

# A group of women with one thing in common – all have children serving in the military. MARCH, 2018

#### **Chapter President's Letter**

Dear Everyone,

Spring is on the way!! Well, sort of...today we have nearly 12 inches of snow, but snow melts! We had a fairly quiet winter. We held our annual cookie sale from Sweet Blessings in Shortsville, and it went down very well. We are currently awaiting the Easter Candy orders from that fundraiser. They should be here near the third week of March.

We are in the throes of planning the Bowling for Vets Fundraiser to be held at the Bowling Alley in Canandaigua on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Debbie Lamphier is the Chair of that project. Information should soon be coming to a mailbox near you. Everyone had a great time last year so, hopefully, it will be as much fun again this year.

Carol and a volunteer crew are in the process of cleaning up the forever untidy clothing rooms. We have gotten some really wonderful donations and supplied a lot of needy veterans with clothing. You can volunteer to help keep the upstairs tidy at any point in time. We are always needy!

We delivered the annual Cookie trays to the staff at the VA on Valentine's Day, and it was a grand success! I ran into some people over there who thanked us, profusely, for being remembered and said how delicious the cookies were. One guy moved from Engineering to the Director's Office and worried that he would not get any cookies this year, but he was greatly relieved when we showed up with a tray of cookies. This is a great project, and one that is greatly appreciated here and the outreach offices in Rochester.

Please keep all of our deployed troops in your hearts and prayers. Please pray for those who are suffering from the effects of PTSD, TBI, and physical wounds. They have given a lot for our safety and freedom. We thank them with grateful hearts and continue to do all we can to provide support and care for them and their families.

Happy Easter, Joyce



### Blue Star Mothers - New York #1 Elected Executive Board for 2017-18

President – Joyce Mader

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Nancy Bardeen

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Carol Adamowicz

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President – Valerie Haynes

4<sup>th</sup> Vice President – Linda Green

Recording Secretary – Laura Evans

Financial Secretary/Membership Chair - Bobbie Metcalfe

Treasurer/Budget – Beth Olson

The following positions are appointed.

Corresponding Secretary – duties shared by Jean Burlingame and Bobbie Metcalfe
Chaplain – Jean Burlingame
Historian – OPEN (Nola Trost nominated in October)
Parliamentarian - Kathy Zeigler
Patriotic Instructor – Kathy Zeigler
Set, at Arms – Ann Wido

Sgt. at Arms – Ann Wido WebMaster – Brian Mader

As of March 10, 2018, there are 44 moms and 39 associate members.

I have attached a picture of my son SFC Jason Ramsey, and some of his platoon in front of the Christmas tree that BSM NY1 sent to them in Jordan. They are on a one year deployment. Their mission is Operation Inherent Resolve. Jason is the one in uniform. He just finished a 24 hour shift covering the security desk so that his men could have Christmas off. They are in their civilian clothes. After his shift, he served them Christmas dinner.

Ellie Ramsey



Message from the 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President of NY#1

First I want to thank everyone that provided food for the reception after Mrs. Purple's Service on Saturday. It was all wonderful and we got lots of "Thank You" from those that attended. We even had one gentleman wondering, if we could be called to provide this reception for anyone. I told him that we were not able to do that but thanked him for his compliments on the good food. We all worked well to coordinate the food that was brought and helping to set up and serve and clean up afterward went very smoothly!! We seem to have it down to a science. We are a great Team, and I appreciate it very much!!

We are in need of someone for the Canteen Meal for April 25<sup>th</sup>. If you are able to do the meal please let me know by email or give me a call at home and leave a message at 585-229-5244. Also, please consider any date in May or June. If you are able to do a meal, please email me what you can make and what date you'd like to do it. We still have meat in the freezer, and we will inventory soon so we know exactly what we have left. When making the meal, please plan on food for 30-35 Veterans with bread, rolls, or muffins and a dessert or fruit. We never know how many are coming but if you make enough for 30-35, it usually works out fine.

In the month of June, we have two poker runs at the Canteen for brunch. BSM Chapter 1 will buy all the food, but I will be asking for help to set up, serve, and clean up after the events.

Thank you all for your commitment to our Veterans and our troops and to each other!!

Linda K. Green

Attached are the photos I took when we were there with the check from DAV Chapter 4, Canandaigua. We are hoping others would follow our example and donate to BSM as well!

Great to see you again and *thank you* for all you do for Active Duty and Veterans of our military services!

Rodney Dutton DAV Chapter 4 Adjutant





(*The following information was edited for space and content.*)

I'm reaching out to share important information about Paid Family Leave in New York and to offer my assistance as a resource for Blue Star Mothers chapters statewide. In New York State, military deployment abroad is one of the qualifying events that make one eligible for Paid Family Leave. It provides job-protected time-off from work (up to eight weeks in 2018) at half pay (up to a maximum) for eligible employees to handle the details related to a family member's deployment abroad or upon return. The family of the military service member takes the PFL to help that military service member upon deployment or return. My agency is the administrator of PFL in New York, and we're trying to make certain that military families are aware of this important benefit. To accomplish this, I'd like to offer these items.

We have a trove of materials available on <a href="https://www.ny.gov/new-york-state-paid-family-leave-downloadable-guides">https://www.ny.gov/new-york-state-paid-family-leave-downloadable-guides</a>. They're grouped by Employee and Employer focus. Your most pertinent materials are under Employees. Also, there's an educational video for employees: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zwTetJO3N">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zwTetJO3N</a> 8

Thank you for your work. One of my colleagues here was a Blue Star Mother, and she speaks highly of your organization.

Joe Cavalcante

Assistant Director of Public Information

**NYS Workers' Compensation Board** 

328 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12305



#### Did you know?

Holidays for Heroes served 77 families and 14 units overseas in December, 2017. We are the only BSMA Chapter who will accept out of state members in our chapter. If the Canandaigua City School District is closed for the day or suspends evening activities, the Canteen will not be open.

#### Upcoming Events

Blue Star Riders Poker Run on June 10<sup>th</sup> and we will serve breakfast. Blue Star Poker Run in Wayne County on June 24<sup>th</sup> and we will serve breakfast. Shootout for Soldiers is on July 21<sup>st</sup>.



## **Ongoing BSMA NY#1 Fundraisers**

Window car clings are available for all military branches. Contact Bobbie at 585-200-0121 for more information on other items and to order.

Buy a Brick Fundraiser was introduced by Joanne at the January, 2016, meeting. Bricks cost \$50 and a duplicate brick is \$35. Bricks will be in the Patriot Garden around the flag poles at the Blue Star Canteen. The 4" by 8" brick in Regimental Red is etched through a laser process. Got questions? Contact Sally at <a href="mailto:salfriz.2@gmail.com">salfriz.2@gmail.com</a> or Joanne at or by email at <a href="mailto:joanneacq55@hotmail.com">joanneacq55@hotmail.com</a>. Information on this fundraiser is available at <a href="mailto:http://thatsmybrick.com/bluestarmothersny1">http://thatsmybrick.com/bluestarmothersny1</a>.

Keep collecting those used cell phones and toner cartridges from your printers. Also, any scrap metal, wire, old stoves, refrigerators, or other metal items are needed. We get cash for them! Please contact Bobbie Metcalfe.

Interested in contributing information for a future newsletter? The next newsletter will be published in June, 2018; the deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. Please send MaryAgnes (mother of two Marines and godmother of a Soldier) an email at <a href="mailto:mamcavoy@aol.com">mamcavoy@aol.com</a> should you wish to submit information. Please do check our website <a href="www.bluestarmothersny1.org">www.bluestarmothersny1.org</a> for additional information, photos, and more. This newsletter is also available on the website address noted above under the "About Us" menu tab.

