



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

Blue Star Mothers  
of America, Inc.  
NY #1  
September, 2014

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

Dear Everyone,

Happy fall! It has been very busy at the Canteen lately with a whole new roster of vets coming over to visit with us on Mondays and Fridays. We are starting to let people know that we need winter coats and boots, gloves, and hats. As always, we are in need of jeans in all sizes, hoodies, sweatshirts, and sweatpants. If you know anyone who can help with this, PLEASE ask them to donate to us!

We are starting to plan for the Light of Love at Kershaw Park. It will be on November 30<sup>th</sup> this year and I hope that we have a wonderful turnout. It is a lot of work but always so worth it. If you are in need of a star for the tree, please let Valerie know about it.

This is a time of waiting for all of us as bombing raids begin again in the Middle East. As Mothers we wait to see if our children are going to be called up again. Please keep all who are in harm's way in your prayers – our troops, our flyers, and those of the coalition. Please keep the people, who are suffering in this crisis, in your prayers as well.

Our next meeting will be in October, and we will have the annual elections. I hope to see a good turnout. Enjoy the wonderful weather of this beautiful autumn, and we will see you soon.

Yours in Service,

Joyce

### **Blue Star Mother New York #1 Elected Executive Board for 2013-14**

President – Joyce Mader

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Bonny Beck

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

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President – Val Haines

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

Recording Secretary – Fran Gallahan

Financial Secretary/Membership Chair - Bobbie Metcalfe

Treasurer - Kathy Conradt

The following positions are appointed.

Chaplain - Sally Burgess

Historian - Beth Olson

Patriotic Instructor and Parliamentarian - Kathy Zeigler

Correspondence Committee - Mary Jean Carlson

Yearbook - Becky Nohe

Volunteer Coordinator - Mary Jean Carlson

WebMaster - Brian Mader

As of the September 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, there are 66 moms and 46 associate members.

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### **June 22<sup>nd</sup> - Blue Star Rider Poker Run**

Breakfast was served at the Canteen for over 150 riders. There was plenty of food and even lots of food left over! Thanks go to everyone who helped and contributed food.



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### **Second annual Memorial Poker Run for Danny Metcalfe was July 12<sup>th</sup> at the Moose Lodge in Palmyra, NY.**

Thanks to all who participated in the Poker Run. It was our very first time doing it alone without planning help from the PGR. We did a splendid job. Bobbie did all the ground work by getting donations, planning the route, and finding a ride captain as well as the general organization. Linda ran a

great kitchen. There was more than enough food to share and plenty leftover for the Canteen. Thanks to all the members who donated various food items and to those who came to help out. We did well on the jeep and sold 477 tickets. An associate member, Barb, was the winner.

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Our own Angie Metcalfe left for boot camp in July. Here is a picture courtesy of Bobbie.



Special thank you to the Blue Star Mothers for mailing 21 care packages to support the approximately 210 Marines of 2<sup>nd</sup> Combat Engineer Battalion stationed at Camp Leatherneck in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Photo courtesy of Michelle Spaulding.





Hannibal Poker Run on August 23<sup>rd</sup>



Vietnam Vets welcome home held in Farmington on August 24<sup>th</sup>.

Marianne Sernoffsky from Veterans Outreach Center was a guest speaker at the September meeting. Marianne gave us a great overview on VOC and their services for our veterans. We received flyers to have at the Canteen to hand out. She also is appreciative of the BSM's and our support. In the past, we provided food from our pantry and clothing from our supply for VOC and the Veterans. Marianne mentioned if your son/daughter was deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan they might have been exposed to the burn pits. This needs to be on record with the VA in case something happens. Get the forms to Marianne, and she will make sure they are filed with the VA.

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## **Memberships**

If you did not renew your BSMA membership yet, it needs to be done as soon as possible. Call or email Bobbi for information.

## **Project Share**

This is a new heating fund grant program co-sponsored by NYSEG and RGE for those needing help with utility bills. Veterans have special priority. Call 1-800-599-4327 for more information.

## **Address updates**

Has your military loved one returned from overseas or been deployed? Please make sure to send an updated address to MaryJean Carlson at [maryjeancarlson@aol.com](mailto:maryjeancarlson@aol.com) in order for her/him to receive birthday and other greetings from NY#1.

## ***BSMA NY#1 ongoing fundraiser***

*Keep collecting those used cell phones and printer toner cartridges. We get cash for them! Give to Bobbie Metcalfe.*

## **Got coupons?**

Pat Witt is collecting grocery store coupons to send to the Troops overseas. Coupons can be expired, but the expiration date must not be more than six months ago. Mail your unused coupons to Pat at 60 Hendrix Road, West Henrietta, NY 14586.

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Got your back

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Oct 5<sup>th</sup> - Crepe Breakfast @ Moose Lodge – see Val for details; she needs OJ, Whipped Cream, sausage, and help.

At the next meeting on October 11<sup>th</sup>, there will be elections. If you want to run for an office, please let Joyce know.

In November, we will be participating in the St. Mary's Craft and Christmas Sale at St. Mary's Church.

As usual, Val soon will be beginning to prepare for the Light of Love on November 30<sup>th</sup>.

Thanksgiving at the Canteen is November 17<sup>th</sup>. Christmas at the Canteen is December 5<sup>th</sup>.

Third Annual Memorial Poker Run for Danny Metcalfe is scheduled for August 15, 2015.

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Interested in contributing information for a future newsletter? The next newsletter will be published in December, 2014. Deadline for submissions is December 14<sup>th</sup>. Please send MaryAgnes (mother of two Marines) an email at [mamcavoy@aol.com](mailto:mamcavoy@aol.com) Please do check our website [www.bluestarmothersny1.org](http://www.bluestarmothersny1.org) for additional information, photos, and more.

