

BUGLER'S POST

Official Newsletter of Bugles Across America



BAA Briefing



Welcome to the last four months of this crazy and unbelievably busy year.

I actually was standing out there to serve my 115th event for 2017 when the moon crossed in front of the sun. That will be something to remember, for sure.

Now we are going into the 9-11 time, and soon enough on to Veterans Day. There will be many special services, parades, and ceremonies for us to be a part of as well as our primary mission of sounding Taps for military funeral honors. The number of requests coming to us each day continues to increase, and we continue to provide for those requests at a very high rate of acceptance. We recently shipped out the trumpets for September and October winners of the BAA business card drawings, and we had no female player's cards in the mix. The next lady player who sends in a BAA business card could easily win a new horn. The odds are very good.

The responsibilities of State Directors has been spread out and defined here in Illinois among our dedicated leaders. While one person does the new member auditions, another is doing expo booth work such as at fairs and conventions. One is constantly on watch for double booking of requests or errors, and quickly resolves any issues that may then be created. All are out there looking for folks who really want to actively serve the mission after they sign up. You may want to give this idea some consideration in your state.

While at the Elks Convention, National Coordinator Larré Robertson and his wife met a Gold Star family. The family



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related that they lost their son and there was no thought for the MOM. Well, we took care of that and made a special award of our BAA Gold Star Mothers Flag. Over the last five years we have made sure every Gold Star Mom we have been in contact with received their very own BAA Gold Star Mothers flag. I made a promise that BAA would have a flag for every Mom that wants one. We will have a 4x4 racer in the Minnesota area truck race with the BAA and Gold Star flags flying on the truck. A while back the Army at Fort Bragg was giving out some of these Gold Star flags. If you get names and addresses of Gold Star Mothers who have lost a son or daughter while in the service of our country, I will get you the beautiful 3 x 5 ft flag that may be flown under the US Flag or displayed on its own. God Bless all of our Moms.

I'm ordering Lyre Pins in silver so you won't have to go to the Color Guard Store. We have patches and Bugle Pins in stock. If you go back several issues of the newsletter, you will see several BAA medals and ribbons. Marmion Military Academy in Aurora, IL uses only BAA medals for their super cadets.

BAA congratulations go out to the Blue Devils DCI Corps of California for winning yet another World Title in Indianapolis in August.

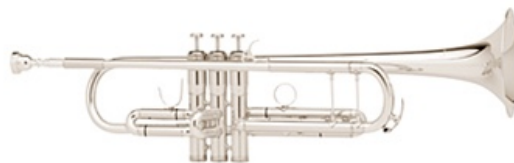
Professor Jens Lindemann at UCLA and I have an association that goes back several years. Jens was a leader in the world famous Canadian Brass ensemble. He wanted to become an American and called on me to be his sponsor. I did, and he has been very successful not only with Yamaha but at UCLA. Jens now would like to set up his new class of 15 trumpet students as new players with BAA. He wants to work with the students to show how they might learn about military funeral honors and then be of help. UCLA is in part funded by the Alpert Foundation and BAA is also a friend of Herb and his family. This could become a new move into the education field.

BAA will be helping Texas players where needed as we also helped with those who suffered the devastation of Katrina. That effort was led mostly by the late and great John P. Murphy Jr., former Florida State Director. We also gave support to help in New Jersey after hurricane Sandy. PLEASE keep up the prayers for the people on the Gulf Coast that are enduring this very tough time that will last over a year or more.

Keep up the great work we all do in honoring our veterans.
Play well, and God bless you all.

Tom Day
Founder and President

THE GREAT HORN GIVEAWAY!



The Great Horn Giveaway contest for August 2017 is complete!

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

Tim Park of Colorado

Jim Steele of Florida

Congrats to these fine BAA members!

The next drawing is in October. 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.



"Wow!!!! How cool is this??? What an awesome surprise!!! UPS man rings the bell and has me sign for a package. Hadn't ordered anything, wasn't expecting anything... But low and behold, shipping label says it is from Tom Day of BAA, Bugles Across America. Apparently I was one of the lucky winners and my name was drawn in one of Tom's horn giveaways.

Thank you, Tom and BAA for the brand new beautifully engraved Wisemann DTR 800

trumpet. I love it and it is very much appreciated!!!!" - Jim Steele

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 **September 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 #35 who were selected at random from all the correct entries.

And the winners are....

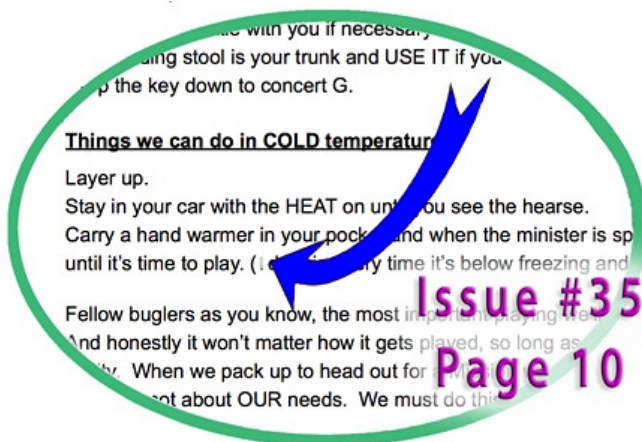
Paul Leader – New York

Randy Ide – Pennsylvania

David Rainville – South Carolina

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.

Where was it?!



A letter from our Grand Prize winner from Bugler's Post #35



Debbie Dawson - Washington

As a member of BAA for many years, I have enjoyed reading the Buglers Post and participating in the various contests. When I received an email notification in June that I had won a \$50 gift card in the Find the Bugle contest, I was thrilled because I wanted to buy the book "The Question of Honor" featuring WWII Polish Fighter Pilot, Capt Witold "Alex" Herbst. On June 3rd, 2017 I was privileged to perform the Last Post at his Memorial Service here in Seattle. A few days later while on my way home from bugling duty at Tahoma National Cemetery in Washington State, I received a phone call from Howard Reitenbaugh with BAA. He called to tell me that I had won a trumpet in the double blind drawing from the winners of the gift cards!

After several weeks, a big brown box from Tom Day arrived at my home. When I opened the canvas case and saw the gorgeous brushed brass with gold trim trumpet, I was speechless. I immediately played a few exercises and found this trumpet to be the sweetest sounding horn I have ever played. The pitch center is perfect, the valves are quick and smooth but what makes this horn amazing is the open and mellow tone. Today, I sounded Taps for six families attending their loved ones services at Tahoma National Cemetery. The sound of this horn outside is better than I could have ever imagined.

Thank you Tom and BAA for this beautiful gift of music and sound to our veterans and their families. It is honor to have this beautiful trumpet and to serve our veterans with it's sound.

State Director Spotlight: Tennessee

Phil Corbin - State Director

How long have you been with BAA?

This August 27 I will be celebrating my 4th year in Bugles Across America

Why did you join?

It's crazy, but I don't remember how I first came into knowing about BAA, but when I did, I knew it was what I wanted to do. There was no question that I wanted to use my talents for this purpose. My father served in the Army and what better way to honor my father than to give back.



How long have you been playing?

This may be hard to believe, but I actually picked up my first horn at the age of 2, so my mother tells me. But I didn't officially start playing until the 6th grade. So that means I've been playing for 40 years.

What is the hardest part about being a BAA Director?

One of the most challenging aspects of being a State Director is having to inform someone that they need to polish up their Taps in order to qualify. I know that may sound harsh, but when I audition someone I'm constantly thinking, "Is this the sound I want to be heard if I was the family?" That helps guide me in my decisions. It also can be difficult to manage the time it takes to manage the state while tending to your family, career and other activities.

What is the best part about being a BAA Director?

What I find most rewarding about being a State Director is having the privilege to volunteer with so many great buglers, not to mention the honor of sounding Taps for so many great men and women that have given the greatest sacrifice serving our country.

What has been your best experience with BAA?

In 2015, Tom Day and the other National Coordinators held a conference in the Chicago area and it was so incredible to meet other State Directors. Life long friendships were formed and if you haven't seen the BAA Learning Center, you're missing out!

What is your goal for your state?

One of the goals I have for the state of Tennessee is to have all areas of the state covered. We recently recruited an Assistant Director in Memphis and he is already been a great help. Now we just need to get a representative in Knoxville and we'll have the state well covered for leadership. One director cannot do it all, it takes a team of dedicated buglers to make this work.

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

I am very grateful that my employer supports what I do and even lets me take time off from work if the call arises.

David Cox - Assistant Director**How long have you been with BAA?**

Oh, my, it's probably been about 10 years by now. . . time flies.

Why did you join?

My main reason for joining was, there was a need and I had a talent. Not being a veteran myself, this was, in a small way, my way of being able to thank our veterans for their service. I have the unique honor of giving the final thank you with my bugle.

**How long have you been playing?**

I began playing the trumpet in Jr. High and keep it up throughout High School and one year of marching band in college.

What is the hardest part about being a BAA Director?

The biggest difficulty is getting volunteers with the ability and the dedication to follow through with their volunteering to serve. Being able to prove to the military and funeral directors that we are professional, capable players is another hurdle to overcome.

What is the best part about being a BAA Director?

When I see a request come through and then within minutes receive notice that the mission has been accepted, it's a great feeling. Years ago when I started as Tennessee State Director we had little to no activity in the western part of the state where Memphis is located. In the

year, under the leadership of State Director Phil Corbin, the majority of the requests we are getting is from that area, particularly from the Marine Corps. I love seeing a major portion of the state become active as Memphis has.

What has been your best experience with BAA?

Probably one of my most memorable experiences would be attending the Taps 150 commemoration at Arlington National Cemetery. To be able to sound Taps at the Coast Guard monument on Coast Guard Hill was incredible. Standing there and hearing my fellow buglers scattered throughout the cemetery was hauntingly beautiful.

What is your goal for your state?

I would like to see that every funeral home and military honor guard in the state has heard of us. I have not experienced a mission yet where the other participants didn't welcome a live bugler with great appreciation.

Personal likes, dislikes & other personal info you don't mind sharing

Many times I get asked "So, how many funerals have you done?" and I have to honestly answer, "I have no idea". When I started as a BAA bugler I just decided simply not to count. I just felt like number "999" should be just as important as "1000". Each mission is as important as the last and equal to the next.

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

I would like to remind my fellow buglers to always look sharp, act sharp, and sound the call striving for perfection. The veteran we honor deserves nothing less.

Donna Butler - Assistant Director

How long have you been with BAA?

Since 2009

Why did you join?

I am happy to have the opportunity to serve and use my talents to honor our military veterans. When I learned about BAA, I was super excited to join and knew it was a great organization committed to honoring veterans and providing live Taps at military funerals.



How long have you been playing?

Since the 8th grade and on and off in adulthood. I currently play in my church's orchestra in addition to volunteering for BAA.

What is the hardest part about being a BAA Director?

Being a BAA director is rewarding and not that demanding for the most part. Organizing meet-ups, events and opportunities to fellowship and mingle with other BAA buglers. Getting people together with their busy lives and schedules is difficult!

What is the best part about being a BAA Director?

It is an honor to serve! The website and training provided are thorough and the BAA leadership is excellent! Leading by example, getting to know local buglers, making new friends and being a source of inspiration and information are all a great part of being a BAA director.

What has been your best experience with BAA?

Every funeral is a wonderful opportunity to honor our veterans. I get a lot of personal satisfaction knowing, in some small way, that I've made a difference in the lives of our veterans and their families. Being a BAA bugler and director has been a very positive and fulfilling experience. Some of the funeral ceremonies I have sounded Taps at have been amazing! Featuring aerial fly-overs, honor guard, folding of the flag, multi gun salute but the most touching moment is always the presentation of the American flag to the widow or family members.

What is your goal for your state?

I would like to see more personal interaction, meetings, workshops, practice sessions and meet-ups for BAA members...more ways to build camaraderie and interest. I would like to see the word get out to more facilities, organizations, funeral homes, etc. where we will be more fully utilized in our communities. I would also like to see more BAA performances at public events.

Bill Bullock - Assistant Director

How long have you been with BAA?

Since February 2017

Why did you join?

I saw a way for me to give back that was rewarding for me and meaningful to the families of veterans.

How long have you been playing?

I played around with a bugle since I was about 12. I began playing the trumpet about 10 years ago.



What is the hardest part about being a BAA Director?

I've just started, but I suspect it would be understanding the preferences and schedules of the buglers in my area and doing my best to ensure that we fulfill all mission requests.

What is the best part about being a BAA Director?

Being able to connect with buglers from all walks of life that have a similar desire to honor our Nation's veterans.

What has been your best experience with BAA?

In addition to Taps, one family of a Marine veteran asked me to play Reveille at the end of the service. They wanted a happy ending to the occasion, making it clear this was a celebration of a life well lived. There were tears and smiles, and it was clear that it made a difference.

What is your goal for your state?

Getting more requests from all branches of the service for live buglers, and adding more buglers to fill all the requests.

NEW STATE DIRECTORS

Bill Bullock - AD Tennessee

In August, 58-year-old Bill Bullock came on board BAA as an Assistant State Director in Tennessee.

He is an engineer who retired from Memphis Light, Gas and Water after a 35-year career last October. He now works part time for Entegriy Energy Partners as a Certified Energy Manager helping business save energy.

According to Bullock, he was given a bugle as a pre-teen.

"My godfather gave me an old Boy Scout Bugle, and I figured out how to play it. I went to camp a few summers and heard bugle calls for every activity of the day, so those songs stayed in my head. But I was not into music in high school or college, so I did not regularly play."

At home, he was raised listening to a lot of music, especially the big band sounds of the '40s. *"I loved the sound of the trumpet, and while I had a desire to play, I did not do anything about it until I had a steady job out of college. I bought my cousin's used trumpet, bought a book, and got to the Mary Had a Little Lamb stage. Then life happened, and the trumpet stayed in the closet for the next 20 years."*

Bullock picked up the trumpet again after his younger son went off to college, and began playing trumpet more seriously about five years ago when he joined the Mullins Community Orchestra in Memphis. "It is a teaching orchestra, and it is perfect for me as I progress as a trumpet player."

Bullock joined BAA in February of this year and has completed over 30 missions.

"As any bugler in BAA knows, sounding Taps at military honors ceremonies is a very fulfilling avocation. I did not serve in the military, and I feel that this is a small way for me to give back... and it is clear that what we do is appreciated."

In addition to BAA and Mullins Orchestra, Bullock's activities in "retirement" include neighborhood volunteer work, donating blood platelets at St. Jude Children's Hospital, playing handball, sailing, kayaking, golf and working to make the Memphis community more sustainable.



Bullock says that one of his favorite things during the year is to get together with other brass players in Memphis and play "Salvation Army Carolers Favorites" along side the bell ringers in December. *"It is great way to spread holiday cheer and help raise money for a worthy cause."*

Bullock's wife Teresa is a Graphic Designer with a home studio. His elder son Will is a marketing representative for a beer distributor in Memphis, and his younger son Price works in information technology for Shelby County, TN.

"In my short time with BAA, I have met some great people and learned of the sacrifices of many veterans who have passed on. I am fortunate to have the time and ability to honor our veterans, and it is a great honor for me to be a bugler for BAA and to assist BAA in any way I can."

Aaron Bonovitch - Montana

Greetings Buglers!

My name is Aaron Bonovitch and I have just taken the position of Director for the State of Montana. It is a challenge that I look forward to as I stay very busy in life. I grew up in Virginia and went to school at Virginia Tech. During that time, I played trumpet in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Regimental Band, the Highty-Tighties, and had the privilege of being drum major during my senior year. Today, I serve on active duty in the U.S. Air Force at Malmstrom AFB, Great Falls, Montana. We work with our nation's Minuteman III ICBMs and help to ensure we are always ready to keep America safe. My wife and I recently welcomed our first son to the world. He manages to keep us extremely busy and challenged, but we would not have it any other way. I look forward to the opportunity to expand the reach of BAA in Montana and work with fellow buglers. Thank you!





BEHIND THE BUGLE YOUR STORIES



E. Kenneth Bair II - Pennsylvania

It was with great honor and a privilege to participate in the 2017 100 Nights of Taps at the Gettysburg National Cemetery on August 10. The audience showed complete solemnness during the entire ceremony.

Les Langford - Utah

Follow the Flag

One of the largest U.S. free flying flags ever flown was unveiled at the mouth of Grove Creek Canyon, Pleasant Grove, Utah on July 4, 2017. The flag measured 78 feet wide and 150 feet long. That is bigger than 1-½ NBA basketball courts. The Utah Highway Patrol Honor Guard presented a 3-Volley Salute followed by Taps. The guest speaker was Gail Halvorsen, the "Berlin Candy Bomber." The flag was flown for a week. For more information click on www.followtheflag.org.





Jill and Matt Carpenter -

Our son, Jax, joined 4H this year and was required to complete a project. He wanted it to involve his chickens. We decided that we would sell their eggs and donate 100% of his egg sales for a month to a charitable organization. I gave him several options and he decided on an organization involving veterans. His choice for a veteran charity was made because his dad, Matt Carpenter, was in the ARMY infantry and deployed to Afghanistan and Kosovo. He also has several grandparents that were in different branches of the military. He then named his project "Eggs 4 Vets". His Grandpa helped him choose Bugles Across America.

Jax sold eggs to neighbors and friends and participated in a local farmer's market for the rest of his sales. A local radio station even interviewed him that day.

He sold a little over \$150 dollars and donated it all to Bugles Across America.



Amy Fictum - North Carolina

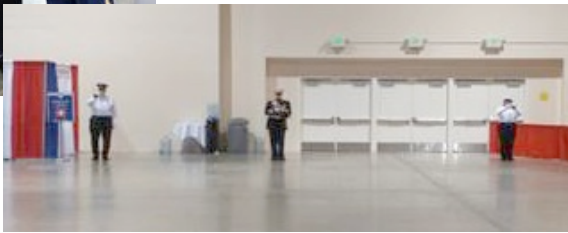
On the first Monday of the month (from April through October), the Town of Wake Forest joins with several local veterans' organizations to honor the sacrifices of deceased Wake Forest veterans and their families. Participating veterans' organizations include American Legion Post 187, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 187, American Legion Riders, VFW Post 8466, the Wake Forest Purple Heart Foundation, and Marine Corps League Detachment 1257. I had the honor of sounding Taps for that event on 8/7/17.

Reno Elks Convention a Successful Time for All



Steve Witort, Nevada State Director with Tom Day

Larré Robertson, Idaho State Director
and National Coordinator with Tom Day



Ray Ahrnehoiz, Nevada Bugler (L),
Tom Day (C) and Mary Sedgwick,
Nevada Bugler (R) sound Echo Taps
at closing of Elks convention



Larré's truck.
Julie Day (L), Tom Day (LR)
Steve Witort (R), Larré Robertson (RR)



Lunch courtesy of Steve Witort at the Oceana
Restaurant in the Atlantis Casino, NV.

Mary Sedgwick, Nevada Bugler (FL), Steve
Witort, Nevada State Director (LL), Julie Day,
(C), Tom Day (RB), Shannon Robertson (CR),
Larré Robertson (RF), Ray Ahenholz (FR)

A very interesting time was had by all. We ran low on brochures and pins the very first day and had to start rationing both out. By the third day we were out. Bugles Across America booth was extremely popular both in what we represent as an organization and what we stand for. Our bugle and folded flag pin was the pin to collect at the convention. Next year's convention will be held in San Antonio, TX. It would be great if every night we could use a local bugler to close the session for the day.

Gary Marquardt - Minnesota

This recent Memorial Day, I decided to go in uniform to two local cemeteries that I routinely visit starting at about 8:30 am, to see what was going on.

What I found was a beautiful scattering of families decorating graves, mostly of veterans.

So I went up to the first family I saw and asked them to tell me about their veteran. They said he was their father who fought in WWII and told me a little about him.

I asked if they would allow me to sound Taps for their Veteran. They said they'd love it if I did. So with this Veteran's kids and grand kids standing around his grave where they were the day he was buried in 1995, I sounded Taps just for him and them.

Some of the other visitors to the cemetery had wandered close and I turned to them and said that I'd be honored to sound Taps for each of their veterans one at a time. There was going to be a Boy Scout group doing a ceremony in a few hours with Taps they told me but they were all anxious to have a special "Last Call" for their specific Veteran.

I was there till about 10:30 and then headed over to the other local Cemetery. There had been a Mass said earlier as it was a Catholic Cemetery. Again, I sounded Taps for a man over his brother's grave (killed in Vietnam just a week before he was to come home) and their father who fought in WWII buried right next to his son.

In all I must have sounded Taps over 40 times that day and it was very gratifying to hear the short stories of these brave Americans and to share a moment of remembrance with the families.

As I worked my way through the cemetery, the families for whom I had already played followed me to the next grave and stood a respectful distance with their hands on their hearts while the next family blessed their soldier with this solemn tribute.

**** Gary was featured on local KARE 11 NBC TV Please see Page 22 for article and video ****

Sam Young - Kansas

On June 26th, 2017, I sounded Taps in the old Fort Wallace Military Cemetery to honor the four Company G 7th U.S. Cavalry soldiers killed by Cheyenne Indians on June 26th, 1867 when Company G attacked a much larger number of Indians who were attacking the Pond Creek (stage coach) Station near Fort Wallace. I have sounded Taps at their graves in the Fort Leavenworth Military Cemetery where the Army moved them after Fort Wallace closed. Here I accomplished one of my bugling "bucket list items"... by sounding Taps 150 years to the day where they were initially buried.

I am wearing the uniform of a Cavalry Chief Trumpeter and am playing a reproduction Clairon, the most common bugle played by the U.S. Army during the Civil War and most likely played by Company G's buglers in this fight near Fort Wallace. One of those buglers, Trumpeter Charles Clarke, was one of the four soldiers killed that day.



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 October 10th.

Please email JenDayBAA@iCloud.com

Letters of Gratitude



I have to thank you and your organization for your wonderful service to our country. Michael Coleman did a spectacular job in sounding Taps for us at the 200th Anniversary of the Re-Dedication of the Aquila Randall Monument last Friday, July 21, 2017. He is truly a humble and talented man and an asset to your organization. I can't thank you enough.

*Sincerely,
Rob Zacherl*

I want to thank this Organization for arranging a bugler to sound Taps at my husband DC Bush's Celebration of Life yesterday. A fantastic bugler, Debbie Dawson came out and made tears come to my eyes. I really appreciate that this could be arranged. Thank you, thank you, thank you!
Judy Bush

*Hello Debbie (Dawson),
Thank you for your presence at the Tanemura Service and sounding "Taps"; it was greatly appreciated. Please also forward our appreciation to Bugles Across America.
Sincerely,
Philip Watkins
Funeral Director*

Debbie (Dawson),

I just wanted to say thank you for the wonderful Taps tribute you sounded Taps for our father (and mother). It was perfect and helped create a wonderful memory for us.

I wanted to make a donation to Bugles Across America in memory of my father and in appreciation of your service.

Thanks.

Ron Tanemura

Mr. Roy Zanni sounded "Taps" this morning at Fort Rosecrans for my father's memorial service. What a wonderful gift your organization provides to the families of a veteran. Mr Zanni played so beautifully that it made me cry, knowing that my father's military service is truly appreciated. I wanted to make sure you knew how it really gave the Military Honor the final touch to honoring our dad, CDR. George H. Seidel US (ret). My brothers and I will be sending a donation tomorrow to give some support to keep the gift you provide going.

With many thanks,

Deborah Todd

This is Captain Steve Casares. I'd like to extend my personal thanks for the wonderful rendition of Taps which was played at my grandfather's funeral.

Having served in Arlington National Cemetery, and after performing over 85 missions (funerals) in the Cemetery, I can say that this was the best rendition of Taps I have heard. Meghan Merenich truly is doing God's work by rendering final honors for our service members.

As I am getting married in February, your organization will be on our wedding website for people to donate to, in addition to me donating individually this Thanksgiving.

Once again, thank you for your services, and I look forward to hearing about Meghan's decision on which college to attend in Virginia.

Best,

Stephen H. Casares

CPT, MI

HQDA, ODCS, G-2

Foreign Intelligence Watch Officer

Pentagon



Taps sounding retiree atones for missed service in Vietnam

Boyd Huppert, KARE
May 26, 2017

EXCELSIOR, Minn. - Commuters are still rushing about on their way to work as a lone figure climbs a steep hill in an old cemetery.



Gary Marquardt spots a flag on a grave, raises his trumpet - and plays.

"I love to hear Taps echo through the cemetery," he says. "I'm doing something for these guys. It's kind of like being among friends.

Marquardt will repeat the routine a dozen times over the next 45 minutes: find a veteran, say his name and then sound Taps.

"I always think about the funeral, the people standing around here so sad at the loss of their loved one and then it's over and you're left with this," Marquardt says looking down at a grave.

The cemetery visits started three years ago after Marquardt attended a military funeral and heard a mechanical bugle. It bothered him that a recording was being used for Taps and not a live bugler.

"It just seemed that after what they've given that wasn't much to ask," he says.

Having never before played, Marquardt walked into a music store and bought his first horn.

Marquardt's wife Joanie is the best authority on his early attempts. "It was awful," she laughs.

The Marquardts' next door neighbors, Bruce and Carol Hedblom, were exposed to Gary's playing too. "No inhibitions," laughs Bruce.

"I would have given up," adds Carol. "I would have moved out," chimes in Bruce.

Instead, Gary took lessons and kept playing.

"Seemed like every 15 minutes, it was all the time," says Joanie Marquardt. "We were all hoping he would get better. And then he did."

[Click for full story and video.](#)

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



Q: I've recently heard that the firing of rifles at a military funeral service is not to be referred to as a 21-gun salute, but rather as a Three-Volley salute. Is this correct? Have I been wrong all these years or have I been misinformed?

A: The three-volley salute is a ceremony accorded at military funerals and sometimes also police funerals. The custom originates from the early wars, where the fighting ceased so the dead and wounded could be recovered. Then, three shots were fired into the air to signal that the battle could resume as all the dead had been properly moved from the battle field. We may think of this current practice as a way to ceremonially signify that this 'warrior' has fought the final battle and is being relieved from the battle field.

This 3-volley salute should not be confused with the 21-gun salute (or 19-gun or 17-gun, etc.) which is fired by a battery of artillery pieces or naval guns. In the United States it is part of the drill and ceremony of the Honor Guard. This consists of a rifle party firing three shots in unison, on command into the air. Blank cartridges, of course, are employed for this ceremonial firing.

This part of the Honors Detail is to be referred to as a Rifle Team or Rifle Party, not a Firing Squad..... the latter is (or was) used for official execution of a criminal element. The team usually has an odd number of members, from three to seven. The firearm used is typically a rifle, but at some police funerals, shotguns or handguns are used. The team usually stands so that the muzzles are pointed over the casket. However, with mourners present near the grave, the party stands some distance away (it is often recommended at least 50 feet) so as to not deafen the attendees and to minimize the disturbance. If the service is being performed indoors, the rifle team stands outside the building, often near the front entrance.

A 21-gun salute is performed by the firing of cannons or artillery as a military honor. The custom stems from naval tradition where upon peaceful approach to a foreign port, a warship would fire its cannons harmlessly out to sea, until all cannon were empty, to show that it was disarmed, thus signifying the lack of hostile intent. As naval customs evolved, 21 guns came to be fired for heads of state, with the number decreasing with the rank of the recipient of the honor.

While the 21-gun salute is the most commonly recognized, the number of rounds fired in any given salute will vary depending on the conditions. Circumstances affecting these variations

include the particular occasion and, in the case of military and state funerals, the branch of service, and rank (or office) of the person to whom honors are being rendered. Remember that this gun salute is not the same as the three-volley salute we commonly observe at the military funeral services we are a part of as bugler.

Be aware that gun salutes in number and in presentation do vary significantly from country to country, so this discussion is primarily to reflect the practice and customs of the United States of America.

So, bottom line..... when you show up to be a part of a military funeral honors detail, don't stick your foot in your mouth by asking, "Is there going to be a *firing squad* to do a *twenty-one gun salute*?"

3 Volley Salute



Image: U.S. Air Force

Firing Squad



Image: Bettmann/Corbis

Have a question that you want answered?

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



Completing the Mission in Extreme Temperatures

by Carol McCutcheon,
Ohio Assistant State Director

Recently I served my 393rd Mission. It was the most memorable to date for a very bad reason. It was hot and humid. I passed out twice while rendering Taps at a funeral. Sparing everyone from the details, the event made me step back and evaluate how this could have been avoided.

Earlier last year during the middle of winter I had a graveside service. The temperature was 12 degrees and the wind chill was 10 below. When my horn came up to sound Taps, my face had frozen and the high G did not exist. This event also made me step back and evaluate how to play, but in cold temperatures.

Here are some tips which might help when you are playing out in the elements:

Elements we have NO control over:

Temperature Humidity Wind A service running late A lengthy service

Things we CAN do in HOT temperatures:

Wear your summer uniform.
Dress in dark cotton clothes.
HYDRATE TODAY FOR A MISSION TOMORROW!
(Advice to me from the Army).
Stay in your car with the air on until you see the hearse!
Stand under a tree if possible.
Carry a water bottle with you if necessary.
Put a folding stool in your trunk and USE IT if you must.
Drop the key down to concert G.



Things we can do in COLD temperatures:

Layer up.
Stay in your car with the HEAT on until you see the hearse.
Carry a hand warmer in your pocket and when the minister is speaking, put it on your face until it's time to play. (I do this every time it's below freezing and it WORKS!)

Fellow buglers as you know, the most important playing we'll ever do is the rendering of Taps. And honestly it won't matter how it gets played, so long as it gets played to the best of our ability. When we pack up to head out for a Mission we are thinking of the uniform, horn and protocol, not about OUR needs. We must do this!!!!



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: Be advised that the “Bugle Pins” we have now are not made of steel and will break if bent. We have a supply of lyre pins, but the are gold-colored and must be painted silver for wear on the BAA uniform if you choose to include this optional item. The small bugle pins with folded flag are available, and they are excellent for casual wear on suit lapels and caps. We have a good supply of coins and patches. We have the BAA logo patch and the BAA Learning Center patch available.

Medals & Ribbons: We have all the medals, however, the ribbons for our medals are available through Glendale Parade Store. State Directors can use these to give to buglers and local Vets.

Flags: Currently out of stock, but more on order

Horn Accessories: We will have some Kelly mouthpieces very soon.

Educational: For those who do school programs, I have free copies of my booklet, “A Very Special Red, White and Blue”. This is a workbook on the history of the American Flag. I am also working on putting this flag history on DVD. The program has been a real hit at the many schools where I have presented it.

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



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](#).

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.





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](#)



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:

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| * Kentucky | * North Dakota |
| * Massachusetts | * Rhode Island |
| * Michigan | * Wyoming |

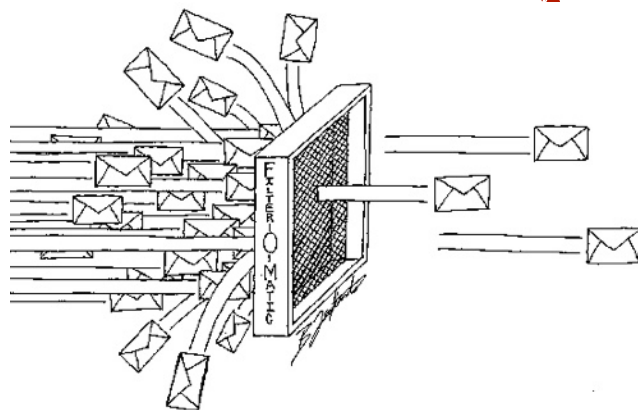
If you believe you may be interested in and have time for a leadership role with BAA, please email galaxypilot@verizon.net to be considered with your experience and why you'd like to be a director for your state.

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.



"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>



KEY LINKS

Bugles Across America Pages

[Bugles Across America](#)

[BAA Bugler Directives](#)

[BAA on Facebook](#)

Gear & Decorative

[Getzen](#)

[Getzen Order Form](#)

[Kanstul](#)

[Scentsy Service & Sacrifice Warmer](#)

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 South Carolina on Facebook](#)

[BAA: New Jersey](#)

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.