



BIG DIPPER AUXILIARY NEWSLETTER



September 2024



Dear Members,

I am honored and excited to serve as the 2024-2025 National Big Dipper Auxiliary President.

As we embark on this journey together, I am committed to building on our strong foundation and driving our organization toward even greater success.

My vision for the coming year:

- Enhance our Membership.
- Encourage creative solutions and ideas from our members.
- Ensure the highest standards in our services and communication.
- Increase the Josphine Calenda Educational Assistance Awards (JCEA) given.

Get Involved

We encourage all members to get involved and share your ideas and feedback. Your input is invaluable as we shape the future of our organization.

Please reach out to me at
president.bd@bluestarmothers.us

I look forward to working closely with all of you to achieve our shared goals. Together, we can create a brighter future for our organization.

Yours in Service,

Connie M. Shuck

Big Dipper President

Contact the Board

President - Connie Moler Shuck
president.bd@bluestarmothers.us

Vice President - Rebecca Collims
1vp.bd@bluestarmothers.us

Recording Secretary - Myllessia Quillen
recsec.bd@bluestarmothers.us

Treasurer - Gen Schindler
treas.bd@bluestarmothers.us

Financial Secretary - Melissa DeGiogio
finsec.bd@bluestarmothers.us

Michigan Dept. President - Claludette Lunney-Talbot
president.bdmi@bluestarmothers.us

Ohio Dept. President - Suzanne Hughes
president.bdoh@bluestarmothers.us

Chaplain - Doreen Berggren
chaplain.bdoh@bluestarmothers.us

Bylaws Chair - Diana Vance
vanceedi@gmail.com

Historoan - Debbi W. Molen
bdhistorian@bluestarmothers.us

Parliamentarian - Brenda Termullo
bd.parliamentarian@bluestarmothers.us

Patriotic Inst - Stephanie Manchen
bd.patriotic@bluestarmothers.us

Sgt. at Arms - Susan Rowley
bd.sgtatarms@bluestarmothers.us

Newsletter - Sue Sanders
newsletter.bd@bluestarmothers.us

Do you have Big Dipper news to share?
Please submit your articles by the the
10th of each month for publication.

Meet the Board

President
Connie M. Shuck
CA46



I joined Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc. on March 11, 2018. Several mothers have met my daughter Jeanette, and she is the reason I am a Blue Star Mother. Jeanette is Aviation Maintenance Administration Second-Class, Petty Officer (AZ2) in the Navy.

My daughter Krystin Moler Schei, is married to Chris Schei, a Torpedoman 1st Class (TM-1) in the Navy, who aspires to become a Limited Duty Officer (LDO). They have blessed our family with two grandchildren, Kristofer, and Christyann. Their family resides in San Diego CA.

I am a retiree from Wells Fargo Bank, NA where I worked for 17 years, as an executive admin for Commercial Banking in our Downtown Los Angeles Corporate office.

I am a member of Blue Star Mothers Chapter CA46. Currently, I hold the position of Treasurer and Mentor within my chapter. I served as the Chapter's 2VP 2018-2020 and Chapter's Financial Secretary from 2020-2021.

I am honored to be your National Big Dipper President. Please contact me with any suggestions or questions you may have.

She had been proud of his decision to serve his country, her heart bursting with love and admiration for the first time she saw him outfitted in his dress blues. – Nicholas Sparks

*1st Vice President
Rebecca Collins
OK20*



My husband, Colt, and I have four children, and five grandchildren. We live in a small town in Oklahoma. If you blink you will miss it.

I am a proud daughter of an Army Veteran and now a proud mom. My dad is a recipient of two Purple Heart awards. My son, Jack, joined the Oklahoma Army National Guard in 2022. This was the beginning of my journey with Blue Star Mothers when I joined in January 2023.

I am a member of Ok20 and have served as the 2nd VP and Recording Secretary. I was elected Chapter 1st VP for 2024-2025.

My personal mission is to promote awareness of our organization by hosting events and supporting my fellow Blue Star Mothers, as well as our Military and Veterans. Joining BSM has given me shoulders to cry on, cheerleaders and sisterhood.

On a personal note, I am hard-working and driven. I am not afraid to face a challenge. I'm passionate about my work and I know how to get the job done. I would describe myself as an open and honest person who doesn't believe in misleading other people and tries to be fair in everything I do. I hope to bring good leadership to the Big Dipper team and help gain trust in our mission.

Recording Secretary
Mylessia Quillen
TN6



My son always wanted to be a United States Marine. After helping him to enlist in the USMC I began spending my time crafting.

This is where I met our fellow Blue Star Mother, Christine Boyd. She introduced me to TN4 in Sweetwater and Coni Brooks. I never imagined it would lead me to meet my new Blue Star Family.

In March of 2020 I had enough members to charter a new chapter. Blue Star Moms of the Tri-Cities TN6. Our chapter has had ups and downs, but I've always had my Blue Star Mothers family.

As part of my life's journey, I welcomed Jesus into my heart. I serve the Lord through many ministries; Blue Star Moms. Billy Wayne Ministries, Anchor Church of Kingsport, VAVS deputy and now a VAVS representative for Mountain Home. His newest path for me is Recording Secretary for the Big Dipper Auxiliary. Through prayer and His guidance I want to do justice to this position and work with others to bring fun back to this organization and provide educational assistance to those in need. I thank God everyday for every opportunity.

*Treasurer
Gen
Schindler
CA10*



I am Gen (Genevieve) Schindler, National Big Dipper Auxiliary Treasurer. I was elected to this position in August of 2024. I served as the National Big Dipper Auxiliary Financial Secretary from August 2022 until August 2024. I also served as BSMA, Inc. National Financial Secretary from August 2019 to August 2021.

I have a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, and Accounting. I have worked for a CPA for three years doing tax returns and prepared the Non-Profit Tax returns for multiple clients.

I joined Blue Star Mothers in February 2010, to support my son who joined the Navy in October 2009. He is still serving and will complete year 15 in October 2024. I also have a daughter and son-in-law, who have blessed me with six grandchildren.

I am a member of Central Valley Blue Star Moms, Chapter CA10. I am currently a Financial Officer for this chapter. I am highly active in CVBSM, and especially enjoy attending the Honor Flight returns at Fresno Airport.

I am retired living in the central part of California, near Fresno, in a small town called Coarsegold. I have been here since 1992.

Financial Secretray
Melissa Degiugio
TN5



I have been a Blue Star Mother for six years. I was one of the founding mothers of the Scenic City Blue Star Mothers chapter located in Chattanooga TN.

I have three children plus a bonus child since I am raising my nephew. I am blessed to have one grandchild. My oldest daughter has been in the army for six years, and I am proud to say she has re-enlisted for another six years.

Most of my time is spent working, raising kids, volunteering with Irreverent Warriors and supporting Blue Star Mothers. For the past three years I have held the office of Financial Secretary for TN5. I am excited to serve as the National Big Dipper Financial Secretary and look forward to working and serving with you in 2024-2025.

*Leadership is about vision and responsibility,
not power." – Seth Berkley*



*Congratulation
2024-2025
Big Dipper Auxiliary Board*



NATIONAL BIG DIPPER AUXILIARY STORE GALLERY



Item #1 Big Dipper Guard Pin



Item #2 Eagle Pin

Item #3 Heart Earrings
Item #4 Heart Necklace



Item #6 Big Dipper Lapel Pin



Item #7 Proud Veteran Pin



Item #5 Heart Earrings & Necklace Bundle



Item #8 Star Earrings
Item #9 Star Necklace



Item #11 Patriotic Cross Pin
Item #12 Patriotic Cross Necklace

Item #10 Star Earrings & Necklace Bundle



Item #16 Patriotic Bow Stud Earrings



Item #13 Flip Flop Necklace (silver)
Item #14 Flip Flop Earrings (gold)



Item #15 Wooden Sunflower Earrings (about the size of a quarter)



Item #17 Blue Star Hat Bag
(Hat & gloves available in the National BSM Online Store)



Item #18 Flag Knit Hat



NATIONAL BIG DIPPER AUXILIARY STORE ORDER FORM 2024-2025

-PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY-

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ (Circle: Landline Cell)

Email

Ordered	Item	Cost Each	Total Cost
	#1 Big Dipper Guard Pin	\$12	
	#2 Eagle Pin	\$8	
	#3 Heart Stud Earrings	\$12	
	#4 Heart Necklace	\$8	
	#5 Heart Stud Earrings & Necklace Bundle	\$18	
	#6 Big Dipper Label Pin	\$12	
	#7 Proud Veteran Pin	\$8	
	#8 Star Stud Earring	\$12	
	#9 Star Necklace	\$8	
	#10 Star Stud Earrings & Necklace Bundle	\$18	
	#11 Patriotic Cross Pin	\$7	
	#12 Patriotic Necklace	\$8	
	#13 Flip Flop Necklace (Silver Tone)	\$10	
	#14 Flip Flop Earrings (Gold Tone)	\$12	
	#15 Wooden Sunflower Earrings	\$10	
	#16 Bow Stud Earrings	\$10	
	#17 Blue Star Hat Bag	\$10	
	#18 Flag Knit Hat	\$14	
	Shipping for Jewelry Items (See below)		
	Shipping for Hat Bag(s) & Knit Hat(s) (See below)		
	TOTAL DUE		

Shipping & Handling for Jewelry Items:

- Shipping & Handling for 4 items or less \$5
- Shipping & Handling for 5-8 items is \$6
- Shipping & Handling for 9-12 items is \$8
- Shipping & Handling for Hat Bags and Knit Hats: \$6 each; \$9 for 2 items; \$2 for 3 items

Make Checks Payable to "National Big Dipper Auxiliary"

Mail this order form and your check to:

National Big Dipper Auxiliary

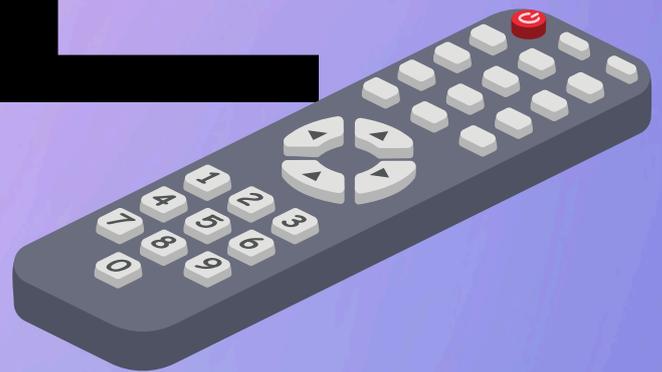
c/o **Melissa DeGiorgio**, National Big Dipper Financial Secretary

P.O. Box 22054

Chattanooga TN, 37422



**Stay tuned for
the October edition of the
Big Dipper Newsletter
featuring
Past Big Dipper Presidents**



Big Dipper Mission

The purposes of the corporation shall be: to perpetuate the Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc., and the memory of all the men and women who have served our country as members of the Armed Forces; the further object of this organization shall be patriotic, educational, social, and for service; to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States; to educate our members and others not to divulge military, naval, or other Government information; to assist in veterans' ceremonies, to attend patriotic rallies and meetings; to foster true democracy; to care for the unsupported mothers who gave their sons to the service of the Nation; to aid in bringing about recognition of the need of permanent civilian defense for each community and to ever be alert against invasion of un-American activities; to uphold the American institutions of freedom, justice, and equal rights, and to defend the United States from all enemies.