

Granite State Marine Corps League Detachment #542

Oct 14

,2025 at 1800

Uniform of the day: MCL cover

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

Roll Call of Officers and Appointed Positions:

Commandant :	Eric Anthony	Pr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Sr Vice Cmndt :	Jesse Stufflebeam	Pr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Jr Vice Cmndt :	Vacant	Pr. <input 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"/>
Acting Adjutant:	Jo Zurwell	Pr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Chaplain :	Joe Duquette	Pr. <input type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Paymaster :	Marge Romano	Pr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Quartermaster :	Steve White	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"/>
Scouting :	Kayley Bass/Sara Steffen	Pr. <input type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>
Aide De Camp :	Kevin Brown	Pr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input type="checkbox"/>	Abs. <input type="checkbox"/>

We have a quorum.

Other Members attending:

Pat Anthony, Paul Janes, Glen Thayer

New Members Attending and Sworn-In:

None

Guests attending:

Mark Lindsley

Approval of previous meeting's minutes:

Peirce made the **MOTION** to accept the previous meeting's minutes; *P. Anthony* seconded the motion; **passed unanimously**

Anthony stated that our next member meeting is on November 11th. As this is going to be a very busy time for MCL with the birthday events and Veteran's day events, he made a suggestion of moving the meeting to the 12th. *Coutu* suggested the 4th so that it is done before all the events and if there are any questions about MCL or GSD participation in any of those events, they can be addressed beforehand. *Anthony* made a motion to move the next membership meeting from November 11th to November 4th at the same time and place. This motion was seconded by *White* and passed unanimously.

Anthony stated the need for an ad hoc committee to handle the preparations for the upcoming Department of NH meeting on December 6th. The following people volunteered to be on this committee: *Zurwell, White, Stufflebeam, and P. Anthony*. It was discussed to plan for about 24 people to attend, but the committee would want to get a head count as part of their preparations. It was asked of the new committee to produce meal options and costs to be presented at the November meeting for budgeting costs. Some suggestions for the menu were pizza, or subs, chips, soda, water, dessert.

Anthony then announced that the next Executive Council meeting has been changed from December 6th, to accommodate the Department meeting, and will now be held on November 29th at 10am at the ACGS Library.

Anthony then turned the floor over to Mark Lindsley, who was visiting the meeting to share his knowledge on the process of obtaining and using the M1's that would be needed for the firing detail for the Honor Guard. *Lindsley* stated the M1's would be obtained from the Army Tank Command. With a simple online search

for ceremonial rifles their website would come up and then look for the needed form and fill it out. He also recommended getting the Danish Blank Firing Adapter for each rifle; they are higher priced, but they are sturdy and dependable. *Peirce* stated the real issue is finding a secure place to store them.

After the meeting, *Lindsley* demonstrated, to those that would be doing the cake cutting ceremony, how the ceremony flowed and what they would need to do. GSD thanks Mark for joining the meeting and making sure we know what needs to be done during the ceremony.

Anthony then shared with the group recent activities he has participated in since the last meeting. He attended the Grand opening of the Easterseals campus in Franklin, NH. He was very impressed with the way the campus is set up and feels like a “Veteran Village” and not just an apartment complex. *Romano* mentioned that she had visited the campus as well with the President of the Manchester Expeditionary Brigade and she was very impressed with the layout.

Anthony and *Romano* went to the Revo Casino in Lebanon for the large check publicity presentation photo op. They saw Cody Dumont and Mike Martioski who were there for the Department photo op. Senaca from Revo Casino would like us to send them a listing of the organizations we plan to donate to as part of the application process for 2026.

Anthony will be attending the Veterans Council meeting on October 19th at 1:30 at the Jutras Post 43 of the American Legion, and he stated if anyone was interested in attending, just to let him know.

Lastly, *Anthony* shared the list of GSD members that will be performing the cake cutting ceremony at the Manchester Expeditionary Brigade luncheon on November 10th; NCOIC Eric Anthony, Joe Duquette, Paul Coutu, Jesse Stufflebeam, and Paul Janes. There will be a walkthrough on October 20th at 9am at the Derryfield Country Club. The uniform for the event will be undress blues with long sleeves and tie, *Janes* will be wearing his dress blues.

Reports of Officers

Senior Vice Commandant: (Jesse Stufflebeam) – NTR

Zurwell passed around the sign-up form for the November 7th-8th fundraiser at Bass Pro Shops. Anyone interested in volunteering a few hours of their time was asked to add to the sign-up form.

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

\$47,966.24 balance; \$820 in outstanding checks; committed funds \$1903 for the Dan Fedor Boy Scout Camp Campership 2025 designated for one to two canoes. Total available funds is \$45,273.24.

To see the full details from the Paymaster, see the attached report.

Donations inbound: (Paymaster, Commandant): NTR

FUNday Breakfast Report: Marge Romano and Kevin Brown

- The 50/50 raffle raised \$80. \$882 YTD in the Trade School Scholarship for 2026 awarding.
- Winner of the raffle was Steve White who donated the money back to the scholarship funds.

Chaplain Report: (Joe Duquette) - Absent

Sick, Injured, Hospitalized Members :

Members / spouses recently passed away:

Updates from VA Hospital:

Judge Advocate: Chris Peirce – NTR

Junior Vice Commandant: (position open at present) – NTR

Quartermaster: (Steve White)

White stated he is working on ordering the uniforms for the firing detail. *Stufflebeam* mentioned to be careful when ordering pants from the Marine store because their pant sizes are not like standard stores and when he ordered his they

had to be returned because they were 7 inches too small in the waist and the length was too long by several inches.

Webmasters Report: (Jo Zurwell) –

See attached report from Webmaster

Scouting Report: (Kayley Bass/Sara Steffen) – NTR -absent

Correspondance : (Commandant, Paymaster, et al) Marge Romano reporting

Romano shared the invitation GSD received for the Manchester Expeditionary Brigade luncheon. She also read a thank you letter from Building Dreams for Marines for our donation of \$2,000 earlier this year.

Aide De Camp : (Kevin Brown)

- Birthday Card Program – he sent around a stack of birthday cards for all present to sign for those with upcoming birthdays.
- Common Man – Alex Ray – *Brown* stated that he had been in contact with Alex over the summer while he was in Ukraine but had not heard from since he was back. *Brown* reached out to Alex's administrative assistant and was given Alex's personal email. *Brown* wanted to discuss other options other than inviting Alex to a breakfast and presenting the award. He does not seem to be the type of person that wants to be recognized for his actions. *Peirce* mentioned that he met Alex on 9/28/25 at an event and said that he is entirely focused on Ukraine, which is not in our lane to donate to, and he stated that Alex is one that is putting on events to raise money for veterans so having us donate to his cause may not be needed. *Brown* asked if anyone had other ideas of what we could do to thank Alex for allowing GSD to hold our breakfasts at his restaurant without charge for so many years, to please contact him.
- *Brown* mentioned that he ran into Michelle Vanvalkenburg and her son Tom at a local restaurant. She said she is very busy with work at this point, but she might come back as a member if she can fit the meetings into her schedule.
- Lastly *Brown* stated that he had given several items that were found in storage back to Gary Gahan as they did not pertain to MCL or the detachment specifically and thought they should go back to their original holder. He was informed by Gary that he had gone through the items and

about 2/3 of the items he would be returning to *Brown*. Once *Brown* receives these items back he will give them to *White* to be put into storage. Some items in this collection were challenge coins and service ribbons.

Donation Review Committee:

Peirce reported the points that were determined from the meeting of the Donation Review Committee. Below are his bullet points, see New Business for the associated motions from these recommendations.

1. Ensure yearly audit is performed by the Trustees (SVC, JVC, JA) in January.
2. JA to make motion for standing orders to allow the Paymaster to pay all normal and regular bills up to \$500.
3. Create a Relief Fund, a fund to handle any emergencies occurring with our Detachment members. To be routed through the Chaplain.
4. Set aside an amount to be an emergency fund for the Detachment to handle any issues concerning the Detachment operations.
5. Fixed donations for the Bingo at the CLC and a quarterly food bank donation rotating through designated charities.
6. Propose to Scholarship Committee limiting the scholarships to one in each category and to a dollar amount of \$2500 each. Understanding money from the Funday 50/50 raffle offsets the Commandant Trade school scholarship.
7. Dollar amounts can be adjusted to accommodate individual items.
8. Volunteering time is an option for any activity where possible.

Peirce stated that the committee looked at everything that GSD had donated to this point in the year and they produced a list of organizations that would better meet the 75/25 split for donations each year. The list is as follows:

1. Meals On Wheels – Veterans Section
2. Building Dreams for Marines
3. Liberty House
4. State Troopers
5. Blue Star Mothers
6. Veterans Cemetery Association
7. NH Veterans Home – during holidays they have an adopt a Marine program and the committee suggested to fund \$75 per the 9 Marines
8. Art for Veterans
9. Worker Bee Fund
10. Delta Dog

11. Harbor Care
12. Hidden Battles
13. Hometown Heros

Awards: (Commandant, et al) –

Romano reported that she had mailed the check to National for Ellen Petralito's life membership. Once she hears back from National that it is official, *Romano* will do up the award and work out when it will be best to present it to her.

Honor Details: (vacant) –

Quartermaster is working on what is needed. Those on the detail will be *Eric Anthony, Steve White, Jesse Stufflebeam, Jim Ambrose, Jim Covatis, and Kaylee Bass*.

Scholarship committee: (Jo Zurwell)

Zurwell asked who would like to join her as part of the scholarship committee as it will be time to start working on any revisions on the process before getting out to the schools. She stated that George Robinson had mentioned to her at the last meeting that he would like to be on that committee. *White* said he would like to be on the committee as well.

Continuing Business:

Old Business:

Peirce stated that he installed the base for the flagpole at the cemetery in Franklin that GSD donated the flagpole and lights to, behind the Easterseals campus. The cemetery will be putting in a plaque that states it was donated by the GSD 542 MCL.

New Business:

Romano stated that the Easterseals facility in Franklin is offering to sell pavers for veterans to be remembered throughout their facility. She stated that there were two sizes 13x13 and 19 ½ x 13 inches. She was thinking it would be a great way to memorialize one of the founders or at least past Commandant, Maurice Labbe for all his dedication to the MCL and GSD 542. *Romano* made a motion to purchase a 19 ½ x 13 inch paver for \$1250 to memorialize Maurice Labbe. This was seconded by *White*, and after some discussion the vote passed unanimously.

Romano then made a motion to make a donation as part of the operating budget to give ACGS, for the generous use of their space, \$250 annually. *P. Anthony* seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. *Zurwell*, thanked everyone on behalf of ACGS, as she is the President of ACGS.

Lastly, *Romano* extended a heartfelt thank you to Eric Anthony for all he has been doing in his role as Commandant. He has been learning as he goes and excelling as he goes and she wanted to express her thanks at the meeting.

Peirce followed up from his discussion earlier from the Donation Review Committee with the following motions from the work the committee had done.

Peirce made a motion to approve the Paymaster to pay all normal and scheduled bills up to \$500. *White* seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Peirce made a motion to approve Fixed donations of \$60 per month for Bingo at VA, and \$500 per quarter for food pantries. *Stufflebeam* seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Peirce made a motion to establish a Relief Fund of \$2000 and an Emergency fund of \$3000, strictly line items and no funds to be spent now. *Coutu* seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Peirce made a motion to make the following donations by the end of the calendar year; Art for Veterans for \$500, Worker Bee Fund for \$1000, Delta Dog for \$1000, Harbor Care for \$1000, Hidden Battles for \$1000, Hometown Heros for \$1000, and NH Veterans Cemetery Association for \$500. *White* seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Peirce made a motion to make the following seasonal donations depending on individual charities; NH Veterans Home – holiday funding of \$75 per Marine in the home (nine currently) for a total of \$675, VASH – provide gifts for families or children up to \$1000, Blue Star Mothers – for wreathes once their program starts for \$1000, and Toys for Tots – volunteer time first choice. *Coutu* seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Nominations for the 2026 Election

At this time, the Judge Advocate opened the floor to nominations for the four officer positions of Commandant, Senior Vice Commandant, Junior Commandant, and Judge Advocate for the next term that starts in June 2026.

Brown nominated Eric Anthony for Commandant. *Peirce* asked three times for any other nominations for Commandant. *Peirce* then asked *Anthony* if he accepts the nomination. *Anthony* stated that he accepts the nomination for Commandant. *Peirce* then stated that with no other nominations for Commandant, *Eric Anthony* is elected as the Commandant to start the term in June 2026.

Peirce nominated Jesse Stufflebeam for Senior Vice Commandant (SVC). *Peirce* asked three times for any other nominations for SVC. *Peirce* then asked *Stufflebeam* if he accepts the nomination. *Stufflebeam* stated that he accepts the nomination for SVC. *Peirce* then stated that with no other nominations for SVC, *Jesse Stufflebeam* is elected as the Senior Vice Commandant to start the term in June 2026.

Peirce asked three times for any nominations for Junior Vice Commandant. No nominations were received, and this position will be carried over to the following meeting for nominations.

Zurwell nominated Chris Peirce for Judge Advocate. *Peirce* asked three times for any other nominations for Judge Advocate. *Peirce* was then asked if he would accept the nomination. *Peirce* stated that he accepts the nomination for Judge Advocate. *Peirce* then stated that with no other nominations for Judge Advocate, *Chris Peirce* is elected as the Judge Advocate to start the term in June 2026.

Peirce then advised *Anthony* that the other officers in the detachment are all appointed positions, and he can over the coming months determine if would like these positions to remain with the people in those positions now and nominate them again as well as find people to fill the vacancies.

For the Good of the Order

- *Pat Anthony* advised that there will be a ladies only lunch on the third Wednesday of each month, at noon at T-Bones in Bedford. She has asked *Zurwell* to add this reoccurring event to the calendar on the website.
- *Coutu* asked if we planned to start selling raffle tickets again for the wooden flags at the fundraising tables. Or if we were selling any challenge coins at these tables at Market Basket and Bass Pro Shops? In the past we sold raffle tickets for the wooden flags for \$20. There was some discussion whether we had any challenge coins in the storage unit. With the fundraiser coming up in a few weeks it was decided to table this for now and if we were to start

selling any of the coins or raffle tickets, then it would be done starting in 2026.

- *Thayer* thanked everyone for their support and friendship during the difficult times earlier in the year. He took a timeout from MCL for awhile with his family and now has decided he will be coming to member meetings again. He shared a little of his recent trip to Europe and that he has been working on his music with singing and playing the guitar. Everyone welcomed him back.

Closing Ceremony:

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

Meeting Adjourned at 1953

Next meeting dates:

- The next FUNday breakfast will be on **October 25, 2025 (Sat.)** at the Airport Diner, 08:00
- The next official meeting will be on Tuesday, **November 4, 2025**, at 18:00 hours.

--- Jo Zurwell, Acting Adjutant

Granite State Marine Corps League Detachment #542

Agenda – October 14, 2025

1. Opening Ceremony
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes September 9, 2025
4. Commandant
 - a. November 11th meeting – do we want on this day?
 - b. Create Ad Hoc Committee for DoNH Quarterly Meeting
 - c. Executive Council Meeting 11/29 at 10am at ACGS Library
 - d. Mark Lindsley – Process procure arms (M1's)
 - e. Discuss recent activities
5. Officer Reports
 - a. Sr. Vice Comm. – Fundraising –
 - b. Paymaster – Marge Romano
 - c. Chaplain – Joe Duquette
 - d. Judge Advocate – Chris Peirce
 - e. Jr Vice – vacant
 - f. Quartermaster – Steve White –
 - g. Webmaster – Jo Zurwell
 - h. Media Liaison – vacant
 - i. Scouting -Kaylee Bass and Sara Steffen
 - j. Marine 4 Life – vacant
 - k. Correspondence
 - l. Aide de Camp – Kevin Brown
 - i. Alex Ray – suggestions and ideas to give back
 1. Invite him to the MC Ball or something related to 250th
 2. Donation in his name to Toys for Tots
 3. Donation in his name for an organization he cares for
 4. Partner w a charity that he is involved in that fits our mission
 - m. Donations Inbound
 - n. Donation Evaluation Committee– Chris Peirce -report on meeting
 - i. Assembled list of donation recipients to share with Revo for 2026 application

- o. Awards
 - p. Honor Detail
 - q. Scholarship – Jo Zurwell – Committee for 2026
- 6. Continuing Business
 - a. Old Business
 - b. New Business
 - i. Nominations for 2026 Officers Election
 - ii. Donation Committee – motion to make selected donations
- 7. For the Good of the Order – anyone have anything to share
- 8. Closing Ceremony
- 9. Next breakfast is October 25. Next Member meeting November 11th

After the meeting Mark Lindsley will have a short seminar on the MEB cake cutting ceremony duties for Eric Anthony and the four others in the ceremony.

Paymaster Report October 14, 2025 Meeting

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE	OUTSTANDING CHECKS	AMOUNT		COMMITTED FUNDS	AMOUNT
\$ 47,996.24					
	Life Membership Ellen Petralito	\$ 400.00			
	National MCL			Dan Fedor Boy Scout Camp Campership 2025	\$ 1,903.00
	National MCL renewals	\$ 420.00		designated for one canoe possibly two	
				Maurice Labbe Music Student Scholarship 2025	\$ -
Total Outstanding Checks		\$ 820.00		TOTAL FUNDS COMMITTED \$ 1,903.00	
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS TO DATE					
Deposits made after Last Meeting Date 08/12/2025					
	FUNday Raffle Scholarship July 2025	\$ 80.00			
	Total Deposits to Date	\$ 80.00			

<i>FUNday Breakfast Raffle Donations 2025 for Commandant Trade School Scholarship</i>						
<i>FOR 2026</i>						
January	\$ 85.00					
February	\$ 54.00					
March	\$ 105.00					
April	\$ 95.00					
May	\$ 283.00	Chris Sawyer Winner donated back his half of Raffle				
June	\$ 55.00					
July	\$ 65.00					
August	\$ 60.00					
September	\$ 80.00	Steve White Winner donated back his half of Raffle				
October						
November						
December						
TOTAL	\$ 882.00					

Webmaster and Social Media Manager

Board Report for

October 14, 2025, GSD 542 Meeting

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

- Updated the Roster with information obtained from DoNH for new members from Gromley. Sent email to DoNH (Mike) with members we show but they do not.
- Set up Eric, Marge, and Chris to the GSD Google Calendar and added a couple of events for deadline for write up for Newsletter and next Executive meeting 9/6
- Worked on concept, design, and creating two ad options for Eric and Chris to approve for the Liberty House program.
- Created September Newsletter
- Created an email for Pat Anthony for a Ladies Luncheon at T-Bones 9/17
- Received final approval on adding Mike's fundraiser and approval on full newsletter, sent to all membership and all on CC. Moved the June newsletter link over to the archive webpage and loaded the September issue to the Resources page.
- Received final approval on the Liberty House ad, composed an email and sent the ad and logo to contact at Liberty House.
- Updated email forwarding for Quartermaster and SVC to Steve and Jesse within GoDaddy.
- Loaded all MC Birthday events shown on DoNH to GSD calendar; uploaded July and August completed minutes to the Archive Minutes webpage
- Social Media post for the Easterseals Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Sept 18th.
- This is not an all-inclusive list of what I did since the last meeting, but it is what best pertains to the website and social media.
- Reviewed website usage report from Monster Insights

Website: Google Analytics GA4 numbers for September 1 – September 30th

	3/1- 3/31/25	4/1- 4/20/25	5/1 - 5/31/25	6/1- 6/30/25	7/1 – 7/31/25	8/1- 8/31/25	9/1- 9/30/25
Total Website Users	168	206	145	157	152	119	173
Direct Find	107	131	82	99	67	69	101
Organic Search	52	58	51	39	77	41	66
Referral (link on another site to ours)	5	12	11	4	7	9	4
Organic Social	4	5	1	15	1	0	2

The top landing page views were as follows:

	3/1- 3/31/25	4/1- 4/30/25	5/1 - 5/31/25	6/1- 6/30/25	7/1 – 7/31/25	8/1- 8/31/25	9/1 - 9/30/25
Main Home page	93	84	90	109	88	73	96
Contact Us	7	7	8	13	14	6	10
Detachment Officers	10	6	16	34	22	8	18
Events	12	6	0	8	14	10	19
Resources	15	15	23	15	14	23	21
Semper Fidelis Newsletter	0	11	0	5	14	13	22
Scholarships	27	61	5	0	0	0	0
Scholarship Application	26	45	6	0	0	0	0
Store			9	0	0	0	0
Membership						7	0
Easterseals Ribbon Cutting Post							12

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