



### 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



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Sr Vice Commandant: Vernon Kisling / 352-727-1961  
Editor: Vernon Kisling / vkisling@ufl.edu

## 2015 ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

**Veterans Court** / 3 February / A celebration was held for the first graduates of this program. Four individuals completed the requirements established by the court.

**MCL National Mid-Winter Conference** / 12-14 February / Falls Church VA. See their website for details.

**Gator Detachment Social** / 20 February / Gators Dockside at 5:30 (3842 W Newberry Road / next to the movie theater).

**Oak Hammock Pickup** / 21 February / Pickup of items for our next Gator Detachment yard sale. Meet at the Alachua storage facility at 10:30 or at Oak Hammock at 11:00.

**Gator Nationals** / 12-15 March / See Scott DuPree to sign up for shifts during this event. TH 12 is 7-4:00, FR 13 is 7-8:00, SA 14 is 7-6:00 and SU 15 is 7-5:00. This is one of our major fund raising activities, so please sign up with Scott now.

**MCL SE Division Conference** / 26-29 March / Altamonte Springs FL. See their website for details.

**Alachua Spring Street Festival** / 19 April / MCL Tent

**Hot Rods for Heroes** / 25 April / MCL Tent

**Relay for Life American Cancer Society Walk** / 8 May / Our Gator Detachment will have a team in this event at High Springs Civic Center (441 north of the High Springs red light) at 6 PM—Midnight. [See page 2 for more information] Go online now to contribute to the Marine Corps League Team: [www.relayforlife.org/alachuaf1](http://www.relayforlife.org/alachuaf1)



## 2015 MEETINGS EVENTS

### FEBRUARY

**12-14 National Conference**  
17 MCL Staff Meeting  
20 MCL Social  
21 Oak Hammock Pickup  
24 MCL Regular Meeting

### MARCH

**12-15 Gator Nationals**  
17 MCL Staff Meeting  
24 MCL Regular Meeting  
26-29 SE DIV Conference

### APRIL

**19 Alachua Spring Festival**  
21 MCL Staff Meeting  
25 Hot Rods for Heroes  
28 MCL Regular Meeting

### MAY

**8 Cancer Relay for Life**  
19 MCL Staff Meeting  
26 MCL Regular Meeting

## Gator 990 Detachment Information

### NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

It is once again time to nominate and vote on the following positions:

COMMANDANT / SR VICE COMMANDANT  
JR VICE COMMANDANT / JUDGE ADVOCATE

New officers will be posted in March.

### MCL Department of Florida SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Tickets are now on sale for \$2.00 or 3 for \$5.00  
Drawing will be held in June at the MCL State Convention

### RELAY FOR LIFE

This is a new community service project for us. Your donated money helps cancer patients right here in our local community. It was chosen for our support because cancer affects so many families in our community. Please go online [see page 1] and contribute whatever you can or contribute at our meetings and we will get your donation to the Relay for Life folks (part of the American Cancer Society).

### 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.

Our February meeting dinner will be baked ham - bring side dishes.

Semper Fi, Jim Yakubsin

**EAGLE SCOUT LIAISON.** We have decided to join with many other MCL Detachments and support the Boy Scout Eagle program. We still need a liaison for this program.

**NEWSLETTER ADS AND SPONSORSHIPS.** We are looking for assistance in covering the costs of the Gator ALMAR by accepting ads (business card size, quarter page size, or half page size). Also, if anyone would like to donate a sponsorship to help support the Gator ALMAR please let one of the Detachment Officers know.

**Marine Corps History**

**FEBRUARY**

**National 4 Chaplains Day** / 3 February / On 3 February 1943 the ship USAT Dorchester was torpedoed by German submarine U-223 off the coast of Newfoundland. 230 of 904 were rescued, most dying of hypothermia in the 34 degree waters. The four Chaplains on board gave their life jackets to others since there were not enough to go around, and helped everyone into the life boats. The four chaplains, each representing a different faith, went down with the ship. They were: George L. Fox, Alexander D. Goode, Clark V. Poling, and John P. Washington. 4 Chaplains Medal ➤



**Iwo Jima 70th Anniversary** / 19 February / As the Marines and Navy moved up through the Pacific toward Japan, many island battles were fought with well dug in and heavily fortified Japanese forces. These battle conditions resulted in heavy casualties for the Marines. The assault on Iwo Jima (DETACHMENT) took place on 19 February 1945 by the 4th and 5th Marine Divisions. The 3rd Marine Division was held in reserve and later called into action as casualties mounted. Some 2,300 casualties occurred during the initial landing. The island was declared secure on 16 March, although cleaning up enemy resistance continued a bit longer. The entire 21,000 man Japanese force was KIA, while the Marines had 26,000 casualties (almost 6,000 KIA), the Navy had 2,798 casualties, and the Army support units had 37 casualties. WWII statistics: KIA 19,733 & WIA 67,207. [Semper Fidelis: The History of the United States Marine Corps. Allan R. Millett. 1991]

**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]

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

**NEW MCL DETACHMENT WEBSITE & EMAIL SYSTEM**

When you go to our website you will automatically be sent to our new Wild Apricot site.. **Please keep Sandy informed of any changes to your membership information** so that we can keep this new roster up to date at all times.



**GatorDet  
Regular Meeting**

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

**FEBRUARY 24**

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

**Positions  
Still Needed**

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**Color Guard  
Alternates**

**Memorial Bricks  
Assistance**

**Boy 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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