

The Gravel Cruncher

Marine Corps League Greater Greensboro Detachment 260

Chartered 1972

PO Box 10227, Greensboro, NC 27404

April 2010



Editor: Trish Winsett

ELECTIONS NEXT MEETING

Trish Winsett

It's election time for the Detachment. Commandant, Sr. Vice Commandant, Jr. Vice Commandant and Judge Advocate are our elected offices.

Just a reminder, Associates cannot run for an elected office, nor vote on elected office of the Detachment. Associates can however, nominate a regular member.

Due to the on-going projects of the Detachment, we are running a month behind on elections, but still in accordance with National By Laws.

At the April meeting any regular member who is in good standing (dues current) can run for office. Candidates are to submit their name, position desired and phone number to the Judge Advocate.

Within five days, please send and a little bit of background information on yourself and why you would like to be in that office to the Judge Advocate.

Mail to:

MCL 260

ATTN: Jim Stinson, Judge Advocate

PO Box 10227

Greensboro, NC 27404

The JA and three members in good standing are the Elections Committee with the JA being chair.

The Committee will take that information and create a slate of officer candidates for the May meeting. **Voting will occur at the May meeting.**

Elected officers may serve in office no more than three consecutive terms of one year each. These are your elected officers. Please make every effort to be at the May meeting.

NOT TOO EARLY FOR MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BOOKINGS

Harry Thetford

1ST SGT Dan Clark offered members early-bird ticket opportunities for this year's Ball at Embassy Suites. Commandant Bracken has a sign-up sheet that will guarantee reservations. First 400 are in. Clark expects tickets to go fast, seeing as how none of his Marines are expected to be on deployment in November. Last year, sixty-five of his Marines were deployed.

CLYDE DUNGEE STEPS UP TO TAKE FLAG RAISING DETAIL

Harry Thetford

At the March meeting, Bill Moss announced the need for a Flags at Friendly Squad Leader but no one volunteered. The next morning Clyde Dungee came forward to assume this responsibility.

DET 260 Marines should now step up for Clyde and double or triple last year's participation at Friendly Flag Raisings. There are only three nowadays – Memorial Day, July 4th, and Veteran's Day.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Harry Thetford

Introduced at our March meeting were Marines Luke Denton and Danny Bundy.

FUND RAISERS WORK YEAR ROUND

Harry Thetford

Committee Leader Ron Medder remains steady at the fund raising wheel. If he isn't manning fund raising stations, he's drafting letters and grant requests. His recent efforts have been directed to Wal-Mart, a dependable partner in the past.

In Ron's spare time, he's negotiating for a WW II Navajo Code Talker to attend our National Convention.

Onie Bodenheimer is developing fund raising strategies with Harris -Teeter. Answer the call when fund raising events are calendared, this income is the life's blood of many of our Detachment's philanthropic endeavors.

PISTOL TEAMS BRING HOME TROPHIES

Harry Thetford

Congratulations to DET 260's "2009 EXPERT TEAM" of Michael Sankewitsch, James Furmage II, Daniel Hecht, Michael Johnson and Keith Zimbro. They placed first in the National Postal Pistol Match.

The Commandant has asked the Historian to present Marine profiles in each Gravel Cruncher – this is the first of that series and profiles of one of members.

ONE OF OUR LONGEST SERVING MEMBERS: PAST COMMANDANT JOE DUNGEE

Harry Thetford

Marines have never had a problem feeling good about ourselves, bountiful mottoes keep us reminded. Joe Dungee has reason to feel even better – he is a Montford Point Marine.

The son of a mill worker, crisp 1946 Dudley High School diploma in hand, Joe was off to join the Army. "The Army wasn't letting anybody in, but the Marines took me."

A few years later, Joe's situation reversed, "I wanted out but the Marines wouldn't let me!"

After a Motor Transport tour at Guam's Camp Witek, Joe came to Camp Pendleton, and later served in a Guard Detachment at Treasure Island.

CPL Joe Dungee made the requisite Marine Corps stops in Korea. Asked if it was as cold as I had heard, "You tell me if it was cold – we cranked our trucks every thirty minutes night and day."

Joe was too kind to reply when I inquired if that interfered with his sleeping patterns.

Five battle stars later, and safely in the states, Joe "Shipped Over". He retired in 1966. Joe is also proud of his Good Conduct Ribbon with five stars.

Several interesting tours came Joe's Marine way. He served at Lakehurst NAS, home of the Navy Blimps. In the Rifle Range Detachment at Camp Lejeune, he coached the M-1 and .45. (Having been M-1/.45 Coach at Quantico, and later, NCOIC -- BUTTS, it was a pleasure to talk with someone with perception in this area.)

Joe returned to Montford Point later in his career, this time as Motor Transport School Instructor.

Besides military retirement, Joe retired from Duke Power in 1986. He is a founding member of our Detachment, and served several years as CMDT.

Asked if he had anything to do with his nephew Clyde, becoming a Marine, Joe modestly replied, "Probably." Mild and meek from the outside, but you have to know, Joe Dungee is a mountain of a man.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES DROP

Trish Winsett

The new life membership fees are as follows:

| Age Category | Fee |
|--------------|-------------------|
| 0-35 | \$250 (was \$500) |
| 36-40 | \$250 (was \$400) |
| 41-50 | \$200 (was \$400) |
| 51-60 | \$150 (was 300) |
| 61 and over | \$ 75 (was \$150) |

Remember that to get a life membership, your dues must be current. New members need to allow for 90 days processing of initial membership before acquiring a life membership.

NO MATTER WHAT - COMRADES IN ARMS

Keith Zimbro

Goodwill and lighthearted rapport between or among friends; comradeship. That's the definition of camaraderie. That's what the shooting team has.

Our team has come a long way over the last four years. We have learned a lot from each other during that time. Not all of our team members have been able to attend practices or turn in scores but we are still one team. "Comrades in arms" per se. Every award that we have won, we've won as a team. I am extremely proud to be a member of the Fighting 260 shooting team. I consider each and every one of them my friend and would lead them or follow them into any situation.

I also would like to thank Sheriff BJ Barnes for allowing us to use the range. Special thanks go out to Rangemaster Sgt Chad Sibert for coordinating the scheduling of the range and all the deputies we have met there during our practice sessions.

STEPPING DOWN, NOT AWAY

Trish Winsett

The Marine Corps League is one big family. It's one of the many things I love about our League. I've had many of you wonder where I've gone these past three months. I'm still here. I finally got over a horrible cold that wouldn't let go and working on getting a second wind for a very busy year.

Over the past five years, I've had the pleasure of greeting many of you as you come to meetings and events of the League. I noticed those who were there and always worried about those who weren't. If you weren't there - you were missed.

As photographer, I've looked at many of your faces and relived many memorable moments though the camera's eye.

As Gravel Cruncher Editor, the labor of love to provide you with timely and informative news and information was a pleasure and it is humbling to know how many of you looked forward to it each month.

As Adjutant, I was able to provide a variety of information at any given time and being a member of the By Laws Committee, was fortunate to be able to use that knowledge to assist other members and the officers.

Many meetings, photos, newsletters, committees, phone calls and letters later, life hit me square in the face. While I loved everything I was doing for the League, my health and our businesses had been ignored. My reasons for stepping down are just that - health and business. The decision was not easy, but it had to be made. It may have seemed quick, but trust me

when I say I procrastinated for months because I didn't want to give up what I did for the League.

We are in the process of seeking a new Editor for the Gravel Cruncher. As news warrants, it is anticipated that a newsletter will be produced, but it will be simplified similar to this issue. Ben Craven stepped up as Adjutant position, a photographer (or two) would be great to cover the events of the Detachment. Harry Thetford contributed most of the stories to this issue and thanks Keith for the Pistol and Rifle story.

So I'm still here and my health has gotten better with the reduced stress and being able to focus on our businesses has helped. I sincerely appreciate the flowers, phone calls, emails and personal visits from all of you.

While you may not hear "see Trish" as often as you used to, I am still participating in the League on a couple of committees and as always, I'll have the formal on and camera in hand at the annual Marine Corps Ball.

Semper Fidelis,
Trish Winsett

Marine Corps League Greater Greensboro Detachment # 260 Officer Contact Information

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