

Seacoast Detachment #394 Minutes of the 9 Oct 2023 Meeting at 1900:

1900 Opening Ceremony: The Opening Ceremony was conducted by Commandant (Cmdt) Geoff Corson, acting Sergeant at Arms (SAA) Glenn Blanchette and acting Chaplain (Chap) George Dow.

Officer Roll Call: Cmdt Geoff Corson, present; Senior Vice Commandant (SVC), Brad Howe, present; 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, excused; Chap George Lombardi, excused. There were ten voting members (Blanchette, Corson, Dow, Gahan, Howe, Lak, Maher, Mitchell, Niver and Pomper) and two guests (Mike Wilson and Jo Zurwell). The meeting was conducted in person and via Zoom. There was a quorum.

Minutes:

- A motion to accept the 12 Sep Minutes from the meeting was made by JPC Niver and seconded by Marine Gahan. The motion passed with no dissenting votes cast.

New Members and Guests: There were two guests (Mike Wilson and Jo Zurwell). Mike is a prospective member and Jo is our prospective webmaster.

Paymaster Report:

- The checking account balance is \$15,577.03; the savings account balance is \$9,394.51.
 - Of the checking account balance, \$5,329.11 remains from the Charitable Games earnings.
 - A motion was made to accept the Paymaster's report by JPC Niver and seconded by Marine Gahan. 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:

- Marine Bob Niver indicated that Marine George McCreary has fallen twice with no injuries.
 - George is unable to leave his assisted living residence.
 - Members are encouraged to visit George at his assisted living residence.
- All other reports are in the Agenda and no new other updates were provided at the meeting.

Committees:

Scholarship:

- JA Dick Lak indicated that the Scholarship Committee is in recess until next Spring.

MCJROTC:

- No report provided.

Communications/Website:

- Detachment guest Jo Zurwell dialed in via Zoom and explained the capabilities that she can provide to the Detachment.
 - Jo can improve our online presence through updates to our website and social media sites.
 - She indicated that we would tailor the website and she would carry out our wishes.
 - Tailoring also indicates filtering content to ensure it is appropriate.
 - It was agreed that the filtering task would be provided by a member or members of the Detachment.
 - Jo said that there is a history feature in most websites that captures all events, etc. for future recall if needed.
 - Jo charges \$25.00 an hour.
 - Jo thinks that she will spend about an hour a week once she has all of our online features updated.
 - Initially costs will be higher due to neglect of the website and social media sites.
 - Estimated monthly maintenance and update of content is \$200.00.
 - Cmdt indicated that this was affordable given Detachment's historical balances.
 - JPC suggested that if it ever becomes an issue on whether or not the Detachment can afford future service, perhaps a collection among members would make up any deficits.
 - Jo listed more features that she currently provides both Granite State Det and DNHMCL such as special events posting and monthly updates of Detachment events.
 - All information posted to the website and modifications to the social media sites will be monitored by Detachment personnel.
 - The Detachment discussed the value of Jo's services and whether it was affordable.
 - Jo was muted from this discussion.
 - After discussions were concluded, JVC Maher proposed that we hire Jo.
 - The proposal was seconded by JPC Niver.
 - A vote was called and the decision to hire Jo was unanimous.
 - Jo will provide a contract for review.
 - Upon review and acceptance, Jo will immediately start work on the Detachment's website and social media sites.
- Cmdt reintroduced the idea of using an application for mass emails.
 - Discussion centered around the merits of such a feature and the subsequent costs.
 - Cmdt agreed to research "Constant Contact ®" currently used by Granite State Detachment and DNHMCL.
 - Decision will be made as the membership is better informed.
- Marine Mitchell again conducted the Zoom portion of the meeting and has given the Detachment access to a UNH account for future use.

Membership:

- Marine Niver indicated that membership calling cards are available and that those desiring any can contact him for ordering.

Correspondence:

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

Scouting:

- DNHMCL still looking for a Scouting chair.
- All else is as listed in the Agenda.

Public Information:

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

Marine for Life(M4L):

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

Donations and Gifts:

- Guest Michael Wilson, USN (Ret) suggested the Detachment consider the Veterans Legal Justice Fund as a worthy recipient of Detachment donations.
 - Cmdt agreed to research the fund and present it to the Donations and Gift Committee.
- Cmdt announced a donation from AMTECH LLC for \$1,300.00.
 - Donated funds will be split between the checking and savings account.
 - Cmdt indicated that he will send a Certificate of appreciation to AMTECH.
- As decided at the 12 Sep Det meeting, all future recommendations for Donations/Gifts need to be routed to the committee chair, Marine Bob Niver for deliberations by the committee.
- All else is as it appears in the Agenda, nothing else to add.

Awards:

- Cmdt indicated that the Detachment had been given a National Jr. Vice Commandant's Citation for achieving 105.56% of the previous year's membership.
 - Citation came with a ribbon to be added to the Detachment's colors.

Honors:

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

Pease Greeters:

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

Dept. of NH (DNHMCL):

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

MODD #349:

- There will be a November meeting starting at 1800 coinciding with the next monthly Detachment Business meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

NEW BUSINESS:

- JA Dick Lak provided an AAR for the 23 Sep Seacoast Veterans conference deeming it a success for contacting prospective members. .
 - Thanks were given for the participation of Marines Hobert, Lak, Pettengill and Soiett for representing the Det.
- Cmdt Corson provided an AAR for 7 Oct 2023 Apple Harvest Day deeming it a success for Veterans outreach and contacting prospective members.
 - AHD was not a financial success, but still deemed a worthy effort.
 - Thanks were extended to Marines Ambrose, Blanchette, Corson, Lak, Maher, Niver and Pomper for representing the Det.
- Update was given on Marine Corps Birthday/75th Anniversary celebrations by JVC Ray Maher and JPC Bob Niver.
 - Ray gave an estimate of cost of hors d-oeuvres and asked membership to agree to the cost.
 - JA Lak made a motion to vote to approve the costs.
 - Marine Gahan seconded it.
 - The recommendation was approved by consensus.
 - The vote was not unanimous.
- JPC Niver made the final report of the Nominating Committee as follows:
 - For Cmdt, Marine Dick Lak was nominated.
 - Dick agreed to relinquish his nomination as JA and accept nomination as Commandant.
 - For SVC, Marine Ray Maher was nominated.
 - Ray agreed to relinquish his nomination as JVC and accept nomination as SVC.
 - For JVC, Marine John Flagler was nominated in absentia.
 - Since John was not available to publicly accept the nomination, the position will remain vacant until such time as a nominee identified, is present and agrees to accept the nomination per the Detachment Bylaws.
 - For JA, Marine Brad Howe was nominated.
 - Brad agreed to accept nomination as JA.
- Cmdt called for additional nominations from the floor per the Detachment Bylaws.
 - No additional nominations were made.
- Cmdt called for a vote on nominees in attendance.
 - Each final nominee was announced and votes conducted.
 - Nominees (less JVC) appearing above were unanimously elected to their accepted positions.

- Elected nominees (less Cmdt) will be sworn in at the next scheduled business meeting of the Detachment per Detachment Bylaws.
 - Since the normally scheduled Business meeting is the day prior to the Birthday celebration, it was rescheduled to the Monday after, 20 Nov.
- Cmdt Elect Lak will be ceremoniously sworn in at the Marine Corps Birthday dinner.
- All else is at it appears in the Agenda.

Good of the League:

- Nothing significant to report.

Future Dates:

- As listed in the Agenda and including the below:
- Next monthly meeting scheduled for Monday 20 Nov 2023 @ 1900.
- Wed. Breakfasts @ 0900 at The Golden Egg (<https://www.facebook.com/thegoldeneggdiner>) 72 Mirona Rd., Portsmouth, NH 03801.
- 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 continues at Strafford Farms, Dover, NH (<https://www.straffordfarms.com/>) on 11 Oct 2023. 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.
- 10 Nov (Friday) MC Birthday flag raising at the Capitol; the Marine Expeditionary Brigade Luncheon; and the Dillon Detachment Birthday ball (details provided separately) .
 - Need a volunteer Detachment colors bearer for the flag raising at the Capitol.
- 11 Nov (Saturday) Veterans Day (firing detail(s) John Paul Jones Park/Kittery Estates/Goodwin Park).
 - NCOIC Brad Howe.
 - Need firing detail shooters.
- 14 Nov (Tuesday) Detachment celebration of the 248th birthday of the Marine Corps.

Closing Ceremony: Cmdt Corson, SVC Howe, acting SAA Blanchette and acting Chap Dow conducted the closing ceremony at 2130. The 50/50 raffle (\$22.00) was won by Marine Gahan. The Detachment gained \$11.00 from the raffle.



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

Monday 9 Oct 2023 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) Corson; 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) Vacant; Chaplain (Chap) ____; Paymaster __ Web Sergeant Vacant; Quorum ____ Members ____ Guests ____

Minutes: Motion to accept the 12 Sep 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 (Paymaster George Dow (george1845816@comcast.net)):

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

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

- Marine Pettengill knee replacement evaluation update.
- Marine Cannon's cancer evaluation update.
- Marine Flagler's cancer recovery update.
- Update on members in sickbay or in need of pastoral support.

Committee Reports:

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

- Update on Scholarship activity.

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

- Update on MCJROTC activities/events.
 - <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=874828147300041&set=pcb.874828577299998>

Communications/Website and Social Media (Vacant):

- Replacement Web Sergeant needed.
 - Granite State Det Webmaster, now DNHMCL Webmaster Jo Zurwell has been in contact with the Cmdt, has volunteered her service to our Det. and will join the meeting via Zoom to answer questions on how she can help the Detachment improve its online presence.
 - Jo is currently working on updating the Detachment links on the Department website:
 - An example of Jo's work: <https://nhmarines.org/detachments/>
 - Estimate of costs to Detachment were sent separately.
 - Decision needed on whether or not to hire Jo.
- Detachment has two facebook pages.
 - <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 members are encouraged to update content.
- Detachment Instagram site needs to be visited/utilized/followed.
 - <https://www.instagram.com/marinecorpsleague394/>

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

- Update on Membership activities.

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

- Thank you note from scholarship recipient William Nowak (copy sent separately).
- Thank you notes and certificate from Liberty House, Maine Veterans' Homes and Committee for Veterans' Affairs Town of York (copies sent separately).

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

- Nothing significant to report. .

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

- PIO submitted article to local news on 2024 scholarship recipients.
- 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) (Cmdt Corson (Geoffrey.corson.usmc.ret@gmail.com):

- AAR for 23 Sep 2023 Seacoast Veterans Conference (Marine Matt Hobert).
- 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):

- Per last month's meeting, donations were made to Maine Veterans Home (from general fund); MCJROTC Winnacunnet and Troop 154 (both from Charitable Games earnings).
 - Paymaster will provide full details on current Charitable Games proceeds balance.
- All future recommendations for Donations and Gifts need to be routed to Marine Bob Niver for deliberations from the Donations and Gifts Committee.

Awards (Cmdt Geoff Corson):

- Detachment received National JVC Citation achieving 105.56% for exceeding previous year's membership within 12 months.
- Detachment received a Certificate of Appreciation for the firing detail conducted in support of York, ME's 2023 celebration of Memorial Day.
 - Copy of certificate sent separately.
- Member input solicited.

Honors (Cmdt Geoff Corson):

- Update on status of ceremonial firearms (Chaplain George Lombardi).
- After Action Report (AAR) for 23 Sep Run for the Fallen (RFTF) firing detail (SVC Brad Howe).
 - Thanks to Marines Ambrose, Gahan, Howe, Niver and Pomper for representing the Det.
- AAR for 5 Oct firing detail in honor of MSgt Michael Keddy, USMC (Ret) (Cmdt Corson).
 - Thanks to Marines Corson, Covatis, Fedor, Niver, Pettengill and Pomper for representing Seacoast Det and DNHMCL.
- More firing detail volunteers needed.



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

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.
- 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/>

- Honors and Scout Chairs still needed.
 - Interested applicants need to contact DNHMCL Commandant Cherie Monnell.
- PLM Roster review.
 - Due date 31 Dec 2023.
- 24 Sep 2023 Quarterly AAR (Cmdt Corson).
 - Minutes sent separately.
 - Next Department Quarterly meeting will be in December in conjunction with swearing in of new elected officers.
 - Details, once known, will be provided separately.
- 10 Nov 2023 Flag raising Concord Capitol, 0730, Concord, NH.
 - (https://www.facebook.com/events/842124073959342/?acontext=%7B%22ref%22%3A%2252%22%2C%22action_history%22%3A%22%7B%5C%22surface%5C%22%3A%5C%22share_link%5C%22%2C%5C%22mechanism%5C%22%3A%5C%22share_link%5C%22%2C%5C%22extra_data%5C%22%3A%7B%5C%22invite_link_id%5C%22%3A1483394612453592%7D%7D%7D).
 - Colors bearer(s)/participants needed.
 - Notify Cmdt of your availability.
- 10 Nov 2023 Manchester Expeditionary Brigade Birthday celebration, 1100-1400 Derryfield Country Club, 625 Mammoth Rd., Manchester, NH.
 - <https://m.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=717390277099035&id=100064842062129&set=pb.100064842062129.-2207520000&source=49&eav=AfaGVMwTZyO8DsVXrQ4LTbOs6VdL2DYVlYxpliQIV0Pd0wT3-2c00GY3ZnUBVzccls4&paipv=0>
- Dillon Detachment Birthday Celebration, 1730, Mojalaki Country Club, 321 Prospect Street Franklin, NH 03235 and the Early Bird Special cost is \$50 per person. For more information, please call Cody Dumont 603.782.2665.
 - <https://nhmarines.org/nov-10th-2023-248th-usmc-birthday-ball/>
- Quad State 2024 (19-21 April 2024).
 - Email with details and attachment sent separately.
 - Teams needed.
 - Latest flyer announcing details sent separately.
 - Please see the NHMarines.org website now has the Quad State information and that there is a link to Eventbrite for payment online.

- <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1692030943163&key=GRP&app=resvlink>
- Please contact Cmdt Monnell at marineamazon@comcast.net with questions or phone 207-752-0025.

MODD #349 (Pound Keeper Brad Howe):

- Pound meeting at 1800, Oct, Nov.
- Update on MODD 349 activities.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Need volunteer alternates (supernumeraries) Bill Payers authorized to access the Detachment's accounts and write checks.
 - Goal is to have one primary and three alternates.
 - Needed for when the Paymaster is out of town/out of pocket.
 - Will train to be replacement/substitute Paymaster.
- Input from membership requested.

NEW BUSINESS:

- AAR for 23 Sep Seacoast Veterans conference (JA Dick Lak).
 - Thanks to Marines Hobert, Lak, Pettengill and Soiett for representing the Det.
- AAR for 7 Oct 2023 Apple Harvest Day (Cmdt Corson).
 - Thanks to Marines Ambrose, Blanchette, Corson, Lak, Maher, Niver and Pomper for representing the Det.
- Uniform change to Undress uniform Long Sleeve (with tie) effective 5 Nov.
- Update on Marine Corps Birthday/75th Anniversary celebrations (JVC Ray Maher and JPC Bob Niver)
- Report of Nominating Committee (JPC Bob Niver):
- Third call for 2024 Elected Officer Positions from the floor (Cmdt Corson).
- Annual election for Elected Officer Positions.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

- Member and Committee Chairs input solicited.

FUTURE DATES:

- Next monthly meeting: 13 Nov at 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 will have their next monthly meeting on 11 Oct 2023. 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. We will be having our regular meeting and all safety protocols will be adhered to.
- 10 Nov (Friday):
 - Flag Raising, 0730 Concord Capitol (see above).
 - Manchester Expeditionary Brigade Luncheon, 1100-1400 (see above).
 - Dillon Det Birthday celebration, 1730 Franklin, NH (see above)
- 11 Nov (Saturday) Veterans Day (firing detail(s):
 - John Paul Jones Park, US-1 Kittery, ME:
 - (https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=556674291156784&paipv=0&eav=AfZp6Xv1dYKFup7lF_O5PI1EZfPQnyCPH683MzXB3Vm61oGuEsL17eh_KPF_fteFieY&_rdr)
 - /Kittery Estates, 220 State Rd. Kittery, ME:
 - (https://holidayseniorliving.com/retirement-communities/holiday-kittery-estates-kittery-me/?utm_source=GMB&utm_medium=Chatmeter)
 - /Goodwin Park, 240 Islington St. Portsmouth, NH:
 - (<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/parksandgreenery/goodwin-park>)
 - Firing Detail NCOIC, SVC Brad Howe.
 - Need firing detail shooters.
 - Call for volunteers will be passed separately.
- 14 Nov (Tuesday) MC Birthday/75th Anniversary celebration (Location Old Salt Restaurant and Lamie's Inn, 490 Lafayette Rd (Rte 1), Hampton, NH 03842: <https://www.oldsaltnh.com/>).
 - Cmdt announced sign up with suspense of 29 October (passed separately).



Seacoast Detachment #394

<https://www.seacoastmarines.org/>

Marine Corps League (MCL)

<https://www.mclnational.org/>

PO Box 690, Kittery ME 03904-0690

- All interested members need to respond to call for attendance.
- Further details will be provided once finalized.

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