

February 2025 Monthly Newsletter

News & Updates
01 Feb 2025

Website: MCL857.ORG



Get Some!

From Our Detachment Commandant:

Greetings, Marines!

Wow! 2025 hit like a freight train – fast and hard! It doesn't seem like I've stopped running since my feet hit the floor on January 1! No doubt this is a big year, especially for our beloved Corps, and I'm honored to lead this Detachment through the many activities we have on our plate. First, let me thank you for the trust and confidence you placed in me by electing me as your Commandant, and I will work tirelessly to make sure that your faith in me is not taken for granted.

This will be a busy year! This being the 250th Anniversary of our Brotherhood, you would expect big things. We want to do big things in big ways, but we want to make sure we do them right as well. We do not want the Albert E. Schwab name on anything that does not exude excellence! In order for that to happen, we need involvement from you. Your leadership understands that we all have busy lives – jobs, families, other organizations that we are involved in, church. We do not want Detachment activities to

replace what good things you already have going on. But we have a number of committees and activities that at this point are without a leader or anyone to take ownership. As worthy as those activities may be, they will not get done without someone stepping up to take ownership. In the next meeting bulletin, there will be a list of all committees and activities that we currently have on the books. I'm asking that you take a look at them and see if any are of interest to you. If so, let's talk. If it's worth doing, let's do it right.

A big focus for me personally this year are the conferences and conventions. We have a unique opportunity in 2025. All of the conferences and the National Convention are well within an easy drive. The Southern Division Conference is in OKC in March. The Department of Oklahoma Conference is in McAlester in June. The National Convention is in Dallas in August. This may very well be the last time in many years that we have an opportunity such as this. I would like to see a good turnout by the Schwab Detachment at all three of these events. Not only is important business conducted that shapes the direction of the League at these events, but it allows an opportunity to spend time with Marines! The bigger the conference, the more Marines! And we all know what that means!

Of course, the highlight of the year is going to be our 250th Marine Corps Ball on November 1st at the Renaissance Hotel. The room is huge, holding 1,000+! And we are expecting that many. Please plan on being there but also know that an event this big will require a lot more advance planning. If you can be available to help, let the Committee know. One way you can help right now is to let us know if you are in contact with any company that you believe may be interested in sponsoring the Ball. We are ready to move forward with our sponsorship program. You are our keys into the community.

Marines, that's all just the tip of the iceberg! There's still the Rooster Days Parade and Picnic, the Medal of Honor Ceremony, the Wreath Laying at Schwab's Grave, Memorial Day events, Claremore Veterans Center visits, Veterans Day Parade! And on top of that, we want to have fun! We want to get together and just be family, spend time together and enjoy each other's company. And for those ideas, we want to hear from you. My email is cmd@mcl857.org. Fill my in-basket with ideas! I look forward to hearing from you.

Semper Fi!



February Calendar

- 01 Feb: Chosin Few Social
- 03 Feb: Veteran's Breakfast at BBD2
- 06 Feb: All Veterans Association Gathering
- 10 Feb: Veteran's Breakfast at BBD2
- 13 Feb: All Veterans Association Gathering
- 15 Feb: Pearl Habor Survivor's Breakfast Social
- 15 Feb: Tulsey Town Two-Step
- 22 Feb: Detachment Meeting
- 23 Feb: Iwo Jima Flag Raising 80-Year Anniversary
- 27 Feb - 01 Mar: MCL 2025 National Midwinter Conference



Website [calendar](#)



February Event Details

01 Feb 2025 (Saturday)

Chosin Few Social



Northeast Oklahoma’s Chosin Few

Time: 09:00

Dress Code: Civilian Casual

Location: Golden Corral
8144 E 21st St (near 21st & Memorial)
Tulsa, OK 74129
Google [map](#)

What a great time to be alive and witnessing history in the making! And every day is an exciting new day as we also prepare for our second **Chosin Few Breakfast Social** of the New Year which will be

on the **1st of February at 0900** at the Golden Corral on 21st Street and Memorial in Tulsa.

And as we discussed before, we will continue with our open discussions while still honoring specific veterans and their accomplishments. And if you have a specific veteran that you would like to remember and honor, just let me know. We will all be happy to honor them with you!

Our long-range weather forecast is now a flip of the coin! Forecasts are now showing a cloudy day with temps only reaching the low 50s but with rain predicted both the day before and the day after. No matter what the weather does, we're looking forward to another great social time with all.

Semper Fi
Paul McWilliams
918-633-7031

03 Feb 2025 (Monday)

Veteran's Breakfast at BBD2



Time: 08:00

Dress Code: Civilian Casual

Location: BBD2

8218 S Harvard Ave

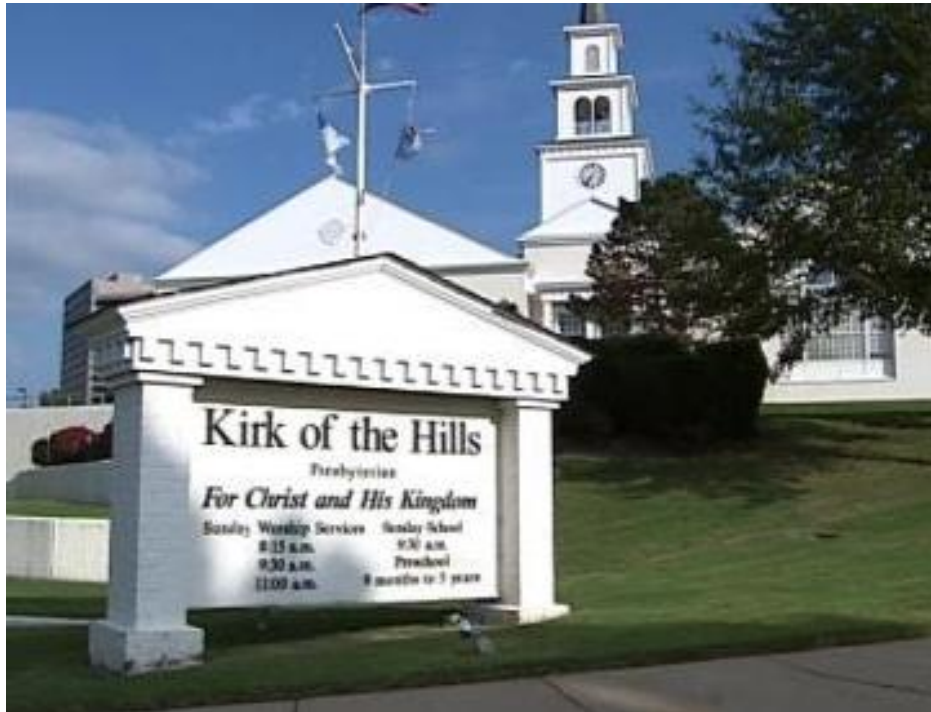
Tulsa, OK 74137

Google [map](#)

Just good eating, coffee, and lots of fun & laughs.

06 Feb 2025 (Thursday)

All Veterans Association Gathering



Time: 09:00

Dress Code: Civilian Casual

Location: Kirk of the Hills Church

4102 E 61st St

Tulsa, OK 74136

Google [map](#)

Guest speaker will be Andy Craig from Medical Transportation Solutions (MASA)

10 Feb 2025 (Monday)

Veteran's Breakfast at BBD2



Time: 08:00

Dress Code: Civilian Casual

Location: BBD2

8218 S Harvard Ave

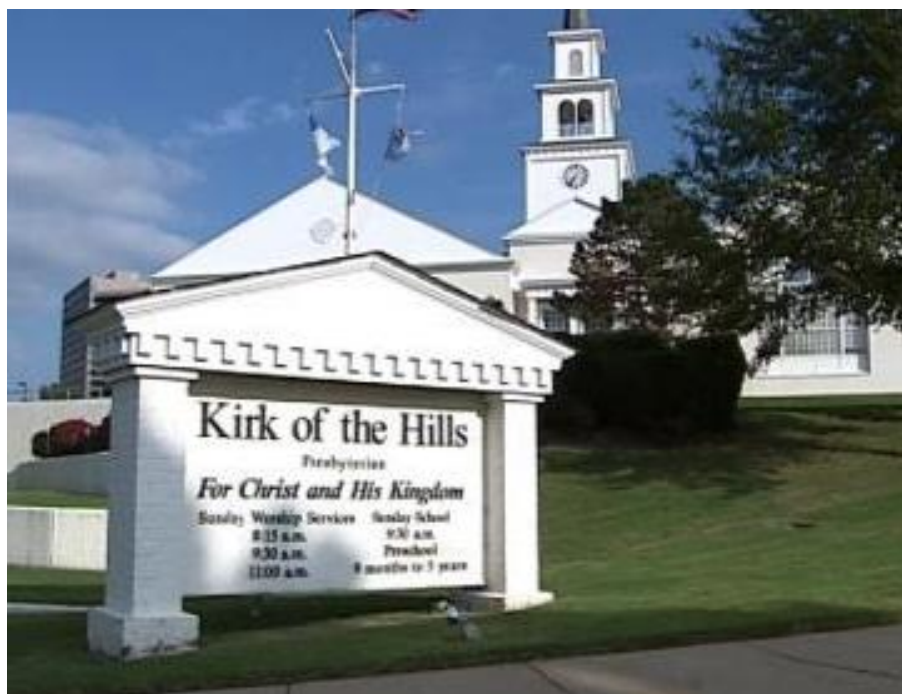
Tulsa, OK 74137

Google [map](#)

Just good eating, coffee, and lots of fun & laughs.

13 Feb 2025 (Thursday)

All Veterans Association Gathering



Time: 09:30

Dress Code: Civilian Casual

Location: Kirk of the Hills Church

4102 E 61st St

Tulsa, OK 74136

Google [map](#)

Guest speaker To Be Announced

15 Feb 2025 (Saturday)

Pearl Harbor Survivor's Breakfast Social



Time: 09:00

Dress Code: Civilian Casual

Location: Olie's Station Restaurant
4070 Southwest Blvd
Tulsa, OK 74107
Google [map](#)

Just good fellowship while honoring our survivors

15 Feb 2025 (Saturday)

Tulsey Town Two-Step

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR

FEBRUARY 15TH
♥ MARDI-TINES DAY ♥

★ DANCE LESSONS PROVIDED ★

Time: 19:00 Doors Open
19:30 Dance Lessons

20:00 Live Music

Dress Code: Country Attire

Location: VFW Post 577

1109 E 6th St

Tulsa, OK 74120

Google [map](#)

All ages are welcome. Country & Western dance lessons kick off the evening!

22 Feb 2025 (Saturday)

Detachment Meeting



**VFW Post 577
1109 E. 6th St.
Tulsa, OK 74120**

Google [map](#)

**Breakfast
08:00 - 09:00
(minimum \$10 donation)**

**Meeting
09:00 - Done**

Can't attend the Meeting in person? Join via Zoom
[Detachment Zoom Instructions](#)

23 Feb 2025 (Sunday)

80-Year Anniversary Iwo Jima Flag Raising



Raising the Flag at Iwo Jima

Taken by [Joe Rosenthal](#) of the [Associated Press](#) on February 23, 1945, the photograph was published in Sunday newspapers two days later and reprinted in thousands of publications. It won the 1945 [Pulitzer Prize for Photography](#) and has come to be regarded in the United States as one of the most recognizable images of [World War II](#).

27 Feb - 01 Mar (Thursday - Saturday)

MCL 2025 National Midwinter Conference



Location: Sheraton Pentagon City
900 South Orme Street, Arlington, VA 22204
Google [map](#)

[CLICK HERE](#) for conference landing page

A note from Randy Rigg, Southern Division Vice Commandant:

At the Mid-Winter conference in February next year a number of members of the Marine Corps League Foundation will be stepping down from the board at the end of their term. The NVC,s were asked to let the membership know that there will be openings on that board and that anyone interested should send in a short resume through their department along with a recommendation letter from the department commandant to Commandant TJ Morgan for consideration. Copy me on those submitted so I can follow their progress.

For more information on the foundation please see their website below:



Marine Corps League Foundation A Non-Profit Agency

Marine Corps League Foundation a non-profit agency. We provide important financial assistance to Marines and their families, as well as other charitable causes

www.mclfoundation.org

[CLICK HERE](#) for the Marine Corps League Foundation website

March Upcoming Events

01 Mar: Chosin Few Social

- Golden Corral (near 21st & Memorial)
- Google [map](#)

- 09:00 start
-

07 Mar: Southern Division Conference


Registration Deadline

Hotel Reservation Deadline

- [CLICK HERE](#) for the Conference Registration form or go to mcl-559.org
- Payment must be made via PayPal
 - Assistance with the form and using Paypal will be available at the 22 Feb 2025 Detachment Meeting
- Hotel Reservations for the Embassy Suites by Hilton Oklahoma City Northwest
 - \$134 per night plus taxes
 - Call 405.842.6633 and use discount code: CESMCL
 - or [CLICK HERE](#) to book online
 - or go to mcl-559.org
-


13 - 15 Mar: Southern Division Conference

- Hosted by MCL Det 559
- Website: mcl-559.org
- Embassy Suites by Hilton Oklahoma City Northwest
 - 3233 Northwest Expressway
 - Oklahoma City OK 73112
- Google [map](#)
- The Southern Division is:
 - Texas,
 - Oklahoma
 - Arkansas



VOTE

Mark Oldmixon
for National Vice Commandant Southern Division




- ★ Assistant Division Vice Commandant Southern Division
- ★ Co-Host The Texas Scuttlebutt Radio Show
- ★ Commandant | 3.5 years Tijerina Detachment #1295
- ★ Judge Advocate | 3 years Department of Texas
- ★ Retired - Fireman and L.E.O Sugar Land / Rosenberg, Texas

ENDORSED BY

PNC Helen Hicks	Past National Vice Commandant Southern Division
Past Department of Texas Commandants	Jim Howington
Charles Ynman	Johnny Gothard
Robert Ogg	
James Harvey	
Patrick Murray	

VOTE

Mark Oldmixon
for National Vice Commandant Southern Division



15 & 16 Mar: R.K. Gun Show

- Expo Square - Tulsa Exchange Center
- Google [map](#)
- 09:00 start

22 Mar: Detachment Meeting

- VFW Post 577
- Google [map](#)
- 09:00 start

22 Mar: Tulsey Town Two-Step

- VFW Post 577
- Google [map](#)
- 19:00 start

25 Mar: Albert E. Schwab Medal of Honor Ceremony

- Tulsa International Airport
 - Google [map](#)
 - 16:00 start
-

April Upcoming Events

05 Apr: Chosin Few Social

- Golden Corral (near 21st & Memorial)
 - Google [map](#)
 - 09:00 start
-

19 Apr: Tulsey Town Two-Step

- VFW Post 577
 - Google [map](#)
 - 19:00 start
-

26 Apr: Detachment Meeting

- VFW Post 577
 - Google [map](#)
 - 09:00 start
-

26 & 27 Apr: Gun Show

- Tulsa Fairgrounds
 - Google [map](#)
-

Last Month's Events

02 Jan - US Mint Commemorative Coins



The coin pressings took place as scheduled on 02 Jan 2025.

Interested in purchasing USMC 250th Anniversary Commemorative Coins?

[CLICK HERE](#)

Proceeds from coin sales support the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation.

04 Jan - Chosin Few Social



Northeast Oklahoma's Chosin Few



Our first social of the year was very successful, we took the time to honor a Vietnam Veteran, Air Force Captain Lance Sijan who was awarded the Medal of Honor for actions as a POW in North Vietnam. The narrative from our presentation and discussion is attached. And as we discussed before, we will continue with our open discussions while still honoring our veterans and their accomplishments during this new year. And if you have a specific veteran that you would like to remember and honor, just let me know. We will all be happy to honor them with you!

Semper Fi
Paul McWilliams
918-633-7031

[CLICK HERE](#) for the Sijan narrative

04 & 05 - Gun Show



The first show of the month was lightly attended, probably due to the holidays; however, Scott Williams and his team got the job done as always.

11 Jan - Feeding the Reservists



Photos of some of the crew who pitched in for our Feed the Reservists fundraiser.

18 Jan 2025 - Detachment Meeting



The Detachment Votes are In!

2024 Marine of the Year

Rus Anderson

2024 Associate Member of the Year

LeAnn Willis

Congratulations to both of these outstanding individuals! They will be presented with their awards at the 22 Feb 2025 Detachment Meeting.

Boy Scout Good Citizen Award for Eagle Scouts

Ron Strothmann discussed the Boy Scout program at the meeting, and will have more to report once he gets additional information from the Council.

Sapulpa JROTC Rifle Competition

Bill Shannon discussed the events taking place in Sapulpa, and he will also have more to report in the near future.

New Membership Approval Process

A recent meeting of the Detachment Officers took place in January prior to the 18 Jan 2025 Detachment Meeting, and it was decided that the Detachment can receive Membership documents and dues payment electronically from prospective Members. Once received and reviewed by the appropriate Officers, the information will be shared with the Membership in attendance at the Detachment meeting after the receipt.

A vote of the Membership in attendance will take place to approve or deny the application. If approved, the Commandant can then conduct the swearing-in ceremony with the new Member via a Zoom meeting (if necessary).

2 New Detachment Members



Chris Schutte's Swearing In

Chris Schutte

Devil Dog Schutte was present at the meeting, and after submitting the required credentials and payment was sworn in as a Member of the Schwab Detachment.

Waco Ashlock

Commandant Anderson notified the Members in attendance that Devil Dog Ashlock has recently submitted all required documents and dues to qualify for Detachment Membership. After calling for a vote, Waco was unanimously approved as a Schwab 857 Detachment Member.

We look forward to learning more about Brothers Chris and Waco at future MCL events.

25 & 26 Jan - R.K. Gun Show

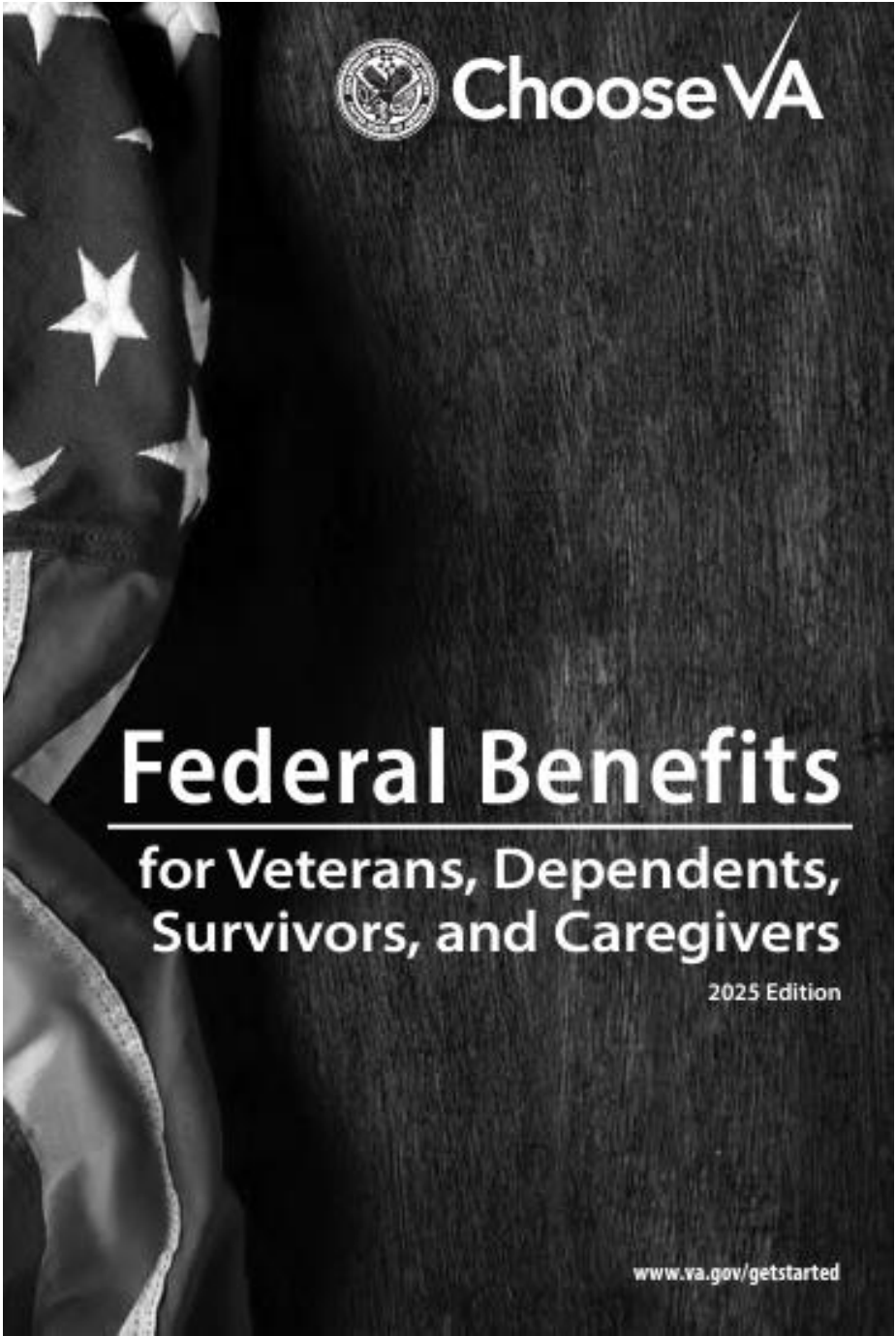


Another successful fundraiser with \$568 in raffle tickets sold during this show.

Steve Williams and his team are some Gung Ho individuals!

More

VA News



Do you know what VA benefits you are eligible for?

[CLICK HERE](#) for the recently-released 2025 Veterans Benefits Guide

More VA Info:

[CLICK HERE](#) for the many ways to reach out for support

[CLICK HERE](#) for the top 10 VetResources of the year for 2024

[CLICK HERE](#) to find out how to apply for VA health care benefits

[CLICK HERE](#) for important information on how to sign in for VA online services designed to help secure your personal data effective 01 Feb 2025

[CLICK HERE](#) for VA resources to help you achieve your New Year's resolutions

Official 2025 Flag-Flying Days



01 Jan: New Year's Day
20 Jan: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
12 Feb: Lincoln's Birthday
17 Feb: Presidents' Day
22 Feb: Washington's Birthday
20 Apr: Easter Sunday
11 May: Mother's Day
15 May: Peace Officer's Memorial Day*
17 May: Armed Forces Day
26 May: Memorial Day*
14 Jun: Flag Day
15 Jun: Father's Day
04 Jul: Independence Day
27 Jul: Korean War Veterans Armistice Day
01 Sep: Labor Day
11 Sep: Patriot Day*
17 Sep: Constitution Day
19 Sep: National POW/MIA Recognition Day
28 Sep: Gold Star Mother's Day
13 Oct: Columbus Day
27 Oct: Navy Day
10 Nov: Marine Corps Birthday
11 Nov: Veterans Day

27 Nov: Thanksgiving Day

07 Dec: National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day*

25 Dec: Christmas Day

*Half Staff

Information Courtesy of the Marine Corps League



Here are the flags I fly at my house.

This photo show my US and USMC flags flying, but occasionally I have to fly my wife's Navy flag instead of the flag of our beloved Corps.

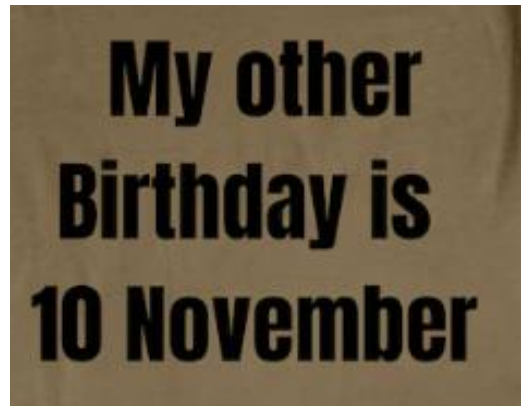
What can I do? My retired Navy Chief wife outranks me...

Email a photo and narrative of the flags flying at your house if you'd like to have them included in an upcoming edition of our Detachment Newsletter.

Detachment Personnel Birthdays in February



Gary Averill (Out of State)
Brenda Baker
Tom Frisch
Anthony Jones
Lorne Kasdin
Joe Menninger, Jr.



Keith Myers
DonJuan Nettles
Roger Scott
John Slike
Charlie Willis

A Birthday Missed in January

Phillip Harmon

Please help us wish Phil Harmon a belated Happy Birthday from last month. Sorry for the miss Devil Dog!

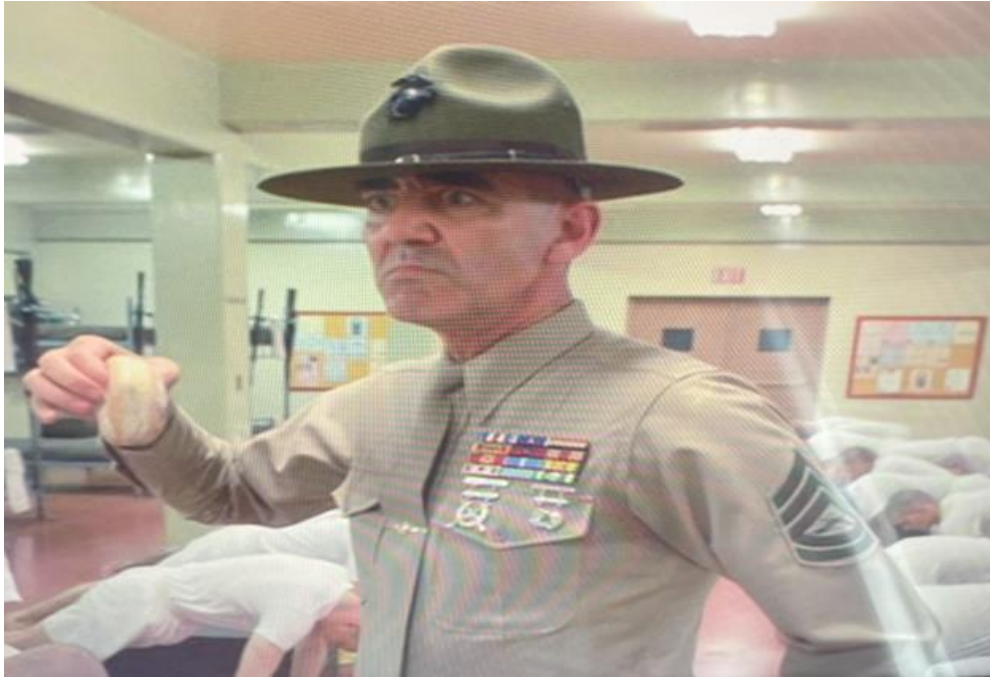
Boot Camp Stress Card



The military Stress Card was a rumored 'Get Out of Jail Free' card said to have allowed recruits to halt their training at will by simply showing the card.

It probably originated with a US Navy 'Blues Card', which was a short-term experiment to inform new Navy recruits about available mental health resources.

**Rest assured,
the Stress Card you see above is an urban legend.**



Mixed-Gender DI Teams



Senior Drill Instructor SSgt Savannah Pizano - MCRD San Diego

Military Times published an article last month announcing that mixed-gender DI teams are now training Marine Corps recruits.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the article.

Armed Forces Vacation Club



A Message from Bob Borka:

FYI regarding travel sale.



This the company on our website.
Respectfully,

Bob Borka
National Executive Director/COO
Marine Corps League

Hi Bob, Hope you are well. Just letting you know we are having a great AFVC FEB SALE kicking off next week. Please promote if you can.

Share new experiences with the one you love or treat yourself with a Resort Vacation Certificate redeemable towards a 7-Night stay for just \$309USD* until February 17th. PLUS, upgrade to Premium and enjoy 40% OFF. Unlock exclusive cruise deals, deeper discounts on resorts, hotels, car rentals, plus so much more. Don't miss out on these unbeatable savings!

Sale Details

- Sale Starts: 2/3/2025
- Sale Ends: 2/17/2025
- Social Media Copy:   Make this Valentine's Day unforgettable with a Resort Vacation Certificate for a 7-night stay at just \$309* until Feb 17th: https://bit.ly/Valentines_Sale_2025. Upgrade to Premium for 40% OFF & unlock even more exclusive travel savings.
- Disclaimer: *Sale ends on 2/17/25 at 11:59 PM ET. This offer applies only to purchases made of Resort Vacation Certificates. Purchases must be completed and redeemed online and are valid towards a one-week (7 nights) stay at an affiliated resort. Certificate includes only accommodations and specifically excludes travel costs, taxes, all-inclusive fees (as applicable), and other expenses that may be incurred. RVCs expire one year from purchase unless provided an extension by AFVC. Upgrades are available and provide access to additional inventory for a fee typically ranging from \$220 USD to \$1400 USD for a 7-night stay and varies depending on resort and selected travel dates. Upgrades available, except where prohibited by law.

† See Premium Membership Rules. Additional terms and conditions apply for some benefits. Must upgrade or renew by February 17, 2025 at 11:59 PM ET to take advantage of offer. Discount will be automatically applied during upgrade process.

- See attached for email

Tracking Link

Marine Corp League
Military Resort Vacation Certificates

Any questions let me know.

A Travel + Leisure Co. brand

Fred Walz, MAJ (Ret)
Affinity Partnerships
AFVC. HVC

C: +1 973.615.9564
Fred.Walz@travelandleisure.com

Follow our Detachment on Social Media:

[LinkedIn](#)
[Facebook](#)

Public Affairs Officer's Contact Info

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Phone: 918.924.6766



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Website: mcl857.org