



27 Dec 2017

From: Young Marine Liaison, Florida Department Marine Corps League  
To: George Lamont, Commandant Florida Department Marine Corps League  
SUBJ: YOUNG MARINE REPORT 4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER 2017

1. The State of Florida has one Regiment, 4 Battalions and 20 Young Marine Units. The State of Florida has 562 Young Marines and 178 registered adults. In addition, we have 36 recruits.

2. The 1<sup>st</sup> Florida Regiment continues to pave the way in being drug free and assisting veterans in numerous ways.

3. **Community Service**: The 1st Florida Regiment Young Marine Units have performed more than 67,700.5 hours since December 1, 2016, of which Young Marines performed 29,046.6 hours and registered adults performed the other 38,664.9 hours. Over 50,000 hours of community, service was directly related to, Veterans activities during this period. This averages out to 91.5 hours per person.

4. **Drug Demand Reduction**: The 1st Florida Regiment Young Marine Unit's Drug Awareness Training has amassed more than 10,037.27 hours since December 1, 2016, of which Young Marines performed 7,784.45 hours and registered adults performed the other 2,252.27 hours. This averages out to 13.6 hours per person.

5. **Donations/Support/Scholarships**: During this period, the Regiment's units have donated several thousand dollars to distraught veterans and veteran's organizations. In addition, the 1<sup>st</sup> Florida Regiment has formed their own scholarship program which to date has provided more than forty \$500 scholarship to Young Marines applying for education above the high school level.

6. **Marine Corps League relationship with Young Marine Units**: The number of Detachments that are working with local Young Marine Units is 26 Detachments out of 51 Detachments supporting 19 of 20 Young Marine Units.

## 7. Special Events:

- The 1<sup>st</sup> Florida Regiment hosted their Adult Leaders conference and Senior Young Marine symposium from 20 – 22 October in Orlando, FL. Guest of Honor was George Lamont, MCL Department of Florida Commandant
- The 1<sup>st</sup> Florida End of Year Awards were as follows:
  - Young Marine of the Year: YM MSgt Michaela Cantwell, Emerald Coast Young Marines
  - Unit of the Year: Atlantic Coast Young Marines, Jacksonville, FL
  - Registered Adult of the Year: Linda Gionet, Orlando Devil Dog Young Marines
- Young Marines participated in the first Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) DDR Dash on 28 Oct 2017
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Young Marine Division Winner for Registered Adult of the Year was Linda Gionet, Orlando Devil Dogs
- Young Marines participated in Veterans Day Activities
- Young Marines assisted with Toys for Tots
- Young Marines participated and laid Wreaths for Wreaths Across America

8 New Units: YM Liaison is still working on starting several new Young Marine Units in the State of Florida. The newest Unit in Florida is Black Creek Young Marines, Jacksonville, FL working with the General Roy S. Geiger Detachment. We have an approved unit in Pasco County, FL. Ken Soto is finishing the paperwork so they can be active unit.

9. Contact Information: Should anyone have any information may contact me at phone number (407) 963-9388 or by email at [sgtmajgna@earthlink.net](mailto:sgtmajgna@earthlink.net).

JOHN GIONET

*John M. Gionet*



Orlando Devil Dogs performing Color Guard for Wreaths Across America



Imagine at North Port Working Toys for Tots





LCpl Brian R Buesing YM marching in Veterans Day Parade



The Military Order of the Purple Heart; The Badge of Merit 1782 was presented by Richard Hunt (Cmdr., Dept. of Fla); Steve Hilbmann (Cmdr., Chapter 553FL4); and John Hillery (Americanism Officer) to 16 Young Marines from 16 different units who demonstrated leadership roles within YM program and their community