

# A GROUP OF WOMEN WITH ONE THING IN COMMON — ALL HAVE CHILDREN SERVING IN THE MILITARY. DECEMBER, 2021

#### Chapter President's Letter

Dear Everyone,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving! Now we are into the build up to Christmas. We will be collecting the gifts for the families on December 17th at the Canteen. Bobbie and I will begin to pack the bags for the single Vet gifts on Sunday for distribution just before Christmas.

We had an enormous amount of deliveries to the Canteen. Ed Hemminger, Commander of AMVETS, brought 9 bags of Men's winter clothing. It is currently in the upstairs bedroom awaiting sorting. Williamson Cold Storage, where Dick Metcalfe works, has very graciously allowed us to use two of their wooden coat hanging racks, which hold quite a few coats, and they are upstairs as well, courtesy of Dick. We had an "Unpack all the bags in the living room party" after Thanksgiving and got everything sorted and divvied up. The women's clothing is going to female veterans, some of the items are going to Goodwill. The local DMV donated a huge amount of blankets, sleeping bags and towels, etc. They are going to the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Club who support a homeless Veterans Shelter. So I think we have everything covered.

Ralph Calabrese, a Korean War Vet, 92, passed away this week. We salute Ralph for all his hard work for the VA and Veterans. He campaigned tirelessly for keeping the VA here in Canandaigua years ago and for anything related to Veterans. He had gone into the Nursing Home at the VA. He referred to the Blue Star Mothers as Ralph's Angels. He was an excellent citizen to our community and will be greatly missed. Rest in Peace, Ralph.

We had a teen volunteer come on December 4th with her Mom, Jenn, to help as well as new member, Kelly, plus Donna, Linda, and me to sort and straighten up. The

personal products room can now be walked in!!! YAY! They all worked with a will and, in two and a half hours, got everything sorted out.

So we are coming to the end of the year, and I think we can say we did an enormous amount and should be proud of all our efforts. We are waiting on the State of New York to finalize everything for the change of hands on the Canteen. Fingers crossed!

Merry Christmas to all and a Very Happy New Year,

Love,

Joyce

## Results from elections held on October 9, 2021 Blue Star Mothers - New York #1 Elected Executive Board for 2021-2022

President – Joyce Mader

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Linda Green

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President – Valerie Haynes
Recording Secretary – Peg McCarthy
Financial Secretary - Bobbie Metcalfe
Treasurer – Beth Olson

The following positions are appointed.

Corresponding Secretary – shared by Jean Burlingame and Bobbie Metcalfe
Chaplain – Nancy Bardeen
Historian – Jane Hallstead
Parliamentarian – Peg McCarthy
Patriotic Instructor – Ann Wido
Sgt. at Arms – Linda Green

**As of the September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting**, there are 39 moms and 34 associate members.



Long distance member Jane Tapassi and her daughter Andrea Sinclair sporting their new NY#1 jackets!

Our first Thanksgiving at the new Canteen was WONDERFUL!!! Linda Green did a great job organizing everything. We had lots of help and incredible food! There were several new Vets who were very interested and plan to attend dinner on December 15th.

Two licensed beauticians, Christine and her daughter, were in attendance and gave haircuts on the back porch, their little salon. The Vets were thrilled. Christine stated she will return!

Thank you to everyone who contributed food to this event. It was all delicious and loved by all! Also, thanks to all who helped in any way!



## Terence McClamb and Marty Collins

In the December 4th edition of the Finger Lakes Times, there was a colorful advertisement for the BSMA NY#1 Canteen. The ad listed contact information for NY#1, location of the Canteen, what we do for our Veterans, and included a beautiful picture of the front porch with the Canteen logo. This beautiful piece was submitted by Laura Evans who did a wonderful job!

## **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.

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 March, 2021; 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.

