



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
- **Quartermaster**
Tom Sklens
- **Sergeant at Arms**
Eric Kidwell
- **Chaplain**
Mary Hildebrand
- **Public Affairs Officer**
Nicholas Rucarean
- **Historian**
Steve Homewood
- **Librarian**
Anne Zecca
- **Honor Guard**
Joe Vasquez
- **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

Marine Corps Birthday Ball—Plan Now For Fun Evening

It is not too early to be thinking about the MC Birthday Ball.

It is time to buy tickets and to send in ads for the program.

MC is 236 years young!



By-Laws, 2011–2012 / Need New Fund Raising Chair

BY-LAWS NEED TO BE APPROVED

New By-Laws need to be voted on and approved. The MCL Florida Department requested editorial modifications and these have been made. 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 put them 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.

FUND RAISING CHAIR IS NEEDED

GatorDet 990 needs a fund raising chairman to develop events and projects that can raise money for the Detachment and the efforts that we support. This is a very important position. If you are interested, please contact Dick Lester or Bob Curti.



FUTURE MEETINGS

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

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

12 Nov / MC BALL

15 Nov / 6 PM / Staff
22 Nov / 6 PM / Regular



*"Tell that to the
Marines!"*

*President Franklin D.
Roosevelt after the
attacks on Pearl
Harbor*

Marine Corps Birthday Ball



Formal commemoration of the birthday of the Marine Corps began on 10 November 1921. That particular date was chosen because on that day the Second Continental Congress resolved in 1775 to raise two battalions of Continental Marines. On 21 October 1921, Maj Edwin McClellan, Officer-in-Charge, Historical Section, Headquarters Marine Corps, sent a memorandum to Major General Commandant John A. Lejeune, suggesting that the original birthday on 10 November 1775 be declared a Marine Corps holiday to be celebrated throughout the Corps. Maj McClellan further suggested that a dinner be held in Washington D.C., to commemorate the event. Guests would include prominent men from the Marine Corps, Army, and Navy, and descendants of the Revolution. Accordingly, on 1 November 1921, MajGen Lejeune issued Marine Corps Order No. 47, Series 1921. The order summarized the history, mission, and tradition of the Corps, and directed that it be read to every command on 10 November each subsequent year in honor of the birthday of the Marine Corps.

On 28 October 1952, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., directed that the celebration of the Marine Corps Birthday be formalized throughout the Corps, and provided an outline for the cake ceremony, as well as other formal observances. This outline was included in the Marine Corps Drill Manual, approved 26 January 1956.

At present, celebrations of the Marine Corps Birthday on 10 November differ at posts and stations throughout the Corps. All commemorations include the reading of Marine Corps Order No. 47, and the Commandant's message to those assembled. Most commands sponsor a Birthday Ball of some sort, complete with pageant and cake ceremony as prescribed in the Marine Corps Manual.

Like the Corps itself, the Birthday Ball developed from simple origins to become the polished, professional function that all Marines commemorate on 10 November around the world.

Marine Corps Birthday Ball



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**

Now that is a cake. It is not possible to determine precisely when the first cake ceremony was held, but there is evidence of a ceremony being held at Quantico, Virginia, in 1935 – See photo on page 2. In 1951, a formal Birthday Ball Pageant was held at Headquarters Marine Corps. Similar to the pageant today, the script described the Marines' period uniforms and the cake ceremony. Although this is the first substantive record of a pageant, *Leathemeck* magazine of 10 November 1925 pictures Marines at a pageant in Salt Lake City, Utah, which had taken place "several years ago."

BIRTHDAY BALL - SAVE THE DATE - TIME TO BUY TICKETS & BALL ADS

This year's MC Birthday Ball will be held 12 November 2011 (Saturday) at the Paramount Plaza Hotel.

More details of the event will follow in the next Gator ALMAR.

**LT. GENERAL JOHN W. BERGMAN (RETIRED) WILL BE OUR
GUEST OF HONOR.**

Tickets \$32 and are now available at our meetings or online

<http://www.gatordet.com/ball2011.html>

See program ads form in this newsletter (prints fuzzy) or online

http://www.gatordet.com/BallAdForm2011_b.pdf



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

NOTE: Form to the right is an Adobe Acrobat object. Right click on it and select <Adobe Acrobat Document Object> then click <Open>. This is the only way I can get the form to print full size and clearly. All other attempts to include this form in the newsletter have resulted in fuzzy copies.

 <p>GatorDet.com</p>	<p>2011 Annual Marine Corps Birthday Ball November 12, 2011 Paramount Plaza Hotel Gainesville FL</p> <p>Celebrating 256 Years of Excellence in Warfighting</p> <p>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.</p>
	<p><i>"Once a Marine, Always a Marine"</i></p> <p>1. Quarter Page\$30.00 (Size = 2 1/2" x 4 1/4")</p> <p>2. Half Page\$50.00 (Size = 3 1/2" x 4 1/4")</p> <p>3. Full Page\$90.00 (Size = 7 1/2" x 4 1/4")</p> <p>Company Name _____</p> <p>Contact Person _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City/State/Zip _____</p> <p>Phone Number _____</p> <p>Member Selling The Ad _____</p> <p>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 DuFree at sagid@cox.net.</p> <p>Make checks out to: Gator Detachment 990, MCL</p> <p>MAIL completed form to: Gator Detachment MCL P.O. Box 358772 Gainesville FL 32635-8772</p>
<p>This year's event will host Marines and members from both the Gainesville area as well as the Lake City area.</p> <p>Place an ad:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * For your business * In Honor of someone special * In Memory of one to be remembered * As a personal statement of your support <p><i>(The upper section is the actual size of our Half Page Ad)</i></p> <hr/> <p><i>(The detail section is the size of our Quarter Page Ad, just right for business cards)</i></p> <hr/> <p><i>(The full length of these sections demonstrate the size of our Full Page Ad)</i></p>	