



# UNITED WE STAND

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## *San Francisco, Here We Come!* *NP Pat Soler*

Convention is less than 3 weeks away and so far, almost 120 delegates have already registered! Twelve vendor tables have been reserved, selling out the entire vendor room.

Be sure to register now to avoid the \$25 surcharge for late registrations! Our agenda is filled with educational sessions and we even have live entertainment performing on Friday afternoon. Later that evening we will enjoy dancing to the DJ's music at the Banquet. We are also featuring two Silent Auctions; one for BSMA and one for Big Dipper. You don't want to miss out on all the fun and opportunities to meet your sisters across the nation, so

register today!

Don't forget – you can still purchase your BSM license plates, and the new 4-inch magnets to show your support for our organization. And, the Yearbook, all 100 pages in glorious color, will arrive at the end of this month.

Soon, we will be sending out a special ONLINE store order form so you can order items in advance and pick them up at Convention (saves you any postage fees as long as you pick up the items).

It will be a wonderful event; looking forward to seeing you there!



*San Francisco Skyline*

Be sure you have read the latest Convention Chatter, which was sent via email on July 25. If you are coming to Convention, you NEED to know this information! If you missed it, it is available on our website (member log-in required):

<http://www.bluestarmothers.org/convention-2013>



### PRESIDENT'S PROJECT

Remember to collect your spare change! You can make a difference!

## *Big Dipper Auxiliary*

The Big Dipper Auxiliary will be hosting a fun event on the first night of Convention (Aug. 15) with a "Beach Blanket Bingo" theme. They will also be hosting a silent auction, and selling beautiful blue star necklaces. Their main objective is



to raise money for the Josephine Calenda Educational Assistance Fund. Since 1951 The Big Dipper has given up tens of thousands of dollars for educational assistance. Check out the Big Dipper page at [bluestarmothers.org/BigDipper](http://bluestarmothers.org/BigDipper). Join today, for the price of a \$5 latte you can make a difference in the life of a veteran and military family.



## Welcome!

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to our newest chapters:

Mountain Valley Blue Star Mothers	TN4
Central Houston	TX16
Central Arkansas Blue Star Mothers	AR3
Blue Star Mothers of Spanish Springs	NM5
Meceola Blue Star Mothers	MI189

## Love and Best Wishes



Our love and virtual hugs are extended to our sisters on the National Executive Board (NEB) who have each had to face a sudden, difficult situation this month.

*Kris Dervin, DP Ohio  
Cyndi Ventura, 2VP  
Mary Johnson, DP Minnesota*

## Milestone



On July 27<sup>th</sup>, we observe the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the armistice agreement ending the Korean War, which spanned June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953. Coming as it did not long after World War II and ending as it did in a negotiated settlement that re-established the pre-war boundaries, it is often called “The Forgotten War.” We

honor the men and women who served in this conflict and we want them to know they are not forgotten. We honor the service and sacrifice of all veterans who served during this conflict. Finally, we remember the 54,246 United States servicemen who gave their last full measure of devotion to our country. We thank them one and all.

## Happy Birthday, Coast Guard!

We wish all members of the Coast Guard a happy 223<sup>rd</sup> birthday on August 4<sup>th</sup>. The U.S. Coast Guard is one of the five armed forces of the United States. Founded by Alexander Hamilton on 4 August 1790, it is the United States' oldest continuous seagoing service and has safeguarded our Nation's maritime interests and environment around the world. It operates under the Department of Homeland Security during peacetime, and can be transferred to the Department of the Navy by the President at anytime or by Congress during time of war.



*It was my honor to serve as National Patriotic Instructor this year and I look forward to seeing all of you at our National Convention in San Francisco.*

*Jean Burlingame, Patriotic Instructor, PNP*

## *Blue Star Mothers*

### *H.RES.293.IH*



#### PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

Expressing support for designation of August 2013 as 'Blue Star Mothers of America Month'.

Whereas Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc. was founded as a patriotic service organization on February 2, 1942, with the purpose of uniting mothers with sons or daughters in the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas the nonpartisan, nonsectarian, nondiscriminatory, and nonprofit organization was chartered in 1960 by the Congress of the United States;

Whereas persons eligible for membership in the Blue Star Mothers of America include any woman who filled the role of birthmother, adoptive mother, step-mother, foster-mother, grand-mother, legal Guardian of a service member at any time in that service members' life who is currently serving in any branch of the United States Armed Forces, or has served and been discharged;

Whereas the work of the Blue Star Mothers of America includes--

- (1) supporting members of the United States Armed Forces and veterans;
- (2) advocating for the United States Armed Forces and those men and women who have served the Nation with honor;

- (3) maintaining allegiance to the United States;
- (4) educating its members and others not to divulge military or other government information;
- (5) assisting and participating in ceremonies which honor, remember, and support members of the United States Armed Forces and veterans;
- (6) honoring those families whose children have died in service to the Nation;
- (7) assisting in the care of unsupported mothers who gave their children to the service of the Nation;
- (8) fostering true democracy;
- (9) assisting in homeland security;
- (10) upholding the United States principles of freedom, justice, and equal rights; and
- (11) defending the United States from all enemies, foreign and domestic;

Whereas the dedication of Blue Star Mothers of America is increasingly important with over 11,000 active members in 42 States of the United States with sons and daughters serving in the United States Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Coast Guard;

Whereas the Blue Star Service Flag is the official banner authorized by the Department of Defense for display by families who have members serving in the United States Armed Forces dur-

ing any period of war or armed hostilities the Nation may be engaged in for the duration of such hostilities;

Whereas as of today, 6,648 members of the United States Armed Forces have died in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom;

Whereas the loyalty, dedication, sacrifice, and hard work of the devoted members of Blue Star Mothers of America merit the utmost respect, acknowledgment, and recognition of the public; and

Whereas August 2013 would be an appropriate month to designate as 'Blue Star Mothers of America Month': Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives--

- (1) supports the designation of 'Blue Star Mothers of America Month'; and
- (2) encourages all citizens to take time during the month to reflect and honor the dedication and sacrifice of the mothers of members of the United States Armed Forces and celebrate the rich history and contributions they have made to the great Nation.

<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c113%3AH.RES.293>:

***Please ask your Representatives to support this resolution!***

# A Look Around Facebook to See What our Chapters are Doing!



This young entrepreneur raised \$82 on July 4 for the South Bay Blue Star Moms (CA4).



MI188



If they're wearing **RED**, it must be Friday! (**R**emember **E**veryone **D**eployed) (VA4)



Troops in Afghanistan receiving East Bay Blue Star Mom's (CA101) Care Packages for July 4th.

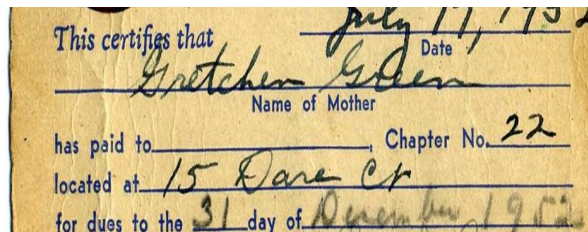


Blue Star Mothers of New Hampshire (NH1) Tribute Wall, Haverhill, NH 5-26-13



Our Packing Parties for the Troops is great team work. We follow with fellowship and time to sit and relax and catch up... with some lunch. We appreciate the community support and all the time and effort put in by our chairperson, Tricia and team. (AZ3)

Join us on the only official FaceBook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/BlueStarMothersOfAmericaInc>



We received this picture on our Facebook page, along with a question. Can anyone help a granddaughter find out more information about her grandmother's membership? (NY)



2013 LA Senate Military Family Day. Pictured: Vickie Davis, Danielle Leger, Liz Walker, Janet Broussard, Patsy Becker, Senator Adley, Lisa White



Blue Star Mothers win 1st Place in the Espanola Fiesta Parade... Congratulations TEAM!! (NM4)



Wilco Blue Star Mothers (TX15) show their respect for Navy SEAL Chris Kyle

## Contact us!

Visit our webpage!

[www.bluestarmothers.org](http://www.bluestarmothers.org)

Other commonly requested contact information:

For Gold Star banner questions contact 3rd VP, Teresa Bullock at:  
[Bullock\\_Teresa@hotmail.com](mailto:Bullock_Teresa@hotmail.com)

For Membership questions contact 1st VP, Judy Dorsey at:  
[baboojudy1@yahoo.com](mailto:baboojudy1@yahoo.com)

For Financial questions contact Financial Secretary, Kathryn Venable at:  
[bylaws2012@yahoo.com](mailto:bylaws2012@yahoo.com)

To start a chapter contact 4th VP, Ginger Novak at:  
[gnovak@insightbb.com](mailto:gnovak@insightbb.com)

For website help contact the Web Team

## Website Update

As you are all aware, we are making steady progress in developing a brand new website for Blue Star Mothers of America. One little speed bump that has been encountered needs your attention for us to resolve. The new website requires each member and associate to have a unique user name. (Our current system doesn't have this requirement.) Your web development team has investigated several approaches and determined that using a combination of first name, last name and telephone number will work in most cases. One of the team's primary goals is that the new web site be user friendly and that includes the user name. We didn't want the user name to be some random number/character combination.

So what can you do to help? We would appreciate it if you would check your membership profile and insure your first name and last name are exactly as you would like them to be. Check to see if you have entered your home phone and cell phone numbers, if you have them. (While you are there, check your email address to insure it is correct and that you have not checked the option to opt-out of mass mailings so you will continue to receive communications from National and your local chapter!) Remember to save your profile if you make any changes. Please have all changes made by the end of National Convention (August 17, 2013).

*Just a reminder...*



*If you are a federal employee, postal worker or member of the U.S. military, please remember to give to us through your Combined Federal Campaign. Our CFC Number is 97404.*