

# Granite State Marine Corps League Detachment #542

April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 1802

Uniform of the day: MCL cover

## Opening Ceremony: Commandant, Sgt-at-Arms, Chaplain

### Roll Call of Officers and Appointed Positions:

Commandant:	Gary Gahan	Pr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Sr Vice Cmndt:	<u><b>Vacant</b></u>	Pr. <input type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Jr Vice Cmndt:	Glen A. Thayer, Sr.	Pr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Judge Advoc:	Chris Peirce	Pr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Jr Past Cmndt:	<b>B J Byers</b> <b>Vacant ??</b>	Pr. <input type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Adjutant:	Eric Anthony	Pr. <input type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Chaplain:	Joe Duquette	Pr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Paymaster:	Marge Romano	Pr. <input type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Quartermaster:	Antwon Scott	Pr. <input type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Sgt at Arms:	Paul Coutu	Pr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Webmaster:	Jo Zurwell	Pr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Media Liaison:	<u><b>Vacant</b></u>	Pr. <input type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Scouting:	<b>Kayley Bass</b> / Sarah Steffan	Pr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Marine 4 Life	Glen A. Thayer, Sr.	Pr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Aide De Camp:	Kevin Brown	Pr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>

### **Other Members attending**

**Regulars:** Mike BERRY, Dave FRESCHI, Dennis KEARNS

**Associates:** Joey DUQUETTE, Steve WHITE

### **New Members Attending and Sworn-In**

**N/A**

### **Guests attending**

**M/A**

A Quota was assembled. yes, per Judge Advocate Chris Peirce

### **Approval of previous meeting's minutes:**

Motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting was discussed and carried-over until the May meeting to allow Adjutant Eric ANTHONY to meet with Aide de Camp Kevin BROWN, who took the minutes during March and translate some of his pathetic penmanship for Eric.

### **Reports of Officers**

**Senior Vice Commandant: (position open at present)**

**Paymasters Report: (Marge Romano) – See attached report from Paymaster**

**\$\_\_\_\_\_ balance; \$\_\_\_\_\_ Scholarship balances**

Paymaster was absent, no one reported on financials. Tabled until May meeting

**MOTION:**

## **Chaplain Report: Joe Duquette**

**Sick, Injured, Hospitalized Members :** Bill Rogers – got his head split open; needed 8 staples to close the wound

**Members / spouses recently passed away:** NTR

**Updates from VA Hospital:** BINGO will start-up on the 3d Sunday in May

## **Judge Advocate: Chris Peirce**

- **Easter Seals Leadership Breakfast at Special Needs school**

**Where:** \_\_\_\_\_

**When** \_\_\_\_\_

**American Legion Riders:** there will be a Breakfast Run on May 3d at the Franklin NH campus **\*\*\*IS THIS THE CORRECT REPORT???**

## **Junior Vice Commandant: (Glen A. Thayer, Sr.)**

Brother Thayer reports that he and Paymaster Romano ran into a snag with the Wal-Mart Grants program, as there is a conflict of names on the PayPal account and detachment's legal name. GAHAN to work with THAYER and ROMANO to get it straightened out.

Glen pointed out that an interested party can apply several times per year at the same store...

Later during the meeting it was mentioned that Bass Pro Shops also has a Grant Program we should get to learn

## **Fundraising (discussion led by Gary Gahan)**

**July 4<sup>th</sup> is NOT available from BassPro Shops**

Granite State Detachment will have the following dates:

Bass Pro Shops: May 24 and May 25

August 30 and August 31

Friday November 7th

Market Basket Stores in Bedford, Hooksett and Manchester

May 24<sup>th</sup> and August 30

Further, Gary is arranging for GSD to be present at the City of Manchester Car Show on Saturday August 30. Gary is trying to borrow a couple of military vehicles and a portable axe-throwing booth as incentives

Jo Zurwell passed around a hard-copy of the Sign-Up Genius for the upcoming fundraising efforts; she was able to gain an additional 3 members signing to volunteer

### **Charitable Gaming (discussion led by Gary Gahan)**

GSD has been given a 10 day window at the Casino in Lebanon, believed to be May 31 through June 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **Quartermaster: (Antwon Scott)**

Overworked; taking some time off

### **Webmasters Report: (Jo Zurwell) – See attached report from Webmaster**

### **Media Liaison Report: (Vacant)**

### **Scouting Report: (Kayley Bass / Sarah Steffan)**

Recently attended an Eagle Court of Honor, maybe in Hooksett, on March 30<sup>th</sup>

Kayley is looking for ways to increase the use of MCL for Eagle Courts

**Marine for Life: (Glen A. Thayer, Sr.)**

NTR

**Correspondance: (Commandant, Paymaster, et al)**

- 1 New scholarship application

**Donations inbound: (Paymaster, Commandant)**

NTR

**Donations outbound:**

Dave FRESCHI spoke about a Memorial Shoot at the Chester Rod & Gun Club, in Memoriam of Dave Hamilton. This will be on Saturday June 28<sup>th</sup>, and is open to the public. Shotguns only; bring your own.

Gary GAHAN proposed that in June or July, that we donate \$1000 to the American Legion Riders for their fundraiser to support the Franklin Campus for Veterans, or we may make the donation directly to Franklin Campus if this time period is past the donation collections from Legion.

**Awards: (Commandant, et al)**

None

**Honor Details: (Jim Ambrose)**

NTR

**Scholarship committee: (Gary Gahan, Steve White, Dennis Kearns, Tom Escandon, Jo Zurwell)**

The plan for this year is to select 2 scholarships at \$3,500 each for college students and 2 scholarships at \$1,000 each for Trade Schools and Technical

Training. The scholarship committee will be meeting after the Membership meeting tonight to discuss plan for review and selection of winners for each scholarship.

## **FUNday Breakfast Report: Raffle operator – Reported by Kevin BROWN**

On Saturday 29 March 2025

- 28 people attended the Breakfast. Going Forward, the Aide de Camp will break this down to reflect the number of
- --GSD members attending;
- --family members of GSD members;
- --potential members of GSD;
- --outright guests.

The 50/50 Raffle was

- won by “Doc” Lawrence, and
- contributed \$105 to the Commandant Trade School scholarship fund
- the Incentive Award was not awarded and rolls-over to April

### **Continuing Business:**

- Glen will work with Marge on grants (eg., Bass Pro);
- Marge: 75% of our dollars donated should go to vets. Glen noted that this is not currently the case; but we can gradually work up to this goal.
- Regarding Sign up Genius: we are not using it to its potential yet.
- **Working on “Wounded Warrior” events**

### **Old Business:**

- Market Basket, Bass Pro grants – keep track of these for appropriate action.

### **New Business:**

Chris PEIRCE mentioned that the VFW has an elementary and high school scholarship winner for their national level and this year the selected first place winner is from Manchester, NH.

### **Closing Ceremony:**

**(Commandant, Sgt-at-Arms, Senior VC, Chaplain)**

### **Next meeting dates:**

- The next FUNday breakfast will be on April 26<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) at the Airport Diner, 08:00
- The next official meeting will be on Tuesday, May 13th, 2025 at 18:00 hours.

**--- Kevin Brown, on behalf of Eric Anthony, Adjutant**

## Webmaster and Social Media Manager

### Board Report for

April 8, 2025, GSD 542 Meeting

Since the last meeting the following were either done on the website and/or added to social media.

- Updated officers page to remove SVC and show as vacant
- Removed the Semper 542 YouTube channel page
- Added The Wall That Heals project in Claremont, NH to the calendar
- Created folders in the Google Drive for Quartermaster, and Toys 4 Tots and granted access to committee members so they can save their information to share with future people with these groups.
- Created a Facebook post to announce the scholarship program.
- Added flyer for Operation Mercury V to events calendar and blog post
- Added VJC flyer to blog post
- Posted the March Newsletter to the Resources page of the website and emailed it to all members and our general interest group of emails, moved the December issue to the archive page on website.
- Emailed contracts to Manchester Public Library to reserve the Hunt room for all 4 quarters of 2025 for the Executive Council meetings.
  - Added each of these meeting dates into the calendar on the website
- Edited Signup Genius form to include setup and breakdown of sites for fundraisers
- Created email and sent for people to sign up for volunteering for the fundraising in May via Sign Up Genius. There are many slot still open.
- Added monthly meetings and breakfasts for April, May, and June to the calendar
- Reviewed website usage report from Monster Insights

**Website:** Google Analytics GA4 numbers for March 1 – March 31, 2025

	9/1- 9/30/24	10/1- 10/31/24	11/1- 11/20/24	12/1- 12/31/24	1/1 – 1/31/25	2/1 – 2/28/25	3/1- 3/31/25
Total Website Users	116	165	224	132	124	134	168
Direct Find	56	77	90	71	71	76	107
Organic Search	52	74	89	57	45	45	52
Referral (link on another site to ours)	7	6	13	4	5	10	5
Organic Social	1	8	4	0	3	3	4



The top landing page views were as follows:

	9/1- 9/30/24	10/1- 10/31/24	11/1- 11/30/24	12/1- 12/31/24	1/1 – 1/31/25	2/1 – 2/28/25	3/1- 3/31/25
Main Home page	70	109	121	79	83	64	93
Contact Us	8	0	0	0	0	5	7
Detachment Officers	0	19	22	32	18	9	10
Events	13	11	11	11	13	5	12
Membership	14	12	0	10	0	0	0
Payment Submissions	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Resources	23	15	14	22	12	8	15
Semper Fidelis Newsletter	9	12	20	13	5	0	0
Meeting Minutes				13	3	0	0
News & Events					7	0	0
Scholarships						33	27
Scholarship Application						28	26

Respectfully Submitted, Jo Zurwell, #238602, Webmaster & Social Media Manager

**GSD #542 Paymaster Report for  
Meeting Minutes April 8, 2025**

Checking Account Balance	\$ 11,929.64
Committed Scholarship Funds	\$ 12,023.50
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE TO DATE</b>	<b>\$ (93.86)</b>
No donations or purchases can be made - need to replenish treasury with fundraisers and charity gaming	

## Paymaster Report February 11, 2025 Meeting

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE	OUTSTANDING CHECKS	AMOUNT		COMMITTED FUNDS	AMOUNT
<b>\$ 14,479.54</b>				Boys and Girls Club Spring 2025 Campership	\$ 1,000.00
	Kevin Brown - Raffle Tickets	\$ 17.49			
	Joe Duquette VA Bingo coupons	\$ 40.00		Frank A Dieckmann Scholarship 2025	\$ 7,000.00
		\$ -			
		\$ -		Gary Gahan Trade School Scholarship 2025	\$ 2,120.50
<b>Total Outstanding Checks</b>		<b>\$ 57.49</b>		Dan Fedor Boy Scout Camp Campership 2025	\$ 1,903.00
				Maurice Labbe Music Student Scholarship 2025	\$ -
				<b>TOTAL FUNDS COMMITTED</b>	<b>\$ 12,023.50</b>
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS TO DATE</b>		<b>\$ 2,398.55</b>			
<b>Deposits made after Last Meeting Date 01/14/2025</b>					
Sara Steffen Alan Hein Memorial Donation to support NH Troopers and their families		\$ 500.00			
FUNday Raffle G. Gahan Trade Scholarship January 2025		\$ 85.00			
New Member Dues	Patrick McMonigle and Richard Andrus	\$ 80.00			
Renewal Dues		\$ -			
	<b>Total Deposit to Date</b>	<b>\$ 665.00</b>			

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