



September 8, 2025, Vol. 13 No. 9

www.mcl260.info

THE GRINDER

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A publication of Marine Corps League Detachment 260

Greensboro, North Carolina

Officer Corps 2024-25

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MCL Detachment 260 is less than a month away from our annual golf fundraiser at Bryan Park on the Champions Course. The date is Thursday, October 2.

Your golf committee is headed by Brian Sowers, Chairman and George Orfanedes, Jim Burgio, Jim Hayes and Al Ruggiero. They have worked for many months getting ready for this event. In the last four years the tournament has raised over \$400,000 that goes back into the community through veterans groups and non-profits that support Guilford County veterans.

This year, to date, we have raised over \$80,000.

The Servant Center, Horsepower, Garrett Torney Foundation (Saving Grace K9's), Guilford County Veterans Memorial, Marines who are in need and funding for the Flight of Honor events are a few of the groups and individuals we support.

Opening ceremonies will begin at noon and include a Marine Color Guard, drill teams from the JROTC of Southeast High School, and recognition of Major Sponsors.

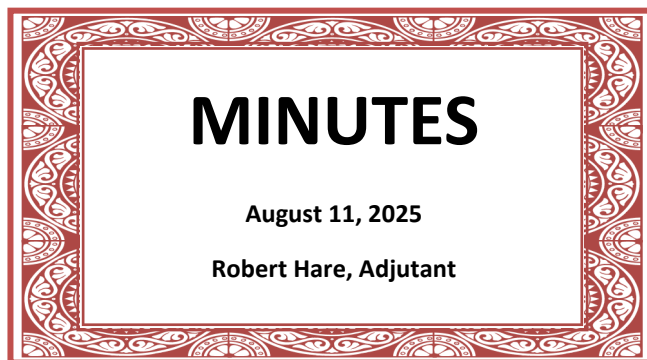
It is expected that 27 golf teams (4 person) will participate. Prizes for the top teams and closest to the pin on par 3's will be awarded.

Members can help by donating \$100 or more by becoming a hole sponsor.

We hope you will come out and enjoy a great day of fun. Your help will insure many benefits to veterans and others with needs. You can feel pride in the work your 260 golf committee has done and will continue to do in the future.

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1845 – Commandant called Detachment 260 meeting to order. SGT at Arms Keith Ingold advanced and posted the Colors, leads Detachment in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Al Ruggero conducted opening prayer and opened the Bible.

We had **Eagle Scout Benjamin Arnold** as the recipient of a Scouting Scholarship in the amount of \$3,000. His plans are to attend Western Carolina University and study engineering. His parents were present; He thanked the Detachment for the check. It was noted that only 4% of Scouts attain Eagle/Gold Scout. The second Scout, **Gregory Fuller**, was not present but was sent a check for \$2,000.

SGT at Arms declared the meeting open for official business by order of the Commandant.

The SGT at Arms conducted the Roll Call of Officers, all of whom were present except for the Junior Vice Commandant who called to say he would be unable to attend. The Adjutant is excused as he is at the National Convention in his capacity as Department Commandant.

Commandant made a motion that the minutes from the previous meeting be approved as written in The Grinder. Second by Alan Atwell. Motion carried.

Report of Officers and Squad Chairs

PAYMASTER – George Orfanedes reports checking account has \$11,246, money market \$125,467. Th credit card has a zero balance. The last purchase was for \$662 for items to complete Welcome Home Baskets. Delivered by Sue, Nancy and I to the Servant Center. There is a bank balance of \$136,813. There is outgoing for the two Scouting Scholarships totalling \$5,000. \$131, 070.24 Balance

Commandant made a motion that the Paymaster report be approved as presented. Alan Atwell seconds. Motion carried.

CHAPLAIN – Al Ruggero. A report from the family of Ken Cobleigh. His widow Eileen is at Wesley Long Hospital recovering from a fall with several broken bones. Request for prayers. Appreciation for support to cover some expenses for Judy Brenner. My sister-in-law is battling cancer. We are requesting prayer. As for the families of the children lost at Camp Mystic during recent floods in Texas, please keep the parents and families in your prayers. As a parent and grandparent, I cannot imagine the grief those families have suffered. I pray for them to understand Gods will because they are suffering so. **Judy Brenner** has commented that she is still on a roller coaster somewhat. Having to redo physical therapy and order a new prosthetic. She did want to let us know that she misses being here and loves us.

Commandant's note – Mrs. Eileen Cobleigh passed away on August 15th while in Hospice at Beacon Place in Greensboro. Her service was held at Forbis & Dick Guilford Chapel on August 22nd.

JUDGE ADVOCATE – Charles Jones – He was able to get for the new Next Generation USID cards and a contact phone number. The new ID is required by December 31, 2025. Ask Charles for the phone number.

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Chaplain's Corner

Al Ruggiero



WHEN IN THE COURSE OF HUMAN EVENTS.....

Fellow Marines and members of the Fighting 260,

911 PRAYER

“LEND US YOUR VOICE, O LORD,” for it is still difficult to understand how men can plan and perform such evil acts as those on September 11, 2001!

We can only imagine the horrors endured by the passengers in the planes and those in the building, and the sorrow of the families of all who perished that dreadful day.

As years have passed, we all still grieve, but through Your Grace, we are sustained. And as tragedy in the way of floods, hurricanes, fires, and other storms in life, we may lean on You. But Lord, when evil men commit such heinous crimes against us, especially our little children, even as they pray, we all must bend a knee and request a special prayer: a prayer to worship You, thank You for every blessing and plead forgiveness for all our sins. A special prayer, that as Marines, our first instinct is to defend and protect, but also a prayer that evil men might seek you and submit to Your Holy Will. May this be our holy prayer, O Lord. Amen.

In the aftermath of the Anunciation Church shooting, I have heard many politicians and newsmen saying “Enough with praying, what we need is more gun restrictions!” But I stand tall in strongly disagreeing with them. Even if we could collect every single gun and melt them down, I believe evil would still find another way to harm and destroy. Prayer is not weakness—it is strength. Perhaps those who dismiss it should spend more time in prayer themselves!

CHAPLAIN'S PRAYER LIST:

Judy Brenner

Sadie Bell

K-ben Nash

Eileen Cobleigh's family

Commandant's Letter

Mike Clark



Marines and Associates,

By the time we meet again we will have what I hope will be an outstanding day hanging out with our younger Marine counterparts and their families. I imagine sea stories some taller or bigger than others will be shared and we will have learned that the Corps is still strong. Marines are Marines.

August 14th was 44 years since I left DeLand, FL and headed to Parris Island. Taking my first train ride at 17. Followed by a very unusual bus ride with an extremely early morning arrival. Dumping out its contents onto a bunch of yellow footprints. All ears were ringing from the close quarters of multiple DI's yelling at us from all directions. Then came receiving -endless paperwork, haircuts, basic uniform issue, hippity-hop mob stop at the chow hall for a moment during what seemed to be a full 48 hours awake, there was rack time. Reveille was sounded about the time my head hit the pillow. Somewhere during the madness of those first few days, I, like I am sure many of you, wondered what the hell I had gotten myself into.

What I was there for became clearer each day. Instruction, PT, close order drill, rifle range. Earning the title Marine was the absolute best thing I did in the first 18 years of my life. Turning 18 weeks before graduation was a bonus. Having my family, my grandfather who was a WW II Marine at my graduation (on a plane for the first time in his life to be there). He pointed at Iron Mike and counted over a few Quonset huts. "That" he said, "was the slop chute we used to get pissed at on payday" Prior to my boot camp, all he had told me about his Marine time was boot camp stories. They all ended with "that was 40 years ago, I'm sure everything has changed". I pointed out that at least one thing had changed. His slop chute was now a supply warehouse. Minor changes like weapons and uniforms, had changed. What it takes to earn the title Marine had not. I went to my first Marine Corps League National Convention in Daytona Beach, 2022. It was 30 miles away and 41 years apart from the day I had gotten on that train in 1981. I checked into the motel on August 13th. Last year at the National Convention in Palm Springs I earned my PDD for the Military Order of the Devil Dogs on August 13. Forty years from my boot camp there was no more smoking lamp or dip. Again weapons and uniforms had changed. The qualifications to be a Marine have increased. They are smarter and better trained than we were. The Corps is safe. Being a Marine and hanging out with Marines older and younger is still the best place to be.

Now it is approaching time for us to choose our Marine/Associate of the Year. Your recommendations are needed for both.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YMCA CAMP HANES



What an incredible summer at YMCA Camp Hanes! Thanks to your support and partnership, we welcomed 102 summer staff, 1,340 overnight campers, and 728 day campers to experience adventure, friendship, and growth. Each camper's laughter, courage, and discovery reminded us why camp is such a special place.

As I look back on my first summer as Executive Director, I am filled with gratitude. The joy of watching campers try new things, the dedication of our staff pouring into each child, and the traditions that make Camp Hanes unique have left a lasting impression on me. I cherished every chance to sing along, cheer on a challenge, and share in the laughter and growth that filled our days.

This summer affirmed just how special this place is—not only because of the beauty of camp itself, but because of the people who make it come alive. As we look toward the future, I am excited to carry this spirit forward together. **Thank you to our families, staff, and supporters who make camp possible—you are the heart of Camp Hanes!**



We love welcoming our summer camp kids back for this special weekend, **December 12-14**—the perfect way to tide us over as we count down the days until summer returns! This weekend is not only a chance for returning campers to reconnect with friends and enjoy camp traditions, but also a great opportunity for day campers and new families to “test the waters” before committing to a full week of overnight camp. With a wide range of choice activities, campers get to spend quality time with friends, try something new, and experience the magic of Camp Hanes all over again.

The graphic features a red background with a colorful circular logo on the left. The logo contains the text "CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE", "the Y", and "YMCA of NWC". To the right of the logo, the words "CARE FOR ALL" are written in large, white, bold letters. Below this, the text "2025 Christian Leadership Conference" is displayed. Further down, a smaller line of text reads: "A one-day event where Y staff and volunteers gather to learn about Christian leadership and how to implement those principals in our everyday lives. Free for YMCA of NWC Staff Members!". At the bottom left, it says "MATTHEW 25:40" and at the bottom right, "NOVEMBER 15 • 8:30AM-2:00PM".

Registration is OPEN for our 2025 Christian Leadership Conference!

We are super excited to host our Keynote Speaker, John Budd, a pilot with the Samaritan's Purse. John Budd is a retired U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force pilot with 24 years of active and reserve service. Following his military career, he served as a Department of Defense contractor for six years, supporting U.S. Special Operations internationally. He is a graduate of Appalachian State University (Class of '87) and earned his Master of Divinity from Wake Forest University in 2022. John is a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, and lives on a farm in Sparta, North Carolina, where he raises cows, horses, and goats. Come to YMCA Camp Hanes to explore your Christian faith as it relates to how you serve others with your God given gifts and talents through camp activities, workshops and times.

September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 X	9	10	11 X	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 X				

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- 9-8 Monthly Meeting of the MCL @ Golden Corral
5:30—7:00 pm
- 9-11 Community Services Committee
5:30—7:00 @ George Orfanedes home
- 9-30 Marine Corps Night Out @ Rody's Tavern
5:30— You have to go home
- 10-2 Military Charity Golf Tournament, Bryan Park

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Commandants' note - The ID can be obtained from the Marine Corps Reserve Center at 7838 McCloud Road, Greensboro. Phone 336-668-0866 is the main number but does not usually answer. The earliest available appointment I could schedule online was at 1320 OCT 29th, 2025 (there were 5 other appointment times on that date). Information can be found at <https://ifco.dmdc.osd.mil>. There is an online option available at <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/>. **The card is for Active Duty, Retirees, 100% Disabled Veterans and their spouses/dependents (up to age 26 if attending college).** If you have a current ID with an INDEF expiration date it will remain effective indefinitely. or, until another change is made.

Golf - The MCL 18th Military Charity Golf Tournament will be held on October 2nd at Bryan Park Champions Course at Bryan Park. We currently have 29 teams who are registered, of 32 available. Out of \$88,000 pledged we have collected \$65,000. Requests for the teams will be sent out this week. The companies/teams that have names will have to notify us of the players' names. **We will need help the day of the Tournament at Registrations, hole spotters and other areas as needed.** I will post a list once we have the information about what is needed and the times. Member Tee sponsorships will be conducted at the next meeting.

Community Services - The Community Service Committee delivered 12 more baskets to **Debbie Bailey** at the Servant Center. She said the veterans really appreciate them. We have a contact of Rob's who used to be at Sealy Pedic that now works for Flex Steel. They are providing some furniture that is top notch. Tables, chairs, recliners, sofas that were just delivered. Rob added that there were two box trucks full of furniture items. The Servant Center was unable to take all the furniture due to storage. It will be used when the veterans get into housing on their own.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mandatory Fun Day with the Reserve I & I Staff will be September 9th, Triad Park, Shelter 7 near the Carolina Field of Honor. Members are asked to report to **George Orfanedes** how many are attending and if you are bringing a dish. The Detachment will provide the meat for the cookout.

There was mention of the trip to the Quantico Museum of the Marine, which has since been cancelled.