



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



Commandant: Dick Lester / richardlester@windstream.net
386-462-1192 / 352-339-6197 (cell)

Senior Vice Commandant: Bob Curti / 352-384-0173 / rcurti@cox.net

Editor: Vernon Kisling / 352-273-2865 / vkisling@ufl.edu

Commandant & Past Commandant Message

Looking ahead to 2012

I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year. We had a good 2011 so lets see if we can make it better in 2012. As you all know General Meetings have been changed to the 4th Saturday of every month. The Milton Lewis Young Marines breakfast is the same day so why not help support them and have breakfast at 0900 before the general meeting at 1030. We changed the meeting time to accommodate those of us that have night driving problems and cannot make the evening meetings. I would personally like to thank all who helped make our Toys for Tots program a great success. We helped make Christmas better for over 4,000 children in Alachua County. OHH-Rah. See you all at the Post. Semper Fi, Dick

Detachment Fundraisers: Help raise money for Unit

As sponsor of the Milton Lewis Young Marines, we donate \$300 each quarter in support of the kids in that program. We also recognize the achievement of kids in a local junior ROTC unit as well as a major leadership award for the University of Florida's ROTC unit. These very worthy awards and monetary support require our MCL unit to raise these funds. We have a couple of opportunities coming up and we are calling for member support.

GATORNATIONALS

We will once again work with the firm in charge of security at the annual NHRA Gatornationals which will be held March 8-11. We will need

several people for Thursday March 8 and many volunteers for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. These shifts vary from 9 to 11 hours. The firm will pay our unit \$8 per hour for your service. Typically, we need 10-15 volunteers per day. All volunteers will be trained and assisted by supervisors at the event. I will have more information from EKG Security after they have their January planning meetings. This is an opportunity for our unit to receive some much needed funding. We will be assisted in filling positions by the Military Support Group and their group will receive the money raised by their members.

PARADE OF HOMES

We are still waiting in the wings to see if this one will happen, but if it does The Parade of Homes may use volunteers for their check-points. It is a job where you sit at a table under an umbrella and say Hi to people, sell them tickets if they need them, or just answer questions (you get an information sheet). Typically a shift is two people working for 3 hours. The event will go from April 21-29. Shifts are on weekday evening and weekend days. The group typically receives a flat donation (like \$400 per site and we like to get two sites). Again the support Group will help us fill spots. More MCL members means more MCL funds raised.

Think about helping. If interested, send an email to me (ssgtd@cox.net) or call my cell (359-6211) and leave a message.
Semper Fi, Scott



FUTURE MEETINGS

JANUARY

17 MCL Staff Meeting
28 MCL Regular Meeting
& YM Breakfast

FEBRUARY

21 MCL Staff Meeting
25 MCL Regular Meeting
& YM Breakfast

MARCH

20 MCL Staff Meeting
24 MCL Regular Meeting
& YM Breakfast

2012 MEETINGS

Will be held on the
4th Saturday of each
month. Breakfast
starts at 9:00 and
\$5 cost benefits our
Young Marines.
The meeting will start
at 10:30. Location is
the VFW Post 2811
on Waldo Road.

Toys for Tots



Another successful Marine Corps holiday tradition. Some 200 donation boxes brought in toys for over 4,000 children in Alachua County with the help of the Gator Detachment 990, MC Reserves, Milton Lewis Young Marines, SWAG, United Way and the Salvation Army.

Photos / Gainesville Sun

Marine Corps History

January

25 January 1856 / Marines and seamen from the U.S. sloop DECATUR went ashore at the village of Seattle, Washington to protect settlers from Indian raids.

21 January 1918 / The 1st Aeronautical Company arrived at Ponta Delgada, Azores, for anti-submarine duty—one of the first completely equipped American aviation units to serve overseas in World War I.

18 January 1951 / 1st Marine Division began mopping-up operations against guerrillas in the Pohang area, South Korea.

20 January 1968 / The second battle for Khe Sanh began when Marines from 3rd Battalion, 26th Marines attacked a North Vietnamese battalion between Hill 881 and Hill 881 North.

16 January 1991 / Operation Desert Shield became Operation Desert Storm as forces of the allied coalition launched an air campaign against targets in Iraq and occupied Kuwait in an effort to liberate Kuwait.

29 January 1991 / First serious ground fighting of Operation Desert Storm broke out when Iraqi troops mounted an attack into Saudi Arabia. Saudi and Qatari troops, supported by artillery from the 1st Marine Division and attack helicopters and other allied coalition aircraft, recaptured Khafji two days later.

10 January 1995 / The Pentagon announced that 2,600 Marines would be deployed to Somalia for Operation United Shield to assist in the final withdrawal of UN peacekeeping troops from Somalia.



NEW meeting time and place will begin in JANUARY.

Fourth Saturday of each month

**9:00 AM breakfast
10:30 AM meeting**

VFW Post 2811

**GatorDet
Regular Meeting
Location**

**VFW Post 2811
1150 NE Waldo Rd**



Nomination and Election of New MCL Officers

JANUARY

Nominations will be made



FEBRUARY

Elections will be held



MARCH

New Officers will be posted

**NEW LOCATION
AND TIME IN
JANUARY**

This change is to benefit those who do not like to drive at night. Hopefully this will be more convenient for everyone.





MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
GATOR DETACHMENT 990

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.

Marine Corps League

Gator Detachment 990
PO Box 358772
Gainesville FL 32635-8772