

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

May 12, 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 type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input checked="" 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 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 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 type="checkbox"/>	Ex. <input checked="" 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:

Joey Duquette, George Robinson

New Members Attending and Sworn-In:

None

Guests attending:

Joe Duquette's granddaughter, Rachel Otto, received a scholarship in the amount of \$500. Meals on Wheels Director, Zack, was presented with a check in the amount of \$500 before the meeting.

Cody Dumont, Department of NH Commandant, Steve Opett

Approval of previous meeting's minutes:

Coutu made the **MOTION** accept the previous meeting's minutes; *White* seconded the motion; **passed unanimously**.

Stufflebeam reported that the Donation Committee needs to add a 4th representative. *White* was nominated and voted in for this position.

Stufflebeam reminded board members to register for the upcoming conference. Dumont informed us hotel prices are to be changed on the May 15th.

Stufflebeam and *White* are hoping to get an update regarding the Marine Corps Ball next week. *Peirce* informed us of our first Sponsors. *Romano* announced that memorandum was signed with GSMCL Detachment and Dillon Detachment. An account was opened at Citizens Bank dedicated to the Marines Corps Ball only. Romano also formally announced that *Zurwell* was hired to manage the website, social media, and Zeffy account for sponsor donations and ticket sales. *Romano* will assist with this. We have Navy Cross donations. *Peirce* will contact Governor's Office. *Romano* informed us of a donation received from Hometown Heros Foundation (one of the Navy Cross Sponsorship). \$100 Deposit from GSMCL was made into this account along with a deposit from the Dillon Detachment \$100. Dillon Detachment also deposited \$500 to go towards the Puritan venue.

Dumont informed us of the upcoming Department meeting on Sunday, May 17, 2026, to vote in officers. *Steve Opett* is a nominee for the Junior Vice Commandant position but needs to join the Lakes Region Detachment before being elected. *Steve Opett* was at the meeting and met everyone and said that he is happy to be back.

Dumont also informed the BOD of two detachments in Vermont closing and are trying to merge them with the Keene Detachment. *Romano* expressed that we need to bring in younger members since most of our members have passed. *Romano* was referring to the Lakes Region Detachment. *Dumont* made a point to make connections during events to get more members to join rather than them just attending meetings.

A motion was made by the BOD to revisit the Union Leader Ad at the next meeting in June.

Stufflebeam reviewed the Memorial Day Parade and cemetery event information taking place on the 25th and 30th.

The King's Choir/Interfaith Choir Patriotic Event taking place on Tuesday, May 26th at 1pm. A motion was made by *Brown* and *White* to table gift contribution till the next meeting in June.

Reports of Officers

Senior Vice Commandant: (Jesse Stufflebeam) –

Stufflebeam presented us with Bass Pro Shop fundraising dates as follows: 8/14, 8/15, 11/14, and 11/15. GSMCL insurance binder is pending till we renew it in July to obtain the COI. Market Basket in Bedford, NH is on 6/26 and 6/27. They only want us to have one table and other stipulations. *Stufflebeam* is handling this with Market Basket.

Stufflebeam is working on an event at the shooting range was changed to June 27th after the GSMCL Family Funday Breakfast. This is the same day as the Market Basket Fundraiser.

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

Romano informed us of the April Funday Breakfast raffle brought in \$70. Funday Trade school Scholarship \$442 YTD. *Brown* recognized *Couto* for donating his share from the raffle to the scholarship. Checking account balance as of 5/12/2026 was \$29,756.67.

\$29,756.67 balance; \$5,990 outstanding checks; committed funds \$250 for the Webmaster Maintenance, \$500 for Meals on Wheels, scholarship for Rachel Otto \$500, Arwin Fang \$2,000, and \$120 for VA Bingo Cash (*Duquette*). Committed funds still designated for Dan Fedor Campership funds for Troop 99 canoe trailer \$1,900 and Maurice Labbe Paver Donation with Easter Seals Franklin for \$1,500 (on hold still), Arts for Veterans \$500, Delta Dog \$1,000 and Commandant Trade School Scholarship funds is being rolled over to Trade School Scholarship Fund per Scholarship Committee for 2027 rollover of \$1,087 resulting in a balance of \$20,396.67.

Romano shared the picture of the Manchester Robotics team since they won the competition. *Romano* also shared information about the Fiddle Ensemble we recently donated \$500 to for an ad. Revo Casino table this weekend: Thursday, *Peirce* and *Coutu*, Friday *Brown* and *White*, and Saturday, *Pat* and *Eric Anothony*. *Romano* encouraged members to attend and participate in the Revo Casino event. *Romano* was going to check if selling items and accepting donations was allowed. *White* and *Brown* want to give out flags. *Stufflebeam* made the motion to accept the paymaster report, and *White* seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

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

FUNday Breakfast Report: Marge Romano and Kevin Brown

- The 50/50 raffle raised \$70. Deposit made since last meeting was \$570 with Dillon Detachment deposit included.
- Romano is updating the report to show the restricted fund, so we don't spend what's in the emergency fund.

Chaplain Report: (Joe Duquette)

Sick, Injured, Hospitalized Members: *Duquette* stated he saw Bill Rogers recently and he was doing well. Everyone else seems to be doing well.

Members / spouses recently passed away:

Updates from VA Hospital:

Judge Advocate: Chris Peirce – Provided update regarding the Franklin Veteran's Campus since he has been working with them. He said they are doing a great job but still have concerns with the organization. They got funded for the 2nd phase and are starting with equine and delta dogs.

Honor Flight is day after Memorial Day Event. Bylaws review was being held on Sunday, May 17, 2026.

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

Romano stated that Glenn Thayer is still on the fence about it and is now really into his music. *Steffen* also reached out through Facebook Messenger. *Stufflebeam* will reach out with this week.

Quartermaster: (Steve White) – Putting flags in bags of 120 and is putting 5 bags in a container so we have 600 for our BassPro Shop and Market Basket Fundraising events. We typically go through 300.

Stufflebeam would like *White* to take pictures of challenge coin for us to sell on the website. They are currently sitting in the storage locker.

Webmasters Report: (Jo Zurwell) – Absent

Scouting Report: (Kayley Bass/Sara Steffen) –

Bass expressed her concerns with the Operation Delta Dog donation due to her personal experience with them. *Bass* shared her difficult experience with Operation Delta Dog and how her dog doesn't help her in any way. *Brown* thanked *Bass* for bringing this to our attention. A motion was made by *Coutu* and seconded by *Duquette* to rescind the \$1000 donation to Operation Delta Dog and was approved by membership.

Bass will connect with Eric about the Eagle Scout presentation in Bedford. She has contacted Jake at the Manchester Firing Range to take scouts shooting for their shooting badge. It costs \$84 to get in, but they will charge *Bass* a flat rate of \$25 moving forward when taking a scout in. This includes her entry, renting room fire and ammunition.

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

Aide De Camp : (Kevin Brown)

Brown had nothing to add. He expressed his gratitude to *Coutu* for donating his share during the Funday Raffle.

Donations inbound: (Paymaster, Commandant): NTR

Donation Review Committee:

Peirce stated that they have *White* for the 4th member and they will follow the same format to work on picking 10 charities for us to support their organizations. *Peirce* would like to increase the relief budget for quarterly distributions. Meals on Wheels, Liberty House, VA, etc. The donation committee will meet to sort this out and will provide an update during the June meeting.

Awards: (Commandant, et al) – NTR

Honor Details: (vacant) – May 30th for Rifle Detail. They have 2 people and need 7.

Scholarship committee: (Jo Zurwell) -

Robinson announced 3 high school students and 3 college students applied for the scholarship program with Rachel Otto being one of the college students. He stated that it is difficult to compare to high school and college scholarship applications. The committee decided to pick a winner for high school and college students. The high school student will receive a higher scholarship since it will be the only time they will be able to obtain a scholarship. The scholarship will be up to \$2k to offer flexibility in case there are two winners. No applicants for the Trade School scholarship. *Romano* and *Robinson* will work on getting this information out to trade schools and high school guidance counselors. Two changes for next year will be opening the scholarship to family members of Marines Veterans and having the student share about their relationship with Marine in their life and what they value. The \$2k scholarship went to a senior at Hollis Brookline High School who will be attending John Hopkins University in the fall to become a doctor.

Continuing Business:

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

For the Good of the Order

- Bingo is this Sunday. *Romano* will be attending. *Steffen* and her boys might attend.

- *Steffen* shared information about her nonprofit, Steffen Family Foundation, to support spouses and children of military, veterans and first responders to assist and support them while navigating grief. The website is www.steffenfamilyfoundation.org to be shared on the GSMCL website.

Closing Ceremony:

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

Meeting Adjourned at 1920.

Next meeting dates:

- The next FUNday breakfast will be on **May 30, 2026** (Sat.) at the Airport Diner, 08:00
- The next official meeting will be on Tuesday, **June 9, 2026**, at 1800 hours.

--- Sara Steffen, Acting Adjutant

Granite State Marine Corps League
Detachment #542
Agenda – May 12, 2026

1. Opening Ceremony
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes April 14, 2026
 - a. Meals on Wheels check presentation
4. Commandant
 - a. MCL New England Division Conference – June 11-14th – reminder to sign up, information on calendar on GSD website
 - b. MC Ball – Joint event w Dillion Detachment – Update
 - c. Department of NH update on need of officers – still need SVC or JVC?
 - d. Union Leader – special pricing for ad space – tabled from April, do we want to invest in ad space or do local event program ads?
 - e. Memorial Day Parade May 25th (lineup starts at 12:30 – 1:45pm and parade starts at 2pm) & Memorial Day Cemetery Event May 30th – RSVP on who will attend to Veterans Council at danmbel@gmail.com.
 - f. King’s Choir/Interfaith Choir Patriotic event at CLC – VA on Tuesday, May 26th at 1pm. Volunteers to attend the event. Gift contributions for travel and equipment?
5. Officer Reports
 - a. SVC – Jesse Stufflebeam
 - 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. Scouting -Kaylee Bass and Sara Steffen
 - Eagle Scout presentation for Arjun Puninchittaya with Scout Troop 414 on Saturday, May 23 at 2:30pm. Located at the Bedford Presbyterian Church, 4 Church Rd, Bedford, NH
 - i. Correspondence -Eric Anthony
 - 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 / George Robinson /Steve White
6. Continuing Business
 - a. Old Business
 - b. New Business
 7. For the Good of the Order – anyone have anything to share
 - a. We need volunteers for Sunday bingo at the VA Hospital in Manchester.
 8. Closing Ceremony
 9. Next breakfast is May 30, 2026. Next Member meeting June 9th

***FUNday Breakfast
Raffle Donations 2026
for
Commandant
Trade School
Scholarship***

FOR 2027

January	\$	37.00
February	\$	70.00
March	\$	265.00
April	\$	70.00
May		
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		
TOTAL	\$	442.00

Webmaster and Social Media Manager

Board Report for

May 12, 2026, GSD 542 Meeting

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

- Created blog post for the NE Div newsletter.
- Created email in Constant Contact to remind people to attend the Department special Zoom meeting for officer elections in June,
- Shared the Division newsletter -linked to the blog post just created, and included message about the upcoming Glow Bowling event in April.
- Combined February meeting minutes and reports and uploaded to the website and added to the archive minutes page.
- Added Department of NH Quarterly meeting to event calendar;
- Added the NE Div Apr/May Newsletter to resources page
- Created promotional material for Revo Casino days in May and posted to calendar event and added a post to Facebook and Instagram.
- Created a blog post about the passing of Arthur Allison and posted on Facebook and Instagram as well. Also posted on Facebook of DoNH.
- Created an ad to go in the New England Fiddle Ensemble 2026 Concert series and sent to Eric for approval; and forward to program organizer.
- Set up SignUp Genius for Revo Casino info table coverage. Sent to Jesse for approval and distributed to members to sign up.
- Added Operation Mercury VI and VetFest 2 to the website calendar.
- Created social media posts for Revo Casino message for 5/1, 5/11 and 5/15 to encourage people to come out and join in the fun.
- Created a Facebook and Instagram post to promote the Peggy Fedor concert series she is a part of.
- Updated plug-ins on site
- 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 April 1 – April 30, 2026

	11/1-11/30/25	12/1-12/31/25	1/1/26 – 1/31/26	2/1/26-2/28/26	3/1/26-3/31/26	4/1/26-4/30/26
Total Website Users	759	569	540	550	573	447
Direct Find	656	497	481	487	492	376
Organic Search	97	66	45	39	48	50

Referral (link on another site to ours)	4	6	11	16	31	4
Organic Social	2	0	3	8	2	17

The top landing page views were as follows:

	11/1 – 11/30/25	12/1- 12/31/25	1/1/26- 1/31/26	2/1/26- 2/28/26	3/1/26- 3/31/26	4/1/26- 4/30/26
Main Home page	309	261	206	191	214	202
Contact Us	0	0	0	0	0	20
Detachment Officers	23	9	0	25	9	0
Events	53	24	43	47	55	62
Resources	22	19	19	29	21	17
Semper Fidelis Newsletter	0	27	15	0	0	0
Scholarships	0	0	0	50	65	28
Scholarship Application	0	0	0	32	21	14
Membership	16	0	0	0	0	0
Mobius Mobility			19	0	0	0
Monthly Meeting Mins			32	18	0	0
NE Div Feb-Mar 2025 Newsletter			16	0	0	0
News & Events					34	6

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%)
March 2026	715	266 (38.7%)	12 (1.8%)

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