



BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA, INC.

May 2024

A message from our National President

Hello Sisters!

I hope everyone is enjoying the warmer temps and surviving those storms that have been rolling through the mid-west. I wrapped up April by attending Sister's in Action in Michigan. It was a great conference, focusing on 1942 and would our founding Mothers be proud of how far we have come, and where the organization is today. Quite fitting for this being a governing documents year and our committee focusing on transparency, and equality for all members. We hope to bring back more of the Sisterhood and emphasize our mission, the mission they laid out for us.

With that being said, a huge THANK YOU to those who submitted feedback to our Governing Documents Committee. We appreciate the time and effort that has gone into this. It is not easy, but with everyone working together for the same goal, we can make this a smoother process. If you are a delegate at convention this year, please remember you are representing your Chapter, not yourself, so it is very important to review everything with them and come prepared to vote their voice.

As you have seen, this year's President's Project is Warrior's for Freedom. They are located in Oklahoma City and will be attending our banquet on Friday evening for a check presentation. Small donations can be made through Mandy's Tees & More; be watching for additional information coming out the end of this month. For large donations, please contact president.IL6@bluestarmothers.us as they are leading the fundraising for us. We ask that everyone have their donations in by 5:00pm on Monday, July 29 in order to have a grand total for the big check. Warriors for Freedom will display this at their facility, so we want to ensure everyone is included in our final number. All Chapters making a substantial contribution will be recognized during the presentation.

We will be rolling out our Convention t-shirt soon, so please be watching for that email. Again, thanks to those who continue to promote our Bonfire shirts. Along with the convention shirt, we are still running two additional campaigns, that anyone, even those outside of our organization, can purchase, so please continue to promote these on your social media pages. All proceeds are going towards convention to help keep your registration fee down.

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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Hello Sisters!

As we are getting ready for our 2024 National Convention, we wanted to reach out and let you know that once again, our Chapters will be hosting our 4th **Miles for Our Veterans – If These Boots Could Talk Virtual 5K for the President’s Project**. This year’s project is **Warriors for Freedom**. Warriors for Freedom is committed to supporting Veterans and their families through camaraderie programs while working daily to build suicide awareness and prevention. Here’s a link for those who would like to learn more about this program.

<https://www.warriorsforfreedom.org/>

How can YOU help?

It’s too late to get your chapter State and Number and sponsor the walk but you can still help!

Purchase a shirt May 24th-June 14th

Contact president.il6@bluestarmothers.us with any questions

A donation link will be available May 24th through June 14th! Watch for the email!

Participate in a virtual walk July 26-28 or if you are in OKC join us for a scenic walk!

See the details below!

- Everyone can help **promote registrations/sales of shirts** through your Chapter and within your community. Our goal is at least 120 shirts this year! We’d love to meet that goal and exceed it!! Set up an event and have fun with it!
- **Everyone can register/purchase a shirt. Registration link will be open from May 24 through June 14!**
 - Registration costs will be \$27 for shirt sizes small to XL and \$30 for sizes 2XL and 3XL.
- This is a virtual walk so you, your Chapter, friends, and/or family can make it what you want. Whether you walk alone or with a group, please stop along the way to take a photo then send it to us so we can add you to our slideshow during Convention. There will be a Facebook event page where you can share your photos, we will gather them from there for this slide show!
- **You’re not a walker? No problem! You can still purchase a shirt to promote this non-profit organization.**
- Or **anyone can donate** Donation link will be available May 24 through June 14!
- The **virtual walk will take place** any time that works for you and your group **July 26-28**, the weekend before Convention! Some of us will be walking in OKC that weekend before Convention, bring your shirt and join the group there if you would like!

Have questions? Please feel free to reach out to president.il6@bluestarmothers.us

Your Sisters from IL6 ~ IL1 ~ MO4 ~ MO5 ~ LA1 ~ LA7 Thank you for your support!!



IT'S RENEWAL TIME!!

Although our membership runs from September 1 through August 31, our renewal period begins June 1 each year. Within the next several weeks, you will be receiving an email with instructions to renew. For your convenience, we have noted several ways in which you can do this:

Option 1: Click the link provided in the email and pay online. **This is the easiest and quickest way to renew.** Once you submit your payment online, your profile is automatically updated with payment information and your expiration date will change to 08/31/2025. No waiting - done! **We do ask that you print your receipt and provide a copy to your Chapter for their records.**

Option 2: You may pay your Chapter and they can submit a Chapter Dues Renewal on your behalf. **This is also an easy way to renew your dues.** It will take a little longer than paying online by the time the Chapter and the National 1VP/National Financial Secretary process the renewal. Although this is done in a timely fashion, please remember, we have thousands of members renewing so things do slow down just a bit between June and August based upon how many choose this method of payment.

***Note to Chapters ~ please make sure your submissions are sent at least monthly.**

Option 3: Print the invoice and mail, along with your check, to the National Financial Secretary. While this is very much an option, it is the least recommended, simply for timing purposes. Once your invoice and payment make it through the mail to her PO Box, she then has to process, scan and email to the National 1VP. Please remember, both the National Financial Secretary and National 1VP are working very hard to get through all of their emails and processing procedures as quickly as possible. **So in a nutshell, this takes the longest to process.**

Renewal notices are automatically generated so you will receive one until your payment is posted and your profile is updated. If you choose option 2 or 3 above, please remember it takes longer to process and you may receive another renewal notice.

If you have **NEW** members joining, we highly recommend they join online. Again, this method is quicker; however, options 2 and 3 above are available as well.

Questions?? Please feel free to reach out to your National 1VP, I am happy to help you through the process.

Yours in Service,

Karen Stillwell

National 1VP, 1vp@bluestarmothers.us

Announcement from 2VP



The **June Newsletter deadline** is June 10th! Due to scheduling we need to complete the newsletter and send it out for **JUNE ONLY** prior to the 15th of the month this year. I apologize for any inconvenience.

2023-2024 Yearbook

***Deadline
is June 2nd**



We need you! Please send in:

1. **One photo of your child(ren),
Currently Serving or Veteran;** their name, Branch, your name and your chapter state & number
2. **4-5 recent group photos of your
Chapter** with state & number
3. **Blue Daisies from this fiscal year;** her name, chapter state & number
4. **Gold Star Hero photos from
active BSMA members;** his/her name, Branch, your name and chapter state & number
5. **Mom's who are Veterans;** please send a Military photo and a current photo of yourself

Email to: yearbook@bluestarmothers.us

HELP RAISE MONEY FOR THE VA HOSPITAL FUND
BY PLACING AN AD IN THE
2023-2024 Yearbook

IS THERE SOMETHING YOUR CHAPTER OR DEPARTMENT
WOULD LIKE TO SHARE IN THE YEARBOOK?


DESIGN YOUR OWN AD AND SEND IT TO

YEARBOOK@BLUESTARMOTHERS.US

****BY JUNE 2, 2024****

THEN SEND YOUR PAYMENT TO THE NATIONAL FINANCIAL
SECRETARY OR SUBMIT YOUR PAYMENT ON THE BSMA
WEBSITE “DONATE NOW” BUTTON, USE “PAYPAY” BUTTON, AND
NOTE “YEARBOOK VAVS AD” IN THE MEMO SECTION.

PAYMENT MUST BE
RECEIVED BY THE
NATIONAL FINANCIAL
SECRETARY TO BE
ACCEPTED

FULL PAGE \$100.00		1/4 PAGE \$25.00
		1/2 PAGE \$50.00

AD SPACES ARE
OPEN TO
MEMBERS,
ASSOCIATES AND
BUSINESSES

SPACE IS FILLING UP!
FIRST COME - FIRST SERVED
100% OF THE MONIES COLLECTED GOES TO
THE VA HOSPITALS

Any questions?

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

yearbook@bluestarmothers.us

*Books Ordered Before June 28th Will Be Delivered FREE to Convention



CAPTURE YOUR MEMORIES IN THIS YEAR'S

BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA YEARBOOK!

Customize Your 2 Free Pages

Add photos from your computer, Facebook, Instagram, Google Drive & more.

Answer fun Memory Questions to help remember the year.

The 2 Custom Pages are FREE and are printed ONLY in your book. Want more pages? Each additional 2 pages is just \$0.99.

To Purchase & Customize Your Yearbook

Must be a parent or student 13 years or older.

1 Go to: www.treering.com/validate

2 Enter your school's passcode:

101416260317183

Regular price: **\$25.81**

Create Custom Pages by: Jun 16

treering



From the desk of

Anne Parker, VAVS Representative

Convention Preparation is well underway, and part of that preparation is VAVS.

The team is very excited about the visit from Oklahoma Chief Melissa. She will be arriving with her team, and a truck, to not only speak for a few minutes but to load the truck up with beautiful bags of sweatpants.

How many?

Well, that is up to you! Many chapters have begun to ship their donations. But we need you to participate. With the ease of ordering online and having them direct shipped it only takes a moment to complete this task. Whether your chapter has the funds to order 5, 10 or 30 it is appreciated and needed. If you are driving, please bring them with you. If you are not attending convention your chapter can still participate by sending direct.

Do Not Bring Check or Cash to Convention. You need to bring or order for delivery ONLY. Thank You.

We are asking for volunteers to help sort the items that have come in.

Please email me and I will put you on the list of helpers at vavs.deputy@bluestarmothers.us

We are asking for Blue or Black Sweatpants **with Pockets.**

Sizes: Medium, Large, X Large, 2X Large and 3X Large.

The Ship to address is:

Christy Brown

1113 W Fargo Lane

Broken Arrow, Oklahoma 74012

Let's Do It Again Sisters!



Ann Berkins VAVS Rep. and Sunny Senft VAVS Deputy, received their volunteer awards and pins at the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Healthcare System Appreciation Luncheon.

Thank you to all our
VAVS Volunteers for
your continued
support to our
Veterans!!



Denise Guerra VAVS Rep. and Tony Guerra VAVS Deputy, received their awards and pins at the Tomah, WI VA Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon.

VAVS CONVENTION ANNOUNCEMENT



Our project for the 2024 convention is collecting Sweatpants for the Oklahoma VA.

Sweatpants should have Pockets!

Colors: Grey - Black or Navy.

Sizes - Medium - Large - XLarge - 2XLarge - 3XLarge

In the past chapters have ordered from Walmart - Amazon or any online shopping with best prices that can ship.

You can begin to ship Now.... ship to this residential address:

Christy Brown

1113 W FARGO LANE

Broken Arrow, Oklahoma 74012

We thank Christy very much for her help!



Online Store Special!!

May 15th through July 10th when you order \$30.00 worth of items (not including shipping) from the online store you will receive a **free** RED Flag Patch with your order.



Just sign into the National Website, go to online store tab and place your order! It's as easy as that, it will not show up on your order but will be included in the shipment.

IMPORTANT

ANNOUNCEMENT



Some minor changes as we prepare for our National Convention:

*July 12th the online store will be closed

*July 13-26 orders can be placed to pick up at National Convention with no shipping charge!

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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

John Henry Hinton-Saahir
Richard Earl Byrd
Todd L. Hadlock
William Anthony Franklin

Army

Aaron Louis Shambley
Abraham Flores-Carrasquillo
Adam Presley
Alan John Butterfield
Alberto M. Romero
Alberto Rodriguez
Ambrose (Sam) Szalwinski
Arthur Henry Lueckenhoff, Jr
Arville Raymond Mertz
Aubrey Lewis Wood III
Billy Joe Young
Billy Ray Amons
Bobbie Hall
Bobby Lee Bailey
Bradley Wayne Mehochko
Brian K. Rider
Bruce Shumway
Bryan L McQueen
Bryce Taylor Francis
Carl Joseph LaSala
Carl Wilson Browning
Cecil Ronald Wilson
Chad Holden
Charles Eugene Morris
Charles William Armstrong
Clarence "Sam" Sampson
Clay D. Washington
Cyril H. Meyer
Dallas Lynn "Yogi" Yowler
Daniel Franklin Thomas
Danny J. Roese
Danny Ray Sanders
David A. Rockwood
David H. Cordova
David Miller
David Minary
David Muff
David Royce Yates
David W. Capps
Delmar Norbert Nilges
Dennis E Morton
Dennis Lee Moore
Dennis M. Laird
Dennis R. Simonson
Dennis Wayne Rodgers
Derrick Lee Walker

Dillon Patrick McDonald
Dimitri Lozynsky
Dominic J. Simonetti
Don Cox
Don Garland Scott
Donald Bernard Anderson
Donald D. Fuller
Donald E. Sweeney
Donald L. Plein
Donald Ray Hite
Donald Ray Kornegay
Donald Romero
Dustin Paul Baldwin
Dwight Wayne Dillard
Earl Greene
Edgar Adrien St. Martin, Jr.
Edward "Eddie" Paul
Charnitz
Edward Genzer
Edward Michael Warhol
Edwin Eugene Givens
Eino John Honkala Sr
Elmer Eugene McNutt
Eric A. Gunther
Erman C. A. Loesch
Ernest Carter Jr.
Ernest L Bramer
Eugene David Colbert
Evan David Anthony
Evelyn Jean Kerley
Evert Bills
Ferric James Webster
Floyd Reichert
Francis Joseph Wacker
Francis Marley
Frederick Lamb
Frederick Louis Mueller
Fredrick "Bobby" Aessenger
Fredrick "Bobby" Aessenger
Fredrick Randolph Salanti
Gary Adrian Pongetti
Gary Dean Compton
Gene Robbins
George Andrews Carlton
Coggins
George Coffua
George David Bizzell
George Kilgore
George Michael Jeanette, Sr.
George W. Clark JR
Gerald "Jerry" Ward
Gerald Lynn Alexander
Glover Clifford Owens Jr

Gordon P. Kinney Jr.,
Guy Steven Burnett
Harden Lewis Jr.
Harold F McClure
Hartley Harold Huntsman
Howard John Brydges
Ian Patrickjohn Mcree
Jack Paul Stroker
Jakia T. Dye
James A Brosko
James A. Hayslett
James Alvin Jarreau
James Curtis Perry
James Garland Cambre, Sr.
James J. Osterman
James Jackson
James Mark Keberlein
James McLeod Mitchell
James Michael Hawley
James Russell Woody Jr.
James Willard DiCarlo
Jay Smith
Jerry Ellis Wheeler
Jesse Ray Harbert
Jessee Paul Watson
Jesus Munoz
Jimmie Doyle Waltz
Jimmie Enochs
Joan E. Nance
Joe Frank Jones
John A. Brown
John Charles Meyers
John D Hall
John D. Rikard
John Frederick Perry
John H. Anderson
John Joseph Molnar Jr.
John Key Jr.
John Lee Tacke
John M. Hammond
John S. Baynum
John S. Bushman
John William Bass
Johnny J Barnett
Jon Blair Owens
Jonathan Wilson
Jose G. Villarreal
Jose Soto
Joseph H Sack
Joseph Martin Sloop
Joseph Pfeifer
Joseph R. Feather
Joseph William Caccamisi

Joshua Allen Bryant
Justin W. Wanger
Kellie Charlynn Angel Mason
Kenith Bixler
Kenneth Eugene Baab
Kenneth J. Pfdenhauer
Kim L. Scott
Larry G Finn
Larry J Kessler
Larry Ross
Larry Skaggs
Lawrence "Larry" Ray
Nosker
Lawrence D. Carey
Lawrence G. Abbruzzese
Lawrence Russell Cioe
Leon Ray Jones
Leon Vinson
Leonard James Jacobsen
Leroy Watts III
Leslie Gene Hughes
Leslie Harwood Schnetzler, Jr.
Linn Patrick Laird
Linton Guy Creel Jr.
Lodes Aligie Sherrin, Jr.
Lonnie Eugene Ferrell Sr
Louis Gilbert McNair
Marc Fontabla
Margyl Louise Dewitz
Martin Frederick Leary
Martin William Portell Jr.
Marvin C. Gillenwaters
Matthew "Matt" Reed
McNurlin
Maurice Romero
Merrill W. Anderson
Michael Carson
Michael Dean Bottoms
Michael Lynn Peoples Sr.
Michael M Burdick
Michael Webb
Nelson W. Smith
Nicholas D Flaherty
Nick Rahaniotis
Norman Klages
Ollie Mack
Ormand Lee Macklin
Patricia Watkins
Patrick Joseph Charles
Paul E. Mueller
Paul Edward Stege
Paul L. Attig

Paul Lambert
Paul Mauceri
Peter J Way
Phil R. Brown
Phillip Joe Turner
R. W. Smith
Ralph Puckett, Jr
Randy P. Rumsey
Randy Ray McKinney
Raymond J Bischof
Raymond Lee Caples
Richard Allen
Richard Allen DeMeo
Richard Allen Johnson
Richard D Hester
Richard G. Pistor
Richard P. Cordova
Richard Rawls
Ricky Joe Shepherd
Robbie Lee Brown
Robert (Bob) Edwin Lee
Robert "Robbie" Byczynski
Robert Douglas Caudill
Robert Duane Westphal
Robert H. Payne
Robert J Perkel
Robert John Weir
Robert Lazarowitz
Robert Smith
Robert W Ayers
Robert W Tipton
Roberto Martinez Sr
Rodolfo Guerra Cortinas
Roger D. Hogoboom Sr.
Roger H.C. Donlon
Ronald Beelby
Ronald Edward "Ron" Thoma
Ronald Everett Mitchell
Ronald Pettitt
Ronald Wayne Ruby
Ronny George Holding
Ryan G. Bowen
Sam Serna Jr.
Shane Joseph Herman
Sidney Dean Anthony
Sidney Dwight Redding
Stephen M. Reay
Sterling John Stubbs
Steven Francis Peltier
Steven James Buss
Stewart Marks
Tai King "Roger" Choo

Terrance Donovan Wright
Terrill H. Neilson
Terry Huff
Terry John Gibbons
Terry Lee Kephart
Terry W. Lerch
Thomas Albert Ballard
Thomas C.C. Simmons
Thomas Carey
Thomas Daniel Guyton
Thomas Douglas Sanders
Thomas E Mazingo
Thomas Gerald Humphrey
Thomas H Sinex Sr.
Thomas Henry Spoons Jr.
Thomas J. LeValley
Thomas J. Verrette
Thomas M. Miller
Thomas W Coffey
Timothy Everett Brewer
Tobias James Medina
Tommy R. Orender
Tony Hamilton Brooks
Vernestine Pridgett Robinson
Vixien Phonvilai
W. Ray Stallard
Walter Wendell Jones
Warren D. Barlow
Warren William Thompson
Watson Lee McKibben
Wayne Edward Brown
William (Billy) Bryant Sumrell
William "Bill" Davis Jr.
William David Sample
William E. Meeks
William Edward Ward
William Frank Camp
William H. Maestas
William Hogewood
William J. Goode
William Moxton Reynolds
William O Jackson
William Thomas Bayha
Willie Louis Richardson, Sr
Winfred Sean Davis
Anthony Dale Reed/Air Force
Lionel L. Lyon/Air Force
Robert James Baker Jr/Air Force



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Army Cont.

Spencer Gardner/Air Force
 Walter Kozuch/Air Force
 George J Merz/Coast Guard
 Jason Gregory/Marine
 Roy Lee Carter/Marine
 Charles Coleman Avery/
 Navy
 Michael James Roberson/
 Navy
 Robert W. Moody/Navy
 William H Rogers/Navy

Navy

Adam Christopher Lewald
 Adam Joseph Leeds
 Arthur McConaughay Jr.
 Bruce Joseph Garcia
 Buddy Charles Wilson
 Carl James Smith
 Carroll Johnson
 Charles A. Keeton
 Charles Allen Hartley
 Charles D Nace
 Charles Edwin Schwab
 Charles Robert Fox
 Charles Roy Smith
 Clyde Irwin Gunn
 Cornelio Garcia
 Curtis Kent Morrell
 Curtis Stephens
 Cynthia Ann Hinojosa An-
 derson
 Danny D Houchin
 Danny Timothy Vineyard
 Darryl Lynn Tyler Sr.
 David O. Evans
 David R Myers Jr
 David Randolph Hartsaw
 Dean Edwin Peterson
 Dean L. Courtney
 Deborah L. Szykulski
 Dennis Albert Texter
 Donato "Donny" Angel
 Castano
 Durell Albin Johnson
 Eddie Johnson
 Edgar (Ed) Max Lamzik
 Edward Dale Garrett
 Eugene R. Wilson
 Frank E. Gray Jr.
 Frederick "Fred" Roble
 Frederick Leroy Fields

Gary E Abston
 Gary Hahn
 George "Paw Paw" Hamilton
 George Henry Meistrell, Jr.
 Gilbert Roy Letner
 Gregory Norman Scarr
 H. L. Ford
 Harley Shelton
 Harley Shelton
 Harold John James
 Henry Harrison Moss, Jr.
 Herbert C Kraehmer
 Howard Hamilton
 Jack Charles Crisco
 Jaime Andrews
 James Cherwak
 James David Thomson
 James E. Morrisette Jr.
 James Lowell Churchman
 James Orrington MacDonald
 Jerry Wayne Phillips
 John Albert Gustafson
 John Chaney
 John G. Konen
 John Henry Wells
 John McDonough
 John Patrick Sedlachek
 John Swan
 John William Richardson
 Johnny Jones
 Joseph Cichan
 Joseph Henry Degenhard
 Joseph Henry Degenhard
 Joseph L. Berry
 Joseph Tascione
 Julie Francine Damura
 Karl H. Eulenstein
 Kenneth Irwin Rowley
 Kevin Lewis Reid
 Kurt L Popp
 Kyle William Call
 Larry Clayton Crum
 Leonard D. Nation
 Leonard Philip Randall
 Lorrie M. Bortz
 Luther Aldin Liams
 Marion Briggs
 Maurice S. McDevitt
 Michael J. Kern
 Michael Lenox
 Michael Richard Simpson
 Michael Velasquez
 Michael William Leach, Jr.

Oscar A. Alley
 Paul Dwayne Williams
 Paul J Phillips
 Paul W Browning
 Raymond John Pfenning
 Raymond Tharaldsen Jr
 Richard Fitzgerald
 Richard P. Crinklaw Jr.
 Ricky Chirichello
 Robert (Bob) Emmet Carton
 II
 Robert A. Sturm
 Robert Adair Penn
 Robert Allen Beal
 Robert Christopher Soza
 Robert D. Ervin
 Robert E. Simpson
 Robert Shipman
 Robin R. Robinson
 Roderick (Roddy) Otto Bruns
 Rodney Bailey
 Rodney L. Ross
 Rodney W. Sipes
 Ronald Paul Camp
 Rondle K Andrews
 Ronnie Paul Higdon
 Ronnie Richard Wyatt
 Roy Powers
 Sammy Berton Kyzar
 Samuel Agee
 Samuel Burkham
 Sandra Kaye Kestner
 Stanley Madison "Doc" Hall
 Steve Adrian Garrett
 Steven Robert Stump
 Ted Girton
 Terrence Leon Rassier
 Terry Lynn Hohenberger
 Thomas Holmes
 Thomas Wells Kiker
 Wallace Jaillet
 Willard R. Evans
 William Edward Brown
 William H. Emore
 William Henry Myers
 Winifred Herald Hensley
 David Carter/Air Force

Marine Corp

Albert Clutter Jr.
 Antanas Mitkevicius
 Antonio Manish, JR
 Bryon O'Brien
 Camilo Andres Pardo

Carl Leslie Pixley
 Cecil M. Gaskins
 Charles W. Schmidt
 Daniel R. Houdersheldt
 David Dulion
 David Glinski
 David P. Assum
 Dennis Grooms
 Edmar Earl Mayard
 Edward Kale
 Ernest Breitenbach
 Ernest Victor Buso
 Fernand Gagnon
 Gary Wayne Carter
 Gregory L Bradford Jr
 Harris Willis Clark, Jr.
 Jack Donald McHugh
 Jack G Williams
 James G Novosel
 James John
 James Jones
 James Mason
 James William Lusk
 James William Payne
 Jason M Zimmer
 Jerry Simmons
 Jesse Duran
 Joe Robert Litterell
 John Epstein
 John Lee Spencer
 John Wesley Dawsey Jr
 Jose Surita, Sr.
 Karl Luther Roedel
 Karl R. Powell
 Kenneth Joseph Neal
 Kevin Ray Culpepper
 Larry Thomas Cook
 Leonard Sylvester Walent
 Louis H Mings
 Luther Fred Bellamy
 Marcia Martone
 Maurice Stewart
 Melvyn Feigen
 Nickolas Hutto
 Peter Kenneth Fleckenstein
 Randy W. Roloff
 Richard Lyle Franklin
 Richard M. Whitney
 Robert Emmitt Wharton
 Robert Taylor Massey
 Robin Farris
 Ronald Hanse
 Ronald Jay Robinson

Samuel Helmuth
 Samuel Joseph Hyland
 Stephen Casey Chancellor
 Thomas Jefferson Farris
 Thomas Wayne Woodall
 Willie Marion Flowers, Jr.
 Willis Grant Walton
 James Richard Royer/Air
 Force
 Joe Sanchez, Jr./Air Force
 Bobby Loper/Army
 Scott F Bartlett/Navy

Coast Guard

Gerald Greig Jr.
 Michael Sean Gallagher
 Oscar Esparza
 Terrance A. Haner

Air Force

Albert "Gene" Eugene Teel,
 Jr.
 Albert M. Ramirez
 Alex "Duke" Duane Cumber-
 land
 Barry Lee Millette
 Ben Vest Jr
 Benjamin S Bradsher, Jr.
 Bobby Gene Graham
 Brian Leroy Patton
 Charles Howard Atwood
 Clarence Lee Ransom
 Darrell Russell James
 David D. Igelman
 David Deahl
 David Paul Davis
 David Ralph Deahl
 Don Robert Hill
 Donald E. Davis
 Donald E. Matthews
 Donald Leroy Garrison
 Donnie Alton Hart
 Dorsey Andrew Phillips
 Douglas R. Munday
 Earl Dean Wise
 Ellis Floyd Akins
 Elmo Eugene Cook Sr.
 Eugene L. Wilcox Jr.
 Felipe Gardoni
 Garry R. Neal
 Gary E. Parrott
 George Phelps Broaddus
 George R. Gammon
 Gordon D Chaffins

Gordon T. Jones
 Guy W Freeman jr
 Harry Dean Cooke III
 Harry J Hill
 Herbert Goodwin Amburn
 Jackie E. Stephens
 James Allen Bolduc
 James Caddell
 James Fred Johnson
 James Julian Carter
 James Meddern Sellers III
 James Randolph Battle
 James Rankin Parsons
 James Turner Jr.
 Jesse Cartwright
 Jewell Dean Kehr
 John James Leonard
 John Jenkins
 John Joseph Bennett Jr.
 John P. Guilfoil
 John Robert Walker
 John Todd
 Joseph Snell
 Kenneth A. Ziel
 Lawrence O. Mitchell
 Leonard L Rikansrud
 Luther Graham
 Lyman A. Bucklin
 Lyndall Stone
 Lynn D Nelson
 Marion R. Smith
 Mark Henry Johnson
 Melville T Moore
 Michael Benton Harris
 Milton Everette White
 Paul L. Harless
 Paul Wesley Kemp
 Peter H. Pyott
 Ray Stricklin Jr.
 Raymond Garland
 Richard Alan Bell
 Richard Joseph Wilson, Sr.
 Richard Pliny Link
 Ricky L Logsdon
 Robert A. Kuchner
 Robert D. Brubaker
 Robert E Benskin
 Robert George Aldous
 Robert Meyers
 Robert S Huitt
 Roderick F. Kennan
 Rodger Fox
 Rodney Drake



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Air Force Cont.

Ronald Squires
Stephen Edward Caspary
Stephen Edward Harberson
Steven Richard O'Hara

Thomas Joseph Fitzgerald
Timothy L. Foresee
Timothy McKnight
Tony Curtis Vaughan
Walter Lee Davis

William "Chris" T. Christman III
William C. Hines
William Hewitt, Sr.
William Welsh
Willie Lenis Brown,

Wilson Kelly Henson
John R. "Digger" Diskrud/Army
Unknown Branch
Luther I. Butler
Michael Patrick O'Connor

Todd C. Leckie
William D. Webb

Blue Daisies



Our sympathies to the family and friends of Jane Gale SC8

Jane is pictured here proudly wearing her chapter t-shirt

I wish to apologize for the error in last months newsletter. The incorrect photo was submitted for Robin Countryman-Valk

TREASURE COAST BLUE STAR MOTHERS, FL11



SUPPORTING ACTIVE DUTY,
VETERANS, AND
MILITARY FAMILIES

www.BlueStarMothersFL11.org



Chapter members waiting for Honor Flight to arrive. Our Secretary Rae was on the flight celebrating 50 years.



Chapter members worked on crafts with Veterans at a local senior facility.



FL-11 provided honor cords to graduates from Ft Pierce Westwood Academy for the first time. We were honored to be given the opportunity by Jr ROTC Major William Godfrey.

CA 50 Four Seasons Blue Star Mothers

We presented a check to the Fisher House of Los Angeles at the VA Hospital on January 8th, 2024. We held a fundraiser to benefit the Fisher House and it was a success!

We raised \$2,779 for the benefit of this incredible organization.

They were very grateful and gave us a tour of the facility that houses the Military families while their loved ones are in the hospital.





Our Rim Blue Star Moms partnered with our local Rim of the World High School to create a Hometown Hero display case highlighting our local service members. We also distributed information to students and parents attending Open House.



REBECCA BOONE
WAS INJURED IN THE
WAR IN IRAQ AND
EARNED THE SILVER
STAR BANNER. OUR
CHAPTER WILL
MAINTAIN HER
BANNER IN
PERPETUITY



Throughout
Hardin County

Blue Star Mother's
2nd Annual

OH32

SCAVENGER HUNT

We will be holding our 2nd annual Scavenger Hunt Fundraiser. Everyone had so much fun last year and we can't wait for the hunt year. We have done a lot of planning and organizing to make this year bigger and better than last year, with all new challenges, puzzles and games.



We held our first Craft & "Dip" fundraiser. We put a spin on the usual craft and sip parties and decided all of the members in our chapter would bring a dip or two to share. We had a huge variety of dips and desserts. We had a great time crafting, conversing and laughing with friends and family who came to support us.



NE2 Heartland M*O*M*S



April 24, 2024
Our Community
Salutes
High School Enlistee
Recognition
Ceremony





Ohio Chapter 21



This month our members were welcomed to fundraise at Tractor Supply Company in Fremont, Lake Erie Arms in Milan, and Fin Feather and Fur in Milan. All proceeds from this fundraiser will go to our June care package event.



A group of us also traveled down to the Ohio North/South Conference. It was a nice weekend of continuing education and socializing with other BSM's.



CA30

Our chapter celebrated our 12th Annual Gold and Blue Star Mother's Day Luncheon on April 28th.

17 Gold Star Mothers, 24 Blue Star Mothers, and several guests enjoyed a day of laughter, tears, and love as we lifted up our Gold Star sisters.

Teresa Bullock, Past Dept. President of So. Cal and Hawaii of American Gold Star Mothers, was our keynote speaker. She was presented with a handmade quilt and a necklace for her 16 years of service to Blue and Gold Star Mothers.



NM2



Rio Grande Valley Blue Star Mothers



Members from NM2 attended the Dedication and Acceptance of the Albuquerque Gold Star Mothers Memorial Marker on 4/27 at the New Mexico Veterans Memorial Park.



**MAY 18TH
ARMED FORCES DAY!
LAND OF THE FREE BECAUSE
OF THE BRAVE!**



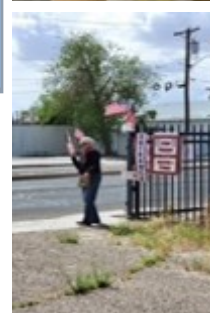
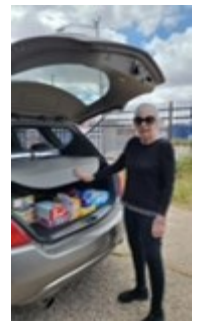
COMING UP!

FIRST ANNUAL BATTLE OF THE BRANCHES
COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE WITH
**NM2 AND VITALANT
BLOOD SERVICES.**

5/18/24 FROM 11-2
NM VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK
EVERY TWO SECONDS SOMEONE NEEDS
BLOOD, **PLEASE DONATE!**
**BECAUSE OF YOU LIFE
DOESN'T STOP.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

**DONATION DROP OFF DRIVE-THRU
FOR UPCOMING PACKING 6/15!**



**MIDNIGHT FOCUS CAR SHOW
BENEFITTING RGV NM2**



**NEW NAVY MOM, LISA
WELCOME!**



**THANK
YOU ALBUQUERQUE
AND SURROUNDING
COMMUNITY!**



LONG ISLAND BLUE STAR MOMS NY6
VETERANS CONFERENCE & RESOURCE FAIR



Spring 2024 Events

March, April and May were busy months for BSMNY7. We participated in an Easter Party for the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station's military and Family Readiness Center, honored special donors who gave their time & talents to our We Care Packages for deployed troops & our Valentines for Veterans program, and honored our Gold Star Mothers at our 2nd annual Mothers Day Brunch.



Families & troops enjoyed a fun time visiting with "Captain Hoppy" and an indoor Easter egg hunt.



Two major contributors of our programs were presented with US Flags flown in their honor.



Our Annual Mothers Day Brunch honoring our Gold Star Mothers is a treasured tradition. A yellow rose symbolizing Friendship & Caring is presented to each Gold Star Mother in Honor of their child and their ultimate sacrifice to our Country.



SPRING CREEK AREA TX18

BLUE STAR MOTHERS



Girls Scouts donated 900 boxes to BSMs to send to deployed and local troops.

We served our local Vietnam Veterans at VFW 4709 Conroe, Texas.

Thank you to Knights of Columbus #8960 for your donation!

Serving our Military!



Global Youth Service Day

Three students at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School wanted to do something to address the 17 a day suicides by veterans in our country. They received an award from a Hershey's Heartwarming Heroes Grant. Their teacher, Blue Star Mother from MI 184, suggested that they work with their BSMA Chapter to make it possible. Bruno Dostal and his friends, Grace Gjonaj and Grace Toma, proposed a project for Global Youth Service Day. They had all 83 of the 8th graders in their school participate and even the mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, Joe LaRussa, joined them in preparing packages. They made 118 bags with paracord bracelets, hearts of hugs, and a healthy meal for veterans in transitional housing Southwest Detroit. The students worked diligently to make sure every bag was special and delivered on Global Youth Service Day April 26, 2024. The response of the veterans was overwhelming gratitude. Their hope is that they can save a life by helping at least 100 veterans who may be struggling know that they are appreciated.

The MiSide letter of appreciation stated, "Your donation will make a difference for so many in Southwest Detroit. You are changing the lives of veterans in our community. The past few years have been a major struggle for many, and your support is making sure that veterans get on their feet and stay on their feet. With so much changing around us, your unwavering commitment to provide for those in our community is an inspiration. Thank you for your kind generosity."



MI184



Socks for Deployed and Veterans Hospitals

MI 184 volunteers compiled 200 white socks to send to deployed military requesting durable soft white socks. Additionally, they made 100 sock cupcakes for veterans in the VA Hospital. Volunteers give them to the veterans on their birthdays when they are at the hospital.



Quilts of Valor

Chapter MI 184 awarded 2 Quilts of Valor recently to two brothers who fought in two different wars. Scott Tuggle is a Purple Heart Recipient and his brother-in-law, David Mondak, were awarded quilts of valor and welcomed home to a grateful nation.

Blue Star Mothers ROC NY8



Month of the Military Child

The Rochester Blue Star Mothers along with five other veteran serving community groups celebrated the Month of the Military Child with an afternoon of bowling for military families. The Military Child is Brave, Fearless, and Resilient!! Many of the military kids attending were bowling for the first time and they loved it. Pizza, drinks and cake was provided to the families.



BSM NY8 Hosts Baby Shower

Seven military families were showered with all the items needed for a new baby; clothes, equipment, hand knitted and crocheted jackets and hats and of course diapers!!! The annual event provided massages for the moms, food, and gifts for military and veteran families with an infant ages 6 months or young or expecting a child. With help from a grateful community these families are all ready for their new bundle of joy!!



Blue Star Moms of the Southwest Valley, AZ4



Gold Star Tea hosted by the Spicery, an 1895 Historic home in Glendale, AZ



Each Gold Star Mom received a Gold Rose



Introductions were made



An artist painted a patriotic picture for our beautiful Gold Star Moms.

Blue Star Moms of the Southwest Valley AZ4

In May, our main focus was to honor and celebrate our amazing Gold Star Moms. Our chapter held a beautiful afternoon tea at a historic tea house in Glendale, Arizona.

We showered our guests with special "Never Forgotten" pillows made by artisan Addie Reece, prayer blankets and a gorgeous handmade retired flag case made by an artist from WHAM. The tea menu included delicious hot tea steeped to perfection, scones, luscious chicken and rice soup, a sweet berry salad, and an assortment of tea sandwiches. Dessert included a plate of assorted delights topped off with a decorated Gold Star sugar cookie.

Our Blue Star sisters listened to some incredible stories shared by our Gold Star Moms. New friendships were made and everybody agreed that our chapters will participate in a joint project together in the future. We just enjoyed each other's company immensely.

There were many little special moments that took place. At our table of six, for example, we also had a Blue Star Brother seated with us. One of the moms at our table shared with us a special symbol that came to her after her 21-year-old daughter passed away-it was a blue butterfly. Whenever she sees one, she knows her daughter is with her. Our table was the only table that had a silk blue butterfly in the flower vase.

We laughed together and we cried together. We hugged each other and we encouraged each other. The afternoon was simply beautiful in every way.



Minnesota Chapter 7

Our chapter has been incredibly active and engaged! Making donations, celebrating milestones, creating Mother's Day cards, and participating in community events—it's heartwarming to see such dedication from all our members.



Donation of sweatpants and sweatshirts and homemade pillows to the Minneapolis VA.



Fisher House crew for May



Gift card donation to MACV.



Donation to St. Cloud Stand Down



VAVS (CDCE) open house at the VA



Congratulations on 18 years of being a BSMA Chapter! It's an incredible milestone, and your dedication is truly commendable. Here's to many more years of meaningful contributions & sisterhood.

Chapter Board Team Building activity - Creating Mother's Day cards was a beautiful way to express appreciation and love to our BSMA sisters. Even for those who didn't consider themselves "creative," the act of making something special is incredibly rewarding. It's all about the thought and effort put into it!

IOWA STAR

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

www.bluestarmothersofiowa.com

MARCH/APRIL 2024

bluestarmothersia1@gmail.com

Blue Star Mothers of Iowa Sponsor Quilts of Valor



During our February meeting, our chapter approved sponsoring eight Quilts of Valor. To date, four quilts have been presented.

The first quilt was presented to **John O'Loughlin** for his 23 years of service in the United States Navy. John received an honorable discharge in 1993 with the rank of Senior Chief Petty Officer. John's service dog

Charlie was also presented with a quilt which was donated by the family of a deceased veteran.



The second quilt was presented to **Fred J. Adams** for his service in the Iowa Army National Guard during WWII. Fred's division was activated in 1941, and he served overseas until 1946. Fred received an honorable discharge in 1946 with the rank of Private First Class.

Don Hummel was presented the third quilt for his service in the United States Air Force as a Veterinary Specialist. Don was honorably discharged with the rank of Sergeant. In his civilian life, Don worked for Iowa State University on research farms and is currently a substitute teacher.



The fourth quilt was presented to **Larry Kane** for his service in the United States Army. Larry was a Computer Programmer assigned to the 32nd AAD Command in Germany. He received an early discharge, due to a family emergency, with the rank of Specialist 4th Class.

It's an incredible honor for Blue Star Mothers of Iowa to help show these Veterans how much we appreciate their service. We look forward to featuring the remaining recipients as their quilts are completed and awarded.



Monthly Meet-Up



In March, we met for dinner at Olympic Flame Restaurant (pictured). In April, we met for dinner at the Iowa Taproom. Our June meet-up is Blue Star Moms Picnic in the Park at Camp Dodge. We always have a fantastic time getting together between monthly business meetings for friendship, fellowship, and support. Join us!



Memorial Day Observation

Monday, May 27, 6:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
Iowa Gold Star Museum

Blue Star Mothers of Iowa will be accepting donations for travel size toiletries to be included in our care packages.

Picnic in the Park

Saturday, June 16, 11:00 a.m.
Camp Dodge Picnic Area

Bring a side dish to share. Sandwiches and tableware will be provided. RSVP by June 10.

More details to come!



President
Lisa Wilson

Vice President
Jen Fletcher

Recording Secretary
Kim Vernon

Financial Secretary
Leigh Tomich

Treasurer
Janelle Chase-Kennedy

The Blue Star Mothers of Iowa is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization devoted to supporting our Military Forces, our Veterans, and their Families.

MN16



Pine City BSM ended April with our Dinner and Comedy Show Fundraiser. Which was very well received, because of all the generous donations we were able to donate \$600 to the MN Department President's Project- Veterans on the Lake Resort, Ely, MN.

A few weeks later, we had our annual fundraiser garage & bake sale, to raise additional funds for upcoming projects and care packages. Our sale generated \$838 in sales.

Voluntold spouses and Associate Gwyn, are our official taste testers at the sale!! They really have a hard job, but somebody's got to do it! The morning of the sale our Chapter President Tish Carlson, Chapter Treasurer Angie Flowers & Associate Cheri Engren, participated in the Braham Girl Scouts 5k color run/walk. They all came back colorful and ready to work!



Our President Tish Carlson, middle, was awarded Chapter 16 Shining Star pin, for hard work and dedication to the Pine City Blue Star Moms. This award is well deserved, Tish said this award goes to all our members and associates because of their loyalty and your dedication, to our chapter as it continues to grow and strive!!
" We are small but mighty"





Co8

We were busy last month honoring the HS Srs who have chosen to join the Military





NORTHCENTRAL PA 12



The Blue Star Mothers of America Chapter PA 12 had the honor of recognizing 13 local High School Seniors at our Future Defenders of Freedom ceremony. These young men and women will be beginning their military career after graduation and we were pleased to be able to present them with a Challenge Coin, Certificate of Appreciation, and a Patriotic Chord. We wish them all the best in their journey and thank them for their commitment to serve our Country. We also presented their mothers a flower and a Military Mom poem.



RiverCats Fundraiser



SBSM Juli coordinates volunteers to work in the concession booth, which earns us unrestricted funds

5th Tuesday Fun

SBSM Wendy arranges the 5th Tuesday Madness



SBSM Mandy designs and posts weekly donation drive flyers



Travis AFB Field Training Assist



SBSM Kristan, Buffie and Debbie arranged and donated product for Travis AFB Field Training Days



Chicagoland Blue Star Mothers IL6

Another busy month! We hosted one of our favorite events of the year – our Gold Star Parents Brunch at Mission BBQ! This year our desserts were provided by our local Rocky Mountain Chocolate Shop, those were a huge hit. We enjoyed a morning of fellowship and conversation about our kids, everyone had a great time together!

We also hosted a virtual drive to collect board books for a Veterans Baby Shower – we collected about 50 books to help get these families off to a great start.

Our meeting this month was a social/fundraiser at Gia Mia. We thank them for supporting us over the years!



THE BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF VALENCIA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO (NM6) WERE HONORED TO HOST THIS YEAR'S STATE'S CONVENTION, IN LOS LUNAS, NM.

OUR THEME WAS BASED ON THE 5 POINTS OF THE STAR: POINT ONE – A NEW LIFE; POINT TWO – A DIFFERENT WORLD/CONUS/OCONUS; POINT THREE – WHAT IF...HOME OR ABROAD; POINT FOUR – REINTEGRATION; POINT FIVE – THEIR PATH FORWARD.

WE HAD SEVERAL SPEAKERS: 2 YOUNG MEN WHO RECENTLY ENLISTED, AND 1 WHO JUST RETURNED FROM BOOT CAMP. THEIR MOTHERS WERE IN ATTENDANCE ALSO. THESE YOUNG MEN SHARED WHY THEY DECIDED TO ENLIST, AND WHAT THEY ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO.

IN ATTENDANCE WERE MEMBERS OF NM1, NM2 AND NM6. WE SHARED TEARS, LAUGHTER, FOOD AND GOOD TIMES!!



BLUE STAR MOTHERS STATE CONVENTION



Clara Garcia | News-Bulletin photo
Members from the Blue Star Mothers across New Mexico traveled to Valencia County on Saturday for the state convention, which was held at the Los Lunas Transportation Center. Debra Solisky, pictured right, president of the Blue Star Mothers of Valencia County, welcomed fellow members as well as several members of the Los Lunas High School JROTC, who will soon be leaving for the military. Quinton Solano, far left, the outgoing lieutenant commander of the LLHSJROTC, is leaving for the U.S. Marine Corps on Aug. 12. His brother, Dillon, enlisted two years ago. Damon Baca, center, signed his contract to enter the U.S. Army last year when he was 17 years old. Logan Carrillo, right, is also leaving for the U.S. Army, following the footsteps of his father, who has been in the U.S. Air Force for 24 years, and his uncle is a retired Air Force general.



BLUE STAR MOTHERS SE WI 2



MAY 2024

Upcoming Events

Honor Flights

May 18th & June 15th

Field of Flags

May 20-24th

Westlawn Flag Placement

May 23rd @ 7:30pm

Union Grove Memorial Day Service

May 26th @ 11am

MKE Burger Fundraiser

May 28th from 5-8pm

Fundraiser Cooking Class

June 3rd at 6pm

Veterans Treatment Court

June 10th at 3pm

Camp Hometown Heroes

July 2nd at 9am

Irreverent Warriors Silkies Hike

August 24th

Brat Fry in Elkhorn

August 31st from
9:30am-3pm

Our April 2024 meeting, we shared a delicious meal, welcomed 1 guest and discussed upcoming events currently on our calendar, new volunteer opportunities and enjoyed sisterhood by sharing news and personal updates.

At this meeting, 2 new fundraising opportunities were announced, the first one taking place a few weeks ago with Lou Malnati's Fundraising Program. We not only enjoyed this regional pizza favorite, but enjoyed getting together for a great fundraising opportunity. The 2nd one will be at the end of May, at the MKE Burger Company!



Pictured below are photos from several events. The first being the American Legion Harvey Funk Post 494 Prime Rib Dinner. This post is where we hold our monthly meetings. We supported their event and were honored to participate in a Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin Ceremony. We also held our semi-annual Board & Brush fundraiser. Pictured below are images of our incredibly talented & creative group.





At the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Virginia, on April 20th, VA4 members Mary Kulesa, Martha Poillon, Brenda Barker, Mary Lou Bowers and her friend Martha, Margaret Niemann, Teresa Sumners, Scot Barker, Keith Bowers had the pleasure of surprising the Old Dominion Honor Flight, as we always do. Our Blue Star Sisters from VA5, Vicki Aardema, Donna Long, Bonnie Vona, and Suzanne Arrison, joined in cheering and expressing gratitude to the veterans as they entered the museum. Special thanks were extended to VA4 members Pat Stello and Debby Krieter, who served as Honor Flight Guardians for a veteran. After touring the museum and shopping in the gift shop, VA4 and VA5 members had lunch in the Marine Tun Tavern restaurant. We are incredibly appreciative to the Celebrate Veterans Group for inviting Teresa Sumners and Mary Kulesa to speak about the great work of the Blue Star Mothers of Fredericksburg at their April meeting. They have shown our chapter and our armed forces the utmost support. Expressing gratitude for all of their contributions is simply insufficient. Many thanks for everything! Yay for a new member! At our April meeting, we welcomed Amy, our new chapter member. She takes the oath from Chaplain Mary Beth Algert. Standing beside Amy are her Blue Star Sisters, whose kids are in the same military branch as hers. Amy received a scarf from Faye Mohler, a Service Banner by Pat Stello, a service pin by Martha Poillon and a big hug from Teresa Sumners. Faye Mohler was the April Most Valuable Star Recruiter. We were appreciative of Pat Stello's generous donation of the beautifully framed Angel décor as the Door Prize. The beautiful angel is taken home by Mary Beth Algert. We went to McAlister's Grill for a group lunch. We had a terrific experience! We rolled right into May by supporting the Virginia Run For the Fallen at several Hero Mile Markers and providing lunches for their team.



Pat Stello



Debby Krieter



VA4 Chapter



Guest Speakers, Teresa Sumners and Mary Kulesa



Mary Beth



Faye Mohler MVSR



Welcome to the chapter Amy!



Mary Beth and grandson, the cheer section!

Blue Star Mothers Massachusetts Chapter 1



Members attended the funeral of World War II, KIA/MIA Cpl. Manuel Pimental, USMC as part of Blue to Gold duties. His remains were recovered from Guadalcanal region and after DNA confirmed his identity and he was laid to rest with full military honors.

Central Mass Quilts of Valor partnered with BSM to present 7 quilts to veterans at our chapter meeting



We did a packing of Girl Scout Cookies and gift cards to our active-duty military!



Members volunteered at the VA Central Western Massachusetts HCS's 100th Anniversary Celebration. Over a decade of caring for our veterans!



Department of Michigan

Sisters in Action 2024 is in the books!

“Remember When...” Had us back to the beginning of Blue Star Mothers in 1942 with mothers participating in dressing up 1940's style. There were quite a few nice-looking Victory Rolls!

A potluck style lunch was enjoyed by everyone, beautiful silent auction baskets were brought by participating chapters and National President Rebecca Stafford won the 50/50 raffle!

Our morning speaker was Jody Owens who was greatly enjoyed by everyone! She presented “Forgotten Voices of WWII”. (Chapter 195 member Aly Owens mother) Jody recounted wonderful stories of local Battle Creek area residents who joined various branches of the Military. I think we could have listened to Jody's stories all day!

In the afternoon we were able to look through a lovely slide show from Kathy Barnes showing the Blue Star Mothers through some of the early years. Including pictures of bus loads of Mothers headed to Fairs and Conventions. DEB 2nd Vice President, Stacey Breithaupt. was even able to point out her grandmother in one of the photos!

We were also able to have seen the inside of and have pictures taken with The Fabulous Flamingo, courtesy of Gino Lucci, a retiree from the U.S. Air Force. The Flamingo is a Douglas R4D military transport plane combined with a chassis from an International DuraStar 4400. An amazing plane with much of the original interior intact!

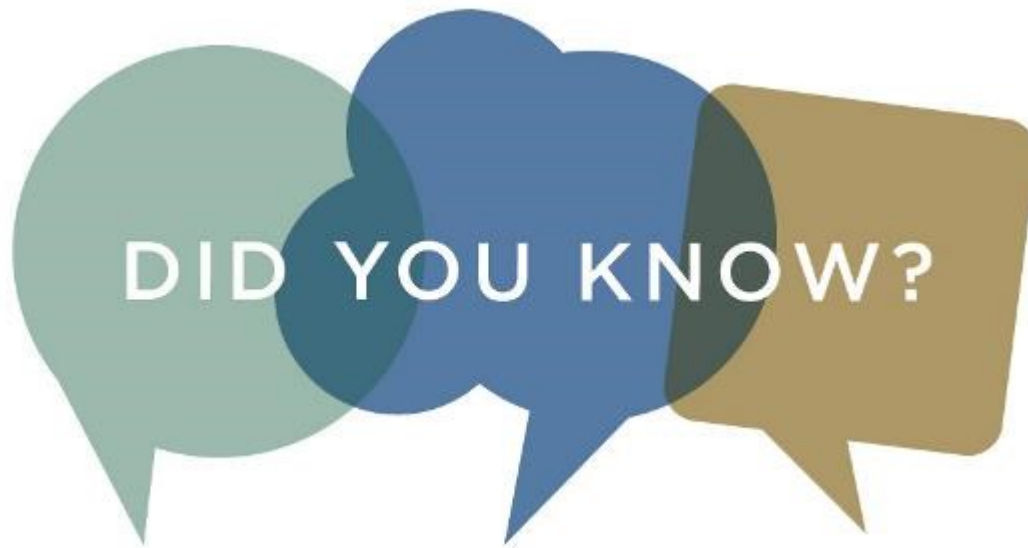
The goal was to bring back that original feeling that started the Blue Star Mothers of America.

Are we doing those mothers justice and making them proud of how we have upheld the mission and goals established 82 years ago...

Thank you to everyone who participated, helping set up/tear down, bring food, silent auction baskets and attended! I hope everyone enjoyed spending the day with fellow sisters and had as much fun as I did!

- Alice Gombas, 1st VP DEB



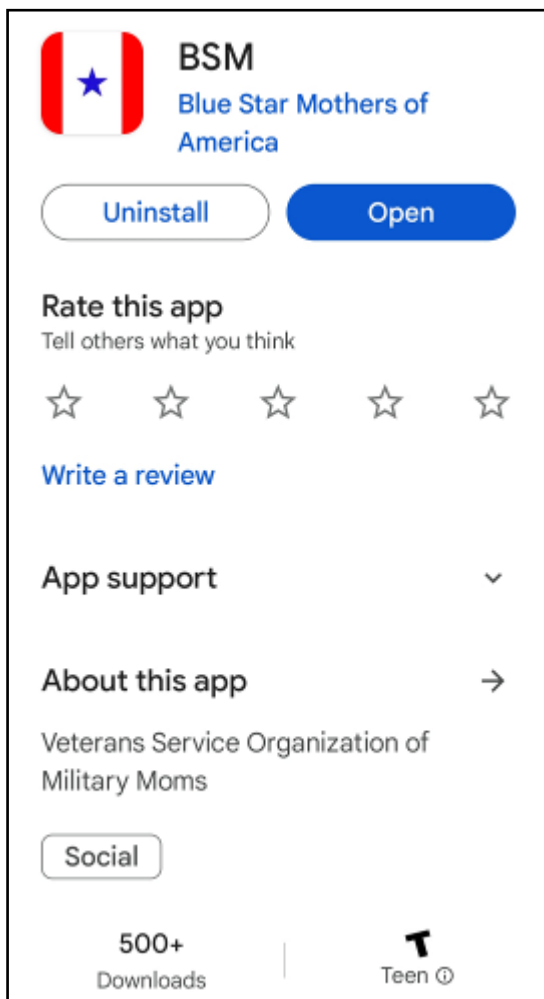


Blue Star Mothers of America has an app??

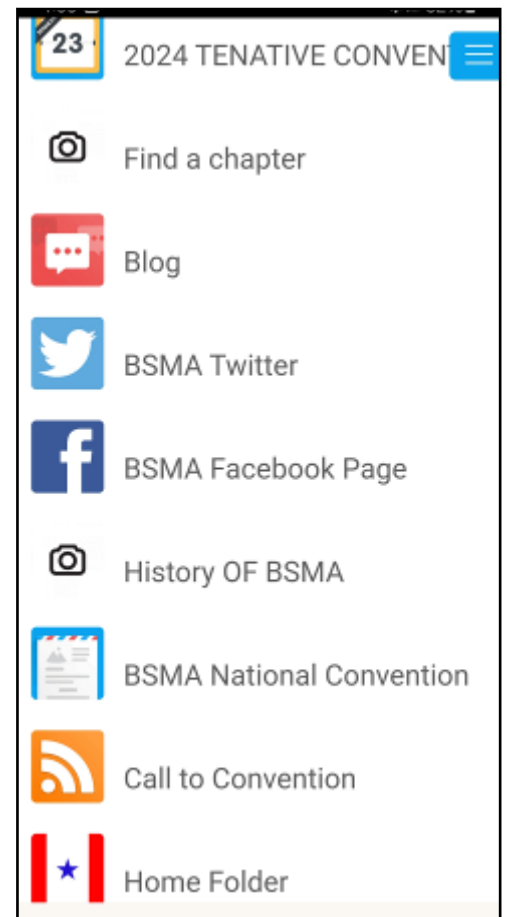
Go to your favorite App Store and download it today!

So much information is found on the app! You can see the schedule for National Convention with a touch of your finger, no more carrying your paper schedule around. But there's more... You can see the history of Blue Star Mothers of America, locate a chapter and register new members right on the app!

You can connect to multiple social media sites and so much more!



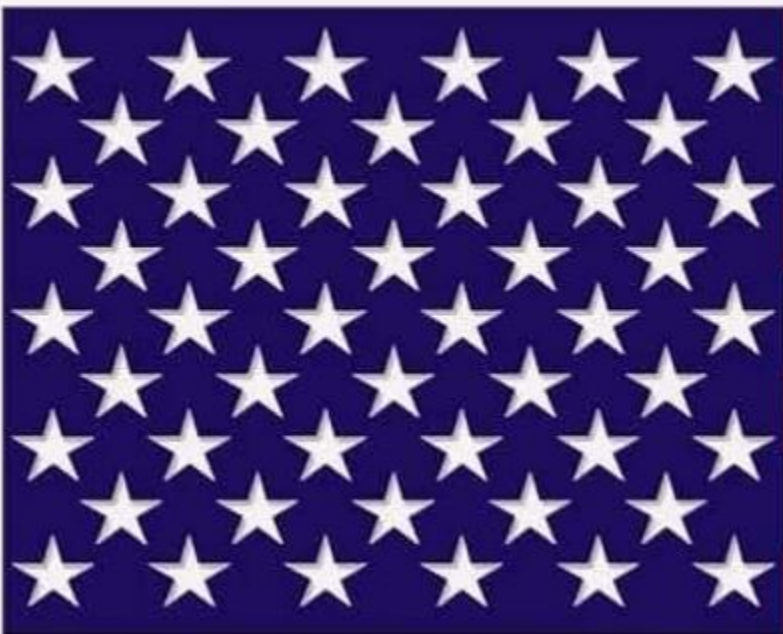
Download it today to see everything you have available at your fingertips



MAY IS



NATIONAL
MILITARY
APPRECIATION MONTH



TO THE MOMS

**THE WARRIOR MOMS,
THE BLUE STAR MOMS,
THE GOLD STAR MOMS,
THE MOMS WHO WEAR**

**TWO SETS OF SHOES BECAUSE THEIR SPOUSE
IS AWAY DEFENDING OUR NATION,
AND TO ALL OF THE MOMS
WHO SUPPORT THESE MOMS,**

[facebook.com/FIF.HOH](https://www.facebook.com/FIF.HOH)

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!!



MEMORIAL DAY

DAY

REMEMBERING & HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

