



# GATOR ALMAR

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2017

## 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)

### INDEX

2	Gator 990 Detachment Activities
3	Gator 990 Detachment Information
4	History & General Information
5	Local Veterans Activities
6	MCL Department of Florida Information
7	MCL National Information



## 2017 MEETINGS & EVENTS

### JANUARY

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

### FEBRUARY

- 18 Vet Awards Banquet
- 21 MCL Staff Meeting
- 25 MLYM Breakfast
- 28 MCL Regular Meeting

### MARCH

- 16-19 Gator Nationals
- 21 MCL Staff Meeting
- 25 MLYM Breakfast
- 28 MCL Regular Meeting

### APRIL

- 18 MCL Staff Meeting
- 22 MCL Regular Meeting
- 25 MLYM Breakfast
- 28 Relay For Life

### MAY

- 16 MCL Staff Meeting
- 20 ARMED FORCES DAY
- 23 MCL Regular Meeting
- 27 MLYM Breakfast
- 29 MEMORIAL DAY

### JUNE

- 14 FLAG DAY
- 20 MCL Staff Meeting
- 24 MLYM Breakfast
- 27 MCL Regular Meeting

## Gator 990 Detachment Activities

### DECEMBER SOCIAL

GATOR 990 SOCIALS: FUN AND RELAXING. Our group has been holding social events about every other month and they have been so successful that we are thinking of having them monthly. At these socials, we simply pick a place that agrees to let us have an area. It is typically a restaurant. When you get there you get to chat with others and you have the option of ordering food and drinks. We don't conduct any business. I have not heard from anyone who attended that did not have a good time.

Our most recent social was at World of Beer where we joined the Vietnam Veterans of America. There was a lot of laughter and conversation. Members and friends attending included: Jim and Linda Yakubsin, Vernon Kisling, Bob Gasche, Scott DuPree, Ron Gromoll, Sandy and Larry Golden, Ken Beasock, David Nettles, Steven & Mrs. Dodd, Matt and Holly Yakubsin. (Excuse me if I left anyone out.) At World of Beer, we were able to enjoy beer for ten cents and some meals for only \$5!

We have had several socials at Gators Dockside where we have had some pretty good turnouts. So when you see on the calendar that we are having a social, save the date and join us. You just might have a good time.



### 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**

**ELECTIONS**

**Elected office nominations:**  
**Commandant: Jim Yakubsin**  
**Senior Vice Commandant: Vernon Kisling**  
**Junior Vice Commandant: Bob Gasche**  
**Judge Advocate: John Murdoch**

**NOMINATIONS: January Meeting / Nominations From Floor**

**ELECTION: February Meeting**

**INSTALLATION: March Meeting**

**SERVICE HOURS:**

**January - June 2016 / 615 hours** (363 hours for Jan—June 2015)  
**July - December 2016 / 540 hours** (312 hours for July—Dec 2015)  
**TOTAL 2016 / 1,155 hours** (675 hours for 2015)

**50 / 50** will again be held at every meeting and the funds will be used to support specific causes starting with the Relay For Life Cancer Walk. When no cause is supported the funds will go to Milton Lewis Young Marines.

**GATOR 990 DETACHMENT POSITIONS NEEDED:**

Color Guard Alternates (contact Dave Nettles)  
 Memorial Bricks Assistance (contact Jim Yakubsin)  
 Veterans Court Mentors (contact Jim Yakubsin)

**2017 DUES INFORMATION** Dues for those renewing now 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]



**GatorDet  
Regular Meeting**

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

**JANUARY 24  
FEBRUARY 28**

**6:00  
Social & Supper**

**7:00  
Meeting**

**Dinner will be**

**Lasagna**

**Side Dishes  
are needed.**

## History & General Information

### Marine Corps History - JANUARY

**25 January 1856** / Marines and seamen from the U.S. sloop DECATUR went ashore at the village of Seattle, Washington to protect settlers from Indian raids.

**21 January 1918** / The 1st Aeronautical Company arrived at Ponta Delgada, Azores, for anti submarine duty—one of the first completely equipped American aviation units to serve overseas in World War I.

**18 January 1951** / 1st Marine Division began mopping-up operations against guerrillas in the Pohang area, South Korea.

**20 January 1968** / The second battle for Khe Sanh began when Marines from 3rd Battalion, 26th Marines attacked a North Vietnamese battalion between Hill 881 and Hill 881 North.

**16 January 1991** / Operation Desert Shield became Operation Desert Storm as forces of the allied coalition launched an air campaign against targets in Iraq and occupied Kuwait in an effort to liberate Kuwait.

**29 January 1991** / First serious ground fighting of Operation Desert Storm broke out when Iraqi troops mounted an attack into Saudi Arabia. Saudi and Quatari troops, supported by artillery from the 1st Marine Division and attack helicopters and other allied coalition aircraft, re-captured Khafji two days later.



### 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)**

Florida has 585 Young Marines in 19 Units supported by 22 MCL Detachments. They performed 6,338 community service hours Oct-Dec 2016.

Breakfast is monthly at 9:00 AM on the fourth 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

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 League logo below it.

## Local Veterans Activities

JANUARY / FEBRUARY / SPRING

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

### UPCOMING AWARDS CEREMONIES

**Veterans Awards Banquet**

**Gainesville High School JROTC**

**Eastside High School JROTC**

**UF ROTC Duane Dewey Award**

**GATOR NATIONALS** / March 16-19

**RELAY FOR LIFE CANCER WALK** / April 28



**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 / Gen. James A. Van Fleet Chapter 267

Kirby Stewart, Commander / [dfl.kwva.org](http://dfl.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  
Frank Glassford**

**Judge Advocate  
John Marsh**

**Jr. Past Commandant  
William Cona**

**Paymaster  
Janis Beal**

**Adjutant  
Tony Akers**



**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

SPRING CONFERENCE is April 22-29, 2017 at Safety Harbor FL. See web-site for details.

The INJURED WARRIORS FUND OF FLORIDA has now disbursed over **\$83,000** to 83 needy combat injured warriors.

The SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM this year has now awarded **\$500** each to over 42 recipients (2016-17).

The LEADERSHIP PROGRAM at the 2017 Spring Conference is expecting **60** participants. Training will be held on Thursday and Friday.

The BOY SCOUTS (EAGLE) PROGRAM awarded **40** more Good Citizenship Awards (Oct-Dec 2016).

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.

UPDATED JAN 2017 \*\*\*



## MCL National Information

NATIONAL MID-WINTER CONVENTION 2017 will take place at Fredericksburg VA on March 2-4. 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 has announced there were 39,471 homeless veterans in 2016, a decrease of 47% since 2010. Of these, 13,000 were unsheltered, a decrease of 56% since 2010. Florida had 2,902 homeless veterans in 2016, a decrease of 26.1% since 2015.

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.

MCL Marines Helping Marines website:  
[www.marineshelpingmarines.org](http://www.marineshelpingmarines.org)



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

**James Laskey**

#### Executive Director

**Thomas Hazlett**

#### Adjutant/Paymaster

**-vacant-**

#### President, MCL Auxiliary

**Deborah Evans**



### 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