



# GATOR ALMAR

JULY - AUGUST 2015

## GatorDet Officers

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



Gator Detachment 990, Marine Corps League  
 PO Box 358772, Gainesville FL 32635-8772  
[www.GatorDet.com](http://www.GatorDet.com)



### Commandant

Jim Yakubsin / [yakmarine@aol.com](mailto:yakmarine@aol.com) / 352-222-8837

### Sr Vice Commandant

Vernon Kisling / [vkisling@ufl.edu](mailto:vkisling@ufl.edu) / 352-727-1961

### Editor

Vernon Kisling / [vkisling@ufl.edu](mailto:vkisling@ufl.edu) / 352-727-1961

FOR OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION USE THE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

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## 2015 MEETINGS & EVENTS

### JULY

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

### AUGUST

- 18 MCL Staff Meeting
- 22 MLYM Breakfast
- 25 MCL Regular Meeting

### SEPTEMBER

- 11 Stand Down
- 15 MCL Staff Meeting
- 22 MCL Regular Meeting
- 26 MLYM Breakfast

### OCTOBER

- 20 MCL Staff Meeting
- 24 MLYM Breakfast
- 27 MCL Regular Meeting
- 29-1 NOV FL Fall Conf

### NOVEMBER

- 14 MC Birthday Ball
- 17 MCL Staff Meeting
- 24 MCL Regular Meeting
- 28 MLYM Breakfast

### DECEMBER

- No MCL Staff Meeting
- No MCL Regular Meeting

## Gator 990 Detachment Activities

**Storage Facility** - We are now down to about 6 storage units (down from around 20). Much of the items in storage have been given to organizations helping veterans. The returned storage units have already been rented out.

**Our MCL GatorDet 990 Color Guard** served in the Micanopy 4th of July parade. They will also be serving at the opening of the Babe Ruth Softball Championships at the Hal Brady recreation complex in Alachua July 30.

**Stand Down 2015** is coming up (September 11). Plan to help if you can. We have pledged \$1500 and Hitchcock's has matched this so we can provide nutritious food to the homeless veterans. Martin Luther King Center at Waldo Road behind Citizens Field 7:00-2:00 (volunteers needed). Set-up is on the 10th in the morning—contact Forest Hope for help setting up.

The **MC Birthday Ball** is November 14. Planning is well underway - tickets and hotel reservations are available on our website. The hotel this year is the Best Western Gateway Grand at I-75 / 39th Avenue. \$35 for prime rib, chicken bruschetta, seared Mahi-Mahi, or vegetarian. Social starts at 5:00, ceremonies at 6:00, and dinner at 6:45. This year will be the Marine Corps 240 birthday and the 50th anniversary of the start of Viet Nam combat operations. Make your plans to attend now.

### Commandant's Message:

**WE STILL NEED** members to get involved with our activities and services. In particular, see the open positions on page 3. I encourage our members to do what they can to help the Detachment fulfill its obligations and to be more active. And a big thank you to those members who have been helping.

If you perform any **SERVICES** on behalf of the Detachment, please let our Sr. Vice Commandant know so that we can keep up our record of service hours.

If you have any changes in your **CONTACT INFORMATION**, please let our Adjutant know so we can maintain our membership database.

Your Commandant, Semper Fi

## **Gator 990 Detachment Information**



### **Gator 990 Detachment Service**

In the **January - March** quarter we provided 117 service hours.

In the **April - June** quarter we provided 148 services hours (subject to change). This included: Alachua Spring Festival, Hot Rods for Heroes, Relay for Life Cancer Walk, War Dog Memorial Service (Color Guard), Dwayne Dewey Award, Gainesville High School ROTC Award, Hague Dedication, a garage sale work day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, and VA services.

In July our **Color Guard** provided service at the July 4th Micanopy parade and will also provide service at the Babe Ruth Championships July 30th.

### **Gator 990 Detachment Positions Needed**

- Color Guard Alternates (contact Dave Nettles)
- Memorial Bricks Assistance (contact Jim Yakubsin)
- Eagle Scout Council Liaison (contact Scott DuPree)
- Veterans Court Mentors (contact Jim Yakubsin)

### **GatorDet Regular Meeting**

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

**JULY 28**

**6:00  
Social & Supper**

**7:00  
Meeting**

**Dinner will be  
LASAGNE  
Bring Side Dishes**

## History & General Information

### Marine Corps History - JULY

**Marine Corps Establishment Becomes Law 11 July 1798** / President John Adams approves "An Act for Establishing and Organizing a Marine Corps". The following day William Ward Burrows was appointed Commandant and in August Major Burrows opened his headquarters in Philadelphia, which was still the capital at that time.

[ The Continental Navy and Marines established in 1775 were disbanded at the end of the Revolutionary War and the Marine Corps was re-established in 1798. The Marine Corps celebrates its Original Birthday, 10 November 1775. ]

**28 July 1918** / Brigadier General John A. Lejeune assumed command of the 2nd Division, U.S. Army in France. He was the first Marine officer to hold an Army divisional command.

**26 July 1947** / National Security Act of 1947 reaffirmed the status of the Marine Corps as a separate military service within the Department of the Navy. The Act provided for Fleet Marine Forces and confirmed the Marine Corps mission of seizing and defending advanced bases and of land operations incident to naval campaigns.



### Milton Lewis Young Marines

**Cary Hill, Commanding Officer**

**Dick Lester, Executive Office**

**Col. William Davis USMC (Ret.), National Executive Director / CEO**

**[www.YoungMarines.com](http://www.YoungMarines.com) / [www.MiltonLewisYoungMarines.com](http://www.MiltonLewisYoungMarines.com)**

MLYM breakfast is the 4th Saturday of each month at 9:00, VFW Post 2811, 1150 NE Waldo Road.

There are currently 35 Young Marines.

They had their annual visit to Parris Island this past June (for reality check).  
Starting July 26 they will be at La-No-Che summer camp in Paisley, Florida (for fun).

**MILTON LEWIS YOUNG MARINES**  
**NATIONAL UNIT OF THE YEAR 2009**  
*"Strengthening the Lives of America's Youth"*  
*Pursuing excellence through Honor, Courage and Commitment*  
Southeast Division Unit of the Year 2008    First Florida Regiment Unit of the Year 2006 & 2008

The banner features the Milton Lewis Young Marines logo on the left, which includes the text "MILTON LEWIS YOUNG MARINES", "SEMPER PARATUS", and "GAINESVILLE FL". On the right, there is a portrait of a young man in a Marine uniform, with the text "Sponsored by:" and the Marine Corps emblem below it.

## Local Veterans Activities



**ALACHUA  
COUNTY  
VETERANS  
EVENTS,  
ACTIVITIES,  
AND  
ORGANIZATIONS**

### JULY / AUGUST

This space is under development and will contain news and information on veterans activities and events in Alachua County in future additions of the newsletter. Stand Down 2014 (photo below) will be coming up again in September.



#### ALACHUA COUNTY VETERANS SERVICES

Kim Smith, Director / 352-264-6740

[www.alachuacounty.us/Depts/CSS/Veterans/Pages/VeteransServices.aspx](http://www.alachuacounty.us/Depts/CSS/Veterans/Pages/VeteransServices.aspx)

#### VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS \* VFW Post 2811

Dick Lester, Commander / [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) ([www.vfwpost2811.org](http://www.vfwpost2811.org) / not up)

#### AMERICAN LEGION Haisley Lynch Post 16

Victoria Van Buren, Commander / [www.amlegionpost16.org](http://www.amlegionpost16.org)

#### VIET NAM VETERANS OF ALACHUA COUNTY Chapter 1092

Forest Hope, President / [vva1092.org](http://vva1092.org)

#### KOREAN WAR VETERANS

[dfl.kwva.org](http://dfl.kwva.org)

#### MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

[www.purpleheart.org](http://www.purpleheart.org) ([www.mophchapter0823.org](http://www.mophchapter0823.org))



[www.mclfl.org](http://www.mclfl.org)

#### DEPT STAFF

**Commandant  
William Cona**

**Sr. Vice Commandant  
Ronald Ashley**

**Jr. Vice Commandant  
Mike Stewart**

**Judge Advocate  
George LaMont**

**Jr. Past Commandant  
Lou Calleja**

**Paymaster  
Al Tamburrino**

**Adjutant  
Andy Smith**



**DISTRICT 2  
District 2 VCMDT  
John Murdoch**

**District 2  
Asst. Vice Commandant  
Scott DuPree**

**District 2 includes  
Gator Detachment 990  
Tri-County Detachment  
1086  
St Maj Briggs Detach-  
ment 1018**

## MCL Department of Florida Information

**Fall Conference 2015** 29 October - 1 November 2015 at Palm Beach Gardens, Florida.

There are currently 50 Detachments. Our District 2 includes three Detachments: Gator Detachment 990, Tri-County Detachment 1086, and St. Maj. Briggs Detachment 1018.

One item of interest is that Florida drivers licenses will now spell out the word Veteran on the license instead of just having the letter V. These licenses must be requested and a DD-214 is required.

MORE TO COME SOON

### EVENTS & NEWS

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MORE TO COME SOON



## MCL National Information

### JULY

The national website ([www.mcleague.org](http://www.mcleague.org)) is down permanently and the new website is up, but under construction ([www.mclnational.org](http://www.mclnational.org)).

National Convention will be held on 9-15 August 2015 in Scottsdale Plaza Resort, Scottsdale AZ.

This space is under development and will have additional information in the future.

One item of interest is the national Veterans ID Card which is intended to replace / supplement the DD-214. All veterans will be eligible to have the Veterans ID Card. This has passed both houses of Congress and is headed for President Obama's signature (and he is expected to sign it). It is intended to be a more convenient form of proof of service than having to carry around the DD-214. It would be issued by the VA and "veterans who opted for the ID card would have a small fee" to pay. The MCL will need to determine if the new ID Card will be an acceptable alternative to the DD-214 for membership. Our Gator Detachment Officers have decided to continue requiring the DD-214.



[www.mclnational.org](http://www.mclnational.org)

#### NATIONAL STAFF

##### National Commandant

**John Kovalcik**

##### National Sr. Vice Commandant

**Richard Gore Sr.**

##### National Jr. Vice Commandant

**Wendell Webb**

##### National Judge Advocate

**Denis Tobin**

##### Jr. Past National Commandant

**James Tuohy**

##### Executive Director

**Michael Blum**

##### President, MCL Auxiliary

**Jackie Hunter**



[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

Gator Detachment 990  
PO Box 358772  
Gainesville FL 32635-8772