



BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA, INC.



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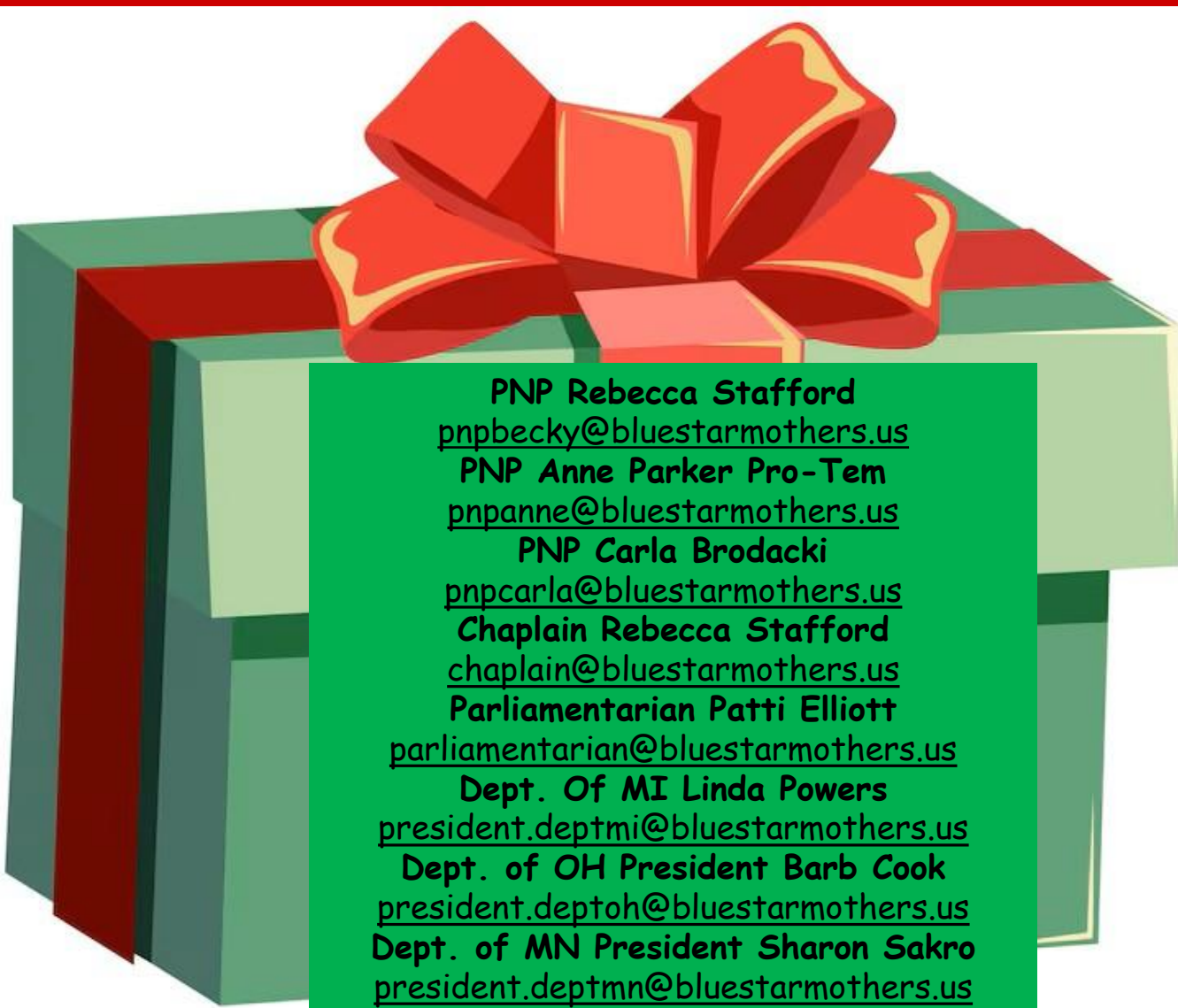
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**A MESSAGE FROM NATIONAL
PRESIDENT KAREN STILLWELL**

Hello Everyone,

I hope your holiday season is going well. I know it is a very busy time with our families and serving our Blue Star mission. I have to say, I am so very proud as I have watched our Chapters serve the mission throughout the month. Thousands of boxes of comfort have been sent and received by the deployed. We have already seen joyful pictures and words of gratitude from many of them. Our mothers have rolled up their sleeves, adjusted and adapted to “get it done”. Our programs supporting Wreaths Across America has been amazing. The hours of fundraising and planning was evident throughout the many Chapter events. Thousands of wreaths have been sponsored and laid by members of Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc. Thank you all for your hours of dedication to honor our Veterans and to Remember, Honor and Teach. Our new shirt design on Spreadshirt displays a wreath to remind us of the circle of life, representing life, love and memory. The script on the shirt reminds us of our mission that “Unites us in Strength and Grace”. Place your order soon while Christmas delivery is still available.

Besides my normal National Presidential duties, I was able to participate this month in my Chapter’s Holiday packing, Wreaths Across America and serving at our Columbus VA Clinic. As I volunteered at the VA just this morning I was humbled and honored to hear the Veteran stories and wish them Holiday greetings. We owe them all so much.

As we continue to celebrate all our holidays this month and into the New Year, let us remember those not able to be home with their families. Keep them all close in your thoughts and prayers. Hold your loved ones close and give thanks for our families, friends, our Veterans, those who have made the ultimate sacrifice and those currently serving to protect our freedoms. May we never forget!

I am very excited to share our new rollout of storytelling in January on the social media platforms. This will help us continue to strengthen our mission and raise awareness of who we are and what we do. Be sure to participate and send your stories to our Public Relations Chair as she builds this program to help our Chapters grow.

Love and Blessings to you and your families this Holiday Season! May your season be full of love and joy.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanzaa and Happy New Year!

Respectfully Yours in Service,

Karen

National President 2025-2026

Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.



NEW SHIRT DESIGN

BSMA
"2025 BSMA Wreath"



ARMY
"2025 ARM Wreath"



Marine
"2025 MC Wreath"



Navy
"2025 NV Wreath"



Air Force
"2025 AF Wreath"



Coast Guard
"2025 CG Wreath"



Space Force
"2025 SF Wreath"



Visit our Spreadshirt store to order, click shop now

★ SHOP NOW ★





A Message from National Public Relations Department

2026 Membership Storytelling Campaign

**Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.
National Public Relations Department**

public.relations@bluestarmothers.us

Dear Chapters and Members,

As we continue strengthening our mission and raising awareness of who we are and what we do, the National Public Relations Department is excited to launch a **Membership Storytelling Campaign** as part of our annual communication goals.

Membership Storytelling Campaign

We are asking for chapter participation to help us collect **meaningful stories** from mothers and families for a **January rollout**.

Tentative Campaign Title:

“Honoring Service at Home: A Mother’s Perspective”

We invite you to share your story — what being a Blue Star Mother means to you, how military service has shaped your family, or a moment that reflects our mission to *Support, Honor, and Serve*.

When submitting, please include:

- A written story (1–3 paragraphs)
- A **photo** or brief **video** showcasing you, your family, or something meaningful to your Blue Star journey

Please email all submissions to:

 public.relations@bluestarmothers.us

OPSEC (Operational Security) Reminder – IMPORTANT

When submitting your story, please remember to follow OPSEC guidelines to ensure the safety of our service members and their families.

To protect those currently serving, do not include:

- Deployment locations, timelines, or unit movements
- Specific duty stations, missions, or future travel plans
- Last names of service members (unless already publicly released and approved)
- Any details that could identify or compromise a service member’s safety

Stories should focus on your experience as a mother, the emotional journey, pride, resilience, and support — without sharing sensitive or operational details.

All submissions will be reviewed with OPSEC in mind prior to publication.





A Message from National Public Relations Department continued

2026 Membership Storytelling Campaign

Submission Standards & Editing Policy

To ensure all featured stories meet national publication and branding standards, the National Public Relations Department may edit submissions for clarity, length, grammar, formatting, and consistency. Edits will *not* change the meaning or sentiment of your story. Please keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Aim for 1–3 short, readable paragraphs
- Limit long blocks of text; break them into smaller paragraphs if needed
- Use respectful, family-friendly language
- Avoid sharing sensitive personal information about others without their permission
- Ensure photos are clear and appropriate for publication
- Stories may be shortened to meet print, social media, or layout requirements


Our goal is to honor each story with professionalism while maintaining the quality expected of national communications.

Why This Matters

Social media is a powerful tool for promoting our brand, honoring our children's service, and helping the public understand the heart behind Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc. By sharing our stories, we give others a chance to connect with our mission and join our efforts.

How Chapters Can Help

We plan to feature **two member stories each week**, and we would appreciate your support by:

- Following our national Facebook page:
 <https://www.facebook.com/BlueStarMothersOfAmericaInc>
- Liking, commenting, and sharing posts from our national page and any Blue Star Mothers chapter pages
- Encouraging your chapter members to do the same

Every interaction helps increase visibility and strengthen our nationwide presence. Thank you for taking the time to participate and for continuing to represent our organization with pride, compassion, and dedication. We look forward to receiving your stories and highlighting the voices that make our organization extraordinary.

With gratitude,

National Public Relations Department
Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.





4th VP KARLA KELLER



Compliance is Now Past Due!

**IMPORTANT
REMINDER**

The deadline for filing compliance for your Department, Chapter, or Auxiliary has now passed!

What does this mean? Your D/C/A is **STILL REQUIRED** to complete compliance **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**, but now you are no longer in Good Standing. When you are not in Good Standing, you cannot receive funds from National (memberships due to you, grants, etc...). If your D/C/A needs a Letter of Good Standing for a donation or other need, we cannot provide it until you are back in Good Standing. If you do not have your compliance submissions complete by December 31, more steps may need to be taken. It is in your best interests to communicate with our N4VP and to get this done right away!

How do we know if we are in compliance? If your D/C/A has completed all components of compliance, your board has received an email from the N4VP with the subject line:

CSN – Compliance is Complete!

Where CSN is your Chapter State and Number. If your board has not received this email from the N4VP, then your D/C/A has not completed all components of compliance!

What if the N1VP or the Financial Reviewer told me I was done? These important members of our Compliance Review Team may email you regarding your Officer Roster/Affiliation Agreement or your Financial Documents submitted with your Annual Report. They are only referring to those components of compliance that they are reviewing. The only member of the team who can let you know you are fully complete is the N4VP – until you hear it from her, you still have work to do!

Why is this so important to complete? Compliance is a required part of doing business. National must be able to answer to authorities, such as the IRS, regarding the compliance of our entire organization, that cannot be done if our D/C/As are not in compliance. It puts us all at risk.

How can I find out what we are missing? Just email our N4VP at 4VP@bluestarmothers.us and she will be happy to help you with that information.



Remember, this is now PAST DUE and must be submitted ASAP! Reach out with any questions!





New to the BSMA online store!

This Sport-Tek® jacket is made with quiet 100% polyester fabric that is water-repellent to help keep you dry even in rainy weather. While the polyester fabric is designed to block wind, the jersey lining and mesh insets provide breathability.

Other features of the jacket are:

- Hood with adjustable drawcord
- Self-fabric side panels
- Open pockets at side seams
- Raglan sleeves
- Mesh inserts at gussets
- Articulated elbows
- Half elastic, half self-fabric cuffs
- Open hem with adjustable drawcord

This jacket is available in Royal blue with the BSMA logo embroidered on it.

They are available in sizes Xsmall to 6Xlarge, (please keep in mind that these are uni-sex sizes). The price is \$50.00.

Please note: The delivery date is approximately November 20, so look for them in the online store on the 20th or shortly after.



25% ACTUAL SIZE



https://bsma.memberclicks.net/index.php?option=com_mcform&view=ngforms&id=2218454#/

Use this link to order



BSMA Online Store Holiday Bundles

- 1. Warm wishes for Christmas \$55
- 2. Ready to travel \$45.00
- 3. Not under the weather \$35.00

1. Warm wishes for Christmas

Travel Blanket, Pom Beanie hat
and BSMA ornament -
\$55 for the bundle



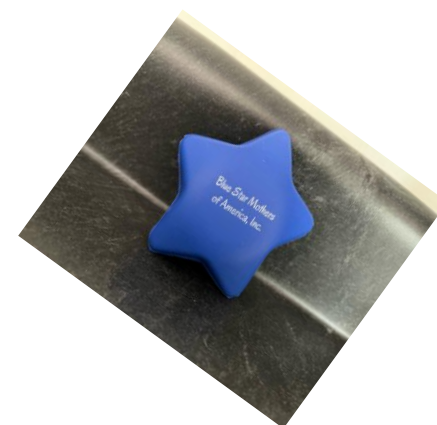
2. Ready to Travel

Laptop sleeve, Toiletry bag
and Nail file -
\$45 for the bundle



3. Not under the Weather

Umbrella, your choice Navy or Red, White and Blue,
Red tote bag and Stress star - \$35 for the bundle





PAT SOLER GOVERNING DOCUMENTS CHAIR

My name is Pat Soler and I have been a member for almost 21 years. My son gave me the title when he enlisted in the Army in November 2004. As you can guess from my white hair, he was Airborne, Ranger-tabbed and a whole lot more, serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, Germany, and Alaska. In January of this year, he retired after 20 years of service as a Major.

He and his wife live in Tacoma with my grand-dogs.

My daughter and her husband live in Hawaii and she gave me my other title of grandmother. They have two adorable girls that I get to see twice a year.

I am a proud member of CA 101, even after moving to North Carolina 10 years ago! Those women helped guide and support me through basic training, Airborne, deployments, Ranger School, injuries, Jumpmaster, Pathfinder and whatever else he chose to do to become a better member of the military. I cannot begin to put into words how important these ladies were; unselfish, mission-focused, and compassionate.

Every Saturday afternoon, four of us get together via Zoom for a weekly get together. And, three of us will be together in Hawaii in December; not by plan, but by sisterly coincidence!

I am a Past National President (2012-2014) and am so grateful for the opportunity to continue to serve the organization.





Your Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc VAVS team would like to wish everyone a joyous holiday season. Your good work for our veterans is amazing and appreciated by everyone.

We do have VA facilities without a Blue Star Mom walking their halls spreading cheer and a listening ear. If you would like to become either a Representative or Deputy and spend time in a VA facility we would like to connect with you. Check information on our national website under VAVS and contact our National Rep. Anne Parker – vavs@bluestarmothers.us.

We understand that distance is a factor for many, but we have a solution. Your chapter can donate items for the nearest VA by using Amazon or Walmart and have it sent directly. If you aren't sure which facility and their phone number is the one in your area please contact Carol Sanchez – csanchez75@hotmail.com and she will let you know. Please put VAVS in the subject line. Carol is keeping a spreadsheet on all the items sent and their dollar value so let her know.

But first, before you send items call the VAVS Chief and ask what is on their Wish List.

All you do is valuable to our veterans and we care so much.

Wishing you and your families all the best this holiday season.
Anne Parker, Doreen Berggren and Carol Sanchez





BLUE DAISY



OK 1

Dolores Quinn.

Dolores has been a member for over 15 years. Dolores is well known in our area as the lady who sealed every box she packed with a kiss.

We are sure going to miss her!



SWPA 16



November 2025



- Played Bingo with Veterans at Butler VA
- Hosted guest speaker at meeting - Wesley Bell, Military and Family Readiness Program Manager - 171st Air Refueling Wing Air National Guard
- Participated in Coat Drive for homeless Veterans
- Stuffed stockings for Veterans at Colonial Gardens - Butler
- Participated in Flag Retirement Ceremony - Greensburg
- Conducted Classroom Visit at Hopewell Junior High
- Attended Veterans Leadership Program Veterans Day Breakfast - Duquesne University
- Attended Veterans Day Brunch - Robert Morris University
- Celebrated Veterans Day at Butler VA Health Care System
- Served breakfast to Veterans - Greene County
- Served breakfast to Veterans - Arms Club of Washington
- Participated in Pittsburgh Veterans Day Parade
- Attended Butler County Stand Down
- Donated 215 brownie mixes to Thanksgiving dinners for active military
- Wrote 255 Thank You cards to Veterans



Merry Christmas





Nebraska Chapter 2 participated in a Holiday Craft Fair for Nebraska National Guard on Dec.6th

PIC•COLLAGE



NEBRASKA CHAPTER 2, ALONG WITH GOLD STAR MOMS, SOS AND COMBAT VETERANS SERVED A THANKSGIVING MEAL TO VETERANS AT VICTORY PARK APARTMENTS IN LINCOLN, NEBRASKA ON NOV. 25TH.



Nebraska Chapter 2 placed wreaths for Wreaths across America December 11th & 13th

PIC•COLLAGE



NY 1



In October, Geoff Hallstead from the Lion's Club presented to Joyce and NY#1 the Robert J. Uplinger Distinguished Service Award. The award reads "In recognition of your continuous loving care for Veterans in Canandaigua and beyond. You provide food & clothes that are very helpful, but the Mom hugs that are always warm, welcoming, and abundant set you apart."



VETERANS DAY, 2025

Our Service people get a serious thank you from all the Blue Star Mothers for all they give for our nation by responding to the call of duty when the home front is in disarray due to the recent government shutdown. We helped the troops at Fort Drum with food, diapers, and wipes during that time. Bobbie, Becky, and Rosie made the journey through the snow and wind to get everything there. The coordinator of the drive was overwhelmed by the generosity of all who donated to make survival a reality until the Troops got paid again. Our troops do well when they know their families on the home front are secure; we helped that happen.



Bobbie, Rosie, coordinator Natalie, and Becky at Ft. Drum

MI 178



Thumb Chapter MI 178 BSM in Christmas Parade



The Thumb Chapter MI 178 Blue Star Mothers walked in the Huron County Christmas Bad Axe Parade. It was cold, snowy and bright for the Moms as they pulled wagons loaded with packages and trees. There was candy to pass out. Pictured are Grace Rosenthal, Nicole Stermer, Cathy Woodke, Deb Robinson, Marcia Janik, June Young, Alicia Kramer and her niece



OK1



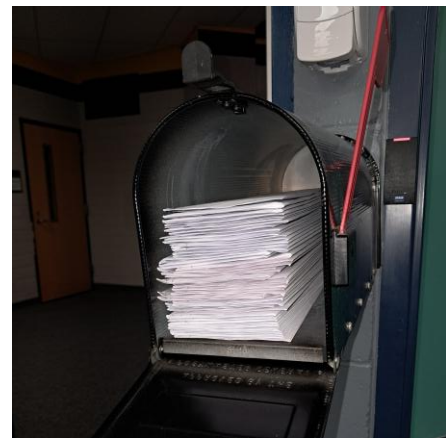
Veterans Day Parade



Thanksgiving baskets for 10 families of the 138th Air Guard Base.



Partnered with a local elementary school for a project to mail letters to Veterans.



Christmas boxes!



NM 2



HONORING ALL WHO ARE SERVING AND



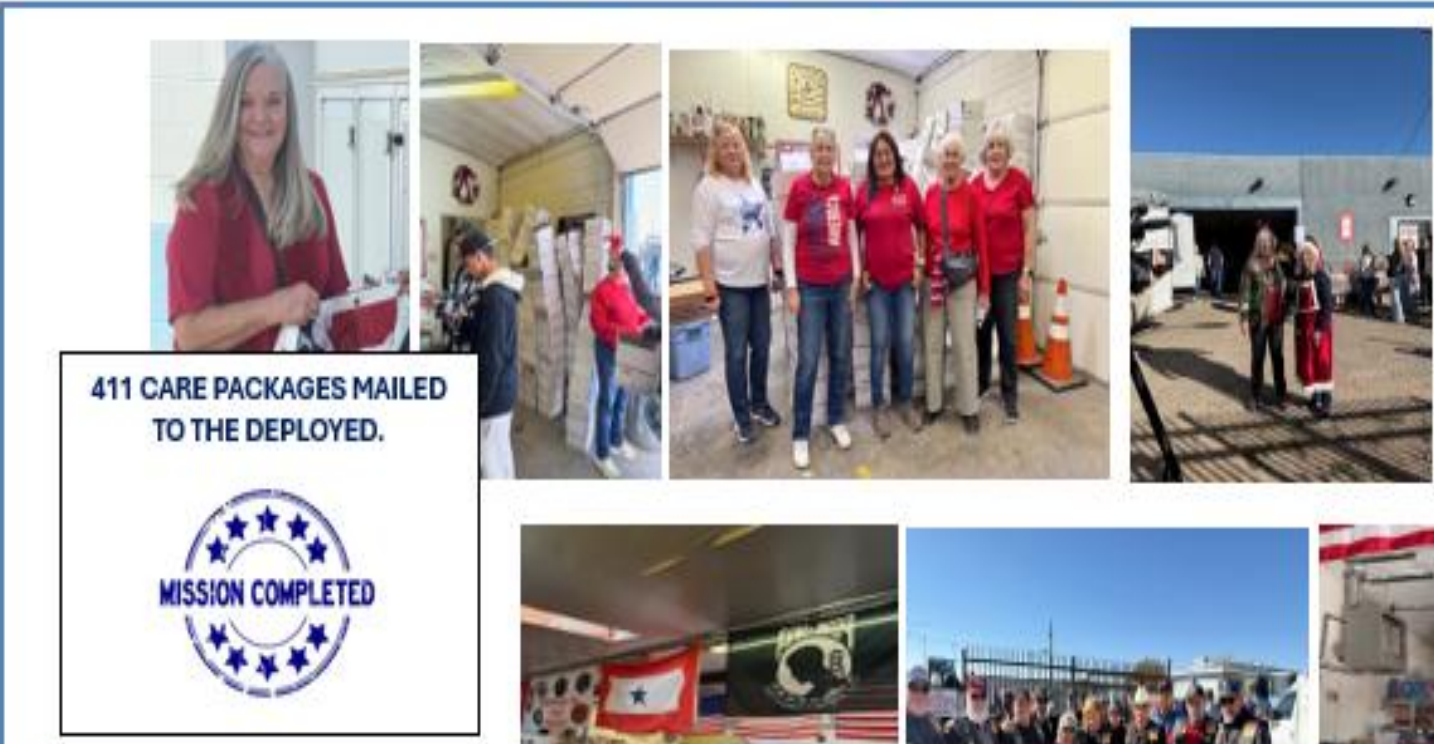
Rio Grande Valley, NM2 Honors the Brave Service of Army Specialist, Sarah Beckstrom.

We pray for full recovery for Staff Sergeant Andrew Wolfe.

We thank everyone in the West Virginia National Guard for their heroic service, and mourn with them in their loss. Our sincerest condolences with prayers.

A Hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself. May her sacrifice bring peace to those they loved.” -Joseph Campbell

Next: Wreaths Across America
Dec 13, 2025
Santa Fe National Cemetery.



411 CARE PACKAGES MAILED TO THE DEPLOYED.
MISSION COMPLETED

Thank you to the Albuquerque Community and all the veteran's organizations that made NM2 packing a success.

CLC RAYMOND G MURPHY VA HOSPITAL HOSPICE UNIT MEMORIAL SERVICE -11/15/2025
IN LOVING MEMORY OF THE 57 VETERANS CARED FOR BY HOSPICE STAFF January 1st – June 30th, 2025.
Rio Grande Valley NM2 was present to honor these veterans and their families.



“When Great Trees Fall”
-Angela Mayou-
“The Honor Walk” -final journey home sponsored by all branches of the US Military and NM Veterans Hospice Unit. VA



NY 8



Blue Star Mothers ROC NY8 December 2025



Dedication of Veterans Kiosk at Eastview Mall

The NY State Dept of Veterans' Services officially activated its newest Digital Kiosk at Eastview Mall, located inside Entrance 6 on Nov 21st.

Deputy Counsel Benjamin Pomerance from the NY State Dept of Veterans' Services hosted the unveiling, which brought together a wide range of elected officials, Veterans advocates, and community partners committed to strengthening access to benefits and services including Amy VanDerwerken, the President of BSM NY8,

This kiosk provides a direct, user-friendly connection to critical resources for all who served, Service Members, and Military Families — helping ensure no one is left navigating the system alone. “Together, we continue building a more accessible New York for all who served.”

Amy was able to share all the projects and events BSM NY8 are involved in that further the Blue Star Mother mission to provide support to our members, active duty, veterans, and military families, fostering patriotism and ensuring those who serve our nation are never forgotten or left behind. Amy pointed out these kiosks are a bridge to understanding benefits and services for our military community.



NY13

We passed out ribbons to families that had children deployed ny13



We delivered no sew blankets to Veterans in our local nursing homes.



The school student council helped make them



Event sponsored by the local Vet 2 Vet organization to honor our Veterans and Military. We had an information booth, handed out flags and took family pictures. NY13

OK 5



Broken Arrow Blue Star Moms Chapter 5



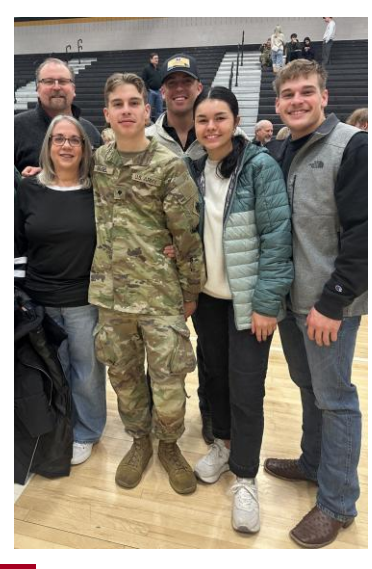
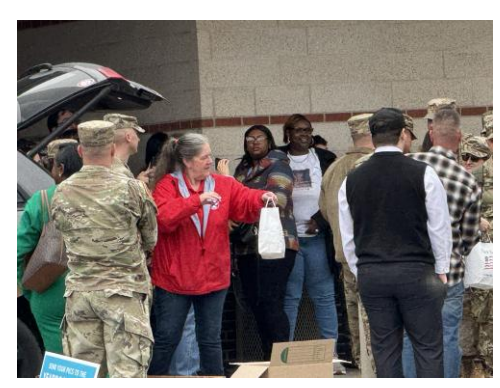
We had our annual Christmas membership meeting hosted in a home this year. That was fun and relaxing.



Annual Air National Guard Family Christmas where we handed out donated Girl Scout Cookies at the CakeWalk.



Army National Guard Christmas Family Day where we assisted with bringing in Santa Claus and helped assist with serving.



Army National Guard~ 120th Medical Unit Deployment Send off was attended where we handed out little care sacks for their journey.



TX 20



YELLOW ROSE - TX20

December 2025

Blue Star Mothers of America Yellow Rose TX20
BSMA Yellow Rose TX20



Veterans Day Festivities



We partnered with students from Lone Star HS to deliver Thanksgiving treats and handmade cards to Veterans in a local assisted living center.



Little Elm Veterans Banquet and Veterans Walk



Our littlest volunteers helping bag collected Halloween candy for care packages.



Support our Troops at Robson Ranch and participating in Frisco's Community Parade.



Military Family Appreciation Month - Navy Families received 55 care packages while their sailor was away.

Frisco's Merry Market



Sharing our mission and raising money.



Celebrate 250 years this Christmas!



OH 15



★ Ohio True Blue #15 busting at the seams with events! ★

Honoring local heroes



Ohio True Blue Chapter #15 Debby Wadham, along with her husband, Bill, a Navy veteran and Betty Wharton visited Care Core Nursing Home on November 10 to visit with military veterans and show them they are appreciated.



Veterans Day Ceremony



Ohio True Blue Chapter #15 members attended the annual Veterans Day ceremony held on Tuesday, November 11th at the American Legion Post are (from left) Betty Wharton, Sue Cress, (back row) Debby Wadham and Mary Evans.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL!



True Blue 15 members decorated the chapter's Christmas Tree for the 53rd Annual Christmas Tree Festival held at the Allen County Museum. Assisting with the decorating were Kay Sellers, Betty Wharton, Sue Cress, Teresa Daniel, Debby Wadham and Mary Evans. There were nearly 150 trees and wreaths from various organizations decorated for the holidays at the annual event.



Members take a moment to pose inside the Lima's "Free Servicemen's Canteen" display at the museum. The canteen display contains items that were part of the actual canteen located in Lima, the longest continuously operating service canteen in the country. Volunteers fed an estimated 2.5 million troops between 1942-45 and 1.5 million more during the Korean and Vietnam wars. While there were believed to be 12 such canteens in Ohio and 43 nationwide, Lima's was the only one that stayed in business after World War II, serving its last cup of coffee in 1970.



After decorating the tree, several members gathered to finish signing Christmas cards that are sent to military veterans. True Blue #15 sent out over 500 Christmas cards to veterans.



MA 1



Blue Star Mothers Ma Chapter 1



**Houston
Chapter TX 2**



Houston Chapter TX 2 has had a very busy month. Mid November we sent care packages to deployed military.

Several members volunteered at the Fields of Honor at the San Jacinto Monument commemorating the sacrifice of the over 21,500 Texans who have given their lives in armed conflict.



Finally, our annual Christmas Party. We had a great turn out & amp; everyone brought stockings filled for veterans in the long-term care unit at the Houston VA Hospital.



CA 101



San Francisco East Bay Chapter 101 November and December 2025 Events



Veterans Day at the Veterans Memorial Building ceremonial lighting of the beacon at the summit of Mt. Diablo to honor the men and women who have served in the military. Chapter president, Jeanne Barker, with some of the local dignitaries and military representatives.

December 10 - Vietnam Vets of Diablo Valley Christmas Dinner.
Chapter member Patty Harris received the Volunteer of the Year award. The organization also donated \$1500 to our chapter.



Last push for Holiday Hugs care package packing events before the end of the year!

- November 10 – The National Charity League sorted and packed candies for use in our care packages.
- November 17 – The moms assembled and boxed care packages at our storage facility.
- December 4 – Last packing for 2025! 65 care packages were finished and sent out with help from a special family.



December 10 – Holiday Party and Gift Exchange



PA 201



**BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF THE
LEHIGH VALLEY PA201**



Thankful and Blessed



This holiday season was filled with meaningful moments of service, gratitude, and remembrance as our Blue Star Mothers chapter proudly came together to support veterans, honor fallen heroes, and stand beside Gold Star families.

In November, members of our chapter attended the unveiling of PENNDOT signage honoring Blue and Gold Star Families at Doylestown Township's Triangle Park. This park, established as a memorial to all who have served our nation, now carries a visible reminder of the sacrifice made by military families. That same spirit of service was felt as other members spent time helping to serve an early Thanksgiving dinner to more than 100 local veterans and senior citizens, sharing not only a meal but fellowship and appreciation.

The season of giving continued in December when our members assembled 60 bags filled with personal items for veterans at the Coatesville, Pennsylvania VA. Each bag was prepared with care and gratitude, offering comfort and a tangible reminder that our veterans are remembered and valued.



On December 13, our chapter was honored to be represented at two area cemeteries during the Wreaths Across America ceremonies. Wreaths were presented to local Gold Star Mothers and laid in memory of the lost and fallen, while also honoring those currently serving on active duty across all branches of the military. These solemn ceremonies allowed us to pause, reflect, and recommit to our mission of remembrance and support.



MI-195



Spreading Cheer at the VA's Winter Wonderland

On December 4, three Michigan Blue Star Mothers chapters proudly came together to represent our organization at the VA's Winter Wonderland event. It was a wonderful afternoon filled with holiday spirit, meaningful conversations, and opportunities to connect. Represented were Battle Creek, Kalamazoo, and the Paw Paw chapters.

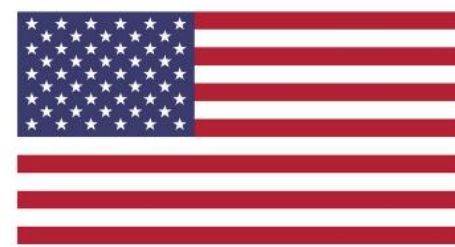
Participants shared valuable information about Veteran services. Blue Star Mothers engaged Veterans in a fun and festive "Name That Tune" picture game. Using visual clues, Veterans guessed popular Christmas songs, bringing smiles, laughter, and a bit of friendly competition to the event. We also handed out bags of goodies, adding an extra touch of holiday cheer.

Most importantly, the event provided a great opportunity to spread awareness about Blue Star Mothers of America and the mission we hold close to our hearts. We were also able to network with fellow vendors, making many positive connections. We look forward to nurturing those connections into lasting relationships that continue to support our Veterans and their families.

It was truly a heartwarming way to kick off the holiday season while serving those who have served us all.



CA 25



VOLUME 11: WINTER 2025 PG 1

LAKE ARROWHEAD, CALIFORNIA
RIMBLUESTARMOMS.ORG CHAPTER 25



December was a busy month for our Rim Blue Star Moms! At our monthly meeting on the 1st, we packed 34 care packages filled with goodies and Christmas cards for our active duty military and veteran kids. We also decorated a Christmas Tree for a local Women's group auction. On Saturday the 6th, moms marched in the Annual Blue Jay Christmas Parade. On Saturday the 13th, we participated in the Wreaths Across America Day at Riverside National Cemetery, and sponsored 15 wreaths.



Celebrate 250 years this Christmas!





FL11

Packages from home



Decorating the tree at the Children's Museum



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!



Christmas parade time



Wreaths Across America





It has been another busy month for our Chapter.

Shopping and putting together items for our Holiday Bags for Veterans in MACV housing. We support the Powderhorn, LaSalle and Robbins apartments.



Delivered 100's of toys to the Minneapolis VA CDCE for their children's activity bags.



We packed holiday stockings for the MACV Home for the Holidays Standdown with toys and candy.



Thank you to PA16 for the donation of the stockings, Carol L & General Mills for the candy and Teresa H for picking up all the Dollar Tree toys!

Our chapter volunteers continue to make meals for the Fisher House three times a month.



Chapter members/volunteers assisted the CDCE in collecting and bagging up gifts for their Winter Wishes campaign.

Chapter members participated in the MACV Home for the Holidays Standdown distributing Reading Glasses (Department of MN Project), pillows and Girl Scout Cookies.



MN7 and MN11 members participated in Wreaths Across America.



Mountain Valley TN4



Warmest wishes for a joyous Christmas and Happy New Year from your sisters at TN4. December has been an incredibly rewarding month, kicked off by our heartfelt toy drive for Operation Home Front and Toys for Tots. A delightful dinner gathering with our spouses and a Moms hero home on leave brought much-needed cheer and camaraderie. The evening was filled with laughter and warmth.



The next day, we proudly participated in the Wreaths Across America event, where our Chapter was honored to present a Blue Star Mother wreath during the ceremony.



Our last event for the year we will be teaming up with Daughters of the American Revolution to serve veterans and staff of the VA Clinic of Chattanooga.

CA 27



ROLLING HILLS BLUE STAR MOMS CA27

SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2025

NEWSLETTER



LAZY DOG FUNDRAISER - SEP



HER WOMENS EXPO - OCT



USMC 250TH BDAY BALL - NOV



**FOLSOM COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY
- CARE PACKAGE EVENT - SEP**



DENTAL CANDY DONATION - NOV



FOLSOM VETERANS DAY PARADE - NOV



**VETERANS DAY LUNCH
WITH VFW 6604 - NOV**



**BRUCEVILLE POINT
HONORS VETS - NOV**



VETERANS DAY LUNCH - NOV



**GENERAL MEETING-
PREPPING STOCKINGS - NOV**

rollinghillsbluestarmoms.org





MN16



One of our cherished annual traditions is visiting the Linden Grove Veteran Apartments to deliver much-needed items and special gifts to each resident veteran. This year, their needs included pots and pans, toiletries, household cleaning supplies, and more. Our gift bags featured blankets, many of which were handmade by our talented and generous members and associates. It's always an honor to go door-to-door, present the gifts in person, wish the veterans happy holidays, and thank them for their service.



Additionally, we held our annual December meeting and Christmas potluck. As always, it was a delightful event filled with delicious food and fun times.



Wishing everyone very happy holidays and a fantastic new year!



MN 11



St. Paul Blue Star Mothers
MN 11
December Newsletter



Even though she joined on August 30th of 2022 we have not been able to officially welcome Two Star Mom, Terri, to our chapter. We took care of that at our December meeting.



At our December meeting/Holiday celebration we all signed 158 cards to go to the VA. It was a snowy, wonderful evening together. Not everyone could make it but we were thinking of them.



While Marilyn, Debbie and Donna (and Mike) worked inside at our Meat Raffle fundraiser Karla was at Wreaths Across America with -22 degree wind chill. It was a great day!



LA 7 Geaux Seven Blue Star Mothers



Veterans Day
Program at the
Claiborne at
ShoeCreek
Retirement Facility



Veterans Day
luncheon at the East
Baton Rouge Council
on Aging



Central Community Veterans Day Program



Central Private Elementary
School collected supplies
for military care packages
and raised \$250 for
Wreaths Across America
by selling t-shirts for a free
dress t-shirt day



OTC (Off the Cross) Sports Mashing
for our Military collected supplies for
military care packages



FL 3



Greater Tampa Bay- FL3

December 2025

This month the Greater Tampa Bay FL3 Chapter participated in 2 local events to support our local military community. We collected/baked holiday cookies to support the MacDill AFB Operation Cookie Drop and we held a food drive to support a local organization that supports our Veterans community. We are looking forward to many more events in 2026!



Celebrate 250 years this Christmas!



DEPT. OF MN



Department of Minnesota



At our October Department Convention, we elected our new board.



- President-Sharon Skaro, MN1
- 1vp – Tish Carlson, MN16
- Recording Secretary – Mary Reitsma, MN1
- Treasurer – Jeanne Ullmer, MN7
- Financial Secretary – Teresa Hawkinson, MN7
- PDP – Jen Pecarina, MN13
- PDP- Karla Keller, MN11
- PDP- Lucie Cutts, MN7
- PDP Denise Guerra, MN11

Department members assisted with Honor Always placing wreaths at Fort Snelling National Cemetery. This is a fundraiser for the Department.



Department members participated in the MACV Home for the Holidays Stand Down at

Target Field. The Department project is handing our reading glasses to veterans at Stand Down's throughout the State. Even TC Bear stopped by to check out the glasses.



Department/Chapter members participated in Wreaths Across America.



AZ 4



BLUE STAR MOMS OF THE SOUTHWEST VALLEY



Silent Auction, Litchfield Park



Downtown Phoenix Veteran's Day Parade ←



250th Marine B-day Flag Raising ← City of Litchfield



Very successful Vetsgiving event at Carl Hayden VA Hospital-over 600 attended. Our chapter donated a basket worth \$100 for their raffle and we had a booth to provide information to the community about Blue Star Moms.



Wreaths Across America



Battle of the Branches- Won Gold! Army declared Branch winner! →



1,000 Christmas Cards collected for the Angel Tree Tags- Gifts for Veterans in the Phoenix Valley →



AZ4 November/December 2025 Events

- SRP 16th Annual Vet Celebration Booth
- 4th Military Appreciation-Colonnade
- Battle of the Branches- Pickleball Tournament
- Palm West Church Veterans Day Tribute and Vietnam Vet Pinning Ceremony
- Veteran Tribute/Flag Raising-Glendale
- Veteran Honored Orchestra Concert
- Angel Tree-Cards for Veterans
- 250th Marine B-day Flag Raising
- Salute to Veterans Silent Auction
- Vetsgiving: Carl Hayden VA
- Phoenix Veteran's Day Parade
- Surprise Library: Stars and Stories
- Cookies for Troops: Luke Air Force Base
- VA's Mission: Christmas cards for Vets
- Mission BBQ: networking brunch
- Women Vets Baby Shower at VA
- Wreaths Across America-Arizona Memorial Cemetary
- City of Litchfield Park Christmas Parade

Summary:

November into early December is non-stop for our busy Chapter. Some notable things include fulfilling the National VAVS mission to provide Christmas Cards for our Veterans- our Chapter worked hard and provided 899 cards to the Phoenix Carl Hayden Veterans Hospital. Also, 22 Female Veterans were given a baby shower with gifts in the month of December. There were speeches made, networking events, parades, flag raisings and a highly successful fall fundraiser that included gorgeous silent auction baskets put together by our Chapter members. Our goal for Cookies for Troops was 60 dozen cookies from our chapter. With the help of our friends and communities, our Chapter ended up donating an incredible 181 dozen cookies for our active-duty service members who will working on Luke Air Force Base through the holidays! Our Chapter also participated in purchasing and laying wreaths for Wreaths Across America. Our Chapter is growing and we are thrilled to see our new members participate!



NM6



Blue Star Mothers of Valencia County NM6

The calendar year of 2025 is rapidly drawing to a close! Thanksgiving is in the rearview mirror while Hannukah and Christmas and 2026 are just around the corner! In the last month, NM6 members have participated in some amazing events in our communities and in our state. In addition to assisting NM2 in their major packing in November, members welcomed home the Snowball Express, joined the Valencia High School AJROTC on their float in the local Christmas Parade, hosted the annual *Appreciation of Our Supporters* Breakfast (where one of our members was honored for her outstanding assistance as a judge for a scholarship offered by the local VFW Post 9676), assisted with the VA Hospice Memorial, met with the District 7 (Valencia County) Representative, Tanya Moya, at the Belen (NM) Veterans Memorial, and joined hundreds of volunteers from around the state to participate in the Wreaths Across America. NM6 members look forward to the new year and all its blessings and opportunities as we carry on the mission of Blue Star Mothers and pray for Peace.



IL 6



IL6



This holiday season, our wish for all of us is simple: may our homes be filled with joy, peace, and cherished memories. May we carry the pride of our children's service close to our hearts, and may we continue to lift each other up with the same compassion and courage that has guided us throughout the year.

Looking ahead, we welcome 2026 with hope and anticipation. We believe it will bring new opportunities to grow, to serve, and to celebrate the blessings of our community. Together, we will continue to honor our children, support one another, and make a difference.



Merry Christmas



C08



Colorado National Guard Holiday Party

WE WERE HONORED TO JOIN THE COLORADO ELKS LODGE AND PUT ON A HOLIDAY PARTY FOR OUR CO NATIONAL GUARD 947TH AND THEIR FAMILY!



Our Chapter Holiday Party



WE HAD A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY PARTY WITH A DELICIOUS POTLUCK AND ORNAMENT EXCHANGE

Western Slope

WELCOME HOME
TUCKER!



WELCOME HOME
IONE!



Blue Star Mothers C08



SEVERAL OF OUR MEMBERS MADE HOMEMADE COOKIES AND WE DELIVERED THEM TO ALL OF OUR WESTERN SLOPE RECRUITERS IN GRAND JUNCTION, MONTROSE AND GLENWOOD SPRINGS. WE EVEN TRAVELED OVER TO DENVER AND TOOK SEVERAL TRAYS TO ALL OUR SERVICE MEMBERS AT THE DENVER MEPS

Wreaths Across America



WE HELPED PLACE OVER 1400 WREATHS AT ONE OF OUR LOCAL CEMETERIES





Fort Wayne Area Blue Star Mother Chapter IN8



We have been busy these past few weeks. We had a table at a local craft fair, proceeds from their raffle will benefit veterans in our area. Collected donations of hats, gloves, socks, sweatpants from a local Family Farm and Home store and their customers! We provided 28 care packages to local military families where their service members were working without pay, to help ensure a Happy Thanksgiving.

Our annual Christmas Dinner Party and Meeting was a huge success. We enjoyed each other's company, made plans for 2026, and filled 80 Christmas Stockings with hats, gloves, socks and lots of goodies for our local VA Hospital!

We have adopted a military family for Christmas. Not only are we providing requested gifts, but we have also added many household items and furniture so their house can become a home! Our final activity for 2025 will be to wrap gifts for our family and gather everything for their Air Guard unit to pick up and deliver, just in time for Santa's arrival!



MO 5



Central Missouri
Blue Star Mothers

December
2025



*Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year*



Becky, Sue, Sara, & Dorothy braved the chilly weather to decorate our BSM tree at Fulton's annual Tree of Joy.



Left to right: Sara, Becky, Dorothy, & Jessica. Not pictured Sue.



Our chapter did a soup & salad dinner for the families staying at the Fisher House.



Arita delivered 25 Christmas center pieces to the Veterans Home in Mexico, MO



Unloading the jerky at Whiteman's AF Base.



MO 5 would like to thank Bass Pro/Cabela's for the 42 cases of jerky for the Troops.



Staff from Whiteman's joined Becky, Dorothy, & Sara after unloading the boxes of jerky.

Funny but true Sue isn't in the pictures delivering the jerky, but she was there. Sisters always remember to double & triple check you have your ID when going to a military base. Sue said she felt like a piece of "Jerky" for forgetting her ID.



H.O.M.E. CA30

Corona Chamber of Commerce Military Breakfast held on 11/13/2025 at Eagle Glen Golf Club:

An exciting and heartfelt moment for us as we gratefully receive a \$1,000 check in recognition of our dedication to Operation Care Packages. We are deeply grateful for this generous support, which enables us to continue honoring and caring for our service members with love and gratitude.



Surprise Visit on 11/14/2025:
Manny Cano, 1st Vice President Commander, and Tom Sherman, 2nd Vice President of the Joe Dominguez American Legion Post 742, and Manny's wife, Regina, presented a generous check for \$1,500 to Operation Care Packages, co-led by Blue Star Mother MaryAnn Sherman, in recognition of our dedication and impactful work.

Elks Club Dinner held on 11/21/2025 at the Corona Elks Lodge #2045



Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance held on 12/7/2025 at the George Ingalls Veterans Memorial, Norco, CA:



Operation Care Packages Fulfillment Day held on 12/14/2025:



**Amber Waves of Grain
Check Distribution held on 12/9/2025
at Stone Church Brewing,
Corona, CA:**



SE WI 2



BLUE STAR MOTHERS SE WI 2 DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Events

December 2025
Chapter Meeting
December 16th

Flower
Fundraiser
Workshop
December 22nd

January 2026
Chapter Meeting
January 20th



As we enter December and close out another meaningful year, we are reminded of the power of community, service, and gratitude. This season offers a moment to reflect on the many ways our chapter has supported our military, veterans, and one another, especially during the busiest and most heartfelt time of the year.

Our November 2025 meeting was well attended, with 35 members and 2 associate members present. The strong turnout continues to reflect the dedication and engagement of our members.



Since our last newsletter, Chapter 2 has remained actively engaged in service and outreach. Members supported a National Guard Deployment Send-Off, participated in Operation Home Baked, where an incredible 53,136 cookies were packaged by more than 140 volunteers (including several from our chapter), and assisted with Wreaths Across America. Despite sub-zero temperatures, wreaths were placed at veterans' gravesites, and we were honored to present the Blue Star and Gold Star Mother Flags on behalf of our chapter.

Additional highlights included picking up a generous jerky donation from Bass Pro Shops/Cabela's to be sent to our troops, decorating an area at the Pabst Mansion and attending events hosted by the American Legion just to name a few. As December continues, we look forward to our upcoming meeting and holiday party, as well as the annual Flower Fundraiser Workshop. As the year comes to a close, we remain grateful for the dedication of our members who are committed to supporting our mission and one another well into the new year.



Soaring Eagle Blue Star Moms CA22



Newly elected Executive Board 2025–2026

President: Becky Neely 1st VP: Ann Easley
2nd VP: Berva Treat Rec Sec: Kristina Divine
Fin Sec: Joanne Darlington Treasurer: Tricia Deutsch

We packed and shipped 63 care packages stateside and overseas bringing Christmas joy to our sons and daughters.



We had our annual Craft Fair, Christmas Lighting parade, wonderful vendors, Santa and Mrs. Clause, our Christmas party, food, fun, gift exchange and sisterhood.



MO 4



Gateway Blue Star Mothers Newsletter December 2025 Vol. 4

GBSM members proudly displaying a Christmas tree adorned with handmade ornaments, each one honoring our heroes.



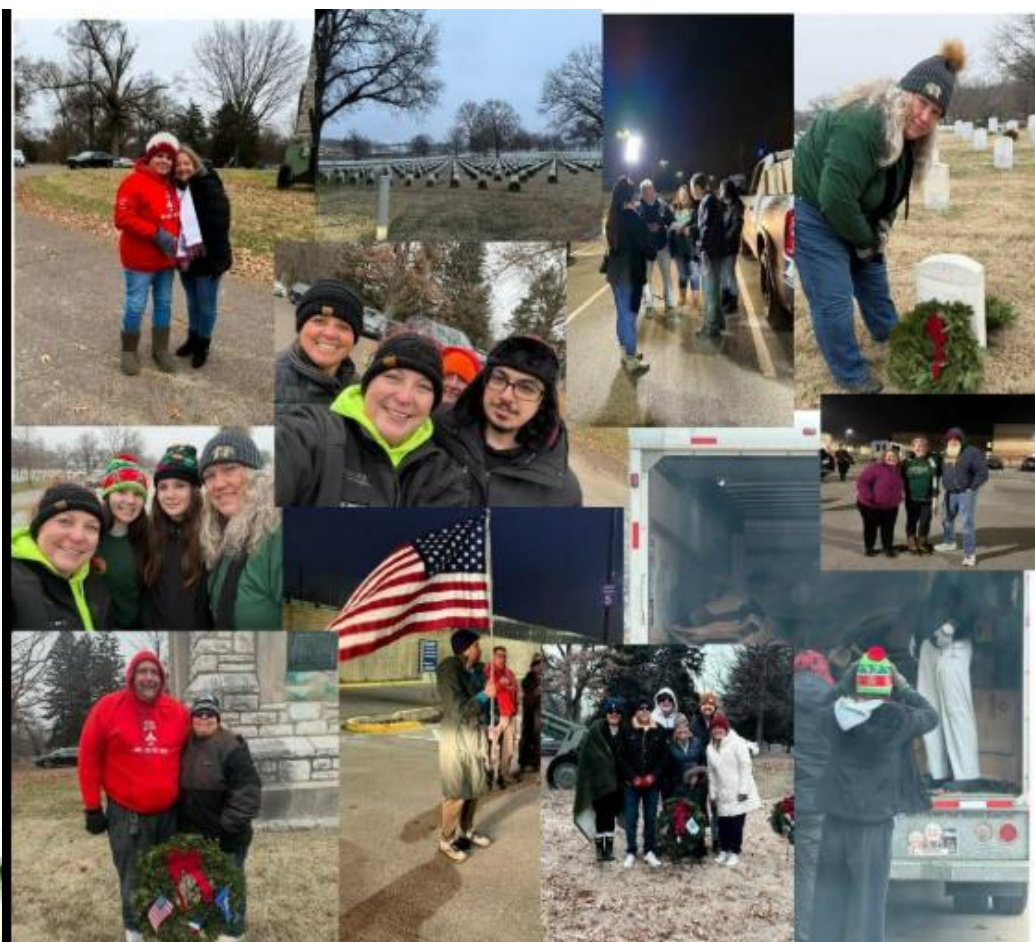
Members then assembled cookie boxes with homemade and donated treats to send to our service men and women.

Important Dates

- **12/20** Space Force Birthday
- **12/20** Holiday Block Leave
- **12/24** Christmas Eve
- **12/25** Christmas Day
- **01/01** New Years Day
- **01/04** Take down St. Charles Tree
- **01/05** Executive Team Mtg
- **01/13** Member Mtg



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



GBSM Holiday Party



CA7



SACRAMENTO BLUE STAR Moms

CA7 Newsletter
December 2025

November Events

11/1 Antelope VFW Pancake Breakfast

11/5 Sierra College Veteran Event

11/7 Donation Pickups, Antelope VFW Dinner

11/8 Heritage Oaks Memorial

11/9 Good Day Sacramento

11/10 Veterans Day Ceremony Albani Middle School

11/11 Veterans Day Ceremony McBean Park

11/13 ARC Veterans Resource Ctr Fair

11/15 Yellow Ribbons

Placer Stand Down Warming Veterans Hearts

11/19 Wounded Warrior Turkey Drive with TroopATHon

11/22 Packing Party

11/25 General Meeting

Storage Days



www.SacramentoBlueStarMoms.org SacramentoBlueStarMoms



CA 10



Central Valley
Blue Star Mothers

CA-10

December 2025



NOVEMBER 1ST VA WALK OF HONOR

NOVEMBER 11TH VETERAN'S DAY

BSM'S STARTED THEIR DAY AT THE CLOVIS VETERAN'S MEMORIAL DISTRICT (CVMMD) FOR THE VETERAN'S PANCAKE BREAKFAST, CLASSIC CAR SHOW, HERITAGE MUSEUM RIBBON CUTTING, AND PATRIOTIC CONCERT.

NEXT WE HEADED TO DOWNTOWN FRESNO TO TAKE PART IN THE 106TH ANNUAL VETERAN'S DAY PARADE RIDING ON CVMMD'S FLOAT. WE THEN RETURNED BACK TO CVMMD TO PRESENT OUR FIRST EVER CVMMD'S AWARD TO ONE OF THE CLASSIC CAR OWNERS ALONG WITH THE VFW AND AMERICAN LEGION AWARDS.

WE ENDED OUR DAY BY ATTENDING THE ANNUAL VETERAN'S DAY DINNER HONORING OUR LOCAL VETERAN'S AND MILITARY WITH 11 MOMS ATTENDING TO GREET APPROXIMATELY 550 GUESTS AND SHARE A WONDERFUL MEAL AND PRESENTATION.



NOVEMBER 20TH ADOPT-A-VET

WE WERE ABLE TO GO TO THE CALVET VETERANS HOME OF CALIFORNIA - FRESNO AND SELECT A TAG OFF THE WISH TREE CONTAINING THE NAME OF A RESIDENT AND WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE FOR CHRISTMAS. WHAT A HUMBLING EVENT!

NOVEMBER 21ST THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON

WE WERE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE ON OUR LOCAL BASE TO HELP FEED ABOUT 150 ARMYMEN IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE VFW & THEIR AUXILIARY. "THE BASE PRESENTED US WITH A "GOLDEN TURKEY."

NOVEMBER 22ND KIWANIS VA KIDS SHOPPING SPREE

WE WERE ABLE TO HELP KIDS OF LOCAL VETERANS SHOP FOR WINTER CLOTHES WITH GIFT CARDS DONATED BY KIWANIS AT THE LOCAL HURLINGTON COAT FACTORY

NOVEMBER 23RD VA CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING



NOVEMBER 16TH PACKAGE DRIVE

WE PACKED APPROXIMATELY 175 BOXES TO BE SHIPPED OUT TO OUR SERVICEMEMBERS STATIONED AT LOCAL BASES AND ALL OVER THE WORLD. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THOSE IN OUR GROUP AND THE COMMUNITY WHO CAME OUT TO SUPPORT US.

[HTTPS://ABC30.COM/POST/CENTRAL-VALLEY-BLUE-STAR-MOMS-SEND-HOLIDAY-CARE-PACKAGES-TROOPS/18163300/](https://abc30.com/post/central-valley-blue-star-moms-send-holiday-care-packages-troops/18163300/)



IA 1



IOWA STAR

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

President.ia1@bluestarmother.us

Moms on a Mission

www.bluestarmothersofiowa.com

Blue Star Mothers of Iowa Are “Moms on a Mission”

Celebrating Our Blue Star Mothers

This season, the Blue Star Mothers of America – Iowa Chapter extends deep gratitude to every member for their strength, compassion, and shared devotion to their children, the military, and our country. Our board members and volunteers played vital roles in another remarkable year, and we are thankful for the diverse and dedicated sisterhood that makes our chapter so strong. As we reflect on the blessings of family, freedom, and service, Thanksgiving is the perfect moment to honor every Iowa Blue Star Mom whose commitment makes our mission possible.



A Record-Breaking Care Package Campaign

The 2025 Care Package Campaign surpassed all expectations thanks to extraordinary community support. Once the call went out for handmade stockings, thousands of Iowans answered—resulting in an astounding 7,053 stockings sewn with love. Every one of our 3,015 Boxes of Love included a candy-filled stocking, with additional stockings shared with veterans and saved for next year. Each stitch represented care, generosity, and gratitude for our troops, and we extend heartfelt thanks to every individual, group, and guild who contributed.



Community Partners Adding Comforts from Home

Major partners helped ensure each care package was filled with meaningful reminders of Iowa. Fareway Stores lived up to their motto, “Service with Gratitude,” donating mac and cheese, peanut butter, and popcorn for every box. Girl Scout troops from across Iowa added sweetness and smiles, sending beloved cookies around the world—even reaching troops in Japan. These contributions helped transform each Box of Love into a true taste of home for our service members.

Behind-the-Scenes Heroes Who Made It All Possible

Essential partners made the logistics and labor of this massive project possible. Michelle and Rob of ShipThrifty guided the chapter through international shipping challenges and even flew to Iowa to assist in person—making the delivery of all 3,015 care packages a success. The men of Harvest Academy Iowa provided the muscle and heart behind the campaign, handling every heavy lift from moving storage units to setting up and tearing down at Camp Dodge. Their dedication, along with ShipThrifty’s leadership, ensured our children overseas felt remembered, supported, and loved.



OH9



BUCKEYE MILITARY MOMS OH-9

The holiday season is one of both joy and heartache for those who are not with us. For those of us with loved ones in the military it can be especially difficult to not have them near. Projects that help bring us closer to our fellow Blue Star mothers and help our service members during this time are especially important.

CHRISTMAS CARE PACKAGES

Our wonderful group of mothers got together this month to pack up boxes of cheer for our soldiers this month. Festive cheer and good company!



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Our chapter volunteered on National Wreaths Across America day to honor those who have served our nation and remember those who have fallen.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

We hope your celebrations are full of love and warmth. And that it will carry on into this new year.





"Veteran Christmas"

Cpl. Mike Miller USMC-CV

T'was a few weeks before Christmas when in came the call.

Off to our National Cemeteries to Honor them all.

They served their country well, many paid the ultimate price.

Without a second thought, they didn't think twice.

The truckers came from everywhere, with their freshly wrapped ride.

To support Wreaths Across America, with Honor and pride.

The wreaths were quite outstanding, each made with great care.

All involved were very gracious, not looking for fan fare.

With Carmine and Cupcake, riding at the helm.

We rode well protected, safe within their rhelm.

Down many a main street, with are convoy of trucks.

Everyone waving cheerfully, even a few ducks.

Whether their loved one was a pilot, or rode in the turrets of tanks.

To the Gold Star Families, we owe many a thanks.

Tens of thousands of volunteers, came to show that they care.

Disrespect, racism and biased, were not anywhere.

Very carefully and with great respect, the wreaths they did lay.

Every name was spoken, on this very special day.

To all whom were there thanks,for answering that call.

A very Blessed and Merry Christmas, to all

