



**A group of women with one thing in common –
all have children serving in the military.
SEPTEMBER, 2019**

Chapter President's Letter

Dear Everyone,

Happy September! It has been a long, hot, wet, busy summer. Our next major event is the Pumpkin Race on September 28th, 2019 from 11-4p.m. Hopefully, we will get a great turnout. The Pumpkin Palace is supplying our Veterans with pumpkins as the person in charge is a former Marine and she was thrilled to hear what we are doing. Please come if you can and help make this a spectacular event!

The Canteen re-paint is nearly finished due to the abilities of Keith Metcalfe and his friend, Andy, who have very kindly devoted the past two weeks to finishing up the scraping and painting. They are now cutting in the blue paint on the upper story windows and then done! The old shingles sucked up that paint like you wouldn't believe but Behr Paint Company donated their top of the line Primer and Paint Mix, and it has done a fantastic job. We are very grateful to them. We needed to buy an extra five gallon bucket of paint due to the absorption process and still need a couple gallons to paint the garage, but it was way less than we would have spent if we had to hire it done which would have been between 8-10,000 dollars. So Deepest Thanks to Keith and Andrew!!!

It's that time of year when we start asking for winter coats, boots, gloves, scarves, and hats for the Vets. If you have female coats, etc., that are in good repair and clean, we can donate them to Marianne for the female vets that she oversees. We could also use children's coats, etc. as many of the female Vets are single moms. So, please, spread the word. I have spoken to Ed Hemminger from AMVETS and he is totally on board with the program and will try to get us boots both new and used.

It's also time to get addresses from those who have someone deployed so that we can send boxes and trees for Christmas. If you know of anyone, please see if you can get permission to get the address and deliver it to Bobbie so that we can proceed in a timely fashion.

We had a major inspection from the VA and they had some suggestions for hygiene improvements at the Canteen. The New Director appears to be the sort who keeps on top of things, and we have been neglected far too long. Sally will be contacting everyone about a date in October for a major cleaning upstairs and down in the basement. We cleared out the main floor and now have more room in the living room for tables. Tropicana gave us a small refrigerator for cold drinks which frees up space in the

big fridge. We need to remove stuff from the personal products room. Shannon, who is assigned to us from the VA, has assured me that she can get the stuff into the VA's dumpsters. We have new shelving to replace the old. The only thing you can rely on in life is change so let's rise to the challenge!!

Enjoy the mellow weather and leaf change in September. You all rock!

Joyce

Blue Star Mothers - New York #1 Elected Executive Board for 2018-19

President – Joyce Mader
1st Vice President – Nancy Bardeen
2nd Vice President – Sally Fritz
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 – shared by Jean Burlingame and Bobbie Metcalfe
Chaplain – Jean Burlingame
Historian – OPEN
Parliamentarian - Kathy Zeigler
Patriotic Instructor – Kathy Zeigler
Sgt. at Arms – Donna Strelow
WebMaster – Brian Mader

As of September 7, 2019, there are 31 moms and 30 associate members.

IMPORTANT! In case you are unaware, if you wish to remain a full-participating, voting member in good standing of NY#1, you must attend 4 meetings a year. This rule is in the Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc. by-laws. By attending meetings, you are up to date on activities and business of the Chapter. Helping on Wednesday nights at the Canteen does not count toward voting rights as a member! Please be sure to attend at least 4 of the 10 meetings held during the fiscal year. If you have not renewed your membership, please do so immediately. We really need to see more people at the monthly meetings.

At the September 14th meeting at the newly renovated Veterans Park on Routes 5 & 20, a new and updated BSMA Code of Conduct was distributed to those present. This information basically tells us what we can and cannot do as an organization.

Joanne Acquilano makes beautiful, embroidered Patriotic Angels for the Chapter to give to our Gold Star Families. She also sells the Angels and may donate some of the proceeds to the Chapter.

It was a very **HOT** weekend for Shootout for Soldiers on July 20-21 at Canandaigua Academy. Jane and Nola set up a card making table at the event. We now have a lot of homemade cards to send to the troops and Vets at Christmas. Donation amount to BSMA NY#1 from the weekend is still unknown.

Bobbie and Joyce were at the Ontario Rod and Gun Club on July 20 to serve and clean up meals and deliver sides for the chicken barbecue dinners. Bobbie also went to the Seneca County Fair to close down the Toys for Tots booth that day. Joyce was left to deliver the 40 meals that were donated to the Veterans at Eagle Star and Cadence Square. We will be getting a donation from the Rod and Gun Club.

Many thanks to Valerie for pulling together our Chicken Barbecue on July 27. It smelled delicious and the scent alone drew in many customers. The dinners were all sold out by 3PM! We collected a grand total of \$1,331.00 combined with ticket sales, the Shop table, and donations. Victoria ran a brisk business with her smoothies table. While the chicken BBQ was open, Dick Metcalfe was powerwashing the Canteen, the Patio, and the picnic tables.

At the Canteen, the gutters were cleaned, and hand rails on the ramp replaced. Painting of the Canteen and garage is almost complete



Meals are always needed for our Veterans on Wednesday nights at the Canteen. Get together with friends to put a meal together or purchase gift cards for items needed for meals. Not available on Wednesdays? Bring the meal to the Canteen earlier in the week to be reheated. Contact Linda Green for additional information on making a meal.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The third annual Pumpkin Race is scheduled for September, 28th. Signs are up and there is already interest in the event. The pumpkins planted at the Canteen refused to grow, but a female Marine Vet from the Pumpkin Palace will supply pumpkins for our Vets to participate.



Cliff (Toys for Tots) with Buzz Lightyear at the Pumpkin Palace.

Bowling for Veterans is set for Sunday, November 10th at Roseland Bowl.

Thanksgiving dinner at Canteen for the Vets will be on Wednesday, 11/20. Canteen closed on 11/27.

The Light of Love will be held again in the Canandaigua VA auditorium.

The next NY#1 meeting is Saturday, October 12th. **Elections will be held!**

Ongoing BSMA NY#1 Fundraisers

New RED (Remember Everyone Deployed) t-shirts available. Design is on the back.

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 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. 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, 2019; 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.

