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THE GRINDER

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Death Takes Three Detachment Members

Three of our finest members of the 260 have passed away. Chuck Stotz and Harvey McDonald and Arnold Husser have been lost to history. Arnold died on March 30, Harvey died two weeks ago and Chuck on Tuesday, April 8. Harvey served the detachment as the Judge Advocate until this past year. Chuck was the head of our communications team and our intrepid song leader for the Marine Corps Hymn. Arnold served in the Corps after high school. He went on to college earning a Bachelors degree, Masters and Doctor of Juris Prudence from John Marshall University in Atlanta. He retired from the Corps as a captain after twenty-four years of active and reserve duty. He had many commendations from his duty in Vietnam.

Their leadership and friendship will be missed by all who knew them.

CONTENTS

1. Death takes Three Lives
2. Minutes of March Meeting
3. Commandants Letter
4. Chaplain's Corner
- 5-8 Community Services Financials
8. Calendar of Events
- 9-10. Photo Frog Friends

**Minutes
for
March 10, 2025
Robert Hare**

Minutes of the March 2025 Meeting

33 members/guests in attendance

Officers present: All officers present except for Commandant Scott Matthews

Shanna Reece from the Servant Center was presented with a check for \$25,000. She spoke about the mission of the Center and nearly 300 veterans served thus far.

The minutes of our previous meeting were approved as printed in the "Grinder" newsletter.

Paymaster George Orfanedes gave the financial report. Voted and approved

Chaplain Al Ruggiero thanked everyone for the prayers for his wife. Over 8,000 bee hives will be delivered to Western North Carolina. XL Beard is in rehab and keep Judy Brenner in our prayers.

Jr. Vice-Commandant Brian Sowers reported on the 2025 Golf Tournament with the first committee meeting being the last week of March.

Books are needed for the State Veteran's Home in Kernersville.

Vietnam Veteran's Day will be held in Jamestown at the end of March, everyone is invited to attend.

Detachment picnic has been set for September.

The trip to Quantico may require 2 rental vans, hotel (\$125/night) driving up the night before. Visit the Marine Corps museum and return the same day.

Steve Nash reported that Inside the Wire Podcast is looking for veterans to be on the show.

Meeting closed at 1934 until April 14, 2025.

Recorder,

Robert Hare



Fellow Marines

I want to thank everyone for their encouragement and kind words; they are much appreciated. I also would love to share a Happy Easter with everyone as we praise our risen Savior. It was grace that led him to the Cross and Love for each and everyone of us. Hallelujah! So as we indulge our grandkids with candies, chocolate bunnies and colored eggs, pray that we can have an opportunity to share the message from His Cross.

Our Honor Guard, led by Rob O'Hanlon, has been performing an important and necessary duty for our brothers who have passed over to the Gates of Heaven. Their motto is "Let's send this Marine Home," a phrase spoken in unison before they march out to honor a Veteran before family and friends with Taps and a 21-gun salute. These men perform this task with precision and with the highest excellence. This is achieved from hours of training and practice, whether the weather is hot or cold. Attention to detail, pride in appearance, devotion, honor and respect, but most of all, love for their fellow Marines. Thank you Rob and all of your detail for a job done well but never finished.

MCL HONOR GUARD MEMBERS

Jim Birdwell	Jim Burgio
Rich Carrera	Mike Clark
Robert Hare	Jim Hayes
Charles Jones	Steve Nash
Justin Nicholson	Jim Nielsen
Rob O'Hanlon	Al Ruggiero
Harry Youngblood	

Commandant's Letter

Scott Matthews

Marines, Corpsmen, Sailors, Associates and Friends of the Fighting 260,

I know I have been UA (Unauthorized Absence) for the last two months. February had to do with my business obligations and March for a vacation to Europe.

Sadly, we have more than our fair share of the passing of our members, Marine Husser, Marine McDonald and Marine Stotz. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families. RIP Marines, Semper Fidelis!

Our future activities remain robust as we plan for the near term.

- Honor Guard Formulations and Practices continue. Contact Rob O'Hanlon if you are interested in participating.
- Future and more Fund-Raising Events are being planned.
 - * What ideas do you have? Please let us know what interests you.
 - * If you are willing to lend your talents and help in any of the planned endeavors, or any Other activity you are aware of in the Detachment, please let us know.
 - * If you have any recommendations, please let a leadership team member know.
- The local I&I is working on a "**Mandatory Fun Day**" at Triad Park/Carolina Field of Honor in May. We will advise as details become known. They are very anxious to have us be a part of this day to merge Old Corps Marines with New Corps Marines.
- A Quantico trip to the National Museum of the Marines. We are looking for a volunteer to lead this event. Let me know if you would head up this event.
- Spring Picnic is now the Summer Picnic for the Detachment. The shelters are all booked up, so the change of date. The new date will be announced shortly.

My goals, and I hope your goals for the 260 moving forward are:

- For every member to have fun, enjoy and respect each other's camaraderie
- Maintain financial steadiness
- Develop and/or refine fund raising programs
- Continue to support the Community outreach and Veteran Programs
- New membership recruitment (Pick up your Membership Recruitment Handout card)

Our future success in helping our Veteran Community depends on all of us. If you have not been involved in a program or an event ever, or if it has been awhile since you did, my request of you is to pick an event and participate/help in at least one event or program a year. It doesn't take much of anyone's time. To those already involved in our programs, **THANK YOU AND Stay the Course**. There is no doubt what we do is a big help to local veterans and their families.

Community Services Squad

WAY TO GO, MCL-260!

With the most recent delivery of mattresses on March 21, 2025 for The Servant Center, MCL-260 achieved a milestone very few other MCL Detachments can claim: **TOTAL DONATIONS OF CASH AND GOODS NOW EXCEEDS \$1 MILLION!!**

Our documented journey began in 2017 with a \$14,000 donation to Hope for the Warriors, followed by supplying computers to The Servant Center for the Veterans to use in the library. Soon afterwards, our first donation (\$1,700) to a local high School JROTC unit was made to the Marine JROTC unit at High Point Central High School (High Point, NC). The money was used to purchase equipment and T-shirts for the unit's Rifle team. Major Alfonse Torres was the OIC.

2017 saw additional donations, including support for a Veteran's dental work, and \$1300 to Army JROTC at Page High School (Greensboro, NC) for Air Rifle Team scoring equipment. **Our donations for 2017 totaled \$22,000**, all of which had been raised by MCL annual Charity Golf Tournaments in 2016 & 2017.

Our first donation to The Servant Center was in March 2018. A check for \$3,300 was matched by the Jamestown (NC) Veterans Committee's to replace/secure all three (3) doors into the main services building. Also, our first mattresses for newly housed Veterans and Welcome Home Baskets were presented to Partners Ending Homelessness, High Point, NC. The totals for 2018 were cash donations of \$29,000 with donated goods estimated at \$37,200.

Over the years, our donations have included:

- *Rent payments and car repairs for Veterans in need
- *Medical equipment such as wheelchairs and exam tables
- *Desks, flags and even a flagpole for local JROTC units
- *Support for therapeutic riding programs for Vets with PTSD (Horsepower Therapeutic Riding, High Point, NC)
- *Suicide prevention programs support (Irreverent Warriors, Greensboro, NC)
- *Samaritan's Purse for Western North Carolina hurricane relief efforts
- *Mattresses (383) for newly housed Veterans

MCL-260 Donation Description (2017-2025)	Cash Amount	Goods Amount
Arthur Cassell Transitional Veteran Housing B/R Renovation	\$ 23,570	\$ 500
YMCA Camp Corral - Veterans Children	\$ 1,000	\$ -
Veterans Network - Caring Services Inc	\$ 5,000	\$ -
Fisher House, Camp Lejuene	\$ -	\$ 3,700
Other Veterans Organizations (Gunny Claus, Vet Salute, etc)	\$ 25,348	\$ -
Hope for The Warriors	\$ 37,400	\$ -
Therapeutic Riding Programs for Vets	\$ 37,800	\$ -
Irreverent Warriors - Suicide Prevention	\$ 4,215	\$ -
Marines Helping Marines, Triad Area, NC	\$ 36,271	\$ -
Monford Point Marine Association	\$ 3,500	\$ -
NC State Veterans Home	\$ 1,036	\$ -
Partners Ending Homelessness, Greensboro & High Point,	\$ 27,600	\$ 199,225
HS ROTC Units, Triad Area, NC	\$ 37,164	\$ -
Saving Grace K9s/Garret Tourney Foundation	\$ 19,500	\$ -
Scout Scholarships, Triad Area, NC	\$ 22,100	\$ -
Senior Resource Center	\$ 2,200	\$ -
Tunnels-2-Towers, National	\$ 1,000	\$ -
USMC Toys-For-Tots	\$ 5,038	\$ 35,000
Triad Honor Flight, Greensboro, NC	\$ 5,800	\$ -
Tiny Homes - Greensboro & High Point, NC	\$ 10,000	\$ -
The Servant Center, Greensboro, NC	\$ 156,182	\$ 326,133
Wreaths Across America, Greensboro, NC	\$ 3,000	\$ -
Women Veterans	\$ 4,361	\$ -
Young Marines	\$ 4,000	\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 473,084	\$ 564,558
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 1,037,642	

WHERE DID THE MONEY COME FROM?

The entire Detachment has worked hard to achieve this milestone. The main source of funding for the cash grants has been our annual Military Charity Golf Tournament, which originated in 2011 under the direction of Alan Atwell. Through the years, the Tournament has been chaired by multiple members, including General Fred Sisley, Jim Hayes, Jim Burgio, and Brian Sowers.

There have also been additional sources of monies:

- *Belk's Charity Tickets Sales (Sharon Reddick)
- *Reverse Raffle (Judy Brenner)
- *Detachment Cookbook (Sue Orfanedes)

Our material donations are dominated by the mattresses provided for our Veterans moving into new quarters. As previously noted, MCL-260 has donated almost 400 mattresses for this purpose. These mattresses have been obtained through Rob O’Hanlon’s connection with a local manufacturer who has asked to remain anonymous. The second largest material donation is for the Welcome Home Baskets that we provide again thru the Servant Center. These baskets provide pots & pans, dishes, silverware and glasses, and other household necessities (dish soap, toilet paper, dish towels, etc.) that newly housed Veterans need on move-in day.

At the March MCL Membership meeting, Shanna Reece, Director of The Servant Center, highlighted our impact:

“The Servant Center does not do its work in a silo - we rely on partners like the Marine Corps League to serve the most vulnerable veterans in our community. The Marine Corps League has supported The Servant Center with more than \$156,000 in donations and tens of thousands of dollars in in-kind donations for the Welcome Home baskets we are able to give veterans moving into their own homes, in addition to coordinating the donation of mattresses. Many of you have volunteered to help with moving furniture, volunteering on the board, showing up to the Stand Down events, etc. **You all have played a critical and valuable role in helping veterans experiencing homelessness in our community to find a home.**”

What’s Next?

To continue our charitable mission and reach **\$2 million**, we need **your** help!

- ✓ Attend monthly meetings
- ✓ Support fundraisers and events
- ✓ Volunteer for local projects
- ✓ Recruit New Members

Contact Commandant Scott Matthews today and help MCL-260 continue making a difference!

MCL-260 Donations by Organizations

April 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 X	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 X	30			

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Mon, April 14—Regular meeting of Det. 260 at Golden Corral

Time: 5:30 to 7:30 Dinner, Meeting and Speaker

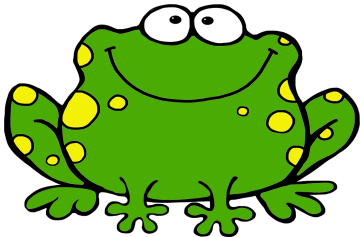
Tues, April 29-Fun Night Out at Rody's Tavern 5:30 to ??? Good Food and Conversation



A \$25,000 check from the Detachment to the Servant Center

Photos from the March Dinner Meeting

PHOTO
FROG



STEVE NASH
Official Photographer
MCL Det. 260



