

BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA, INC.



April 2022



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Hello Everyone,

I cannot believe this year is almost over.

It has been such an honor to serve as your National President. I think this may have been the fastest year of my life. I have so much to be thankful for, I am truly blessed.

We are very busy getting ready for Convention. Keep an eye out for the Call to Convention. It should be coming out in the next week or so. The Convention Chairs have been working hard to be sure it is a great conversation!

The last Convention Chatter was released on May 9th. Be sure to check your emails.

All the links are available online for the registration, Big Dipper, the fundraising raffle, Convention sponsors, vendor registration and the dinner cruise.

SOS: We are looking for a California Chapter that is driving to Convention that has an American Flag and a BSMA flag with bases to hold them.. We are also looking for the Branch flags and a POW flag. Please let me know if your Chapter can help with any or all of these requests.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL IN LONG BEACH!

Dinner Cruise



SPIRIT CRUISES

Yacht: Motor Yacht Spirit
Proposed Charter Date: TUESDAY, JULY 26th, 2022
Charter Time: 7 – 9:30 PM (6:30 PM Set-up Time – 4-Person Max)
Departure Location: DOCK 9, SHORELINE VILLAGE, LONG BEACH

Parking Fees w/Validation: \$2 for First 2-Hours
Thereafter; \$ 2 for Each Subsequent 20-Minutes or Fraction- Parking Fee Average: \$10 Cash or CC
Basis - Parking Fees Controlled by Shoreline Village Management

Note: We recommend guests arrive at least 30-minutes prior to departure time listed above. Guests may enjoy walking throughout popular boardwalk areas and village shops

Occasion: Post-Conference Social (Conference at LB Hilton)
Guaranteed Guest Count: 40
Maximum Guest Count: 125

Menu Selection: FIESTA PARTY BUFFET w/Black Tablecloths
Make-Your-Own Taco, Tostada and Burrito Bar, Shredded Beef, Chicken Taquitos, Black Beans, Spanish Rice, Chips & Salsa, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Onions, Green Chilis, Guacamole & Sour Cream
w/Complimentary Mini-Cupcakes Added to Above Menu (reg. pricing for this addition would be an additional \$ 3 p/p to the above menu pricing)

Bar: Cash Basis – No Minimum
w/Complimentary Blended Margaritas, Soft Drinks & Coffee

Price: \$50.00 Per Person



from your Finance Committee

May 2022

Chapter Grant Program

The fiscal year Chapter Grant Program is still open and accepting applications. The total approved budget was \$5,000 for this year with the award allocation being 50/50 between existing and new chapters. We have awarded nine new chapter grants and five existing chapter grants so far. This leaves an opening for one more new chapter and five existing chapters to apply for funds this fiscal year. I would encourage all chapters to get their application in as soon as possible.

The purpose of the Chapter Grant Program is to allow new and existing chapters an opportunity to apply for a \$250 grant. New chapters may use these funds to help offset their start up expenses (licensing, registrations, P. O. Box, etc.). ***New chapters may apply within one year of their chartering and be considered as a new chapter for the allocation of the grant funds.*** Existing chapters may apply to assist with a particular program or event expense that they are planning. There is a limit of one grant per chapter per fiscal year and a chapter may not apply more than once every two years.

A copy of the application is provided in this newsletter and is also available on the national website. Applications must be submitted to the Finance Committee for approval. The grants are on a first come, first serve basis and will be available until all of the budgeted grant funds are exhausted for any given year.

So . . . put on your thinking caps as to how your chapter could use the funds and fill out your application!!

You are welcome to contact me with your comments or questions at any time. If there are matters that you would like addressed in future "Support" memos, please send those to me as well.

Julie Straw,
National Finance Chairwoman
FinanceChair@BlueStarMothers.us





APPLICATION FOR BSMA CHAPTER GRANT PROGRAM

Chapter Name, State and Number _____

Chapter Address _____

Chapter President _____

Chapter President Phone Number _____

Chapter President Email _____

Check One: New Chapter Existing Chapter

REASON FOR GRANT – Please be specific – i.e. chapter start-up, coats for veterans.

This application is to be submitted to the Chairman of the Finance Committee for approval.

FinanceChair@BlueStarMothers.us

EMAIL

Upon approval, a check will be forwarded to the address listed above. Other than chapter start-up grant, please furnish a picture to the Finance Chairman at FinanceChair@BlueStarMothers.us upon completion of your grant project.

For Finance Committee Use Only:

Approval Date: _____

Date Check Sent: _____

Date Pictures Received: _____

SAVE AS

PRINT

Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaigns. Blue Star Mothers of America (BSMA) has successfully facilitated fundraising campaigns through the CFC and we are currently active in the 2021-2022 campaign to raise funds for our organization.

The mission of the CFC is to promote and support philanthropy through a program that is employee focused, cost-efficient, and effective in providing all federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all.

Pledges made by Federal civilian, postal and military donors via our CFC/OPM #34583 identification will help BSMA raise funds for our missions.

We respectfully request Chapters and Departments to post the CFC donation information on their websites and members to include in your correspondences. Also, please share this important information with your friends and family members who are employed by the federal government.

Blue Star Mothers now part of the CFC!



If you are a federal employee, postal worker or member of the U.S. military, please consider donating to us through your Combined Federal Campaign.

Our CFC/OPM is 34583



SWEATS FOR OUR VETS

VAVS CONVENTION PROJECT 2022

This is an exciting project we will be putting together, as a team, on Wednesday of our convention week. Our Long Beach VA will be the Recipient of this year's project. The VAVS Chief has told us they need Sweatpants. Unisex Size Medium – 2 XL. When our veterans leave the Hospital they sometimes have no clean pants at all.

The goal is to have a clean and new pair of sweatpants for each Veteran.

Please go to your chapter at this month's meeting and request they donate to the Convention VAVS project whether they plan on attending or not.

When you order your sweatpants on line you can have them sent direct to The Blue Star Mom who is local to Long Beach.

Contact me, Doreen, vavs.deputy@bluestarmothers.us , for the address to ship.



**SAVE THE DATE—VAVS Training on
Zoom, Sunday June 5th, 2022, 7 P.M. EST
Watch your email for invite**

**GOLD STAR BANNER
PRESENTATION
COAST FLORIDA 15**



On April 26th our chapter had the honor of presenting a Gold Star Flag to Rose Marie May. She lost her child in 1984 and had never been presented a Gold Star Flag. Thanks to the efforts of Keith Ham, Florida Survivor Outreach Services, the presentation was planned. The ceremony was held in New Smyrna Beach and presented at the New Smyrna Beach Rotary Club luncheon. Ms May waited 38 years for this presentation. The Gold Star Flag was presented by First Coast Blue Star Mother's President, Rose Preddy. Chapter members able to attend this Solemn ceremony were Rose Preddy, Amanda Quiroz, and Angela Wood. Ms May was Overwhelmed with emotions at finally receiving the Gold Star



Western Slope Blue Star Mothers - CO8

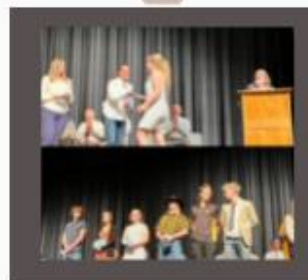


May Chapter Happenings



1st Annual Military-Bound Graduation Picnic

We had an incredible turn out for our first annual Military-Bound Graduation picnic. We had 21 graduates, along with their families, attend. A fun afternoon was spent getting to know the recruits and their families.



It has been a busy graduation season attending our local high schools honoring the young men and women who have made the commitment to serve our country. Honor cords were given to each recruit to wear during their commencement ceremonies.



Blue Star Mothers of Coastal Carolina and friends, packed and shipped 104 APO Easter Hero boxes for our deployed Service Members on March 19th. Each box was full of goodies including Peeps and Jelly Beans.

On April 15th, Blue Star Mothers of Coastal Carolina and friends, packed and shipped 80 APO Hero Boxes filled with Girl Scout Cookies, donated by the SC Girl Scout Council. Each box held 11 packs of assorted cookies and was shipped to deployed Service Members around the globe!



On April 21st, Blue Star Mothers of Coastal Carolina held a Pancake Supper Benefit at FlapJacks Pancake Cabin in Garden City, SC. The Moms and Dads, served and cleaned! And had a Blast, plus raised over \$2000 for Hero Box shipping!

Gulf Coast FL 12

GCFBSM - FL12 found a unique opportunity to get the word out about our chapter! The "S.S. Twinkle" was our chapter's entry in the Cape Coral Cardboard Boat Regatta sponsored by the Cape Coral Rotary Club. Members Holly Hogue, Anne Stuart and Jan Nordquist designed and built the boat that won 2nd place for Team Spirit, and Kelly Welborn powered through to first place in the single paddler event. Awesome job, ladies!



OHIO BUCKEYES CHAPTER 26

Our group has been working on a few projects, planning and organizing as we all do but more importantly we've enjoyed getting to know each other better. The support of other military moms is so important especially for the new moms. We're attempting to recruit new members to join us by getting the word out about who the "Blue Star Mothers" are and what we do.

We have been offering support to one of the Chaplains on a remote Army base whose soldiers have been struggling with mental health issues. We have provided the Chaplain with small gift bags that he can distribute to those that are struggling and just need to know that someone cares. We have also stocked his coffee and snack cart with goodies that the soldiers can enjoy free of charge if they want to stop and chat with the Chaplain and have a snack or two. It's just a small act of kindness that can change a persons' day.

The Valor Home located in Lorain, Ohio helps homeless veterans transition into permanent housing. We have committed to work with them throughout 2022 by providing donations and hosting a picnic this summer. We're still planning other events for later in the year.





Southwestern Pennsylvania PA16

Chartered October 19, 2017

Monthly meetings: Mission BBQ Restaurant
Robinson Township, PA



Attended: National Vietnam War
Veterans Day ceremony



Honored to spend time with Veterans from
VFW Post 5111 in Mt. Washington



March meeting:
Collected donations
and packed
200 care packages
for deployed troops



April meeting: Blue Star Mothers with special meeting guests
Polly Bozdech-Veater, Retired Captain-US Navy and Michael, an active-duty sailor

Leslie Majocka, President ; Cindy Lauderbaugh, 1st Vice President ; Debra Ridgway, Financial Secretary ;
Sue Selga, Treasurer ; Beverly Majocka, Recording Secretary ; Leslie Stewart, Corresponding Secretary

Buckeye Military Moms OH 9



As always, our months are filled with activities and events, keeping us all busy!

Earth Day found members greeting veterans at our local VA medical center, handing out treats, snacks, hand sanitizer, and even flower seeds!



A couple of days later, members attended the Department of Ohio's North/South Conference. This is a wonderful gathering of the Ohio Chapters and the members, with break-out sessions, speakers from *Leashes of Valor*, and even kicking off a statewide fundraiser!

April saw much preparation and organizing as we got ready to and then packed boxes to send to deployed troops as well as bags to distribute to homeless veterans.



Teamwork makes the dream work!

Our month continues to keep us busy as we present graduation honor cords to local high school seniors who are entering the military, other military and veteran events, and getting ready for a Memorial Day parade (look for future pictures!).

Best wishes to everyone!

SACRAMENTO BLUE STAR MOMS

APRIL 2022



RiverCats

Every Chapter knows how hard it is to raise funds each year. Four years ago the SBSM received the opportunity to raise funds by working the concession stands at the Sacramento RiverCats baseball games. It's a lot of work, but worth the return.

Saying Good-bye to Anna

Anna Angland has moved to Texas to start a new adventure. Anna joined the SBSM when her son joined the Navy. Anna served on the SBSM Board for three (3) years as Treasurer. Good-luck Anna!



Red, White & Blue Bunco

In April, the SBSM held another amazing Bunco event fundraiser. Thank you to everyone who brought food and raffle prizes, sold tickets and supported the event.

Quilt

Congratulations to Tracey for winning the beautiful quilt.



Hometown Hero Remembered

Fallen Marine, Nicole Gee, was honored at a softball game at her Alma Mater, OAKMONT HS, where she also played softball. The SBSM were in attendance to support the family.



BLUE STAR MOTHERS SE WI 2



MAY 2022 NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Events

May 26th-28th -Field of Flags

May 26th -Westlawn Flag
Installation

May 29th - Union Grove
Veterans Ceremony

June 11th - City of Appleton
Flag Day Parade with Chapter 1

June 21st - June meeting with
guest Sister Sarge

June 25th or July 16th - Kenosha
Brat Fry Fundraiser (tentative)

July 23rd-24th- Milwaukee Air
& Water Show



In early April members attended a remembrance ceremony for PVT Robert “Mick” Milo Rakow, who passed away in 1971 while home on leave at the age of 20 years old. At the time of his passing he was an Active Military service member, and his family met the requirements of a Gold Star family, but was unfortunately overlooked. Members of our group were honored to participate in a bleated Gold Star Ceremony and presented the Gold Star to PVT Robert M Rakow’s 91 year old mother.

Our April Cooking class Fundraiser was a delicious success. Participants experienced a front row class, followed by a delicious meal. Fun, food & laughter was enjoyed by all. The next highly anticipated class will be in October with a Halloween theme!



At our April meeting we had guest speaker Gary from a local VFW join us before his move to TX. Gary has been responsible for the annual flag display for Memorial Day at a local cemetery. In recognition for his years of dedication & in working with our group he was gifted with a beautiful wood Flag.

The US Navy Band performed in a late April concert at a local high school in Kenosha, WI



Lake Cumberland Blue Star Mothers KY 6, have made 120 dignity bibs that are currently in use at the VA Lexington (our goal is 300). Blue Star Mother Chapters, KY 6 challenges your Chapter to supply your VA with these. You can contact Angie Nelson by Email lcbluestar@aol.com or call / text 859-608-6344 for the free instructions to make them. During a clinical conference, Jessica Hatterman, a speech pathologist at the Lexington VA, started a discussion with other medical professionals. If a Veteran needs a protective cover over their clothing during meals, is there a better option than placing a standard towel over the Veteran's shirt? It seems like a little thing, but it can rob a Veteran of their dignity and the towels don't provide adequate protection. Was there a way to protect Veterans' clothing in a more dignified manner?

The solution? Jessica created a functional clothing protector that allows Veterans to get dressed up and ready for meals. She brought her design to the Community Living Center. The Dress Up for Dinner Project was created to maintain the dignity of Veterans.

Community partners step up to the challenge

Dress Up for Dinner's design was given to the Lexington VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement who partnered with civic groups like the Blue Star Mothers KY Chapter 6 and medical staff to expand production of the design. Blue Star Mothers' member Angie Nelson is an experienced sewer. She volunteered to ensure there were enough garments so Veterans in the CLC felt dignified during meals.

Photos Top Dignity Bibs and Angie delivering the bibs. Bottom photo from the VA article about the project.





Greater Birmingham Area, Alabama AL4

BSM Chapter AL4 holds our monthly meetings on the second Thursday of the month at Kelly Ingram VFW. While having in-person meetings is sometimes difficult, we do make sure to include a Zoom meeting every month. We are looking forward to growing and finding more opportunities to serve our local military and veteran needs. We're on Instagram (bsm_al4) and have a website: <https://bluestarmothersbirmingham.weebly.com/>



We had 7 members in attendance of this month's meeting, 4 in person and 3 by Zoom. We discussed the upcoming Convention and local events that we will be participating in.

Vietnam War Veterans Day Commemoration & Scenic Overlook Memorial Dedication Ceremony

On March 29, the Support Committee for the Alabama National Cemetery held a Veterans Day Commemoration & Scenic Overlook Memorial Dedication Ceremony. Blue Star Mothers Greater Birmingham was honored to help set up for the beautiful event.

The Support Committee did a fantastic job honoring our beloved Vietnam Veterans from our area. The speakers, the songs, the setting in the Columbarium made for a somber and reverent day. As we stood among the crowd and recited the Pledge of Allegiance and sang the National Anthem, the voices of those who have served our country surrounded us. We could hear our own children in their voices and tears came. What an honor to serve this great country!

Col Bob Barefield, US Army, gave us a tour of the Scenic Overlook Memorial. This is a gorgeous addition to the hallowed ground of the National Cemetery. It is a place for reflection and remembrance in the midst of God's glorious creation. There is no doubt the Scenic Overlook will be a treasure to Alabama's Military families for years to come. Behind the Columbarium is a winding cement walkway leading to the Overlook shelf, which has a single gold star in the center.

Our mission is to support military families and spread patriotism through education and support. We are grateful to have been a part of such a beautiful day.



Blue Star Families of Richmond, VA2



VA2 was honored to attend the arrival and dignified transfer of the remains of Army Captain James Bellew of Charlottesville, VA. Captain Bellew was killed in a helicopter crash at Ft. Stewart, GA.



Melanie Payne and Tina Burkett were guardians on Old Dominion Honor Flight's latest mission. We visited the Marine Corps Museum, WWII Memorial, Korean War Memorial, Vietnam War Memorial and The Changing of the Guard at Arlington National Cemetery. Good times and many surprises along the way, one of which was a visit from Medal of Honor Recipient Harvey Barnum, Jr.



VA2's Beth Chapman completed the Boston Marathon.

News... MAY 2022

Blue Star Mothers,
Rochester NY8



Rochester, NY chapter officially chartered in 2011

Website: www.bluestarmomsroc.com

Welcome to the latest News

Baby Shower



On May 1st BSM NY8 honored our military, reserves and veteran women and their families. The expectant moms and moms with babies up to 6 months old were showered with Baskets of Love.

Each year BSM NY8 honors up to 20 women. Event flyers are sent several months in advance to military and veteran organizations and to the VA Maternal and Child Health offices in Rochester and Canandaigua.

The Baskets of Love: beautiful gifts for moms and their babies including baby clothing, handmade outfits, diapers, baby supplies and much more. The Cottrell-Warner American Legion Post 942 donated the use of their hall and the Auxiliary Unit donated \$400 for diapers and baby wipes. Other partners included: the American Red Cross Greater Rochester Chapter, Disabled American Veterans (DAV) of Monroe County, and local knitting groups. Area retail stores and individual patrons also contributed. Thanks for all the support.

June 18th [Care Package Event](#) ... Now accepting donations of healthy snacks and personal care items.

Contact Rochelle: 2vp.ny8@bluestarmothers.us

Thank you, 209th Regiment of Cadets



B
A
B
Y



Baby Shower Committee



Welcome Our New BSM Members
L to R: W, Amy V & new BSM: Jenny M, Tammy E, & Lynn P



Blue Star Families
Rochester Lilac Parade May 7th



A Special Shout Out to All the BSM Families Especially, Mary Jean C, Vera Mae R-Y, and the 209th Regiment of Cadets.

Blue Star Mothers of Valencia County NM6

Once again, we give a **shout out** to our county's wonderful supporters not only of our chapter but also (and most importantly) of our troops! **Thank you, Keller Williams Realty!** Throughout each year, the Los Lunas Keller Williams Realty team provides assistance to local residents, schools, projects, etc., and, once a year, they host a **Red Day**. For that day, the K W staff choose a major project; this year, they asked our chapter if they could help with a mailing to deployed troops! Of course, we said yes!

What we thought would happen was not what actually happened, though. Instead of them coming to our location to help us collect, sort, pack, and seal boxes, they had everything set up *in their* offices! Our members came to help *them*! There was so much chatter and laughter all morning as we filled 139 boxes! Additionally, near the end of the morning, the Keller Williams team began making phone calls, sharing with contacts what was happening on this Red Day, asking if people would like to sponsor the cost of shipping for a box (or two or more). Before we finished the stacking of the taped boxes (and the lunch they provided), generous donors contributed enough to cover the entire shipping costs! **Again, thank you Keller Williams!**



Just around the corner from Keller Williams Realty is a long-time BSMVC supporter, **d'Alicia's Jewelry**. While members of our chapter were in the store tending to personal purchases, when Blue Star Moms came up in the conversation, the owner of the store stepped aside for a minute, returning with a beautiful silver charm bracelet. He gave it to our chapter—suggesting to raffle it off at the upcoming Memorial Day ceremony. **Thank you, d'Alicia's!**



And speaking of Memorial Day, our chapter will be assisting in **Operation Never Forget** at the Belen (NM) Eagle Park Veterans Memorial. Oh! One more shout out! Thank you, Bettie and Tom (from our chapter) for being awesome volunteer hosts at the Memorial—opening up the visitors' center each Wednesday for people to come in and see photos of so many Valencia County residents (including Tom) who have served our country.



CA15 – San Mateo County Blue Star Moms

The San Mateo County Blue Star Moms (CA15), with the help of a \$250 Grant from Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc. and a \$50 voucher from Home Depot, provided the 120 veterans at the Menlo Park VA Community Living facility with needed supplies to plant their summer vegetable garden. While the VA Community Living facility has raised beds for available planting, they needed help to acquire soil, fertilizer, and a variety of vegetables, including beans, squash, eggplant, tomatoes, peas, and cucumbers.

The veterans send their thanks and are looking forward to enjoying their vegetable garden this spring and summer.

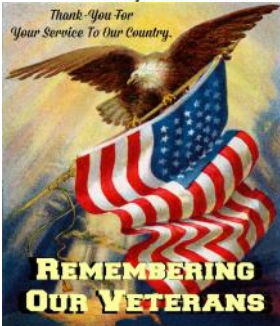


Blue Star Mothers Thumb Chapter Michigan 178

In late March Blue Star Mothers Thumb Chapter MI – 178 got together for “Operation Peeps” packing. 60 Easter packages were mailed out to overseas and stateside Military. Pictured are front row: Tammy Tough, Sherry Kramer, Grace Rosenthal. Second row: Linda Elandt, Donna Wolschleger, June Young, Lynne Tschirhart, Sherrie LaLonde, Nic Stermer, and Marcia Janik..

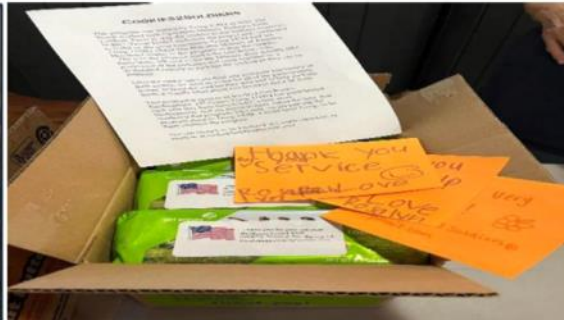


There is no rest for the Blue Star Mom's Houston TX2 group!! We started the month dropping off care bags for the Homeless Veteran's program at the VA Hospital. This is our President's Project this year and we will be doing it again. This is a program that we intend to keep supporting. Our country has too many homeless Veterans.



Houston Texas Chapter 2

We had a group of ladies assisting with packing Girl Scout Cookies that were sent out and well received by our deployed troops. Just look at the pictures below and those smiles!! One special Hero received a box with a special note from his niece. She was so very excited to surprise her favorite Hero.



We finished the month up with a great meeting featuring someone from the VA who spoke to our moms and a couple of their veterans to learn and gain information on Veteran Suicide. This is such an important topic. Make sure we are all aware of the signs and know where to get help. Veterans Crisis Line/Chat/Text 1-800-273-8255, press 1 or www.veteranscrisisline.net



Let's all roll into May with the respect for our military that is deserved during Military Appreciation Month.

BLUE STAR MOTHERS

FREDERICKSBURG CHAPTER VA4



We provided service for many exciting events. Our new member Vikki Lare was sworn-in by her VA4 Navy Blue Star Sisters and welcomed by the rest of the membership. L-R, Susan Webster presented the scarf, Brenda Barker pinned, Vikki Lare, Mary Beth Algert, Chaplain, and Debby Krieter presented the Welcome Packet. In the second photo Angelo Valle, Celebrate Virginia Group presented a monetary to Teresa Sumners, President and Debby Krieter, PCP for our Care Package Program. The Servants At Work, Inc.(SAWs) Dueling Pigs BBQ Challenge was attended by Normine Allen-Brown, Chauante Brown, Martha Poillon, Teresa Sumners, Wendy Lyman and Mary Kulesa. SAWs build ramps with the signed planks for individuals living with mobility challenges.



VA4 members Kate Patterson, Mary Kulesa, Pat Stello, Martha Poillon, Teresa Sumners greeted the Virginia Run For The Fallen Advance Party. It was our honor to cheer the VARFTF Runners at several of the Hero Mile Markers. Their lunches were provided by us and Chick-Fil-A. We donated baby items to the National Baby Shower that were delivered to the Women's Health Center at the VA Hospital in Washinton, DC. Mission accomplished thanks to Normine Allen-Brown. Kristen Davis of Leashes of Valor (LOV) received VA4's snack donation from Teresa Sumners and Pat Stello (taking photo) for their first all-female Warrior Class. LOV trains service dogs and pairs them with Post 9/11 vetrans to enrich and improve the lives of both. VA4 in S-E-R-V-I-C-E.

CENTRAL VALLEY BLUE STAR MOMS CA10

Central Valley Blue Star Moms are on the move....

We are so blessed to have such a military proud & patriotic community. At the end of every school year when high schools are honoring senior athletes at college signing days our community has taken on the role to honor & celebrate those seniors who've made the ultimate commitment to enlist in the military. Central Valley BSM attended 6 high school military signing days with other local military & veteran organizations. At the end of the signing days a formal banquet is held to honor these amazing young seniors who've chosen to become a member of the 1% of Americans that have decided to stand up to defend our great country.

We also participated in a local stop of the National "Carry The Load" Tour. At the stop we helped honor our local heroes who gave their lives in service for our country & encouraged the participants traveling through 48 states, 20,000 miles & 100 rally stops all for 1 mission, to honor our nation's heroes not just for one holiday but, every day of the year.

We teamed up with our local American Legion & VFW Post during Clovis Rodeo Week for 5 days of fundraising & fun together supporting our Military & Veterans.

Most recently we hit the road to Sacramento as guest of Assemblymen Rudy Salas to be honored for our volunteer work & to be present at the voting on Assembly Bill ARC 153, which would declare May as Blue Star Mothers Month. We were so honored to receive these awards but, more importantly to represent Blue Star Mothers everywhere as this Assembly Bill was presented, voted on & unanimously passed! So, Central Valley BSM are proud to say, Happy Blue Star Mothers Month to all our Blue Star Mom chapters!!





DEPARTMENT OF OHIO N/S CONFERENCE



Top right: Group Photo
Top left: Presenting National President
with a gift from the Dept. Board
Middle right: First time attendees award-
ed patriotic scarves
Bottom right: Leashes of Valor: Dog of
our Guest Speaker
Below: Quilts of Valor Presentation,
Robin McCarthy received

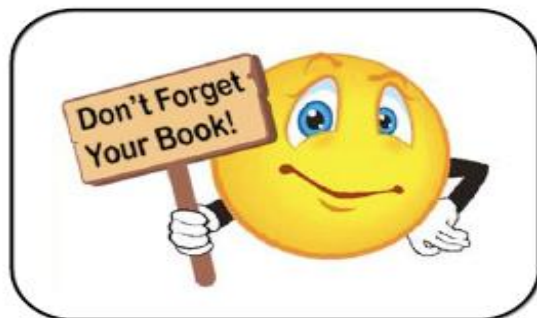


Pine City, Minnesota Chapter 16

Jus a few highlights from the past months. The picture below shows our group delivered supplies on February to Linden Grove Apartments for Veterans. We delivered various household items for over 29 apartment units.

April 23rd we supplied the lunch and baked goods for the Braham Area Craft Fair. We made over \$1,000.00 in proceeds at this event and look forward to going back in the Fall.

We hope everyone has a safe and blessed Memorial Day weekend.



YEARBOOK PHOTOS DUE BY JUNE 4TH

- 1. CHAPTER PHOTOS—GROUP PIC, MOMS IN ACTION**
- 2. HERO PICS—ACTIVE DUTY AND VETERAN CHILDREN**
- 3. GOLD STAR CHILDREN-ALL**
- 4. VETERAN MOMS-PHOTO, NAME AND BRANCH**
- 5. BLUE DAISIES FROM FISCAL YEAR**

Blue Star Mom Essentials



PATCHES



RED JACKET & 2021 BLUE SHIRT



PINS



RITUAL BOOK, LICENSE FRAME & NOTE CARDS



**UNIFORM HATS, GLOVES,
LUGGAGE TAGS & MAGNET**



2022 TOTE

**ALL THESE ITEMS AND MORE AVAILABLE NOW
IN THE ONLINE STORE. ORDER NOW!**



A message from your National Treasurer...

Be on the lookout for dues reimbursement checks. Please deposit them promptly. If you believe that your chapter/department is due reimbursement for this time period and you do not receive a check soon, please contact treas@bluestarmothers.us

An explanation of “due to chapter” and “due to department” check process. “Due to” checks are for dues paid online; the checks reimburse chapters and departments their share of your dues. The quarters of the year are Sept. 1 – Nov. 30, Dec. 1 – Feb. 28, Mar. 1 – May 31, and June 1 – Aug. 31. Once the financials are approved by the Finance Committee and by the National Executive Board in the month following the end of a quarter, an Excel spreadsheet is created of all memberships paid for during the quarter. Each member’s name is check for correct spelling and for correct chapter designation. The list is then sorted by chapter or department. Once all anomalies are found and corrected a membership list is generated (as well as all corrections made in Quickbooks). Checks are prepared by the National Treasurer who then signs and folds each check as well as stamping an envelope and pairing it with each check. Packets of checks are then sent across the country to your National Financial Secretary who reviews each check, signs it, stuffs it in its envelope and mails it out. This is a painstaking and time-consuming process, but we want to each chapter/department to receive reimbursements for the correct members.




Honoring & Remembering All Who Served



Happy Memorial Day

A large American flag with stars and stripes, waving in the wind, serves as the background for the top section of the image.

**All gave some...
Some gave all**

A wide-angle photograph of a cemetery with rows of white headstones stretching into the distance under a clear sky.

**Remember them this
Memorial Day**

