

National Second Vice President  
2010-2011 Report

As the National Second Vice President and Editor of the Blue Star Mothers Gazette, I would like to say that it has been enjoyable coordinating with all of our chapters to make sure that your stories were shared with the national membership. It was great to read about all of the wonderful things that our chapters are doing throughout our Great Nation. Sadly not all of these fantastic stories could be published but I would like to thank you all for every article submitted for it is your stories that make the Gazette what it is.

The 69<sup>th</sup> Edition of our Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc., Yearbook was an undertaking that I hold very close to my heart. Genealogy and Image restoration are two of my favorite pastimes' so this project really felt natural to me. This year's annual has 100 full color pages that I hope you will find delightful. Great care was taken to insure that the information provided was true and correct in the final product. Other than the possible typo blunder on the first page of the yearbook, my only disappointments were that so many of the images that were uploaded to the Entourage website were either too blurry or the image resolution was too small for the image to be used. Many of the images were submitted without any information so I was not able to include captions for the photographs and while I realize that the pictures themselves tell a story, for historical purposes this is not the optimal situation.

To try and avoid this problem in the future, I would like to suggest that forthcoming yearbooks be assigned to a committee. I believe it would be an asset to the production of the yearbook if there were a representative for each state or region to assist in gathering the images along with complete information so that captions could be an option. In my opinion a production of this magnitude should be able to fund itself as well as generate a large income in support of our VA Chaplains fund and a state or regional committee member would be able to assist in the advancement of our ad sales.

Ad sales were not as good as previous years. With only \$417.50 generated from ad sales, this year's annual will have to be sold for \$25.00 each just to cover the expense of printing. There was a tie for the ad submission competition and a big "Thank You" goes to the winners who were: Music City Blue Star Moms, TN3 and South Oklahoma City, OK6. The decision was made that these two winning chapters will receive three copies of the 69<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc., National Yearbook.

As the term comes to a close I would like to say that it has truly been a pleasure working with you and it has been a great honor to serve as your 2010-2011 National Second Vice President. I would like to thank each and every one of you for all of your hard work and dedication on behalf of our organization in support of our young men and women in the Armed Forces. Our wonderful saga continues because of you and I know our founding sisters would be so proud to see how far we have come.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joretta Pickard". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with a large initial 'J' and a long, sweeping underline.

Joretta Pickard, OK6