



### 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

# GATOR ALMAR

MAY - JUNE 2017



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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## 2017 MEETINGS & EVENTS

### MAY

- 1 MCL-VVA SOCIAL**
- 16 MCL Staff Meeting
- 20 ARMED FORCES DAY**
- 23 MCL Regular Meeting
- 27 MLYM Breakfast
- 27 Micanopy Vet Memorial**
- 29 MEMORIAL DAY**

### JUNE

- 5 MCL-VVA SOCIAL**
- 13 MCL Staff Meeting
- 14 FLAG DAY**
- 24 MLYM Breakfast
- 27 MCL Regular Meeting**

### JULY

- 3 MCL-VVA SOCIAL**
- 4 Independence Day**
- 18 MCL Staff Meeting
- 22 MLYM Breakfast
- 25 MCL Regular Meeting**

### AUGUST

- 7 MCL-VVA SOCIAL**
- 15 MCL Staff Meeting
- 22 MCL Regular Meeting**
- 26 MLYM Breakfast

### SEPTEMBER

- 4 MCL-VVA SOCIAL**
- 19 MCL Staff Meeting
- 23 MLYM Breakfast
- 26 MCL Regular Meeting**

## Gator 990 Detachment Activities

### MCL Gator Detachment 990 Challenge Coins Available



These are being sold as a Detachment fund raiser. \$10.00 each.  
See Scott DuPree. Anthony Marquez is off to join the Denver Broncos.

### SPEAKERS AT OUR APRIL MEETING



#### Kim Smith Davis, Director, Alachua County Veterans Services

If you need any assistance with veterans benefits contact the Alachua County Veteran Services office. 218 SE 24th Street, Gainesville 32641 / 352-264-6740. Web-site is listed on p. 5.

#### Michelle Dunlap, Executive Director, Pets & Patriots Foundation

If you know of a veteran who needs a service dog contact Michelle. 352-226-0228 / [petsandpatriotsfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:petsandpatriotsfoundation@gmail.com) / [petsandpatriotsfoundation.org](http://petsandpatriotsfoundation.org)

### 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.

Your Commandant, Semper Fi

## Gator 990 Detachment Information

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER**  
**Captain Kenneth Magee [Honorary Member]**  
**Marine Officer Instructor, UF NROTC**

**\*\*\*STAFF MEETING FOR JUNE MOVED TO JUNE 13\*\*\***

**BIRTHDAY BALL MEETING** May 24 at 6:12 at the hotel restaurant  
**MC BIRTHDAY BALL WWI PHOTOS NEEDED.** If you have photos of  
 family or friends who served in WWI scan and email them to Sandy at  
[SaundraGolden@gmail.com](mailto:SaundraGolden@gmail.com)

**RELAY FOR LIFE CANCER WALK**  
**Our contributions totaled \$638.00**  
**A big thank you to all our members who contributed**  
**individually or through the 50/50**

**SERVICE HOURS 1st Quarter 2017 / 117 hours**

**50 / 50** will be held at every meeting and the funds will be used to support specific causes. When no cause is supported the funds will go to the 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**

**MAY 23  
 JUNE 27**

**6:00  
 Social & Supper**

**7:00  
 Meeting**

**Dinner will be**

**MEAT LOAF**

**Side Dishes  
 are needed.**

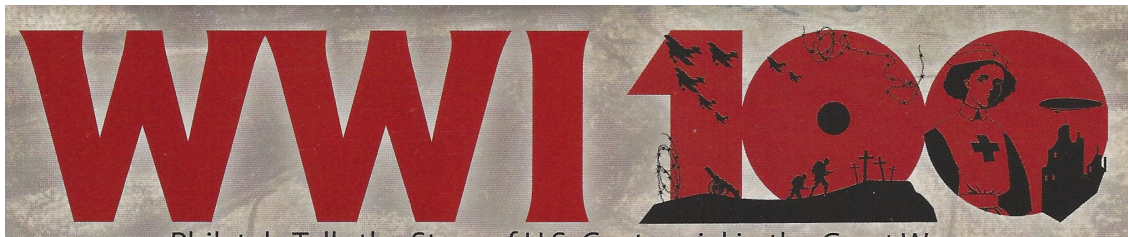
## History & General Information

### Marine Corps History - MAY

**MEXICAN WAR 1846-1848** / Although fighting started in April, at the request of President James Polk a U.S. declaration of war against Mexico was passed on **MAY 13, 1846**. This two year war resulted in the annexation of lands now known as Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Utah (Texas was annexed in 1845 and this is one of the reasons fighting broke out). Still serving its traditional roles with the Navy, the Marines did not have a significant role; however, they did participate in several landings along side the Navy and Army. A major battle for the Marines was the Battle of Chapultepec in September 1847, which resulted in "the Halls of Montezuma" lyrics in the Marines' Hymn.

**WORLD WAR I JUNE 1917** / Having declared war in April and with an increase in strength approved, the month of **MAY 1917** saw a significant Marine Corps recruitment effort. There was no need to reduce its recruitment standards as there were more volunteers than were needed. Throughout the war only 60,189 volunteers were accepted out of the 239,274 who tried to enlist in the Marine Corps.

Recruitment training took place at newly established depots. In use since 1891, **MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT PARRIS ISLAND** was officially established in 1915. **MARINE BARRACKS QUANTICO (now MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO)** was established in 1917. **MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO** was established in 1919.



### 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.

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



Sponsored by:  


**MCL / Local Veterans Activities****MAY / SPRING**

**MCL - VVA SOCIAL** / 1st Monday each month at 5:30. Check website for location.

**ARMED FORCES DAY / MAY 20** / No Detachment activities planned.

**MICANOPY VETERANS MEMORIAL CELEBRATION / MAY 27** / Detachment Color Guard will participate in this event. Participants should be there at 1:00. Event starts at 2:00.

**MEMORIAL DAY / MAY 29** / Detachment tent will be set up. Set up starts at 9:00 and the event is 11:00-12:00 with a free BBQ lunch afterwards. Forest Meadows East, Hawthorn Road.

**MILTON LEWIS GRAVESITE CEREMONY / MAY 29** / Following Memorial Day event this ceremony will be held at Evergreen Cemetery 2:00.

**Gainesville High School JROTC. May 19**

**MC Birthday Ball Meeting. May 24**

**Micanopy Veterans Memorial Ceremony / Parade. May 27**



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

**ALACHUA COUNTY VETERANS SERVICES**

Kim Smith Davis, 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 AMERICA / 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

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

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.

**Ardie R. Copas State Veterans Nursing Home** in St. Lucie County has been funded and work should begin this Fall on the 120 bed facility. Construction should be completed in 18-22 months.



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)

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



[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**



[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