

**Granite State Marine Corps League
Detachment #542**

May 13th, 2025 at 1800

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:	Vacant	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 J Byers	Pr. <input type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Adjutant:	Eric Anthony	Pr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Quartermaster:	Antwon Scott	Pr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input 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:	Vacant	Pr. <input type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Scouting:	Kayley Bass/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:

Steve White, Pauly Labbe, Mary Anne Dieckmann and Dennis Kearns

New Members Attending and Sworn-In: NTR

Guests attending: NTR

Approval of previous meeting's minutes:

Steve White made the **MOTION** to accept the previous meeting's minutes; Paul Coutu_ seconded the motion; **passed unanimously**

Reports of Officers

Senior Vice Commandant: (position open at present)

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

\$_486.82_ balance; \$_(see attached rpt.)_ Scholarship balances

- \$339 was earned from the Funday Breakfast monthly event at Airport Diner: \$2 dollar donation by a member at Funday Breakfast/\$337 was the total of the 50/50 Ticket Raffle, which was won by Chris SAWYER. Chris and his wife donated their \$168.50 winnings back to the Detachment, and the detachment had \$168.50 from the drawing.
- Charitable gaming scheduled for May 31-June 9th in Lebanon NH. Coordination with their PR dept. will help with marketing
- These are the dates we should be receiving the checks for the May31-June 9th dates: wk. of June 15th and wk. of July 1st.
- 35% of the casino take for covered periods goes to us.

Chaplain Report: (Joe Duquette)

Sick, Injured, Hospitalized Members :

- Peggy Fedor / knee replacement

Members / spouses recently passed away:

- Corpsman Wes Lawrence's wonderful service dog died (signed card from detachment sent)

Updates from VA Hospital:

- Bingo 3rd Sunday of each month at Manchester VA
- One resident of the VA passed away. Now down to 21 residents.
- At Easter we donated 4 dozen cupcakes (\$26!)

Judge Advocate: Chris Peirce

- 12 state bills in the legislature affecting veterans marked “ought to pass” out of committee:
- “Guard Act” --- government cannot deploy NH Guard overseas without a declaration of war;
- Veteran Tax Exemption.
- Currently there are 25 homeless veterans in the state; but 150 have been housed.
- Marge Romano: 44 houses provided in Manchester!

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

- What’s happening with the Walmart Grants? Glen and Marge would like to work on this.
- What other organizations have grants that might apply to us?

Quartermaster: (Antwon Scott)

- We will be needing a disbursement for officer uniform items for the detachment: Antwon will send out the notifications online when these items are available (trousers, shirts and covers)
- Gary Gahan: red short sleeve MCL emblem shirts are available

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

- Scholarships, Signup Genius, upcoming events, past events can all be seen online now
- We can now order certain items online through our website
- 206 visits this month to the website
- Chris Pierce notes: the 30th of May Memorial Day service at Boscawen Cemetery will be posted.

Media Liaison Report: (Vacant) NTR

Scouting Report: (Kayley Bass/Sarah Steffan)

- An Eagle MOH ceremony might be coming up (will keep detachment informed for possible attendance)
- Kayley will be meeting with the regional Scouting Council (good PR & networking opportunity for our detachment)

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

- Glen notes that today there are much better resources for recently discharged Marines for them to know the full spectrum of benefits, VA healthcare entitlements and involvement opportunities in organizations like ours
- No hits thus far on the MFL site; but hopefully this will change
- The Veteran Service Officer at the VA may be a good resource for us to recruit and get involved with Marine veterans.

Correspondance : (Commandant, Paymaster, et al)

- We are passing around 2 birthday cards for everyone to sign (excluding birthday boy or girl members present, of course!)
- We should acknowledge donors Esther and Chris Sawyer

Donations inbound: (Paymaster, Commandant): NTR

Donations outbound: NTR

Awards: (Commandant, et al)

- Of note: Jim Ambrose (always promoting MCL, does much travel to attend events as representative of MCL) was awarded Associate of The Year for 2025

Honor Details: (Jim Ambrose)

- There will be an Honor Detail on the 30th of May in Hampton

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

- There is currently \$7000 in the Dieckmann Scholarship
- Gary makes the **MOTION** that any monies left over from this scholarship, if not allocated, go to the Manchester Boys & Girls Club Campership (funds

kids' summer camp tuition) **SECONDED** by Joe Duquette; **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Aide De Camp : (Kevin Brown)

- Birthday cards have been passed around to attenders
- There are 4 or 5 classes of MCL membership to account for

FUNday Breakfast Report: Raffle Operator

- Kevin will officiate at the weekend 50% raffle;
- There were 17 in attendance at the April Funday event

Continuing Business:

- We still have open slots that need to be filled for the Memorial Day Fundraising sites (the schedule of sites/slots was passed around and filled in)
- Gary inquired of Kevin regarding the Bass Pro grant form
- Paul Coutu agreed to provide transportation for the necessary equipment for the various sites (Hooksett, Bedford);
- Gary will do final organization and make any phone calls needed.

Old Business:

- Dues: Pat Anthony is paid up. Dick Anagnost owes his dues. Woody Haskell, Raymond LaMay, Peggy Petrolito are all paid for the year.

New Business:

- Chris Pierce: the 22nd posting of flags at the Veterans' Cemetery (Boscawen) will be at 1:00 June 12th
- Ladies of MCL (informal) meeting is yet to be determined
- Mary Anne Dieckmann's long time canine companion died
- Our 93 year old Corpsman Bill Rodgers will be parachute jumping in MA and later (not the same day!) repelling off the tallest building in Manchester NH, the 259 ft. Brady Sullivan building (a charity fundraiser).
- Marge Romano makes the **MOTION** that we contract Dennis Mitchell to build a special flag for the November 250th USMC birthday: Kevin Brown **SECONDED** the motion; **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Closing Ceremony:

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

Next meeting dates:

- The next FUNday breakfast will be on **May 30th**, 2025 (Sat.) at the Airport Diner, 08:00
- The next official meeting will be on Tuesday, **June 10th**, 2025 at 18:00 hours.

--- Eric Anthony, Adjutant

ERIC

<i>FUNday Breakfast Raffle Donations 2025 for Gary Gahan Trade School Scholarship FOR 2026</i>		
January	\$	85.00
February	\$	54.00
March	\$	105.00
April	\$	95.00
May		
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		
TOTAL	\$	339.00

GSD #542 Paymaster Report for Meeting Minutes May 13, 2025

Checking Account Balance	\$ 11,301.68
Total Outstanding Checks	\$ -
Deposits made since last meeting 04/08/2025	\$ 295.00
Committed Scholarship Funds	\$ 12,023.50
Negative Balance to date	\$ (426.82)
Donation check from from Esther & Chris Sawyer	\$ 200.00
Fundraiser from April 26, 2025 Raffle	\$ 95.00

Webmaster and Social Media Manager

Board Report for

May 13, 2025, GSD 542 Meeting

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

- Created and sent reminder email to schools for scholarship program
- Created spreadsheet for trade schools in area to be uploaded to CC to have email sent out
- Created an email to send to Trade schools in area to announce scholarship program
- Combined minutes and reports into one file and emailed to Board and common members at the meetings.
- Added names to Signup Genius that volunteered from monthly meeting.
- Created Google Drive folder for scholarships. Added all committee members to have access to the folder. Made subfolders for each applicant and loaded with their documentation. Emailed one applicant that we were missing a document and asked that she get it to us as soon as she can.
- Reviewed April meeting minutes from Kevin and made some edits to save length and emailed Eric to ask if he wants me to combine Paymaster and webmaster reports w minutes and send out combined report.
- Created events in calendar for Dave Hamilton Memorial Shoot, and NH Charitable Gaming dates in Lebanon, NH.
- Created a mid-April CC email sent to all in database for Upcoming Events: NH Gaming dates, Scholarship deadline, Dave Hamilton event, fundraising volunteer sign up.
- Replied to student email about scholarship question. Then went into scholarship application and fixed the fields so that if a student in our area does not have a member with MCL etc. they can still apply if from an area school.
- Created email CC breakfast reminder, w Homeland Heroes events and fundraising signup info
- Added footer to the bottom of website with required wording from national per Cody
- Updated plugins as needed
- Reviewed website usage report from Monster Insights

Website: Google Analytics GA4 numbers for April 1 – April 30, 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	4/1- 4/20/25
Total Website Users	116	165	224	132	124	134	168	206
Direct Find	56	77	90	71	71	76	107	131
Organic Search	52	74	89	57	45	45	52	58
Referral (link on another site to ours)	7	6	13	4	5	10	5	12
Organic Social	1	8	4	0	3	3	4	5

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	4/1- 4/30/25
Main Home page	70	109	121	79	83	64	93	84
Contact Us	8	0	0	0	0	5	7	
Detachment Officers	0	19	22	32	18	9	10	6
Events	13	11	11	11	13	5	12	6
Membership	14	12	0	10	0	0	0	0
Payment Submissions	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Resources	23	15	14	22	12	8	15	15
Semper Fidelis Newsletter	9	12	20	13	5	0	0	11
Meeting Minutes				13	3	0	0	0
News & Events					7	0	0	0
Scholarships						33	27	61
Scholarship Application						28	26	45

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