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**FunD Night**

Big Dipper’s objective is to sponsor a FunD Night which is held, traditionally held during Convention for both National and Department. This event is held at the request or permission of the Big Dipper President and the President of the parent organization. This is a time to promote harmony, goodwill, cooperation and fellowship, not just among Big Dipper members, but among all BSMA. This event is also a way to garner more **money for the educational assistance fund**, which comes from the **dues of Big Dipper members and any possible donations.**

Each event has a theme. At the 2007 National Convention it was “Heroes of WWII”, in 2008 it was “Pajama Party”, and at the Michigan Department Convention in 2009, it was a “Costume Party”. Among the many activities held on FunD Night the last few years has been a silent auction. Chapters and individuals are encouraged to collect items and donate them to be sold. The bidding goes on throughout the evening during the other activities and then about 30 minutes before the evening ends, the bidding is closed and the winners are announced.

Camaraderie and fun for all Blue Star Mothers helps the Big Dipper Auxiliary to fund the Josephine Calenda Educational Assistance Fund.

For Information

please contact us at:

**president.bd@bluestarmothers.us**

Please “Like” our Facebook page

[www.facebook.com/BigDipperAuxiliary](http://www.facebook.com/BigDipperAuxiliary)

**Donations Always**

**Appreciated**

A Non-profit 501(c)3 Organization

**Blue Star Mothers**

 **of America, Inc.**

**Big Dipper Auxiliary**

**Big Dipper**

**History & Purpose**

The Big Dipper is a national auxiliary of Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc. (BSMA) that came into being in Milwaukee, Wisconsin November 7 at the 1951 National Convention. **The objectives of the organization are threefold:**

* **Honoring outstanding members of the BSMA**
* **Sponsoring a “Fun Night” at conventions**
* **Providing educational assistance** to a worthy child(ren), grandchild(ren) of BSMA or Veteran; a Veteran, or active duty personnel or BSMA or their spouse**.**

The emblem is a flat bottom dipper with a long handle, used on all stationery and worn as a guard pin, attached to the pin of the parent organization.

 Pins are $10 and may be ordered from

Big Dipper National Financial Secretary.

**Be a Part of**

**Big Dipper**

* Must be a member of Blue Star Mothers of America, INC. (BSMA) in good standing.
* Membership dues ($10.00) shall be paid using the official forms found on and printed from

 [www.bluestarmothers.us](http://www.bluestarmothers.us)

 and submitted through local BSMA Chapter’s Financial Secretary.

* Annual Dues of $10 are payable on September 1st of each year.

Membership applications, dues and remittance forms, shall be supplied (upon request) by the Big Dipper National Vice President

**Educational**

**Assistance**

Education is the key to success. The members of the Big Dipper will award educational assistance annually to a worthy son/daughter, grandson/ granddaughter of a BSMA or Veteran; a Veteran, active duty service member, or BSMA or their spouse.

The money will be sent directly to recipient of the award, so they may use as needed.

Educational Assistance applications must be returned to the Big Dipper National President or Big Dipper Department President **no less than 30 days prior to first day of convention** to be eligible for consideration by the Educational Assistance Committee (EAC).

The EAC will be appointed by the Big Dipper President as soon as possible following the annual Convention.

Contact National Big Dipper President at president.bd@bluestarmothers.us or visit our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/BigDipperAuxiliary](http://www.facebook.com/BigDipperAuxiliary)