



# GATOR ALMAR

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 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

### SEPTEMBER

- 16 Stand Down
- 16 MIA-POW Day
- 20 MCL Staff Meeting
- 24 MLYM Breakfast
- 27 MCL Regular Meeting

### OCTOBER

- 6-9 State Fall Conference
- 16 Alachua Fall Festival
- 11 MCL Staff Meeting
- 18 MC Band Performance
- 22 MLYM Breakfast
- 22 Oak Hammock Pickup?
- 25 MCL Regular Meeting

### NOVEMBER

- 5 MC Bday Ball
- 10 Color Guard-Micanopy
- 15 MCL Staff Meeting
- 22 MCL Regular Meeting
- 26 MLYM Breakfast

### DECEMBER

NO MEETINGS

## Gator 990 Detachment Activities

### SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER EVENTS

**STAND DOWN** was September 16 (also **MIA-POW DAY**). We once again, in cooperation with Hitchcocks Markets, distributed 150 bags of food to the homeless veterans. We had about a dozen bags left at the end and these were donated to Vet Space.

**ALACHUA FALL FESTIVAL** is October 16 at 9:00-5:00. We will have our MCL tent up and need volunteers for this event.

**MARINE CORPS BAND** (The President's Own) will perform at the Phillips Center October 18 at 7:30. Tickets are free but are almost gone. Contact Jim who has some or contact the Phillips Center.

### NOVEMBER EVENTS



**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**



**EAGLE SCOUT  
RECOGNITION CEREMONY**  
was held at our August Meeting.

**21 Eagle Scouts from our local  
communities were honored with  
the MCL Good Citizenship Award.**



**GatorDet  
Regular Meeting**

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

**SEPTEMBER 27  
OCTOBER 25**

**6:00  
Social & Supper**

**7:00  
Meeting**

**Dinner will be**

**LASAGNA**

**Side Dishes  
are needed.**

**SERVICE HOURS:**

**January - June 2016 / 615 hours**

(compared with 363 hours for January—June 2015)

**July - September 2016 / 173 hours**

(with the Stand Down tally still to go)

**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 - SEPTEMBER



**24 September 1873** / Marines and seamen from the USS Pensacola and Benicia landed at the Bay of Panama, Columbia to protect the railroad and American lives during the revolution.

**2 September 1945** / Japanese officially surrendered to the Allies on board the battleship Missouri in Tokyo Bay. The senior Marines Corps representative at the ceremony was Lt Gen Roy S. Geiger, Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific.

**15 September 1950** / The First Marine Division landed at Inchon and began the Inchon- Seoul campaign. On 25 September the 1st and 5th Marines attacked Seoul and the city was captured on 27 September.

### 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**

### SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER

**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.

**VIETNAM TRAVELING MEMORIAL WALL** will be in Dunnellon at the Erie Mill Park September 29 through October 2.

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.

#### 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

[dfi.kwva.org](http://dfi.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

The ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION took place at Tulsa OK on 7-12 August 2016. See the national website for information on this Convention.

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.)

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.



[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**

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.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