

Seacoast Detachment #394 Minutes of the 8 Apr 2024 Meeting at 1900:

1900 Opening Ceremony: The Opening Ceremony was conducted by Commandant (Cmdt) Dick Lak, Acting Sergeant at Arms (SAA) Dennis Pomper and Chaplain (Chap) George Lombardi.

Officer Roll Call: Cmdt Dick Lak, present; Senior Vice Commandant (SVC), Ray Maher, excused; Junior Vice Commandant (JVC), John Flagler, present; Judge Advocate (JA), Brad Howe, present; Junior Past Commandant (JPC), Bob Niver, present; the Adjutant (Adj) Geoff Corson, present; the Paymaster, George Dow, present; the Web Sergeant, Jo Zurwell, excused; SAA, Randy McNally, excused; Chap George Lombardi, present. There were twelve voting members (Blanchette, Case, Corson, Dow, Flagler, Howe, Lak, Lombardi, Mitchell, Niver, Pettengill, Pomper). The meeting was conducted in person and via Zoom. There was a quorum.

Minutes:

- A motion to accept the 11 Mar Minutes from the meeting was made by Marine Blanchette and seconded by JVC Flagler. The motion passed with no dissenting votes cast.

New Members and Guests: There were two guests, Robert “Bob” Pierce who is considering membership and “Shiloh” the Service Dog for JVC Flagler.

Paymaster Report:

- The checking account balance is \$7,868.33; the savings account balance is \$9,849.01.
 - Of the checking account balance, \$4,829.11 remains from the Charitable Games earnings.
 - A motion was made to accept the Paymaster’s report by Chap Lombardi and seconded by Marine Blanchette. The motion passed with no dissenting votes cast.
- Further discussion on distribution of Charitable Gaming commission funds appear in the Donations and Gifts paragraph later in the minutes.

Chaplain Report:

- Adj reported that SAA McNally’s mother had died thus he did not attend the 8 April Detachment meeting.
- Adj also noted the passing of Marines Art Sacramone and Joe Veno, both lifetime members of the Seacoast Detachment.
- No other members had any new updates.

Committees:

Scholarship:

- Nothing significant to report.

MCJROTC:

- Cmdt Lak provided an AAR about his meeting with Winnacunnet MCJROTC SMI LtCol Drown and AMI MSgt Wise.
 - Cmdt handed out MCJROTC brochures.

- Cmdt indicated that the MCJROTC stays very active.
- Cmdt stressed that MCJROTC seeks a harmonious relationship with the Seacoast Det.
- Cmdt indicated that MCJROTC could use help in funding items such as shooting jackets for cadets who participate in the JROTC marksmanship program.
- Cmdt noted that the parents of students and faculty of Winnacunnet support their MCJROTC program and that it garners their respect.
- Cmdt indicated there are engagement opportunities with MCJROTC.
 - Cmdt offered to participate in MCJROTC ceremonies and invited MCJROTC to participate in Seacoast Det ceremonies.
 - Cmdt indicated that in the past, Seacoast Det has honored deserving cadets with accolades to include certificates from the Det.
 - There will be an MCJROTC awards ceremony on 24 May that the Det has been invited to attend.
 - Cmdt urged MCJROTC cadets to take advantage of scholarship opportunities.
 - MCJROTC has one cadet who may apply.
 - Applicant is pending adjudication on a nomination to the Naval Academy.
 - Depending on the results, if not selected to attend the Naval Academy, applicant may apply for Seacoast Det scholarship.

Communications/Website:

- Detachment Web Sergeant Jo Zurwell, was excused, but provided a detailed inventory of activity taken since the last meeting (see agenda).
- Adj Corson indicated that links to Det events and other relevant items are now included in the monthly agendas. .
- Marine Mitchell again conducted the Zoom portion of the meeting and has given the Detachment access to a UNH account for future use.

Membership:

- JPC Bob Niver indicated that he continues to work on a new Det brochure.
 - JPC Niver asked members present to provide input to the new brochure.
- JPC Niver indicated that the fundraising event at the Portsmouth Market Basket is on track and gained final approval from Market Basket.
 - Discussion ensued that centered on restrictions on fundraising at the site.
 - Cmdt Lak indicated that discussions with Market Basket stipulated adherence to the rules passed in the Agenda.
- JVC Flagler indicated that the 2 prospects he has lined up to join the Det are currently undergoing VSO training and should be in attendance at the May Det meeting.
- JVC Flagler also brought up how to update service records no matter how old evidence of corrections is.
 - Services will entertain any evidence that updates a member's service record.
 - One example is that prospect Bob Pierce was not credited with Vietnam service on his DD 214.

- JVC Flagler said that this could be corrected through a process put out by the VA and the Services.
 - JVC Flagler displayed a copy of a DD 215 that is an addendum to a DD 214 that reflects updated Service data.
 - JVC Flagler urged all members present, who have missing information in their Service records to consider petitioning the Service HQ for update of Service records.
- Members were reminded of the 23 April Pizza night at Rogers Pizza (see Agenda).

Correspondence:

- Paymaster Dow indicated that they received a solicitation for donation from Catholic Charities.
- There was no other correspondence significant to report.

Scouting:

- Adj Corson indicated nothing significant to report.

Public Information:

- JPC Niver indicated nothing significant to report.

Marine for Life(M4L):

- LtCol Hobert will turn over M4L duties effective 1 May 2024 to Capt (Maj Sel) Brendan Tallon, USMCR.
 - Capt Tallon's contact info is: Brendan.tallon@usmc.mil or Brendan.j.tallon@gmail.com, cell phone: 860.671.9362.

Donations and Gifts:

- Paymaster Dow indicated no new donations or gifts.
- JPC Niver indicated no new recommendations for donations have been received.

Awards:

- Cmdt Lak indicated that there are Det awards that need his attention and promised to follow up.

Honors:

- Chap/Weapons custodian indicated nothing significant to report.
- Cmdt Lak provided an AAR for the 18 Mar 2024 funeral of Col Gallo, USMCR (Ret) (see Agenda).
- Adj Corson provided an AAR for the 3 Apr 2024 memorial for Seacoast Det Life member GySgt Arthur Sacramone, USMC (Ret) where the League Ritual, Brief Order for Deceased Marines, was performed (see Agenda).

Pease Greeters:

- As appears in the Agenda, nothing else to add.

Dept. of NH (DNHMCL):

- Cmdt urged participation in Quad-State in April.
 - Adj indicated that registration date has passed, but attendance at the scheduled meetings and lectures was probably still allowable if members are interested.

MODD #349:

- No report was provided.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Nothing significant to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Paymaster Dow indicated that the spouse, Peggy Brodie, of deceased member Marine Jock Brodie donated some military history books to the Detachment.
 - Paymaster Dow further indicated that Peggy has a housekeeper originally from Brazil who has been evicted from her former residence.
 - She is in need of used furniture or donated funds to set up her new household.
 - Paymaster Dow offered to be the conduit for delivery of funds/materials to Peggy's housekeeper and indicated that any interested member can contact him to facilitate the donations.
- All else is as it appears in the Agenda.

Good of the League:

- Nothing significant to report.

Future Dates:

- Next monthly meeting scheduled for Monday 13 **May 2024 @ 1900.**
- **Wed. Breakfasts @ 0900** at Golden Egg Diner, 72 Mirona Rd., Portsmouth, NH 03801.
- "Together We Served luncheon" @ 1130 U.S. Marine Corps, New Hampshire & Southern Maine continues at Strafford Farms, Dover, NH (<https://www.straffordfarms.com/>) on **10 Apr 2024.** All Marines, FMF Navy Corpsmen and Chaplains and Spouses are welcome "Membership is Free." Time for the Gathering of Gyrenes 1130 on the second Wednesday of each month. Regular meetings are held and all safety protocols are adhered to.
 - May's TWS luncheon will be on 8 May and feature a Quilts of Valor spokesperson who will solicit nominees for donated quilts.
- Cmdt directed no further discussion on participation in Market Square Day in June.
 - Members present agreed that this was a commitment that the Detachment could probably not support considering the time of year, cost of participation and lack of volunteers.

- Cmdt Lak indicated that the Det will support the 27 May firing detail in honor of Memorial Day at the York, ME parade.
- All else is as it appears in the agenda.

Closing Ceremony: Cmdt Lak, Acting SVC Flagler, Acting SAA Pomper and Chap Lombardi conducted the closing ceremony at 2030. The 50/50 raffle \$17.00 was donated back to the Detachment.



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

Monday 8 Apr 2024 Monthly Meeting Agenda
Booma American Legion Post 6
96 Islington Street, Portsmouth, NH

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

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

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

Minutes: Motion to accept the 11 Mar minutes (sent separately and also available at:
<https://www.seacoastmarines.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Minutes-and-Agenda-Mar-11-2024.pdf>.
Motion ____ Second ____ Vote ____

New members and guests:

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

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

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

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

- Update on members in sickbay or in need of pastoral support.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship Committee (SVC Ray Maher (raymaher@icloud.com)):

- 2024 Scholarship Application is now online:
<https://www.seacoastmarines.org/our-work/awards-scholarships/mcl-scholarships/>

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

- After Action Report of 1 Apr 2024 meeting with SMI MCJROTC Winnacunnet (Cmdt Dick Lak).
- Update on MCJROTC activities/events.

Communications/Website and Social Media (Honorary Marine Jo Zurwell (jozurwell@comcast.net)):

- Detachment facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SeacoastMarines>.
 - Detachment members are encouraged to update content.
- Detachment Instagram site needs to be visited/utilized/followed.
 - <https://www.instagram.com/marinecorpsleague394/>

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- Update on Detachment Social Media activity (jozurwell@comcast.net):
 - **Communications:**
 - In the last month, posts to Facebook and Instagram have been made for various events: Quad State, NH, Veterans Home event for Vietnam veterans, a special message for Vietnam Veterans Day, and shared images from the firing detail of Col. Walter Gallo.
 - **Website:**
 - Over the last month I have uploaded the March meeting minutes with agenda to the website, added the weekly breakfasts to the events calendar, as well as added the next two upcoming BOT meetings to the calendar.
 - A news blog post has been added for: NH Veterans Home event for Vietnam veterans, the death of General Alfred M. Gray, 29th Commandant of Marine Corps, Pizza Night at Roger's Pizza, and for the death of Detachment life member GySgt Arthur Sacramone, USMC (Ret). A picture has been added to the gallery of a reunion of some "snowbird" members that got together in Florida recently.
 - I have updated the theme and needed plugins as well as continued working on SEO improvements on
 - the website.
 - **Other:**
 - I have collected the information for the membership brochure project from Bob Niver and Geoff Corson. The layout process is in process now to try and fit all information in as requested, in a neat, clear, and readable way to show the best of the Seacoast Detachment 394.
 - **Respectfully Submitted**, Jo Zurwell, Webmaster and Social Media Manager

Membership (JPC Bob Niver (revim167@gmail.com) and JVC John Flagler (jeannot49@netscape.com)):

- Tuesday, 1730, 23 Apr 2024 Roger's Pizza night, 869 Central Ave, Dover, NH 03820 (<https://www.rogerspizza.com/>) for some good food and a fun time with family and friends! (SVC Ray Maher).
 - Please RSVP to: Raymaher@icloud.com Tel: 603-765-0919
 - Link on website: <https://www.seacoastmarines.org/event/pizza-night-at-rogers-pizza/>
- Fund raising/recruiting event on Friday, 29 June at Market Basket, 1500 Lafayette Rd. Portsmouth, NH 03801 (<https://www.shopmarketbasket.com/store-locations/portsmouth-new-hampshire-market-basket-56>) to raise funds and to recruit new members (JPC Bob Niver).
 - The first request is for tables members can loan for the event.
 - We should have 6-8 feet of table space available plus we will need 2-3 chairs per table.
 - Hours are 9-3 which would require 8 members to each serve three hours.
 - I plan to have placards at each table regarding donations and membership.
 - All Members are encouraged to suggest ideas to make this event successful!!.
 - Rules:
 - Upon arriving at the store you must check in with the store manager.
 - Children under the age of fourteen are required to have adult supervision with them at all times.
 - There should never be more than two people from your organization at the store at any given time.
 - Fund-raising events should take place outside the store at least 10 feet away from the entrance/exit doors. Do not interrupt the flow of traffic entering and exiting the building.
 - All volunteers representing your organization must be well groomed and properly attired.
 - They should present themselves in a courteous and friendly manner at all times.
 - Volunteers must allow the customer to approach them.
 - The person representing you should be located at the entrance door only.
 - If a table is being set up, discuss with the store manager where it should be located.
 - Who can help out?
 - Let Bob know (revim167@gmail.com).
 - Update on other Membership activities.

Correspondence (Paymaster George Dow (george1845816@comcast.net)):

- Update on correspondence received.

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

- Nothing significant to report. .



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Public Information JPC Bob Niver (revim167@gmail.com).

- Zoom coordinator/videographer Marine Ken Mitchell.
 - New Zoom “perpetual” dial-in:

Topic: Marine Corps League - Seacoast Chapter
Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://unh.zoom.us/j/99044545492>

Or Telephone:

Dial: +1 309 205 3325 (US Toll)

Meeting ID: 990 4454 5492

International numbers available: <https://unh.zoom.us/j/99044545492>

- Update on PIO activities.

Marine for Life (M4L) (LtCol Matt Hobert (matthew.hobert@usmc.mil):

- M4L Northern New England (NH/ME/VT) on LinkedIn @: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/5145719/>

Donations and Gifts (Paymaster George Dow, Donations and Gift Chair Bob Niver):

- All future recommendations for Donations and Gifts need to be routed to Marine Bob Niver for deliberations from the Donations and Gifts Committee.

Awards (Adjutant Geoff Corson):

- Member input solicited.

Honors (Adjutant Geoff Corson):

- Update on status of ceremonial firearms (Chaplain George Lombardi).
- After Action Report (AAR) for 18 Mar 2024 Col Gallo, USMCR (Ret) funeral at Boscawen (Cmdt Dick Lak).
 - Participants included: Marine Dennis Pomper (Seacoast Det); Marine Jim Ambrose (GS Det/Seacoast Det); Seacoast Det Cmdt Dick Lak (Seacoast Det); Seacoast Det JVC John Flagler (Seacoast Det); Seacoast Det SVC Ray Maher (Seacoast Det); DNHMCL SVC Gary Gahan (GS Det/Seacoast Det); Chap Joe Duquette (GS Det); Dillon Cmdt Mark Lindsley (Dillon Det).
 - Pictures at: <https://www.seacoastmarines.org/about-the-mcl/gallery/>
- AAR for GySgt Arthur Sacramone, USMC (Ret) memorial tribute(s) (Adj Geoff Corson).
 - Brief Order for Deceased Marines Ritual conducted 3 Apr 2024.
 - Participants included Adj Geoff Corson and Quartermaster Dennis Pomper.
 - Firing Detail cancelled due to weather.
- More firing detail volunteers needed.

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.

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

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

- Honors and Scout Chairs still needed.
 - Interested applicants need to contact DNHMCL Commandant Cherie Monnell.
- Quad State 2024 (**19-21 April 2024**).
 - Sheraton Nashua, 11 Tara Boulevard, Nashua NH, 603 888-9970
 - Agenda: <https://nhmarines.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/2024-QS-Agenda-draft.pdf>
 - Guest Speaker biography: <https://nhmarines.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Brigadier-General-Raymond-L.pdf>
- Other Department events can be viewed at the following link: <https://nhmarines.org/events/>

MODD #349 (Pound Keeper Brad Howe):

- Update on MODD 349 activities.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Input from membership requested.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Member and Committee Chairs input solicited.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

- Member and Committee Chairs input solicited.

FUTURE DATES:

- **10 Apr; 17 Apr; 24 Apr; 1 May; 8 May** Wed. Breakfasts @ 0900 at TBD.
- **10 Apr 2024** "**Together We Served** luncheon" @ 1130 @ Strafford Farms, Dover, NH <https://www.straffordfarms.com/>. U.S. Marine Corps, New Hampshire & Southern Maine will have their next monthly meeting on. All Marines, FMF, Navy Corpsmen, and Chaplains and Spouses are welcome "Membership is Free". Time for the **Gathering of Gyrene's** 1130 on the second Wednesday of the month.
- **19-21 April 2024**, DNHMCL hosted Quad-State convention, Nashua, NH, Sheraton Hotel 11 Tara Boulevard, Nashua NH.
- **23 Apr 2024**, Rogers Pizza Night, 1730.
- **13 May 2024** Next monthly meeting: Monday, at 1900.
- **27 May 2024** Memorial Day Parade, York, ME (firing detail).
- **? Jun 2024**, Lady of the Sea Monument rededication, Hampton, NH (firing detail) (?).
- **8 Jun 2024**, Market Square Day, Portsmouth, NH (?): <https://proportsmouth.org/events/market-square-day/>
- **29 Jun 2024**, Market Basket fund raiser/recruiting event, Portsmouth, NH.
- **21 Sep 2024**, Run for the Fallen, Waterville Valley, NH (firing detail) (?): <http://www.runforthefallennh.com/>
- **21 Sep 2024**, Service Credit Union, Seacoast Veterans Conference, Portsmouth, NH (?): <https://seacoastveteransconference.com/>
- **5 Oct 2024** Apple Harvest Day, Dover, NH: Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce (?): info@news.dovernh.org
- Other Detachment events can be viewed at: <https://www.seacoastmarines.org/events/>.

Closing Ceremony: Cmdt. Lak, SVC Maher, Chap Lombardi, SAA McNally.