

The Big Dipper is an Auxiliary of Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc. which came into being in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on November 7<sup>th</sup> at the 1951 National Convention.

In 1989, Big Dipper's educational assistance fund was dedicated to the memory of Josephine Calenda (PA22) at the National BSMA Convention held in Lansing, Michigan. After many years of active service in BSMA, Josephine passed away that year while holding the office of National Big Dipper President. The fund has carried her name ever since.

The goal of the Big Dipper Auxiliary is to raise money throughout the year, so we can offer Educational Assistance to qualified applicants and to provide fun and sisterhood for our members while raising said funds. Applications for membership are available on the website; for states with departments, please register through that state's Big Dipper Auxiliary.

Your membership dues are the first step in Big Dipper's fundraising efforts. For \$10 a year, BSMA members can become an auxiliary member.

Funds are also raised through other means. For example, Big Dipper has a store from which you can order the traditional Big Dipper guard & chain to go with your BSM pin as well as other fun items. Plus, each year we plan a Fun Night at convention which not only raises funds, but also provides a social event. Big Dipper Fun Night is held to bring everyone together for a themed event where we have a silent auction, games, food, music and just plain old FUN.

Finally, donations are also an important fundraising component. Besides receiving donations from the public, chapters play a significant role. YOUR chapter can receive an award and recognition for the largest donation during the year

Our National Big Dipper Auxiliary is a FUN organization with the objective of helping our Active Duty Military, Veterans, Blue Star Mothers and their families reach their educational goals with less stress.

JOIN our Auxiliary today by submitting your application. Once an exclusive organization, now all Blue Star Mothers in good standing are welcome and encouraged to become a part of the Big Dipper Auxiliary.

Be part of Serving Others.