

GREATER GREENSBORO DETACHMENT 260

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The Grinder



A Publication of MCL Det. 260, Greensboro, NC

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IN MEMORIUM

Stanley L. Uplinger, age 88, Life Member of the 260 passed away on January 25, after a year long battle with failing health.

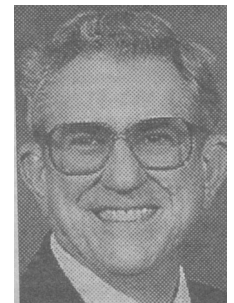
A member of the USMC, he served during the Korean War.

Stanley was a regular attendee at our monthly meetings and a good supporter of the detachment. He became a life member in 2014.

John Tedder, age 83, passed away on February 18, in Kernersville. He joined our detachment in 2016.

Al Johnson, age 79, passed away on Tuesday, February 20. He was a life member of the detachment having joined in 2008.

“Rest eternal grant them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. A Men”



****RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS****

It is time to return the favor. Yes it is. The life blood of any organization is new and active members. Your detachment is wanting to recruit twenty new members this Spring. You probably know someone who is a Marine who would enjoy being involved in the 260, making new friendships, helping others thru our outreach programs and taking part in our many activities.

Give Sharon Reddick a call and she will help you recruit them.

Foreign Accents

Supporting Hope for the Warriors, MCI
260 & Boy Scouts of America

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Years.

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**MCL 260 Camaraderie Night last
Wednesday of Every Month**

Bring a Friend or Fellow Marine

Food and Beverage Specials

Military Discount for Families

Sports Bar available for Special Events

Put Your Company to Work for You

Advertise in the Grinder

Your Company Name will go out on our website as well as print and digital communications to our members and associates of the Fighting 260

Pricing Guidelines

	Monthly	1/2 Year	Full Year (12 issues)
Business Card	\$25	\$125	\$195
Quarter Page	\$75	\$375	\$595
Half Page	\$120	\$595	\$995
Full Page	\$175	\$895	\$1395

Contact Alan Atwell: agatarheel@yahoo.com or 336-706-7675



COMMANDANT'S OFFICE HOURS
RICH CARRERA

Marines, Corpsmen and Friends of the Fighting 260:

I believe that everyone who attended the Valentine Party came away with a smile on their face. We tried very hard to make it a very good evening, good entertainment, good interaction with old and hopefully new friends. The venue was great and the food, as always, was excellent. We awarded some very deserving members and friends the Commandant's Award for all that they do and have done for the 260.

We are about to begin the Belk's fundraiser for the spring season. We are working on new ideas to promote better organization of our league. I am confident that we will gain your interest and cooperation when we roll out this program. The purpose of which is to do our best to have our members participating in all activities from attending meetings, to parties, to fund raisers, and to working on our projects.

We have begun to allocate funds to needy organizations and individuals, the criteria being Marines and their families, first, Veterans next and always trying to keep our efforts local. There are so many needs that we have identified, that the above order of assistance was necessary, and we have already seen direct benefits. Your work is making these things possible and we truly appreciate everyone's efforts.

We will also have a protocol for new members to fit into our group right away, as well as some new ways to retain existing members. I anticipate your interest in these areas as well.

A fair number of your fellow league members, as well as the officer corps, are on these committees and are moving these ideas forward quickly. Be prepared to get on board as soon as the passenger door opens for you.

Semper Fidelis, and warm regards,

Rich Carrera



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER
BEN CRAVEN, CHAPLAIN

CHAPLAIN'S SPRING BLESSING

Winter is ending and spring is in the air, and what a beautiful time. A good time to count our blessings too. One of our greatest here at the 260 has been the presence of Chaplain, United States Navy Captain Winston Shearin. We've had him for a little while, but now he has moved to Asheville. With sincere mixed emotions, we wish him and his family the best in everything in the future, and yes, a touch of sadness too that he is no longer with us. Sincere best to each of you. Take care.

Ben Craven

Marine Corps History

A Remembrance of Hue City by Nathan Nguyen

During the North Vietnamese Army's surprise 1968 Tet Offensive, a fierce battle raged in the city of Hue. Pitting North Vietnamese Army regulars and Vietcong against South Vietnamese Army troops and U.S. Marines, the month-long battle ended in defeat for the attackers.

The Battle of Huế (also called the Siege of Huế), which took place from January 30 until March 3, 1968 was one of the bloodiest and longest battles of the Vietnam War. In February 1968 in the South Vietnamese city of Huế, eleven battalions of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam, two U.S. Army battalions, and three under strength U.S. Marine Corps battalions, for a total of 16 battalions, defeated 10 battalions of the People's Army of Vietnam and the Viet Cong.

To start off the Vietnamese New Year —Tết— the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army (NVA) took the South Vietnamese, U.S. and allies mostly by surprise when they attacked by night various command and control centers in the northern half of South Vietnam.

Rear Adm. Kenneth L. Veth, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Vietnam (COMNAVFORV), remembered during a 1977 interview, "The first thing we knew about it was when we were all waked up (sic) in the middle of the night, and all hell broke loose in the way of gunfire and explosions."

"Almost every spot that was an open piece of ground was under fire," said U.S. Marine (then) Captain Myron Harrington, in a 1981 interview with the WGBH Educational Foundation. "You were almost in the face-to-face, eyeball-to-eyeball confrontation with the NVA. (...) As a result of their being so entrenched and utilizing the concrete type of buildings that we were running across, it required us to bring maximum fire power at our disposal to eliminate them." Capt. Myron Harrington, added: "Street fighting was an entirely new experience for everyone in that company. Our last Marine Corps experience in street fighting had been in 1950 in Seoul, Korea. There were very few Marines left on active duty and those who were would have been too senior to participate in the Battle of Hue."

Hotel 2/5 was one of the last companies to arrive in Hue. They had gone to Hue by truck on Route 1. They were close to Hue when the lead truck hit a box mine. Meadows vividly remembers that there was a Lt. that just came from Khe Sanh and on his first day back was sent with the convoy to Hue. He flew up into the air and fell back down through the bed of the truck. Meadows took his squad around and didn't realize that the Lt. was there until he came around the truck. Meadows stated that the flames were too intense, and he knew the Lt was dead, so he continued. Once arriving in Hue, Hotel 2/5 set up CP on the second floor of Hue University in the library. Meadows remembers clearing out the chemistry room since he "shot up all of the beakers." Once in the library, Capt. Christmas told him that he wanted him to take his squad down to a yacht club.

Being a hillbilly from Kentucky, he asked, "What in the hell is a Yacht Club?"

Christmas replied a building where they had the boats and stuff. Just go straight down Le Loi St. Meadows didn't want to take his squad because they were low on men, so he asked for volunteers. About ten guys volunteered, and they started stripping off all nonessentials, just ammo, and grenades. He also tried to motivate his men.

In his words, he said, "All right, you first five sons of bitches are gonna die. You next five sons of bitches are going to get wounded. I'm the only one who's gonna make it down that street."

04 Feb 1968, Hue, South Vietnam — 2/4/1968-Hue, South Viet Nam: U.S. Marines keeping low because of intense sniper fire battle communist units which seized two-thirds of the ancient imperial Capital. The Marines were pinned don behind this wall near the old citadel and radioed for support. U.S. spokesmen reported that leather-necks hauled down the North Vietnamese flag after seven days of fighting and recaptured the city.

Just as they were about to go, Christmas called Meadows upstairs and told him to delay. I believe it was the next morning, and they were about to advance again when Christmas called Meadows upstairs again and said that they were going to postpone the attack and that his squad was to support Foxtrot Co. during their assault on the treasury building.

Again Meadows asked, "What the hell is a treasury?"

Christmas simply replied, "Where they make all of the money Meadows."

Christmas wanted them to get on the roof, but there weren't any staircases, so they shimmied up about 20 ft using lead pipes to get up on top of the roof. They used ropes to bring up 3.5 in rocket launchers and for an hour, they rained fire on the treasury which was to their bottom left. Meadows estimated that the roof was about 80 feet long and 8 ft wide. Well after awhile, two black guys in the squad, Pal and Smith, were firing an RPG through a crack in the wall about 3 ft wide. An NVA got an RPG right through the crack, and it exploded in the corner, blinding both men and cutting one of their throats. He pulled them off to the side where they lowered them down using ropes. He turned around just in time to see his RTO get shot, so he helped him out of his radio and lowered him down. Then a Lt. Myers told him to get the civilian off the roof. Apparently there was a Marine Sgt. who was a photographer and later helped write several Vietnam films. As he was moving toward the photographer, a mortar round landed and nearly knocked him off the roof, but it just knocked him out and put some shrapnel into him.

When he woke up, he was strapped to a stretcher and was being taken off a helicopter at Phu Bai. In the operating room they cut off his fatigues and by looking at his reflection, he saw that he had a head wound. He said that if he hadn't been knocked out, he would've refused the medevac. So just about as they were going to operate on him, the NVA started hitting the base with everything they had. 120s, 122 rockets, etc. The nurses and doctors ran off leaving him still strapped to the stretcher on the table along with several other men. He saw Pal rip out the IVs from his arm and run butt naked to one of the bunkers. He said he couldn't blame him. Interview from a vet during the battle for Hue. He was the one who med-evacted Doc Howie and started putting people under beds and on the floor. He went over to Meadows and flipped him over onto the floor with the stretcher still attached to him. He said that the attack lasted for about 20 minutes. That was how he ended February 3, 1968. As he was lying there, he wondered how his mama was going to believe that he died in a hospital, strapped to a stretcher unable to move.

??????

We have a mystery speaker this month for our Monday night meeting. At this writing all we know is that he served in the Corps and worked at 8th & I.

Good authority says that he is a walking encyclopedia on the subject.

The speaker for our April meeting will be Col. Dan Comia, USA Ret.



March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Belk Planning Meeting @ Porter House Burgers 6:30	7	8 Vet's Coffee @Outback 8:30 a.m. Staff Mtg. @ O'Hanlon's 7:00 p.m.	9	10
11 BELK CHARITY DAYS BEGINS 1-4	¹² REGULAR MEETING OF THE DET. 5:30 - 8:00P.M.	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 MARINE NIGHT @ TRIAD LANES 5:30 'TIL	29	30	31

BARN DINNER THEATER VALENTINE'S PARTY



Susan & Rich Carrera & Danny Crouse



Betty Atwell, Susan Carrera, K Ben Nash, Sue Orfanedes, & Judy Brenner



Love Birds
Harold & Mrs. Turner



Dustin McCormack, Danny Crouse & Alan Atwell



Rob O'Hanlon and Kevin Lucas Sharing Good Times





Kimberly and Scott Matthews



From left Norma & Bob Cavanaugh & Betsy & Steve Broad



The Reddicks, Sharon, Charlea Denise. On the right Jim Hayes



Mr. & Mrs. Harvey McDonald



Martha and Harry Thetford



Madelyn and Fred Phillips



Spike Felty, Dustin McCormack and Malachi Parson



“Tom Jones” Singing Sweet Nothings



Great to See Bill Woods Back With Us



Ron Medder Being Seduced



Recipients of the Commandant’s Award for Outstanding Service to the Detachment

Review of the Valentine's Party

Commandant Awards were presented to members of the 260 for their service to the detachment by Commandant Rich Carrera. Those being recognized were: Alan Atwell, Gary Beaver, Clyde Dungee, Jim Hayes, Jack Masarie, Scott Matthews, Dustin McCormack, Ron Medder, Steve Nash, George Orfanedes, Gerald Peek, Sharon Reddick, Greg Ross, Winston Shearin, Rodger Stockton, Chuck Stotz, Becky Tyree, and a very special award to Denise Reddick.

"The Commandant's Award is new and was started to satisfy a desire to recognize those individuals who are always there for our League. At the rate of only one 'Marine of the Year' per year, we wouldn't live long enough to give them all a 'Marine of the Year' award. The significance of this award is such that you cannot receive it again. Our congratulations to all recipients of this award," said Rich Carrera, Commandant MCL 260.

Commandant Carrera offered a toast to the United States of America: "Our citizens are protected by the Constitution, even if they cannot read it, and one of our first acts tonight was to place the Colors prominently for all to see. I really wish some people would quit complaining about our country, because if it was perfect, they probably couldn't live here. So join me in saying, may the work of our nights never fear the daylight, may we treat our friends with kindness and our enemies with generosity, and most of all, may we be happy and our enemies know it. Join me as we toast this marvelous Nation."

The business portion of this meeting was very brief. We approved \$2000.00 to the Servant Center, so they can purchase a Bedbug Tent, \$1500.00 to the Caring Center to provide dental work for needy veterans, and authorized the purchase of additional coins for Eagle Scouts. We delayed receiving reports on Homes for Hero's and Horses for Rehab until March.

The staff of the Barn Dinner Theatre did a marvelous job of waiting tables and providing a great buffet for all the guests. A big "Thank You" goes to Ric Gutierrez, general manager, for hosting us for the second year.



Mr. & Mrs. Keith Zimbardo



Roger Stockton, Ric Gutierrez, Bill Moss



Mr. & Mrs. Ken Vanhoy