



**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



**Garage Sale** / 21 March / Our sale at the Alachua Storage Facility (just south of the Progress Park on 441) was another big fundraisers so a great big thank you to all of those who came out to help make it so.

**Alachua Spring Street Festival** / 19 April / MCL Tent set up had good interest and the rain held off!

**Hot Rods for Heroes** / 25 April / MCL Tent set up begins at 7:30 and the event takes place 9:00 - 2:00.

High Springs Pioneer Days is the same weekend as Hot Rods for Heroes so we will not participate this year.

**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, with our tent set up at 5:00. [See page 2 for more information] Bring a check made out to **American Cancer Society** to the March or April meeting, or go online now to contribute to the Marine Corps League Team:

[www.relayforlife.org/alachuaf1](http://www.relayforlife.org/alachuaf1)

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

**Flag Day Ceremonies** / 14 June / VFW Post on Waldo Road.



## 2015 MEETINGS EVENTS

### APRIL

- 19 Alachua Spring Festival
- 21 MCL Staff Meeting
- 25 Hot Rods for Heroes
- 25 MLYM Breakfast
- 28 MCL Regular Meeting

### 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

## Gator 990 Detachment Information

### MCL Department of Florida SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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

### 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 [[www.relayforlife.org/alachuaf1](http://www.relayforlife.org/alachuaf1) click DONATE / DONATE TO TEAM / MARINE CORPS LEAGUE team] and contribute whatever you can or contribute at our meetings with a check made out to the American Cancer Society and we will get your donation to the Relay for Life project. We will also need team walkers on 8 May (6:00—Midnight / we take turns walking so you don't walk the entire time).

### 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:

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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

### APRIL

**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.



**27 April 1805** First Lieutenant Presley O'Bannon, along with seven other Marines, together with a force led by American Consul William Eaton raised the U.S. flag over a the conquered fortress of Tripolitan pirates.

**12-13 April 1918** Marines suffered first gas attack from mustard gas bombardment near Verdun. Nine officers and 305 enlisted Marines were evacuated and 30 died from the effects of the gas.

**3 April 1945** Marines on Okinawa made good progress clearing Zampa Misaki and seizing the Katchin Peninsula, cutting the island in two.

**21 April 1951** Marine carrier based planes made their first aerial contact with enemy planes over the Korean front lines.

**15 April 1962** Marine operational involvement in the Vietnam War began on Palm Sunday when HMM-362 Sikorsky UH-34s arrived at Soc Trang in the Delta south of Saigon.

**18 April 1983** One Marine security guard was killed and seven wounded when a car bomb exploded outside the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon. The explosion killed 61 people, including 17 Americans.



### HELP NEEDED - TIME TO GET INVOLVED

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

**We also 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**

**APRIL 28**

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

**Dinner will be  
meat loaf -  
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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