

## CA 12

Sierra Nevada Chapter 12 is located in Nevada County in Northern California.

Our Blue Star chapter has been in operation for approximately six years. We currently have 28 paid members along with associate members, mostly grandmothers and a few dads. We have had up to 35 members in past years. A few of our mothers have served in the military and one is currently on active duty. Since being chartered, membership has included three “two star” moms and a “three star” mom.

During our first year, our chapter was instrumental in raising the Department of Defense blue and gold star flag above our county complex. In addition, our chapter participated in the re-dedication of our Veteran’s building and the installation of a Blue Star By-Way plaque.

Each year, we participate in the local Veteran’s Day and Memorial Day ceremonies and provide floral wreaths. Chapter 12 also marches in our local Independence Day and Constitution Day parades. Cheers and applause from parade goers provide encouragement to the moms carrying banners of their soldier children.

Our Chapter regularly assists a local group to pack and send care packages to our soldiers abroad. Each year, at our County Fair, we display our Chapter’s scrapbooks. The scrapbooks contain a page for each mother and her soldier-child along with photographs of all our activities. The scrapbooks are on display this week at our County Fair.

Our Chapter has also attended and presented Gold Star flags at funerals; we have given speeches at local service clubs and have been interviewed by our local radio station. One of our largest projects was for each mom to write an essay about their soldier-child for our local newspaper. The layout was printed on two full pages and it appeared on Mother’s Day.

One of our favorite bi-yearly projects is to clean brass plaques mounted on freeway bridges and underpasses honoring 14 local soldiers lost in Viet Nam. After cleaning, each plaque is decorated with a bouquet of yellow roses. Our Chapter is currently working with local authorities and the state to gain permission to mount five more plaques honoring more recently fallen soldiers.

We have also collected items to provide Easter baskets to children of military families and helped with toy assembly for Marine Corps’ Children’s Christmas party.

The women of this chapter have dedicated themselves to support the military, support our children and support each other. We know we can call on each other during difficult times and are there to welcome new moms as we understand what they are going through.

### **Meetings:**

The Sierra Nevada Chapter 12 of the Blue Star Mother’s of America meet on the fourth Saturday of each month at 10 AM for breakfast at Paulette’s Country Kitchen in Grass

Valley, California. A business meeting is conducted followed by sharing and group support.

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Submitted by:  
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