

BUGLER'S POST

Official Newsletter of Bugles Across America



BAA Briefing



Now in the warm months (actually HOT for some), we are all very busy serving missions. With 65 missions so far in 2016, I thought I was busy. Then I hear that Alaska State Director, Gene Horner has already done 92. Of course, they wait for the warm weather up there!

The truck with the BAA message was the first ever 53-foot float to appear in the Chicago Memorial Day Parade. It was great to see and hear The Senior Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps, as well as the Joliet American Legion Band light up State street. As there was no TV coverage we had people come down town and line the streets six deep for the entire parade route.

Again I would like to ask all members to start looking for significant WWI markers or memorials in your town where you could put together a program to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the end of that war on November 11, 2018.

My daughter Julie and I will leave June 29th for Houston to attend the Elks National Convention. We will be at the Hilton from July 1 to the 4th, so if you're in the area, bring your horn and let's do Echo Taps. We have had a BAA booth at the National Convention for 14 years now, and the Elks were one of our first major sponsors. Consider the strange connection, Elks and BAA. When an Elk calls out it is said they "bugle". Most noted horn makers were at one time or another busiest in Elkhart, Indiana as well as Elkhorn, Wisconsin. WWI General Pershing was an Elk. One of the Marines who raised the Flag on Iwo Jima in WWII was an Elk.



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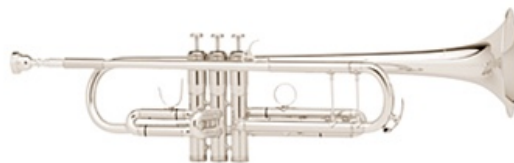
BAA renewed its Trademark and revenue License in Illinois; all taxes are filed and we have NO DEBT. I owe a BIG THANKS to Mr. Chris Wallace of FOX TV for once again airing the interview he did with us several years ago for Memorial Day. Over 500 personal Thank-You messages were mailed out. Our National Coordinator, Howard Reitenbaugh worked through responding to well over 750 emails the week following the holiday, and he forwarded over 165 new registrations between 25 May and 15 June. The State Directors have their work cut out to properly process, review and audition those new members. Many people sent special cards and even posters of thanks to BAA, and I will send them on to Jen to see which she will possibly use in the future.

Recent days saw yet another tragic loss of life at the hands of a deranged fanatic with the senseless slaughter in the nightclub in Orlando. My heart aches for the 49 who were killed, and my prayers go out for those still in the hospital as well as the families. Why would I remark about this? To let you all know that one of the fallen was a Veteran. Who did the military call first for a bugler? They called Bugles Across America. The Navy bandsman came forward to sound Taps. The closing remark from the Army Honor Guard was, "We love and appreciate all the funeral details BAA does for us in Florida".

Ladies and Gentlemen, keep up the great work. Thanks to you all.

Tom Day, Founder

THE GREAT HORN GIVEAWAY!



The Great Horn Giveaway contest for May/June 2016 is complete!

As a reminder, my daughter can not read so she has been chosen to pull the BAA business cards out of the box.

The winners are....

Kathleen McCall of Churchville, Pennsylvania

"When I got home today there was a large box outside my door. Inside was a gorgeous, silver Shilke X Series trumpet. I am totally blown away by the generosity of this organization, and it truly makes me so honored to be a part of BAA.

You have no idea how appreciated this beautiful trumpet is, and I can't wait to play it in the various groups I'm a part of." - Kathleen McCall

Patrick Hentschell of Au Gres, Michigan

Congrats to these fine BAA members!

The next drawing is in September. Have you sent Tom Day your BAA business card?

Bugles Across America NFP
c/o Tom Day, Founder
1824 S. Cuyler Ave.
Berwyn, Illinois 60402



If you still do not have a BAA business card, a reasonable place to start is with the BAA Card Template found under the **For Buglers Only** in the [Education tab](#). Remember you must be logged in to access that option.

State Director Spotlight: New York

Danielle Masterson - State Director

How long have you been with BAA?

I was the 111th member to join BAA .

How long have you been playing?

I've been a horn player for 32 years starting off in Drum and Bugle Corps.

What is the hardest part about being a BAA Director?

Getting those who have signed up to follow through on their audition. I make contact with them after they apply and its all most impossible to catch up for their audition.

What is the best part about being a BAA Director?

Sounding Taps and meeting our new buglers

What has been your best experience with BAA?

There are a few. The looks on the families faces after they come up and thank me for sounding Taps. Seeing that look is everything.

I sounded Taps off the deck of the USS Midway last year and that was an amazing day. Spending the day with Capt. Jerry Yellen. Jerry has the unique distinction of having flown the final combat mission of World War II on August 14, 1945 - the day the war ended. Now we are friends. With all that goes on with BAA, there are way to many great experiences to just pick one.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with your audience about yourself?

Sounding Taps I feel is the last nicest thing that I can do for someone. These are the times when I feel my service is most pure. I don't do this to receive a pat on the back or even a thank you. I do it to serve. I'm personally grateful because it has given me a place to serve those who have served. Sounding Taps on a real horn, using my own breath.



Dr. E. Bruce Heilman, 89 year old WWII Marine Veteran and myself. He had just come back from riding his Harley across the country to honor our fallen.



Only thirty-six hours out of the hospital and I'm sounding Taps. for the American Security Council Dedication

Tom Allen - Assistant State Director

How long have you been with BAA?

Since 2007

Why did you join?

I started a website called Operation Taps to encourage my friends in the East Coast drum corps community to volunteer to sound Taps. Mr. Day found out about it and called me about helping out in CNY-WNY. I proudly accepted the challenge.



How long have you been playing?

Since the fifth grade, so around 44 years.

What is the hardest part about being a BAA Director?

The toughest part is making sure the local funeral directors know how to use the site.

What is the best part about being a BAA Director?

Knowing that a family can give their hero a respectful send off that I play, for free, and usually anonymously.

What has been your best experience with BAA?

When we organized a group of BAA, Buglers Hall of Fame and Phi Mu Alpha to sound Echo Taps at the gravesite of Clark Terry a few days after the Navy sent a recording for one of the greatest players in history.

What is your goal for your state?

100% coverage

Is there anything else you'd like to share with your audience about yourself?

My family is a "drum corps" family. My oldest brother started playing in drum corps many, many years before I was born. My father was a WWII and Korean War veteran. There were literally 100 qualified buglers at his funeral. The thought that another family would get a tape recorder was unacceptable. I had to do something. I'm proud to do what I can but frustrated that I can't do it all.



DCA Week
Empire Statesmen, 1996

FIND THE BUGLE CONTEST!



Hidden somewhere in this newsletter is a small image of a bugle. This bugle will be cleverly inserted into either dialogue or a photo. All you need to do is carefully read through all the great information, and keep a sharp eye out for the little bugle.

“How do I enter?” Find the bugle, note the location then copy and paste the official entry form to your email. The form can be found on the following page or on the BAA web site under the [Bugler's Post tab](#). Fill out the required information and email it to findthebugle@gmail.com

“How will I know if I won?” Three winners will be selected randomly by drawing from all correct entries on **July 31st**. Winners will then be contacted by email.

“What can I win?” A \$50 gift certificate for your choice of T&T Uniform, Glendale's Parade Store, Amazon or Barnes & Noble. After three issues (six months), those nine winners will be put 'in the hat' for a Grand Prize drawing that will produce one winner of a nice, reconditioned horn to be chosen by Tom.

An example of the image you will be looking for is under the magnifying glass in the banner.

The bugle may be presented in any orientation; in other words, it may be horizontal, vertical, or at any angle.

Good luck, happy 'bugle hunting'!

Legal Fine Print

- * Only one entry per person per contest period, and must be submitted on the official entry form to the designated email address.
- * Entries must be in by midnight PST on the 30th day after publication of that newsletter.
- * Selection of winning entries will be final.
- * *Newsletter staff and BAA National Officers are not eligible for contest entry.*
- * Bugles Across America, nfp will not be liable for any misdirected or incomplete entries.
- * No substitutions for awarded prizes will be made.

I Found The Bugle!



In the Bugler's Post, **Issue #:** _____

I found the BUGLE hidden on **page:** _____

in the: _____

(describe the specific location , such as article, paragraph, line number or picture)

Name: _____

Email: _____

(This email address will be used to notify the winner and deliver the prize)

Telephone: _____

Mailing Address:

Street: _____

City: _____

State, Zip: _____

All entries must be by email submission of this Official Entry Form, and must be received no later than midnight Pacific time, thirty days after the publication of this Bugler's Post issue.

Entry sequence will be determined by the time stamp indicated upon arrival of form.

By presenting this entry, I agree to all terms and conditions of the contest and prize winner selection described in the official rules as presented within the Bugler's Post.

Bugles Across America, nfp, is not to be held liable for any misdirected or incomplete entries, or for communication circumstances beyond our control. Entry is limited to one per person, per issue or contest period.

Copy and Paste this form into your email. Fill in the blanks and email the entry to findthebugle@gmail.com



We want to extend a hearty congratulations to the three winners of Issue #28 who were selected at random from all the correct entries.

We had 39 correct entries for this issue's contest.

And the winners are....

Mark Winey of New Jersey

Anne Sirinides of New Jersey

Ed Crobie of Illinois

Each received a \$50 gift card and was placed in the running with 1 in 9 odds of winning the grand prize drawing. All non-winners for the year are eligible to enter each contest period.



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BEHIND THE BUGLE

YOUR STORIES

Ken Goforth - Kentucky

Here I am sounding Taps for the Scottsville - Allen County, Kentucky, Peace Officers Memorial May 18, 2016.



Roy Zanni - California

I did a BAA presentation at a DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) meeting on Saturday morning. They asked me to sound Taps after the presentation. Luckily had my horn with me as I had an event in the afternoon.



Ryne Takeuchi - Hawaii

I recently had my first honor to play Taps at Punch Bowl Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii. Before I played I said a prayer for the soldier and his family. I knew I wouldn't fail because I felt that all the souls there wouldn't allow me to. The family thanked me and told me that it brought back memories and closure.

Frank Dorritie - California

Taps for Corporal Graham, 63 Years Overdue

In April, I was deeply honored to be asked to sound Taps for Cpl. Perry Graham, USA, who was captured in Korea in 1951, later to die there as a POW.

In a rare gesture of goodwill, the North Korean government recently returned crates of the co-mingled remains of American POWs from that conflict. After exhaustive DNA testing, Cpl. Graham's remains were among those identified, and were escorted from Hawaii to San Francisco by an Army Honor Guard that included his nephew, a retired Marine Master Sergeant.

Cpl. Graham's family requested that Taps be sounded twice, first as his casket was placed in the carriage at the mortuary, and again at the burial site. The Army could provide a bugler only for the latter, so I was summoned.

The story had made headlines in national news, with the result that several Federal, State and Local officials attended the wake, as well as honor guards from the VFW, American Legion, Marine Corps League, San Francisco and San Bruno Police Departments, and 40 members of the Patriot Riders who would accompany the hearse to the cemetery.

In addition to all this, Air Force One would land at SFO at precisely the moment when the procession would leave for the gravesite. The President and the POW would pass each other in opposite directions on the freeway, each with its own motorcycle escort.

I stood in a passageway at the head of the driveway. When the time came, family and friends filed out and took positions on either side of the honor guards, and a young Marine and his family found a spot at my elbow.

The commander of the Patriot Riders gave "Present...Arms!", and as I sounded the first note, the Marine inadvertently bumped my arm executing his crisp salute. No matter. The call was fine and no one noticed.

The silence after the last note was profound: a couple of hundred people showing their deepest respect. The casket was slipped into the carriage and the door closed.

The Lance Corporal turned to me and said, "Sir, I'm really sorry...but he was my grandad's brother and I wanted to render the best salute I could. How is it you didn't crack a note?"

"First of all", I replied, "I'm no 'Sir', just a former Sgt. E-5, as you can see on my sleeve. But the answer to your question is, when I sound Taps, I have a guardian angel." As we watched the cars slip down the drive to the freeway I added, "...and now you do, too."



Gary Marquardt - Minnesota

Last Month My wife and I and my oldest friend visited the Gettysburg Battlefield. I had never been there and while we were visiting the large monument commemorating that great battle, a bus load of middle-school kids got up near the monument and together recited the entire Gettysburg Address. It was quite a thing to see.

When they finished I talked to their guides and told them that I was a member of BAA and asked if they had time, I could tell the story of



Taps and the Civil War and stand over the battlefield and play Taps for them if it was allowed by the rules. They agreed that it would be really neat to see and hear. I addressed the students first and then turned toward "Little Round Top" and sounded Taps over that hallowed ground for the students and all those who lost their lives there. Many visitors came up to me and thanked me for playing. I gave out about four dozen of my BAA cards and urged them to contact BAA if they know of a veterans committal where we can be of service. It was a very emotional thing for me and an experience that I will never forget.



Steve Bow - Ohio

100th Mission

This past Saturday I hit 100 missions with BAA since joining in January 2013. I am proud of this personal milestone - 100 missions for the which I sounded where a Veteran or Veterans received Taps live with heart and soul rather than a battery and a speaker. This could not have been done without Tom Day, by creating BAA and giving us this opportunity to be part of something great. Herb Brooks told his Team USA Hockey Team in 1980: "Geat moments are born from great opportunity." Sounding Taps is the moment - the opportunity is all of us honoring the Veteran. No more. No less.

What an opportunity.

Thanks Tom.



“We just want to honor our father...”



Larry Ballenger - California

19 December 2015 WWII fighter pilot

On very short notice BAA got a request for *Taps* to be sounded in two days for an Army Air Corps fighter pilot from World War II. I hit the “accept” button in part because I had turned down quite a few this month due to the press of Christmas activities, band concerts, etc. The daughter emailed me immediately with thanks, explaining that it would be a small, family-only ceremony in courtyard of Pacific View mausoleum in Corona del Mar (about a one hour drive for me from Pasadena). There was to be nothing else in the ceremony besides the military honors, and she and the family VERY MUCH wanted a live bugler, because that is what her father had stipulated for his service.

As always the military team of two Air Force personnel had brought their digital bugle, but when I introduced myself as the bugler from *Bugles Across America*, they willingly set it aside. (What else are they going to do? For the most part, the honor guard members seem relieved to not have to flip the switch to play *Taps*.)

About twenty family and friends gathered under the canopy, the Air Force team came briskly in, came to attention, and saluted while I played. Then they folded the flag and presented it to the family.

28 December 2015 US Army Colonel

A few days later another request came in, which was similar. It was for a burial at Riverside National Cemetery, and once again I consulted my calendar and took it. Within hours the daughter of the honoree emailed me her thanks and the specific request of her father, a 20-year veteran Army colonel, for a live playing of *Taps* at his services.



This time, in contrast to a few days before, there was a full honor guard of active duty soldiers, a nine-person team. When we arrived at the pavilion for the service (having driven in procession from the staging area) I identified myself to the master sergeant commanding the team. In an interesting vignette which I had never experienced before he started up the hill beyond the pavilion, then came back to ask me, “Do you have a business card, sir?”. I was so glad that I had had some BAA cards printed earlier in the year! Having satisfied himself that I was legit, he proceeded to dismiss the soldier who was equipped with the digital bugle.

With all that settled, I took my place on the hill about twenty-five yards from the rifle team. On command, the team fired their three volleys. I sounded *Taps*. And the flag ceremony by this Army team was as crisp as any I have witnessed.

Gene Ramsay - Alabama

My Uncle Leon served in Vietnam. He was a Marine helicopter pilot. There were a couple of things you knew about Uncle Leon from the start. He was a Marine through and through. He made some amazing bacon, he loved his Alabama Roll Tide football. Uncle Leon passed a couple of years ago and how I found out and how I came to play at his graveside is a pretty crazy and cool story.

First off, I had no idea Uncle Leon had passed. I was minding my own business one day when my phone rang. It was one his sons calling me. I was happy to receive the call as we spoke. Then I was asked, "Are you all set for tomorrow?" I wasn't sure what he meant so I asked. He then said, "Wait, no one called you and told you Uncle Leon passed and the funeral is tomorrow? Well, then I guess you won't be making it."

After the initial shock wore off I knew I'd be going and I immediately offered to sound Taps for my Uncle at his graveside. Then I heard the faint sobs come over the phone as my cousin recounted his story of having to pick what Uncle Leon would be wearing in his casket.



My uncle Leon's two son's and myself (in the middle)



My uncle Leon

My cousin said he struggled with what suit or whatever Uncle Leon would wear until he went into his dad's closet and saw his freshly pressed, still wrapped in the plastic, Marine blues uniform. On it was clipped a note that basically stated his answer was the Marine uniform. As he unwrapped the beautiful blues, he went through to be sure all the pieces were there and then he found something in a pocket. It was a note with some final requests. One of those requests was that I play Taps at his graveside. I was floored. Uncle Leon and I had maybe talked once about what I do with BAA and apparently it stuck.

One day later, there I was, participating in a funeral that was truly meant for me to be a part of.

Mitzi Bowers - Texas

Austin Bowers, a youth member of Bugles Across America, was honored with two special awards last night at the Allen High School Marine Corps JROTC Awards Banquet. He received the Veterans of Foreign Wars JROTC antique bronze medal for his military-linked patriotism and service by performing Taps at countless veterans funerals and memorials. VFW Post 2195.

He also received the Student/Officer Leadership internal award from the MCJROTC program.



Duke Scales - Florida

Veterans Council of
Indian River County
2016 Memorial Day Ceremony
Vero Beach, Florida



Michael Foster - Virginia

Sounding Taps on Memorial
Day for the Greater
Springfield Chamber of
Commerce at the American



Ron Clark, Maine
Memorial Day Parade.
Searsmont, Maine



Betty Enzenaur-Scott - Michigan

Our local VFW post 4434 Holds a Bugles Across America Ceremony on the First Sunday of every month at the Veterans memorial on High Street in Belleville Michigan to honor our heroes.

Kimberley A Shaw - Massachusetts**EchoTaps 2016 at the Veterans' Cemetery, Exeter, Rhode Island**

Third time was the charm that got me to this event! Imagine 53 buglers all in one place, sounding Taps. And this is the year I got to experience it in person.

Two years in a row, I'd get an announcement about this incredible mass of buglers that would gather to sound Cascade Taps in RI, and both times, I had a conflict that kept me from going. We all know how crowded schedules get when you're a bugler in the weeks around Memorial Day. This year was no exception, with two parades, three hospice-sponsored "pinning ceremonies", honor-guard duty with my local American Legion Post, and a funeral, all between the dates of May 26 and 30. Did I mention that I also work full-time?

The scheduling worked for me this time, and it was quite a bit of fun to spend half an hour before the event mixing and mingling with all these other buglers, some in uniform, some not. This is a tri-state event, and so people came in from Connecticut, as well as Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Instruments were of all types, including an 1890s trumpet, four trombones, a flugelhorn, and one marching tuba. As we gathered to tune up and practice, our event coordinator, Rhode Island State Bugler Michael Jackson, called for a volunteer to begin the cascade Taps. No takers. Whereupon, Yours Truly got volunteered by Mike Jackson to do so! No pressure.



The Patriot Guard Riders set up a flag line of about 50 people that was absolutely gorgeous, as we all took our places in a huge circle surrounding the WWII monument. Atop the hill at the center of the monument, Mike Jackson stood with the rifle detail, looking extremely small and far away. What was the cue to begin the cascade? Seeing him wave from way over there. Right, got it. I began to be afraid that I wouldn't be able to see that wave when I needed to. (Note: white gloves do have a purpose after all – they're very visible from a distance.) As it turns out, I think my spot was the best one – it was a real privilege to finish playing, and to enjoy hearing Taps make its way around the circle of 52 buglers, with Mike Jackson being the final person to sound the call. Then came time to march between the flag line to the center of the monument, where Kathrine O'Neill conducted us in a unison rendition of Taps before an audience of WWII veterans, local dignitaries, a Navy-cadet contingent, and other veterans, friends, and allies. Speeches and presentations followed, along with recognition of oldest bugler present (in his 90s) and youngest (age 11). It was a remarkable and well-done event that has been going on for about a decade; I can see why people return to it year after year.

Christie Hill - Alaska

Every year on Memorial Day I don my American Legion (Post 16, Homer, Alaska) jacket, make sure my pins are right side up, and shine my horn. I sound Taps for our American Legion Family, and the Anchor Point VFW in the honor guard. I got to play Taps three times that day. There are three towns pretty close to each other so we attend all services. First there is Hickerson Memorial Cemetery in Homer, then off to just outside of Anchor Point to the cemetery there, that town is fifteen miles away from Homer. Then it was off to Ninilchik for service number three.



Before we went to the last cemetery, we stopped at Ninilchik's American Legion Post and have a scrumptious BBQ. This year was by far the best!! Caribou sausage mixed with Moose Burger. WOW!! Sorry, back to Taps.

While I was sounding Taps in Anchor Point a flock of Sandhill Cranes flew behind me, I heard it looked pretty cool. Then as I was playing in Ninilchik, a giant Bald Eagle flew behind me. If that isn't American, I don't know what is!! I was pretty bummed that I didn't get to see it, I'm sure it would make an amazing picture.

The honor guard gentleman made a new thing, where if I sound flawlessly then they would give me a spent shell casing from their firing. I may not be perfect all the time but that's what makes it more emotional and authentic. I hope everyone had a wonderful Memorial Day. Keep those bugles shined up pretty, you never know when it may be needed. Thanks for everyone that does right for our service men and women to make sure they are honored in the right manner.

Do you have an unusual, memorable or funny story to share regarding an event or request you sounded Taps for? The Bugler's Post wants to publish your stories.

All stories must be written, edited, **ready for publishing** and a photo is desired but not required. If you don't have a photo from the event, one of you works nicely as well.

The deadline for this is August 15th.

Please email JenDayBAA@iCloud.com

Thank you Mike Jackson

We wanted to thank Mike Jackson for his many dedicated years of service as the Rhode Island State Director. He will be taking time to recover after recent surgery. We are sad to see him step down as state director but understand his decision. Thank you Mike.

"I am stepping down as State Director at this time to get my strength back after my recent surgery. I'm still at the veterans cemetery 6 days a week doing multiple funerals. The national guard has three live players from the 88th Army band that cover all funerals not at the vets cemetery. At times there may be over five funerals in one day but this happens very seldom. The problem is, in Rhode Island the national guard will only allow a non-military bugler if it is, requested by the family. If it is me or an army personnel and the family has a live bugler we will stand down at the families request. Actually this situation occurred just this past Friday. I was at vets and had four funerals that day and John Collins former BAA Massachusetts State Director requested a bugler knowing I was recovering from surgery. BAA member, Kimberly Shaw from Boston showed up and I stood down!"

Best,
Mike



Letters of Gratitude



"One of your Buglers sounded at my dad's graveside service this past Wednesday, May 7th, 2016. It was beautiful and perfect. Dad had told us many times throughout the years that having Taps sounded live and well was very important to him. Mom had seen a newspaper article about your organization years ago and put the newspaper clipping in a file to save "just in case". When she pulled it out, I looked at your website and requested a bugler and all went perfectly.

Thank you so much for all that you do to honor our veterans and their families. It meant so much to my dad and to all of his family. I have made a personal donation to your group and posted on my Facebook to ask others to donate in my dad's memory."

*Sincerely,
Deanne Shaw*



"BAA: you guys have an incredible young man in your corps. Thank you Michael Ahrens for braving through the weather and blessing the Fairbanks Morse Engine Memorial Day Ceremony with your beautiful National Anthem and Taps. We are so proud of you and thank you for what you do for our veterans!"

-Brittney M, Fairbanks Morse Engine

MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY, Inc.

Presented To


Bugles Across America

THANKS for your support of Military Appreciation Day, Inc. Delaware Chapter event 2015. Your bugler services rendered by Mr. Mark Van Dusen in memorial tribute to our late founder, Mr. Rodney Carroll were highly appreciate. We are highly grateful to your organization for your patriotic professionalism in helping us pay tribute to our great founder and for your outstanding support and dedication in helping our organization to accomplish our mission of

THANKING THOSE WHO SERVE AMERICA.

**Military Appreciation Day, Inc. Delaware Chapter
MAD Lewes 2015**

On this 10th day of October 2015


Hector Reyes
President



"I just saw you on Fox News and I'm in tears. Thank you and God Bless you for all you do. My dad was a Korean War Veteran. When he passed away 5 years ago, he had a military funeral....with a recording of Taps. He deserved a LIVE Taps. But it is what it is. So God Bless you and what you give these families."
Mrs. Antonia Valdez

David, (Bergland)

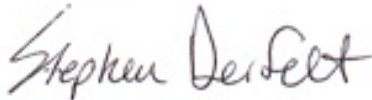
Thank You so very much for the service you provided at my grandpa's committal service. There were a lot of moving parts very quickly, and everything went off without a hitch. You went above and beyond what you typically do, and it was certainly a touching tribute for a World War II Vet. My family and I sincerely appreciate it.

I know you said you provide your services as a volunteer, but we want to give you this small love offering for your thoughtfulness. Hopefully it can at least fill your gas tank after a trip to Galena and back.

As I mentioned to you previously, we usually utilize the services of the bugler with the Miami American Legion, but I will certainly keep your information on file, and hopefully we can work together again sometime in the future.

Thank You from the bottom of our heart.

Sincerely,



Stephen Derfelt
Derfelt Funeral Homes, INC

"On Saturday, May 28, 2016, the National Park Service hosted a Memorial Day observance here on the grounds of the Battleground National Cemetery. The program was "quite moving" (as quoted by a visitor) because of the bugler's presence and the playing of Taps at the conclusion of the wreath-laying ceremony. A special thank you to bugler Mr. Paul Berman for providing such a tribute to those interred here and across our nation. Again, thank you so much."

Sincerely,

Kym Elder,

Program Manager, Civil War Defenses of Washington, National Park Service.

"I wanted to let you know that there was a new audience member at our last concert who was very excited about Bugles Across America after reading about it in our program. She has some trumpet players that she is going to refer to you. I thought you might be happy to know that the word is continuing to get out and that people appreciate it."

Thank you again,

Sincerely,

Julie Siarny

"Robert Smith from Virginia Beach made my dad's memorial service extra special. Thank you Bob and thank you to all the Buglers!"

Amber Grady



"I just wanted to tell you what an excellent job you did at the National Vietnam War Museum - Wall Update 2016, and we thank you for what you and Bugles Across America does for our veterans.

The emotion of the bugler is as much a part of the music as the written notes and something the homogenized recording from a battery-blown bugle will never capture.

I've added a link to your web page from ours and hope it brings more requests your way."

Bert Simpson

West Texas (Abilene) Patriot Guard Riders



The Buglers: Taps powered by heart, not by batteries

ABC27 News

ANNVILLE, Pa. (WHTM)

How do we honor the men and women of our military, who recorded years — even decades — of service? More and more, the sounds you hear at armed forces funerals have been recorded.



On a recent rainy Saturday, a group of musicians gathered in the administration building at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery in Annaville, part of the nationwide tradition of Echo Taps. The trumpet, cornet, and bugle players filled a room with the hodgepodge of warm-ups. Without order, they're just notes.

An organizer greeted each player as he or she arrived, assigning positions around the cemetery's main road. In the right order, 19 buglers prepared to echo 24 notes for the 47,000 men and women there who can no longer take a breath.

In the right order, we all know the tune, the tone those 24 notes take on. "Grief, honor, respect," Howard Reitenbaugh said. You don't need to hear all 24 to know it, to feel it. Just the first three are enough to recognize Taps.

"You want to do it the best you can do it every time," said Roger Meyer, a bugler who came to the Midstate from Oklahoma for the event.

A spectator might think buglers are easy to find at services at the military cemetery. Take note: They're not.

But you will find Constance Snavelly.

"Everybody, I would think, has some kind of calling, feeling of something that they need to do," she said. "This is what I do."

We spoke with Constance at her Lebanon home a few weeks before the event at Indiantown

Gap. She retired from the Army in 2004 after nearly 23 years of service, ending her career as a Chief Warrant Officer 4.

She found a new mission as a member of the Lebanon VFW Post 23 honor guard.

“It just felt right to me,” she said. “It’s something I needed to do.”

When the VFW lost one of their two buglers to sound Taps at military services, Constance became the backup to longtime member Gerald Zechman. “And then when he’s gone, we had nobody and we’d have to use the ceremonial bugle.”

That’s the fake bugle, in Howard Reitenbaugh’s words.

“Many of these honor guards will say we have a live bugler,” he said. “That means a live person standing there holding a digital horn.”

As head of the Pennsylvania chapter of [Bugles Across America](#), Reitenbaugh works to bring analog back by sending horn players to services at a family’s request.

“They deserve Taps powered by heart,” he said, “not by batteries.”

For the full article, [click here](#)

Aidan McCoy Peterson (Care of Amy Shumoski) - Pennsylvania

Aidan Peterson sounded Taps at Washington Memorial Chapel for a WWI memorial. Two news stations aired clips of him playing.

[NBC10 Coverage](#)

[CBS 3](#) ended the story with Aidan playing



This is a quote from an email sent to the headmaster at Aidan's school from Nancy Schaff, the President of Descendants & Friends of the 314th Inf. "*Aidan played with the confidence and maturity of an adult, showing a deep reverence for the service. We are indebted to Aidan and his mother for donating their time to us yesterday.*"

Aidan had a very busy May with eleven events. He supported a Kentucky Derby fundraiser by playing Call to Post and was a soloist with the DeLaSalle String Band Orchestra at three charity events. He made his second appearance at an Honor Flight homecoming, played one funeral, and five Memorial Day services. At his second appearance at a service hosted at Lehigh Valley Health Network he was presented with a plaque and acknowledged as being a Veteran Champion.

I sounded Taps at the ceremony at the National Veterans Cemetery in Darien, Connecticut, as I do every year on Memorial Day - **Anthony Montimurro, Connecticut**

A day to remember in Darien

New Canaan News

Staff, Monday, May 30, 2016

DARIEN — Vietnam veterans Dennis Clayburn and Anthony Montimurro sat on a bench in Spring Grove Cemetery and shared a moment after Monday's Memorial Day parade.

The words were little more than whispers, but sometimes among veterans, that's all they really need.

Clayburn, 67, served in the U.S. Navy and lives in Fairfield. Montimurro, 69, served in the U.S. Army and lives in Stamford. Both men have a deep and distinct appreciation for those who have served their country.

Oscar E. Peck is buried just a few steps away from where Clayburn and Montimurro were seated.

Peck is Connecticut's youngest Congressional Medal of Honor recipient. He earned the distinction as a 14-year-old powder boy in the U.S. Navy during the Civil War.

In 2012, Peck was honored with an inscription at the base of the cemetery's military memorial. In part, the inscription reads, "For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy."

For online article, <http://www.newcanaannews.com/news/article/A-day-to-remember-in-Darien-7953282.php#photo-10163276>



Vietnam veterans Dennis Clayburn, left, and Anthony Montimurro share a moment at Spring Grove Cemetery after Monday's Memorial Day parade in Darien. Clayburn, 67, served in the U.S. Navy and lives in Fairfield. Montimurro, 69, served in the U.S. Army and lives in Stamford.



This isn't our usual Q&A... but we wanted to share this.

*** Actual Letter that came in ***

"So lemme start by saying I normally love bugles, by far the best chip brand I've eaten yet. But today on my way to work I picked up a bag of hot Buffalo bugles and when I open then, nearly every single one is plain. Like not even the standard flavor, I mean literally nothing on them. How does that happen? I can send a pic if you want. I'm not super upset or anything, mostly just confused how like 5% of the chips are totally normal, flavored properly, and the rest look like they just missed the whole flavoring part of the manufacturing process. At least they're still totally viable as finger daggers."

Submitted By: ***Name removed to protect the ~~innocent~~ guilty***

While Tom is diligent in his Bugles Quality Control, some things are beyond his control...

"Actually I have cut back. Besides the tone quality is harder to work on without the first valve being down. But, I would not mind them as a sponsor. Yes, I grew up... and out on BUGLES."

Tom Day

Marine Bugler



Have a question that you want answered?

Please email galaxypilot@verizon.net and place "Q & A" in the subject line.

SHOW YOUR COLORS!

Cool Weather Jacket - \$65 (plus shipping)

This beautiful embroidered black jacket is nicely lined, has elastic cuffs, 2 side pockets and a zippered inside pocket! The embroidery is a 9 ½ inch replica of our BAA logo on the back and your name embroidered on the front.



Warm Weather Jacket - \$50 (plus shipping)

This is a high-quality, light weight, embroidered jacket. It is solid black, micro-fiber (will protect from light rain), Raglan sleeves, standard color, lightly gathered elastic bottom and cuffs. There are slash pockets on the outside and one velcro-closed inside pocket (Large enough to hold a large smartphone). Large, full-colored BAA logo embroidered on the back.



Price includes name on the left breast. There is an extra \$3.00 charge for the embroidered bugle with the name.

These jackets are intended for casual wear only and **must not** be worn to serve military funeral missions!

Individuals may order the jacket by contacting Jeanie Buchanan at:

GENIE BEE'S EMBROIDERY

586-749-9700 or 586-588-1675 (cell)

geniebees@gmail.com

She takes check and requires half as a down payment.

Sizes beyond 1XL may require a slightly higher price, but Jeanie will work with you on this.

Current turn around time has been running about a couple weeks, but will depend on demand.

American Heritage Field Trumpet by Getzen

Every day in America, approximately 1,800 World War II and Korean War veterans pass away. These brave men and women risked their lives to defend the land they loved, and yet as many as 75% of these heroes will not be given the honor of having Taps sounded at their funeral by a live bugler.

In 2000, Bugles Across America was founded to secure a means of locating and to provide a real bugler for this honor, but many soon found themselves wishing for a quality bugle that was readily available and MADE IN THE USA.

A Wisconsin BAA member, Dan Erikson made contact with Tom Getzen and began a discussion about the need for a good field trumpet (bugle) to be dedicated for this purpose. Tom Getzen enthusiastically embraced the concept, and soon he introduced BAA representatives to the American Heritage Field Trumpet (AHFT).



The M2003 AHFT is available in four presentations. The Standard model in lacquered brass or silver finish, and the Elite in lacquered brass or silver. All are produced in the same workshop and by the same instrument craftsmen that make the Getzen professional-grade horns. In materials, fit, finish, and playability, the AHFT is truly a top-level, professional instrument. The AHFT is manufactured to play in the key of B-flat, but an optional G-slide can be purchased for any model. This gives the owner the ability to switch between these two most often used keys by merely exchanging the tuning slide. Many of us consider this to be a very valuable asset of the AHFT, and it certainly is less expensive than buying two separate horns.

While the AHFT can be ordered through any authorized Getzen dealer, verified BAA members can order direct from the factory at a price specifically discounted for BAA. Members may also choose to have the optional BAA logo engraved on the bell at no additional cost. [About the trumpet.](#)

Current pricing and order information is on the BAA web site on the LINKS tab.

If you are considering purchasing the AHFT, please email galaxypilot@verizon.net so we can provide membership verification to Getzen.



At Ease: Off-duty Apparel

Jim Owens, owner of My-T Graphics, is helping Bugles Across America's fundraising efforts with the "Thank You" Apparel. The familiar BAA logo is on the front (left chest) and a beautiful 'Thank you' memorial image is featured on the back, helping you show your BAA pride... and donate at the same time! 100% of the net proceeds go to BAA.

Short sleeve t-shirts: \$20

Long sleeve t-shirts: \$25

Hoodie sweatshirt: \$35

(plus tax and shipping)



Website to order

www.supportbaa.com

These are for casual use only and must not be worn to serve military funeral missions!

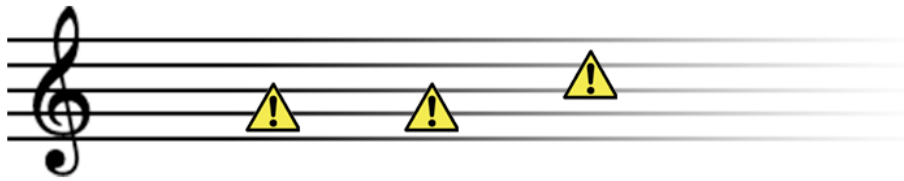


Thank you Jim Owens for your generous support for BAA.



<http://my-tgraphics.com>





KEY NOTES

Being an informed and responsible member

My contact information has changed. How do I update my email, phone number or address?

It is vital that your contact information is current and it is **your** responsibility to update when necessary. It is also really easy to do.

- 1.) **Log in** with your username and password.
- 2.) Your name is in the upper right corner of the page. **Click on your name.**
- 3.) Review the information presented there. If anything needs to be changed, **click on "Edit Profile"** (about in the middle of the page).

To update:

Address: After you've clicked **Edit Profile** (as stated above), a new screen will pop up where you can change your address. After you've update your address, **MAKE SURE** you go to the very bottom of the page and click on the **Update** button so that the changes you've entered will be saved to the system.



Password: If you want to update your password, there's bold red letters at the top that says **"Manage Password"** Click that. Fill in the requested information and click on **Change Password**.

Email: Click on "Manage User Credentials"... a new screen comes up, change your email and click **"update"**

To **unsubscribe**... click on '**Manage User Credentials**'. Click '**UnRegister**'

It's that easy!

IMPORTANT! If you've moved to another state, it's of extreme importance you contact your new State Director to inform them. State Directors are only sent notifications of new registrants, not if someone has "moved in".

Regarding Requests

How do I volunteer for a request?

Double check your schedule and if you are available, use the link at the bottom of the request email. If the request has already been filled, you will be informed. If it hasn't, you will be given an option to formally click on a link to volunteer yourself for it.



What if I can't volunteer for a request?

Please do not reply to the request email to tell us why you can't make it. While we truly appreciate your willingness to serve, you are replying to an automated message. Requests are sent out via automated system to all buglers in a 100-mile radius of the event. We don't often check the automated email box.. but when we do.. people are telling us why they can't volunteer for it. Can't volunteer, just hit that delete key!

I've volunteered for a request... now what?



From the request details, you have the requestor's contact information available to you. You are advised to print that page just before clicking "Volunteer" It is now **your responsibility** to contact the requestor as soon as practical to let them know you are their bugler and to get any further information you may need. If you failed to print that detail page before clicking on "Volunteer" you can always retrieve it from you're My Events log on the tab bar, but remember you must be logged in to see that.

I've volunteered for a request and now need to cancel.

Canceling is a violation against the Directives for Buglers you agreed to when you registered. Do NOT volunteer for a request before you have checked your schedule. If it is a family emergency, contact your State Director **immediately!** Not showing up lets down the family of the deceased and is **grounds for membership removal.**



Help!! I've lost the email with the event information!

The place to find that is under the "**My Events**" tab after you've logged into the BAA web site. This page will show you all the events you are scheduled for and the information regarding them!

Other F.A.Q.s

How do I contact my State Director?

Log in to the BAA web site and use the Contact Director option under the Contact Us tab. You will only see the [Contact Directors](#) option if you are logged in.

IMPORTANT! If you've moved to another state, it's of extreme importance you contact your new State Director to inform them. State Directors are only sent notifications of new registrants, not if someone has "moved in".



Emergencies.. Please contact your State Director.

Sending an email to any official BAA email will **not** reach us in time to help you. If you accepted a request and have a medical emergency keeping you from sounding Taps, Contact your State Director ASAP! If you don't have your director's contact information, log in to the BAA site, under the '**Contact us**'

tab you will see **Contact Directors**. Click that. Fill out necessary information. An email will be sent.

If you don't see something you're looking for on the

BAA web site. Log in. Some things are only shown to members

that are logged in and not the general public.



Is there a way for me to record or get "credit" for events that are not requested through the BAA website?

There is no way 'record' missions that don't come in through the request system. We have never kept count of individual's missions on BAA register or archive. Many members have kept a personal 'log book' of their missions, and this has been more for personal reflection and memories than anything.

I've lost the information for the request I've volunteered for!

Log in, click on the '**My Events**' tab. Ta-da!

A very handy Quick Start guide for BAA members

is available on the BAA web site in the [Education tab](#).



The BAA Learning Center is open for visitors!

What's inside:

Over 140 horns: Specialty and historic

Different types of mouthpieces

Military memorabilia

Uniforms from 1776 to today that you can touch

Bugle and military history

History books and maps from all US wars.

CDs and DVDs you can watch in the Media Room

Historic Drum and Bugle Corps media

Bugles Across America medals and patches

Copies of BAA's newsletter, Bugler's Post

A Congressional Gold medal

Stories from Tom Day himself!



"The house looks wonderful. It's one of those places that you could spend all day there and the next time you visit, you still see something new." - Allison Petty



Hours: By appointment. Please call (708) 484-9029

Admission: No fee but donations welcome

Parking: Street Parking. Please be aware of street cleaning hours on Friday

1818 Cuyler Ave., Berwyn, Illinois, 60402

For tour information: (708) 484-9029

The BAA Supply Closet



Pins and Patches: Please be advised that the "Bugle Pins" we have now are not made of steel and will break when bent. We now have gold Lyre pins, but they must be painted silver for wear on the BAA uniform if you choose to wear this optional item. We have a good supply of coins and patches.

Medals & Ribbons: We have all the medals. However, ribbons for our medals are available at Glendale Parade Store in New Jersey.

Flags: BAA and Gold Star Mothers flags are currently on order.

Educational: For those who do school programs I have free copies of my booklet called "A Very Special Red, White, and Blue" which is a workbook on the history of the American Flag. I am also working on putting the Flag History on DVD. This program has been a hit at the many schools where I have shown it.

Horn Accessories: I have a couple 7C Kelly mouthpieces.

Please send requests via email to Tom Day at TomJDay@sbcglobal.net



Curious about Military Burial Benefits? A quick on-line search will produce many options. Here are the most reliable and up-to date sources we know of.



Military.com [Military Funeral Honors](#)



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs - [Memorial Benefits](#)



But, perhaps, **the best collection of the pertinent information** would be found in Congressional Research Service Report RS21545, - [Military Funeral Honors and Military Cemeteries and FAQ](#)

"Bugler On Duty" Magnetic Sign

Newly designed for use on your vehicle. These car magnets are printed on heavy-duty material and ideally suited for car door signage. The cost is \$19 for one magnet and \$35 for 2 magnets.

To place an order please contact
Vytas Sulaitis at:

VS Printing Services, LLC
1218 Ostrander Avenue
La Grange Park, IL 60526
vsprinting@hotmail.com
(708) 655-4774

Bugler on Duty



Sounding "Taps" For Heroes
BuglesAcrossAmerica.Org



"24 Notes" a Tribute to Military Veterans and Our Men & Women in Uniform

New Outlaw Country Band, Boot Hill Bandits, released their new single, "24 Notes" honoring live Taps at the funerals of Military Veterans and First responders.

An American made musical anthem that pays tribute to each and every Military Veteran who has passed on, "24 NOTES" honors our Veterans and First responder heroes who have served and whom proudly serve today, to protect life, liberty and freedom. "24 Notes" is also dedicated, and shines a light on Bugles Across America and it's founder, Tom Day. This Veterans organization has thousands of volunteers, who give of their time and talents to sound Taps, otherwise known as "The 24 notes", at Veteran's funerals all across America, instead of the usual pre-recorded version used at most Veterans ceremonies.

To buy 24-Notes: <https://www.cdbaby.com/cd/boothillbandits>

Visit Boot Hill Bandits™ at <http://www.boothillbandits.com>



Attention: State Directors Needed!

We are looking for experienced BAA buglers to fill the role of State Director in the states that currently do not have a full time Director.

If you believe you may be interested in and have time for a leadership role with BAA, please email galaxypilot@verizon.net to be considered with your experience and why you'd like to be a director for your state.

States in need:

- * Massachusetts
- * Mississippi
- * Montana
- * New Mexico
- * North Dakota
- * Rhode Island
- * South Carolina
- * Wyoming

Internet Service Provider and Firewall Problems

If you receive email through a service provider such as Earthlink or AOL or if you have firewall software such as Norton's Internet Security or Anti-virus, **please** add BOTH of our email address, info@buglesacrossamerica.org and requests@buglesacrossamerica.org to your address book and unblock email list.

In an effort to control SPAM these companies are blocking certain emails before they reach your inbox or discarding emails into a separate folder other than your inbox based on certain criteria. If you have any questions on this subject please feel free to contact us.

Not Getting a Chance To Volunteer?

Are you not seeing as many opportunities to honor our veterans as you'd like? Fact is, in many areas, the word about what BAA does needs to reach the attention of unknowing funeral directors, VAs, VFWs, ALs and cemetery locations.

Please feel free to share with them about Bugles Across America. Already available to you on our web site is a BAA business card template and a letter that you can modify with your contact information if you choose. Let them know that we are available at NO cost to the directors or families.

KEY LINKS

Bugles Across America Pages

[Bugles Across America](#)

[BAA Bugler Directives](#)

[BAA on Facebook](#)

[BAA on YouTube](#)

BAA Individual State's Facebook Pages

[BAA New York on Facebook](#)

[BAA Kentucky on Facebook](#)

[BAA Hawaii on Facebook](#)

[BAA Oklahoma on Facebook](#)

[BAA Utah on Facebook](#)

[BAA Michigan on Facebook](#)

[BAA North Carolina on Facebook](#)

[BAA: New Jersey](#)

Gear & Decorative

[Getzen](#)

[Getzen Order Form](#)

[Kanstul](#)

[Service & Sacrifice Warmer](#)

Organizations

[Spirit of '45](#)

[Boot Hill Bandits](#)

[Drum Corps International](#)

[Flags For Vets](#)

[Association of Military Musicians](#)

[Freelancers Alumni Drum and Bugle Corps](#)

[The Tribute Lady](#)

[Regimental Drum Major Association](#)

[The Bent Prop Project](#)

[Coalition to Salute America's Heroes](#)

If you have any articles or bugler stories that you would like to see in the next Newsletter, please email JenDayBAA@iCloud.com

All stories **MUST** be written, edited, **ready for publishing** and preferably a photo along with it. I am also looking for bugle, bugler or Taps trivia & facts. If you know of any, please email me. If this information comes from somewhere specific, please site that. Thank you.