



BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA, INC.

March 2024

A message from our National President

Hello Sister!

Your National Executive Board came together February 23-25 for our annual mid-year meeting. The Board spent the entire weekend reviewing what our Governing Documents Committee has been working on for the past 6 months. We can confirm, the Committee has spent HOURS to ensure they are getting everything right!

As previously mentioned, the Committee will be sending all of these documents out to the entire body, along with instructions, for your comments and added suggestions. If everyone will follow this process and provide their thoughts prior to coming to Convention, this will allow us to move through the review process in a timely manner. Please remember, you will not be allowed to propose "new" changes from the floor, as we are required to provide all changes to the entire body at least 30 days prior to our Convention. We have received several proposals and appreciate our members being proactive. We welcome your input now, so please feel free to send your recommendations to the Committee at Bylaws@bluestarmothers.us.

The Convention Committee is moving right along so please be reading the Convention Chatter and check out the "Blue Star Mothers of America Convention" Facebook page for updates. We are still looking for Convention volunteers so if you are interested in helping out during Convention, please contact Amy O'Campo at convention@bluestarmothers.us.

Thanks to those who have purchased our Bonfire shirts. We currently have three campaigns running, with all proceeds going towards Convention in an attempt to keep your costs down, so please help promote these shirts throughout your social media. Anyone may purchase any of these three.

I am excited to announce my President's Project is [Warriors for Freedom](#). This organization is located just north of Oklahoma City and works not only with our service members, but also with their families to "prevent suicide, to foster camaraderie, and help them live their best lives." Please check them out through this link. I hope you and your Chapter will support this project.

As always, my door is open to anyone who has questions or just wants to chat. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any of our National Officers as we are here to serve everyone.

Yours in Service,

Becky

Rebecca Stafford
National President



Contact Information for National Executive Board

President: Rebecca Stafford - MO
president@bluestarmothers.us

1st VP: Karen Stillwell - OH
1vp@bluestarmothers.us

2nd VP: Karla Keller - MN
2vp@bluestarmothers.us

3rd VP: Jacqueline Ransom - MI
3vp@bluestarmothers.us

4th VP: Brenda Ternullo - CA
4vp@bluestarmothers.us

Recording Secretary: Amy Jo Hutchinson - OH
recsec@bluestarmothers.us

Financial Secretary: Sonya Kay - IL
finsec@bluestarmothers.us

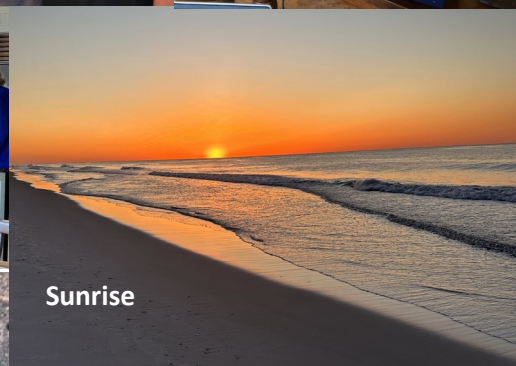
Treasurer: Alethea Tennill - MO
treas@bluestarmothers.us

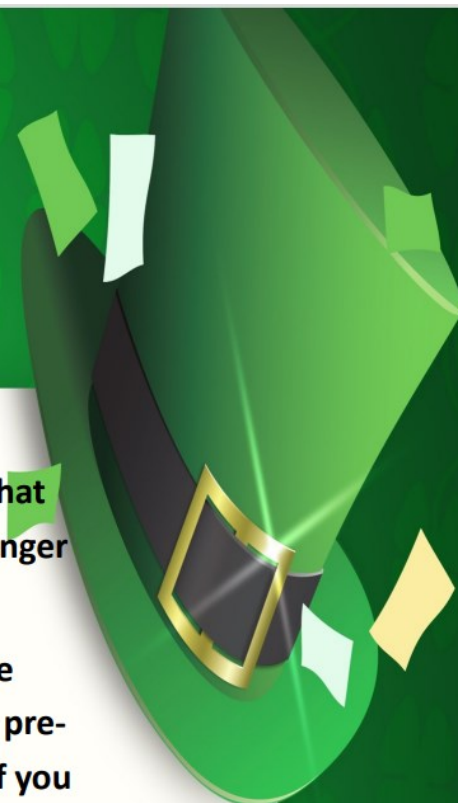


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National Board Mid Year Meeting

Pensacola, FL





Dear Members and Associates,

We hope you are all doing well. We are excited to share that our membership continues to grow each day. We are stronger together as our mission moves forward.

As you recruit friends and family to join, please encourage them to join online at <https://bluestarmothers.org> This is the preferred process and provides the least amount of errors. If you do accept an application be sure it is legible and complete before downloading or mailing.

If you have any difficulty accessing your profile, don't hesitate to email us for a reset.

If you have any questions or concerns, never hesitate to reach out. We are here to support you and your Chapter.

Respectfully Yours In Service,

Karen Stillwell, National 1VP

1vp@bluestarmothers.us

614-893-1180

An Irish Prayer

May God give you...
For every storm, a rainbow,
For every tear, a smile,
For every care, a promise,
And a blessing in each trial.
For every problem life sends,
A faithful friend to share,
For every sigh, a sweet song,
And an answer for each prayer.



2023-2024 Yearbook

Please send all Yearbook photos to the email;
Yearbook@bluestarmothers.us by June 2nd

Here's what you should send:

Recent Chapter group photos that are related to our mission; Please send no more than 4-5 per chapter, include chapter state & number. There is no charge for this.

Send just one photo of your child, Active Duty or Veteran, include child's name, your name and chapter state & number.

Send Blue Daisies with name and chapter, not already sent to 2VP

Gold Star Mothers, please send name, rank and photo of your Hero

Veteran Moms, please send photos of then and now

More to come soon!

Any questions?

Please contact 2VP, Karla, at
651-470-8996 or email;

yearbook@bluestarmothers.us

81st Convention

Blue Star Mothers of America



Through research we find hundreds of names of Veterans each month who have passed and want to honor them by sharing their names with you.

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The Ancient Egyptians believe you die twice, once when you take your final breath and the last time someone speaks your name. We hope you will not let them be forgotten.



National Guard

Christopher Lollis
Kenneth M Hedden
Malcolm R. Thomas, Jr.
Milton Davis Cook

Army

Adolph N Wynn
Adrian Neil Howard
Aja Frijas
Albert Neal Pike
Alfred Guerra
Alton Lee Powell
Alvin M Warren
Alvin Miller
Arthur Lee Ellis
Ben Garcia, Sr.
Benancio Leal
Bernard Contreras Jr.
Bill Joe Tarver
Billie J. Patterson
Billy Olen Alsobrook
Billy Ray Childress
Billy Wayne Crabtree
Blaise Smith
Bob Pittinger
Bobby Elliot Fortson
Bobby Marion
Bobby Washington
Buelan Edward Bryant
Buford Franklin Charles
Calvin Edwards
Charles A. Sandberg
Charles Burbach
Charles Lynn Rhea
Charles R. Davis
Clarence Henry Liberty
Clarence P. Richards
Clifford E. Conley
Clyde Arlington Harris
Clyde Wayne Roberts
Dale Edward Skaggs
Dallas Parkerson
Daniel "Dan" Gordon
Daniel Carson Davis
Daniel Dale Pearson Sr.
Daniel Lawrence Brentano
Daniel Raymond Little
Danny Lee Boydston
Darrell Gene White
Darwin Dennis Dahl
David Alan Ford
David Allen Dillion
David Charles Stevens

David Ewing, Sr.
David G. Hjelstrom
David L. Baines
David L. Barta, Jr.
David Lee Thurman
David Pope
David Schieber
David Wendell Villines
Dean Goslar
Dean Williams
Dennis Robert Simonson
Denzil H. Chambers Jr.
Dewayne Thornton
Donald E. "Don" Drysdale
Donald Fennell
Donald Frank Lepeck, SR.
Donald G. Hall
Donald Herbaugh
Donald Lee Herr
Douglas "Dean" Williams
Douglas James Carpenter
Edgar Pennington, Jr.
Edward A. Dutton
Edward E. Lojewski
Edward Earl Jones
Edward Joseph Johnson
Edward Lee Bass
Edwin Eugene Love
Elbert Jones Jr.
Emil C. Hrbacek
Ernest Henry Walker III
Ernest Lee Columbus
Ernest W. Llyod
Ernesto R Lopez
Ervin Lee Kendall
Eugene "T-Bird" Raffin
Eugene James Barton Jr.
Eugene M. Rodriguez
Fernando M Martinez
Floyd Clements
Floyd Pfungsten
Francis Reams Carlson
Frank McGarry
Frank Milton Thomas
Frank Varites
Franklin Jack Wooten
Fred David Tipton
Freddie Leroy Fornea
Gary Donald Armstrong
Gary Peterson
Gene Eldon Morrison
George Earl Johnson
George H. Clark, Jr

George Michael Embree
George Michael Kniest
George Rhoads Shelley
Gerald A. White
Gerald John Moore
Gerald Klein
Gerald Ray Hayes
Gerald Wayne Hurst
Gerard VanPell
Gordon L Wilson
Gregg W. Vargas
Harry Henry Leger
Heath Jackson
Henry C. Flurer
Henry Earl Whitmire
Howard E. Baldwin
Jack M. Bessey Jr.
Jack P. Mondragon
Jack W. Motley
James Buster Howard Jr.
James Allen Goodwin
James Anthony Brown
James B. Thornton
James Edward Morris Jr.
James M. Bagley
James Rogillio
James Sifford
James W. Williams
JC Bussell
Jeffery B. Garis
Jerome Albert Meyers
Jesus Garcia
Jesus Sanchez
Jim Bagley
Joe Eddie Tate, Jr.
Joel Henry Bell
John Casarow
John Henry Pflieger Sr.
John M. Grandall
John Olsen
John P Jones
John Sherman Barnes
John Thomas Lawrence
John Watts
Jorge R. Sanchez
Jose Canales
Joseph A. Cogut
Joseph Marshall, Jr
Joseph Ray Carroll
Juan Cisneros
Julio Rivera
Kasper Reger
Keith Holte

Kelly Lewis Watkins
Kenneth Dean Fields
Kenneth F. Rose
Kenneth Lloyd Hasbrouck
Kenneth Melvin Tibbs Jr.
Kenneth Wagner, Sr
Kevin O'Dwyer
Larry B. Christensen
Larry Dean Branham
Larry Wayne Fogerson
Lawrence R. Menne
Leonard L. Friesz
Leonard LaPoma
Leonard LaPoma
Leonard M Zbonack
Lloyd H Millard
Louis Paul Bonacci III
Marcus Allen Thomas
Matthew Edward Davis
Melvin Ray Edwards
Melvin Whitis Jr
Michael Allen Lake
Michael Allen Pierce
Michael G. Palmer
Michael J. Barnett
Michael Rodewald
Montie L Mezo
Nathan Ray O'Donnell
Nathan Stark III
Nathaniel Green
Neal Quinton Greiner
Nicholas Jovan Alexander
Nicholas J Morana
Norbert E Ruppel
Norman Wilson Kirkland
Norvall Milton Bopp
Pablo Roberto Martinez II
Paul Gilbert
Pedro Antonio Guardiola-Declat
Perry Gray, Jr.
Peter Gulsby Jr.
Peter Reese Jr.
Phillip Bruce McClaren
Phillip L. Soomro
Phillip Ray Bishop
Quinton M. White
R. Leon Watson
Ralph C. Musella
Ralph Esquivel, Sr.
Ralph Robert Burkholder
Rambo Tran
Ramon Garza

Randy Withers
Raymond Mazer
Raymond N Benz
Reno E. Bertani
Richard A. "Silver Fox" Volpe
Richard A. Mullins
Richard Alan Alto
Richard Almon Pfaff
Richard Feyjoo
Richard G "Dick" Klein
Richard G. Schimmel
Richard Leon Ballew
Richard Moersch
Richard Moersch
Richard Nino Juarez
Richard Quarles
Richard Sanchez
Richard Zell
Rick McCoy
Ricky Locklear Jr.
Robert "Bob" Cecil Akins
Robert A. Ware
Robert Ainley
Robert Hysner
Robert L. Lowery, Jr.
Robert Leo Lincoln
Robert M. Dick
Robert Martin
Roger Leon Johnson
Roger R. White
Ronald LeDean Jackson
Ronald Edward Gray
Ronald Gary Smith
Ronnie James Veach
Ronnie Wayne Frye
Ross Murchie Brown
Roy Gallegos
Russell E. Nelson
Russell Franklin Stephenson
Russell Haslam
Russell M. Caudill Jr.
Schawn Greenwell
Scott Carlson Stalkfleet
Scott Edward Naugle
Shirl Miles
Stanley Edward Hopkins
Stanley Edward Pace
Steven Sigmon
Stuart Mark Key
Thomas Alvin Wood
Thomas Byrne Dimond
Thomas C Maxwell Jr
Thomas Dean Jefferson Sr.

Thomas F. Boutin
Thomas Michael Hoeflerlin
Timothy James Sterbens
Todd Allan Behm
Travis Lamont Jones
Urban Zimmer
Vernon Evander Green
Vicente C. Charfauros
Wallace R. Napier
Wayne Paul Basch
Wesley Ervin Moorefield
Wilbert Mitchell
Wilburn Clarence Rowden
William (Bubba) Hamblin
William A. Reader, Jr.
William C. Blackman Jr.
William Griffin
William James Nail
William Lyvers
Willie D. Smith
Willie James Mosley, Jr.
Willie Page Jr.
Wofford K. Ellzey
Wrlshxer Mendoza
Zollie C. Bevins
Rodney P Franklin
Hans Ludwig Dritschler/Air Force
Don Marion Bates/Coast Guard
Toney D Butler Jr./Navy
Army Nurse Corp
Doris Howard
Army Reserve
Gideon Needham
Navy
Leslie Eugene Stephens
Bernard J. Ferrara
Bobby Joe Melton
Bradford Hayes Croft
Brian Keith Withrow
Cathy Denise Lacy Gwinn
Charles Eugene White
Charles Malpere
Charles Sibley
Christina Gwendolyn Jensen
Clarence Elwood Evans
Danny Weston Thorsen
David Bryant, Sr.
David Livers
David Wiett Reed
Dennis Carl Hester
Donald R. Johnson



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Navy (Cont.)

Edward A. Booe
 Gary "Spanky" Edward Swope
 Guillermo Amparano
 Gus N. Kampeter
 Harold Cole
 Jack Hodgkinson Jr.
 James "Jimmy" Denton
 James Eugene Meier
 James Gilbert Waddle
 James Michael Fermil
 James W. Barr
 James Warren Manns
 Jeffrey Lee Zeits
 Jerry L. "Whitey" Gehrs
 Jerry Lee Billington
 John Boynton
 John Byron Holder
 John Earl Harvey
 John Everett Steele
 John James Haberman
 John James Woods Jr.
 John Richard Ravita
 John Robert Madsen
 John Stephen Watson
 John W Wilson II
 John William Mallick
 Johnnie Carroll Knox, Sr.
 Joseph Linton
 Julious DeArmon Hilton
 Keith A. Walmer
 Kevin Marc Etorma
 Larry Miers
 Marvin E. Berry
 Marvin Shackleford
 Melvin Royce Byers
 Michael Dewrell Tinsley
 Michael Edward Malady
 Patrick Earle Arwood
 Paul Taylor
 Philip David Perry
 Ralph Eugene Brown
 Raymond Dawson
 Raymond E. Garcia
 Reginald L Pauley
 Richard A. Plummer
 Richard Cleveland "Andy" Anderson III
 Richard Douglas White
 Richard Lane
 Richard Lee Gunn
 Robert D. Safford

Robert Futterer
 Robert McCulloch
 Rodgers Gene Perkins
 Rodriquez Clements
 Ronald A Whitewater
 Ronald Edwin Roberts
 Rory Eugene Compton
 Rusty O. Johnson
 Santos Gutierrez, SR.
 Stanley K. Brown
 T. J. Lamont
 Terrance Ingerson
 Thomas Burford Wheeler, Jr.
 Ty Joseph Ward
 Vicki Lynn Paul
 Virgil E. Carver
 Warren Dean Crook
 Wayne William Bryant
 Wendal Louis Brasher
 Willam S. Boyd
 William F Mahoney jr
 William Maynard Putnam
 William Murray
 Willie Nathan Jemison
 Christine Martinez
 Charles Allan Rhoads/Air Force
 Jimmy Wayne Wrye/Air Force
 Declan G. Dillman/Army National Guard
 Billy "Dean" Trivitt/Coast Guard
 Jack M. Willis/Coast Guard Reserve

Navy Reserve

Charles Q. Kilmon
 Duane R. "Snake" Pierce
 Wade Colie McBride
 Charles O. Alexander

Marine Corp

Adolph Schmid
 Andre Hugh McElroy Sr.
 Benjamin Caicos
 Billy Navither Harrison
 Bobby Dale Cornwall
 Charles "Chuck" William Mansfield Jr.
 Charles Hall Byrne, Jr
 David Loveland
 David Russell Turnage

Donald Wayne Umfrees
 Dustin Ryan Rister
 Edgar Burrilea Phillips
 Elbert Tutt Jr.
 Esmer J. Harris
 Gary Michael Smith
 Gene G. Walker
 Gordon Francis Hamblin Jr.
 Grant Charles Beck
 Gregory G. Eberhardt
 Hans Herman Rogall
 Harold Hamilton
 Harvey Wilbert Hoopes, Jr.
 Henry Hugh "Hank" Arthur
 Hildy Ann Butler
 Howard Neal Lewis
 Hubbard Gale Eleamor
 Jack "Tracker" Palmer
 James Jones
 Jesse Dwayne Johnson
 Joseph Ancheta Jr.
 Juan A Rodriguez
 Leon Hildebrandt
 Leonard M. Armstrong
 Levance Andrew Jordan
 Matthew Richard Doherty
 Matthew Robert Lipp
 Michael "Zini" Kurinzi
 Michael Baird
 Michael Shea
 Nathan D. L. Church
 Norman Raymond Huggins
 Pedro Trevino
 Robert Edward Travis jr
 Robert James Hill
 Robert Lewis Day
 Romano Ramirez
 Ronald B. Johnson
 Ronald Kenneth Clarke
 Spencer Brooks Murdoch
 Steven Edgar Terrell
 Thomas Albert Livengood
 Thomas Blakeley Wood III
 Walter John Kalinowski
 William 'Bill' Drummond
 William Douglas Talbott
 William G. Bishop
 William Larry Hazelrigs
 William "Bill" Agesen
 William Dean Warren
 Carl Junior Odean/Air Force
 Joseph Francis Rizzo/Air Force

Valentin Martinez/Army
 James Douglas Nail/Navy
 Kirk Everett Marston/Navy
 Ralph Warren Coleman Sr./Navy
 William Ray Gaddy Sr./Navy

Marine Corp Reserve

Ronald Howell
Coast Guard
 Ernesto Hernandez
 George Eckenstaler Jr.
 Thomas Joseph Laskey

Air Force

Albert Lee Roy Boucher
 Aleen Hamlin
 Barry Lee Deffenbaugh
 Charles Vaughan
 Daniel D. Walling
 David J. Haslem
 David Lewis
 David Whitten
 Dennis Michael Batchelor, Sr.
 Dennis Russell Ainsworth
 Donald Chapman
 Donald W. Grannan
 Duane D. Berry
 Edward Earl Aswell
 Edward M. Schaeffer
 Elsner Joseph (EJ) Landry
 Eugene R. Canady Jr.
 Florence C. Brusceci
 Frankie Dean Neely
 Fred Russell Lybarger
 George V. Hilby
 Gerald Denesha
 Gilbert Ray Norris
 Glenwood Taylor McFarland
 Harry Sullivan
 Henry "Gene" Oestereich
 Howard Lee Bass
 James A. Moore
 James D. Larkin
 James Garnett
 James Hadley
 James M. Bradley, Jr.
 James Perkins
 James R. Johnson
 Jeffrey Edward Wengstrom
 Jeffrey Scott Atkinson
 Jerry Floyd Hobbs
 Jesus "Chuey" Sanchez, Jr.

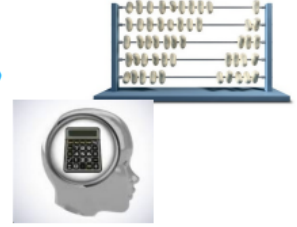
Joe Collins
 Joe Ellis Truby
 John "Baldy" Lewis Williams
 John Edward Dampier
 John Robert Harris
 Jose M. Trevino, Jr.
 Joseph Summers
 Juan A. Rendon
 Juan Jose Lara, Sr.
 Kathryn Glance
 Kenneth Ray Scott
 Kenny G. Larrabee
 Kerrick Aloysius Brown
 Larry E. Woolard
 Lawrence A Varner sr
 Lindell Kincade
 Lynn Alan Campbell
 Mark Danielson
 Michael Augustus Faulk
 Michael D. Homberg
 Michael Hudson
 Ollice Lee Briley
 Paul Urvall Higgins
 Priscilla Ann Cooper
 Randy Nelson
 Raul Diaz
 Raymond Michael Bradley Jr.
 Reuben Charles (Chuck) Wester III
 Richard James Landry
 Richard Sharp
 Richard W. Cwynar
 Robert "Bob" Collins
 Robert Buss
 Robert Lynch Ray
 Roberto Macias
 Roy Calvin Walker
 Steven Profer
 Thomas Bradford
 Thomas Gerald Daniel
 Thomas Harree Smith
 Vernon L. Banker
 Walter Lee Walker Jr
 William Robert Short
 Willie Elbert Pierce Jr
 Willie Ray Stewart
 Willis G. Grundvig
 Michael Grant Laughlin/
 Army National Guard


Branch Unknown

Brandon Michael Greber
 Edward Thomas Barber
 Jesse Frank James



**CALLING ALL BOOKKEEPERS, ACCOUNTANTS,
FINANCIAL-LOVING, NUMBER-CRUNCHING
BLUE STAR MOMS!**



If you have ever entertained the thought of holding a financial position on the National Executive Board, then have we got a  call for you!!!

On May 4th, 2024 at 8am PDT (9am MDT, 10am CDT, 11am EDT), your National Treasurer and National Financial Secretary, along with the National Finance Chair are hosting an informative session to give you insight into the life of a financial officer on the NEB. We will provide a brief overview of the various responsibilities and will welcome your questions.

Everyone always wants to know that the finances of an organization are in good hands, but what exactly does it take to be a financial officer? We know that no one relishes stepping into the “unknown.” The brief description in our policies and bylaws leave a lot to the imagination and many qualified BSMs still wonder if they have what it takes to rise to the occasion. This Zoom call is intended to set your mind at ease and give you a look into the expectations and enjoyment of being entrusted with the finances of our organization.

Please email FinanceChair@BlueStarMothers.us to be put on the list of attendees and receive the Zoom invite.

Even if you're not currently considering running for a financial office on the NEB, but may consider running at some future time, or are just curious . . . you're welcome to attend.!



You've Got Mail!

At least you might, so please check!

A reminder from your Financial Committee to check your Department/Chapter/Auxiliary PO Box on a regular basis.

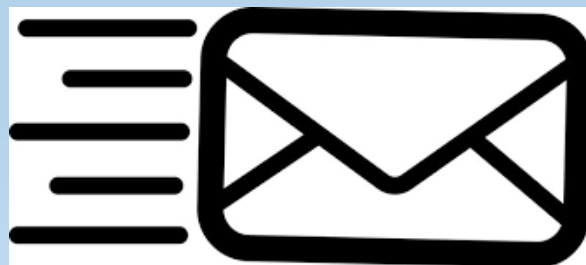
Many Chapters received Due to Chapter checks in January for first quarter memberships. Second quarter membership Due to Chapter checks were just mailed this week. Please check your PO Box regularly and when you receive a check from National or from your Department or from anyone else, please deposit it into your bank account in a timely manner.

If you are expecting a check from National or your Department and have not received one, please confirm that your Chapter compliance has been completed and that you have received notice of that from our N4VP. Checks from National and Departments cannot be mailed until a Chapter has completed their compliance. This applies to all checks from National and Departments - due to chapter, chapter grants, and so on.

Remember, if you are in a Department, your due to chapter check for membership will come from your Department and not from National. Your Department receives those funds from National and then processes them on to the Chapters in those states. This means those checks will take a little bit longer to reach the Chapters. Please be patient.

Occasionally, the address National has on file for you is outdated. If that is the case, your check will be returned to National by the Post Office. Please make sure you notify National, and your Department if you are in one, any time your Chapter address changes. Also notify the IRS and any state agencies of your change of address. If a check is returned to us, we will reach out to that Chapter for a corrected address. Please respond as soon as you can so we can get the check back on its way to you again! This takes extra time and creates additional mailing costs so please update those Chapter addresses as soon as possible if yours changes!

Everyone loves to get mail, please remember to check your mailbox!!



From the desk of

Anne Parker, VAVS Representative

Each month we receive reports from our VAVS Representatives on their activities at local VA facilities. It is all inspiring and the creativity amazing.

With each report we learn how our volunteer efforts can be improved and involve not only our own chapters but also outside agencies.

Recently we had the chance to read a report from Ann Cordero, TX6. You may recall it was in last month's newsletter under Chapter News.

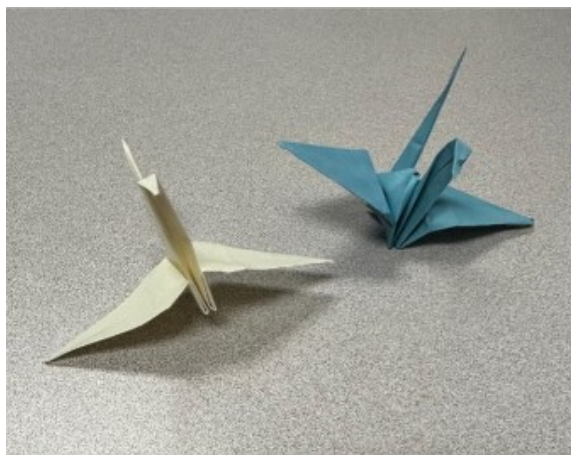
At the Sam Rayburn Memorial Center they were able to give 1,000 handmade Cranes made by local recovery center participants. These were put into Welcome Boxes that the chapter put together for the veterans.

We do not need to do this alone. Reach out to your local service organizations and see how they can participate with your programs.

Donations come from all directions and together as a community you can enrich the lives of our veterans together.

Many hands can make the work lighter.

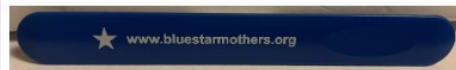
Volunteer opportunities are open in many of our chapter areas. For information contact vavs@bluestarmothers.us



Mothers Day is May 12th!

Here is a great Bundle for Mom

Order through the Online Store by April 30th



\$20.00
plus S/H
Ball Cap, Nail File and
Boots & Tags Patch

Coming soon to the Online Store
New Tote Bag



Blue Daisies

We were recently informed that a member of TX2, Karen Nickell, passed away. Our sympathies to her chapter members and family.



Sadly, Chapter CA39 has announced, Shirley Damigo, is now a Blue Daisy. She was the mother-in-law to Charilyn Damigo. She is shown here with her Marine Veteran son, proudly wearing her Blue Star pin. Our thoughts are with her family and friends.



MI 184

Michigan Lake Erie Chapter #184 was encouraged by the young 13-year old Cecilia Jonna, who started the pocket hugs for Disabled American Veterans on Valentines Day.

Cece enjoys crocheting and when asked by her teacher to make some pocket hugs, she happily agreed and they were delivered to the local Disabled American Veterans post who were overwhelmed with joy that such a young girl cared so much. This trend encouraged other members of the chapter and friends to join the efforts and continue to provide these hearts to the VA Hospital. Cece stated, "We now have an Army of hugs, Mrs. Jacek!"

The pocket hugs with crocheted heart state, "I'm handmade with love so keep me close, so you know you are cared about more than you could ever know."



TREASURE COAST BLUE STAR MOTHERS, FL11



We held our Valentines celebration with the Blind Wing staff at the West Palm Beach VA hospital.

We are so pleased to have added many new members to our chapter this year. Attached is a photo from our February installation.

Treasure Coast Blue Star Mothers partnered with Treasure Coast Harley Davidson to raise funds for our "Adopt a Base" project. We flipped burgers and danced to sound of the rock band until the wind picked up and we all had to say goodbye to those generous good people.



TCBSM hosted a fundraiser March 3rd at Painting with a Twist in Jensen Beach. The event was well attended and the chapter received 50% of the proceeds. We all had a great time!





★LONG ISLAND BLUE STAR MOMS NY6★

Annual Blue Star/ Gold Star Mothers' Tea*

The Annual "Dropping of the Roses" ceremony in commemoration of the anniversary of Pearl Harbor

"Wreaths Across America" Long Island National Cemetery*

Promoting & Planning our Veterans Conference

Singing the National Anthem at Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum & SCWBEC



Southwestern Pennsylvania Chapter PA16

- Launched chapter website: Blue Star Mothers of SW PA 16
- Participated: Winter Clothes Drive for VA Hospital
- Packed 115 care packages
- Attended: Together With Veterans suicide prevention program
- Hosted information table and distributed gift bags to Veterans: Salute Week at Butler VA



Special Guests: Packed a box for their deployed Daddy

OH 9 working the Mission!



100 "We Care" Boxes for the Deployed



Final Salute for Cpt. Leora V. Gray, U.S. Army, an unaccompanied Veteran at Dayton National Cemetery.



Valentines Day VANS Event at Chalmers P. Wylie VAMC



OH 9 celebrates its 17th birthday!

N M 2



Rio Grande Valley Blue Star Mothers



DECEMBER 2023
WREATHS ACROSS
AMERICA 416
WREATHS SOLD
AND PLACED
OPERATION COOKIE
DROP AT KIRTLAND
AIR FORCE BASE.



JANUARY 2024 GENERAL
MEETING. INSTALLATION
OF FIVE NEW BLUE STAR
MOTHERS, ARMY X2, NAVY
X 2, MARINE X 1.
WELCOME!



FEBRUARY 2024 GENERAL
MEETING CELEBRATED BLUE STAR
MOTHER DAY. GOLD STAR
MOTHER KAY AND BSM
ROSEMARY WENT TO RAYMOND
G MURPHY VA HOSPITAL PASSED
OUT OVER 1000 VALENTINE'S
CARDS AND SNACKS TO
INPATIENT VETERANS FOR
NATIONAL SALUTE TO VETERANS



CENTRAL VALLEY BLUE STAR MOMS




MARCH 2024

Welcome new members!



CA10

FEBRUARY RECAP

-  We welcomed 5 new members in February!
-  We continue to send out packages monthly to the troops
-  New Social groups being added!



2024

Support the Blue Run



UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 18TH

Gold Star Mom Tea

MAY 26TH

BSM Yard Sale

SEPT 12TH

4th Annual BSM Golf Tournament

**REMEMBER THE TROOPS
FOURTH ANNUAL
GOLF
TOURNAMENT**

by Central Valley Blue Star Moms

**THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 12TH**

DRAGONFLY GOLF CLUB
43369 AVE 12
MADERA



Individual - \$175 0700 - Check In
Team - \$700 0715 - Raffle Ticket Sales
Veteran Team - \$650 0800 - Shotgun Start

For more info contact
Central Valley Blue Star Moms
P.O. Box 1204 Clovis Ca 93613
559.481.8276 or email
centralvalleybluestarmoms@gmail.com
A 501(c)(3) non-profit



MN11 St Paul Blue Star Mothers

Denise Guerra volunteers as a VAVS rep at the Tomah (WI) VA.
She celebrated Valentine's Day with the veterans at the Valentine's Day Gala.

(Photo is shared from Facebook with VA approval and photo release from veterans family)



Karla Keller, MN11 and National 2nd VP, was asked to speak at a Minnesota Marine Moms Retreat

She shared information about our chapter and Blue Star Mothers of America and introduced them to her "Soldier on a Stick"



LOUISIANA GEAUX SEVEN CHAPTER

FEBRUARY 2024

Our Chapter donated 5 cases of bottled water and 2 reams of card stock for dream boards at the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Healthcare System's Annual Ladies Night for Women Veterans.

Our 2023-2024 elected officers:
Finally got to take a picture (L-R)
Vice President - Billie Gipson
President - Trudy Dupuy
Treasurer - Debbie Dunaway
Financial Secretary - Carole Spurlin
Recording Secretary - Faith Mc Corkle



February 24th our members, associates and little ones enjoyed packing 93 care packages to ship to our Heroes!!

IOWA★STAR

News from Blue Star Mothers of America, Iowa Chapter #1

www.bluestarmothersofiowa.com

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024

bluestarmothersia1@gmail.com

From Our President



Greetings! As the President of our Chapter, I extend my warmest welcome to you on our first Iowa Star Newsletter.

Our Chapter is committed to supporting Veterans, Active Duty and Reservists, and each other as Military Moms in various areas throughout the year. We are thrilled to kick off our quarterly newsletter and share our endeavors with you.

We hope you will enjoy reading about our ongoing efforts and initiatives. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions, thoughts, or ideas. – Lisa Wilson

We're Growing!

8

New Members
so far
this year!

February Service Project: Valentines for Vets



Our first project of the year was making and delivering 330 Valentines to the Veterans Home in Marshalltown and the southside VA clinic in Des Moines.



Blue Star Mothers of Iowa Monthly Meet-Ups



January: Candle-making & dinner, plus Iowa Wild Hockey Game for Military Appreciation Night


February: Axe-throwing & dinner... ready for the zombie apocalypse!




NC16 Cape Fear Blue Star Mothers

The Cape Fear Blue Star Mothers had the honor of hosting the Wreaths Across America Mobile Education Exhibit on March 8. Blue Star Mother, Mary Jo Schnepf, had persuaded WAA for two years to bring the exhibit to our county. The WAA MEE was in Brunswick County, NC from March 7-11 and they offered free tours for the public on 5 different days at multiple locations. On the day that we hosted, approximately 70 people toured the mobile museum which included interactive exhibits, short films and shared stories. The ambassadors for this exhibit were a Gold Star Dad and a Gold Star Brother. 17 Vietnam Era Veterans were pinned and 4 Vietnam Veteran families were honored. All received a Vietnam Challenge Coin from Wreaths Across America. The Wreaths Across America Mobile Education Exhibit educates visitors about the service and sacrifice of our nation's heroes, as well as, serving as an official 'welcome home' station for our nation's Vietnam Veterans. We are now looking forward to volunteering with the Honor Flight of Cape Fear during their training day in March and being on hand to welcome the heroes home from their flight on April 20!

JOIN US IN WELCOMING THE

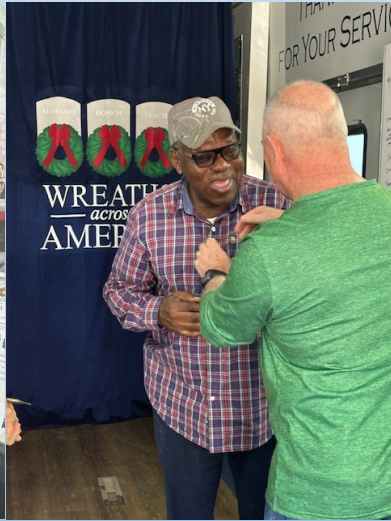


FRIDAY, MARCH 8
9 A.M. - 3 P.M.
BRUNSWICK COUNTY SANDIFER
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
30 GOVERNMENT CENTER DR NE
BOLIVIA, NC

 WREATHS across AMERICA

The Wreaths Across America Mobile Education Exhibit is a rolling exhibition that brings the local community, veterans, active-duty military and their families together through interactive exhibits, short films, and shared stories. The exhibit serves as a mobile museum, educating visitors about the service and sacrifice of our nation's heroes as well as to serve as an official 'welcome home' station for our nation's Vietnam Veterans. All veterans, active-duty military, their families, and the local community members are invited and encouraged to visit, take a tour and speak with WAA representatives and volunteers. They can also share more about the national campaign, and the work its volunteers do to support our heroes and their communities year-round.

HONOR A HERO AT:
www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org



The Blue Star Mothers of NEPA held their inaugural **"Baskets and Bucks BINGO"** fundraising event on Saturday, March 9th, and it was a tremendous success! Over 300 people were in attendance and so much fun was had by all. The community donated baskets and monetary contributions. Our moms made our own food and baked goods, and our DJ, a Navy veteran himself, donated his time and made the event even better than it already was! It was a lot of work, but we set it up, sold tickets and made it happen within only a 2 month span.

Every year, we have a "Hero 5K" in November, which has been our main fundraising event, but this Bingo event is going to be an added one since it was such a success (and drew a whole different crowd of supporters).

PA14

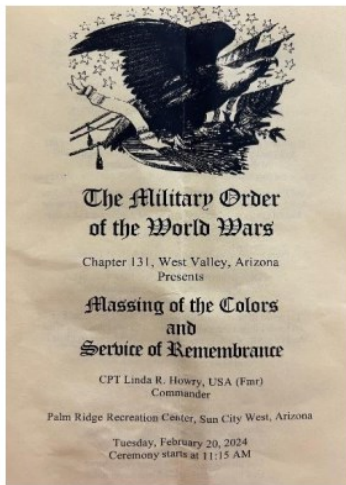


Blue Star Moms of the Southwest Valley, AZ4

February Packing Party at Honors High School! 48 boxes of love!
The High Schoolers helped supply items and pack up boxes.



Lauren and Theresa participated in the “standing room only” Massing of Colors event held in Sun City West at the Palm Ridge Recreation Center.



Lauren represented her chapter well at the Buckeye Lift Up/HopeFest. We set up a booth and gave away free socks to our Veterans.



Blue Star Moms of the Southwest Valley AZ4

In February our chapter participated in three main events. The first was a packing party hosted by Honors High School. The students collected items for the boxes and assisted the Blue Star Moms with the final packing. Theresa and Michelle D participated in that event from our chapter. The Military Order of the World Wars Chapter 131 hosted a Massing of the Colors and Service of Remembrance to a packed room at the Palm Ridge Recreation Center in Sun City West where Blue Star Mom Lauren resides. Lauren and Theresa proudly displayed their Blue Star Flag during the Massing of Colors. We were treated to an incredible guest speaker named Winnie Fritz, a former military nurse. Oh the stories she told! The amazing Desert Brass Band presented a fabulous music program that included Stars and Stripes Forever. The missing table presentation was both moving and poignant. At the end of the month, our chapter set up a table at the Buckeye Lift Up/HopeFest for our Veterans. We passed out socks to our Veterans, answered questions and helped educate our community about what the Blue Star Moms do and how we can be of service.



SPRING CREEK AREA TX18

BLUE STAR MOTHERS

Supporting Our Local Veterans



Donation to PTSD
of America



Go Texan Parade in Conroe, Texas





"Our hearts are on the line."
East Bay Chapter 101

Blue Star Moms of California - East Bay Chapter 101: FEBRUARY 2024 EVENTS

Saturday, February 3 - Give Veterans a Smile Event at Union City Dental Care Center

The Union City Dental Care Center, a satellite clinic of the University of the Pacific - Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry, offers free dental care for veterans for one day a year. The services are all provided by volunteer dentists from all over the area and by the residents and interns from the Center. This is the third year our Chapter has volunteered at this event. It has been a very rewarding experience serving our veterans. Our Chapter worked the registration/check-in table and assisted the veterans. One of the Blue Star Moms is a registered nurse and helped in taking blood pressure readings and temperature checks.



Saturday, February 11 - Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNV DV) Crab Feed Fundraiser at the Veterans Memorial Building

Our Chapter has been supporting this fundraiser for many years now. We have always donated several desserts for the crab feed dinner.

Thursday, February 29 - Friday, March 1: 17th Annual Gold Star Honor and Remembrance, Marines' Memorial Club & Hotel, San Francisco

Our Chapter attended the 17th Annual Gold Star Honor and Remembrance for Gold Star parents. Our Chapter has been involved from the first year this event started. This year, 66 Gold Star families were honored. Pictured are members of our Chapter presenting a donation check to Gen. Rocco, CEO of the Marines Memorial Foundation, a 501(c)(3) dedicated to serving all branches of the armed services with a core mission to honor the legacy of military service through its programs.





Chicagoland Blue Star Mothers IL6 hosted our 3rd Annual Battle of the Branches Chili Cook Off!!



BLUE STAR MOTHERS SE WI 2



MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Events

March Chapter Meeting

March 19th at 6pm

Glass Fusion Class

April 6th @ 10am

Honor Flights

April 20th, May 18th
& June 15th

Board & Brush

May 6th at 6pm

Field of Flags

May 20-24th

Union Grove Memorial Day Service

May 26th

Fundraiser Cooking Class

June 3rd at 6pm

Veterans Treatment Court

June 10th at 3pm

Irreverent Warriors Silkies Hike

August 24th

At our February 2024 meeting we welcomed 2 new members and 2 guests. We discussed past events, volunteer opportunities, shared news, offered each other support and had a special member share information about the organization TAPS (Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors).

TAPS is a nonprofit organization that was founded in 1994 and provides comfort, care and support to those who have lost a loved one who served in the military. In addition, they provide resources and help survivors cope with their loss. They are available to anyone who is grieving the death of someone who served, regardless of their relationship. More information is available via their website at TAPS.org.

Pictured below are some of our past events recapping the fun we have had and the bonds we have formed as we look forward to the coming months with events and activities for all!



MIN7 Blue Star Mothers North Metro



Meal preparation - for 38 guests at the Minneapolis Fisher House.

Each month we happily serve a meal for the families staying at Fisher House.



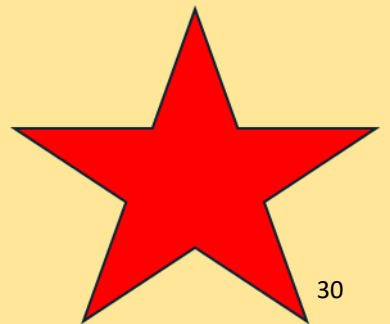
Blue Star Moms - Houston Chapter TX-2

It's the luck of the Irish this month! May the road rise to meet you and
may the wind always be at your back!

We had a wonderful time at our packing party this past month and appreciated all our
volunteers and donors for making this event happen!



“(There is no exercise
better for the heart
than reaching down
and lifting people up.”
- John Holmes ♥ Annabelle
Thank you
for all you do!



Pine City Blue Star Mom's

Chapter MN16

Happy Springtime!!! We have been extremely busy with planning and preparing for events. This Saturday, March 16th is our Dinner and Comedy Show Event. Our members have been busy putting together Silent Auction Baskets. The following Saturday, March 23rd is the Spring Craft Show at the Braham Convention Center. We will have a booth and serve lunch for the event.



A special shout out to member Gail Genin, she is now a member of the DEB financial committee. We welcomed new members at our February meeting. We are continuing to recycle plastics into benches, with 12 benches made and donated to date. Pictures and updates about our Spring events to follow in the next Newsletter.

MN1

We have been busy getting ready for our Department of MN Spring Meeting which we are hosting in April.

We have been working on fundraising projects to do this year to help with care package postage for many of the National Guard Red Bulls that left Minnesota in the last month or so.

We attended the departure ceremony for the Red Bulls as well to send them off.

We toured the newly opened Veterans Home in Montevideo, MN. It's a fabulous facility for our veterans!! We got to meet the first Veteran to move in. He's 94 years old and full of spunk.



March 2024 Packing Event Sacramento Blue Star Moms



Early Morning
News Coverage



Media Blast



Registration



Breakfast



Drop Off Donations



Bring the Family



Pick Up A Box



Pen A Note



Honored to Have Gold Star
Families Join Us



Pack For Loved Ones



Ready to Pack



Tape It Up



fin!



CA1 Group Photo



We started off our January Membership Campaign installing new members Holli Williams and Christi Towle. Each of them were presented with their Welcome Packet, scarf and Service Pin. Current members Lundy Maxwell and Martha Poillon stood by them and gave them their first Blue Star Sister hug. We recognized National Kazoo Day with members humming "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star! We had the privilege of leading the Pledge of Allegiance in observance of Blue Star Mothers Day, thanks to Jessica Purgar, Manager of the Fredericksburg Mission BBQ. We appreciate Debby Krieter, Mary Kulesa, Catherine Elson, and Teresa Sumners for representing VA4. The Blue Star Mothers of Fredericksburg Chapter VA4 celebrated its 15th Anniversary on February 14, 2024. We met with family and friends for dinner at Ristorante Renato, a devoted and long-standing supporter, early in the week. Valentine's Day and our anniversary were the ideal occasions to cherish and celebrate the love for our mission and one another. We took the time to acknowledge Pat Stello's Birthday. Mary Kulesa and Kate Patterson delivered 180 Valentine's cards that our generous members kindly donated for veterans in local assisted living facilities. The following events are scheduled for March: Leashes of Valor's Open House and Warrior Graduation, Rappahannock Regional Veterans Treatment Docket Graduation, Birthday Fun Night of Bingo! at the Elks Lodge, and hosting a Vietnam War Veterans Day Ceremony on March 29, 2024. Look out for pictures in the upcoming newsletter.



Happy 15th Anniversary VA4



Blue Star Mothers Of Louisiana Chapter 1



Socks of Love
was well attended
and delivered over
200 goodie bags to
our Vets as well
as employees at
Southeast LA.
War Vets Home

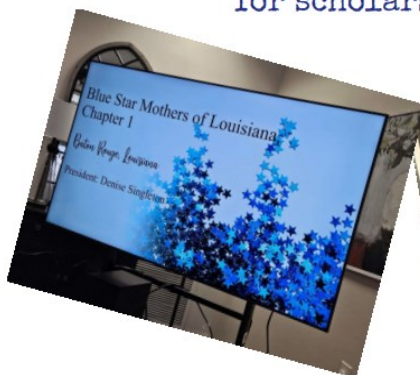


We all have busy schedules
yet we always find time...
We kicked off our first
Secret Sisters group,
We're still preping for OCS,
& several are planning to
attend Roaring on the River.



Our awesome
Chapter President
Denise Singleton
has been out representing
at the Red Stick Kiwanis &
offering ITI Technical College
Vets the opportunity to apply
for scholarship program

Welcome to our newest
Members and
Associate Members
Trisha Reboul
Angela Venable
Mishell Frith



An Irish Blessing

May you always have...
A sunbeam to warm you,
Good luck to charm you,
And a sheltering angel
So nothing can harm you...



Laughter
to cheer you,
Faithful friends
near you,
And whenever
you pray,
Heaven to hear you.

friends
ARE LIKE



FOUR-LEAF
CLOVERS

HARD TO FIND,

BUT lucky

TO HAVE

