



GatorDet Staff

- **Commandant**
Dick Lester
- **SrVice Cmdt**
Bob Curti
- **JrVice Cmdt**
Michael O'Brien
- **JrPast Cmdt**
Scott DuPree
- **Adjutant/Paymaster**
Bob Curti
- **Judge Advocate**
John Murdoch
- **Sergeant at Arms**
Eric Kidwell
- **Chaplain**
Mary Hildebrand
- **Quartermaster**
Tom Sklens
- **Public Affairs Officer**
Nicholas Rucarean
- **Historian**
Steve Homewood
- **Librarian**
Anne Zecca
- **Social Director**
Sandy Golden
- **MCL Web**
Scott DuPree
- **Master Chef**
Michael O'Brien

GATOR ALMAR

Gator Detachment 990, Marine Corps League
PO Box 358772, Gainesville FL 32635-8772
Editor: Vernon Kisling / 352-273-2865 / vkisling@ufl.edu

***** ADDRESS ABOVE IS THE NEW ADDRESS *****

MCL GatorDet 990 In The News

MC League Gator Detachment 990 was featured in the magazine *Senior Times* [May 2011, pp. 22-24] with an article titled, *Heroes... Then and Now: The Marine Corps League's Gator Detachment 990* by Janice C. Kaplan. It is a great story about our community projects, the MCL Young Marines and the MC Birthday Ball. Included are some photos the author took while attending one of our MCL meetings. If you would like a copy of the magazine, contact Nicholas Rucarean, who was responsible for getting this PR for the Detachment or the publisher, Tower Publications here in Gainesville.

Thanks to Nicholas for getting our story out to this magazine.



By-Laws, 2011–2012 / New Adjutant Paymaster

BY-LAWS ARE APPROVED BUT NEED TO BE MODIFIED

New By-Laws were voted on and approved at our January meeting; however, the MCL Florida Department requested editorial modifications and these were discussed at our June meeting. These will be voted on at our August meeting. Once the MCL Florida Department approves our revised By-Laws, a couple of items that we wanted in the By-Laws will be appealed in an effort to get them placed back in our By-Laws. These By-Laws are available on our website:

<http://www.gatordet.com/Bylaws.html>

If you missed the discussion, have any questions about them, or any comments please notify our Judge Advocate, John Murdoch.

ADJUTANT / PAYMASTER POSITION

Past Adjutant / Paymaster Bob Barnas has several commitments he needs to attend to in the coming year and will not have the time needed to devote to this position. Bob Curti will fill this position until the next election of GatorDet Staff.



FUTURE MEETINGS

16 Aug / 6 PM / Staff
23 Aug / 6 PM / Regular

20 Sep / 6 PM / Staff
27 Sep / 6 PM / Regular

18 Oct / 6 PM / Staff
25 Oct / 6 PM / Regular



"Marines aren't all tough guys with hard hearts. We're suckers for kids and animals."
Col. John Folsom
[See story to the right about Smoke]

Veterans Memorial Bricks

The dedication of the brick pro-gram was held at the Veterans Memorial near the entrance to Alachua City Hall. It was a well attended event. But don't forget that bricks can still be added. Use the form that is linked at <http://www.gatordet.com/bricks.html>

New bricks will be dedicated at follow-up annual events.

Please send your form and your payment directly to the brick pro-gram committee chair, Jim Yakubsin, 15135 NW 174th Avenue, Alachua FL 32615.



Meritorious Unit Accommodation

MCL Gator Det 990 was presented with a Meritorious Unit Accommodation award by the Department of Florida MCL.



This award is for exceptional and active service, especially with community service projects.

Department Meritorious Unit Commendation

Smoke

Smoke has a new home in Omaha. He was adopted as a mascot by Marines stationed near Ramadi in Iraq, but had to be left behind when the unit came home. Retiring commandant Col. John Folsom was able to arrange to have Smoke transported the 7,000 miles from Iraq to Omaha where he will serve as a therapy animal for wounded soldiers in the Omaha area. See the Colonel's remarks in the quote to the left.

Photo by Associated Press



Recent MC History

NEW COMMANDING OFFICER
FOR PARRIS ISLAND.

Brigadier General Lori Reynolds is the new Commanding General, Eastern Recruiting Region, MC Recruit Depot, Parris Island as of June 2011. She was commissioned in May 1986 upon graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy.

She has held many positions since then and her full biography can be found at
<http://mcrdpi.usmc.mil/leaders/CG.asp>



Photo by U.S. Marine Corps



Past MC History for the Month

WAR OF 1812 / August 1814
Lead by Captain Samuel Miller, a detachment from Marine Barracks, Washington fought in the battle of Bladensburg for the defense of the national capitol.

WW II / August 1942
The 2nd Marine Raider Battalion landed on Makin Island and destroyed the Japanese seaplane

base, two radio stations and a supply warehouse.

KOREA / August 1950
First Marine aviation mission of the war raided enemy installations near Inchon.

VIETNAM / August 1968
PFC James Anderson, Jr. was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor—the first presented to

an African American Marine. He was a rifleman with the 3rd Marines.

LEBANON / August 1984
The 24th Marine Amphibious Unit left Lebanon—the last Marines to serve peace keeping duty in this country—arrived home

MC Birthday Ball

BIRTHDAY BALL - SAVE THE DATE

This year's MC Birthday Ball will be held 12 November 2011 at the Paramount Plaza Hotel. More details will follow in the coming months.

Lt. General John W. Bergman (Retired) will be our Guest of Honor.

Tickets (not yet available) will be \$32

See program ads form in this newsletter or on the website at http://www.gatordet.com/BallAdForm2011_b.pdf



GatorDet Regular Meeting Location

American Legion Post 16

Social 6 PM Meeting 7 PM

[Fourth Tuesday of each month]

DIRECTIONS to American Legion Post 16

North Gainesville just before NW 6th Street meets 441 / NW 13th Street—turn right at the former Rancher store. This road will curve to the right. Then turn left into the AL Post 16 parking lot



www.GatorDet.com

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.

Marine Corps League

Gator Detachment 990
PO Box 358772
Gainesville FL 32635-8772



GatorDet.com

2011 Annual Marine Corps Birthday Ball
November 12, 2011
Paramount Plaza Hotel
Gainesville FL

Celebrating 236 Years of Excellence in Warfighting

Proceeds will allow us to continue our missions locally to support Marines and their families. We support troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. We support the youth in the Young Marines program. We provide support at patriotic community events, patriotic speakers for schoolchildren, and support the veteran community with our leadership. Your support for us is appreciated.

"Once a Marine, Always a Marine"

- 1. Quarter Page.....\$30.00
(Size = 2 3/4" x 4 1/2")
- 2. Half Page.....\$50.00
(Size = 3 3/4" x 4 1/2")
- 3. Full Page.....\$90.00
(Size = 7 3/4" x 4 1/2")

Company Name

Contact Person

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone Number

Member Selling The Ad

This year's event will host Marines and members from both the Gainesville area as well as the Lake City area.

Place an ad:

- * For your business
- * In Honor of someone special
- * In Memory of one to be remembered
- * As a personal statement of your support

(This upper section is the actual size of our Half Page Ad)

(This dotted section is the size of our Quarter Page Ad, just right for business cards)

(The full length of these sections demonstrate the size of our Full Page Ad)

**Please submit Camera-Ready
B/W Art with Ad Placement
Deadline November 4, 2011**

Mail to the detachment address below
OR submit artwork by email to Scott
DuPree at ssgtd@cox.net.

Make checks out to:
Gator Detachment 990, MCL

MAIL completed form to:

Gator Detachment MCL
P.O. Box 358772
Gainesville FL 32635-8772