



**GatorDet Officers**

- **Commandant**  
Jim Yakubsin
- **SrVice Commandant**  
Vernon Kisling
- **JrVice Commandant**  
Bob Gasche
- **Past Commandant**  
Dick Lester
- **Judge Advocate**  
John Murdoch
- **Adjutant**  
Sandy Golden
- **Paymaster**  
Sandy Golden
- **Sergeant at Arms**  
Bill Beck
- **Chaplain**  
Bob Wright
- **Quartermaster**  
Scott DuPree
- **Veteran Service Officer** Bob Wright
- **Public Affairs Officer**  
Steve Homewood
- **Historian**  
Steve Homewood
- **Social Director**  
Sandy Golden
- **Grants Manager**  
Peter Briggette
- **Web Sgt.**  
Scott DuPree
- **Color/Honor Guard**  
Dave Nettles

# GATOR ALMAR

Gator Detachment 990, Marine Corps League  
PO Box 358772, Gainesville FL 32635-8772



Commandant: Jim Yakubsin / yakmarine@aol.com / 352-222-8837

Sr Vice Commandant: Vernon Kisling / 352-727-1961

Editor: Vernon Kisling / vkisling@ufl.edu

## 2015 ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

**Relay for Life American Cancer Society Walk** / 8 May / Our Gator Detachment had a team in this event at High Springs Civic Center. We raised over \$525 in our first year of participation. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

**Memorial Day Ceremonies** / 25 May / Forest Meadows East on Hawthorn Road. MCL Tent set up begins at 8:00.

**Oak Hammock Garage Sale Pickup** / 30 May / If we can get enough volunteers we will pick up more items. Furniture and large items this time.

**Flag Day Ceremonies** / 13 June (Flag Day is 14 June) / VFW Post on Waldo Road. Ceremonies start at 10:00.

**Independence Day** / 4 July / No MCL activities planned. Enjoy the holiday.





## 2015 MEETINGS EVENTS

### MAY

- 8 Cancer Relay for Life
- 19 MCL Staff Meeting
- 23 MLYM Breakfast
- 25 Memorial Day
- 26 MCL Regular Meeting

### JUNE

- 14 Flag Day
- 16 MCL Staff Meeting
- 18-21 MCL State Annual Convention
- 23 MCL Regular Meeting
- 27 MLYM Breakfast

### JULY

- 4 Independence Day
- 21 MCL Staff Meeting
- 25 MLYM Breakfast
- 28 MCL Regular Meeting

## Gator 990 Detachment Information

### MCL Department of Florida SCHOLARSHIP FUND

ALL TICKETS HAVE BEEN SOLD - THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED

### STAND DOWN 2015

This event is not until 11 September but we want everyone to know that we voted to provide \$1,500 to buy food for the homeless veterans at this event. Hitchcock's has now matched our contributions, so we will have \$3,000 for this event, as well as some donated food beyond what we buy. This is a great event that provides many services for the veterans. More on this later when it gets closer to the date. (This event is held at the Martin Luther King Center at Waldo Road & 8th Avenue—behind Citizens Field—7:00-2:00)

### Service Hours / Activities

During January - March we provided 117 service hours. This included AL Post 16 open house, Veterans Court graduation, Mike Harrell funeral, Gator Nationals, Ben Cunard funeral, Waldo Elementary School flag replacement, Garage sale and VA visits.

In April - June we will provide service hours at the Alachua Spring Festival, Hot Rods For Heroes, Relay for Life Cancer Walk, War Dog memorial service (our Color Guard), Dwayne Dewey Award, Memorial Day and Flag Day. In addition, Bob Wright provides visits to the VA each month.

### Commandant's Message:

Get involved with our many upcoming activities and services. We are also trying to provide opportunities for sharing the work load of the Detachment Officers. There is more to belonging than just coming to meetings. I encourage our members to do what they can to help the Detachment fulfill its obligations and to be more active. Semper Fi, Jim Yakubsin

**Judge Advocate's Message.** When I submitted our bylaws to the Department of Florida Judge Advocate for approval of the correction of a typographical error in the wording of our bylaws, he reminded me that the requirements as to who is eligible for membership in the MCL have changed since we had our current version of our bylaws approved. I have made changes I believe will comply with the new requirements for regular membership in the MCL. The revised bylaws were presented at our March 24, 2015 meeting and the revisions were approved. They have been approved by MCL. Semper Fi, John Murdoch



**MCL Annual Department of State Convention** will be held at Altamonte Springs on 18 - 21 June.

## Marine Corps History

### MAY

**Viet Nam 50th Anniversary** / 8 March / After some ten years of U.S. military advisor support, the first combat troops landed in Viet Nam on 8 March 1965 when Marines of the 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade (MEB, later renamed the III Marine Amphibious Force) landed at Da Nang to secure the airfield base. The Marine force in I Corps grew to a full reinforced Division / Wing Marine Amphibious Force of 25,000 during the summer of 1965. SE Asia Conflict statistics: KIA 13,073 & WIA 88,633. [Semper Fidelis: The History of the United States Marine Corps. Allan R. Millett. 1991] WE WILL BE HONORING VIET NAM VETERANS AT OUR 2015 MC BIRTHDAY BALL IN NOVEMBER.



**15 May 1862** Corporal John Mackie, the first Marine to earn the Medal of Honor, was commended for his actions against Confederate shore batteries at Drewry's Bluff which blocked the approach to Richmond along the James River.

**22 May 1912** Marine aviation began on this day when 1st Lt. Alfred A. Cunningham reported to the Navy air training school at Annapolis MD. Navy aviation had begun just a month before. Semper Fi magazine featured this history in their Jan/Feb and Mar/Apr issues, so we won't condense it into a few sentences here. Read about it in all its lengthy glory in Semper Fi.

**2 May 1946** Marines aided in suppressing a prison riot at Alcatraz Penitentiary in San Francisco.

**23 May 1988** V-22 Osprey, the first production tilt-rotor aircraft, made its debut.

**8 May 1995** Marines and sailors assisted in the evacuation of 2,500 civilians from the New Orleans after it was hit by a devastating hurricane, while Navy corpsmen treated a great many victims of that storm.



### HELP NEEDED - TIME TO GET INVOLVED

**We now have a ADJUTANT - PAYMASTER to replace Sandy. This is an important position and we thank Sandy for her work in this position.**

**We still need alternatives for the Color Guard, assistance with the Memorial Bricks, and an Eagle Scout Council liaison.**



### **GatorDet Regular Meeting**

**First United  
Methodist Church  
14805 NW 140 St.  
ALACHUA**

**MAY 26**

**6:00  
Social & Supper  
7:00  
Meeting**

**Dinner will be  
BEEF STROGANOFF  
bring side dishes.**

**Positions  
Still Needed**

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**Color Guard  
Alternates**

**Memorial Bricks  
Assistance**

**Eagle Scout Council  
Liaison**



[www.GatorDet.com](http://www.GatorDet.com)

### MCL Mission Statement

Members of the Marine Corps League join together in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving the traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps.

Banding together those who are now serving in the United States Marine Corps and those who have been honorably discharged from that service that they may effectively promote the ideals of American freedom and democracy.

Voluntarily aiding and rendering assistance to all Marines and former Marines and to their widows and orphans; and to perpetuate the history of the United States Marine Corps and by fitting acts to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions of particular interest to Marines.



Founded in 1923 by Lieutenant General John A. Lejeune (13th Commandant, 1920-29), the Marine Corps League is the only federally chartered (1937) Marine Corps related veterans organization in the United States.

#### Marine Corps League

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