

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

Jan 13 , 2026 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 type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input checked="" 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 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 :	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 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"/>

We have a quorum.

Other Members attending:

Pat Anthony, Joey Duquette

New Members Attending and Sworn-In:

None

Guests attending:

Mike Martioski, Scott Hyder and Matt Ayers from Hidden Battles, Dave Tille and Brian Tagliaferro from Harbor Care, and Dave Grey from Hometown Hero Outdoors

Approval of previous meeting's minutes:

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

The meeting opened with a few check presentations to organizations that GSD 542 had previously decided to make donations to in 2025.

Peirce introduced Scott Hyder and Matt Ayers from Hidden Battles and asked them to give the group a ten thousand foot view of what their organization does for the veteran community. Scott shared, with his service dog Junie at his side, how Hidden Battles started and their mission is to help with mental health therapy through peer support groups, art therapy, ruck marches, and other events that builds a common bond with like minded people. At this point a few pictures were taken with Scott, Junie, Matt, Chris Peirce, and Eric Anthony for the check presentation. For more information about this group please visit <https://www.hiddenbattlesfoundation.org/>.

Peirce then introduced Dave Tille and Brian Tagliaferro from Harbor Care and asked them to do the same type of overview of their organization. They explained that Harbor Care provides housing, healthcare, and veteran services. They have a location in Nashua, Manchester, and Plymouth. They help with suicide prevention as well. Annually they help service 450 veterans and their families in NH. They have made great strides to reduce the homelessness of veterans in Manchester with the help of the Mayor's initiatives and work with the people with wrap around support, so they do not end up back on the street. They partner with many organizations, including Hidden Battles, mentioned above. Harbor Care is funded from the federal VA, Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, and HUD, but there is a gap of about \$1000 per person so that is where donations from organizations like GSD 542 come in to round out the funding. They offered to

give GSD officers and members a tour of the Manchester facility if it was wanted. At this point a few pictures were taken with Dave, Brian, Chris Peirce, and Eric Anthony for the check presentation. To note, Mike Martioski from the Department of NH was there to present a check to Harbor Care as well from a motion that was passed at the December meeting from a GSD member; a picture was taken of this presentation as well. For more information go to <https://harborcarenh.org/>.

Romano introduced David Gray from Hometown Hero Outdoors and asked him to give a high level overview of the organization for the group. They work with veterans and first responders and take them out on outdoor events to help reduce the effects of PTSD and suicide prevention. They are a 100% volunteer organization, and they receive no federal funding but provide their services by donations. The events are free for the attendees with a few exceptions. They are strict on safety with background checks on everyone that attends the events and with equipment used during the events. Their events include bear hunts, they just had their first 100% women bear hunt, kayaking, ice fishing, and hiking to name a few. They create chat groups for each event so that everyone can keep in touch as a lot of people come from all over the country for the events. At this point a few pictures were taken with David, Marge, and Eric Anthony with the check presentation. For more information, please go to www.hometownherooutdoors.org.

Anthony then turned the meeting to the next piece of business, the swearing in of a new member. However, the new member Glenn Morales, who is every excited to become a member, is unable to drive at night and is not able to come to the monthly meetings at this time. *Anthony* asked *Peirce*, as JA, if it would be possible to swear Glenn in at a monthly breakfast, even though it is not an official meeting. *Peirce* said that it is a gray area in the rules and is allowable if approved with a motion during an official monthly meeting. *Brown* then made a motion to allow *Anthony* to swear in Glenn Morales at an upcoming breakfast that he is able to attend. The motion was seconded by *White*, and the motion passed unanimously.

Anthony then mentioned he attended, Sunday, December 21 in a last minute funeral wake request in Milford from the brother of the deceased, Corpsman Stephan O'Keefe, 78. Not only was he a Purple Heart and Bronze Star w/V for valor recipient; but served '68 - '69 in B 1/7th Marines --- *Anthony* served in C 1/7, so they served in the same area and same time in Vietnam! Further, both his radioman and company commander were at this wake. The radioman was in a wheelchair

with Parkinsons, an effect of Agent Orange; but the B company commander was interested in MCL, particularly in our Funday breakfast, so *Anthony* shared his contact information and invited him to an upcoming breakfast.

Anthony then advised everyone that the New England Division Conference, which used to be called Quad State, will now be done regionally, and will be held from June 11th to June 14th in Springfield, MA. For more information, check out the calendar item on the GSD website, <https://granitestatemarines.com/event/mcl-new-england-division-conference/>.

Anthony then added to the agenda a discussion about the 2026 Marine Corps Ball. He asked if anyone was interested in helping to plan the ball and help to find a venue, there will be a committee being started. This event will be done in conjunction with the Dillion Detachment out of Bow, NH. Mike Martioski, who is a member of the Dillion Detachment, said that their commandant could not be in attendance tonight, but he wanted to share that they are looking forward to working with GSD 542 to plan this event. Some venue locations were mentioned, Puritan Backroom, Manchester Country Club, and Derryfield Country Club. *White* volunteered to reach out to these locations and find out what size venues and costs for each location. He is going to see about arranging on-site visits which *Anthony* would like to attend. It was mentioned that NH Representative Chris Pappas is the owner of the Puritan Backroom, and he is always saying how he wants to help veterans, so perhaps he would be willing to give GSD 542 a deep discount for the space. It was commented that this is the time, or the sooner the better, to book a venue as they fill up quickly.

Reports of Officers

Senior Vice Commandant: (Jesse Stufflebeam) – Absent

With Jesse being out sick for this meeting, *Zurwell* mentioned that she had been working with him for the February fundraiser at Bass Pro Shops. He has contacted them a couple of times, but he has not received confirmation at this point that the dates requested will be accepted. As soon as that approval comes in, *Stufflebeam* will connect with *Zurwell* to set up the SignUp Genius sign-up form, and she will email everyone so that people can sign up for the time slots to be covered. *Peirce* mentioned at this time that this is the time to apply for the Bass Pro Shops grant. They will probably help us out with the purchase of the canoe(s) for the Boy Scouts. *Romano* said she will check out their website and look into it.

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

\$39,563.91 balance; \$350 outstanding checks; committed funds \$1,903 for the Dan Fedor Boy Scout Camp Campership 2025 designated for one to two canoes, \$1,500 for Maurice Labbe memorial paver, \$500 Arts for Veterans, \$1,000 Delta Dog, \$1,000 Harbor Care, and \$1,000 Hometown Heros Outdoors; total committed \$7,903.00. Total available funds is \$31,310.91.

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

Romano mentioned that the Manchester Brigade has rescinded their donation that was slated for the Easterseals Veterans Campus in Franklin. As motioned in the December meeting by *Romano* there has been a hold put on the donation designated for the Maurice Labbe memorial paver on the Easterseals campus, until Easterseals has the ability to work out their internal issues. *Peirce* then added some additional new information on this topic. Easterseals campus has sent out invitations to most of the veteran organizations in NH for a meeting on-site on 1/29/26 to try and smooth over all the issues, and he will be attending to see what they have to say, and he will report back at the next meeting.

Romano then held up the official Charitable Gaming license for 2026 from Revo Casino for GSD 542.

Romano then stated that \$160 for a Zoom account so that GSD 542 could have people join the meetings virtually is well worth the money. *Zurwell* then stated that she had looked into getting the 50% discount for being a non-profit, and it was rejected because GSD 542 is a 501(c)4 and not the required 501(c)3. *Martioski* added a comment that he thinks but is not certain, that National is 501(c)4 but the individual detachments are 501(c)3 and suggested checking the EIN number with the state. He also commented that checking the National bylaws on the use of Zoom or other virtual meeting setups for meetings and the rules around them because there may be some restrictions. *Peirce* said that he would check the bylaws and let us know the information.

At this point, *Zurwell* provided an update on what has happened with trying to cancel the RingCentral account. She called and spoke to a couple of customer service representatives, and it was explained to her that GSD 542 signed a 2-year contract in October 2023 and that it auto renewed in October 2025. They never sent any notice that the account would auto renew or that it had auto renewed, so this was not known. They told her that the account could not be cancelled until 30 days prior to the new expiration date of October 2027. *Zurwell* then asked if there

was a supervisor or manager she could talk to and she was given the contact information for a designated case manager for the account. She then sent an email to that person and is waiting to see if they can work out some kind of settlement so that the detachment does not have to make 20 more payments for a service that is not being used. She will advise once she hears back from them. She also reminded the group that RingCentral also has a virtual meeting capability, but it was very hard to work with and set up, and that *Martioski* was actually the one that set it up in 2023 but has not been used since for this purpose. *Zurwell* stated that she did not want to make the decision to have two services Zoom and RingCentral that had the same offerings of virtual meeting capabilities without approval from management. It was decided that *Zurwell* will look into the Zoom discount and see what RingCentral can do and report back to *Anthony* for a decision to be made.

Romano then shared that in 2025 the detachment had made the following donations: to veteran's organizations \$11,887.40, to community organizations \$3,250, and scholarships \$9,000 for a total of \$24,137.40!

Romano then asked *Peirce* to set up a date for the audit to happen in January.

FUNday Breakfast Report: Marge Romano and Kevin Brown

- The 50/50 raffle raised \$85. \$1087 YTD in the Trade School Scholarship for 2026 awarding. Steve White winner of the raffle donated his half of the raffle to Susie, the server at Airport Diner.

Chaplain Report: (Joe Duquette) –

Sick, Injured, Hospitalized Members : Bill Rogers just got over a bladder infection, and he is dealing with cancer treatments. He said Bill is in good spirits and is fighting the cancer. *Duquette* spoke with the Petralito's and they are doing well. He also mentioned that Kaylee Bass is dealing with two cousins that were in an accident and one is in ICU.

Members / spouses recently passed away:

Updates from VA Hospital:

Judge Advocate: Chris Peirce –

Peirce stated that Department Bylaw revisions were wrapped up at the Department meeting and the paperwork has been sent to National for their review, and it will be replied to at their discretion.

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

Quartermaster: (Steve White)

White stated he would be ordering business cards for the Commandant, and *Anthony* stated he would like cards for all the officers.

Webmasters Report: (Jo Zurwell) –

See attached report from Webmaster

Scouting Report: (Kayley Bass/Sara Steffen) –

Steffen did not have anything to report. However, *Anthony* stated that he had the honor of attending an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Thomas Martineau on January 10, 2026. The dignitaries from the Scout Court of Honor: Senator Denise Riccardi, Representative Bill Boyd, Sons of the American Revolution John Veach. Senator Riccardi also brought certificates and letters of appreciation from Kelly Ayotte, Rep. Chris Pappas and Senator Jean Shaheen. *Anthony* gave a 10 minute speech and presented a MCL certificate and challenge coin. Thomas's Eagle project was building a music cabinetry space for the Manchester High School Band.

Correspondence : (Commandant, Paymaster, et al) Eric Anthony reporting

Nothing to report

Aide De Camp : (Kevin Brown)

Brown shared that member Shawn Carboni will be transferring to a detachment where he lives now in North Carolina.

Donations inbound: (Paymaster, Commandant):

Anthony stated that he received \$20 from Marty Michaud when he was talking with him recently about what the detachment is doing.

Donation Review Committee:

Peirce stated that the donation to the Art Program still needs to be done and that should be done at their location. The donation to Delta Dogs still needs to be determined when and where that will take place. The other three checks were given out tonight.

Awards: (Commandant, et al) – NTR

Honor Details: (vacant) –

Martioski received a call recently from Cody Dumont asking if he would be interested in doing a color guard for a Bruins Alumni game in Concord, NH. The color guard consisted of Reggy, Mike, Eric, and Cody. They had to go out to the middle of the ice without mats to walk on, that was a challenge, but no one dropped anything or fell, so no one had to do any push-ups. *Martioski* will try to get the pictures that were taken by the photographer there, but he is not sure who has that information, but he will let *Zurwell* know for the newsletter.

Scholarship committee: (Jo Zurwell) -

The committee is currently reviewing the 2025 scholarship documentation to determine if anything should be updated or changed and then update the website as needed and then send out to the high schools and trade schools in the detachment area.

Continuing Business:

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

For the Good of the Order

- *Anthony* mentioned to all that Raymond Bernard a WWII Marine veteran will be turning 100 years old and there will be a party on 2/21/26 in Dover, NH. He will find out a mailing address for him so that a birthday card can be sent. He will also send *Zurwell* the address of the party so she can send out a notice to members if they would like to attend.
- *Peirce* stated he recently talked with Brian Hanson the founder of Worker Bees Fund, and the donation GSD 542 gave him at the last meeting has already gone to help a Marine in need in Goffstown.
- *Anthony* commented that he had been in contact with Courtney from Easterseals that had done the presentation last month, about his church friend, who is a veteran, who was having financial troubles with his home, and they have sent someone out to him and are working to help him now.
- *Coutu* mentioned that BJ's currently has overstock of toys and are discounted 50% off right now, so if anyone wants to stock up for next year's Toys-4-Tots there are deals to be had.

- *Duquette* reminded anyone that wanted to join in the fun, the BINGO afternoon at the VA will be on Sunday at 1pm and to meet him in the parking lot at 12:30 pm if interest in helping out.

Closing Ceremony:

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

Meeting Adjourned at 1930.

Next meeting dates:

- The next FUNday breakfast will be on **January 31, 2026** (Sat.) at the Airport Diner, 08:00
- The next official meeting will be on Tuesday, **February 10, 2026**, at 1800 hours.

--- Jo Zurwell, Acting Adjutant

Granite State Marine Corps League Detachment #542

Agenda – January 13, 2026 @ 1800

1. Opening Ceremony
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes December 9, 2025
4. Commandant
 - a. Hidden Battles – overview and check presentation
 - b. Harbor Care – overview and check presentation
 - c. Hometown Hero Outdoors - David Gray, NE Director – overview and check presentation
 - d. Swearing in of new member Glenn Morales
 - e. Sunday, December 21 attended funeral/wake in Milford Corpsman Stephan O'Keefe, 78
 - f. NE Division Conference (Prior known as Quad State) 6/11-6/14/26
5. Officer Reports
 - a. SVC – Jesse Stufflebeam
 - b. Paymaster – Marge Romano
 - c. Chaplain – Joe Duquette
 - i. Members report on health issues of self, family or other members not reported already by Chaplain
 - d. Judge Advocate – Chris Peirce
 - e. Jr Vice – vacant
 - f. Quartermaster – Steve White –
 - g. Webmaster – Jo Zurwell
 - h. Scouting -Kaylee Bass and Sara Steffen
 - i. Correspondence
 - j. Aide de Camp – Kevin Brown
 - k. Donations Inbound – Eric Anthony
 - l. Donation Evaluation Committee– Chris Peirce
 - m. Awards
 - n. Honor Detail
 - o. Scholarship – Jo Zurwell
6. Continuing Business
 - a. Old Business

- b. New Business
- 7. For the Good of the Order – anyone have anything to share
 - a. Raymond Bernard WWII Marine Veteran turning 100 years old -party
2/21/26 Dover, NH - Eric
- 8. Closing Ceremony
- 9. Next breakfast is January 31, 2026. Next Member meeting February 10,
2026

FUNday Breakfast Raffle Donations 2025 for Commandant Trade School Scholarship						
FOR 2026						
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	\$ 60.00					
November	\$ 60.00					
December	\$ 85.00	steve white winner donated his half of Raffle to susie server Airport Diner				
TOTAL	\$ 1,087.00					

Webmaster and Social Media Manager

Board Report for

January 13, 2026, GSD 542 Meeting

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

- Added GSD Executive Council Meetings for 2026 to the event calendar on website.
- Created a reminder Constant Contact email for the DoNH quarterly meeting for 12/6/25 at Eric's request.
- Created and scheduled to post on social media for Pearl Harbor Remembrance day 12/7
- Created December Newsletter, posted to website, and emailed out to all
- Added headshots of Jesse Stufflebeam, Steve White, and Sara Steffen to the officer's page.
- Created Constant Contact email to remind members about the change in date for the breakfast and McKelvie Veterans program that was missed for the December newsletter.
- Created and Posted a Happy New Year social medial post.
- Updated plug-ins
- Updated PHP version on website to be security compliant for updates
- 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 December 1 – December 31, 2025

	6/1-6/30/25	7/1 – 7/31/25	8/1-8/31/25	9/1-9/30/25	10/1-10/31/25	11/1-11/30/25	12/1-12/31/25
Total Website Users	157	152	119	173	405	759	569
Direct Find	99	67	69	101	332	656	497
Organic Search	39	77	41	66	57	97	66
Referral (link on another site to ours)	4	7	9	4	5	4	6
Organic Social	15	1	0	2	11	2	0

The top landing page views were as follows:

	6/1- 6/30/25	7/1 – 7/31/25	8/1- 8/31/25	9/1 - 9/30/25	10/1 – 10/31/25	11/1 – 11/30/25	12/1- 12/31/25
Main Home page	109	88	73	96	192	309	261
Contact Us	13	14	6	10	13	0	0
Detachment Officers	34	22	8	18	8	23	9
Events	8	14	10	19	39	53	24
Resources	15	14	23	21	19	22	19
Semper Fidelis Newsletter	5	14	13	22	13	0	27
Scholarships	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scholarship Application	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Store	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Membership			7	0	0	16	0
Easterseals Ribbon Cutting Post				12	0	0	0

Oorah Newsletter Readership

Issue Date	Qty Sent to	Qty Opened	Qty Clicked
March 2025	751	313	17
June 2025	735	274	10
September 2025	731	299	19
December 2025	718	280 (42%)	6 (1%)

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