



# GATOR ALMAR

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2016

## 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
- **Ways & Means**  
Peter Briggette
- **Web Sgt.**  
Scott DuPree
- **Color/Honor Guard**  
Dave Nettles



Marine Corps League Gator Detachment 990  
 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 & Editor

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

### Jr. Vice Commandant

Bob Gasche / 352-376-0402

FOR OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION USE THE WEBSITE (OFFICERS)  
OR THE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY (MEMBERS)

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## 2016 MEETINGS & EVENTS

### OCTOBER

- 6-9 State Fall Conference
- 16 Alachua Fall Festival
- 11 MCL Staff Meeting
- 18 MC Band Performance
- 22 MLYM Breakfast
- 22 Alachua Flag Raising
- 25 MCL Regular Meeting

### NOVEMBER

- 5 MC BIRTHDAY BALL
- 11 Veterans Day
- 15 MCL Staff Meeting
- 22 MCL Regular Meeting
- 26 MLYM Breakfast

### DECEMBER

- NO MEETINGS
- 5 Social
- 10 Alachua Cmas Parade



## 2017 MEETINGS & EVENTS

### JANUARY

- 17 MCL Staff Meeting
- 24 MCL Regular Meeting
- 28 MLYM Breakfast

### FEBRUARY

- 21 MCL Staff Meeting
- 25 MLYM Breakfast
- 28 MCL Regular Meeting

### MARCH

- 21 MCL Staff Meeting
- 25 MLYM Breakfast
- 28 MCL Regular Meeting

## Gator 990 Detachment Activities

### NOVEMBER & DECEMBER EVENTS

**VETERANS DAY CEREMONY** was November 11 at 11:00-12:00 with our MCL tent setup with those of many other Veterans groups.. It was held at Veterans Memorial Park on Tower Road with the renovated memorial on display.

Our next **MCL SOCIAL** will be held December 5 at 5:30+ It will be held with the Vietnam Veterans of America at the World of Beer, Tioga Town Square.

**ALACHUA CHRISTMAS PARADE** will be held December 10 at 2:00-3:00 on Main Street. Arrive early (12:00 noon) to get our walk / ride organized. We will also have our Color Guard in the parade.

**MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BALL** was a great success. The guest speaker was Drum Major MSGT Duane F. King. For his bio, photos, and other information see the Birthday Ball page on the GatorDet website. The following awards were presented.



**Marine of the Year** to Vernon Kisling.

**Jim Yakubsin Vision Award** to Bill Beck.

**Distinguished Citizen Award** to Paula Ambroso (Veterans Court).

### Commandant's Message:

**WE 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 Martha Brown know so we can maintain our membership database.

Your Commandant, Semper Fi

**Gator 990 Detachment Information**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS / NO DECEMBER MEETINGS**



**GatorDet  
Regular Meeting**

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

**NOVEMBER 22  
NO DEC MEETING**

**6:00  
Social & Supper**

**7:00  
Meeting**

**Dinner will be**

**ROTISSERIE  
CHICKEN**

**Side Dishes  
are needed.**

**SERVICE HOURS:**

**January - June 2016 / 615 hours**

(compared with 363 hours for January—June 2015)

**July - September 2016 / 173 hours**

(compared with 113 hours for July—September 2015)

**October - November 2016 / 246 hours**

(compared with 199 hours for October-December 2015)

**Gator 990 Detachment Positions Needed**

Color Guard Alternates (contact Dave Nettles)

Memorial Bricks Assistance (contact Jim Yakubsin)

Veterans Court Mentors (contact Jim Yakubsin)

**\*\*\*NEW\*\*\* DUES INFORMATION**

**Dues are \$40 for renewals and \$45 for new members for those renewing now thru December 31.** Dues for those renewing January 1 thru July 2017 will be \$30 (\$35 for new members). Those renewing in August for \$40 (\$45 for new members) will receive a 13 month membership. **Starting in 2017 ALL memberships will end August 31 and will last from September 1 thru August 31 and will continue to be \$40 (\$45 for new members).**

LIFE MEMBERSHIP fees are: 0-35 \$500, 36-40 \$400, 41-50 \$400  
51-64 \$300, and 65+ \$200 [Applies to both Regular & Associate Members]

## History & General Information

### Marine Corps History - NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

**10 November 1921** / First formal commemoration of the Marine Corps birthday. Major General Commandant John A. Lejeune issued Marine Corps Order No. 47 summarizing the history, mission and tradition of the Marine Corps and directed that it be read each 10 November to celebrate the beginning of the Marine Corps on 10 November 1775.



**7 December 1941** / On a peaceful Sunday Morning on the island of Oahu in Hawaii, the United States was thrust into the war that they were trying to avoid. At just before 8:00 AM nearly 200 Japanese planes attacked the Airfields at Pearl Harbor followed quickly by another wave of torpedo bombers that attacked the ships that were anchored there. A total of nine ships were sunk, including the USS Arizona, and 21 ships were severely damaged. Over 2,300 Americans were killed in the attack and nearly 1,200 were injured.



**15 December 1948** / The Secretary of the Navy signed a "Memorandum of Agreement" with the State Department which laid the basis for the modern Marine Security Guard program at U.S. embassies throughout the world.



### Milton Lewis Young Marines

**Cary Hill, Commanding Officer**


**Jamie Hill, Executive Officer**

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

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

Young Marines are recruiting new recruits age 8—18. They meet every 2nd and 4th Saturday at the VFW Post on Waldo Road. Contact Dick Lester for further information.

Breakfast is monthly at 9:00 AM on the forth Saturday. VFW Post on Waldo Road.




**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



Sponsored by:



## Local Veterans Activities

### NOVEMBER / DECEMBER

**VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK** renovation is finished. It now includes the war on terrorism and has room for additional memorials up through 2100.

Military Order of the Purple Heart (Chapter 0823 / Gainesville) presented the 3rd Annual **VETERANS HELPING VETERANS CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT** November 5 at the Haile Plantation Golf and Country Club. Registration and lunch begins at 11:30 and a shotgun start begins at 12:30.

Saluting All Who Served **VETERANS DAY WEEKEND** in St. Augustine November 11-13. This includes a parade on the 11th at 11:00, film festival each day, and a Lee Greenwood concert on the 13th at 4:00.

**VETERANS' DAY LINKUP** was held November 11 at First Magnitude Brewery (1220 SE Veitch Street, Gainesville), 4:00—7:00 PM. For Iraq & Afghanistan veterans; however, other veterans and their families are welcome.



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

#### 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

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

#### IWO TRIO, Inc.

Bob Gasche, President / 352-376-0402

#### MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

Tom Hennessey, Commander / [www.purpleheart.org](http://www.purpleheart.org) ([www.mophchapter0823.org](http://www.mophchapter0823.org))





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

#### DEPT STAFF

**Commandant  
Ronald Ashley**

**Sr. Vice Commandant  
George LaMont**

**Jr. Vice Commandant  
Scott Westervelt**

**Judge Advocate  
Frank Glassford**

**Jr. Past Commandant  
William Cona**

**Paymaster  
Janis Beal**

**Adjutant  
John Marsh**



**DISTRICT 2  
District 2 VCMDT  
John Murdoch**

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

**District 2 includes  
Gator Detachment 990  
Tri-County  
Detachment 1086  
SgtMaj Griggs  
Detachment 1018**

## MCL Department of Florida Information

MID-WINTER CONFERENCE is March 2-4, 2017 at Fredericksburg VA. See website for details.

The INJURED WARRIORS FUND OF FLORIDA has now disbursed over **\$65,000** to needy combat injured warriors.

The SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM this year has now awarded **\$450** each to over 40 recipients.

The LEADERSHIP PROGRAM at the 2015 Fall Conference had nearly **40** participants.

The BOY SCOUTS (EAGLE) PROGRAM will award **156** Good Citizenship Awards.

Department of Florida membership stands at over **3,700** with an additional 630 delinquent members. A major effort will be made this year to reduce this number. **Our Gator Detachment has already made significant progress - we now have no delinquent members.** Also, the Department of Florida was awarded the **Tom Perrone Award** for having the most new members.

Discounts are now available to veterans on Florida public park entrance fees. Also, publicly operated airports are now prohibited from charging parking fees to vehicles with disabled veteran license plates.

\*\*\* Please note that these State and National news items are repeated since they are only updated on the State and National websites quarterly. \*\*\*



## MCL National Information

ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION 2017 will take place at Overland Park KS on 13-18 August. See the national website for information.

SE DIVISION CONFERENCE 2017 will take place at Mobile AL on 30 March—1 April. See website for information.

VA Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry is now open to veterans who served after August 1990 in Operation Desert Shield, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, Djibouti, or Africa. (For respiratory and related health conditions.)

VA has announced \$3.4 Million in funding to help homeless veterans. As a result number of homeless vets has been cut almost in half. Two states and 29 communities have claimed to have ended homeless veterans in their areas.

MCL has instituted a new **Honorary Active Duty membership category**. Active Duty Marines, FMF Corpsman, and FMF Chaplains can now become Honorary Active Duty members (free) of the MCL for the duration of their enlistment. They will have all rights and privileges of a regular member, except for voting or holding elective office.



U.S. House Committee on Veterans Affairs / [veterans.house.gov](http://veterans.house.gov)

U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs / [www.veterans.senate.gov](http://www.veterans.senate.gov)

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs / [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

U. S. Marine Corps / [www.marines.mil](http://www.marines.mil)



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

### NATIONAL STAFF

#### National Commandant

Richard Gore

#### National Sr. Vice Commandant

Wendell Webb

#### National Jr. Vice Commandant

Dennis Tobin

#### National Judge Advocate

Johnny Baker

#### Jr. Past National Commandant

John Kovalcik

#### Executive Director

Thomas Hazlett

#### Adjutant/Paymaster

Meg Thoburn

#### President, MCL Auxiliary

Deborah Evans



[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