



BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA, INC.

September 2024

A message from our National President

Dear Sisters,

This past week, our Nation observed the 23rd Anniversary of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attack. An act that killed nearly 3,000 and injured more than 6,000 men, women and children. The loss of lives didn't stop that day. We continue to lose many more throughout the years due to the aftermath of that attack and that sacrifice should never be forgotten. As Blue Star Mothers, many of our children chose to enlist during that time to serve and protect our country. You should be proud to have raised a Hero!

Now, think about September 12, 2001. A day that brought a Nation together, a unity that we need to continue. Remember why our children made that commitment; remember you would not be a member of this organization if it weren't for them; and remember that ALL of us either have or have had skin in the game. I encourage each of you to draw on that day.... bring harmony and unity back to our country, your Chapters and our organization. We don't have to agree on every topic, but we all deserve a little respect for the sacrifices our children have made which gives us the right to our own opinions. I do ask that when you express your opinion, you do it in a sisterly manner. Be Kind, Have Patience, Give Grace!

To provide an update from our recent Convention, the minutes are currently under review by the committee, so we hope to have these posted to the website soon. The Governing Documents are with our attorney, but in the meantime, we have posted those in draft format under the "Governing Documents" tab. Please feel free to refer to these documents and reach out with any questions you may have. You may send those to me, or directly to bylaws@bluestarmothers.us.

We are in the "Grace" period of our membership renewal. If you have paid your Chapter directly and receive a renewal notice, please reach out to your Chapter first to ensure they have submitted your payment. Our National officers are working as quickly as possible to get all profiles updated.

Our National 4VP as sent several documents regarding compliance. We hope you find this information helpful and will assist you in getting your compliance completed on time this year. Everything is due by December 1. Please remember, our fiscal year ended August 31, so you should have everything you need by now to complete the process. If you need assistance, PLEASE reach out to our National 4VP and she will direct you

As always, my door is open to anyone who has questions. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any of our National Officers as we are here to help every-one.

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: Sonya Kay - IL
4vp@bluestarmothers.us

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

Financial Secretary: Carrie Beck - FL
finsec@bluestarmothers.us

Treasurer: Stacy Breithaupt - MI
treas@bluestarmothers.us



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IT'S RENEWAL TIME/ Grace Period!!

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. **Please use the new membership/associate and transfer forms posted on the website.**

Questions?? Please feel free to reach out to your National 1VP, I am happy to help you through the process. **More membership training coming soon!**

Yours in Service,

Karen Stillwell

National 1VP, 1vp@bluestarmothers.us

Membership Eligibility

As moms are renewing their memberships, or even joining for the first time, I often get questions about eligibility; who is eligible and how many "moms" can a service member have?

To get clarification, I asked PNP Pat Soler, our recent Bylaws Chair for additional research so we would have the most updated information. Her response was "let's go to the source! Congress changed our Charter; let's see what they said about who is eligible."

We reviewed the Congressional Record, which is the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress. Reading below, it is clear that the intent of Congress was to expand the membership of our organization; they specifically state that the goal was to include more women who were involved in supporting and raising service personnel. So yes, a service person may have multiple women that are eligible MEMBERS, not just Associates!

From the Congressional Record:

The National President of the Blue Star Mothers sent a letter to the Committee requesting that the Committee amend their Federal charter. The letter stated that:

At the National Convention held in Grand Junction Colorado in August 2010 a resolution was passed by the convention body revising the language regarding eligibility. . . . As Mothers of American service members and veterans we recognize the changing family dynamics and have found it extremely important to include other "mother(s)" who have played a part in raising these military heroes and also those mothers who are not residents of the U.S. The additional change regards amendment to the original charter language of 1960 that included only the Korean conflict and prior years since our membership consists of mothers of all conflicts.

6\Letter from Wendy Hoffman, National President, Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc., to Lamar Smith (Nov. 7, 2011).December 6, 2011

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS FOR BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA, INC.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1541) to revise the Federal charter for the Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc. to reflect a change in eligibility requirements for membership.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows: S. 1541 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MODIFICATION OF MEMBERSHIP TERMS. Section 30504 of title 36, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—A) by striking the text preceding subparagraph (A) and inserting "she is a mother (meaning a woman who filled the role of birthmother, adoptive mother, step-mother, foster-mother, grandmother, or legal guardian) of a person who—"; and (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking "in World War II or the Korean hostilities"; and (2) in paragraph (2), by inserting "or is a citizen of the United States living outside the United States" before the period at the end. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) each will control 20 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas. GENERAL LEAVE Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days with which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on S. 1541, currently under consideration. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.



b 1700 Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. The Blue Star Mothers of America was established during World War II and federally chartered in 1960. The organization's 5,000 members and 225 chapters provide support for our men and women in uniform and assist veterans' organizations. According to their charter, the Blue Star Mothers also care for unsupported mothers.

Membership in the Blue Star Mothers is open to a mother, an adoptive mother or step-mother who lives in the U.S. of a child who serves in the Armed Forces or has served in the Armed Forces during World War II or the Korean War.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE December 6, 2011

Wendy Hoffman, the national president of the Blue Star Mothers, has sent a letter to the committee and requests that their charter be amended consistent with the resolution passed at their national convention. She stated the following: "As mothers of American service members and veterans, we recognize changing family dynamics and have found it extremely important to include other 'mothers' who have played a part in raising military heroes and also those mothers who are not residents of the U.S." The Blue Star Mothers have also opened membership to mothers of children who have served in the military at any time. This bill makes the changes to the charter requested by the Blue Star Mothers. Our colleague SCOTT TIPTON introduced the House version of the bill, H.R. 2815, and the Judiciary Committee approved Mr. TIPTON's bill by voice vote. This commonsense bill opens eligibility to "a woman who filled the role of birth mother, adoptive mother, stepmother, foster-mother, grandmother, or legal guardian" to a current member of the Armed Forces or to a child who has served at any time. To be eligible, the mother will not have to reside in the United States as long as she is a U.S. citizen. I urge my colleagues to support this bill to help enable the Blue Star Mothers to continue their wonderful work. With that, I reserve the balance of my time. Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. S. 1541, the Senate version of H.R.2815, is another bipartisan bill to revise the Federal charter of the Blue Star Mothers of America. The revisions implemented by the legislation once again reflect minor changes recently made to the organization's membership eligibility requirements. The Blue Star Mothers of America, representing the mothers of military servicemen and -women, has been a federally chartered organization



since 1960. The existing charter restricts members in three ways: A, members must be birth mothers, adoptive mothers, or certain stepmothers; B, members must be U.S. citizens currently living in the country; and C, the corresponding serviceman or -woman must be currently serving in the Armed Forces or must have served in World War II or the Korean War. Last year, at the organization's national convention, the group adopted a resolution expanding these eligibility criteria. A conforming amendment to the Federal charter is needed in order make these changes operable. S. 1541, the Senate bill, was introduced by Senator MICHAEL BENNET of Colorado. Its House companion was introduced by Representative SCOTT TIPTON, also of Colorado. The legislation makes three minor revisions to the organization's charter: Colleague" being circulated. I hope people will sign on and that we will save the U.S. Postal Service. First, to expand the membership eligibility requirements to include foster mothers, grandmothers, female legal guardians, and all stepmothers; Second, it expands membership to U.S. citizens living abroad; Third, it expands eligibility to servicemen and -women who served in prior conflicts other than World War II and the Korean War. Our men and women in the military need all the support we can offer, so I applaud this effort by the Blue Star Mothers to provide the circle of support that the organization can provide. They do much to remember our servicepeople, and I appreciate their efforts. I support these changes, and urge my colleagues to support this legislation. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, this is also another very bipartisan bill. The Blue Star Mothers is a wonderful group. I have met with them and I have wept with them. I've prayed for them and am grateful to them for their work. I'm grateful for my mother, who passed away in 1991, as the mother of a servicemember and my stepmother as well, now. What they're asking for makes perfect sense, and I would encourage my colleagues to support this resolution as the Blue Star Mothers have requested. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1541. The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table

We hope you enjoyed this piece of our history!





Treering 2023-2024 Yearbook Cover



IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO PURCHASE THE BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA 2023-2024 YEARBOOK!

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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.

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BSMA Mentoring

As we start a new fiscal year in the organization, I thought it would be good to review the mentoring program with the membership. Every chapter is assigned a mentor. The mentor is a member from another chapter and could be from anywhere in the United States. The mentors are appointed because of their experience in the organization, their leadership experience, their knowledge of the governing documents and the resources available to assist the chapters.

Communication is an integral part of the mentoring program. The mentors communicate with the chapter executive boards on a regular basis. The mentors are available for the entire chapter membership. They welcome questions from all members, not just the president. As questions or concerns are brought to the mentor, she can answer the questions or find the answers within the governing documents or by asking the National Executive Board members (NEB) or committee members. The NEB is always available to all members and are open to questions or concerns but the mentors are another source of information for the members.

The mentors meet quarterly and are trained on how to improve the mentor program. The mentors share ideas of activities, events, fundraisers and membership growing ideas with each other so they can share with the chapters they mentor. That is the reason the mentors are asking you to reply to their emails and let them know what you are doing. We want to know what has been successful and unsuccessful for your chapter.

I encourage you all to find out who your mentor is and to utilize their talent to help your chapters grow!! If you don't know who your mentor is, please email me (Denise Guerra) at mentor.chair@bluestarmothers.us and I can get you the contact information for your mentor.



Do I need permission to use the Logo?

FOR SALE? The Answer IS YES!!



HAND OUTS? The Answer IS NO!!



BSMA LOGO USAGE

THE BLUE STAR MOTHERS LOGO Permission from the current National President of the Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc. must be obtained in order for anyone to be permitted to use the National BSM Logo. The BSM logo may be used for fundraisers, shirts, etc., for Chapters, Departments, and National Blue Star Mothers. Procedure for Logo Use: 1. Send an EMAIL to the current National President at PRESIDENT@BLUESTARMOTHERS.US asking permission to use it. This EMAIL must contain; what it is going to be used on and where it is going sold. 2. You must receive a response from the National President with permission to use it or the denial for the use of the BSM logo before any items are produced. 3. When written permission is given for use the BSM logo it will be good only for the project you have asked permission to use it for. Any other projects will need a new EMAIL of permission from the National President. 4. No one project may go longer than one year from the date on the permission letter from the National President. 5. Anything with the BSM logo on it can only be sold to a member of the organization of the Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc. 6. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the profit is to be sent to the National President for the use of the BSM logo. This also includes chapters who raise the price over the cost of supplies from Nationals to sell to members that has the logo on it. 7. A detailed report must be sent to the National President with twenty-five percent of the money. The detailed report will be: total moneys taken in, minus cost, equals total profit, minus twenty-five percent that goes to National BSM, which equals your profit of the sales. If these rules are not followed disciplinary action will be taken. You can find the report on the website under FILES, BSMA files; or please save the form in the newsletter for your records.



Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc
Logo Usage Form
Return form and check to:
Carrie Beck, NFS
P.O. Box 880891
Port St. Lucie, FL 39488

Once you have permission from the National President, this form is to be utilized when you have a project that involves selling products with the National Logo.

Date _____
Chapter State/Number _____
Contact Person _____
Contact Phone _____
Contact Email _____
Contact Address _____

Description of project/product being sold

- Details of this continuation (including date of conclusion)

Please check the appropriate statement:

This project is now complete
 We would like to continue with this project

Financial Reporting:

Number sold: _____ @ \$ _____ each = \$ _____
Less: cost to chapter _____ @ \$ _____ each = \$ _____
Less: mailing costs (if applicable) \$ _____
Total Net Earnings: (subtract line 2&3 from line 1) \$ _____

Logo reimbursement to BSMA: (25% of net earnings):

Net earnings \$ _____ X 0.25 = _____

Please remit this form and a check in the above amount made payable to BSMA no later than August 15 of the current fiscal year. While the project may continue, this form needs to be submitted, along with payment for Logo Usage reimbursement by the end of each fiscal year.

Signature of person completing this form

From the desk of

Anne Parker, VAVS Representative



Our VAVS program offers a varied opportunity to volunteer and serve our veterans. One way, which most know about, is to volunteer within the local VA facility, or with your chapter to hold an event or help with an event and, of course, make donations from the approved facility wish list. There is new opportunity since 2021.

I would like to introduce you to the **Compassionate Care Corp. (CCC)**

The “**CCC**” is a virtual social program where a volunteer calls a veteran and they have the opportunity to speak and socialize with someone different. Volunteers and Veterans are matched by mutual interests. The weekly calls can be scheduled for a mutually good time, but it is a weekly call the veteran can count on.

With the holidays coming up, which for some can mean joy and families, for a veteran it can be a time of extreme loneliness and despair. Our CCC’s are phone buddies to reach out and let the veteran know that someone is there to speak with, laugh with and listen to them. Our volunteers are not there to solve problems or provide resources but just a compassionate, caring person.

I asked one of our BSMA CCC volunteers for their thoughts and this is what she said.

“At the close of our first telephone conversation at the end of February 2021, he said he **“really appreciated having someone to talk to.”** During the ensuing years, we have talked about good and not so good times, strong family ties and those broken, fun times and challenging things. Now in 2024 the conversations continue.

Compassionate Care Corp volunteers are needed **now** and our BSMA moms can offer their services by reaching out **today** and contact our National Representative, Anne Parker. vavs@bluestarmothers.us

After contacting our National Rep. you will be appointed and the will need your background check and fingerprint requirements at the VA facility. The credentialing can be done at your nearest facility.

“To fulfill President Lincoln’s promise to care for those who have served in our nation’s military and for their families, caregivers and survivors.”

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

We started this addition to the newsletter beginning with all the Veterans who passed in Fiscal Year 2023-2024, each newsletter from now on will be those from the previous month.

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

Ercell Ward Wegener
 Jimmie Garcia Jimenez
 Maximillano (Max) Romero
 Thomas Lechowicz
 Wendell Nicholson

Army

Aaron Biglane
 Alan Alvey
 Alan Blankenship
 Alanda Jackson
 Albert Brander, Jr.
 Alfred Wooldridge
 Archie Redmond
 Arthur Ray Hines
 Avery Harold Hardin
 Basil Huff
 Bill Broyles
 Bobbie Ray Davis
 Bradley Albert Timms
 Brian Cornell
 Burnet Junior Solie
 Cameron Price Clausing
 Carl A. Thrush
 Carl Donald Mittelhauser
 Carlton M. Kerr
 Cecil (CW) Brogan Jr.
 Celestino Candelaria
 Charles Allen Huls
 Charles Clifton McAlister
 Charles Francis Nassau III
 Charles M. McNeilly, III
 Charles Roberts
 Charles S. Foster
 Charles Selvin Stone
 Charles Wilbur Shryock
 Cleophus L. Sanders
 Clifford M. Toombs
 Clinton David Arbogast
 Dale Herbert Anderson
 Daniel Johnson
 Daniel Lee Munger
 Daniel Ralf Tardiff
 Danny Jeffers
 David Alton Whitacre
 David French
 David Switzer
 Deatri Andri Ikner
 Delbert Morrison
 Dennis A. Linville
 Dennis Gordon Dail
 Derek L. Pierce
 Donald Dewey Hole

Donald Eugene Sides
 Donald F. Verhalen
 Donald G. Hymel, Jr.
 Donald Leroy Johnson, Jr.
 Donald Max Day
 Donald Sturgess
 Douglas J. Schell
 Duane Thomas Baughman
 Dwight Edward Carson
 Eddie Ambrose Kelley
 Edward Council Sheffield
 Edward Derrell Everitt
 Edward Michael Pelshaw
 Eldo Ediger
 Elmer Joseph Heck
 Etemuli Magalei
 Eugene Wayne Mahoney
 Eugenio Rivera-Munoz
 Felix Castro
 Felton Foster
 Floyd J. Hebert
 Forest Price Jr
 Francis Allen Keeton
 Frank Cain
 Frank Garcia
 Fred Myron Fansin
 Gallen E. Farney
 Gary Francis Scherlin
 Gary L McShan
 Gary Lee Myrick
 Gary Patrick Green
 Gene E. Little
 Gene Harrison Sapp
 Gene R. Kipp
 Gerald Russell
 Gerald Wayne Alexander
 Glenn Marshall Silva
 Glenn Russell
 Gregorio L. Reyes, Jr.
 Harold Lloyd Gibbs
 Harold Ray Hutchinson
 Hector Areu
 Henry V. Oeser Sr.
 Herbert Dennis Murphy
 Jack E. Chipley
 Jack McClusky
 Jacob Warner
 James "Jim" Arthur Irving
 James "Jim" Francis Taylor
 James A. Purdy Jr.
 James Albert Girardier
 James Allen Holloman
 James Craigen

James Edward Johnson
 James F. Harrigan
 James M. Hill
 James Rocky Isaacs
 James Rufus Wells
 James Schroeder
 James W Gastinger
 James Wayne Zachidny
 James Whittington
 Jason Lee Price
 Jeffery Gregg Morrison
 Jerome Samuel Dawson
 Jerry Crump
 Jerry L. Logan
 Jerry Lane Bussey
 Jimmy McCann
 John Henry Holladay, Jr.
 John L. Bowman, Sr.
 John M. Sheehan
 John Martin Horn
 John Max Powers
 John Steven Woodall
 John W McGee
 John W. Smith
 Jose Carmona
 Joseph A Peskie
 Joseph Colello, Jr.
 Joseph George "Joe" Novak
 Joseph M. Giffin
 Joseph Michael Flynn
 Joseph Paul Fournier
 Joshua Ryan Nichols
 Julian F. Maldonado
 Keith Allen Wilcox
 Kenneth D. Smith
 Kenneth Dale Maloney
 Kenneth Forest Groves
 Kenneth Ray Arthur
 Kenneth Wayne Meaders
 Kevin Eric Pickett
 Kevin L Peace
 Larry Slaughter
 Lawrence Harden Sullivan
 Leonard R. Terlep
 Leons Brunenavs
 Lincoln Grubb
 Lowell Dale Weiss
 Lyle Wilhelm Wold
 Marc S Frank
 Mark Lagatta
 Marshall Wayne Cash Sr.
 Mayes Key
 Melvin L. Murray

Melvin Willsey
 Merrel C. Solomon
 Michael "Turkey" Johnson
 Michael A. Harris
 Michael Anthony Cherry
 Michael Bullock
 Michael Garrity
 Michael Meyer Brettschneider
 Micheal Pierce
 Nathan Lee Hise
 Nicholas Souza
 Oliver Charles Lucia
 Pat Kenneth
 Patrick C Messina
 Patrick James Kenny
 Paul "Pig" Dietrich
 Paul Accardi, Sr
 Paul D. Rose
 Paul Gaynor, Jr.
 Paul Hardy Darring
 Paul J Middlestadt
 Paul Potvin
 Peter Allen Groenewold
 Phillip Conrad Traul
 Phillip Jiminez Pineda
 Porter C. Powell
 Prentiss Yates
 Preston (Nick) Rowser
 Ramey Quinn
 Raymond Dennis Martin
 Richard Ayer
 Richard Carl Aldrich
 Richard Lee Level
 Richard Len Thomas
 Rickie White
 Robert "Bob" Bolduc
 Robert DeMello
 Robert E Conway
 Robert Elliott Manes
 Robert Eugene Humes
 Robert Joseph Quinn
 Robert Lee Stadtler
 Robert Leon Guest, Jr.
 Robert Lewis Holmes
 Robert Stephen Shipman
 Robert Wesley De Long
 Rocky B. Garbett
 Roger Dale Balsamo
 Roger Dale Stutts
 Romeo Salinas Carbajal
 Ronald Dell Williams
 Ronald E. Prnceler

Ronald Eugene Gonzalez
 Ronald Gene Calvery
 Ronald H Wheeler
 Ronald Louis Gordon Sr
 Ronald Raymond Vaughan
 Roy O'Neal Skinner, Sr.
 Roy Rutherford
 Rudy Rodriguez
 Salvador M. Diaz, Jr.
 Samuel Tukes
 Scott Vincent Cole
 Sean Jerome Thompson
 Shirley Eugene Parker
 Silvio Tony Tedesco
 Stanford Davis
 Stanley Arthur Newell
 Steve Serna
 Steven Michael White
 Steven Thomas
 Ted Wayne Handley
 Theodore 'Rusty' E. Willhite
 Theophilus Dwayne Inslee
 Thomas E. Humphreys
 Thomas Edward Delage, Sr.
 Thomas J. Mathis
 Thomas L. Wells
 Timothy Shelton Crowe
 Toby L Martinez
 Tommie Marius Fulwider
 Tommy Lee Troupe
 Tony Brian Durham
 Tony Cunningham
 Tony Keith Creech
 Tryphone S. Avros
 Vernon A. Davidson
 Victor T. Cardona
 Vincenezo J. Vaccaro
 Wayne A. Sterling Sr.
 Wayne K. Yoder
 Wilburn Adkins
 Wilfred Boucher Jr.
 William (Al) Alfred Ogram
 William Boston
 William Green
 William Harold Basham
 William Henry Burmeister
 William J. Orpi
 William Lester Taylor
 William McKinley Diehl
 William Michael Bowling
 William Ronald Sumter
 William Rosskelly
 Willie Charles Brunson

Willie Strong
 Woody Woodward
 Yvonne Townes
 Z.B. Zeb Crass
 Zennie Peterson, Jr.
 Logan BC Hutson/Navy Res
 James Whitbeck McGee III/
 Air Force

Army Womens Corp

Virginia Dye Mohs
Navy
 Aaron Galvan
 Alan Morgan
 Alfred Robert Carroll
 Alvin Donell Stephens
 Andrew Hunter Jr.
 Andrew R McMaster
 Anthony L Jones Sr
 Anthony Robert Miceli, Jr
 Arlin Eugene Peoples
 Billy R Humphrey
 Brent Cockerham
 Charles D. McWhorter
 Charles Edward Cochran
 Charles H Benbrook, Jr
 Charles William Whelehon
 Clinton Nathaniel Drewery
 Curtis Leroy Hirsch
 Daniel Clay
 Danny Richard Thornton
 David Eckerd
 David John Steigleder
 David Leon Claywell
 David T. Bishop
 Dennis Dean Crain
 Douglas Steel
 Edmund George Norris, Jr.
 Edwin Chritilaw
 Elias Montez
 Elmer Johnson
 Elroy Edward Pugh Jr.
 Essa "Scott" Kennith Horricks
 Eugene Roe Wilson, Jr.
 Frank Milanese
 Franklin H. Metcalfe
 Fredrick John Lehman
 Garnet Wayne "Doc" Savage, Sr.
 Gary David Trantham



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

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Navy (cont)

George Allen Burnett
 George William Daw, Jr.
 Gerald John Smith
 Harold A. "Willie" Williams, Jr.
 Henry Leroy Vigil
 J E "Jay" Statham
 Jack "Joker" Delauter
 James Francis Kenney
 James Franklin Allen
 James Lee Ayers
 James William Kanouse
 Jay Fields
 Jerome "Jerry" Welna
 Jerry W. FuIts
 Jerry Wayne Cranford
 Jesse V. Baily
 Jester F. Huggins
 Joe D. Repologie
 Joesph Michael Daugherty
 John Marion Hollenbeck
 John Wayne Newby Sr.
 John William Brazel
 Johnny Lloyd Knox
 Jose "Pepe" Calderon, Jr.
 Joseph Martin Hayden II
 Joseph Michael Daugherty
 Joseph Robert Miles
 Keith Wayne Montag
 Kenneth Ray Morris, Sr.
 Larry Lewis Lentz
 Lyle Earl Mullins
 Mark Andrew Favro
 Mark William Flatto
 Marshall Wayne Kotterman
 Matthew A. Roberts
 Michael "Mick" Lamar Dunn
 Michael Bernard
 Michael C. Adams
 Michael David Rodes
 Michael Don Hodson
 Michael Druse
 Michael Stuecken
 Monroe Wilson Brown
 Murray C Swindler
 Nile M. Chapman
 Orié Leroy Bowcott
 Patrick R. Wingfield
 Paul D. Rogers
 Phillip Craig Wood
 Raiza Benjamin Hamilton
 Richard D. Carter

Richard Elliott Knupfer
 Richard J. Varela
 Richard W. Harris
 Ricky Griffin
 Robert Howard Giles
 Robert Milton Gross
 Robert Spencer Robertson
 Ronald Christian Lehmann
 Ronald L. McGill
 Ronald Steele
 Stephen Corgan Donnelly, Jr.
 Stephen Toth
 Steven J. Merrill
 Steven Lynn Lewis
 Terry Heller
 Theodore Barber Jr
 Thomas M Reitz
 Timothy Martin Mahoney
 Timothy Norbert vonder Heyde
 Todd Yeager
 Weldon Wayne Parker, Jr.
 Wendell William Smith
 Willard F. Troy
 Willard J. Kyle
 William "Bill" Warren Owen II
 William Lee Barnes
 Johnny Franklin Sykes/Air Force
 Richard Emmett Seals/Air Force
 Dennis Paul Salisbury/Army National Guard
 Earl Stanley Thompson/Army Reserve
 William E Jobs/Air Force/Army Reserve

Marine Corp

Adrien Rodriguez-Bonilla
 Albert Saunders Jr.
 Angel Jordan Garcia
 Antonio Perez Garza Jr.
 Arthur Rockey Ross
 Barry Barge
 Brian J. Bonfiglio
 David Henry Blanke
 Donald Allen Swinson
 Donald D. "Don" Schmidt
 Donald P. Dennison
 Donald Sloan
 Edward D. Barela

Franklin Tony Burdett
 Gary Eugene Cooper
 Gary Evan Eggers
 Gary Young
 Gerald Bell Jr.
 Giuseppe Joseph Marino
 Hans Feierabend
 Harry Anthony Klahs
 Homer L. Milam Jr
 Homer Lee Milam, Jr.
 Howard J. Kyle
 Jack W. Brinkman
 Jake Marcus Davila, Sr.
 James "Jimmy" Vance
 James "Jimmy" Zevelo
 James A. Brewster
 James Lyons
 James Rodgers
 Jason A White
 Jay Paul Koffler
 Jerry Kirkland
 Jerry L. Dodd
 Jimmy Bollman
 Jimmy Ray Haynes
 Joe Gonzales
 Joel Patrick McCoy
 John Davis
 John Gaylord Parrish
 John H. "JR" Roberts
 John N. Brown
 John N. Bull
 Joseph "Joey" William Souza
 Joseph Parker
 Karl R. Rosbach
 Kelvin Errol Peters
 Khoa Dang
 Kristopher Raymond Griffin
 Lanny Ray Ross
 Lonny Murl Livingston
 Lucas Kane Nunes
 Michael Anthony Douglas
 Neal Munn
 Raul Gallardo Miranda
 Raymond D. Tirado
 Richard Wayne Harton
 Robert (Bob) J. Pallen
 Robert Lee Fletcher, Jr.
 Roberto Cardoza, Sr.
 Roberto Ramón, Sr.
 Roman Cordero
 Roy Ridley
 Ruben Juarez
 Sonny Pham

Stanley Doyle Shott
 Stephen Johnson
 Thomas E. Seward
 Virginio Cortez
 Jerry Jordan Jr/Army
 Jonathon Zachary Hill/Army
Coast Guard
 Gerald Alfred
 James Quick
Air Force
 Alvin J. Pugh
 Bette Anne Diamond
 Bobby Ray Sager
 Burton F. Nieman
 Byron Earl Beets
 Calvin Lee Rucker
 Carl M. Albee, Sr.
 Charles Alen Short
 Charles Edward Davis
 Charles Frederick Burke
 Charles Michael Brown
 Cleon Charles Cannon
 Daniel Emil Schweske
 Danilo "Danny" Torres Coronel
 David "Popa D" Dattoli
 David Eugene Way
 David Frederick Clark
 David Jackson Sherrils
 David Wayne Beale
 Debra Lynne Cherry
 Denis Paul Hunady
 Deonidus Hendrick
 Donald Fauth
 Douglas John White
 Edward K Boyd
 Edward Lee Bitting
 Edwin Colwell
 Eldon Glen Cannon
 Floyd Harris Ivey III
 Francis A. Collins
 Frank Phillips Mitchell
 George Morgan
 Gerardo Javier Jaime
 Greg L. Stoffel
 Harry L. Vallery
 Henry "Al" Bryant
 Henry J. Mechel
 Hobart G Combs
 Hugh Frank Bridges
 Ivan Ray Lucius
 Jacqueline Jean Malone

James L. Smith
 James L. Usher
 James Lester Roberts
 James R Sexton
 James Thompson
 Jessie Louis McClure
 John Allen Burt
 John R. Kite
 Jonas Green, Jr.
 Jose R. H. Trujillo
 Joseph Lyon Stemple
 Keith Ray Jungjohan
 Keith Warren Belair
 Kyle Stouder
 Larry Freeman
 Laura Anne Pinson
 Mark Joseph Vega
 Michael Laroy Eyer
 Neil Hamilton Dobbins
 Patrick J. Kirlin
 Paul B Cartter
 Paul Clement Stoff
 Paulino Palpallatoc
 Philip Jean Schena
 Phillip R. Hollis
 Ray Benton Russell
 Raymond Lee Carter
 Richard Anthony McGee
 Rick Rauh
 Robert "Bob" Dean Ritchie
 Robert Francis Kane
 Robert Franklin McLaurin
 Robert Maloney
 Robert Sherman Shanaberger
 Robert Wayne Larkins
 Roger Kellen Ramirez
 Ronald Gene Logan
 Ronald Paul Schaffhauser
 Roosevelt Coleman
 Russell Heidelberg
 Scott Alan Mikkelsen
 Stacey Lynn Ward
 Steven Todd Stacey
 Teodosio Hernandez
 Terry Lance Mitchell
 Thomas Martin Ryan
 Thomas Mechell Jr.
 Thomas Wayland Kelly
 Wayne David Dufrene
 William Couch
 William Edward Byrd
 William Reed LeBlanc

William Willis Pfenning
 Willie C Chislum
 Bobby J. Wolf/Army
 Michael Adams/Army
 Robert George/Army
 Vincent Regalado/Army
Air National Guard
 Mark Anthony Moralez
 Michael Anthony Shay/ Marine

Blue Daisies



Karen Kalie, PA 14, will be missed by her friends, family and Blue Star Sisters



A BIG thank you from the Bylaws Committee (2023 – 2024)

We want to thank all of the members, chapters and departments for taking the time to read all of the proposed changes to our Governing Documents. We welcomed your input with open arms, and yes, enjoyed hearing vigorous debate on the floor!

We especially thank you for your patience with us as we conferred with our parliamentarians to ensure that proper procedures were followed and that proposed language reflected the intent of the proposed amendment.

Approximately 200 proposals were voted on by the delegates over 2 ½ days. The entire membership has benefitted from their attention to detail and their commitment to producing the best set of documents possible.

In the coming weeks, the Recording Secretary will be finalizing a draft copy of the convention minutes and all of the changes to the Governing Documents; that draft will be reviewed by the Convention Minutes Committee and the NEB, then by legal counsel. After those reviews, the revised Governing Documents will be available via the website.

Again, we thank you for your support, your patience and your humor during the 2 ½ days!





The Gavel Club would like to thank everyone who supported our shirt sales, boxes and coasters sale, parcel post and silent auction this year! The Gavel Club took in \$512.92 in shirt sales, \$540.00 in Parcel Post, \$996.00 in the Silent Auction and \$1,325.00 in the Boxes/Coasters sale for a total of \$3,373.93. After expenses, we donated \$2,765.00 to the Travis Mills Foundation which supports post-911 recalibrated veterans and their families through various programs to overcome physical & emotional obstacles, strengthen their families and provide well deserved rest & relaxation.

On behalf of all of Past National Presidents, thank you again for helping us to carry out our mission of promoting fundraising for 501(c)3 VSO's and social activities.

2024-2025 Gavel Club Officers

President PNP Jean Burlingame
Vice President PNP Judy Dorsey
Recording Secretary PNP Pat Soler
Financial Secretary PNP Anne Parker
Treasurer PNP Karen Stevens
PNP Margaret Bedard
PNP Joyce Sanford
PNP Robin McCarthy
PNP Cyndi Ventura
PNP Carla Brodacki



Travis Mills Foundation

travismillsfoundation.org

Ohio True Blue Chapter OH 15



Debby Wadham compares notes with VVA Chapter 1126's secretary, Ace Ambos on the evening's events

On Thursday, July 18, Ohio's True Blue Chapter 15 members Debby Wadham, Secretary and Mary Evans, Patriotic Instructor, teamed up with Wapakoneta's Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1126 to share a table and greet visitors at the annual Wapakoneta Moon Festival held in Wapakoneta, Ohio. Both organizations were able to inform and greet visitors about each of the organizations and encourage membership.



Mary Evans takes a moment to chat with VVA Chapter 1126 Secretary Ace Ambos.



Ohio Blue Star Mothers True Blue 15 attended the annual Veterans Day Event at the Allen County Fair on Friday, August 23rd. The Mothers passed out 184 bottles of water and candy to the visitors over the course of the event.

Attending were (from left) Kay Sellers, Historian; Karen High, Vice President, Teresa Daniel, Inside Guard, Betty Wharton, Treasurer and Debby Wadham, Secretary.



The guest speaker at the Veterans Day event was Army Veteran Jessica Lynch. Jessica served in the 2003 invasion of Iraq. In March 2003, Jessica's convoy was ambushed and she was seriously injured and captured. Her recovery by U.S. Special Operations Forces was the first successful rescue of an American prisoner of war since WWII and the first female P.O.W. Today, Jessica speaks to various groups about overcoming her obstacles and how perseverance helped her survive then and still today.



Southwestern Pennsylvania Chapter PA16

- Gearing up for our next shipment of Care Packages
- Volunteered: Military Baby Shower - Each participant received a baby tub, stroller, highchair, and a generous-sized box of baby supplies. March of Dimes "It All Starts With Mom Military Baby Shower"
- Hosted speaker: Heroes Supporting Heroes
- Gave presentation: American Legion Post 778
- Hosted information table: West Alexander Fair
- Donated: Raffle baskets to Sponsor the Troops Motorcycle Run
- Gave presentation: Crescent Twp. Civic Club
- Volunteered: 911th Airlift Wing Family Day





Rio Grande Valley Blue Star Mothers



WE PROMISED TO NEVER
FORGET!

WELCOME NEW BSMs to nm2



ASHLEY –AIR FORCE MOM



ERIKA –ARMY MOM X2



BSMs and an Associate traveled to Edgewood, NM to present end of year giving check to Jeremy Svecjar CEO of Charlie Five. Charlie Five is a 501 (c) 3, VSO that got it's start in 2016. Jeremy's wife, Rose hooked up with BSMs from our Chapter, Mary and Carol about advertizing in a local business promoting magazine where she worked IN 2017. Jeremy is a veteran and served two tours in IRAQ and has given back to Veterans and First Responders over 100% by using horses to combat the effects of PTSD and other challenging life adversities. We are proud to be associated with Jeremy and Charlie Five and we thank him for his service to this great nation.



UPCOMING EVENTS FOR RIO GRANDE VALLEY, NM2

- 9/10/24 –NM STATE FAIR MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY
- 9/11/24 – HARDIN FIELD KIRTLAND AFB- 911 REMEMBRANCE RUN AND WALK
- 9/20/24 –MOAA ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER NATIONAL RECOGNITION OF POW/MIA (95-100 age group)
- 9/21/24- ELECTIONS AND GENERAL MEETING NM VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK
- 9//23/24-GOLD STAR MEMORIAL MARKER, ANGEL FIRE NM VETERANS & VIETNAM MEMORIAL
- 9/29/24 –NATIONAL GOLD STAR MOTHER DAY OBSERVANCE

LOUISIANA GEAUX SEVEN CHAPTER

AUGUST / EARLY SEPTEMBER 2024

Our Chapter packed and shipped out 90 care packages at the beginning of August. As you can tell, they are not all Moms, we appreciate our volunteers!

Some thank you notes we received from deployed troops that received the care packages we shipped in June.



Facebook post titled "Facebook: Appreciation for Care Package" with a photo of a care package.

Facebook post titled "Facebook: Thank you for the cookies!!" with a photo of a care package.

Facebook post titled "Facebook: Thank you for the cookies!!" with a photo of a care package.



Facebook post titled "Facebook: Thank you for the cookies!!" with a photo of a care package.



Facebook post titled "Facebook: Thank you for the cookies!!" with a photo of a care package.



Our President Trudy Dupuy delivering appreciation certificates to a nearby school and tanning salon!!

A few of our members attended a 9-11 ceremony at the local American Legion, it was very touching.



Blue Star Mothers of the Lehigh Valley, Chapter PA201

Chapter PA201 conducted our annual officer installation ceremony at the meeting on August 4, 2024. The newly installed officers were welcomed with a rousing round of applause by all in attendance.

The newly installed officers are as follows:

Judith Miller, President

Zoe Caruso, 1st Vice President

Ellen Bernstein, 2nd Vice President

Valerie Sapirman, 3rd Vice President

Barbara DeStefano, Financial Secretary

Trish Kutzor, Treasurer

Joan Glover, Recording Secretary

Congratulations!



Officers from left to right:

Joan Glover, Zoe Caruso (via Zoom), Trish Kutzor, Judith Miller, Ellen Bernstein, Barbara DeStefano & Valerie Sapirman

MN11 St Paul Blue Star Mothers

The St Paul Blue Star Mothers attended The Great Minnesota Get Together (MN State Fair) for Military Appreciation Day. We joined other Blue and Gold Star Mothers from the Department of Minnesota in the parade. It was heartwarming to see the cheers and support from the crowds as we went through the parade.



Our Chapter met up at the Chanhassen Dinner Theater for the Carol King Musical “Beautiful.” It was a fun afternoon filled with sisterhood and music from long ago.

Our chapter is proud to announce our newly elected Chapter Executive Board:

Lynn – Treasurer

Benita – 2VP

Kathy -President

Debbie- 1VP

Donna -Recording Secretary

Marilyn – Financial Secretary

Karla - Chaplain



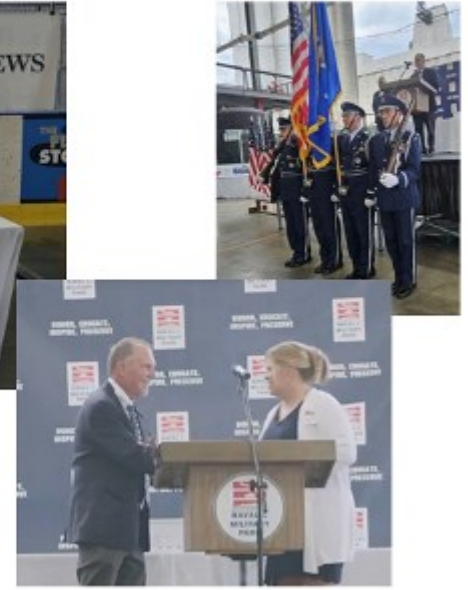


NY7 Buffalo-Niagara Summer 2024 Events

NY7 joined our community and honored 104 high school graduates who made the decision to join the military and serve our country. We provided each student with a red, white & blue graduation rope and participated in a Student Recognition Ceremony.



Our Chapter representative delivered a special message from Blue Star Mothers.



300 We Care packages were sent to deployed troops



It's always wonderful to hear that our troops received their We Care Packages! Shout out to TX6!

My son and I would like to thank TX6 and NY7 for the wonderful care package. He is currently in the process of (fill in the blanks, OPEC, it's a secret) so I don't know if he will have the time to reach out individually to thank you himself, but I highly encouraged it, so forgive him if he can't. He did share the love with his buddies. You guys rock! ❤️

NY7 Proudly marched in the 4th of July parade. Pictured here with Abe Lincoln!



NY7 has a great relationship with our Gold Star Sisters. We supported them with their annual Veterans Picnic and Car Show & basket raffle.

We raised funds as part of the annual Give 716 Fundraiser sponsored by the Buffalo Sabres & Buffalo Bills. A good time was had by all!



YELLOW ROSE - TX20



September 2024

  BSMA Yellow Rose TX20

Yellow Roses' Family Time!

We had so much fun with our Yellow Rose Families at our first BBQ Pool Party. Our hosts, the Manchens, were the absolute best. We had sunshine, HOT temps, cool water, yummy food and great fellowship!



August 25th



A neighbor Veteran Marine even stopped by for a visit!



YELLOW ROSE IN ACTION

August Events

- Chapter Meeting - August 6
- Frisco Mayor's Purple Heart Event - August 7
- Little Elm's Veterans Committee Social - August 8
- Chapter Pool Party and BBQ - August 25
- Frisco Veterans Advisory Committee - August 26

September Events

- Chapter Meeting - September 3
- Frisco VFW Meeting - September 5
- Toys for Tots Planning Meeting - September 7
- Little Elm Veterans Committee - September 10
- Blue to Gold Brunch hosted by TX6 - September 14
- Frisco American Legion Meeting - September 16
- Celina American Legion Meeting - September 17
- North Texas Giving Day - September 19
- Frisco VFW Auxiliary Bunco Social - September 19



Making Connections in our Community!

Board Planning Meeting in August



We are so excited to welcome our returning board and newly appointed positions. Bring on 2024-2025!



POUND THE GROUND FOR VETS



The Rochester Blue Star Moms participated in the Veterans Outreach Center's (VOC) Pound the Ground 5K at Mendon Ponds Park on Thursday, August 22nd. This event raises money for the many programs at VOC for veterans. NY8 Moms and Associate Members ran, walked and staffed a table with information about our mission and events.

THE GARLIC FESTIVAL For a Stinkin' Good Time

The Rochester Blue Star Mothers NY8 once again helped support the Webster Garlic Fest, a fundraiser for the chapter, Wreaths Across America and Gold Star Mothers. BSM and Associate Members volunteered at the Festival that counted over 4,200 attendees and a 140 vendors selling items such as candles, cheese, maple syrup. Food Trucks offered a number of tasty items. Festival goers got to see baby goats, alpacas and 70 year old tortoise.



Annual Veteran Women's Retreat

NY8 would like to thank Marvin Hankinson, Project New Hope, MD20 Lions of New York & Camp Badger for again sponsoring the Women Veterans Group for their annual retreat. The Veteran Women enjoyed playing games, reading, doing crafts, exploring Camp Badger, catching up with old friends and getting to know some new ones. A group of Veterans and BSMs were able to go to Taughannock Falls and enjoy the beauty of Cayuga Lake. NY8 began the Women Veterans' program nearly 10 years ago and continues to facilitate and support their monthly get togethers.





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

Thursday, July 4 - The annual Fourth of July parade in the Town of Danville, California is a favorite event of the Blue Star Moms. As always, we feel the love when the crowd gives us a standing ovation along the entire parade route. The parade attracts about 35,000 spectators each year and lasts for 3 hours with over 100 groups participating including the Blue Star Moms. After the parade, we headed out to the Coldwell Banker Realty's music and bbq event where we had a table for people to stop by and give donations.



Friday, August 9 - Celebration of Life of Gold Star Mother Yolanda (Jolie) Vega
We celebrated the amazing life of Yolanda, a beloved member of our Chapter. Her son, USAF Senior Airman Jonathan Vega Yelner was killed in Afghanistan in 2008 at a young age of 24. She lost her fight with cancer and passed away a few days after a Memorial Day event where she spoke on behalf of the Gold Star Mothers and also sang the national anthem. Yolanda was a tireless advocate of the veterans and the Blue and Gold Star mothers, the youth, the homeless persons and the formerly incarcerated. She will be greatly missed by our Chapter and she will remain in our hearts forever. ❤️❤️❤️❤️



Saturday, August 31 - Celebration of Life of Sgt. Greg Archer, U.S. Army Veteran. Sgt. Archer, the son of Marisue Archer, a member of our Chapter. Greg served his country honorably and he died unexpectedly from health issues caused by an IED. Our Chapter presented Sgt. Archer's parents, Marisue and Bob Archer, with yellow roses and the signature blue ribbon streamers attached to each rose.

Saturday, September 7 - Care Packages Drop Zone at Safeway San Ramon, CA. Great support from the community as always! We received plenty of care package items and cash donations. More importantly, this activity is a great way for us to connect with the community and talk to them about the Blue Star Moms and what we do.



TREASURE COAST BLUE STAR MOTHERS, FL11



The Treasure Coast Blue Star Mothers were guest recipients at a local Bike Night fundraising event. The attendees were gracious, generous and we were so happy to have made some new friends and supporters.



LA7 Geaux Seven



Our new officers were installed at our September meeting and we are excited to begin our new year! We have a full calendar planned working the mission.



Western Slope Blue Star Mothers COs

WE HELPED SEND OFF NEW
RECRUITS



WE WELCOMED HOME, PATRICK!



WE PARTNERED WITH THE STEADFAST VALOR FOUNDATION AND
WELCOMED HOME KOREAN WAR AND VIETNAM WAR VETERANS
WITH A PINNING CEREMONY!





Chicagoland Blue Star Mothers IL6

We have been busy here in Chicagoland again this month!

We served breakfast to families staying at the Hines VA Fisher House, which is always so rewarding.

We packed toiletries to donate to both Hines VA and the USOs at Chicago O'Hare and Chicago Midway Airports. They are always in need of these items.

We were asked to support a Drive Thru Veterans Baby Shower at Hines VA and provided hooded bath towels for every Veteran to have for their baby.

And like all of our chapters, we supported each other through the ups and downs of being Military Moms. Love our bonds of Sisterhood!





Another busy month for our chapter!

Volunteers at the 23rd Veteran Ruck Life



Information and vendor table at Magnus Foundation Friends Festival.



Headstone cleaning at Fort Snelling National Cemetery



Patriot Day – Carry the Load



Heroes Day – State Capitol Grounds



Volunteering at the VA Pop Up Food Pantry



Fisher House – BBQ meal

State Fair Information Table



Sorting School Supplies to Donate to Military kids

Department of Minnesota

We are fishing up our summer activities and getting ready for fall!

On August 15 we laid to rest our Blue Daisy, Laurie Mandery, from MN 13. Laurie was a charter member and passed away August 7 due to cancer. She will be greatly missed by all her sister Blue Star Mothers. Laurie was a faithful member of MN 13 attending every event that her health would allow. She was a proud mom of a soldier and loved being a Blue Star Mother!

On August 30 we laid to rest our Blue Daisy, Stella Huso, from MN 13. Stella joined the chapter at 102 years old after attending a Gold Star Mother's Day Tea event. Her son Wayde was killed in Vietnam. She was 105 years, 7 months and 3 days old when she passed away on August 11. Sharing a birthday with Elvis she loved the musician and had an Elvis impersonator perform at both her 100 year and 105 year birthday celebrations. As she requested, he spoke and sang Amazing Grace at her funeral.

August 27 was Military Appreciation Day at the Minnesota State Fair. We had an information table where members took turns staffing it from 10-4, storms from the night before delayed the opening of the fair this day. At 2pm many mothers and associates and family members gathered for the annual parade. It was a beautiful day to be out representing Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc and honoring our heroes!



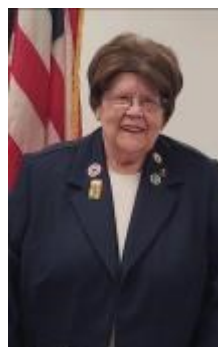
Information table Jen Pecarina, Dept MN President, Amy Kellerhuis MN 13, Helen Helgeson MN 13



Members, family and friends from chapters MN7, MN11, MN13 and MN16 participated in the Minnesota State Fair parade along with our "Heroes on Sticks" to go along with the fair theme.



Stella on her 103 birthday. Final resting place for Stella in her gold casket next to her Gold Star Son, Wayde. Blue Daisy bouquet at Stella's funeral, Dannell Hartung MN 13, Jen Pecarina Dept MN President, Helen Helgeson MN13. Stella loved Elvis.



Laurie Mandery at a chapter meeting. She was the Department of MN Shining Star in 2023.

Final call ceremony Jackie Rassat MN 13, Jen Pecarina Dept MN President, Karla Keller Dept MN Chaplain.

Blue Daisy bouquet at Laurie's funeral.



BLUE STAR MOTHERS SE WI 2



SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Events

**SE WI 2 Chapter
Meeting**
September 17th

Veterans Climb
September 27th

Gold Star Luminary
September 29th

Honor Flights
October 5th & November
2nd

Racine Co Stand Down
October 12th

**Veterans Outreach of
Wisconsin Banquet**
October 12th

**Glass Fusion Night
Light Fundraiser**
October 13th

**Board & Brush
Fundraiser**
October 21st

**Fleece Tie Blankets
with American Legion**
November 3rd

MKE Burger Fundraiser
November 4th

Veterans Day Parade
November 9th

At our last meeting of 2024 in August, we discussed past events, upcoming volunteer event & projects, shared news and updates on important events in our lives and welcomed one new member!

Our calendar of upcoming events is growing and we look forward to another year of sisterhood as we embrace our mission of supporting each other and our children, while promoting patriotism! Pictured below is a recent photo of our group.



In August we volunteered for the 2nd year in a row, supporting Irreverent Warriors during their annual Silkies Hike in Milwaukee WI. The goal of the hike is for veterans to be in the company of other veterans to remind them that the camaraderie they once had in the military will never truly be gone and that they will always be there for each other. Irreverent Warriors mission is to bring veterans together using humor and camaraderie to improve mental health & prevent veteran suicide.

Another fun fundraiser organized & supported by members of our chapter, was the Bray Fry Fundraiser in Elkhorn, WI held in August.





Central MO Blue Star Mothers

The chapter held elections in August and new Chapter Officers were elected.



Left to right
Jennifer Blume, Dea Coffman, Aleatha Tennil,
Sue Sanders, Dorothy Hampton



MID MO AIR SHOW

September 14-15 several of our members attended the air show and worked at an informational booth. One member talked to many Veterans and found that many had never heard of BSM of America. This is so sad and she wants to do all she can to make more people aware of Blue Star Mothers.



2024-2025 Chapter MO5 Board Members
Aleatha Tennil - President
Sue Sanders - 1st VP
Treasurer - Jennifer Blume
Financial Secretary - Dea Coffman
Recording Secretary - Dorothy Hampton



Wisconsin Blue Star Mom's Chapter 1
July, August, September



July 2024 Wisconsin Veteran's Village
Summer Picnic featuring Comfort Dog Samaria!



August
Member Jean recognized as a Two Star
Blue Star Mom!

September- Fundraising Craft Fair and Welcome Home Baskets for
new Veteran residents at Veteran's village

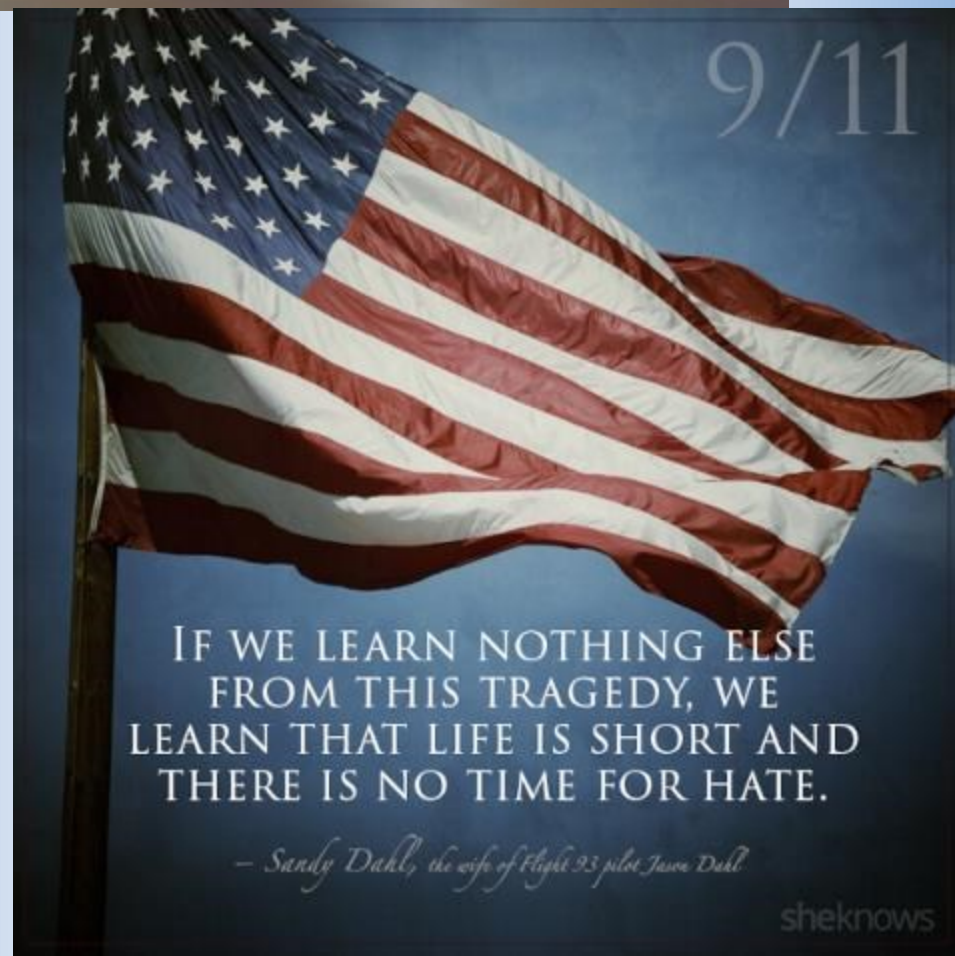


**PENNSYLVANIA
NEW YORK
WASHINGTON D.C.**

9 / 11

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

WE REMEMBER



IF WE LEARN NOTHING ELSE
FROM THIS TRAGEDY, WE
LEARN THAT LIFE IS SHORT AND
THERE IS NO TIME FOR HATE.

- Sandy Dahl, the wife of Flight 93 pilot Jason Dahl

sheknows

