



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

Chapter President's Letter

Dear Everyone,

Happy Autumn as of this coming Friday! We have the Pumpkin Race to look forward too again this year and we hope it will be as much fun as last year! Bobbie has all the details and will get them out to everybody as soon as possible.

Convention was fun but the heat and humidity was awful. 98 degrees and humid. I tried to struggle through it because my son and daughter-in-law and, indeed, all of our soldiers have done so, but couldn't do it...of course, age is also a factor here and that is the last time I will admit o that. We laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and it was very reverential and respectful. I have no idea how those soldiers that are on duty there can do that in the heat and humidity but I have boundless admiration for them. We took the group picture at the Iwo Jima Memorial, which is a most powerful monument. Many people gathered round to see who we were and also took pictures. The WIMSA (Women In Military Service to America) was fascinating, and I highly recommend that you see it at some point in time. It is most fitting that women are finally being mentioned and honored for their service to our country.

It was good to get back home (more heat and humidity) and back to a regular routine. The Canteen has been incredibly busy these last two months. The Dom is nearly at full capacity, which is 50 patients. Currently there are 40. The DAV is now donating a Birthday Cake to us every month to celebrate monthly birthdays for our Vets. It is fun and this month we celebrated Beth Olsen whom all the vets know as Miss Beth. She richly deserved it after all the devotion to she has given to those Vets wounded in mind and her work on the Crisis Hotline. Thank you, Beth!

We will be soon making plans for the Light of Love Christmas Ceremony which is going to be indoors this year!!! YAY! It will be held in the VA Auditorium on November 25th, 2018, from 1-3PM. Hopefully, we can have an event that will be well attended by the hospital bound veterans as well as the community.

Bobbie is already starting to get requests for our Christmas families and some addresses for shipping. If you have a soldier deployed, please give his information to Bobbie so that we may include them in our Christmas program.

Enjoy the changing trees and all the joys of autumn (especially cooler weather!)
Joyce

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

President – Joyce Mader

1st Vice President – Nancy Bardeen

2nd Vice President – Carol Adamowicz

3rd Vice President – Valerie Haynes

4th 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

Parliamentarian - Kathy Zeigler

Patriotic Instructor – Kathy Zeigler

Sgt. at Arms – Ann Wido

WebMaster – Brian Mader

Election of new officers held at the October 13th meeting. If interested in a position, please call Joyce for more information. As of September 6, 2018, there are 45 moms and 38 associate members. Many members have not yet renewed their memberships.





Canandaigua Academy on July 21-22.

Convention News – August 6-11

We did it, we did it!! NY#1 received the first ever GALAXY Award for the hardest working and most involved Chapter in the nation. There were five other competitors for this new award. Jean Burlingame sent in a great nomination letter with pictures. Three of the agencies we assist sent in testimonials about our work, response time, etc. Congratulations to everyone for making this a reality. There will be other GALAXY Awards but we will still WON the very first one!!



It was hotter than Dante's Inferno in Washington and so humid we had mold growing on us. It was so good to get back home. We laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and had a Memorial Service inside at the Rotunda. A female Marine with the most incredible voice sang

the National Anthem and the past National Presidents held the Altar cloth while the Memorial Service was conducted. It was very moving. We had a trip to the WIMSA Memorial (Women in Military Service to America) The reflecting pool was filled just for us, and we set blue daisy heads afloat in it.

The meetings were interesting with some amazing guest speakers. Two were from Warriors Journey Home and another young man, ex-service, is a film maker. Other speakers were former Navy Seals who are ordained ministers and run a program for veterans with PTSD.

We elected a new Board for the National Executive Board. We wish them all good luck and, hopefully, a peaceful year of service to our soldiers and veterans.

Veterans Crisis Line News

The Veterans Crisis Line (VCL) is a toll-free, confidential resource that connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring VA responders. Since launching in 2007, the VCL has answered over 3.3 million calls and initiated the dispatch of emergency services to callers in imminent crisis more than 93,000 times. That is a lot of lives saved, but we can help many more. To show how much you care about our Nation's Service Members and Veterans, you are encouraged to program the VCL phone number (1-800-273-8255 and Press 1) into your phone and tell everyone you know to do the same. You never know when you might run into someone who needs it.

Suicide Prevention is Everyone's Business. [#BeThere.](#)

Upcoming Events

Pumpkin Race is scheduled for September 29th this year from 11A-4P at the VA (Canteen). A special superhero will be in attendance for the kids!

Charity Races at the race track coming again in October. The previous time we attended, it was wonderful and great fun! NY#1 awarded \$3,000 that year. Application was accepted, but more information is not available at this time.

The Light of Love will move from Kershaw Park (where it is cold outside) to the Canandaigua VA auditorium inside in warmth. It will be held on November 25th. We will serve beverages only. Stay tuned for more details! Come and meet the Vets!

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. As of the May meeting, 25 bricks were sold/ordered. Bricks cost \$50 and a duplicate brick is \$35. Bricks will be placed 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 salfriz.2@gmail.com or Joanne at joanneacq55@hotmail.com . Information on this fundraiser is available at <http://thatsmybrick.com/bluestarmothersny1> .

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 December, 2018; the deadline is the 15th of the month. Please send MaryAgnes (mother of two Marines and godmother of a Soldier) an email at mamcavoy@aol.com should you wish to submit information. Please do check our website www.bluestarmothersny1.org for additional information, photos, and more. This newsletter is also available on the website address noted above under the "About Us" menu tab.

