



The Gold Star Mother

PERPETUATING THE NOBLE PRINCIPLES FOR WHICH THEY FOUGHT AND DIED

March - April 2011 ★ Issue Number 151

2128 Leroy Place, NW, Washington, DC 20008

A Tribute to Vietnam Vets and Gold Star Moms



Emogene Cupp, PNP, installing the first panel of The Wall. Jan Scruggs, Founder of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund is in the foreground. July 22, 1982.

The Department of Defense announced January 14, 2011, its program to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. The program will thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War, including personnel who were held as prisoners of war or listed as missing in action, for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States and to thank and honor the families of these veterans. It will highlight the service of the armed forces during the Vietnam War and the contributions of federal agencies and governmental and non-gov-

AND EVERY NAME'S A FATHER OR A HUSBAND OR A SON,

OR A DAUGHTER OR A BROTHER OR A COUSIN TO SOMEONE;

OR A NAME MIGHT BE A CLASSMATE OR A FRIEND YOU MAY RECALL:

THERE'S NEARLY SIXTY THOUSAND FALLEN NAMES STILL WAITING AT THE WALL.

.... FROM "THE WALL" BY TIM MURPHY

ernmental organizations that served with, or in support of, the armed forces. It will pay tribute to the contributions made on the home front by the people of the United States during the Vietnam War. It will highlight the advances in technology, science, and medicine related to the military research conducted during the Vietnam War. Finally, it will recognize the contributions and sacrifices made by the allies of the United States during the Vietnam War.

AGSM will certainly be a part of this program. To begin our commemoration, we offer this tribute to our Vietnam Era moms. Your strength, courage, and dedication continue to be an inspiration to us.



At right Flo Johnson holds the torch at the candlelight vigil at The Wall, Memorial Day, 2010.

Above Terry Davis, PNP, and Bette Freeman, PNP talk to a reporter, at The Wall, 2010



MOLLY MOREL
2010-2011 **PRESIDENT**

From the Desk of the National President...

By now, you have noticed that this newsletter has a different look. I hope when you saw the tribute on the cover to our beloved Vietnam Veterans and Gold Star Mothers, you paused to remember the dedication and sacrifices of that tumultuous time in our history. Welcome home, Veterans and thank you for your service! For the Vietnam Moms who have taught us and continue

to set examples of grace and dignity, we love you and appreciate your dedication to American Gold Star Mothers.

In January, we heard from two families who went to Dover AFB for the Dignified Transfer of Remains of their Fallen Heroes. You can read the email we received from one of the families in the Letters to the Editor section. The other family, who lives about thirty minutes from my rural west TN home, was the third family to stay in the new

Fisher House. Both families expressed appreciation for the staff and "Home away from home" atmosphere there and their gratitude to AGSM for being a part of that Fisher House. We knew the importance of the project when we began our campaign and it is gratifying to know that we have touched other families in a special way at this dark time in their lives. When we work for others, we honor our children, and that is what motivates us all.

While in Washington for our annual February Board meeting, we had a full agenda in preparation for national convention and many other topics. We managed to squeeze in an interesting tour for those who arrived early at Headquarters. Board member, Donna Bagwell, lined up a visit to Arlington National Cemetery's Caisson Barn and Old Guard barracks by the Tomb of the Unknowns. We enjoyed seeing the horses and hearing how they are prepared for each day. From there we went to the Tomb of the Unknowns to watch the changing of the Guards and to see where they live. Hearing the requirements to earn the Badge

of Honor Guard clarifies how dedicated these soldiers are to those who rest in the rolling hills surrounding the Amphitheater.

Five of the fraternity brothers of Sigma Nu from Duquesne University came to Headquarters for a special visit. I had met most of them in October when I attended their annual White Rose Ball, which is a fundraiser for AGSM. They travelled to DC and proudly presented us with a large donation, which represented their hard work prior to the ball. Under the guidance of Father John Sawicki, whose mother, Mary Grace, was a member of AGSM, they are educating fellow college students about the cost of Freedom. I know of no other college campus where a fraternity actively supports our organization. They are a very dedicated and unique group of young men. My life has been enriched

is so many ways in the past seven years by the people I have met on this journey and I am grateful for the experience of making new friends at Duquesne University.

Information for the upcoming National Convention is provided in the following pages. The Radisson Hotel at Opryland is undergoing a \$7 million renovation just for us (or maybe just in time for us). We have entertainment lined up for your enjoyment and Grand Ole

Opry tickets blocked for those who want to see Country Music at its best. The Dads/Guests Tour will be a day at Ft. Campbell, home of the Screaming Eagles 101st Airborne Division. Ya'll just have to come and experience Tennessee hospitality at its best. Book your hotel rooms early from the information provided in the following pages and register early to guarantee that you get a seat for our evening at the Grand Ole Opry.





VAVS NEWS

by Jennifer Jackman

It is with deepest regret that I report to you that June Valdivia passed away in December 2010. June was a devoted volunteer from her beloved Miami Chapter, Department of Florida. This past year June was selected as VAVS Female Volunteer of the Year by the VA Central Office and also was AGSM VA Volunteer of the Year. She will be missed by all those who knew her.

Please remember to turn in your VAVS hours from 2010 as soon as possible. We need to have a complete report prior to convention in June. Thanks for all you do!

At right, June Valdivia with Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Eric Schinseki. Here she is receiving her award as VAVS Female Volunteer of the Year, 2010.



Americanism

The History of the American Flag

by Mary Byers

On January 1, 1776, the Continental Army was reorganized in accordance with a Congressional resolution which placed American forces under George Washington's control. On that New Year's Day the Continental Army was laying siege to Boston which had been taken over by the British Army. Washington ordered the Grand Union flag hoisted above his base at Prospect Hill. It had 13 alternate red and white stripes and the British Union Jack in the upper left-hand corner (the canton).

In May of 1776, Betsy Ross reported that she sewed the first American flag.

On June 14, 1777, in order to establish an official flag for the new nation, the Continental Congress passed the first Flag Act: "Resolved, That the flag of the United States be made of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation."

Between 1777 and 1960, Congress passed several acts that changed the shape, design and arrangement of the flag and allowed for additional stars and stripes to be added to reflect the admission of each new state.

- Act of January 13, 1794 - provided for 15 stripes and 15 stars after May 1795.

For more than 200 years, the American flag has been the symbol of our nation's strength and unity. It's been a source of pride and inspiration for millions of citizens.

- Act of April 4, 1818 - provided for 13 stripes and one star for each state, to be added to the flag on the 4th of July following the admission of each new state, signed by President Monroe.
 - Executive Order of President Taft dated June 24, 1912 - established proportions of the flag and provided for arrangement of the stars in six horizontal rows of eight each, a single point of each star to be upward.
 - Executive Order of President Eisenhower dated January 3, 1959 - provided for the arrangement of the stars in seven rows of seven stars each, staggered horizontally and vertically.
- Executive Order of President Eisenhower dated August 21, 1959 - provided for the arrangement of the stars in nine rows of stars staggered horizontally and eleven rows of stars staggered vertically. Today the flag consists of thirteen horizontal stripes, seven red alternating with 6 white. The stripes represent the original 13 colonies, the stars represent the 50 states of the Union. The colors of the flag are symbolic as well: Red symbolizes Hardiness and Valor, White symbolizes Purity and Innocence and Blue represents Vigilance, Perseverance and Justice.

Historic Wayside added to WWII Memorial



An Explanation Long Overdue

by Ruth Stonesifer

It is hard to believe it has been five years since we, as a group of Gold Star Mothers, visited the WWII memorial and experienced the phenomenon of being asked by just about everyone there that day, “What is a gold star mother?” and the other variation, “What do the stars mean on the wall?”

While we are grateful that the general public is curious about our white outfits, we cannot actually be present 24/7 at this amazing tribute to the sacrifices of our country’s families to explain. Subsequent trips back to the monument have shown that the same curiosity from the public seems to follow us as group of Gold Star Mothers. There seems to be a real disconnect with the Wall of Stars and the granite etched, “HERE WE MARK THE PRICE OF FREEDOM.” This disconnect needed to be addressed.

At the 2010 White House Mother’s Day Brunch, along with my granddaughter Camrin, I happened to be seated at the table with the Vice President’s wife, Dr. Jill Biden. I was asked to explain the Gold Star to one of our seated party and explained the phenomenon that we experience at the Wall of Stars.

Mrs. Biden said, “How do we get that fixed?”

I said, “I don’t know who is in charge of putting up a sign.”

She said she would find out.

The next Monday Kristen White from her staff called and asked me to write about why we, as gold



star mothers, think a sign would help to educate the visitors. By the time of the White House Memorial Day breakfast, the sign had been approved and in the works. It really seems that most of the work in DC happens as you engage in casual conversation.

On Feb. 5, 2011 we had a small dedication of the sign where the Superintendent of the National Parks Service helped to unveil the wayside exhibit. The best part of the event was when the ceremony concluded, a group of school children rushed over to read the new sign. The public who was present engaged us with tons of questions. It was hard to break away from these American citizens who cared about who we were and our mission and go back to headquarters to resume our National Board meeting.



From upper right: Historic Wayside marker. Bottom right: Members of the NEB at the unveiling. Bottom left: Ruth Stonesifer with members of the National Park Service unveiling the the Historic Wayside at the “Wall of Stars.”



Memorial Day Weekend Events 2011

Friday May 27, 9 p.m. Candlelight vigil at The Wall

Saturday May 28, 8-10 p.m. Rolling Thunder Hospitality Room at Hyatt Regency Crystal City

Sunday May 29, 8 a.m. to noon, Rolling Thunder Ride; Evening Concert on the Capital Lawn

Monday May 30, Memorial Day Observance at Arlington National Cemetery in the morning and at The Wall in the afternoon.

The Marriott Courtyard @ 1900 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington DC is recommended for lodging. Contact Albert @ 202-332-9300 and tell him that you are a Gold Star Mother.



On January 14th, the oldest USO, located in Jacksonville, NC, and presently still in use, re-dedicated the Beirut Room. After 27 years the room needed a complete make-over, which was done by Lowe's, Freedom Furniture and Walmart. Judith Young, PNP and Craig Renshaw, President of Beirut Veterans of American cut the ribbon, sharing the special moment with the NC President of the USO are representatives from Camp Lejeune and Jacksonville volunteers. Not pictured but present were Vivian Scharver, Patty Desens and Norma Luther. Volunteers donated over 450 hours, which also included the addition of a music room.

Letters...



While looking up information about Fisher House DoverAFB, I ran across your quote on the dedication page from November 2010:

“The dedication on November 10, 2010 at Dover AFB, was a moving experience for those of us who were able to attend. While we were honored to be there, we were treated as honored guests. Like the other Gold Star Family members at the ceremony, it was bittersweet for me to be there. Most of us were not afforded the opportunity to be at Dover at the time of our loss, but we know how meaningful it will be for the families who follow.”

I am writing to tell you that our family was one of the first to use the new DoverAFB facility and your quote was very meaningful and I thought you should know how true your words are. We too, felt and were treated like honored guests; and bittersweet is the correct term. Glad and grateful for the staff and facility but would have chosen to be just about anywhere else in the world during the two days we were there. We were there on Dec 9th and 10th to receive the remains of my niece, Lauren's husband, Sgt. James A. Ayube II along with the families of Spc. Kelly Mixon and LCpl. Michael Geary. Little did you know how true and meaningful your words would be in just one months time.

Thank you for all you do and for Fisher House.

Linda Hersey
Family of Sgt James A Ayube II
KIA 12/8/10



NEB Minutes, February Board Meeting

AMERICAN GOLD STAR MOTHERS NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, WASHINGTON DC, FEBRUARY 4, 2011

Roll was called, all present.

Minutes from the September board meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report given and approved.

Membership report shows 2,295 members with 107 new members since 9/1/2010.

Legislative issues discussed: The White House briefing on Strengthening Our Military Families; Gold Star Annuity for Vietnam Gold Star Mothers; Gold Star Medallion for headstones.

2010 Christmas Card sales were \$3,466. History Book will remain at \$30. We will provide 250 History Books for Wreaths Across America for their fundraiser.

The Monongalia Co. Chapter located in Morgantown WV should be considered inactive as all members have passed away. The department charter and chapter charter will be de-activated and account balances will be transferred to National.

2011 Christmas Cards artwork submissions were reviewed. Two cards will be available this year.

The cover of the next newsletter will be a Vietnam 50th Anniversary Tribute.

A new informational brochure and Power Point are being developed.

The AGSM National Conventions for 2011, 2012 and 2013 were discussed.

Registration fees for National Convention will be raised to \$25.

Proposed change for the National By-Laws: Article II Duties of Officers Section (B) CURRENTLY READS: The National First-Vice President shall fulfill the obligations and discharge the duties of the National President in the event of the latter's temporary absence or inability to serve. PROPOSED TO READ: "The National First-Vice President shall fulfill the obligations and discharge the duties of the National President in the event of the latter's temporary absence or inability to serve. The National First-Vice President shall have served as the National Second-Vice President in the year preceding the election."

Proposed change for the Chapter By-Laws Article VII Elections Sec. 5 CURRENTLY READS: If a Nominating Committee is appointed, it shall be named by the President at the regular September business meeting of the Chapter. The Committee shall present its slate of candidates at the regular October business meeting, at which time the Chair shall ask for nominations from the floor, and ten days' notice having been given the election of officers shall be held at this meeting. Installation of officers shall be held in November. PROPOSED TO READ: "Chapter Officers shall be elected annually preceding the National Convention by not more than a 3 months period. Installation of Chapter Officers shall take place at the same meeting."

Ways and Means/ Mother's Cupboard – Orders will be paid prior to being shipped.

Headquarters report – The furnace is 27 yrs. old and has been repaired twice in recent days. Quotes are being obtained to replace it.

Changes to the Standing Rules were presented and approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.



Of Interest to the Membership

Poet and Marine Mom Alice Baratone is offering to write a personalized poem in honor of your fallen hero. The poem is her gift to you and the poem will never be sold, but may, in the future, be put on display with other poems she has written to honor and remember other heroes. The poems that Alice creates are unique to your loved one that depicts events in their lives. She handles requests in the order that they are received. If you would like to contact Alice to discuss a personalized poem, please do so via her email address: abat-law2003@yahoo.com.

Gold Star Dads of America in TN

An informal meet & greet of the Gold Star Dads of America will take place during the AGSM Convention June 24 – 26. Planned agenda includes discussion of our Combat Veteran Assistance projects and setting up State Captains and support groups for the organization. Fathers interesting in contributing to the discussions should RSVP to freedom@goldstardads.org. There is no cost for this meeting and your participation is greatly appreciated.

The Mountain Man March on for April 15-16 in

Gatlinburg, TN. All Gold Star Mothers are invited to attend. Fifty rooms have been reserved at Best Western Twin Isle. The opening ceremony will take place at Ripleys Aquarium. To confirm or make a reservation contact Leon Merrow at adamsplg@yahoo.com by March 15. For more information go to www.mountainmanmemorialmarch.com



From the Manor

In a ceremony attended by many of the original Rosie the Riveters, Long Beach city councilwoman Gerrie Schipske dedicated the Long Beach Rosie the Riveter Park and Interpretive Center. This new park, in the shadow of the old Douglas Aircraft bomber assembly plant, recognizes the contributions of the women known as Rosie the Riveters who made the airplanes at the plant and who worked on the home front during World War II.

A large bronze plaque, prominently displayed in the center of the park also honors the great sacrifices made by the American Gold Star Mothers.

Councilwoman Schipske (a long time supporter of the American Gold Star Mothers and a granddaughter of an American Gold Star Mother) laid memorial wreaths in honor of the women and men who have died in service to our country. She recognized the much welcomed support to our veterans provided by the Gold Star Mothers and announced that the placing of these wreaths each December will be an annual ceremony at the park.

Fair Warning, Fair Warning

All clothing items from Mothers Cupboard must be ordered directly from the following two companies:

Organizational Caps

Keystone Uniform and Cap

2251 Fraley St

Phila PA, 19137

215-821-3434

Neal Susten<nsusten@aol.com>

Shirts, Sweatshirts and Jackets can be ordered from

Valley Athletic Supply

28 West Ridge St

Lansford PA 18232

570-645-5275

<rschneider@valleyathleticsupply.com>

Ask to speak to Rob Schneider.

Thanks for your understanding and hopefully you will get your orders in a more timely manner bypassing the DC office. Please do not include any of these items in you orders for supplies from Mothers Cupboard. We no longer have them available at Headquarters.





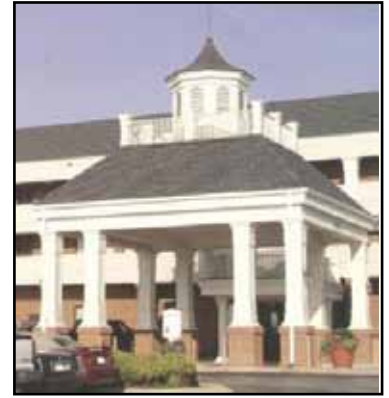
The 74th Annual American Gold

June 24-26

Radisson Hotel at Opryland
2401 Music Valley Drive
Nashville, TN 37214

www.radisson.com/nashvilletn

Located only nine miles from the Nashville International Airport, minutes from downtown Nashville and adjacent to Gaylord Opryland Resort and Grand Ole Opry, the newly renovated hotel offers a great location with grand hospitality. Guest rooms include coffeemakers, hairdryers, irons and ironing boards. Hotel shuttle is available for airport transportation - \$30 one way or \$40 round trip. Many favorite tourist sites are within easy driving distance and information will be available when you arrive.

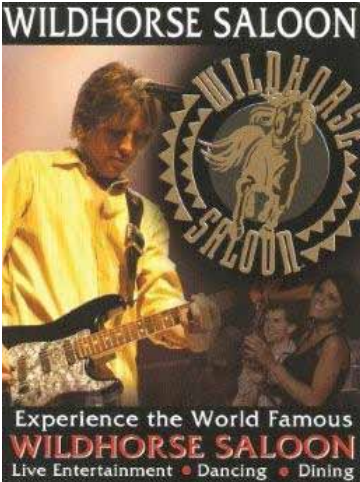


Deadline for hotel reservation Wednesday May 23, 2011

Room rate is \$119 per night plus tax

Make your reservations early to guarantee one of the blocked rooms.

Call the Radisson directly at 615-889-0800 or 800-333-3333 for AGSM discount or book on-line with code R-AGSM.



GROUP Event Friday night at Wildhorse Saloon, Downtown Nashville, offers live entertainment, dancing, dining at this three story entertainment mecca. Learn the latest dance steps on the 2,500 sq. ft. dance floor. Be sure to bring your jeans and cowgirl boots (or your favorite dancing outfit) for a great experience. If this event is not your idea of fun, we will have information on many other activities available.

DAD and Guest TOUR On Saturday, Dads and guests will tour Ft. Campbell, KY, home of the 101st Airborne Screaming Eagles. The tour will include the Don Pratt Museum which was established in 1956 as a division museum. Exhibits include a completely restored CG-4A cargo glider which carried glider-borne Soldiers into combat during WWII, captured enemy weapons and equipment from Vietnam, and personal items belonging to Adolph Hitler and other high ranking Nazi officials. The museum also includes both guided and unguided tours, daily historical films, and a gift shop. An outdoor park across the street from the museum displays various military aircraft and equipment used by the division. The centerpiece of the park is the "Brass Hat" – a fully restored C-47 aircraft used during WWII.



GROUP Event Saturday Night at world renowned Grand Ole Opry. The longest running



live radio show in the United States, it is the hottest ticket in town! It is a Tennessee treasure and our #1 attraction. Often called the "home of American music," the Opry is a one-of-a-kind entertainment experience with a mix of country legends and contemporary chart-toppers. The Opry's member list includes legends like Dolly Parton, Garth Brooks and Little Jimmy Dickens, as well as new stars like Taylor Swift and Carrie Underwood. By the time the night is over, "ya'll come back now" will be your favorite phrase. A block of 200 seats is reserved for AGSM and tickets not purchased by May 25, will be released back to the Opry. Order early to guarantee your spot for this memorable event.

Star Mothers National Convention



The 2011 National Convention Condensed Schedule

Friday June 24

8 AM - 11AM	Registration for Delegates and Mother's Cupboard open for business
1 PM - 5 PM	Orientation, Workshops
7:00 PM	Wildhorse Saloon

Saturday June 25

7:30 AM - 8:45 AM	Last call for Registration
9:00 AM	Official Opening of the Convention; Gold Star Manor program
	BUSINESS MEETING BEGINS -Report of Nominations Committee
10:00 AM	Dads and Guest leave for Ft. Campbell Tour
Noon	Luncheon VAVS Program
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Business Meeting Resumes; Nominations from the Floor, Resolutions
7:00 PM	Grand Ole Opry Night

Sunday June 26

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	Breakfast meeting- Fund raising ideas
9:00 AM	Rehearsal for Memorial Service
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Memorial Service followed by reception
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Reconvene Business Meeting; Report of Election, Committee Reports and, new business
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Installation of Officers and Closing of Convention
6:30 PM	Cocktail Hour with Banquet beginning at 7:00 PM

Proposed Changes for C&BL

Proposed change for the National By-Laws:

Article II Duties of Officers Section (B)

CURRENTLY READS: The National First-Vice President shall fulfill the obligations and discharge the duties of the National President in the event of the latter's temporary absence or inability to serve.

PROPOSED TO READ: "The National First-Vice President shall fulfill the obligations and discharge the duties of the National President in the event of the latter's temporary absence or inability to serve. **The National First-Vice President shall have served as the National Second-Vice President in the year preceding the election.**"

Proposed change for the Chapter By-Laws

Article VII Elections Sec. 5

CURRENTLY READS: If a Nominating Committee is appointed, it shall be named by the President at the regular September business meeting of the Chapter. The Committee shall present its slate of candidates at the regular October business meeting, at which time the Chair shall ask for nominations from the floor, and ten days' notice having been given the election of officers shall be held at this meeting. Installation of officers shall be held in November.

PROPOSED TO READ: "Chapter Officers shall be elected annually preceding the National Convention by not more than a 3 months period. Installation of Chapter Officers shall take place at the same meeting."



Convention Call details:

ONE page registration form, ONE check, and ONE Mailing...Hooray... its right over there



REGISTRATION / CREDENTIALS: Everyone must register. Please fill out the Delegate Registration form Mail to the National Treasurer Barb Benard at Headquarters 2128 Leroy Place NW Washington, DC 20008 by May 23, 2011.

REPRESENTATION:

Delegates; Each Chapter shall be entitled to one delegate for each five members or major fraction thereof whose current National per capita has been received by the National Treasurer at least thirty days prior to the convention, and to one alternate for each delegate. Delegates and alternates shall be elected at a regular or special business meeting of the Chapter for which a notice has been given to all members at least ten days prior to said meeting. In addition each incumbent Chapter President, Department President, Past National President and National Officers by virtue of their offices shall be a delegate without alternate.

Alternates- Alternates may participate in discussions on the floor and may also serve on Committees but may not vote unless their delegate is not present.

RESOLUTIONS: All Resolutions shall be sent in by May 28 to National Service Officer at National Headquarters in DC.

MEMORIAL SERVICE: Department Chaplains should make sure that the names of all deceased members/associate members have been sent by May 28 to Janice Chance, 9019 Amber Oaks Way, Owings Mills, MD 21117. This service recognizes the deaths of our Membership during the past year.

JOURNAL: Serves two purposes; a tribute to our fallen sons and daughters and a fund raiser to help pay for our convention.

DRESS CODE:

Business meetings: white daytime attire is recommended but not required.

Memorial Service: suitable white attire, business suits

Banquet: Country/Western attire or your preference; white is not required.

Pages: suitable business attire, white is desirable.

NOMINATIONS: All nominations for National Office shall be sent by May 28 to the Chairperson of Nominations, Terry Davis, 275 S. Franklin St, Holbrook, MA 02343 Nominations shall be for a specific office. Qualification summaries are limited to specific work with the American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

PAGES: Vivian Scharver, National Sergeant-at-Arms.

COLORS: Departments wishing to have their Colors posted must ship their colors to Molly Morel, 204 Poplar ST, Martin, TN 38237 by June 10.

PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

LUNCHEON: All convention attendees, their guests and Associate Members are invited to attend. Cost is \$35. Short Ribs, TN salad, cheddar grits, root vegetable hash and Jack Daniel's pecan pie.

BANQUET: All convention attendees, their guests and Associate Members. No cost to American Gold Star Mothers members (Guests \$35/person). Menu:Salad, Georgia Chicken,(oven roasted with pecans, peaches and boursin cheese), Vegetables, Rice, and Cheesecake.

DADS and GUEST TOUR-Saturday morning – Ft. Campbell Tour; 101st Airborne Screaming Eagles.

GROUP EVENTS: Friday Night – Wildhorse Saloon; no coverage charge; free dance lessons; only charge is bar and food. Saturday Night – Grand Ole Opry- tickets must be paid with registration; \$39.00 each.

REQUEST FOR UNPLANNED BUSINESS: Any member wishing to present a subject on the Convention floor which is not a part of the planned agenda must present her request in writing to the National Executive Board of the American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., for their consideration 15 days before opening of the Convention.

Any member wishing to appear before the Executive Board must request permission in writing 15 days before the opening of the Convention.

Send requests to National President Molly Morel, P O Box 349, Martin TN 38237

American Gold Star Mothers, Inc
INDIVIDUAL Delegate Form National Convention, 2011
 Dead line for submission **May 23**

At the regular business meeting of the _____ Chapter, Dept of _____
 the following were elected Delegate or Alternative to the National Convention to be held in Nashville TN.
PLEASE use ONE form for each delegate or alternate.

Member's Name	List your Dept and Chapter positions below	Circle appropriate designations	
		delegate	alternate
List Guests below			
		guest	associate
		guest	associate
Registration fee: \$25 per person (at the door \$30)	MY registration	\$25	\$
Number of guests	#		No fee*
Associate members	#		No fee*
Circle yes if this is your FIRST time at an AGSM convention	YES		
Please give us your EMAIL ADDRESS			
Luncheon June 24 -- \$35 per person	MY luncheon	\$35	\$
June 25	My guests	\$35 per person	\$
Closing Banquet June 26 (no cost to our GS Moms members)	MY banquet (no charge)		
my guests	#	\$35 per guest	\$
associate members	#	\$35 per associate	\$
Dad and guest tour (total number)	#	Bus fare paid day of tour	
Friday night - Wildhorse Saloon (\$30 per person, food/non-alcoholic beverages)	#	\$30 per person	\$
Saturday Night -- Grand Ole Opry	#	\$39 per person	\$
		TOTAL	\$

*No registration fee for Associate Members and Guests, and journals and registration gifts will be available for purchase if desired. You must register and pay for meals and events to be included in the head count.

Check payable to American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.
Due by May 23, 2011
 C/O National Treasurer, Barb Benard
 National Headquarters
 2128 Leroy Place NW
 Washington, DC 20008



Chapter and Department News

North Carolina

Azalea and Dogwood Chapter attend the Eternal Flame Ceremony at Ft Bragg, NC on Jan 7th. Norma said, "It was a very moving ceremony, and the atmosphere was very warm, friendly, with a family feeling.

Pictured are: Norma Luther, Paula Spivey, Lorie Southerland Jimmie Moskwa, Rebecca Jones, Mr. Jones. Not pictured but in attendance, Karen Rose.



California

Some of the Saddle Back Chapter and Department members from California met at Lake Arrowhead to work on projects and their calendar of events for the upcoming year.

Back row, standing: Sue Pollard, Debi Win'E, Sally Monsoor. Front row, sitting: Elaine Krepp, Elaine Brattain, Linda Daily, Stacey Holley



California

The Annual Gold Star Parents event held at the Marine's Memorial In San Francisco on Feb 17-18, 2011.

Pictured are: Diane Layfield, Robin Neilson (pending member), Mary Tollefson, Roxane Langevan (pending member), Virginia Tallman, Karen Meredith, Roberta Taylor, Yolanda Vega, Norma Viglienzzone, Angela Anderson.

Georgia

Members of the West GA Chapter are presented with a check from the Villa Rica High School Beta Club. The Club has adopted Wreaths Across America and American Gold Star Mothers as their service project. The club plans to continue this same service project through 2011.

AGSM members pictured are: Patty Saylor, Cindy Hardegree, Ada Large, Florence McSween, and Tammy Stout.



Reminder: *Community Service Reports are due. Community Service Officer should send them to Vivian Scharver, National Community Service Officer. If you do not know who your CSO is, just send the report to Vivian Scharver, 404 Rivage Promenade, Wilmington NC 28412-2733*

74th Annual National Convention June 24-26, 2011

Journal Publication Information

OUR JOURNAL will be printed in **COLOR, COLOR, COLOR, COLOR**—that's right a four color separation. Funds received from memorials and ads placed in the Journal will be used to help defray expenses of the Convention.

Departments, Chapters and Members are encouraged to place memorials. Other service organization and public officials should be invited to support us.

Journal *fees for Gold Star Families* are:

Full Page	5 X 8 inches	\$50
Half Page	4 X 5 inches	\$30
Quarter Page	2.75 X 4 inches	\$20
"In Memory of" Page of Ribbons		\$1



Suggestions for those who have photos in the ads. Two picture comparisons were a huge success in previous journals. Childhood and service pictures made a nice tribute to our loved ones. Please consider this again for this year's journal.

Please type or print plainly all information about your dedication.

Journal fees for other than Gold Star families are

Full page	\$100
Half Page	\$50
Quarter Page	\$25

Dead Line for mailing Ads is *May 23, 2011.*

Please do not wait until the last minute - The more time Ruth has to dedicate to the layout, the better the final page will look.

Checks should be made payable to:

American Gold Star Mothers

Mail to:

Ruth Stonesifer

302 Frogtown Rd.

Kintnersville, PA 18930

Or

email to Ruth Stonesifer - rstone17@gmail.com

(much faster and fewer typos)



Welcome to Our Newest Members

"No one wants to become eligible to join our organization. However, we find strength in the fellowship of other Gold Star Mothers who strive to keep the memory of their sons and daughters alive by working to help the veterans. We look forward to meeting all the new members listed below. Getting to know you better and helping you in any way possible is our goal."

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	CITY	STATE	DEPT.	CHAPTER	MEMBERSHIP	LOCATION
Virginia N.	Onwordi	Chandler	AZ	AZ	East Valley - Mesa	Member	Iraq
Jonnie E.	Chandler	Goodyear	AZ	AZ	NW Valley - Phoenix	Member	Afghanistan
LaVada M.	Hook	Goodyear	AZ	AZ	NW Valley - Phoenix	Member	USA
Natascha N	Taylor	Goodyear	AZ	AZ	NW Valley - Phoenix	Associate	USA
Christina M.	Taylor	Goodyear	AZ	AZ	NW Valley - Phoenix	Associate	USA
Frances	West	Henderson	NV	CA-NV-HI	Freedom is not free - Las Vegas	Member	USA
Alan	West	Henderson	NV	CA-NV-HI	Freedom is not free - Las Vegas	Associate	USA
Teresa	West	Henderson	NV	CA-NV-HI	Freedom is not free - Las Vegas	Associate	USA
Donna	Wright	San Diego	CA	CA-NV-HI	San Diego #3 - San Diego	Member	Afghanistan
Anita	Richards	Planada	CA	CA-NV-HI	San Jose - San Jose	Member	Iraq
Terry	Chapman	Colorado Springs	CO	CO	Pikes Peak GSM - Colorado Springs	Member	Afghanistan
Carolyn Kight	Hughes	Wolcott	CT	CT	Waterbury - Waterbury	Associate	Vietnam
Marianne Kight	Hughes	Wolcott	CT	CT	Waterbury - Waterbury	Associate	Vietnam
Aurora F.	Carbullido	Agat	Gaum	DC	Grace Darling Seibold -DC	Member	Afghanistan
Maura L.	Krueger	Morrisville	VT	DC	Grace Darling Seibold -DC	Member	USA
Dorothy S.	Lukeala	Yigo	Guam	DC	Grace Darling Seibold -DC	Member	Afghanistan
John P.	MURPHY	BLAUVELT	NY	DC	Grace Darling Seibold -DC	Associate	USA
Bobi	Obal	Cabot	AR	DC	Grace Darling Seibold -DC	Member	USA
Francis D.	Sandoval	Clint	TX	DC	Grace Darling Seibold -DC	Member	Iraq
Sonya	Berky	Melrose	FL	GA-FL	Central Florida #1 - Orlando	Member	Afghanistan
William	Berky	Melrose	FL	GA-FL	Central Florida #1 - Orlando	Associate	Afghanistan
Jeremy	Berky	Melrose	FL	GA-FL	Central Florida #1 - Orlando	Associate	Afghanistan
Shirley E.	Libby	Cape Coral	FL	GA-FL	Tampa Bay - Tampa	Member	USA
Nancy K.	Siders	Fort Wayne	IN	IN	Allen - Fort Wayne	Member	Afghanistan
Frederick W.	Castor	Indianapolis	IN	IN	Central Indiana GSM	Associate	Iraq
Don	Schauwecker	Plainfield	IN	IN	Central Indiana GSM	Associate	Iraq
Janice	Schauwecker	Plainfield	IN	IN	Central Indiana GSM	Member	Iraq
Maryann	Sparrow	Greenwood	IN	IN	Central Indiana GSM	Member	USA
Walter	Sparrow	Greenwood	IN	IN	Central Indiana GSM	Associate	USA
Sarah J.	Thomas	Columbus	IN	IN	Central Indiana GSM	Member	Afghanistan
Regina Ann	Mc Aninch	Longansport	IN	IN	Lafayette - Lafayette	Member	Afghanistan
Jason Wade	Mc Aninch	Longansport	IN	IN	Lafayette - Lafayette	Associate	Afghanistan
Brianna Kristene	Mc Aninch	Longansport	IN	IN	Lafayette - Lafayette	Associate	Afghanistan
Marvin L	Mc Aninch	Longansport	IN	IN	Lafayette - Lafayette	Associate	Afghanistan
Ethan Briar	Mc Aninch	Longansport	IN	IN	Lafayette - Lafayette	Associate	Afghanistan
Angela	Foster	Milton	KS	KS	Wichita -Wichita	Member	Quant. Bay Cuba
Cherly	Martin	Bethany	OK	KS	Wichita -Wichita	Member	Phillippines
Debora A.	Marckese	Bear	DE	MD-DE	Wilmington - Wilmington	Member	USA
Lorna	Harris	Patten	ME	ME	Old Town #7 - Old Town	Member	Iraq
Barbara	Kincaid	Linden	MI	MI	Saginaw #4 -Saginaw	Member	USA
Linda M.	Hobkirk	St Charles	MO	MO-AR	St Louis - St Louis	Member	Germany
Terrie	Hobson	St Louis	MO	MO-AR	St Louis - St Louis	Member	USA
Glenda	Holleyman	Carthage	MS	MS	Forever Faithful - Pontotoc	Member	Iraq
Ross	Holleyman	Carthage	MS	MS	Forever Faithful - Pontotoc	Associate	Iraq
Jacqueline	Cioffi-Royal	Eatontown	NJ	NJ	Bayshore - Bayshore	Member	Lost at Sea
Amy S.	Moore	Robbinsville	NJ	NJ	Burlington - Burlington	Member	Afghanistan
Patrick T	Moore I	Robbinsville	NJ	NJ	Burlington - Burlington	Associate	Afghanistan
Patrick T	Moore II	Bordentown	NJ	NJ	Burlington - Burlington	Associate	Afghanistan
George	Ike	Great Meadows	NJ	NJ	Paterson - North Jersey	Associate	Vietnam
Richard A.	Ike	Washington	NJ	NJ	Paterson - North Jersey	Associate	Vietnam
Gail	Suiter	Bernardsville	NJ	NJ	Paterson - North Jersey	Associate	Vietnam
Robert	Bowman	Albuquerque	NM	NM	Albuquerque - Albuquerque	Associate	Afghanistan
Michelle	Bowman	Albuquerque	NM	NM	Albuquerque - Albuquerque	Member	Afghanistan
Charles	HARRIS	LAS VEGAS	NM	NM	Albuquerque - Albuquerque	Associate	Iraq
Lois A.	Van Vorst	FARMINGDALE	NY	NY	North Fork #61 - Bayshore	Associate	Vietnam
Maria	Alcantara	New York City	NY	NY	Yonkers - Yonkers	Member	Iraq
Cathi	Endlich	Massillon	OH	OH-KY	Northeast Ohio GSM	Member	Iraq
Janet	Terrell	Alliance	OH	OH-KY	Northeast Ohio GSM	Member	USA
Kathy	Hause	Stoystown	PA	PA	Greater Johnstown - Johnstown	Member	Iraq
Janet	Manion	Doylestown	PA	PA	North Penn - Ambler	Member	Iraq
Robin L.	Hefner	Hico	TX	TX-OK	Dallas - Dallas	Member	USA
Stephanie	Moses	Pearland	TX	TX-OK	Houston - Houston	Associate	USA
Nancy J.	Stets	Virginia Beach	VA	VA-NC	Hampton Roads - Virginia Beach	Member	Pakistan
Jean	Thomas	Hertford	NC	VA-NC	Hampton Roads - Virginia Beach	Member	Afghanistan
Jamie	Bennedsen	Tacoma	WA	WA-ID-OR-AK	Washington State GSM -Lynnwood	Associate	Afghanistan
Julie Anne	Dorigatti	Rock Springs	WY	WY-MT	Cheyenne - Cheyenne	Member	USA



We Hold in Loving Memory

CALIFORNIA / NEVADA / HAWAII

Gold Star Manor Chapter Mary Adelle Kipp 1-11

FLORIDA / PUERTO RICO

June Stewart Valdivia 12-10

LOUISIANA / MISSISSIPPI

Forever Faithful Chapter Annie Lamar 1-11

MISSOURI / ARKANSAS

St. Louis #1 Chapter Anna Peck Underhill 12-10

John Write 4-10

Homer Turley 11-10

Williams-Springfield Chapter Margaret Golden 11-10

NEW JERSEY

Camden County Chapter Mildred Campbell 12-10

Trenton Chapter MacKenzie Haig Coffin 6-10

Irvington Chapter Virginia Dabonka 10-10

NEW YORK

Schenectady Chapter #7 Elizabeth B. Hallock 1-11

Syracuse #15 Pearl S. Enders 6-10

Violet G. Fanella 9-09

Albany Chapter #11 Theodore E. McDougall, Jr. 9-10

OHIO / KENTUCKY

Knox-Mt. Vernon Chapter Edith L. Carter 10-10

Marjorie A. Algire 11-10

Williamstown Chapter James Maynard 12-10

Toledo Chapter Edith Burnette 10-10

Licking County-Newark Jean A. Miller 12-10

IN MEMORY

Homer Turley

Anna Peck Underhill

Margaret Golden

John Wright

Eleanor Nelson

June Stewart Valdivia

Margaret Golden, PNP

Carolyn Evans

Ella Nelson

Grace McFarland

SSG Jason Reeves

REMEMBERED BY

Department of Missouri

Miami Chapter #1

Dep't. of Illinois and Greater Alton Chapter

Cobb County Chapter

Kathleen McFarland

Jim and Kitty Bailey

Fred and Beverly Bailey

Willie and Sally Bailey

Cary and Cathy Jackson

John Woodson

Desert Design and Construction

Drs. Halpern and Halpern

Lyntec

Knox Chapter

Edith Carter

Marjorie Algire

Ellen Marie Davidson

Mary Schienbeck

Michael Davidson

Anne Keifer



Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of All Comfort. Who comforts us in all of our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.
2 Corinthians 1:3-4



Note to all Chaplains- All Death Notices go to:
Janice Chance, National Chaplain * 9019 Amber Oaks Way, Owings Mills, MD 21117
410-998-2074* jmblessed-one@msn.com



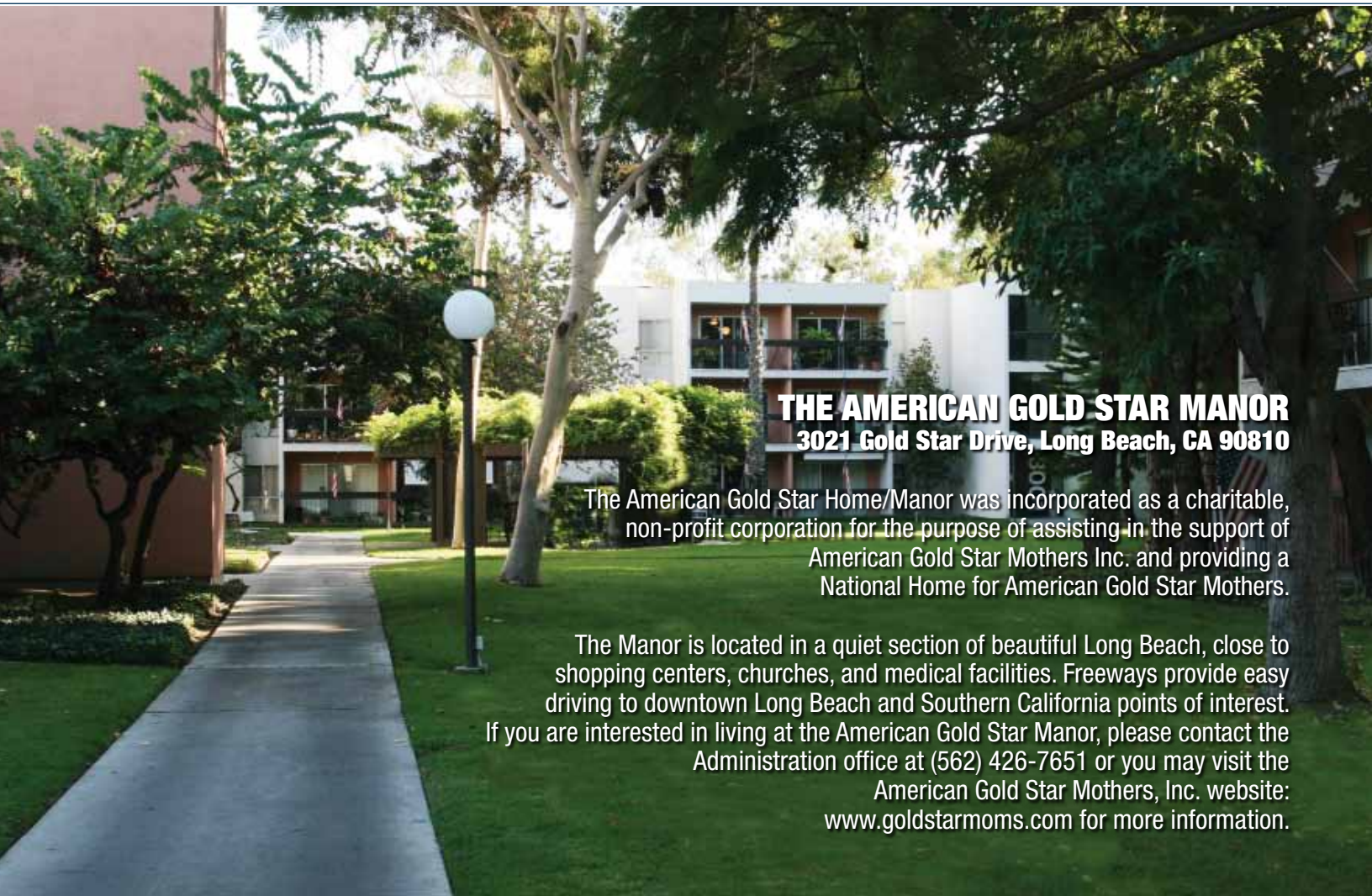
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THE AMERICAN GOLD STAR MANOR
3021 Gold Star Drive, Long Beach, CA 90810

The American Gold Star Home/Manor was incorporated as a charitable, non-profit corporation for the purpose of assisting in the support of American Gold Star Mothers Inc. and providing a National Home for American Gold Star Mothers.

The Manor is located in a quiet section of beautiful Long Beach, close to shopping centers, churches, and medical facilities. Freeways provide easy driving to downtown Long Beach and Southern California points of interest. If you are interested in living at the American Gold Star Manor, please contact the Administration office at (562) 426-7651 or you may visit the American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. website: www.goldstarmoms.com for more information.