



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



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Marine Corps Birthday Ball 2011

If you were not at the Ball this year, you really missed a treat! We had a great time. The food was good, the ceremony was good, the music was good and the beer was free.

Our Guest of Honor, LtGen John W. Bergman, USMC (Ret) is an outstanding person. In a very personable style, he delivered a message about our Marines of today and his appreciation for the Marines of yesterday.

The evening also included a raffle with some very nice gifts, a Young Marine of the Year award to YM SgtMaj Marisa Richardson of the Milton Lewis Young Marines, a great deal of celebrating with each other and lively dancing to the music of DJ Bill Hipp. A photographer captured photos portraits for our guests as well as photos of the event. They can be

found online. The internet address for those photos is found below.

We want to thank the 26 Marines and guests that attended from the SgtMaj Thomas H. Griggs, Jr. Detachment in Wellborn (west of Lake City). I know they had a great time and we certainly were glad to count them as our brothers and sisters on this event.

If you missed it this year, mark Saturday November 3, 2012 on your calendar for our next ball. You'll be glad you did.

Semper Fi. Scott DuPree,
Chair, Birthday Ball Committee.

MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BALL PHOTOS THROUGHOUT NEWSLETTER.

Newsletter Photos: Vernon Kisling

For professional photos of the Ball use link listed below.



MC BALL PHOTOS CAN BE VIEWED AND/OR PURCHASED AT <http://www.raulfernandezphotography.com/rfp/gator-detachment-990.html>





FUTURE MEETINGS

NOVEMBER

6 / Liberty Fest
12 / MC BALL
15 / MCL Staff Meeting
22 / MCL Regular Meeting
26 / ML Young Marines
Breakfast

DECEMBER

****No Meetings****

JANUARY

17 / Staff Meeting
28 / Regular Meeting
****NOTE NEW DATES****

2012 MEETINGS

Will be held on the last 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.

Message From District 2 Vice Commandant

Greetings to all. In November we commemorate the Marine Corps, Veterans and those first Americans who established the colonies and our country. It gives us the chance to stop and remember how thankful we are on those occasions for what we have.

I am thankful for being in the Marine Corps League. I have met so many people, younger and older, that share the title "Marine" (including our Marine Corpsmen) and we are part of the Marine family. And I am thankful for those Associate members who work so hard in support of our missions. While we have units at the local, state and national level, those are just offices that do the business. The Marine Corps League isn't offices—it is YOU and me, each and every member. Without members, the League is nothing.

When a new member joins, one of the worst things we can do is ignore them. We don't do it on purpose. We stay in our comfort zones and talk to our friends. Quite by accident, we send an unspoken message to that Marine or new friend—"we don't want you here". Wow. We didn't know we were doing that. But we do.

So upon meeting a new member or someone returning to the meetings, take the time to say hello and tell them who you are and that you are glad they are here. And if you are the one who invited them to the meeting, sit with them and be their guide for a few months or until they are comfortable. We want them to be a part of our group—make sure they get that message.

During November, December and January, I hope everyone has the very best of holidays. And I ask that you remember the only things the Marine Corps League can do is what you the members are willing to do. Use your talents. If you are a leader, lead. If you are a follower, follow. If you are a good worker, work. If you are compassionate, visit Marines in the hospital. If you are short on time but can contribute money to the cause, invest in your Corps, your League. Work Together. GUNG HO. Semper Fi, Scott DuPree.



MARINES
THE FEW. THE PROUD.



MCL Related News

DETACHMENT revised by-laws were passed at the September meeting. Contact Judge Advocate John Murdoch if you have any questions about this. By-laws are posted on our website.

MILTON LEWIS YOUNG MARINES members will be attending the 70th anniversary Pearl Harbor remembrance this December. / www.miltonlewisyoungmarines.com

Toys For Tots

It is that time of year again. Contact Eric Kidwell if you can help or if you need boxes for collecting toys.

To keep current on Toys For Tots activities and events refer to <http://gainesville-fl.toysfortots.org/local-coordinator-sites/lco-sites/default.asp>



NEW meeting time and place will begin in JANUARY.

**Last Saturday of each month
9:00 AM breakfast
10:30 AM meeting**

**VFW Post 2811
1150 NE Waldo Road**



GatorDet Regular Meeting Location

**American Legion
Post 16**

**Social 6 PM
Meeting 7 PM**

NOVEMBER ONLY



**NO MEETING IN
DECEMBER**



**NEW LOCATION
AND TIME IN
JANUARY**

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





TOYS FOR TOTS program is getting under way. Stay tuned for more news on this year's efforts.

Coordinator is Eric Kidwell.

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

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