

A Brief History of AGSM, Inc.

When the United States entered WWI in 1917, George Vaughn Seibold, 23, volunteered, requesting an assignment in aviation. He was sent to Canada, where he learned to fly British planes. Deployed to England, he was assigned to the British Royal Flying Corps. After training he was sent to combat duty in France. He corresponded with his family regularly.

His mother, Grace Darling Seibold, started doing community service work by visiting returning service men in the local hospitals.

Soon, George's letters stopped coming. Grace continued to visit hospitalized veterans in the Washington, DC area, clinging to the hope that her son might have been injured, and returned to the United States without identification. On October 11, 1918, George's wife received a box marked "Effects of Deceased Officer 1st Lt. George Vaughn Seibold."

The wait was finally over... Grace, realizing that self-contained grief is self destructive, devoted her time and efforts to volunteering in the hospitals, and extending the hand of friendship to other mothers whose sons had lost their lives in military service.

Grace organized a group consisting solely of these special mothers, with the purpose of not only comforting one another, but giving care to the hospitalized veterans confined to hospitals far from home.

The organization was named after the Gold Star Banner families hung in their windows, honoring their fallen heroes.

Mission

Finding strength in the fellowship of other Gold Star Mothers who strive to keep the memory of our sons and daughters alive by working to help veterans, those currently serving in the military, their families and our communities.

www.goldstarmoms.com

*American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.
2128 Leroy Place NW
Washington, DC 20008*



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. is a 501(c)3 national nonprofit Veteran Service Organization (VSO) founded in Washington, DC in 1928, incorporated and chartered by the United States Congress in 1984.



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

*We Honor
Through Service*



Who are we?

Mothers whose children died while in military service, or died as a result of that service, or are missing in action.

Who do we serve?

I. Veterans, Active Duty Military, and their families

American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. serves on the Advisory Board of the Veterans Administration Voluntary Service (VAVS).

Each year our members give thousands of hours, dollars, and in-kind donations to our VA Hospitals, Centers, and Cemeteries.

We also raise funds for various nonprofit organizations that support our active duty service members who are in need.

II. Our Members

We publish and mail a National Newsletter, *The Gold Star Mother*, bi-monthly.

We maintain a National Headquarters in Washington, DC.

We hold an annual National Convention in various locations around the country, providing venues for learning, fellowship, and organizational input.

Our National Legislative Officer monitors and informs the membership of any pending national legislation affecting our membership or their families.

III. Our community

AGSM members serve many community organizations, giving generously of their time and money.

How are we organized?

Throughout the country, local chapters serve in their communities. Much of the service and fellowship of American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. happens at the chapter level.

States are organized into Departments. Some Departments consist of multiple states.

You can find your nearest chapter on our website, www.goldstarmoms.com. If there is no chapter near you, please contact the National Service Officer at nso@goldstarmoms.com.

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