

 **PATRIOTISM** 

**Sharing Patriotic Moments and
Events in New Jersey**

Patriotic moments are shared throughout the year, but the Blue Star Mothers of the Jersey Shore, Chapter 4, were able to send out a total of 227 boxes for the Holiday Season from their annual packing party!! The boxes included Christmas trees with lights and ornaments, menorahs, cards with Holiday wishes and wrapped gifts.

Not only did Blue Star Mothers, Fathers, and Associates help with the event, but tons of volunteers joined in who just wanted to support the troops! Veterans, school children, and Girl & Boy Scout Troops all took part. Christmas music played and the snack bar was open with pizza, subs & desserts to keep everyone energized and happy.

A great time was had by all!!

**Blue Star Mothers of Jersey Shore
NJ Chapter 4**



Keep Them Coming!!!

The Holiday Season has passed, but please continue to remember our troops and veterans throughout the year by sending cards and letters of support. Here is what some of our Chapters have been doing.

South Bay Blue Star Moms CA Chapter 4



The South Bay Blue Star Moms (CA4) spent one Saturday afternoon collecting Valentine cards for Wounded Warriors. They set up a table full of cards, pens and stickers at a local mall and let the shoppers have some fun. From children to adults everyone seemed to enjoy writing notes to help cheer up our wounded troops. They will be sending these cards, as well as those made by school children, church groups and other organizations to four VA hospitals across the nation.

Margie Schur
South Bay Blue Star Moms
3rd Vice-President
CA Chapter 4



Blue Star Mothers of San Antonio ~ TX Chapter 4

Chris Peche, San Antonio TX Chapter 4 President, provided a learning opportunity for the children in several of the schools in her area as she visited recently with patriotic items for them.

Chris is well versed in patriotism and works hard to teach and promote patriotism. She also takes the opportunity to thank others for their patriotic endeavors whenever she can.

To the right is a picture of Chris with student, Darian, as she acknowledged the card making project of Darian's class under the direction of teacher, Ms. Becker.



Thanking Students and Promoting Patriotism



Pictured above (left to right): Ms. Becker from Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church where TX 4 holds their meetings; student, Darian; former Chapter President, Emma Bedoy-Pina, and present Chapter President, Chris Peche.



Connecticut Blue Star Mothers CT Chapter 1



The 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders at the McAlister Intermediate School in Suffield, CT, created over 300 drawings and letters under the direction of teacher, Debbie Stone, which were distributed by the Connecticut Blue Star Mothers, CT 1, through the VAVS program to resident veterans at the VA Hospitals in West Haven and Newington, CT.



"THANK YOU" to each and every child and teacher that participated in the program. The veterans were delighted by this great outpouring of support and love!

NATIONAL NEWSLETTER ARTICLES AND PICTURES

Please submit all newsletter articles and pictures to the Second Vice President at Rev.Lin.McGee@gmail.com by the 15th of the month. They will be placed in the Newsletter that comes out at the beginning of the following month. (i.e. articles submitted by February 15th will be in the February Newsletter which comes out by the end of the first week of March. This Newsletter relays what took place throughout the month of February, Heroes and members we lost in February, and upcoming dates of remembrance or celebration that will take place in March. Thank you for your submissions.

Remember.....



For all your patriotic purchases.

When ordering, use your discount code: BSM



HAVE YOU JOINED BIG DIPPER YET?

The Big Dipper is an auxiliary of Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc., which honors outstanding members of the Blue Star Mothers, sponsors the 'Fun Night' at convention, and provides educational scholarships to students. Membership is only \$5.00 a year. Please contact the Big Dipper President, Paulette Golden of MI 180 for any questions you may have about joining pgloden60@hotmail.com

IT IS YEARBOOK TIME!!!

We are looking for:

- A picture of your Chapter members together
- A picture of your child
- A picture of your fallen hero
- Action shots

Questions? Please email:
Rev.Lin.McGee@gmail.com

We will need:

- Your pictures
- Your contact information
- Who/What the picture is of
- A signed written release that we may use the pictures

Please submit to:
BSMyearbook2012@gmail.com (or) hotmail.com
(or) yahoo.net

IT IS TIME TO SELL THOSE ADS!!!

As you know, our Yearbook is paid for by the ads that we sell! Please begin selling your ads **ASAP!!**

- Full page = \$300.00
- ½ page = \$180.00
- ¼ page = \$100.00
- Business Card Size = \$50.00
- One Line Names = \$5.00

BSMyearbookads2012@hotmail.com

Mid-Year NEB Meeting

The annual mid-year NEB meeting took place at the Liki Tiki Village Resort, 17777 Bali Blvd. in Kissimmee, Florida, on January 21, 2012.

In attendance were:

President, Robin Barnes McCarthy
First VP, Janet Broussard
Second VP, Rev. Lin McGee
Third VP, Teresa Bullock
Forth VP, Rose Ann Elliott
Recording Secretary, Charilyn Damingo
Financial Secretary, Anne Parker
Treasurer, Julie Roberts [via phone conference]
Ohio DEP, Pat Pell
Michigan DEP, Kristine Wirgau
Minnesota DEP, Jean Duane
Oklahoma DEP, Cathy O'Shields
PNP, Karen Stevens
PNP, Susan Nail
Grievance Committee Chair, Carla Brodacki
Guest, Mike McCarthy

Officer reports were given and many important issues pertaining to the BSMoA organization were discussed.

Congratulations AZ 5

East Valley Blue Star Mothers of America

Serving: Mesa, Tempe, Chandler, Gilbert, Scottsdale, Apache Junction, Gold Canyon, San Tan Valley, and Queen Creek.

On January 26, 2012 AZ5 was 'reunited' with the installation of their new officers.

Attending the meeting to assist the Chapter were Dottie Sills (MN), Susan Stowe (MN), and Charilyn Damingo (CA 4).



CONGRATULATIONS and WELCOME To Our Newest BSMoA Chapter

Arizona 6, Yavapai County
Rebecca Leatherwood, President

Please let the newsletter/yearbook editor know of you have lost a member of your Chapter this year so that they can be honored during the year in the newsletter and also in our annual yearbook.

Please send information to:
Rev.Lin.McGee@gmail.com

CONVENTION 2012

The Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc. National Convention for the year 2012 will take place in Cincinnati, Ohio, from August 1st through August 4th.

We will be staying at the Garfield Suites Hotel located at 2 Garfield Place (phone: 1-800-367-2155). Our meetings will take place at the Cincinnati Club located next door to the Hotel.

The Convention Committee is headed by Anita Wagner (OH). Look for more information to come soon!

FEBRUARY DATES OF REMEMBRANCE, CELEBRATION, OR OBSERVANCE

- February 01, 1865 ~ 13th amendment approved (National Freedom Day)
- **February 01, 2012 ~ National Freedom Day**
- February 01, 1942 ~ 300 mothers (who were to later become the Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.) met at the Durant Hotel in Flint, Michigan. Captain George H. Maines, who had conceived the idea for this group, acted as the chair of this first meeting.
- **February 12, 2012 ~ Lincoln's Birthday**
- February 12, 1914 ~ Ground breaking and Cornerstone laid for Lincoln Memorial in Washington DC
- February 12, 1973 ~ First release of United States POW from North Vietnam
- February 14, 1859 ~ Oregon becomes the 33rd state in the United States of America
- **February 14, 2012 ~ Valentine's Day**
- February 19, 1945 ~ United States troops land on Iwo Jima
- **February 20, 2012 ~ President's Day**
- **February 22, 2012 ~ Washington's Birthday**
- February 23, 1945 ~ United States Flag raised on Iwo Jima
- February 27, 1951 ~ Twenty-second Amendment to the United States Constitution ratified, limiting Presidents to two terms.
- February 27, 1991 ~ Gulf War ends after Iraqi troops retreat and Kuwait is liberated

Blue Star Mothers of New Hampshire NH Chapter 1

**GIVE BLOOD
SAVE A LIFE**

The Blue Star Mothers of New Hampshire anxiously look forward to another successful year at their 3rd annual 'Honor A Hero' blood drive on Saturday, February 11, 2012. Time: 7:30am until 1:00pm

Blood collection: Manchester Blood Bank ~ 425 Reservoir Ave, Manchester, New Hampshire

Each year they appreciate donations of baked goods, volunteers for the canteen, and volunteer escorts.

THANK YOU.





Remembering Our Nation's Fallen Heroes

January 2012 DoD

Spc. Pernell J. Herrera, 33, Espanola, NM
PO1 Chad R. Regelin, 24, Cottonwood, CA
SrA Bryan R. Bell, 23, Erie, PA
TSgt. Matthew S. Schwartz, 34, Traverse City, MI
A1C Matthew R. Seidler, 24, Westminster, MD
Staff Sgt. Jonathan M. Metzger, 32, Indianapolis, IN
Spc. Robert J. Tauteris Jr., 44, Hamlet, IN
Spc. Christopher A. Patterson, 20, Aurora, IL
Spc. Brian J. Leonhardt, 21, Merrillville, IN
Pfc. Dustin P. Napier, 20, London, KY
Pfc. Michael W. Pyron, 30, Hopewell, VA
Pfc. Neil I. Turner, 21, Tacoma, WA
SFC Benjamin B. Wise, 34, Little Rock, AR

Cpl. Jon-Luke Bateman, 22, Tulsa, OK
Lance Cpl. Kenneth E. Cochran, 20, Wilder, ID
Spc. Keith D. Benson, 27, Brockton, MA
Cpl. Phillip D. McGeath, 25, Glendale, AZ
Capt. Daniel B. Bartle, 27, Ferndale, WA
Capt. Nathan R. McHone, 29, Crystal Lake, IL
MSgt. Travis W. Riddick, 40, Centerville, IA
Cpl. Jesse W. Stites, 23, North Beach, MD
Cpl. Kevin J. Reinhard, 25, Colonia, NJ
Cpl. Joseph D. Logan, 22, Willis, TX
Cpl. Christopher G. Singer, 23, Temecula, CA
Capt. Joshua C. Pairsh, 29, of Equality, IL
1st Lt. David A. Johnson, 24, Horicon, WI



Remembering Our Mothers Who Have Passed

Mary Jane Hughes, December 29, 2011 ~ NY 2

Patricia Vacarrilli, January 4, 2012 ~ NY 2

Marion Mae Stearns, January 23, 2012 ~ NH 1