THE GRINDER

Robert Hare, Commandant **Tina Hare, Editor**

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*Photos courtesy of Steve Nash https://photofrog.smugmug.com/

Election & Installation of Officers



Commandant

Robert Hare

Senior Vice Commandant

Scott Matthews

Junior Vice Commandant

Brian Sowers

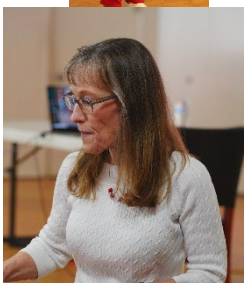
Judge Advocate

Charles Jones









A CALL TO ARMS

From your detachment leadership:

Members of the Fighting 260,

First, we'd like to extend a ***HUGE THANK YOU*** to Susan Carrera who pretty much had to sell most of the Reverse Raffel tickets herself, as very few members took more than their two (2) personal tickets. With a net profit of $4918, that this event was a success, in terms of money raised and fun had, we all owe to Susan. Rarely does anyone, beyond the usual small handful of members step up to volunteer for projects.

PARTICIPATION in our detachment has declined! Attendance at the monthly meeting is now averaging 30 members, well down from our 40+ average previously.

With the new Detachment Officers sworn in at our last meeting, let's all pledge to help wherever we can. New Commandant Robert Hare and his staff are planning big things! Let's all volunteer (even though we are Marines) to make Fiscal Year 2027 the beginning of the new MCL-260!



Commandant's Quest

Robert Hare

Members of the Fighting 260,

I want to first say that I'm honored to serve once again as your Commandant. It is a responsibility that I don't take lightly. I truly believe that we have a great team in place and we will continue to move forward serving our community. Here are a few ideas I have to accomplish that:

1. Attendance/Recruiting/Retention: We need to have more members attend our monthly meetings, fundraising events, and social events. In the past, we had over 50 attendees at our meetings. We are a team, and TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK. We are here for one reason, and that is for our community of veterans. Trust me, when you start seeing the look on a veteran's face when they see someone who cares about them, you won't want to stop participating. Recruiting is a very important part of growth within our detachment. However, retention is vitally important because if they don't have a purpose, they won't stay. So, all new members will be given a "job" on whatever we have going on. Whether it's Toy for Tots, Golf Tournament, gun shows, table events, etc., we need to welcome them to our family properly.
2. Fundraising: Our golf tournament, reverse raffle, and bingo nights have proven to be a great success in our mission. But what if we expanded just a little bit more? We recently participated in a local gun show. With that, we raised a little bit of money, and we gained two prospective members. And that was set up in three days. What if we planned a little more? We can also reach out to various businesses and community events to set up a table and promote who we are. The sky is the limit on what we can do.
3. Detachment Foundation: I will be researching setting up a foundation for our detachment. It will be a 501(c)(3) and financially separate from the detachment finances. What that means is that once complete, we can start talking to additional companies for sponsorship and/or donations. Under the Marine Corps League umbrella, we are a 501(c)(4), which limits us in some company engagement due to their own policies. Increasing our "market share" increases our revenue, therefore increasing our community support. We can then increase the amount for scholarships, youth organizations, benevolence, humanitarian aid, etc. Therefore, increasing our footprint in the community. More will come in the future.
4. Recognition: Award presentations have nearly stopped. I truly believe that we need to recognize our members for their amazing contributions to our detachment and the community. If you attended the officer installation, you witnessed two very deserving members receiving the Board of Trustees Commendation, which I recently learned is the highest award a Detachment Commandant can present. I will continue to recognize members who go above and beyond.

I look forward to next year, and let's show the Department of North Carolina why the Fighting 260 is a force to be reckoned with.

Semper Fi



Chaplain's Corner

Al Ruggiero



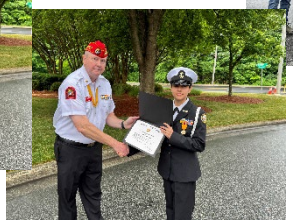
Semper Fi Marines,

I trust that everyone had a meaningful Memorial Day and long weekend. I hope that everyone was able to attend some of the events that were held to honor our Veterans who gave all. A large crowd attended the grand opening of the Guilford County Veterans Memorial at Country Park on Sunday afternoon. I was proud to be part of it, as it is still a work in progress. And then on Monday at the Ceremonial Flag Raising at Friendly Center, there was the largest group of supporters that we have seen in some time, even though the weather was less than perfect. A special shout out to Susan Carrera and the choir from Mt. Pisgah Church, also to Mike Clark and all the Marines that showed up to help.









Semper Fi Bingo was a huge success on Saturday May 23, and for the first time we had more people than tables and chairs, so Brian Sowers carried more in. It was a great fun night, and we made lots of new friends. I am encouraged and motivated by this new and profitable MCL-260 fund raiser and hope to continue it throughout the summer with 1 to 2 events per month. My goal is to build the consumer base of civilians rather than our Marines, which was the case at the latest event. A special thanks to Tina and Robert Hare for their diligence at the front desk, Charles Jones for making sure that everyone had markers, and to Brian for being my wingman! This is a team effort, and I thank everyone who showed up to pitch in.

God bless America, God bless our troops, past and present, and God bless every member of the Fighting 260!



Al Ruggerio, Chaplain





Chaplain's Prayer List

Keith and Becky Ingold
Judy Brenner
Sadie Bell

June

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

June 8th – Regular, monthly dinner meeting at the Golden Corral beginning at 17:30

June 13th – Semper Bingo at Pinetop Neighborhood Resort in G'boro, doors open at 17:00 Bingo starts at 18:30

June 30th – Marine Night Out at Rody's Tavern. Lots of fun and great food! Come on out and bring a friend.

Department EVENTS:

https://www.ncmcl.org/events

PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND OUR NEXT

June 13th **BINGO**

PINETOP NEIGHBORHOOD RESORT

PINETOP ROAD, GREENSBORO





BINGO BOOKS ($20 FOR 10 GAMES) GO ON SALE AT 6

GREATER GREENSBORO DETACHMENT 260

May Meeting Minutes

Meeting began at 6:50 pm.

28 members and guests were present.

Guests were allowed to introduce themselves to the membership

The minutes posted in the Grinder were approved

Paymaster report given by George Orfanedes. Motion made and voted to accept. Approved

Jr. Vice Commandant Brian Sowers gave a report on the 2026 Golf Tournament, as well as the Sunday, May 24, 2026, Memorial Day events at the Guilford County Memorial Park at 1400.

Adjutant Robert Hare reported a successful gun show, raising $98, along with the Bingo Committee donating $3,500 to the detachment.

Scott Matthews reported Memorial Day events at the Carolina Field of Honor.

Commandant Mike Clark reported on the Friendly Center Flag Raising ceremony before the CFOH event. Also, the traditional breakfast at Mimi's Café.

Senior Vice Commandant Jim Hayes conducted the 2026/2027 Officer Election and Installation of the New Leadership.

Commandant: Mike Clark, Robert Hare

Sr. Vice Commandant: Scott Matthews

Jr. Vice Commandant: Brian Sowers

Judge Advocate: Charles Jones

Each of the candidates for Commandant presented their plans for their tenure, if elected. Robert Hare spoke first, followed by Mike Clark. Each then completed their own ballots and left the room.

<u>New Officers:</u>

Commandant = Robert Hare

Sr. Vice Commandant = Scott Matthews, by unanimous vote

Jr. Vice Commandant = Brian Sowers, by unanimous vote

Judge Advocate = Charles Jones, by unanimous vote

The detachment then took a 5-minute break to prepare for the installation of officers.

Jim Hayes, Past Commandant, installed officers, both elected and appointed.



Robert Hare assumed his position as Commandant. As his first order of business, Commandant Hare recognized two members, Rich Carrera and George Orfanedes, with the Board of Trustees Commendation award.

Clyde Dungee led the detachment in the Marine Corps Hymn.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50.

FIRST BASKET DELIVERY TO NEW SERVANT CENTER

The Community Services Squad (CSS) made its first Welcome Home Baskets delivery to The Servant Center's new location on May 5, 2026. Robert Hare, Sue Orfanedes and George Orfanedes delivered the baskets to Debbie Baily, TSC's Director of Rapid Rehousing.





The 10 baskets were assembled by Sue and George over the last several weeks with the following items included:

Bathroom Cleaner	Dishes - Dinner Plates
Broom	Dishes - Glasses - Water
Dustpan	Dishes - Sandwich Plates
Pots Set (dishwasher safe)	Dishes - Soup Bowls
Toilet brush & holder	Silverware Pkg (4 settings)
Toilet paper 4/pkg	Can Opener
Coffee cups	Cookie Sheet + Pizza Pan
Dishes - Glasses - Juice	Dish Towels 2/set
Salt & Pepper Shakers Set	Potholders -2
Dish Soap	Pots Set (dishwasher safe)
Hand Soap w/Dispenser	Spatula/spoon set
Light bulbs PKG	Plastic Storage Containers
Napkin Holder	Scrubbies Pkg
Paper Towels 2/Pkg	Laundry Basket - Large
Plastic Storage Containers	Laundry detergent
Spatula/spoon set	Plastic clothes hangers Set

Total cost for everything was $1,770, or $177 per basket.

Debbie and Kristin (Deb's Assistant pictured above) both expressed their appreciation for MCL-260's continued support for the Veterans in the Rapid Rehousing program.

260 Tea!

Gun Show

Country Park adds flags to veteran's memorial



"Donated by Marine Corps League Detachment 260"



Hare and Hayes man a booth at the Greensboro Gun Show



As his first order of business, newly elected Commandant Hare awarded Rich Carrera and George Orfanedes the NC Department "Board of Trustees Commendation"







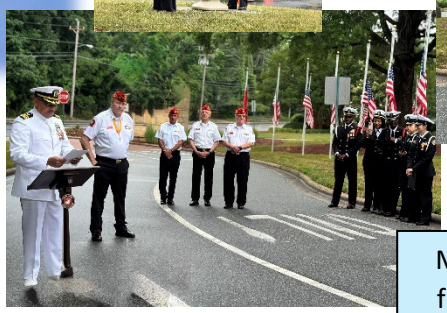












May was a month of Eagle Scout Honor Courts! In total 11 youth earned the rank of eagle scout, and our own Ron Medder, Gerald Peek, and Robert Hare made the presentations.

More Memorable shots from the Memorial Day Flag raising!

19th Annual MCL-260 MILITARY CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Sponsored by

Ford GREEN

Honoring Dean and Marilyn Green's Generous Philanthropy

****

When: Thursday, October 1, 2026 - 10 AM Shotgun Start

Where: Players Course, Bryan Park

Why: Marines Helping Veterans

from all Armed Services Branches in Our Communities

Thanks to our generous sponsors, over the past 18 years Marine Corps League Detachment 260 has given over $1 Million in cash grants and goods to local Veterans organizations such as The Servant Center, Horsepower Therapeutic Riding Center, Triad Honor Flights, and Garret Tourney Foundation/Saving Grace K9s.

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Medal of Honor Sponsorship:	**$10,000**	**3 Teams, MCL Gift**
Navy Cross Sponsorship:	**$ 5,000**	**2 Teams, MCL Gift**
Silver Star Sponsorship:	**$ 2,500**	**1 Team, MCL Gift**
Bronze Star Sponsorship:	**$ 1,000**	**1 (4-man) Team**

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Opening Ceremony with USMC Color Guard and ROTC Drill Team
- ✓ Each golfer to receive Tournament gift
- ✓ Box Lunch included
- ✓ Post-Tournament Presentation of Awards
- ✓ All Sponsors listed on www.mcl260.info after event

YOUR SUPPORT WILL HELP MCL-260 CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO HELP LOCAL VETERANS!

Make checks payable to "MCL-260 Golf Tournament" & mail to

P.O. Box 10227, Greensboro, NC 27404

If you have any questions, please contact Brian Sowers, Golf Committee Chairman at 336-207-0601 or email: GOLF@MCL260.INFO