



In a military family, we all serve!

March, 2026

Chapter President's Letter

Dear Everyone,

Welcome to March! Yes, it's cold and blustery, but Spring isn't far off.

The world is in turmoil, and these are desperate times for all. We lost thirteen soldiers so I ask to keep them, as well as all the others, in your heart and prayers. I also ask you to pray for peace with everything you've got.

We received a request for supplies for a 1500-person unit in Kuwait that was bombed. Someone in the unit contacted the Wayne County Veterans Advisor who got hold of Bobbie. We have been busy gathering goods for the unit boxes and have 17 packed so far. The unfortunate thing is that thirty APO zip codes have been suspended till further notice so we can't ship the boxes. We will still pack and be prepared to ship when we can.

We are doing Easter baskets for the CLC (Continuing Living Center) at the VA. We are packing bags for the upcoming Women's Veteran Health Events.

We have a busy Spring before us so please come and help. Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Yours in service,

Joyce

As of March 9th, 2026, there are 26 Moms and 24 Associate members in NY#1.



Results from elections held on September 13, 2025

Blue Star Mothers – New York #1 Elected Executive Board for 2025-2026

President – Joyce Mader

1st Vice President – Linda Green

2nd Vice President – MaryAgnes McAvoy

3rd Vice President – Val Haynes

4th Vice President – Ricci Shuttleworth

Recording Secretary – Joanne Acquilano

Financial Secretary – Fran Gallahan and Carol Adamowicz

Treasurer – Bobbie Metcalfe

The following positions are appointed.

Corresponding Secretary – Bobbie Metcalfe

Chaplain – Val Haynes

Historian – Jane Hallstead

Sgt. At Arms – Becky Nohe

Patriotic Instructor – Rose Asproules

Having fun with Santa and the Grinch in Canandaigua before Christmas! The Five Below store was a toy donation site for Toys 4 Tots!



Our own Jane Hallstead is the Grinch wearing sunglasses!



Canteen News

As of January, 2026, BSMA NY#1 now has ownership/title of the Canteen house on Foster Street! The building is the oldest standing structure in Canandaigua! NY#1 is an independent, charitable organization.

The grant paperwork is into NYS for Final review before they release the money. Right now, we are waiting for the NYS lawyers to sign the paperwork. Brian was going to start the pantry in February, but has to wait for now. It could take 2 more months to get this finalized, so we have to be patient a bit longer. Jeff Gallahan, our NY state representative is going to see if he can move it along so fingers crossed!

Recently, the upstairs of the Canteen was cleaned and straightened up. Please see below for the result! Wow, there is a carpet there!





Easter bags packed at the March meeting for CLC and 17 boxes waiting to be shipped to APO zip codes.



NY#1 newest members at the March meeting: left is Kathryn DeMarco who has a daughter in the Marines, right is Valerie Thompson who has a son in the Marines. Both Marines finished at Parris Island in 2025.

Important Upcoming Dates

The next meeting is Saturday, April 11th at 9AM at the Canteen. Please join us!

Chicken BBQ Fundraiser date is set, but at a new location at 746 County Road 7 in Clifton Springs. Put Saturday, May 30th on your calendar now! There will be NO craft fair, NO basket raffle, and NO bake sale as NO space at this location. Pre-sale tickets are \$15 with pick-up from 11A-12N. Tickets on day of BBQ are \$20. Starting time is 10A until sold out! This event is a drive thru.

The Shootout for Soldiers garage sale is June 13th in Canandaigua. More details to follow for this event. Shootout for Soldiers 24-hour lacrosse tournament will be July 25-26 at Canandaigua Academy. Donations of cakes and cookies are requested for their fundraiser. Contact Jane H for more information. Money raised for SFS events benefits Honor Flight and BSMA NY#1.

NY#1 has again been invited to attend the 3 female Veteran health events in 2026 in Bath, Rochester, and Canandaigua. Dates not yet finalized. NY#1 is again planning to provide goodie bags for the female Veterans as well as pizza for lunch in Bath and Canandaigua. Lunch for the Rochester event is provided by another organization.

National Blue Star Mother's Day is February 1st. We missed it in 2026, but put it on your calendar for 2027 to celebrate!

BSMA NY#1 Ongoing 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 June, 2026; the deadline is usually the 15th of the month at the very latest. 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.

