

Seacoast Detachment #394 Minutes of the 13 Mar 2023 Meeting at 1900:

1900 Opening Ceremony: The Opening Ceremony was conducted by Commandant (Cmdt) Geoff Corson, Sergeant at Arms (SAA) Randy McNally and Chaplain (Chap) George Lombardi.

Officer Roll Call: Cmdt Geoff Corson, present; Senior Vice Commandant (SVC), Brad Howe, excused; Junior Vice Commandant (JVC), Ray Maher, present; Judge Advocate (JA), Dick Lak, present; Junior Past Commandant (JPC), Bob Niver, present; the Adjutant (Adj) vacant; the Paymaster, George Dow, present; the Web Sergeant, vacant; SAA, Randy McNally, present; Chap George Lombardi, present. There were ten voting members (Corson, Dow, Gahan, Howe, Lak, Lombardi, McNally, Mitchell, Morin, Niver,); and one guest (Dennis Pomper) who was later sworn in as an Associate Member. The meeting was conducted in person and via Zoom. There was a quorum.

Minutes:

- A motion to accept the 13 February Minutes from the meeting was made by Marine Niver seconded by Marine Gahan. The motion passed with no dissenting votes cast.

New Members and Guests: There was one guest, Dennis Pomper who was sworn in as a new Associate Member.

Paymaster Report:

- The checking account balance is \$11,406.25; the savings account balance is \$9,516.92.
 - A motion was made to accept the Paymaster's report by Marine Gahan and seconded by Marine Morin. The motion passed with no dissenting votes cast.

Chaplain Report:

- The passing of Marines Leister and Chevalier were noted.
 - Florida members/visitors will attempt to attend Marine Chevalier's services.
 - Leister surviving family members will advise when final arrangements have been made in order to request memorial/burial ceremonies.
- Cmdt noted out of office email from Marine Watson stated that member was on medical leave.
 - Cmdt called Marine Watson and left a voice mail requesting an update, the call was not returned.
- Marine Niver is still recovering from troublesome knee pain and on meds for a blood clot.
 - He is using a walker to get around and gradually improving.

Committees:

Scholarship:

- The 2023 scholarship application is out and members are encouraged to notify qualifying family members to apply.
 - Scholarship Chair, Marine Lak, has plans to personally distribute applications to MCJROTC students at Winnacunnet High School.

MCJROTC:

- No report was provided.

Communications/Website:

- As listed in the Agenda.
- Marine Niver recommended hiring a website updater to keep website up to date.
 - Cmdt indicated that this recommendation will be taken into consideration.

Membership:

- Marines Niver and Maher indicated that Detachment Business cards have been distributed to all who requested them.
- Point was made that the application format in the Detachment's trifold brochure was rejected by both Department and National.
 - Cmdt delivered 45 blank applications (correct format) to Marine Maher to insert in membership kits replacing rejected brochures.
- Membership Committee is working on details for a social event in June, more to follow.

Correspondence:

- Cmdt drew attention to thank you card sent by widow of Marine Ed Vitagliano that was distributed electronically.

Scouting:

- DNHMCL still looking for a Scouting chair.

Public Information:

- No report was provided.
 - Current Public Information Officer needs replacement.
 - A replacement Zoom operator is also needed.

Marine for Life:

- Cmdt indicated Marine Hobert has been off the net due to email problems, but remains engaged on all M4L activities.

Donations and Gifts:

- Cmdt indicated that discussions with Carl Doore were productive and that it may be appropriate for the Detachment to purchase a copy of a book about Pioneer Battalions during the WWII where Carl's father served and procured the Guadalcanal flag.

- Cmdt also indicated that the Doore family would be receptive to an invitation to the Detachment's 75th Anniversary celebration.
- Cmdt described "caveats" to receipt of funds from the NH Lottery Commission.
 - Main caveat is that funds need to be applied to NH residents/families.
 - Given the Detachment's connections/membership to southern Maine, this caveat poses challenges on how the Detachment applies funds gained by NH Lottery Commission.
 - Recommendation is to establish a separate account to track Lottery gains to ensure the Detachment is within the parameters of what the Lottery Commission has directed.
 - Even if Lottery Commission funds are restricted to NH families, the Detachment has additional revenue streams that can accommodate other than NH families.

Awards:

- Nothing significant to report.

Honors:

- As mentioned in the Chaplain report, the Leister family will likely generate a request for ceremonial support to occur sometime in late Spring/Summer.

Pease Greeters:

- As appears in the Agenda.
- Cmdt has had recent dialog with Pease Greeters over the Guadalcanal Flag.
 - All agreed that taking down the display was problematic and not recommended.
 - Cmdt infoed National Museum of the Marine Corps concerning this discussion and has not heard back from them.
 - Indications are (to include the Doore family) that the flag display is a fitting tribute to the heroism of Marine George Doore and there is no value in disturbing this tribute for historical or other purposes.

Dept. of NH (DNHMCL):

- As appears in the Agenda.
- Cmdt proposed purchasing an Ad for Dept of VT Quad State.
 - Members recommended purchasing an ad.
 - Proposals for different Ad coverage were discussed.
 - Detachment decided to purchase a full page color ad (\$150.00).
 - Marine Niver proposed approval of Ad purchase.
 - Marine Morin seconded Marine Niver's proposal.
 - The motion was passed with no dissenting views.
 - Cmdt agreed to design an Ad template for decision.

MODD #349:

- There may be a Pound meeting in April.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Cmdt indicated all paperwork submitted for replacement rifles.
 - Det has alerted Post 6 that rifles are inbound and to notify membership upon their arrival.
 - In the absence of rifle NCOIC, Cmdt will ensure securing of rifles once they arrive.
 - Marine Lombardi also indicated desire to be present when rifles arrive in order to do a preliminary inspection.
 - Cmdt indicated that Marine Lombardi will be notified once the rifles arrive.
- All other old business appears in the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Marine Lak indicated that there will be an Air Show later this year at Pease.
 - All agreed that this would be a great opportunity for recruiting.
 - Marine Gahan will further investigate opportunities to participate.

Good of the League:

- Cmdt introduced new concept to share “sea-stories” during this portion of the meeting.
 - Cmdt proceeded to share a sea story from his career for those present and dialing in.
 - Question was posed on whether this was a welcome addition to the Detachment’s monthly meeting.
 - All present indicated it was a welcome addition.
 - Marine Lak volunteered to share a sea story from his career at the 10 April meeting.

Future Dates:

- As listed in the Agenda and including the below:
- Next monthly meeting scheduled for 10 Apr 2023 @ 1900.
- Wed. Breakfasts @ 0900 at Mainely Local Yolks (<https://www.facebook.com/mainelylocalyolks/>) in Berwick, ME.
- Rochester Veterans Council Lunch @1130 suspended until further notice.
<https://rochesterveteranscouncil.vpweb.com/>
- “Together We Served luncheon” <https://www.gyrenes.org/> @ 1130 U.S. Marine Corps, New Hampshire & Southern Maine Chapter continues at Strafford Farms, Dover, NH (<https://www.straffordfarms.com/>) on 12 Apr 2023. All Marines, FMF Navy Corpsmen and Chaplains and Spouses are welcome "Membership is Free." Time for the Gathering of Gyrene's 11:30 AM on the second Wednesday of each month. We will be having our regular meeting and all safety protocols will be adhered to.

Closing Ceremony: Cmdt Corson, Acting SVC Gahan, SAA McNally and Chap Lombardi conducted the closing ceremony at 2000. The raffle (\$20.00) was won by Marine Gahan.



Seacoast Detachment #394
<https://www.seacoastmarines.org/>
Marine Corps League (MCL)
<https://www.mclnational.org/>
PO Box 690, Kittery ME 03904-0690

Monday 13 Mar 2023 Monthly Meeting Agenda
Portsmouth American Legion Post 6
96 Islington Street, Portsmouth

Uniform of the Day: Seasonal Uniform (Undress Uniform – Short Sleeve) or MCL Cover.

1900 Opening Ceremony: Commandant (Cmndt) Corson; Chaplain (Chap) Lombardi, Sergeant at Arms (SAA) McNally, "Marines' Hymn."

Officer Roll Call by SAA: Cmndt. ____; Senior Vice Commandant (SVC) ____; Junior Vice Commandant (JVC) ____; Judge Advocate (JA) ____; Junior Past Commandant (JPC) ____; Adjutant (ADJ) Vacant; Chaplain (Chap) ____; Paymaster __ Web Sergeant Vacant; Quorum ____ Members ____ Guests ____

Minutes: Motion to accept the 13 Feb minutes (sent separately). Motion ____ Second ____ Vote ____

New members and guests:

- Swearing in of new members if present.
- Welcome guests who are considering membership.

Paymasters Report (Marine George Dow (george1845816@comcast.net)):

- Savings/Scholarship: \$ Checking: \$
- Motion ____ Second ____ Vote ____

Chaplain Report (Marine George Lombardi (geo-usmc@comcast.net)):

- Lifetime Marine and longtime Seacoast Member (since 2008) GySgt Bob Leister (Korea (Chosin campaign)/Vietnam (2 tours, infantry) veteran), USMC (Ret) passed away on 19 Feb 2023 in Dover.
 - Family has requested funeral honors/firing detail, date not set yet.
 - SVC Marine Howe is in contact with funeral director and will advise when date selected.
 - Death was reported to DNHMCL and National.
 - Sympathy card sent to Next of Kin.
- Lifetime Marine Corps League Marine and longtime Seacoast Member (since 2002) SgtMaj Paul Chevalier, USMC (Ret) (Vietnam Veteran) passed away on 8 Mar in FL.
 - An obituary will be provided once published.
 - Ceremonial services not anticipated at this time since death was in FL.
- Marines in Sickbay updates.
 - Marine Penny Watson is out on Sick Leave per her out of office email.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship Committee (Marine Dick Lak (Dick_lak@comcast.net)):

- 2023 Scholarship form sent out via email.
 - Online form is also up to date.
 - Link to PDF form on website is still not operational, but corrective action is ongoing.

MCJROTC (LtCol Eric Drown (edrown@warriors.winnacunnet.org)):

- Update on MCJROTC activities/events.

Communications/Website and Social Media (Vacant):

- Replacement Web Sergeant needed.

- Those interested please notify Cmdt, SVC or JVC.
- Detachment has two facebook pages, one needs to be deactivated (Marine Orion Schaaff).
 - <https://www.facebook.com/SeacoastMarines> (old one, has significant historical content).
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mcl394/media> (new one, has more recent content).
 - Detachment member input solicited.
- Detachment Instagram site needs to be visited/utilized/followed.
 - <https://www.instagram.com/marinecorpsleague394/>
- Venmo (<https://venmo.com/>) brief (pros and cons) (Marine Orion Schaaff).
- 2023 Detachment Elected Officer Pictures updated on website.
 - Need pictures of appointed officers for website.

Membership (Marine Bob Niver (revim167@gmail.com and Ray Maher (maher-nh@comcast.net)):

- Updates on recruiting efforts.
- Updates on 75th Anniversary planning.
 - BOT invitation letter to all members distributed.
 - Follow on questionnaire will be distributed asking members for location/date preference of celebration in June.
 - Possible dates/locations: August in conjunction with picnic (New Castle) or November in conjunction with 248th celebration (Hampton/Kittery/Rochester ?) or both.
 - Decision based on questionnaire responses will be announced by 4 Jul 2023.

Correspondence

- Thank You card received from widow of Marine Vitagliano (sent separately).

Scouting (Cmdt Corson (Geoffrey.corson.usmc.ret@gmail.com):

- Nothing significant to report. .

Public Information (Rich Pettengill (Richard@ccbgroup.org)).

- Update on PIO activities.
- New Zoom coordinator/videographer needed.

Marine for Life (Cmdt Corson (Geoffrey.corson.usmc.ret@gmail.com):

- Update on M4L activities.

Donations and Gifts (Marine George Dow):

- Lottery Commission application update (Marine Geoff Corson/Gary Gahan).

Awards (Marine Geoff Corson):

- Members input solicited.

Honors (Marine Geoff Corson):

- Pending honors request for GySgt Bob Leister, USMC (Ret).
- Post 35 Hampton requests honors in conjunction with update to Lady of the Sea Memorial on 3 Jun 2023.
 - Contingent on availability of NCOIC and shooters, Detachment has agreed to support.
- Other historic/honors requests per future dates paragraph below.

Pease Greeters <https://peasegreeters.org/>

- Individuals (not groups) can now greet flights per new instructions that were sent separately and are restated below.
 - Upon arrival at the airport, Greeters must sign in on the Greeter Log. The Log will be maintained in the coffee area.
 - Please wear your Greeter name tags.
 - Mask wearing is now optional while at the airport.
 - Please... no hugs or shaking hands unless a Troop initiates it and the Greeter is comfortable. Fist bumps are allowed.
 - Maintain Social Distancing during interaction with the troops.
 - Try to stay outside as much as possible.
 - Greeter gear: shirts, hats, ID, etc. may be worn at the airport.
 - As individuals, you are not allowed to give anything to the troops other than the cut out stars with the prose. This includes food and any personal items: hats, scarves, coins.
 - No solicitation of any items from the troops, such as: pins, coins or patches.



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- Pease Greeters has resumed sending flight alerts.
 - There is a significant increase in flights due to ongoing troop movements triggered by European turmoil.

Dept. of NH (DNHMCL) <http://nhmarines.org/>: <https://www.facebook.com/MCLNHMARINES/>

- Cmdt attended 18 Feb 2023 BOT Zoom, AAR appears below:
 - Next quarterly meeting of the Department is 1100, Sunday, 26 Mar 2023 at Post 6 American Legion HQ (Seacoast Det will host).
 - Support is needed from Detachment members.
 - DNHMCL has selected a Department Paymaster.
 - First name is Kim, a Navy Veteran.
 - Current employee at H&R Block.
 - Will be sworn in as an Associate at Ghormley.
 - Honors and Scout Chair still needed.
 - Interested applicants need to contact DNHMCL Commandant Cherie Monnell.
 - DNHMCL needs recommendations for hosting 2024 Quad-State.
 - Need recommendation for hosting that includes 50 hotel rooms, conference rooms for breakout meetings, etc.
 - Those with recommendations need to contact Cmdt Corson and Cmdt Monnell.
- Department of Vermont hosting Quad-State from 28-30 Apr 2023 in Colchester, VT (details sent separately).
 - Interested Marines need to register/pay prior to 28 Mar 2023.
 - If interested in attending, please notify Cmdt Corson.
 - DNHMCL will provide rifles for firing detail in conjunction with Quad-State.
 - Shooters needed, let Cmdt Corson know if interested.
 - Dept of VT has requested Advertisement input for their Quad-State event book.
 - PRICE LIST
FULL PAGE COLOR \$150.00 ____ B/W \$100.00 ____
HALF PAGE COLOR \$125.00 ____ B/W \$75.00 ____
B/W only
QUARTER PAGE \$50.00 ____
BUSINESS CARD \$25.00 ____
NAME ONLY \$5.00 ____
 - If Detachment interested, they need to apply (with payment and ad design) NLT 28 Mar 2023.
 - DNHMCL will submit a full page ad.

MODD #349 (Marine Brad Howe):

- Update on MODD 349 activities.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Cmdt Corson received response from Pease Greeters on Guadalcanal flag.
 - Disassembly of the display in order to do a forensic inspection of the flag would be prohibitive (time?, cost?, disruption to travel in passageway?, etc.).
 - The display is more or less permanent.
 - Detachment has little leverage in discussions on disposition of flag.
 - Family members are fine with keeping display as is.
 - They do want to be informed if display is dismantled and not returned to its current location.
 - They have received an informal invitation to our 75th Anniversary celebration.
- Replacement for ceremonial firearms shipping is in the final process.
 - Shipping date/action is unknown, but will be sent to Post 6.
 - Post 6 given a heads up.
 - If rifles received prior to the return of our SVC, Cmdt Corson will take action to secure them at Post 35.

- Audit Committee results (SJA Dick Lak).
 - Chair: Marine Dick Lak.
 - Members: Chap George Lombardi and JVC Ray Maher.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Detachment Cover Strips (\$3.50 per strip).
 - Should we order?
- Member and Committee Chairs input solicited.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

- Sea Story time (Cmdt Corson).

FUTURE DATES:

- Host Quarterly meeting of DNHMCL, Sunday, 26 Mar 2023 @ 1100.
 - Need members to help set up/take down meeting site at Post 6.
- Next monthly meeting: Monday, 10 Apr 2023 @ 1900.
- Wed. Breakfasts @ 0900 at TBD.
- Rochester Veterans Council Lunch @1130 **suspended until further notice.**
<https://rochesterveteranscouncil.vpweb.com/>
- “**Together We Served** luncheon” <https://www.gyrenes.org/> @ 1130 @ Strafford Farms, Dover, NH
<https://www.straffordfarms.com/>. U.S. Marine Corps, New Hampshire & Southern Maine Chapter will have their next monthly meeting on 12 Apr 2023. All Marines, FMF, Navy Corpsmen, and Chaplains and Spouses are welcome "Membership is Free". Time for the **Gathering of Gyrene's** 11:30 AM on the second Wednesday of the month. We will be having our regular meeting and all safety protocols will be adhered to.
- 28-30 Apr 2023 (Friday-Sunday) Quad-State Conference, Colchester, VT.
 - Details sent separately.
 - Attendance is on an individual basis.
 - Deadline for reservations is 28 Mar (Tuesday).
- 29 May (Monday) Memorial Day (firing detail(s) York/Kittery).
 - Need firing detail NCOIC(s) and shooters.
- 3 Jun (Saturday) Lady of the Sea memorial rededication (firing detail, Hampton Beach).
 - Need firing detail NCOIC and shooters.
- 10 Jun (Saturday) Market Square Day (\$175 vendor fee, with raffle vendor fee is \$275, prices are if we book before 12 May <https://proportsmouth.org/events/market-square-day/>).
 - Need coordinator/committee chair.
- (?) Aug (Saturday) Det picnic/75th Anniversary celebration (?) (<https://marine.unh.edu/research-centers/facilities/judd-gregg-marine-research-complex/pavilion> New Castle Coast Guard Station).
 - Need coordinator/committee chair.
- 11 Sep (Monday) 911 memorial rededication ceremony (firing detail, Hampton, Post 35).
 - Need firing detail NCOIC and shooters.
- 23 Sep (Saturday) Seacoast Veterans Conference (<https://www.facebook.com/SeacoastVeteransConference/>).
 - Need coordinator/committee chair.
- 23 Sep (Saturday) Run for the Fallen (<https://www.runforthefallennh.com/>).
 - Need firing detail NCOIC and shooters.
- 7 Oct (Saturday) Apple Harvest Day (Vendor fees not published yet <https://www.dovernh.org/apple-harvest-day>).
 - Need coordinator/committee chair.
- 10 Nov (Friday) MC Birthday (Birthday/75th Anniversary celebration? Location TBD).
 - Need coordinator/committee chair.
- 11 Nov (Saturday) Veterans Day (firing detail(s) (John Paul Jones Park/Kittery Estates/Goodwin Park).
 - Need firing detail NCOIC(s) and shooters.

Closing Ceremony: Cmdt. Corson, SVC Howe, Chap Lombardi, SAA McNally.