

Following is a letter designed to be presented with a coin to someone you do NOT know.

Print and sign your name, if you want, at the end of the letter.

Send us the coin number and the recipient name for our log:
info@moorefoundation.info



Civilian Coin Challenge

Supporting our military without Politics

The *Civilian Coin Challenge* challenges civilians to express their gratitude directly to military personnel by continuing a military tradition of presenting a coin as a badge of honor. The coin represents American civilian recognition of honor, respect, and gratitude to U.S. Military personnel for what they do for every American civilian. The profit from the sale of the *Civilian Coin Challenge* coins will be donated to improve medical care for wounded military personnel.

History of the use of coin as a badge of honor to military personnel

During World War 1, American volunteers from all parts of the country filled the newly formed flying squadrons. Some were wealthy scions attending colleges such as Yale and Harvard who quit in mid-term to join the war. In one squadron, a wealthy lieutenant ordered medallions struck in solid bronze and presented them to his unit. One young pilot placed the medallion in a small leather pouch that he wore about his neck.

Shortly after acquiring the medallions, the pilots' aircraft was severely damaged by ground fire. He was forced to land behind enemy lines and was immediately captured by a German patrol. In order to discourage his escape, the Germans took all of his personal identification except for the small leather pouch around his neck. In the meantime, he was taken to a small French town near the front. Taking advantage of a bombardment that night, he escaped. However, he was without personal identification.

He succeeded in avoiding German patrols by donning civilian attire and reached the front lines. With great difficulty, he crossed no-man's land. Eventually, he stumbled onto a French outpost. Unfortunately, saboteurs had plagued the French in the sector. They sometimes masqueraded as civilians and wore civilian clothes. Not recognizing the young pilot's American accent, the French thought him to be a saboteur and made ready to execute him. He had no identification to prove his allegiance, but he did have his leather pouch containing the medallion. He showed the medallion to his would-be executioners and one of his French captors recognized the squadron insignia on the medallion. They delayed his execution long enough for him to confirm his identity. Instead of shooting him they gave him a bottle of wine.

Back at his squadron, it became tradition to ensure that all members carried their medallion or coin at all times. This was accomplished through challenge in the following manner - a challenger would ask to see the medallion. If the challenged could not produce a medallion, they were required to buy a drink of choice for the member who challenged them. If the challenged member produced a medallion, then the challenging member was required to pay for the drink. This tradition continued on throughout the war and for many years after the war while surviving members of the squadron were still alive.

History of the *Civilian Coin Challenge*

Marcus Luttrell's book "Lone Survivor" forever changed me... it was sobering and humbling, and conveyed a level of sacrifice and sadness that nearly crushed my heart and yet made that same heart so full of pride in our country and our military....the Navy SEALs in particular.

Marcus has a story that talks about being an American, about those who fight for our freedom and safety, and about the existence of true warriors possessing almost inhuman strength of body, mind, and spirit.

After reading his book, I wanted to thank Marcus for being a human representation of the good in this country, for proving that true warriors do still exist and are willing to risk everything for their country, for his unwavering support of his Commander in Chief, and his continued belief in God even through his darkest hours. His book made me understand what a true warrior is someone who does not know how to quit. What he does, along with all other military personnel, allows me to be free, have rights as a woman, and to stay in my country to do the work that I am best at – working with teens and young adults, preparing the next generation to carry on. My father served in the Navy yet I have known since I was young that I was not a good fit for the military. I respect the military, support our troops whole heartedly and support our country doing everything in its power to show appreciation, respect, gratitude and ultimately top-notch care of those who serve.

A while back I began my own tradition of extending my hand to military personnel whenever I see them and thanking them for what they do. I know military personnel can receive very high awards and recognition from their military family however I wished that there was some way a civilian, like me, could express their gratitude with more than a hand shake and a thank you. I learned that the military has a tradition of presenting a coin to personnel as a badge of honor. As a result I designed a coin to be presented to military personnel, representing American civilian recognition of honor, respect, and gratitude to U.S. Military for what they do for every American civilian. I then created a process whereby civilians can purchase the coin and present them to military personnel when they see them and from which the profits will go to improve medical care for wounded military personnel. The result....the *Civilian Coin Challenge*.

Patricia Moore

You are being presented with the *Civilian Coin Challenge* coin for your service in the military. The presentation to U.S. military throughout the country not only sends a message to our military that they are respected, appreciated, and in our thoughts but also will help to provide medical care to those who require it after serving.

Sincerely,

The FH Jr and EJ Moore Family Foundation

**Support our military, show your gratitude, and help the wounded
by spreading the *Civilian Coin Challenge* coins and spreading the word!**

www.civiliancoinchallenge.com

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