

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Who can be a Blue Star Mother?

A **Mother** or **Stepmother** who has a son or daughter who is serving, or has been honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States

### Who can be a Blue Star Dad?

A **Dad** or **Stepfather** who has a son or daughter who is serving, or has been honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States

### What military service branches are supported by the Blue Star Mothers?

Services included are the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, National Guard, Reserve Units, and the Merchant Marines.

### Is there any other way to join?

Absolutely! An associate member can be a **spouse, sister, brother, grandparent, aunt, uncle, cousin, or friend** of someone who is serving, or has been honorably discharged.

### What is the cost for membership?

Blue Star Mothers pay \$20.00 for annual membership. Dads and associates pay no membership dues.

### Where can I get a membership form?

The form is available at our office and on our webpage and can be returned in person or by mail to the Blue Star office.

### Are the Broken Arrow Blue Star Mothers a political organization?

No. The Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc. is a nonpartisan, nonsectarian, nondiscriminatory and non-profit 501(c) 3 organization.

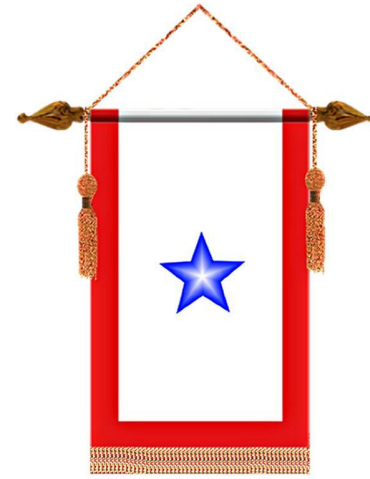
### If I know someone who is currently deployed can the Blue Star Mothers send a Freedom Box to them?

Yes. Just share the APO address and approximate dates of deployment with the Blue Star Mothers and we will include them on our mailing list.

### What will I find on the Blue Star Mothers website?

- How to make a donation – PayPal, by mail, or in person
- A list of items that can be donated to send to the troops
- Calendar of upcoming events
- Photos of Blue Star events
- Membership forms

## Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.



## Broken Arrow - Chapter 5

### Mailing Address:

Blue Star Mothers, Inc.  
Broken Arrow - Chapter 5  
P.O. Box 3548  
Broken Arrow, OK 74013

### Office Address:

Blue Star Mothers, Inc.  
Broken Arrow - Chapter 5  
905 So. 9<sup>th</sup>, Suite C  
Broken Arrow, Ok 74012

### Office Hours:

Saturday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Tuesday 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

### For More Information, Please Call:

918-259-9479 or 918-857-9751

Visit Our Website At: [www.babluestar.org](http://www.babluestar.org)



## How the Blue Star Mothers of America Began

On January 22, 1942 the Flint News Advertiser printed a coupon asking Mothers of servicemen to return the coupon after filling it out. The following February 1<sup>st</sup>, three hundred mothers met in the Duran Hotel in Flint Michigan. Captain George H. Maines, who had conceived the idea for this group, acted as the chair of this first meeting. It was decided after receiving 1000 responses from the ad to form a permanent organization.

On February 6<sup>th</sup> the organization was reported on the Congressional record. Chapters then formed in Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, California, Iowa, and Washington. In June of 1960, the organization was chartered by the United States Congress.

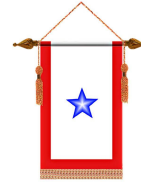
Mothers volunteered throughout the tough times of World War II. They worked in hospitals, train stations, packed care packages for the soldiers and were a working part of homeland security during times of war. The organization waned in size over the years but has held together by mothers showing pride in both their children and country. In recent times we have begun to grow in strength.

Being attacked on our own soil has once again started mothers hanging flags in their windows at home proclaiming pride in the fact that we have children protecting our freedom during wartime.

Our organization provides support for active duty personnel, promotes patriotism, assists Veterans organizations, and is available to assist in homeland volunteer efforts to help our country remain strong.

## Freedom Boxes

Each month, approximately three hundred boxes are shipped to men and women deployed throughout the world. These boxes contain a variety of items. A list of the items needed for the boxes is listed on the Blue Star Mothers website ([www.babluestar.org](http://www.babluestar.org)). The contents of the box are accompanied by letters of encouragement from members of Broken Arrow community. If your school, church, business or organization would like to support the efforts of the Blue Star Mothers by packing Freedom Boxes or contributing items please use the contact information on the front of this brochure. Your efforts are an amazing source of encouragement to our men and women in uniform!



## Service Star Flags

The display of the Service Star Banner first came about during World War I. During WWI and WWII most flags were hand made by mothers across the nation. One of the most famous flags was that of the five Sullivan brothers who all perished on the U.S.S. Juneau.

Each blue star represents a service member in active duty.

A gold star is displayed if a service member is killed in action or dies in service. If several stars are displayed in one family the gold star takes the honor of being placed at the top.

Display of the Service Star Banner is done during times of war and conflict. Once again families are displaying banners at home.

## *2009 Broken Arrow Chapter 5 Officers*

<b>President:</b>	Janet Viel
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President:</b>	JD Stigall
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President:</b>	Susan Franklin
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President:</b>	Marcia Kerr
<b>Financial Secretary:</b>	Paula Normandin
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Ann Gasperino
<b>Corresponding Secretary:</b>	Patsy Adams
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	Andy Rudy
<b>Sergeant at Arms:</b>	Paula Grier
<b>Quartermaster:</b>	Terry Garrison
<b>Communications &amp; Public Relations:</b>	Amy Fichtner/Nora Coy