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# THE GRINDER

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A publication of Marine Corps League Detachment 260

Greensboro, North Carolina

## Officer Corps 2025-26

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## A TIME FOR REFLECTION AND OPPORTUNITY

As one year ends and another begins, we have the opportunity to do nothing by being complacent and unmotivated to get off of our butts or we can start the year with new vigor to bring happiness to those who need us the most. Many veterans and their families have multiple problems to deal with on a day to day basis. Problems that make some of ours seem minor or trivial by comparison. Homelessness, out of work, substance abuse are concerns that our compassionate selves should be concerned about. We have the means to help others and our Judeo Christian teachings implore us to do just that. We can make Guilford County a better place to live by being a part of the solution. Editor

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## Commandant's Letter

### Mike Clark



Marines, Associates, and Friends of the Fighting 260,

Happy New Year!

We had a great time at the Holiday Party. My hope is that everyone had an equally enjoyable Christmas. Now we are into the New Year and it seems that the past year went very fast. This year we have an old fundraiser making a “comeback” as plans are in the making for Bingo rearing its head this year.

A reverse Raffle is set for March 17, just two months and a few days away. We will need the help of all Detachment Members and Associates to make it a great success. Susan Carrera and her husband Rich are in charge, but will be asking for your help as it is needed. As mentioned in previous raffles and during the last Detachment meeting, we need donated gifts, gift cards and other items for the raffle itself. If you have special restaurant or businesses you frequent, ask them to donate. The least they can do is say “no.” Our website has the details and date of the event and gives any prospective donor an opportunity to see how the funds raised are used and also what we do as an organization. Al Ruggiero and Rob O’Hanlon have done the footwork but they will need assistance as details fall into place. As with all things, working together as a group brings success. Stay tuned as we learn what is needed from us to complete the mission.

I want to wish all our detachment members good health, happiness and prosperity in the new year. However, I know that several persons among us are headed into the new year with health issues. Let us keep them in our prayers and make sure they know to ask for help if needed. For those of us who have health issues, let us know so that we can offer assistance and prayers. We need to take care of each other in our second family too.

Semper Fidelis,

Mike

# Chaplain's Corner

Al Ruggiero



## Chaplain's Reflection: Good Men Standing Tall

Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful Christmas—filled with the joy of the season, the magic of children, and the blessings of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

As we enter the New Year, my prayer is that every Marine and every member family will be blessed with good health, peace, and goodwill. I am also deeply thankful for every answered prayer—for healing, for intercession, and for that special touch from Heaven... including the names that were whispered where no one could hear but the Lord.

I also pray that our League will continue to grow and to unite with our community as we help and serve fellow Veterans who may need our support.

May the Lord bless every member of the Fighting 260.

May the Lord bless our efforts as we move forward.

And may God bless America—now entering 250 years of service to the world—standing firm whenever tyrants threaten or catastrophe strikes.

May we stand tall before the Lord, answer the call as the brave always do, and may God continue to keep and guide us—now and always.

Top of Form

Bottom of Form

Semper Fidelis,

Al Ruggiero

MCL-260 Chaplain

Chaplain's Prayer List

Alan and Betty Atwell

Steve and K-ben Nash

Sadie Bell

# January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 x	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 x	28	29	30	31

## Events Calendar

12th Regular Meeting of the Detachment @ Golden Corral Restaurant, 4400 Landview Drive, off of West Wendover

Starting Time: 5:30 pm, Dinner Time: 6:00 pm, Business Meeting: 7:00 pm

27th Marine Nigh Out @ Rody's Tavern, Battleground Avenue North @ Horse Pen Creek Road in the Harris Teeter Shopping Center



# PHOTO HISTORY OF THE MONTH OF DECEMBER





## EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF HONOR

January 4, 2026, marks the day of firsts for both the Greater Greensboro Detachment 260 and the Eagle Scout program. 1) 1<sup>st</sup> Court of Honor for 2026, 2) 1<sup>st</sup> Female Eagle Scout I had the pleasure of honoring, 3) 1<sup>st</sup> Eagle Scout for this troop, and 4) 1<sup>st</sup> Special Needs Eagle Scout.

Katelyn Marie Anderson earned her Eagle Scout and held her Court of Honor in Mocksville, NC. This vibrant young lady, who was full of life, showed many individuals that just because you have a disability, you can still achieve your dreams and goals. Before the Marine Corps League Good Citizen Award was presented, I addressed family and friends, honoring Katelyn and her “can-do” attitude. With her Eagle Scout pin proudly pinned on by her mother, there were no dry eyes anywhere. Great job, Katelyn! I would love to see where life takes you next.

What a great way to start 2026!

Robert Hare  
Eagle Scout Coordinator





## Community Services Squad

George Orfanedes, Chairman

CSS Summary for 2025

Once again, MCL-260's Community Services Squad had a good year!

As per the below chart, our Donation Plan established in last year totaled \$73,500, whereas our actual distributions were \$76,605, with an additional approximately \$126,000 in goods and material furnished to The Servant Center.

Our major cash donations (\$5,000 or more) were :

<b>The Servant Center Donation</b>	<b>\$ 25,000</b>
<b>Horse Power Therapeutic Riding</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>
<b>MCL-1242 Food Drive</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>
<b>Triad Honor Flight</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>
<b>Garret Torney Foundation/Savings Grace K9s</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>

Besides the 36 Welcome Home Baskets that CSS prepared for the Servant Center, there was a very large donation of 52 Queen-Size mattresses, plus multiple tables and chairs, all brand new. We've estimated the value at over \$100,000! There was also another donation of new sofas, tables, and chairs from another local manufacturer.

Just before Christmas, we also facilitated the donation of sport jerseys, athletic pants & shorts, shoes and back packs from Sports Endeavors LLC of Mebane, NC. It took 12 very large boxes to get it all to Servant Center, where they planned to distribute by Christmas.

Plans for the distribution of our Golf Tournament proceeds are in progress. The plan will be presented at the February 9<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting for review and approval.

