



# GATOR ALMAR

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 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)

### 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



## 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
- 00 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

### OCTOBER & NOVEMBER EVENTS

**ALACHUA FALL FESTIVAL** was October 16 at 9:00-5:00. We had our MCL tent up and had four volunteers for this event.

**MARINE CORPS BAND** (The President's Own) performed at the Phillips Center October 18 at 7:30.

**ALACHUA FLAG RAISING** with our MCL Color Guard attending will be held October 22 (time TBD) in front of the old police station on Main Street.

**VETERANS DAY CEREMONY** will be November 11 at 11:00-12:00 with our MCL tent setup starting at 8:30. It will be held at Veterans Memorial Park on Tower Road.



**MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BALL** is progressing nicely. Tickets are now just about sold out, so do not hesitate to get your tickets soon. The guest speaker will be Drum Major MSGT Duane F. King. For his bio see the Birthday Ball page on the GatorDet website.

### 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**



**VETERANS DAY**  
**NOVEMBER 11, 2016**



**GatorDet  
 Regular Meeting**

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

**OCTOBER 25  
 NOVEMBER 22**

**6:00  
 Social & Supper**

**7:00  
 Meeting**

**Dinner will be  
 FRIED 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 2016 / 144 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 MEMERSHIP 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 - OCTOBER



**5 October 1775** Word “Marines” used on one of the earliest known occasions at a meeting in Philadelphia during second Continental Congress. General George Washington gave orders for the “proper encouragement to the Marines and seamen” for their service on U.S. armed ships.

**31 October 1919** Marines and Gendarmes took over the headquarters of the Haitian bandit chief Charlemagne Peralte, killing him and dispersing his followers. Sergeant Hanneken and Cor-poral William William Button were awarded the Medal of Honor.

**6 October 1945** Major General Keller Rockey accepted the surrender of 50,000 Japanese troops in North China on behalf of the Chinese Nationalist government.

**11 October 1951** A Marine Battalion was flown to a frontline combat position for the first time during Operation Bumblebee, northeast of Yanggu, Korea.

**28 October 1962** One week after the Marine Corps was put on alert, the 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade left Camp Pendleton for the Caribbean during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Also, the 1st and 2nd Marine Divisions were sent to Guantanamo Bay to reinforce those already there. Other units were deployed to Key West, Florida.

**23 October 1983** The BLT headquarters building was destroyed in Beirut, Lebanon killing 220 Marines as well as others.

### 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

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



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

### OCTOBER / NOVEMBER

**VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK** renovation has started. If you would like to contribute to this effort, you may send a check to the Veterans Memorial Committee, 3415 NW 46th Place, Gainesville FL 32605.

Military Order of the Purple Heart (Chapter 0823 / Gainesville) will present 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. It is \$125 per player or \$500 per team. Contact Stephen Dodd 386-336-2663 or Tom Hennessey 703-362-0610.

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** will be 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 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

FALL CONFERENCE is October 6-9, 2016 at Palm Beach Gardens FL. See the website for details.

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

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