happened to me. Upon returning from Afghanistan shortly before Thanksgiving and my family unable to make it down to Camp Lejeune, I was about to be left alone in barracks with no friends or vehicle while everyone else was out celebrating being home with their families. I fortunately had an amazing friend and his equally amazing family who invited me to spend the night with them so I would not be alone. I cannot begin to describe how uplifting that seemingly small gesture was.

I do not want to imagine being alone during the holidays left to fight whatever demons I might be facing and feeling like my friends, family or the world has forgotten about me. So please, I implore you to reach out to that veteran or even that friend you have not heard from in a long time and see how they are doing. If they are going to be alone, ask if there are any extenuating circumstances and maybe even offer a seat/chair at home to them. I can tell you that – even if they do accept – it WILL mean the world to them and could change their perspective or outlook completely around no matter what they are going through. In closing, please enjoy this holiday season that is FASTLY approaching with your friends and loved ones. Please also try to remember (even if only briefly) that there are those out there who may not be as fortunate as you and that if you happen to not be in the best place this holiday season, I remind you that the world has not forgotten about you.

On the next page you will find the meeting minutes from October’s meeting.

# THE MONTH IN REVIEW

## LEHIGH VALLEY DET. 296 2023 BIRTHDAY BALL



This month we had the honor of throwing our annual Birthday Ball Celebration and we are grateful to everyone who attended and made it as much fun and a proper celebration of our beloved Marine Corps!

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

Please be advised our next meeting is Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> at 1930 hours due to Thanksgiving next week!

NOTHING ELSE OF NOTE  
DUE TO HOLIDAY SEASON

## SCUTTLEBUTT FROM THE FLEET

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

[News \(marines.mil\)](https://www.marines.mil)

[Marine Corps - Independent News For Marines | Marine Corps Times](#)

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. Please include the words "SitRep Additions" in the subject field of your email so your message gets flagged as important.  
Semper Fi Marines!

Cory Shellhamer

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484-764-0768

## MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Marine Corps League, Lehigh Valley

Detachment-296, CFC #2 Emmaus, Pa.

25 October 2023 19:30 hours

### **MINUTES AS FOLLOW:**

ROLL CALL of Officers: All Officers present except Jr. Vice Commandant Eyer and Sargent at Arms Milton Solares. Status Excused.

Member Fred Babcock sitting in as Sargent at Arms.

With Members present, a Constituted Quorum is Met.

Application for MEMBERSHIP: NONE

CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: A motion was requested to accept, and Seconded, the Minutes as written and emailed: For 13 Against 0 Abstentions 0

REPORT of the PAYMASTER: Paymaster James reports a balance at Meeting Time of \$7245.65. Full Report at Officers Table for review.

Motion was made and seconded to accept: For 13 Against 0 Abstentions 0

MEMBERS SICK OR IN DISTRESS: Chaplin Malia list the following members and Family Members; Jim Valle, George Magaro, Gerry Tiede, Ron Heckman, Richard Stoudt. Keep them all in your prayers and thoughts, as well as all of our Members and Family Members. Also keep our Active-Duty Service Members and their Family Members, and Police and First Responders in your prayers.

REPORT of OFFICERS: Paymaster James advises of the Marine Birthday Celebration at Cedar Beach Monument (10 November) at 16:00 hours.

Secondly Toys for Tots distribution of toys will be 21-22 December at the Salvation Army, downtown Allentown.

Due to more stringent requirements at the Gate, advance information will be required prior to Department Meetings.

**STANDING COMMITTEES:** NONE

**BALL COMMITTEE:** Ball will be held 4 November. Sponsorships are in. Active-Duty Marines committed, Decorating on tract, preparation on schedule.

PR/IT-Web Sargent: Jr. Past Commandant Smith reports Web Page and social media up to date.

**OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Second required vote held on By Law change. That part of change notes that By Law revisions can and will be published in the Meeting Minutes, on Two (2) consecutive Months. This in lieu of the Newsletter. Motion was made and Seconded. For 11 Against 0 Abstentions 0

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mid-Winter Conference will be 20-24 February 2024. Add will be submitted as approved.

### **Nominations for Detachment Officers (Year 2024) Round 1:**

Nominated Commandant Bill Stoudt

Nominated Sr. Vice Commandant Cory Shellhamer

As of this writing, there is no Nomination for either, Jr. Vice Commandant or Judge Advocate.

This is crucial please consider your Service.

Paymaster James made a Motion to purchase Raffle Tickets from the excess funds after rent is paid to CFC #2. This to benefit the Youth Foundation. Any winnings will be deposited to the Detachment's Treasury. Motion was made and Seconded. For 14 Against 0 Abstentions 0

**Good of the League:** A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Elena (Lany) Smith, Daughter of Jr. Past Commandant Smith, for Loyalty and Patriotism, as well as participation in Detachment activities. WELL DONE!

The meeting was closed until 15 November 2023 at 19:30 hours.

Respectfully Submitted Fred R. Babcock - Life Member

**NOTE: Minutes can be edited by Commandant of the Detachment only.**

Paymaster James presented the Detachment with a Certificate of Appreciation for Service and a Ribbon for 111% of Membership, presented by the National Jr. Vice Commandant.