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THE GRINDER

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Alan Atwell, Editor

A Publication of Marine Corps League Detachment 260

Greensboro, NC

Happy 250th Birthday

Order 47

Officer Corps 2024-25

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MARINE CORPS ORDERS

NO. 47 (Series 1921)

HEADQUARTERS U.S. MARINE CORPS

759. The following will be read to the command on the 10th of November, 1921, and hereafter on the 10th of November of every year.

Should the order not be received by the 10th November, 1921, it will be read upon receipt.

- (1) On November 10, 1775, a Corps of Marines was created by a resolution of Continental Congress. Since that date many thousand men have borne the name "Marine." In memory of them it is fitting that we who are Marines should commemorate the birthday of our Corps by calling to mind the glories of its long and illustrious history.
- (2) The record of our Corps is one which will bear comparison with that of the most famous military organizations in the world's history. During 90 of the 146 years of its existence the Marine Corps has been in action against the Nation's foes. From the Battle of Trenton to the Argonne, Marines have won foremost honors in war, and in the long eras of tranquility at home, generation after generation of Marines have grown gray in war in both hemispheres and in every corner of the seven seas, that our country and its citizens might enjoy peace and security.
- (3) In every battle and skirmish since the birth of our Corps, Marines have acquitted themselves with the greatest distinction, winning new honors on each occasion until the term "Marine" has come

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ADJUTANT

Robert Hare

Minutes of the October Meeting



The meeting began at 1845.

34 members and guests were in attendance.

Tom Reeves, a guest of Alan Atwell, was introduced to the membership and is a prospective member of the detachment. Detachment voted to accept Mr. Reeves as a new regular member. Welcome aboard.

Allison Huber, from the Triad Honor Flight program was presented with a check for \$10,000. She gave a brief update on the 2026 flights.

Junior Vice Commandant Brian Sowers spoke about the 18th Annual Military Charity Golf Tournament that took place on Thursday, October 2. at Bryan Park Champions Course. It was a huge success, as usual, and after a much-earned break, plans will start for the 2026 tournament.

Chaplain Al Ruggerio honored the Navy for their 250th birthday celebration. He also honored many of the hostages who were released from the Middle East. Keep all members who are ill in your thoughts and prayers.

Paymaster, George Orfanedes, gave the financial report for the detachment. Motion was made, seconded, and approved the report as presented. He also reported that Welcome Home Baskets are being readied for the Servant Center. The Fisher House food drive is in full swing and plans are for the items to be delivered to Camp Lejeune next month.

Brian Sowers gave an update on the construction at the new Servant Center. A lot of demolition was done due to old piping. The Center was also a victim of vandalism and is hoping insurance will cover it.

Rich Carrera announced that his wife, Susan, will be the new Reverse Raffle chair person. It is scheduled for April 17, 2026.

Al Ruggerio is recommending a new fundraiser for the detachment. The event is BINGO, and in the past has been very successful for other organizations. The potential host facility is excited to support our detachment. There is no cost to the detachment. Motion to approve was passed.

Ballots were passed out for Marine of the Year. Three people were nominated for the award. Harold Turner was elected and named Marine of the Year. The meeting adjourned at 1950.

**COMMANDANT'S
LETTER
MIKE CLARK**



Marine Corps League Members and Associates,

Fall has fallen, hard. It began with cooler, wet days to kick it off. I hope this finds everyone staying safe, warm, and dry.

We are fast approaching the 250th Anniversary of our beloved Corps. Some of us will celebrate it at the Ball hosted by the Greensboro Marines on November 15th.

I put out an email/robo call earlier this month that the Marines have been restricted in what they can do for their Toys for Tots program. Currently they can only be out of office to put boxes out and pick them up. There were a couple of events to which they had already committed. Now they are unable to attend. The first was Friday, 27 OCT at the Northwest Day Care, I attended it.

The next Toys for Tots need is:

Saturday, 8 NOV for the NC Stang's Toy drive at Crossroads Ford 1200-1500 at 1330 NC-66 Kernersville, NC 27284. The intent was for them to provide three marines in Blues. I ask those who can attend please let me know. If you have a scarlet uniform, our equivalent to a dress uniform, is preferred. As always, the only uniform requirement is your cover. This event will be the same day as our November Detachment meeting at 0900 on Saturday, November 8th.

Due to these restrictions the Toys for Tots Campaign will suffer. Likewise, the number of children in Guilford County who receive them will be less than in previous years. We in the Detachment can pick up slack wherever we have the people and desire to do so. As with everything else we do, we must have participation to have success.

I would like the Detachment to set up at places we can get face to face with the public to collect Toys. To do this I will need to know how the Detachment would support such an action. In the past there have been comments that setting up a table at a location for fundraising is like panhandling, but I would like you to consider the benefits. Face to face with the public may result in fundraising but it does not have to be the specific purpose of us being there. When we set up Toys for Tots collection at Sam's Club in the past, we filled many boxes of toys over a three-day period. We also had over \$4,000 in donations. There was no request for donations, just a container present on the table while we were there.

Chaplain's Corner

Al Ruggiero



Chaplain's Reflection:

MARINE OF THE YEAR

This year, our most coveted award was presented to a Veteran who served his country for more than 30 years, achieving the distinguished rank of Sergeant Major. His remarkable career began in Korea and continued through Desert Storm.

Fortunately for our community, his service did not end there. As a civilian, he continued to dedicate himself to his fellow Marines in the Fighting 260. Drawing upon his exceptional leadership skills and proven ability to achieve success, this Marine has made countless contributions to our Detachment—as an active member, as part of the Commandant's Staff, and as a key leader in our fundraising efforts.

Congratulations to our good friend and brother, Harold Turner!

Thank you for your faithful service to our Country and to MCL-260!

250 YEARS – UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

From its humble beginnings with a few brave men at Tun Tavern, to the proud and powerful Corps we know today, the United States Marine Corps has served our great Nation with valor, courage, and honor for 250 years.

From the decks of ships as sharpshooters during the Revolutionary War, to enduring mustard gas and machine-gun fire in the trenches of Belleau Wood during World War I, Marines have always stood at the forefront of freedom's fight. They stormed the beaches of Guadalcanal and Iwo Jima, and continued the fight for liberty in Korea, Vietnam, and the Middle East.

Through every era, Marines have stood tall among the finest fighting forces in history. Thank God for the brave men and women who have served as riflemen, artillerymen, pilots, and in vital support roles.

After 250 years of unwavering service, the world is a better place because of these honorable heroes—those who set forth to end tyranny, free the oppressed, and confront evil with courage and conviction. For those who proudly bear the title "United States Marine," the Lord will know you by your servant's heart and by the life you've lived in service to others.

God bless the United States Marine Corps, and God bless the United States of America!

Semper Fidelis,

Al Ruggiero, Chaplain

Chaplain's Prayer List:

Saddie Bell Judy Brenner Harry Youngblood Our Country and Our Leaders

MCL-260'S CHRISTMAS PARTY IS COMING!!

WHEN: DECEMBER 17, 2025

WHERE: WOODLAND HALL, TRIAD PARK (same as last year's location)

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM

ADULT BEVERAGES (beer and wine) ALLOWED (no hard liquor, please)

BUFFET DINNER: 6:30 PM

Everyone: please sign up to bring your favorite side dish or dessert

Contact Nancy Stotz at 336-202-6056 to let her know what food you are bringing.

CHRISTMAS COSTUME CONTEST: 8:00 PM

SECRET SANTA GIFT EXCHANGE: 8:30 PM

If you would like to participate, please bring a wrapped gift. Maximum value \$25. Leave it under the Christmas Tree and get your number card. When your number is called, you get to select a gift from the ones available. If you don't like what you unwrapped, you make trade it for one of the opened gifts.

This should be lots of fun with laughter galore as the gifts are "exchanged" or "swiped" from another party goer.

ALL HANDS ON-DECK TO CLEAN UP AFTER THE PARTY.

We look forward to seeing you at the dinner party.

PHOTO HISTORY OF THE MONTH OF OCTOBER



Marine of the Year Harold Turner



New Date & Time for Monthly Meeting

I would like to thank all of you who attended the Mandatory Fun Day with the Inspector – Instructor staff this past month. I hope we all had a great time and learned a little more about each other. I spoke with enough of the Younger Marines to determine that our beloved Corps is still in great hands. They are an impressive group. Hopefully, you swapped some stories.

The Golf Tournament went as smoothly as possible thanks to the Chair, committee and volunteers that supported it. My sincere thanks to those who were able to support the event at any level needed.

We are approaching the 250th Anniversary of the Marine Corps this year. Our monthly Detachment meeting will be on Saturday, November 8th at 9:00 a.m. We will read General LeJeune’s and the Commandant’s Birthday message and then we will have a cake cutting ceremony. I hope that all of you have plans to join us in celebration. Happy Birthday Marines!

Semper Fidelis,

Mike Clark,

Continued from page 1

to signify all that is highest in military efficiency and soldierly virtue.

- (4) This high name of distinction and soldierly repute we who are Marines today have received from those who preceded us in the Corps. With it we have also received from them the eternal spirit which has animated our Corps from generation to generation and has distinguished ing mark of the Marines in every age. So long as that spirit continues to flourish Marines will be found equal to every emergency in the future as they have been in the past, and the men of our Nation will regard us as worthy successors to the long line of illustrious men who have served as “Soldiers of the Sea” since the founding of the Corps.

JOHN A. LEJEUNE,
Major General
Commandant

November 2025

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

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

11-8 Monthly Meeting of the MCL @ Golden Corral

9:00 A.M. New Day of the Week and New Time

11-10 250th Anniversary of the founding of the U.S.M.C.

11-11 Veterans Day Celebration at the NC Field of Honor

11:00 A.M.

11-20 N/JROTC Pass in Review at Southeast Guilford H.S. 11:15

Seating for MCL260. See Winston Shearin. Wear your scarlets

11-25 Marine Corps Night Out @ Rody's Tavern

5:30— You've Eaten too Much

12-17 MCL 260 Christmas Dinner Party at Woodland Hall, Triad

Park, 5:30-10:00 P.M.

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UP COMING EVENTS

8 NOV – 0900 – Our first Saturday Meeting, Golden Corral, 4404 Landview Drive

8 NOV – NC Stang’s Toy drive at Crossroads Ford 1200-1500. The address is 1330 NC HWY – 66 Kernersville, NC 27284

10 NOV – 250th Anniversary of the Marine Corps founding at Tun Tavern in Philadelphia, Pa

11 NOV – Veterans Day flag raising at Friendly Center. There are two volunteers for the flag detail. It would be great to have a good showing of the Detachment. We will have a guest speaker, Kris Rystrom Emmet, who Scott contacted while he was still Commandant. She is a Gold Star wife and author. The link to her bio is <https://providingpromise.com/index.php/about/>

11 NOV – 1100 – Veterans Day event at the Carolina Field of Honor. Following the planned event there will be activities, food trucks and more near the memorial. The Detachment will participate by setting up our tent and meeting the attendees. The level of participation depends on how we approach it. The tent needs to be set up by 1030 prior to the CFOH event. Then we will need to have member support be there for interaction.

20 NOV – 11:15 AM – NJROTC Review in the main gym of Southeast High School, 4530 SE School Road, Greensboro. Preferred seating for members of the Marine Corps League based upon your return request for seating. Anyone wanting to attend needs to inform Winston Shearin. They will then block off seats to accommodate us.

17 DEC – Holiday Party. Details to follow.

Facebook page at [\(20+\) Greater Greensboro Detachment 260 | Facebook](#) (both public and private for DET only)
Detachment website <https://www.MCL260.info>

Semper Fidelis,

Mike Clark

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MORE PHOTOS

