



# THE GRINDER

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Alan Atwell, Editor

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Greensboro, North Carolina

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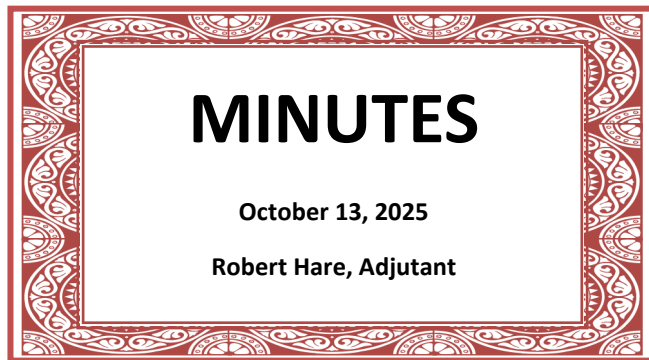
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18 years of great golf for our sponsors and friends who have joined us in our quest to help those Marines and other servicemen in need. We raised over \$90,000. Way to go MCL 260.



Meeting began at 1845.

Twenty-six members and guests in attendance.

One new associate member and one member transferring into the detachment.

The detachment had a quorum for the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting as posted in the Grinder, were voted on and approved. Correspondence from Judy Brenner stated that she is doing well and cannot wait to come back to the family.

Paymaster, George Orfanedes, gave the financial report. Approved by the members.

Rob O'Hanlon announced that the Fisher House at Camp Lejeune is in need of holiday supplies. The 260 is officially kicking off a new collection for them.

Golf Tournament chairman, Brian Sowers, said that there are 28 teams signed up to play. Southeast Guilford High School Jr. JROTC will present its Drill Team for a demonstration at the opening ceremonies.

Brian Sowers spoke about the upcoming MCL 260/Marine Corps I&I picnic on September 9, at the Carolina Field of Honor.

Unfinished Business: Discussion regarding a breakfast meeting in the future. A motion was made to have it as the November meeting on a Saturday morning. It was approved by a vote of the membership.

Notification was sent out for the Dept of NC fall membership meeting in October.

Marine of the Year and Associate of the Year nominations were announced.

Good of the League: Triad Honor Flight will be our guest at the meeting in October. A check will be presented to them. Media coverage is hoped for.

No further business.

Meeting adjourned at 1925.

## Chaplain's Corner

Al Ruggiero



### Chaplain's Reflection: Good Men Standing Tall

As your Chaplain, I find myself in prayer—mostly for myself, as I fall short in many areas of a Christ-like walk.

Last month, I wrote about truly evil men and the horrors they commit, even against children. As a Granddad, this touches me deeply. It often seems that evil men receive the full attention and front page headlines. So, I decided I would have none of it.

This month, I want to focus on good men and their heroic deeds. Men like Dan Daly, John Basilone and Clifton Cates for their remarkable military service to our country. Men like Ben Franklin, Charlie Kirk, and Billy Graham for their leadership and service in civilian life. And of course, Todd Beamer and the brave “Let’s Roll” crew, along with the firefighters and first responders of September 11, 2001.

Let us also remember the young boy David, who with only five smooth stones, faced and defeated a giant. Today, we still see men who kneel before the Lord, take up their cross, and follow our Risen Savior. Men who stand proudly for the flag, for justice, for honor, and in defense of others.

Today, we celebrate *Good Men*—men who love freedom, show honor and respect, a desire to protect others from evil. This desire requires a strong moral compass, courage, and an unyielding will.

Not every Marine is blessed with size, strength, or special skills— but every marine is blessed with pride and guts. Through training, we learned that discipline and determination are the great equalizers, regardless of MOS, specialty, or branch.

I am proud to say that many of these great men and women are still among us. They serve daily, volunteer selflessly, spread goodwill, reach out to our communities, and above all, stand tall for righteousness. Some have already gone to be with the Lord—perhaps without recognition— but their faith and service will never be forgotten.

When I hear “thank you for your service” from a civilian, it warms my heart. But even more meaningful is realizing that we are surrounded by good men and women—those who still stand before the Lord, wave the American flag, and stand firmly for justice.

**May God bless America, and may God bless Good Men Standing Tall.**

**Chaplain's Prayer List: Sadie Bell, Judy Brenner, our Nation and it's Leaders.**

I also want to thank Brian Sowers and his entire Golf Committee for another successful golf tournament and fundraiser this month. They spent many hours and months preparing for the event. Because of their hard work, many people will receive blessings and help. Awesome job!

## **Commandant's Letter**

### **Mike Clark**



Marines and Associates,

I want to thank all of you who attended the Mandatory Fun Day with the Inspector-Instructor staff this past month. I hope you all had a great time and learned a little bit more about each other. I spoke with a great many of the Younger Marines. I found that our beloved Corps is in very good hands. They are an impressive group. Hopefully, you swapped some stories with them.

The Military Charity Golf Tournament went as smoothly as possible thank to the Chair Brian Sowers, the golf committee and all the volunteers that came out and worked the tournament. My sincere thanks to all of you.

We are approaching the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the Corps. Our monthly meeting in November falls on the exact day of the birthday. Monday, November 10, is the day of our regular meeting. Please come out and join in this great remembrance day at the Golden Corral restaurant.

Happy Birthday Marines!

Semper Fidelis,

Mike Clark  
Commandant

# PHOTO HISTORY OF THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER



# PICNIC WITH I & I



## OCTOBER 2025

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

### PLANNED ACTIVITIES

**10-2 18th Annual Military Charity Golf Tournament**

**Bryan Park Champions Golf Course**

**10-13 Monthly Meeting of the MCL @ Golden Corral**

**5:30—7:00 pm**

**10-28 Marine Corps Night Out @ Rody's Tavern**

**5:30— You have to go home**

## COMMUNITY SERVICES SQUAD

CSS continues to disburse MCL-260's money in Fiscal Year 2026.

The following funds have been paid out:

### **Reidsville HS Marine JROTC Unit: \$ 1,100**

This grant will be used to purchase target-shooting equipment, plus fund local activities for the future Marines.

NOTE: The Unit Commander, Major A. Torres, USMC (Retired) once again worked at our Golf Tournament on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Ragsdale HS Air Force JROTC Unit: \$550**

Funds will be used for various projects.

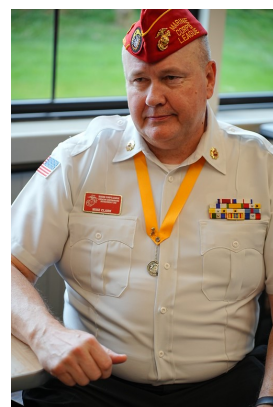
### **MCL Detachment 1242: \$5,000**

Dept. of NC Commandant Robert Hare presented our check to the Detachment to help fund their Food Pantry for enlisted Marines, Sailors, and Airmen serving in the New River, NC area.

### **Triad Honor Flight: \$10,000 (Check presentation at October Meeting)**

A check for \$10,000 will be presented to Alison Huber, Executive Director for the Triad Honor Flight. Alison founded the Triad Honor Flight in 2018. Each year, this local nonprofit flies North Carolina Veterans ages 65 and older to Washington, D.C., where they spend the day visiting the Memorial Parks and National Mall.

The next CSS project will be preparing and delivering **Welcome Home Baskets to The Servant Center**. Sue Orfanedes, Nancy Stotz, and George Orfanedes will purchase the needed items, assemble the baskets, and deliver to Debbie Bailey (Rapid Rehousing Director) by October 17<sup>th</sup>. Total estimated cost is about \$1,800 - \$2,000.



STANDING TALL  
250 YEARS OF GREATNESS



Do you feel the pride as much or more than I do? Are you committed to the high standards that were set for us on our first day of active duty? Are you a Marine today as much as you were then? These are questions that each of us should ask ourselves. We will always carry the title of United States Marine. Right to death's door and perhaps even beyond. It is far more than just saying I am a Marine. It is saying that we love and support our families, our nation and our Corps.

It is unwritten; however, it is a truth that as Marines we should continue to support and defend our nation and our Corps. We have many men and women in Guilford County who served their country, just as we did. Many have fallen on hard times thru their own personal demons or because of lost income, or lost hope in their future. Your detachment made a commitment to help Marines first and other service members that are having a really tough time. It takes more than 20% of our members to get the job done. It takes a village (MCL 260) to help these folks.

Make a commitment to work to alleviate these problems with our brothers and sisters for the next year. You will feel different about yourself for having contributed to saving live(s). None of us can do it by ourselves, but the 260 can take up the battle and help many, many people.

I look forward to seeing you at our meetings and contributing to the goals we have set.

Semper Fidelis,

Alan Atwell

Editor