

BUGLER'S POST

Official Newsletter of Bugles Across America



BAA Briefing



My Fellow Buglers....

Time flies when you're having fun. You are having fun.. right? I know I certainly am because we are getting all kinds of Bugler Requests. The good news continues to be that about 95% are being covered by the BAA volunteers. For this we are all grateful.

Here in the Chicago area we already will have had our first planning meeting for the Chicago Memorial Day Parade. This year we again will have The Cavaliers Classic Senior Drum and Bugle Corps and the National Champion Joliet American Legion Marching Band. Stand by for further news on this grand parade.

April 6, 2017 marks 100 years since the United States formally entered World War One. I will be presenting bugle calls for the city of Cicero, Illinois that morning. I was invited to sit in on a meeting held by the Pritzker Military Museum in Chicago, and they have committed over seven million dollars for various commemorative events to be held across the country. They have been a faithful supporter of BAA for several years through one of their many foundations.

My question to you is, this... are you already involved in, or have you looked for a way in your town to help commemorate the centennial observances throughout the year? I would hope that each of you may find the opportunity to sound your Bugle for such an event or events near you during the next year. If you have something lined up, I urge you to let us know. If there is no event planned that you are aware of, look for a suitable marker or location set aside to honor those who



IN THIS ISSUE

1 BAA BRIEFING

A message from Tom Day

3 UPCOMING EVENTS

Local events

4 GREAT HORN GIVEAWAY

Win a horn!

5 FIND THE BUGLE

Find! Enter! Win!

8 STATE DIR. SPOTLIGHT

Oregon

9 BEHIND THE BUGLE

Your stories told

21 GRATITUDE

Letters from the families

24 MEDIA RELATIONS

BAA spotted in the news

25 KEY NOTES & FAQ

Becoming a responsible member

29 SHOW YOUR COLORS

How to order yours

32 THE SUPPLY CLOSET

Available items

33 NOTES, LINKS, ETC

Things that may interest you

served in The Great War, and take charge of organizing an event. Perhaps it might be a refurbishment or clean-up project of a long neglected marker. Or, dedication of such a marker, avenue, or park.

Our web site has recently suffered a few bumps, stumbles, and dings. We are working on plans to make it better. Howard Reitenbaugh will fill you in when plans are complete. In the mean-time, if you have questions on the appearance or management procedures, please send a note to Howard. He would get bored if we didn't ask for his help!

Julie Day pulled two BAA business cards from the box as winners for the Trumpet Drawing. Look for announcement of the winners on page four. And, if you have not yet submitted your own BAA card, send it to me at Headquarters.

Yes, we have BAA medals and patches available. In fact, Marmion Military Academy in Aurora, Illinois is using our medals for all their awards this year. The Cadets love them and wear them proudly.

In summary, I finished 2016 with 135 missions and so far in 2017 I have 31. How do your numbers compare? This is not a race to see who can do the most, but I use this to encourage every member to keep in mind the reason for our existence and, hopefully, the reason you became a member of BAA in the first place. Serve when and where you are able. If you feel there are not enough opportunities in your area..... make it your mission to educate.

Ok it's March now and this soon to be 77 year old Bugler has to get back to work. God Bless you all for taking care of the Families of the Fallen.

Tom Day,
Founder and President BAA.

Upcoming Events

BAA at The National Trumpet Competition!

When: March 23-25 2017

Where: Denver, CO.

What: Over 500 excellent trumpeter (and potential BAA members!) ages 12-25 will compete in solo and ensemble categories.

Now Hear This!

NTC is relaunching the "Pro-Am" division, for adults wishing to improve their playing and **potentially** perform and compete at NTC. BAA members are encouraged to attend the event and there is no cost to do so.

Why participate?

Improve your playing by attending clinics from top college teachers and the trumpeters from The Canadian Brass. Enjoy amazing concerts featuring Randy Brecker, Marvin Stamm, the US Air Force Academy Band, the Colorado Symphony Trumpet Section, and other great groups!



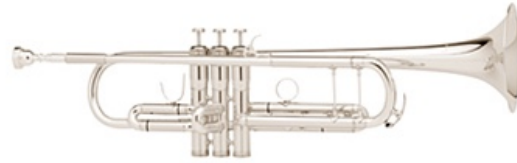
A new partnership to drive recruitment to BAA

NTC is supporting BAA recruiting efforts with donations of an exhibitor table and a quarter-page advertisement in the event program. FYI - NTC Director, Dr. Dennis Edelbrock, holds the unique distinction as one of the Army's 3 Special Buglers for 35 years, accruing the Army's all-time record of over 10,000 Taps during his career in The U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own" in Washington D.C., and is currently professor of trumpet at George Mason University!

Need to know more?

For more information on attending and our presence at NTC, please email BAA volunteer member (and NTC Pro-Am coordinator), Michael Fox at polishedbrassva@gmail.com or visit the National Trumpet Competition website; <http://www.nationaltrumpetcomp.org>

THE GREAT HORN GIVEAWAY!



The Great Horn Giveaway contest for February 2017 is complete!

The winners drawn from all who entered are....

Anne Erickson - New York

Jerry Mays - Iowa

Congrats to these fine BAA members!

The next drawing is in April. 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.



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 **March 30th**. 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

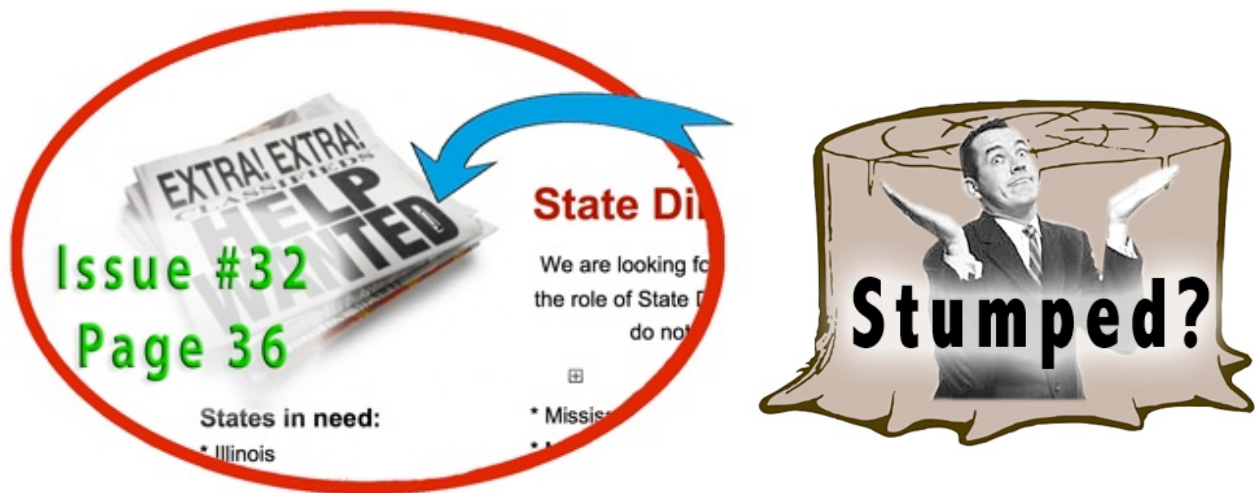
CONGRATULATIONS! Winners!

We want to extend a hearty congratulations to the three winners of Issue #32 who were selected at random from all the correct entries.

And the winners are....

Paul McGrath – Missouri
Craig Bryant – Oregon
Jerry Kasanjian – Massachusetts

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.



A Note From Our January Grand Prize Winner!

"I want to thank Bugles Across America and especially Tom Day for the beautiful trumpet I received after being selected as the Grand Prize winner for the most recent six-month period of the "Find The Bugle" contest. It's a wonderful instrument that I had the privilege to use at a service for an Army veteran in Forney, Texas. My only regret is I wasn't able to use it for my own dad's burial earlier this past September. It plays beautifully and it's a honor and a privilege to be member of Bugles Across America. Thank you again."

Phillip Lowe



State Director Spotlight: Oregon

Kyle Yeager - State Director

How long have you been with BAA?

I have been with BAA for four years

Why did you join?

I was contacted by Tom Day after he met me at the Taps 150 Commemoration at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington D.C. in 2012. He sent me an email when he found that Oregon was in need of a State Director. Tom thought I was already a BAA member. When I told him I wasn't, Tom asked me if I would be willing to audition. After I auditioned, I was offered the Oregon State Director position.

How long have you been playing?

I began playing trumpet in 1975 (5th grade in Libby, Montana).

What is the hardest part about being a BAA Director?

The hardest part about being the Oregon State Director is recruiting new members.

What is the best part about being a BAA Director?

The positive feedback I get from the public about all of our buglers providing "Live Taps." Oregonian's seem to overwhelmingly support this alternative to the electronic bugle.

What has been your best experience with BAA?

My best experience with BAA was being invited to attend one of my young buglers (Erik Thompson) Eagle Scout ceremony in Albany, Oregon in March of 2015. It was an honor to be invited to such a prestigious event.

What is your goal for your state?

My goal is to recruit more buglers. More buglers on the roster means a larger percentage of missions will get covered.

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

I think that a person pretending to sound Taps with a "Fake Bugle" is disingenuous. Our service members deserve better. Today, American lives with a "fast food" mentality. As such, I believe it becomes more "convenient" for individuals to purchase an electronic bugle than to submit a request for a live rendering of Taps. In my opinion, I don't think many of our citizens are patient enough to wait for a bugler to be assigned.





Steve Bow - Ohio

I sounded Taps today for a Vietnam Veteran with a perfect flag fold performed by Sgt [Steven Jessie](#) and Sgt Maj Bennett. This Veteran died of cancer at age 68 from Agent Orange during the Vietnam War. He had to have his tongue removed and could not eat or swallow normally, nor could he speak. He used an iPad to communicate in his last days. Through the 13 years of dealing with this, he lived a full life. This Veteran, being from the Vietnam War, did not get a heroes welcome home in 1971. He had a hero's send off today by AL194 of Mason rifle and colors, Patriot Guard, three uniformed US Army and live Taps. This man gets a slow hand salute. Remember folks, when you see a Veteran, thank them and shake their hand or fist bump for protecting our Freedom.



Aidan Peterson - Pennsylvania

I had the honor of being part of the funeral detail at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery on Wednesday, January 25. I was told it was a slow day, they only had two funerals, but that my being there alongside the Marine Corp League was a big help. I also took time to locate the bench that BAA donated. I can tell you it's beautiful

and in a great location. I'm so proud to be a member of such a wonderful organization!

This young man has been serving many missions for us, beginning with a Coast Guard service in the Philly area only 5 or 6 days after being put on the Bugler list two years ago.
Howard Reitenbaugh



An Unsung Hero of Iwo Jima

By Bugler Richard Brotzman

I would like to tell the story of one of the many unsung heroes of World War II. But this was not just any unsung hero; this man had a unique claim to fame, and his story, as he told it to me a few years ago, is an unlikely one, but is 100% true.

As a young man, this hero played on the high school football team in the small south Texas town of Weslaco. One day during the middle of his senior year, he and his best friend decided to skip school with a few of their football buddies to go to the movies. They drove to the nearby town of Harlingen to make sure they wouldn't run into anybody who would recognize them. Realizing that they would need a cover story for their absence, they also stopped by a Marine recruiting office and picked up some brochures.

Sure enough, the next morning, the school principal was waiting for them and called them into his office, where he told them, "I'm really disappointed in you boys." The boys protested and asked, "But don't you want to know where we were and why we were not in school?" They handed one of the recruiting brochures to the principal whose demeanor changed as he apologized, saying, "Well, I guess I misjudged you boys. When are you planning to go in?" Believing they were off the hook, they replied, "Why, just as soon as we can. As soon as we graduate." But what they hadn't expected was that the principal would call their bluff by arranging for them all to graduate early. A special graduation ceremony was held for the boys, and just days later, they had graduated and now had to make good on their promise to enlist in the Marine Corps "just as soon as we graduate."



Glen "Doc" Cleckler standing in front of the image of Harlon Block in the original Iwo Jima monument.

The hero who was involved with this school skipping escapade was James Glen "Doc" Cleckler, and his best friend, who had accompanied him to the movies that day was Harlon Block, the Marine at the base of the flag pole in the famous Iwo Jima Memorial statue that stands in Arlington National Cemetery.

But the story doesn't end there. Some months later, after being deployed to different areas in the Pacific, Cleckler and Block had the good fortune of running into each other on leave in Hawaii. Block gave Cleckler his Marine Corps ring, telling him he felt he wasn't going to make it home alive, and making Cleckler promise to give the ring to his mother if anything should happen to him. Cleckler reluctantly agreed. Although both men fought on Iwo Jima, Harlon Block was sadly killed in action, just a few days after raising the flag on Mount

Suribachi. True to his word, Cleckler returned home after the war, and went to see Block's mother. Mrs. Block thought the ring would just be a sad reminder, and suggested that Cleckler keep it. Cleckler wore the ring daily for many years to keep Block's memory alive, until he donated the ring to the Marine Military Academy museum in 2010.

Cleckler's story was featured on an [NBC Today Show segment](#) that aired in November 2015.

After the war, Cleckler earned a college degree and returned to south Texas, where he became a football coach, and later a high school principal in Harlingen, Texas. He served in that capacity for many years as a firm but fair disciplinarian who touched the lives of many thousands of students, and was beloved and highly respected not only by his students, but also by faculty, staff, and other professional colleagues. He retired in 1987. He was a faithful member of his church, and served his community in many ways over the years. You see, Glen Cleckler was not just a hero for his military service, but even more for what he gave to his community through a lifetime of selfless service.

On October 6, 2016, James Glen "Doc" Cleckler passed away at the age of 91, and on October 10, 2016 it was my honor to sound Taps at the memorial service for this hero whom I had known for nearly 50 years. Mr. Cleckler, it was truly a privilege to have known you, sir. Rest in peace, my friend.

[Author's note: To clear up any confusion about the Marine monument that appears in the Today Show segment mentioned in the story: after having stored it for many years, Felix de Weldon, the sculptor who crafted the famous Iwo Jima Memorial monument, donated his original plaster casting model for the statue to the Marine Military Academy in Harlingen, Texas. The casting model was shipped in pieces, assembled, coated in bronze, and now stands on the parade grounds of the Marine Military Academy. Hence the reason the statue here is referred to as "the original," and is actually slightly larger than the more famous statue in Arlington. Shortly after the monument was erected in Harlingen, Harlon Block's remains were transferred, and his grave now lies amidst a group of oak trees in the shadow of the great monument in Harlingen.]

Sr. Sue Kilduski, OSB - Illinois

Finally, I had the honor of sounding Taps at the Harold Washington Library in Chicago. The director of the National Veterans' Art Museum had asked for a bugler to sound Taps on Friday and Saturday at 11:30 am to pay respect to the 58,307 names of the fallen recognized on the National Veterans Art Museum's Above and Beyond Memorial. The memorial has a replica dog tag with the Name of every service man and woman who lost their lives in Vietnam. The library will be housing the memorial for the next four years.

It was so touching to play in the library. The notes of Taps bounced loud and clear through out the entire 9 floor library. When I was leaving, people were asking if I had played this. They were all in different areas of the library, but all of them heard it quite clearly.

This piece of art is absolutely awesome. Your heart can't help but be touched by the dog tags hanging from the ceiling in one big cube of shiny metal strings. The picture of the memorial is included in this article.

I have truly been blessed to have these opportunities to honor those who served for all of us. In this time of Thanksgiving I want to give thanks for Tom Day and BAA for all the good we are doing all over our country and even abroad.



Ron Tranmer - Utah

Live Taps

Recorded and live bugles
are not hard to tell apart.
One is powered by batteries.
The other from the heart.

Carl Copp - Massachusetts

75th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony



On December 7, 2016, a special ceremony was held at Smugglers Beach, Yarmouth, Massachusetts to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. A group of veterans from several Cape Cod veterans organizations gathered to provide a

somber remembrance of that date.

In addition to descriptions of the attack and reports of some survivors from our area, a wreath was laid in the water of Nantucket Sound and Taps was sounded. Photos were taken by senior photographer for the Cape Cod Times, Steve Heslip.

This represented the 288th time I sounded Taps, mostly at Bourne National ceremony, but also as far away as France, Florida, Ohio, Maryland, Washington, and Pennsylvania.



The lip still works at my age of 86, but the bugle needs a little upgrading.



Sal Lagonia - New York

I had the honor of sounding Taps at a well-attended Veteran's Ceremony in Yorktown, New York.

Valentine Koltunowicz - New Jersey

75th Anniversary Of Pearl Harbor

We gathered again this year at Staten Island on December 7th to remember the 75th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor or as FDR described it “a day that will live in infamy”. We come together to pay respects to all those who made the ultimate sacrifice on that fateful Sunday morning in 1941. I was honored once again to represent BAA and humbled to meet and speak with some of our Military Veterans about their experiences.



All the vets at the terminal.

We meet at the St. George ferry terminal in Staten Island and board the ferry for Manhattan. This year we were fortunate to be aboard the John F. Kennedy, named after our 35th president who also served in the U.S. Navy on the PT109. Commander Frank Peters opened the ceremony with a brief statement and a prayer, I played the Star Spangled Banner and by this time we were

already heading back to Staten Island. We assemble on the aft deck and pause briefly in front of the Statue of Liberty to pray, toss the ceremonial wreath into the water followed by my sounding of Taps. Back in the main cabin I played all the service hymns, always starting with the U.S. Navy. The ceremony concluded with all of us singing God Bless America. It was a memorable day for all aboard.



Veterans Edwin Petrazzolo
& Carlo Andersen



Bugler Valentine Koltunowicz BAA NJ
preparing to sound Taps with the Statue Of
Liberty in the background.

The John F. Kennedy Ferry



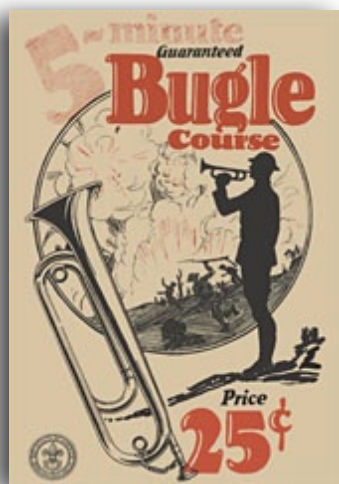
Forest Malott - Michigan

I have a Getzen Elite AHFT that I employ at Great Lakes National Cemetery for services. (with BAA logo engraving of course!). Generally I've used it in Bb format, however there have been times when my chops have gotten a bit stiff towards the end of some cold Michigan winter days, so I've pulled out the slide to "A" as it's a bit easier to blow. I also didn't like the slide grease on the white gloves & the exposed brass just didn't seem "squared away" with the silver horn.

I gave Getzen a call to see if they could make me an "A" slide. They had never gotten such a request but after they deliberated a couple of days I was told to go ahead & order it!

Here is a photo with the complete slide set, G, Bb, & A...

Thanks Getzen, you are the best for sure!



Charles E. "Chuck" Kinzer - California

I just got this little Boy Scout "Guaranteed Bugle Course" pamphlet on eBay and thought I would send it to Tom Day. Perhaps for the "collection".

I emailed the seller that I have played a bugle for a long time and, despite what it said it would do, it did NOT make me popular, be the life of the party, or meet girls... But it did garner things at veterans' military funeral honors.

I thought it might give you a laugh.

Tom Day - BAA Founder, Illinois

On January 7, 2017, I served a mission for the Army National Guard. The request said to be at a Chapel on Madison St. by 1:15 pm. I always show up an hour early so, I get to this Chapel and there are cars all over. I ask where the service for Army Veteran Willie Floyd will be. The response, "Oh that's Wille in the hearse leaving for the burial. Are you the military?" I said that I was and asked if there were any other military personnel here. Apparently not yet. "You follow me right behind the hearse to the cemetery". I "Roger that", and get to my car.

The procession departs for the cemetery. It is soon in sight. I've been there many times. So, we pull in and drive around all the way back to the office.

I see the two Army women. The funeral procession stops and there's a flurry of obvious confusion. I get out of my car and ask, "What is going on?" The quick response.... "No one has dug a grave yet". I asked the cemetery administrator, "How are you going to proceed?" They tell us that they'll call some grave diggers and have it taken care of. This part of the answer is the real 'laugher', "It only takes ten minutes to dig the hole and set up the supports." I said, "Really!" I grew up next to a big cemetery and have done over 5,000 funerals. I knew better than expecting that a grave could be prepared and set up for a service in ten minutes.

I went out to the Army car and told them to "Stand By". I went to the Funeral Director and kindly asked that he advise the family that Honors will be done in the warm, open area of the cemetery office. I then get the Army detail and we went inside. The family was warm and happy. The female Army detail did a great flag fold and presentation, and I sounded Taps. The daughter who received the flag never put down her cell phone camera. The Army and I left satisfied that we performed our service with pride and dignity. As it turned out, the family waited another hour in 8 degree temperature until the grave was opened. So I call this event, "Where is Willie". God Bless Willie he is now at rest.

One of the neatest parts of Willies funeral was when I was talking to the two Army women Flag Folders and I had reached into my pocket and took out two BAA Bugle Pins. They both said they wanted these since they first saw them. Feels good to make people smile.

David Shotwell - New Jersey

For many years, the local fishing club held a memorial service on the Ocean Grove pier on the anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack. Hurricane Sandy destroyed the clubhouse portion of the pier in 2012. The club continued the service for 3 years, but sadly, the club abandoned



Taps is sounded as Neptune HS NJROTC member Autumn Rogers stands ready to release a wreath into the Atlantic.

the memorial service in 2016. The Neptune High School NJROTC unit worked with the Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association to keep the memorial service going on December 7, 2016. I have worked as a lifeguard on the Ocean Grove beach since 1976. It was a privilege to be invited to sound Taps as the NJROTC released a wreath into the Atlantic at the conclusion of the service.



Neptune High School NJROTC color guard at the Pearl Harbor memorial service at the Ocean Grove pier, December 7, 2016.

Jim Gallombardo - New Jersey State Director

Congratulations to New Jersey BAA Buglers

Bob Caggiano, Greg Murphy, Larry Schillings and Bruce Walker!

They have been approved to receive the **New Jersey Honor Ribbon** for their volunteerism in sounding live "Taps" a minimum of thirty times during military funeral honors in New Jersey!

They will be honored at the next New Jersey State Medal Ceremony held by the NJ Director of Military and Veterans Affairs on April 20th at the Woodbridge Mall at 11:00 am.

Glenn Ledbetter - Washington

I sounded "Taps" last week and then wrote an article about it for [my blog](#).

"Taps" for Skyline's Annual Memorial Walk in Seattle, Honoring Veterans

November 10, 2016

Skyline at First Hill is a Presbyterian retirement community in downtown Seattle near St. James Cathedral and Harborview Hospital. Between its two wings, one for independent living (Skyline Towers) and the other for assisted living (Skyline Terraces), is a courtyard. That's where I stood in the rain on November 2nd, 2016 to sound "Taps" on my Getzen bugle after the responsive reading of "We Remember Them" by Sylvan Kamens and Rabbi Jack Riemer, which is found in the Jewish Prayer Book. Then "Taps" closed the second annual "Skyline Memorial Walk" ceremony hosted by Skyline's chaplain, The Reverend Elizabeth Graham.



Earlier, the residents and staff of Skyline had been invited to submit the names of veterans and others whom they wished to be remembered in advance of Veterans Day, November 11th. Their names—about 200—were read aloud, interspersed with periodic bell ringing, before the audience. Twenty, mostly elderly people gathered in the Madrona Community Room. Two men and eighteen women, silent in their memories of their dear veterans of WWI, WWII, and every conflict since, and others.

The names were then written on individual placards staked into the fertile soil in the planters in the courtyard, where they remained for a week so that the residents, staff and guests could walk among them.

For full article, [click here](#)

Frank Hafner - California

As I was making my way to my position to sound Taps, a woman rolled down the window of her car and said, *"You better play good because he played Taps for his friends"*. I replied, I'll do my best and I work hard to sound Taps well.



Hart L. Daley - Maine

Here are a few photos of some ceremonies I sounded Taps at.

Maine Law Enforcement Officer's
Memorial in Augusta, ME - May, 2016

Korean War Memorial in Washington D.C. during Wreaths
Across America



50th Commemorative Ceremony (Vietnam) held in South Paris,
Maine

Bob Caggiano - New Jersey

As you know, bugle requests are sent to every BAA registered bugler within a 100 mile radius of the site of the interment. For many of us, that 100 mile radius covers more than one state. In my case, I cover the tri-state areas of Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey, even though I am an NJ BAA bugler. It is always my honor to sound Taps along with the military honors team rendering final farewell to our departed veterans.



This is a photo taken recently for an Air Force veteran's service at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery for Orange County, New York veterans in Goshen, New York.



A Facebook post from Wreaths Across America - Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, 2017

While the focus is on the bugler sounding Taps to Honor the interred veteran, surrounding the bugler and the wreath are many graves without a wreath, without someone 'saying the name' to keep the memory of that veteran alive. The goal for 2017 is "A Wreath On Every Grave".

To accomplish this we need not only the individual fundraising groups (and more of them) but corporate sponsors, and even sponsors of entire sections for wreath coverage. And a year round effort.

Please help spread the word far and wide. You never know when a person in Oregon or Australia, with a relative buried in Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, who never heard of WAA-IGNC, may be in a position to sponsor the entire section in which that loved one rests. Thank you, BAA members, for supporting this event every year.

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 April 10th.

Please email JenDayBAA@iCloud.com

Letters of Gratitude



Thank you so much for such fast response to an unreasonable request!! We pulled it off, David's Taps was awesome, and we sent August Weisner off in grand style. He was the last WWII vet in our Honor Guard, and it was really special.

You folks are the best!!!! Thank you so much!!

Paul Musgrave
Major, USAF (retired)
VFW District 28 Honor Guard
McDade, Texas

Hello Tom,

This is Aaron Spevak from our recent tour of the BAA Learning Center I just wanted to say thanks for sharing your priceless history with us and that it's incredible and inspiring to see how much one human being is capable of accomplishing. I really hope more people can see this and I hope to meet you again soon.



I wish you and your family a happy new year, and we will keep in touch. I head back to Lithuania on Sunday and will be working to help my couple of selected European youngsters with their Cavaliers auditions.

Thank you again, and we will see you soon.

There are not enough words to thank Bugles Across America and Doug Carmichael for the honor given to our husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather and his friends when Heaven gained another angel. Our hearts are broken but his legacy lives on.

Sincerely,

Donna Morsovillo, Founder

Operation Welcome You Home NFP

Hi Tom, it was good to hear from you. Just a bit about why I know you. My daughter was in the Air Force and very much believes in what you do. My son is a Marine who lost both of his legs and I was very close to losing him. In North Dakota, I have the privilege to go to the Veteran Cemetery every month with the Patriot Guard and Gold Star parents and pay respects to the post 9/11 graves with roses, reflections and we also release a balloon of names for all those who have sacrificed their life in that month.

There are two special Gold Star mothers that have taken me as one of their own and would love to present them with a Gold Star flag. Please let me know what I need to do.

Thank you for all you do Tom.

Rhonda Haegele

Dear Mr. Day,

My father passed away on July 26, 2016 and one of your members, John Hollier in Louisiana, sounded Taps at my dad's memorial service on August 13, 2016. My dad was 97 years old and was in the Coast Guard from 1940 to 1945. Thank you for the contribution to your organization makes in honor of our World War II veterans.

Sincerely,

Debbie Pierce

When my father-in-law died in 2011, my wife and I had one of your buglers (Bob Caggiano USAF Veteran) sound Taps at his grave side in Caldwell, New Jersey. It was beautiful. He was in the Navy during World War II and would've loved it. My wife, Ellen, and I learned about BAA long before he passed away, and when the time came we asked the funeral director to coordinate it. Please except this donation in memory of my father in law, Sebastian Presty, to help provide this wonderful service to other families.

Sincerely,

William Ashworth

I sounded Taps at a mission yesterday in Morristown, New Jersey for Arthur Walks, US Army. His long time friend Ferdinand Slavic, presented me with a donation in memory of Arthur.

Larry Schillings

I just wanted to comment on Don Pennell, the Bugler who came to sound Taps to honor my brother at our request....my entire immediate family was at the gravesite on Christmas day (also my brother's birthday). Don was punctual and looked sharp and professional in his uniform. He played beautifully and I was very touched. At the end, my father wanted to give him a small monetary token of our family's appreciation, but Don would not accept. My family and I are very appreciative of Don's time and talent. We did not think that anyone would come on Christmas day to sound Taps, but Don did not hesitate. It meant a lot to my parents, who wished that Taps was sounded at his funeral over 6 years ago. We had a great experience all around with Bugles Across America.

Thank you very much!

Eileen H.

Dear Mr. Day,

It is been my pleasure to be associated with your organization. What you do is so special to my heart. Death is such a hard time in our lives and you help bring dignity and honor at that time. When I get my mail and see a handwritten envelope from you it makes me smile. What you do is kind and special. So I "Thank you".

Sincerely,

Cheryl Mezzadia

Thank you for your contribution to our father's memorial ceremony. You provided the memorable tribute he deserved and made the service extra special to everyone in attendance.

Phil, Lisa, Donna & Lynn



Bugles Across America strives to honor veterans

The Daily News, Jacksonville, NV

Posted Feb 23, 2017

Buglers provide the sounding of Taps for veteran services free of charge — the request just simply needs to be made.

By [Sarah Hauck](#)

An area organization is looking for a few good buglers to provide military honors at funeral services.

In 2002 Congress put into law that veterans have a right to be honored at their funerals with at least two uniformed service members to fold an American flag presented to the family as well as the sounding of Taps.

Due to the low number of military branches that can in fact provide the live sounding of Taps, Bugles Across America was created to provide the honor, with more than 35 buglers ready to respond to requests in the Jacksonville area.

According to **North Carolina State Director Glenn Traylor**, the Tar Heel state has 187 volunteer buglers that can be dispatched within 24 hours to a service within 100 miles to sound for a veteran's funeral.

"We are really well covered in the Jacksonville area," he said.

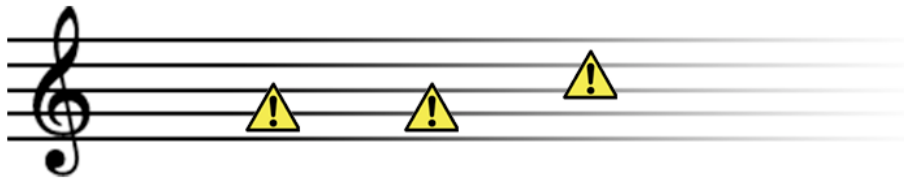
Even though the Jacksonville area has a dense population of buglers, Traylor said more volunteers are always welcome and needed.

Anyone can volunteer to be a bugler, he said, with volunteers in North Carolina ranging in age from 12 to 80. The only requirement is that the bugler be proficient in sounding Taps, which is determined at an audition, and be ready at a moment's notice when the call comes in from funeral homes, families or friends.

[Click here](#) for the full article and photos

If you have seen BAA in the news recently or have been featured in an article while sounding Taps with BAA, Please send the article or information to JenDayBAA@iCloud.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. If you need assistance with the log in credentials, please send a message to Contact Us and we will assist.
- 2.) Your name is in the upper right corner of the page. **Click on your name.**
- 3.) To make any changes, click on **"Edit Profile"**
- 4.) On this new screen, click **"Contact Information"**
- 5.) Type in the new address information.
- 6.) Scroll to bottom of the page and click on **UPDATE**. **This step is vital** to save your new information.
- 7.) Use the Contact Directors link on the website to notify Directors of both states (the one you have left and the one you have moved to) of your change in location.

Email: After accessing your profile, click on "Manage Account", Type in the new email. Click on **Update** at the bottom of the page.
(Ignore that Profile URL box)



Password: After accessing Profile (as in above), click on **"Manage Account"**, then **"Change Password"**. Fill in requested information. Click **Change Password**.

Delete Account: There is currently no way for an individual to Unsubscribe (delete their profile/registration). If you wish to say "Adios", you need to let us know by using the Contact Directors link.

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](#).



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.

States in need:

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

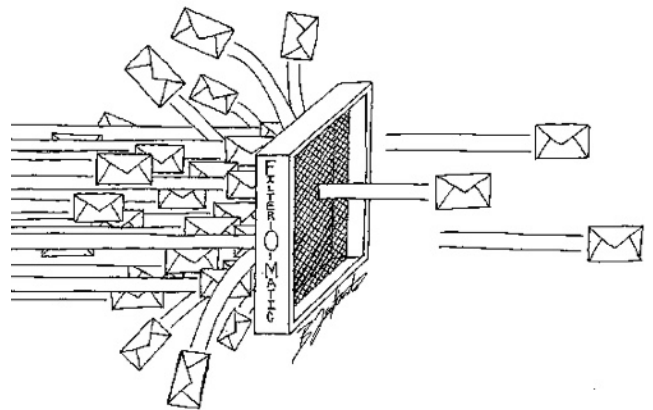
If you believe you may be interested in and have time for a leadership role with BAA, please email galaxypilot@verizon.net to be considered with your experience and why you'd like to be a director for your state.

Are you not receiving emails from BAA? You could be having....

Internet Service Provider and Firewall Problems

If you receive email through a service provider such as aol.com, yahoo.com, or even gmail, or you have firewall software such as Norton's Internet Security or Anti-virus, please add 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. The emails that are auto-generated to notify you of bugler requests, as well as important notices sent from time to time, and our newsletter The Buglers Post are sent to you from this address.



SHOW YOUR COLORS!

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>



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.





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. Small bugle pins with folded flag are available. These are excellent for suit lapels and caps.

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 two.

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>





THE UNITED STATES WORLD WAR ONE CENTENNIAL COMMISSION



Grants Available to Restore World War I Memorials

The American Legion's first generation was heavily involved with – if not fully responsible for – design, construction, and dedication of hundreds of monuments and memorials to honor those who served, fought and died in World War I.

Over the decades, many of these sacred landmarks have become weathered and aged, if not forgotten all together, and are in need of restoration. That is why the American Legion's National Executive Committee passed a resolution in May to promote and participate in a joint venture with the U.S. World War I Centennial Commission and the Pritzker Military Museum and Library: “100 Cities/100 Memorials”

Matching grants of up to \$2000 per applicant are available for the restoration of sacred places to honor those who have served in the Great War.

“The matching grant program is a great opportunity to take a close look at your communities monuments and memorials and pursue funding to restore them,” American Legion 100th Anniversary Observance Committee Chairman Robert W Spanogle said. “This kind of initiative not only fulfills our sacred pledge to ‘preserve the memorials and incidence of our associations in the Great Wars,’ as a preamble to our organizations constitution says, but it also can build public awareness about the American Legion's coming centennial in 2018 and 2019.



Details about the 100 Cities/100 Memorials project can be found online at WW1CC.org/100Memorials

The application deadline is June 15, 2017. Memorials need to be located in the 50 states or U.S. territories, and the preservation work must be completed or have been completed between January 1, 2014 and November 11, 2018

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](#)

[Scentsy 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 Tributes 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.