



# GATOR ALMAR

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 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

### AUGUST

- 7-12 National Convention
- 16 MCL Staff Meeting
- 23 MCL Regular Meeting
- 27 MLYM Breakfast
- 27 MCL Garage Sale

### SEPTEMBER

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

### OCTOBER

- 16 Alachua Fall Festival
- 18 MCL Staff Meeting
- 22 MLYM Breakfast
- 22 Oak Hammock Pickup
- 25 MCL Regular Meeting

### NOVEMBER

- 5 MC Bday Ball
- 15 MCL Staff Meeting
- 22 MCL Regular Meeting
- 26 MLYM Breakfast

### DECEMBER

NO MEETINGS

## Gator 990 Detachment Activities

### AUGUST & SEPTEMBER EVENTS

**GARAGE SALE** is August 27. Setup begins at 5:30 and the sale lasts until 1:00 / 2:00. It is at the Alachua Storage Facility on 441 just south of the UF Progress Park which is just south of Alachua. We only have 3 storage units now, but they are stuffed. **We also have a truck load of items at Jim's house and these need to be loaded into the storage facility truck on the day before the sale August 26 / Friday). This will be done 1:00-2:00.** Help Friday if you can, but definitely on Saturday at the sale.

**STAND DOWN** is September 16 (also **MIA-POW DAY**). This will be at the Martin L. King, Jr. Center at 1028 NE 14th Street (behind the VFW Post on Waldo Road) 9:00-2:00. We will once again, in cooperation with Hitchcocks Markets, be distributing food to the homeless veterans. The attached flyer has more details about this event.

### NOVEMBER EVENTS

**MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BALL** is progressing nicely. Tickets are now available on our Detachment website. Believe it or not, seating space is filling up fast, so do not hesitate to get your tickets soon.

### Commandant's Message:

**WE STILL 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 know so we can maintain our membership database.

Your Commandant, Semper Fi

**Gator 990 Detachment Information**



**EAGLE SCOUT  
RECOGNITION CEREMONY**

18 Eagle Scouts from our local communities will be honored with the MCL Good Citizenship Award.



**GatorDet  
Regular Meeting**

First United  
Methodist Church  
14805 NW 140 St.  
ALACHUA

**AUGUST 23  
SEPTEMBER 27**

**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 - August 2016 / 60 hours**

(with the Garage Sale still to go)

**Gator 990 Detachment Positions Needed**

Color Guard Alternates (contact Dave Nettles)

Memorial Bricks Assistance (contact Jim Yakubsin)

Eagle Scout Council Liaison (contact Scott DuPree)

Veterans Court Mentors (contact Jim Yakubsin)

**DUES INFORMATION**

Since 2014 our dues have been \$40 for renewals and \$45 for new members (**Regular and Associate**). This was done to cover increased dues at the National and State level.

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 - AUGUST



**24 August 1814** Marine detachment from the Marine Barracks, Washington DC fought in the battle of Bladensburg for the defense of the national capital. They held off three charges before being encircled and forced to retire to avoid capture. Marines had 8 killed and 14 wounded.

**7 August 1942** Guadalcanal campaign began. It lasted until February 1943 and was the beginning of a long island hopping fight to reach Japan. The Marines had nearly 3,000 wounded and over 1,100 dead during the battle.

**21 August 1968** PFC James Anderson, Jr. was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism in Vietnam while serving as a rifleman in February 1967. This was the first Medal of Honor presented to an African American Marine.

**23 August 1984** Last Marines to serve peace keeping duty in Lebanon arrived home. The 24th Marine Amphibious Unit left Beirut on 31 July. This marked the last presence of U.S. combat troops in Beirut since Marines entered two years earlier.

**7 August 1990** U.S. military troops were ordered to Saudi Arabia as part of a multinational force to defend that nation against possible Iraqi invasion. One week later the Marine Corps announced a commitment of 45,000 Marines to the Persian Gulf as part of Operation Desert Shield

### 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.

The logo for Milton Lewis Young Marines. It is a circular emblem with "MILTON LEWIS YOUNG MARINES" around the top and "GAINESVILLE FL" around the bottom. In the center, there is a globe and the motto "SEMPER PARATUS".

**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

A black and white portrait of a young man in a Marine uniform, wearing a garrison cap and looking slightly to the right.

Specialist by:

The Marine Corps League logo, featuring a globe and an eagle.

## Local Veterans Activities



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

### AUGUST / SEPTEMBER

**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. Or you can use a credit card at [gofundme.com/kanapahamemorial](http://gofundme.com/kanapahamemorial)

**U. S. COAST GUARD** celebrates its 226th anniversary on August 4. Congratulations to our smallest armed service.

**U. S. MARINE CORPS RESERVE** turns 100 years old on August 29. Semper Fi to our Reserves!

**PURPLE HEART DAY** is August 7. It is the oldest military award in the U.S. Prior to this award (April 1917), the Badge of Military Merit (a heart made of purple cloth) was awarded.

#### 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

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

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