

Questions and Answers

Big Dipper ...that is great program and I don't think it gets used enough.....

How do we donate as a chapter? If you are donating to National Big Dipper, send a check to National Big Dipper Financial Secretary.

Financial Sec: Angie Nelson KY6
644 Slate Branch Road
Somerset, KY 42503

If donating to your state's Department Big Dipper, you would mail a check to your state's Department Big Dipper Financial Secretary.

What are the beginning and ending dates for Big Dipper's yearly membership? Membership in Big Dipper runs from September 1st to August 31st just like our parent organization.

Has the amount of the dues been increased? Yes, at the BSMA Convention in Grand Junction, Colorado (2010) the Convention body made that decision prior to reinstating Big Dipper National Auxiliary. The dues are now \$5.00.

Can an associate member join Big Dipper? No, associates are not full dues paying members of the parent organization and therefore cannot become a member of Big Dipper. We do appreciate their dedication and labor on behalf of the parent organization! They are welcome to donate to the Josephine Colenda Fund.

How do we order the Big Dipper guard pins? They can be ordered from Financial Secretary Angie Nelson at the address listed above. Send your request to Angie with your \$10 payment plus shipping and one will be sent to you.

Who may apply for Josephine Colenda Funds? Big Dipper provides educational assistance to a worthy child, grandchild of BSMA or

veteran; a BSMA, a veteran, or active duty personnel.

Can the veteran request for a wife? At this point NO

When our children are going to college, what is the deadline for applying for Josephine Colenda Fund???? The applications for funds must be turned in to the Department Big Dipper President or National Big Dipper President (depending on whose funds they are applying for) 30 days prior to the first day of Convention.

Is there anything special about the Educational Assistance form that must be done? First indicate on the top of the form the level (your state's Department or National) of Funds you are applying for. Second, applicant must write and attach to the application a brief biography. Include in that biography why they should be considered as a recipient of Josephine Colenda Funds for Educational Assistance. Next, the applicant must get a letter of recommendation and submit it along with the application. Lastly, before mailing it to the Big Dipper President the applicant must submit the form to the local BSMA Chapter's president for her signature.

Why is the Educational Assistance Fund named the Josephine Colenda Fund? The Educational Assistance Fund was dedicated to the memory of Josephine Colenda of PA # 22 at the National BSMA Convention held in Lansing, Michigan in 1989. Josephine, after many years of active service in BSMA, died that year while holding the office of Big Dipper National President.