

# AZ SEMPER FI VETS 'CURRENT EVENTS'

## FROM THE BEGINNING...

"AZ Semper Fi Vets" is a veteran's service organization that was founded by a few Marine Corps veterans in Phoenix Arizona area who "mustered" to watch old war movies. Not knowing what they started, evolved into something very 'Esprit de Corps.' They formed a close-knit group of Marines who meet once a month to talk about the Corps, potluck chow exchange and show military memorabilia and plan events specially to benefit other veterans. This tradition continues TODAY.

## Record Increase for VA Compensation Rates

**Beginning January 2023, the VA will increase compensation payment rates based on the latest cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) announcement, by the largest percentage in over 30 years, 8.7%. [Learn More](#)**

## VA Home Loan Guarantee, Buyers Guide

As a part of their mission to serve Veterans the Department of Veterans Affairs provides a home loan guaranty benefit and other housing-related programs to help you buy, build, repair, retain, or adapt a home for your own personal occupancy. And before you buy, be sure to read the VA Home Loan Buyer's Guide, to better understand the homebuying process and how to make the most of your VA loan benefit. To learn more [click here](#).

## Buckeye, Arizona Veteran Lift Up Event Coming Soon

Save the date for the Veterans Lift Up Event in Buckeye, Arizona at the Odyssey Institute on **March 4, 2023**, from **8-11 AM**. This free, annual event connects veterans from all branches of the military with businesses, organizations and non-profits that offer programs, services and information specifically for veterans. To learn more about the services offered at this event [click here](#).

**The Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation**

For more information contact Kirk Tushaus at 480-540-2575  
or [kirk@mclefaz.org](mailto:kirk@mclefaz.org).

The Arizona Chapter of The Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation invites you to honor our heroes of "The First Gulf War" encompassing "Operation Desert Shield" and "Operation Desert Storm" - the Veterans who fought and served to defeat the Iraqi invasion and occupation of Kuwait. Take this opportunity to meet and thank our Veterans of the First Gulf War for their sacrifices and service to our great nation.

**EVENT**

**The Foundation's 2023 Arizona Kickoff Celebration to Honor Veterans of the Gulf War and Operation Desert Storm**

**HOST**

**Arizona Chapter of The Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation**

**NEW DATE !!!!!!!**

**Friday, June 9, 2023**

**LOCATION**

**Grayhawk Golf Club's Fairway  
House 8620 E. Thompson Peak  
Parkway Scottsdale, AZ 85255**

**TIME**

**5:30-7:30pm**

**ATTIRE**

**Business Casual**

**Hosted food & beverages including heavy appetizers will be served.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**You are invited to honor our Gulf War and Operation Desert Storm Heroes on  
JUNE 9 2023. For more information contact Kirk Tushaus at 480-540-2575  
or [kirk@mclefaz.org](mailto:kirk@mclefaz.org).**

## **Which Veteran ID Card Do You Need?**

Did you know there are four different forms of acceptable Veteran ID cards? The VA has a webpage that explains each ID card type, their necessity, uses, and eligibility requirements as well as how to acquire the card of your choice when you are ready. To learn more [\*\*click here.\*\*](#)

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## **EXPOSURE TO HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS AND MATERIALS**

Find out if you can get disability compensation (monthly payments) and other benefits for illnesses or other conditions, like the ones listed in the link below. These are illnesses and conditions we believe may be caused by contact with harmful chemicals or other hazardous materials while serving in the military.

[\*\*https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/camp-LeJeune-water-contamination/\*\*](https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/camp-LeJeune-water-contamination/)

## **Honorary Diploma Program**

Arizona's Honorary Diploma program recognizes honorably discharged Veterans from World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War, who were unable to complete their high school education. To learn more about the Honorary Diploma

Program [\*\*click here.\*\*](#)

## **Pre-Need Eligibility for Burial at an AVMC**

You can apply to find out in advance if you can be buried at an Arizona Veterans' Memorial Cemetery. This is called pre-registration and it can help make the burial planning process easier for your family members in their time of need. There is no cost for pre-need determination, and it does not obligate the Veteran to be interred at the cemetery. To learn more **click here**.

## **Veteran Services at the Department of Transportation**

The Arizona Department of Transportation provides services to qualifying Veterans including exemptions on taxes and registration fees, waiving the skills test for Commercial Driver License applicants, Veterans' driver license designation, and more. To learn more **click here**.

### ARIZONA STATE Veteran Homes Mission **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Arizona State Veteran Homes is to provide professional skilled nursing and rehabilitative care for the geriatric and chronically ill veteran and dependent/surviving spouses throughout the State of Arizona. Our goal is for each veteran to attain or maintain his or her highest practicable physical, mental and psychosocial well-being.

<https://dvs.az.gov/services/veteran-homes-mission>

**FREE THINGS VETERANS SHOULD NOT MISS**  
(Many Organizations REALLY DO Offer Something for Nothing  
to Those Who Served)

- [LinkedIn offers](#) U.S. veterans a free one-year Premium Career subscription, which includes access to LinkedIn Learning and usually goes for \$39.99 per month or more. LinkedIn Premium, which is widely used by veterans and those in the defense industry, is excellent for job search and renewing contact with comrades.
- [Together We Served](#): The free veteran-only website from the VA provides a way of reconnecting with former service members. Each branch of the military is represented and there are over 1.9 million members.
- [RallyPoint](#): This free platform offers veterans a venue for professional and social discussion, with topics ranging from recruitment to retirement. It has nearly 2 million members.
- [Overstock.com](#) offers veterans **free one-year membership** to Club O, which provides a range of rewards, free shipping and a price-match guarantee. The membership typically costs \$19.95.
- [VetTix](#) provides veterans with free tickets to sporting events, concerts, performing arts and other activities. Recipients only have to pay a small delivery fee. The program has distributed almost 15 million tickets to veterans in all 50 states and Washington, D.C., since 2008, with interest in the program currently far outpacing prepandemic levels.

- Ticket Club, which sells tickets for everything from Broadway shows to top concert tours to the Super Bowl and lots in between, offers [free membership](#) for veterans.
- Veterans get a [free 30-day pass](#) to UFC Gym, which [calls itself](#) “the trailblazer of MMA-inspired fitness.” You receive the perk by mentioning the Harley Davidson Military Program at the [UFC location](#) of your choice.
- Beachbody features popular physical training techniques instructed by virtual coaches. It is a great opportunity to earn money by using the fitness skills the military taught. A [Military Waiver program](#) gives free access for veterans to all the courses and certifications required to become an official Beachbody coach.
- The [Birdies for the Brave](#) program enables veterans to receive free tickets to PGA tournaments.
- Veterans qualify for a free [lifetime pass](#) to all U.S. national parks, national wildlife refuges, and national forests and grasslands, as well as other places managed by a number of federal agencies.
- Drug discounts [VeteranRx](#) offers up to 80 percent off on brand-name and generic prescription drugs for veterans and their families. The program includes more than 35,000 pharmacies around the country, including all major chains. No medical service connection to the VA is necessary.

## NEW T-SHIRTS -AZ SEMPER FI VETS



For more information, TEXT "Sergeant Randy"  
at: 602.565.5926

### HAVE MORE TO ASK OR SAY?

If you want to share your news or events, please feel free to click the following link, [SHARE NEWS OR EVENTS](#) or email: [info@azsemperfivets.com](mailto:info@azsemperfivets.com) .

