

Seacoast Detachment #394 Minutes of the September 8 2025 Meeting at 1900:

1900 Opening Ceremony: The Opening Ceremony was conducted by SVC Brad Howe, Chaplin George Lombardi, and JPC Bob Niver.

Officer Roll Call: Cmdt Dick Lak, present; Senior Vice Commandant (SVC), Brad Howe, present, Junior Vice Commandant (JVC), John Flagler, present, Judge Advocate (JA), Ken Mitchell, present; Junior Past Commandant (JPC), Bob Niver, present; the Adjutant (Adj) Vacant; Paymaster, George Dow, present; the Web Sergeant, Jo Zurwell, excused; Chaplain George Lombardi, present, there were 8 voting members (Lak, Howe, Flager, Mitchell, Niver, Dow, Lombardi and Short). There were 4 Officers and 4 members present. The meeting was conducted in person and via Zoom. There was a quorum.

Minutes:

- A motion to accept August 11, 2025, Minutes was made by JPC Niver and seconded by Paymaster Dow. The motion passed with no dissenting vote cast.

Paymaster Report:

- The checking account balance (Detachment) is \$6,944.92, the checking account balance (Charitable Games earnings) is \$66,174.83 for a combined checking account balance of \$73,119.75.
- The savings account balance is \$11,332.65.
- Total balance (Det Checking, Charitable Games Checking, Savings) is: \$84,452.40.

A motion was made to accept the Paymaster's report by Chap. Lombardi and seconded by Cmdt Lak. The motion passed with no dissenting vote cast.

.

With a great big smile, Paymaster George Dow announced that his last day as Paymaster will be 12/31/25.

Chaplain Report:

- Dennis Pomper is still convalescing at home; he has a well-established schedule of PT. Noticeable progress in improved mobility; He is adamant that he will be driving soon. He enjoys hearing from members by phone: 603-205-0529.

Committees:

Scholarship:

- The Scholarship Committee has completed its scholarship applications reviews and selections for 2025 and is currently in recess until revised in early 2026. The membership wants to thank the Chairman, Ray Maher and his committee for a job well done.

MCJROTC:

- . LtCol Eric Drown, USMC (Ret) CO and Msgt. Derrick Wise, USMC (Ret) have been advised that Detachment 394 stands ready to assist the MCJROTC should the need arise. The Detachment is expecting to receive a request for a monetary donation from MCJROTC shortly to support its marksmanship program. Upon receipt, the membership will be given an opportunity to vote on the request.

Communications/Website:

- Detachment Web Sergeant Jo Zurwell, was excused, but provided a detailed inventory of activity taken since the last meeting.

MEMBERSHIP:

- . Nothing significant to report

Correspondence:

- Paymaster Dow indicated that there were several pieces of correspondence received and given to the Commandant for his action. The Detachment received a letter of thanks from “I Got Bridged” thanking the Detachment for its donation of \$2,000.00.

Scouting:

- Nothing significant to report.

Public Information:

- Zoom Coordinator/Videographer JA Ken Mitchell Zoom “perpetual” dial in:

Topic: Marine Corps League—Seacoast Detachment 394

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

Marine for Life(M4L):

- Nothing significant to report.

Donations and Gifts:

- . Members were reminded that all requests for donations, must first be given to the Chairman, Donations Committee, JPC Bob Niver, for its review, consideration and recommended action.

No request for a donation was discussed.

Honors:

Members may nominate Marines and others for consideration for a selected honor. No nomination was received.

Pease Greeters:

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

Dept. of NH (DNHMCL):

Nothing significant to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Picnic held on August 23rd was discussed at length and many complaints were voiced. It was soon evident that more time was needed to address concerns, further discussions were tabled to be resumed at a later date.

NEW BUSINESS:

Comments will be taken from the membership present for open discussion. No comments received.

Good of the League:

- Comments were requested from the members present; none were given.

Future Dates:

- **13 October** ... next scheduled Detachment monthly meeting
- **10 November** ... Marine Corps 250th Birthday Dinner, Old Salt, Hampton, NH

Closing Ceremony: Senior Vice Commandant Howe conducted the closing Ceremony.



Seacoast Detachment #394
Marine Corps League (MCL)
PO Box 690, Kittery ME 03904-0690

Monday, September 8, 2025, 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: Senior Vice- Commandant (SVC) Bradford Howe, 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 _____; Member _____ Member _____ Member _____
Member _____ Member _____ Quorum _____ Officers _____ Total Officers & Members _____

Minutes: Motion to accept August 11, 2025 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: \$ Charitable Games balance: \$
Combined Checking Balance: \$ Total Balance: \$

Motion _____ **Second** _____ **Vote** _____

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

- Dennis Pomper Still convalescing at home; well established schedule of PT. Noticeable progress in improved mobility. Enjoys hearing from members by phone: 603-205-0529.

Committee Reports

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

- The Scholarship Committee, 2025, is currently recessed until January 2026.

<https://www.seacoastmarines.org/our-work/awards-scholarships/mcl-scholarships/>

MCJROTC (LtCol Eric Drown, USMC (Ret) CO and Msgt. Derrick Wise, USMC (Ret)).

- MCJROTC has been advised that Detachment 394 stands ready to assist them should the need arise. The Detachment has established a good working relationship with the CO and NCOIC and will make every effort to continue to build on our progress. <https://www.seacoastmarines.org/news/winnacunnet-mcjrotc-quarterly-update/>

Communications/Website and Social Media (Honorary Marine Web Sgt Jo Zurwell (jozurwellto@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/follow.
Update on Detachment Social Media activity (jozurwell@comcast.net)

Membership JPC Bob Niver JVC John Flager

- JPC Bob Niver (revim167@gmail.com) and JVC John Flagler (jeannot49@netscape.com):
A brief summary will be presented to acquaint the members present with ongoing efforts to enhance our membership roster.

Correspondence (Paymaster Dow)

- Update on correspondence received.

Scouting

- Update on Scouting activity.

Public Information (JPC Niver)

- Zoom coordinator/videographer Judge Advocate 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

Marine for Life (M4L) Maj Brendan Tallon (Brendan.tallon@usmc.mil or Brendan.j.tallon@gmail.com):

- Maj Tallon's contact info: cell phone: 860.671.9362.
- M4L Northern New England (NH/ME/VT) on LinkedIn @: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/5145719/>

Donations and Gifts: JPC Bob Niver

- All future recommendations for Donations and Gifts need to be routed first to JPC, Bob Niver, Chairman, Donation and Gifts Committee, for review, deliberations, determination and recommendation by the Donations and Gifts Committee to the members at a regular monthly meeting.

Honors

- Members may nominate Marines and others for consideration for a selected honor.

Pease Greeters

- Individuals (not groups) can now greet flights per new instructions that were sent separately and are restated below.
- Please wear your Greeter name tag.
- 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 Distance during interactions with the troops.
- Try to stay outside as much as possible.
- Greeter Greer: 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 such as pins, coins or patches.
- Pease Greeters has resumed sending flight alerts.

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

- The Department Commandant, Cody Dumont, has requested any member of Detachment 394 that has an interest in attending the department Marine Corps 250th birthday ball to let Commandant Lak know and he will contact Commandant Dumont

OLD BUSINESS:

Comments will be taken from the membership present for open discussion.

Slate of Officers will be announced: Cmdt: Lak, SVC: Howe, JVC: Flager and JA: Mitchell

Anyone interested in submitting their name for nomination as an officer's?

NEW BUSINESS:

Comments will be taken from the membership present for open discussion.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

- Comments will be taken from the membership present for open discussion.

FUTURE DATES:

- **10 September 2025.** Wednesday breakfasts @ 0900 at TBD.
- **13 October, 2025:** Next scheduled Detachment 394 monthly meeting
- **10 November, 2025:** Marine Corps 250th Birthday Dinner at the Old Salt, Hampton, NH

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

Seacoast Detachment #394 Minutes of the 9 Sep 2024 Meeting at 1900:

1900 Opening Ceremony: The Opening Ceremony was conducted by Commandant (Cmdt) Dick Lak, Sergeant at Arms (SAA) Randy McNally 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, present; Chap George Lombardi, present. There were thirteen voting members (Cannon, Corson, Dow, Flagler, Gahan, Howe, Lak, Lombardi, McLean, McNally, Mitchell, Niver, Pomper). The meeting was conducted in person and via Zoom. There was a quorum.

Minutes:

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

New Members and Guests: There were no new members and two guests, DNHMCL Commandant Cody Dumont and Shilo, the PTSD working dog for JVC Flagler.

Paymaster Report:

- The checking account balance (Detachment) is \$5,780.81; the checking account balance (Charitable Games earnings) is: \$2,729.11 for a combined checking account balance of \$8,509.92.
- The savings account balance is \$10,255.55.
- Total balance (Det Checking, Charitable Games Checking, Savings) is: \$18,765.47.
 - A motion was made to accept the Paymaster's report by Marine Gary Gahan and seconded by SAA Randy McNally. 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:

- The VA is assisting Chap Lombardi with disability claims.
- SVC Ray Maher has a mild case of COVID but is recovering.

Committees:

Scholarship:

- Nothing Significant to Report.
 - The Committee is in summer recess.

MCJROTC:

- Adj Corson indicated that the MCJROTC was at the Hampton Seafood festival helping out.
- MCJROTC has periodic shooting team competitions in the local area.
 - This may be an opportunity for Det members to mentor/coach the MCJROTC shooters.

Communications/Website:

- Detachment Web Sergeant Jo Zurwell, was excused, but provided a detailed inventory of activity taken since the last meeting (see Agenda).
- Links to Det events and other relevant items are embedded in the monthly agendas.
- Marine Ken Mitchell conducted the Zoom portion of the meeting where one member (John Cannon) dialed in.

Membership:

- JPC Niver asked for volunteers at 2 Market Baskets in November.
 - Marine Gahan recommended 2 entrance coverage.
 - All agreed that this is something to strive for if enough volunteers are found.
 - Marine Gahan also provided Ideas on how Granite State Det capitalized on similar events at other Market Baskets.
- JPC Niver reminded all about the Family Breakfast on 28 Sep at Café Espresso in Portsmouth.
- JPC Niver also asked for volunteers for a committee for the 10 Nov Birthday dinner.
 - JPC Niver and SVC Maher are the point of main effort for this event.
- Apple Harvest Day 2024, 5 Oct 2024 is a go and Cmdt Lak solicited volunteers.
 - Cmdt Lak is the point of main effort for this event.
 - Adj will put out email solicitation for volunteers with all the details.

Correspondence:

- Nothing significant to report.

Scouting:

- Nothing significant to report.

Public Information:

- JPC Niver has sent Seacoast Online 3 emails for potential stories about the Det.

Marine for Life(M4L):

- Nothing significant to report.

Donations and Gifts:

- Paymaster Dow stated the Detachment received a \$20.00 donation from Mrs. Carol Lombardi and \$10.00 from SVC Maher.

Awards:

- Adj Corson prepared Certificates of Appreciation for Market Basket Managers.
 - JPC Niver will effect delivery.

Honors:

- Chap Lombardi provided a status report on the condition of Detachment ceremonial firearms.
 - Chap Lombardi indicated that he would like to conduct training on maintenance of ceremonial firearms for all interested parties.
 - Ideally, he would like to train at least 3 other members.
- Adj solicited volunteers for the 11 Sep and 21 Sep firing details in support of Am Legion Post 35.
- Cmdt Lak updated all on ongoing efforts to better define insurance coverage for firing details.
 - Adj indicated that the Det purchased safety glasses for firing details and they need to be utilized for all future events in order to mitigate possible injury to shooters.

Pease Greeters:

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

Dept. of NH (DNHMCL):

- DNHMCL Cmdt Cody Dumont updated all on status of ongoing Department efforts.
 - Cmdt Dumont emphasized Det participation in Dept events to include the Quarterly meetings, Birthday celebrations, etc.
 - Cmdt Dumont would like to establish a rotation schedule for Dept Officer billets where Dets are factored into a rotation providing members for Officer billets.
 - Cmdt Dumont emphasized that member burnout is an issue that the Dept and Dets must critically address where certain members are relied on too much and too often resulting in burnout.
 - Cmdt Dumont also solicited an honors coordinator volunteer who would coordinate participation in honors events and possibly conduct training for interested members.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Cmdt Lak indicated that a search was conducted for missing Detachment gear.
 - The missing gear was not found and has been determined as lost.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Adj Corson announced a call from the floor for new nominations for 2025 elected officer positions, results follow:
 - For Cmdt: There were no new nominations for Cmdt.
 - Cmdt Lak remains the sole nomination for Cmdt into 2025.
 - For SVC: JA Brad Howe was nominated and agreed to serve if elected.
 - JA Brad Howe rescinded his acceptance of nomination for 2025 JA made previously at the Aug Det meeting.
 - There were no other nominations.

- For JVC: Marine Ken Mitchell was nominated but declined to serve if elected.
 - JVC John Flagler was also nominated and agreed to serve as 2025 JVC if elected.
 - There were no other nominations.
- For JA: Marine Ken Mitchell was nominated as a result of JA Brad Howe withdrawing his acceptance to serve as 2025 nominee if elected.
 - Marine Ken Mitchell agreed to serve as 2025 JA if elected.
 - There were no other nominations.

Good of the League:

- Nothing significant to report.

Future Dates:

- Next monthly meeting scheduled for Monday, **14 Oct 2024 @ 1900**.
- **Wed. Breakfasts @ 0900** at Mainely Local Yolks 43 Route 236, Berwick, ME 03901 (<https://www.mlyberwick.com/>).
- "Together We Served luncheon" @ 1130 U.S. Marine Corps, New Hampshire & Southern Maine continues at Strafford Farms, Dover, NH (<https://www.straffordfarms.com/>) on **11 Sep 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.
 - Marine Cannon indicated that the head of the Pease Greeters, Frank Lasorda will be in attendance at this event.
- 11 Sep firing detail at Post 35 in support of the 9-11 memorial rededication.
- 21 Sep Seacoast Vets conference, Portsmouth, NH.
- 21 Sep firing detail at Waterville Valley in support of Run for the Fallen.
- 28 Sep Family Breakfast Café Espresso, Portsmouth, NH.
- All else is as it appears in the Agenda.

Closing Ceremony: Cmdt Lak, Acting SVC Howe, SAA McNally and Chap Lombardi conducted the closing ceremony at 2015. The 50/50 raffle (\$15.00) was won by Adj Corson who donated it back to the Detachment.