

The

Gravel Cruncher

Marine Corps League Greater Greensboro Detachment 260

Chartered 1972

PO Box 10227, Greensboro, NC 27404

Editor: Trish Winsett

May 2010



CRUNCH TIME FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION

Harry Thetford

Rob O'Hanlon and Chuck Stotz have challenged every member to raise at least \$100 towards funding the largest project ever undertaken by our Detachment.

Everyone has a circle of influence. Talk to those you know and get them to place an ad in the Ad Book or donate to the cause.

Internal Liaison Jim Birdwell reports we already have reservations for 2208 room-nights -- 110% of our lodgings obligation. To stay up to speed and/or to register to attend the event, go to the website www.mcl2010.org.

This project will take "ALL HANDS" to pull it off. In the very near future, every DET 260 member should be aligned with one or more working squads to make our Convention happen. Do your part to make the 2010 Convention a huge success.

ASSOCIATES IN THE LEAGUE

Trish Winsett

We're always getting asked questions about what Associates can and can't do in the League. The dos and don'ts are intertwined within the Dept of NC By Laws and National By Laws.

Associates must remember that we are the support force behind the Marines and FMF Corpsman in our League. Some Detachments have an Auxiliary division where they are separated from the other members. They do their own events, fundraising, etc. We're lucky that we have the privilege to be as one unit.

The bottom line of Associate voting policies at the Marine Corps League is due to our veteran exemption status. The IRS provides information on charities/nonprofits on their website at <http://www.irs.gov>.

As our Charter and the membership percentage test for veteran non-profits designate, we are required to have 75% of our membership to be "Regular Members", defined as Marines or FMF Corpsman.

This also applies to voting as well. There must be a quorum of Regular Members to vote on anything in the League. Allowing Associate members to vote on everything placed in front of the membership could put our veteran exemption at risk.

In short, here are the rules for Associates:

- Associates can not vote on a membership application.
- Associates can make a motion, but can not vote on a motion.
- Associates are eligible to participate in Color Guards and Honor Guards but ARE NOT authorized to wear the Red Stripe on the Dress Blues Trousers.
- Associates can not vote on a motion.
- Associates can partake in the discussion on a motion.
- Associates can serve in appointed offices.

APRIL 2010 DET MEETING MINUTES

Ben Craven, Adjutant

Meeting was called to order by Commandant Bracken at 1930. Proper protocol was followed.

Four potential new members were called forward: Walter Faison, Luke Glascock Kathy Medder and Dick Hord.

By Motion and Second and unanimous vote they were accepted and welcomed to The Fighting 260.

Minutes of the meeting of March 8, 2010 were presented and by Motion and Second and unanimous vote were accepted as written.

The Paymaster reported a cash balance on hand of \$11,020.88 and that Financial Statements were available for review.

Old Business: Judge Advocate, Jim Stinson, reported on the nomination process for the positions of Commandant, Senior Vice Commandant, Junior Vice Commandant and Judge Advocate. Nominations are open at this meeting, with Regular Members whose dues are paid eligible to nominate and eligible to vote at the May 12, 2010 meeting. A nominating committee consisting of Bill Wood, Keith Zimbardo and Thomas Walker will confirm the eligibility of the Nominees and their willingness to serve. No Officer may serve more than three terms as reported by Judge Advocate Stinson. Also, these four positions are the only elected positions, all others are appointed positions. He reported that Commandant Bracken and Junior Vice Commandant Snyder have now served three terms. Commandant Bracken reminded all members that Commitment is needed if you are to serve in any position, Commitment of Time, Effort and Energy.

Further old business, Chaplain Cobleigh reported on a funeral on Sunday afternoon and that our Official Charter was on display.

New Business: Steve Winsett reported on the Flag Program at the Elks Club on behalf of the Schools and suggested that the 260 join in this effort with a donation. Upon Motion and Second and unanimous vote, a \$100 contribution was authorized.

Additional new business: Ron Medder reported that an eighty six year old Native American Code Talker from WWII was available to come and participate at the National Convention in August if money was available to pay for his trip and that of his caregiver, estimated as \$1,500. total. Donations will be appreciated.

Ben Craven reminded everyone of the message from First Sergeant Dan Clark at the last meeting concerning the Marine Corps Ball to be held this year at Embassy Suites. The date is November 6 and the cost is \$45.00 this year. The Marine Detachment will have first choice, there are 178 of them some of whom were deployed last year, but will not be this year, and with spouses/dates and a maximum of 400 he suggested that you put your name on the reservation list if you wish to attend. Money will be due at our August meeting.

Bill Wood informed the members of a Special Military Honor Program at a Mayodan Church on July 4 of this year. Also, he reported that he will have our Iwo Jima Float in the Thomasville, NC Memorial Day Parade, sponsored by the Davidson County Detachment. He invited all who want to participate to attend.

A number of reports were made about the Triad Honor Flights to Washington, DC, one to be Saturday, April 17 and others May 11 (Tuesday) and May 22 Saturday. Everyone is invited to come out and see them off and/or be there when they return to the airport, a great uplifting experience for all hands. Times are 0615 until they leave and 1900 until they return at about 2030. Come early, it was reported that a large crowd will be there.

Good of the League: A report on the Convention and Golf Tournament was made by Dick White and support requested for the Golf outing on behalf of the Wounded Warriors. Bill Moss reported that our Detachment has been the largest donor of funds to Wounded Warriors in recent years with \$10,000 given last year and offered sponsorships of each Hole and Green at the Tournament. At last report, all have been spoken for, but there will be other opportunities to serve and donate.

There being no further business, the Sergeant at Arms retired the Colors and the meeting was adjourned at 2025. Next meeting, May 10, 2010.

MEMBER PROFILE: BILL DOUCETTE

Harry Thetford

"I was never close to being the best Squad Leader in the Corps", says Bill Doucette, "But my Squad was the best, and leading that Squad in combat was the greatest honor of my life!"

A native of Boston, Bill joined the Marines in March, 1963, at the age of seventeen. He became a member of DET260 08Feb2010.

After PI and ITR, Bill made an Okinawa tour with G/2/3. Jungle Survival Training in the Philippines was interrupted for a cruise to the Gulf of Tonkin. From an 0311, Bill moved to Fire Team Leader and later became Squad Leader.

Back to Camp Schwab on Okinawa, Oct1964, and eventually back to CA, Bill joined C/1/9, soon to be coined "The Walking Dead" by Ho Chi Minh.

"We watched LBJ's announcement that the Airborne Cavalry was on their way to Vietnam – C/1/9 was there before the Airborne cleared the Panama Canal."

Bill's active duty ended at Quantico, where he served as a Cross Country Prisoner Chaser, "We mainly picked up AWOLs". Bill and his wife, Ingrid, live in Pleasant Garden, he is a USPS rural carrier.

The 9th Marines were deactivated 10Sep1994, but 18Apr2007, Bill was among fifty veterans who accepted the invitation to attend reactivation ceremonies at Camp Lejeune. "That was the proudest day of my life with the Corps!"

WOUNDED WARRIOR GOLF TOURNAMENT

Grandover Resort, October 1, 2010

We're on our 3rd year for the Wounded Warrior Golf Tournament. Thanks to all of you who have already pledged support with tees and greens sponsorships!

We're offering multiple sponsors at tees and greens so if you want one, let us know. Tell a friend who plays golf or put a team together and come out for a great day of fun!

Go online at the Detachment website at www.mc1260.org to download a form.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Life memberships

Age Category	Fee	Age Category	Fee
0-40	\$250	41-50	\$200
51-60	\$150	61 and over	\$ 75
New members	\$ 32	Renewal	\$ 27

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.

New Members and Renewal fees **have not** changed.

PAST DUE MEMBERS

We have a lot of members who are past due. The By Laws state that only members in Good Standing are allowed to vote on anything for the Det. including new members, hold office (appointed or elected), be on committees, etc. Good Standing means, membership dues are current.

Check with the Adjutant Ben Craven at 292-3417 or email him at bfc260@gmail.com to make sure you're current.

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