



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

On 8 November 2019, Detachment 296 held our first annual Marine Corps Birthday Ball. It was such an honor to be in the company of so many fine Marines, celebrating the birth of our beloved Corps. For 244 years the traditions and standards that make Marines unique have been passed down from generation to generation...Marine to Marine...brother to brother; forming a bond so close and tightly knit, few others can compare. This year, Detachment SR Vice Commandant Howard Schaeffer had the honor of presenting Adjutant/Paymaster Ron Heckman with the Chapel of Four Chaplains Bronze Medallion for his service above and beyond to the community. The Medallion is presented to a total of six distinguished recipients per year internationally. Our Guest of Honor, Larry Herrmann, is the former Chief Legal Council for the National Marine Corps League and is currently Chief Legal Council for the New England District. Marines from India Battery 3/14 in Allentown provided the Color Guard for the evening. As we wrap up the decade, I would like to wish all of you a very happy and healthy 2020. Here's to another year of comradery and service!

Semper Fi Marines,

Ria Mattix, Editor



MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BALL

8 NOVEMBER 2019



THE MONTH IN REVIEW



KOSPJA FARMS

11-02-2019

Detachment 296 provided the Color Guard detail for the Boy Scout Flag Retirement Event held at Kospia Farms. The scouts were taught proper flag folding technique and etiquette, along with proper disposal of worn/retired flags. As usual, the scouts did an amazing job. It is inspiring to see these fine young boys so eager to learn how to properly honor and respect our Nation's flag.



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/2019/12/09/dramatic-changes-to-marine-corps-rifle-qualification-coming-heres-what-you-need-to-know/>

THE SITREP IS BACK!

I am happy to announce that after a 4-month hiatus, the SitRep is now back in publication! I would like to thank you all, my fellow Marines, for your understanding. Your support is appreciated much more than you could ever know.

Gratus Semper,

Ria

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Last month's meeting was held on Wednesday, 20 NOV 2019

Minutes are as follows:

Previous meeting minutes were read due to technical issues with the e-mail. A motion was made to accept the minutes

For: 15

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Applications for New Membership:

-NONE

Correspondence:

-Hank Brokate's son David and daughter-in-law Kelly made a \$50.00 donation to the Detachment

-Toys for Tots distribution will be on Dec 19 and 20 2019 at the Salvation Army on 6th Street. Time TBD

Report of the Paymaster:

-Checking beginning balance: \$9,659.23. Deposits: \$9,747.04 (EVA), \$460.00 (combined dues/ball). Outgoing: \$180.00 (National dues), \$27.00 (State dues), \$400.00 (DJ), \$37.99 (cake). Ending balance: \$19,221.28

-Savings: \$3,377.28

-Total: \$22,598.56

-A motion was made to accept the report

For: 15

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Report of Members Sick or in Distress:

-Joe Malia's wife Sharon's surgery was a success and she is doing well with her recovery

-George's son-in-law Craig is battling cancer and was given approximately 5 months to live

Report of Officers:

-The Detachment Birthday Ball was a huge success and will become an annual event. A suggestion made to change the name to "Lehigh Valley Birthday Ball" with the designation as it being hosted by Detachment 296. Intentions are to include all local and not so local Detachments in the celebration. Goal is to greatly expand attendance next year and thus planning and advertising will begin much earlier

-Ron Heckman was awarded the Chapel of Four Chaplains Award. This is a highly distinguished award, only presented to 6 individuals annually nationwide

-Flags are not being properly maintained at St Anne's Cemetery. There was a motion for Detachment 296 to assume duties

For: 15

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

- Joe will be looking at dates that the pavilion is available for the Detachment picnic in August
- Color Guard at Kospia Farms on 11/2/2019 was a big success. As usual the Scouts did an amazing job
- David Guldin will be assuming responsibilities for the Detachment Website. There were several improvements discussed for the website, the web team will be working on bringing the website up to date

Unfinished Business:

- Officer Nominations:
 - Commandant-Jason Smith
 - SR Vice Commandant-Howard Schaeffer
 - JR Vice Commandant-John Eyer
 - Judge Advocate-Bill Stoudt

New Business:

- The American Legion will visit Mosser Nursing Home at 1400 on 12/01/2019
- Heartland Hospice is involved in Wreaths Across America this year. If you would like to volunteer time, or donate, please contact Joe Malia. Wreaths are \$15.00/piece.
- Vet Fest at Steel Stacks in July. Ria will make contact in reference to the Detachment providing a booth this upcoming year. Jason will contact the Bethlehem Detachment to make them aware of our intentions

Good of the League:

- If you would like to order a jacket, please contact Fred Babcock. Jackets are \$68.00
- A search is being conducted to find quality spearheads for the Colors. Please pass any helpful information on to Jason

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

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