

BUGLER'S POST

Official Newsletter of Bugles Across America



BAA Briefing



Welcome to Winter 2017.

In the first two weeks there is the Marine Corps Birthday, and of course Veterans Day. And let us not forget "Thanksgiving Day". I give thanks every day because we have all of you out there helping honor and remember our fallen veterans.

In January 2018 we will enter our 18th year of organization and serving. It's actually hard to believe that in these past seventeen years, as a group, we have served in excess of 150,000 funerals and memorials for our fallen heroes by way of our on-line Request A Bugler system. I am certain that our volunteers have served, perhaps, an equal number of additional missions by way of direct contact. God Bless you all, and thanks for giving of your time and talent in this way. You made it possible for many families to be very proud of their veteran, and pleased to have honored them properly with a live sounding of Taps.... powered by the heart of a volunteer. I am equally proud of all of you who made this happen.

A short story about BAA. I recently got a call from an old Drum Corps Horn player from Erie, Pennsylvania. He said he was calling because he was impressed with the short story about a BAA bugler, Gary Marquardt, from Excelsior, Minnesota. The story and picture is in the November issue of Readers Digest (and originally published by Kare11 tv and in Bugler's Post #36). This man wanted to contact our Pennsylvania State Director so he could audition to be a new BAA volunteer. I put him in touch with Howard Reitenbaugh and he was shortly thereafter properly interviewed and



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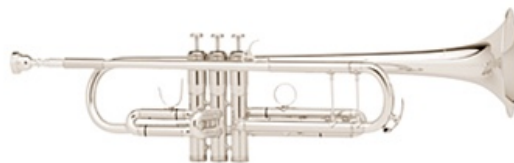
auditioned to be moved to the active Bugler list. He is looking forward to honoring the veterans as a part of our organization. By the way, Howard also recruited and auditioned a member of the Bayonne Bridgemen Drum & Bugle Corps in October. He met this gentleman while serving with a group of buglers taking part in the opening ceremony for display of the Traveling Wall at Penn State University. So, there is yet another ready to serve bugler volunteer in the central Pennsylvania region..... "and beyond" he says!

Another story developed in October when a lady called me to ask if BAA could send a Bugler to Sacramento, CA on the 14th to sound Taps for one of 48 people shot in the tragic massacre in Las Vegas. I remembered Dr. Mary L. Sedgwick from the Reno, NV area, who I met while at the Elks Convention. When we contacted her, Mary was willing to rearrange her schedule and drive three hours there to sound Taps. However it turned out that she didn't make the trip. The requestor was unaware that her niece had already gotten the first-chair trumpeter of the Sacramento Symphony to perform this duty. This just shows that BAA has become very well known, and often called upon by way of some rather unusual circumstances or contacts. Our hearts go out to all the families and friends of those who died that horrible evening in Las Vegas.

I am asking that every member review and renew their dedication to our mission, and carefully consider their actual availability to serve requests as they come in. We are seeing a large increase in daily input through our request system, and while maintaining a very good rate of acceptance overall, we still struggle to find ready volunteers in some areas even though the list of buglers notified would tend to give the impression that we should have no problem at all. Registering with BAA and auditioning to be placed on the Bugler list is only the beginning of the story. We need volunteers that are actually willing to serve when the requests come in. And, this would be a reminder to our State Directors that you must keep a vigil on the list of buglers in your state. Part of your responsibility as a Director is to conduct periodic and regular audits of your membership rosters. Assure that those names on your list actually represent bugler volunteers that are serious about serving when called upon. Also make sure that the contact information for those individuals is still accurate. If our system is unable to reach these folks, they are useless to us. And, if they have lost interest or ability to serve as a volunteer bugler, they should be removed from the lists. Remember, names on a list do not sound Taps..... ready and willing volunteers sound Taps. You can read more about our individual responsibilities in another section of this newsletter. We must all commit to upholding the mission of BAA by strengthening our personal commitment to honor the veterans.

Your fellow horn player,
Tom Day
Founder, President and Marine Bugler.

THE GREAT HORN GIVEAWAY!



The Great Horn Giveaway contest for October 2017 is complete!

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

Michelle A. Poczubut of New York

Michael J. del Vecchio of New Jersey

Congrats to these fine BAA members!

**The next drawing is in December. 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.

I just wanted to say thank you so much for the beautiful trumpet!! It was such an amazing blessing and surprise! I had it out of the box and playing it within 2 minutes of opening the box. I look forward to sounding Taps on it on Friday with the Army Honor Guard. I had the honor of sounding Taps today for two funerals at the same cemetery today. I noticed two Army Honor Guard there as I was preparing to sound for the Air Force. I approached them and asked if they had a live Bugler and they said they had the ceremonial bugle. I introduced myself and told them of BAA and gave them my card. They reluctantly accepted my offer. After I played for the Air Force funeral and approached them for their detail they were more relaxed. They stated they would give their chain of command my business card and let them know about BAA. I am so proud to be a part of your organization.

Thank you so much.

God Bless.

Michelle Poczobut

What a great surprise on this windy and rainy Tuesday. The UPS truck arrived as I was getting out of my car with packages. The driver followed me carrying a large box and placed it by the back door. I did not recall ordering anything that large. When I read the label and saw it was from Tom Day, I knew I had won a new 3 Valve Bugle from BAA. What a great surprise and what a bugle. I had to test it immediately. Wow! What a sound! So full and a great tone quality. I have been sounding Taps on a 1970 era 2 valve King G-F bugle. I kept it because of its tonal quality but now I have a new classy gold colored B flat bugle.

Thank you Tom Day, Thank you Bugles Across America.

Michael J Del Vecchio

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 **November 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 #36 who were selected at random from all the correct entries.

And the winners are....

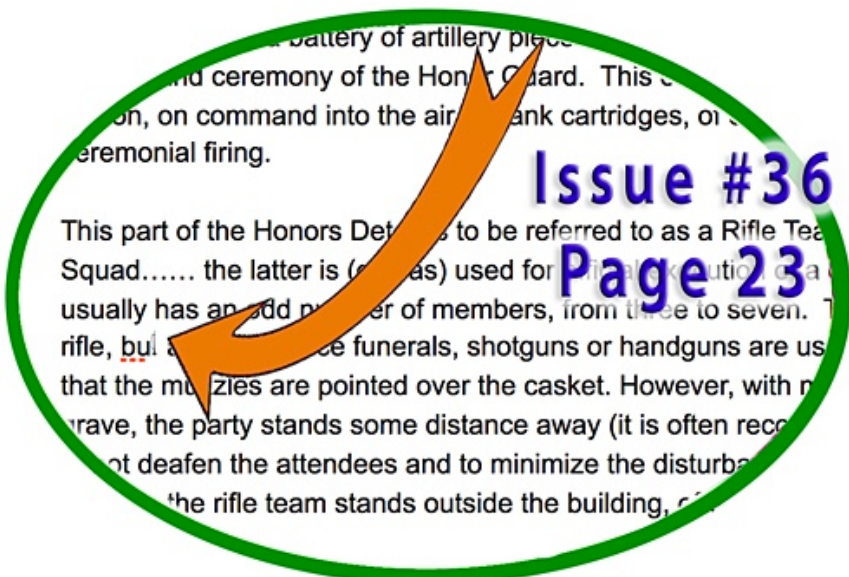
Don VanderKooi – Michigan

Dan Swinehart – California

Roger Meyer – Oklahoma

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?!



Human Touch Needed...

Howard T Reitenbaugh

As devoted members of Bugles Across America we spend much time in discourse and discussion on the need for a live bugler to sound real Taps for the appropriate services of funeral honors and memorials. At least among this group of dedicated volunteer buglers, organized as Bugles Across America, there is no question or shadow of doubt as to the difference indicated by our ***'powered by heart ~ not by batteries'***. As it is with the actual presentation of those 24 notes of honor, that human touch is just as vital in other areas of our overall mission.

Obviously, we must have people that are devoted and serious about serving our mission by being prepared physically and with the proper equipment. Regardless of length of tenure with BAA; regardless of current or prior experience or association through other groups such as active military band or organized honor guard details; regardless of any title or position of management responsibility in BAA; **we are all buglers**. We all have the desire to present a dignified and honor-worthy sounding of Taps whenever called upon. We all want to lock in every note with precision and good tonal quality. And, we all are our own harshest critic as to just how well we accomplished that.

So, what should each of us, as bugler volunteers, be doing to assure the quality of the human touch remains a part of our presentation? Each of us must do whatever is required to maintain our playing proficiency. Some may need to pick up the horn and practice every day, while others can remain ready by playing once each week for a few minutes. That, of course, is an individual thing, but I might make the friendly suggestion that it is better to err on the side of playing more often than less often. If the family or neighbors complain..... buy them some earplugs and explain the honorable purpose behind your playing the horn.

We should assure that our horn... be it bugle or trumpet or cornet... is in good condition, as in clean (inside and out) and polished. Are you using the mouthpiece that is really best suited for you at this time of your life, or are you just continuing to 'get by' with whatever came with the horn or has been in the case for years

Is our personal appearance up to standards, appropriate attire, clean and pressed? Are the shoes shined and in good repair. Is our personal grooming as it should be to stand and honor a departed veteran?

We must always make direct contact, as our protocols call for, as soon as practical after

accepting a mission. Telephone contact would be the most preferable method, but if that is not available to you for some reason, at least send a personal email to the address that has been provided. Do not use Reply To for that contact as that would go into a black hole of cyberspace; remember those requests come to you from a Send Only address. If proper contact is not made, we are leaving the door open for miscommunication, failure to be at the right place at the right time, and we may cause confusion on the part of family members at a very difficult time in their lives. Of equal importance is that there is never an acceptable reason for any bugler to contact the requestor before actually accepting a mission. This has, on occasion, been done, and it has always had dire consequences. If you think there is a problem with the request details as they come to you, do not contact the requestor, but immediately bring your concern to the attention of your State Director or one of the National Coordinators. If you don't have their contact information, you can always use the Contact Us link on the website.

We must be on time to serve a mission..... and, that means at least 30 minutes prior to the designated time for the service to commence. When we arrive on site, we are to establish contact with the leader of the honors detail, and assure that individual of our purpose and our capability to provide dignified support to the honors to be rendered. We must remember that when there we are representing every member of BAA as well as the organization.

What about those of us who are **buglers and leaders** at the State level as Directors? We have the same responsibilities and expectations as the other buglers, of course, but we also have responsibilities to manage the system within our state. We must maintain a contact with the members listed for our state to assure they are properly informed and prepared to serve the mission of BAA. This is best done by providing a periodic email message with general news and updates of the BAA mission, especially as it pertains to our own state.

Always provide our contact information. This is vital so they can get in touch with us if they have concerns with a request. When a new registration comes through, we must respond to that person in a welcoming and timely manner. We are to answer that person's questions and concerns, assure that they understand the approved protocols of our organization (Directives For Buglers), and of utmost importance, we must assure that they are ready and able to sound Taps in a manner that will truly honor the veterans we serve. In other words, we must actually hear that person sound Taps. That may be done in person if nearby, but most often will be done by telephone or a submitted video/sound file.

Remember that the very small microphones in telephones, or cell phones, or video cameras can very easily be 'over-boosted' by a trumpet or bugle. So, advise the auditioning bugler to

remain some distance (at least 10 to 12 feet) away from the microphone. Obviously, the in-person or video method also allows the person's presentation and appearance to be evaluated.

We must conduct a regular audit (no less than annual) of our member list to assure that all on the list remain in contact at their registered email and physical address. If our emails don't reach them or they're not located where we think they are... they are basically useless to us. By way of this audit you will also identify any members that are no longer interested or able to serve the mission of BAA. These must then be removed from the roster. Remember that our Non-bugler roster is to indicate those who have registered but not yet been auditioned and approved for move to the Bugler List. People should not be allowed to languish on that list for any extended period of time.

As State Directors we also have the responsibility to monitor the bugler requests that come in for our state. The Guidelines For Directors state that we should open the email notice of a new request for our state. It only takes a minute to check on the validity of the request to verify that it is for a legitimate purpose and is indicated at a date and time that is reasonable. Then, one very important step..... click on the [View Online](#) active link in the email so that one can see the map location. Does it agree with the stated location in the request? Look at the list of notified buglers. Are they in the region of the event location? We need not look at the entire list, but at least the first several names should be close to the location as stated for the event. Those names are listed in order of closest on out to the farthest from the event. If any of this indicates a problem the State Director must take action to resolve it. For some issues, we may need to contact the requestor to make a correction in the date/time. Some may require an explanation that the purpose for the request does not fall within the purview of legitimate use of Taps to be sounded by Bugles Across America. If the issue is not easily corrected or resolved by contacting the requestor, then immediately notify one of the National Coordinators. If a request must be removed from the system, you will need to let the National Coordinator(s) know of it. Remember that, once posted, a request cannot be edited or amended, so any significant change will require removal and replacement. Work with the requestor to get it posted anew to resolve any errors.

There are also a few of us who have even greater responsibility to the BAA system and its function. Those of us in the National Coordinator role must be alert to and willing to quickly resolve any issues that may affect the mission or reputation of BAA. From time to time there have been some very unexpected and 'middle of the night' surprise functional breakdowns that could put in jeopardy our main purpose (providing a live bugler to sound Taps for military funeral honors). We begin to take action on such things as soon as they become evident, and stay on it until we get a working resolution. We are also here, just an email or telephone call away, to help the State Directors resolve issues or answer questions.

Note that I said **help** please don't ask or expect us to do those routine tasks that fall within the purview of State Admin duties. State Directors have but one state to watch over and tend to, while we are here to help with all 50 states..... and, actually are filling in on the state-level tasks in those states that currently do not have an assigned director.

So, that all important **Human Touch** is necessary to the proper function of our intended purpose from start to finish, at all levels of responsibility and participation, and by every member of Bugles Across America.

I remind everyone that we should always strive to sound Taps in the key of B..... as in:

Be prepared

Be available

Be attentive

Be on time

Be professional

Be respectful

Be humble

"All too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest accomplishment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around." Leo Buscaglia

Fake Bugles Hit Wrong Note

Proceedings Today

U.S. Naval Institute

Reprinted with permission

August 2017

I am frequently asked how I remain composed while performing Taps at funerals. It's not always easy. If played slowly, it can last about one minute. To make that melancholy melody sing and be heard in any type of environment or weather takes years of dedicated practice. For me, deeply focusing on the soulful song is the best way to deliver the finest performance I can, every time. It doesn't matter if it's in scorching heat, sub-zero blizzard conditions, or a torrential downpour, those 24 notes need to be performed by a live bugler.

During that single minute, everyone is silent. All eyes of the family members, friends, and the media are on the bugler. This one minute means more to that family than anyone can ever imagine. It provides closure. It epitomizes dignity, ceremony, and patriotism of the highest order.

Few other jobs can be this touching and have so much meaning for such a short amount of time. It is the most important job of a military musician, and it cannot be duplicated by a recorded device. Using a fake bugle may be more "cost effective," but is this where the government needs to make budget cuts?

This past summer I was requested to perform Taps for a memorial service. The request wasn't from the casualty office, but from one of the counselors at the Fleet and Family Support Center. I was told this was an unusual situation, and wouldn't be considered as an actual ceremonial request. It was more a favor for a grieving family in need.

When I spoke to the counselor, I learned a young Sailor (his parents' only child) had passed away in a tragic training accident. The burial had taken place a few months earlier. Because there were no musicians available at the time, Taps was performed by a Sailor holding a fake bugle. The bugle had a speaker inside the bell which played a recording of Taps. The mother mentioned that the "performer" held the bugle at an awkward angle and everyone in attendance clearly saw that the Sailor wasn't actually playing. Sadly, the mother and father were disappointed, and this is how they remembered the end of their son's military service. The family never felt true closure.

I met the parents at the cemetery on a beautiful sunny day around noon. They were overly gracious for my time and showed me several photos and told me all about their son. They spoke about his dreams and aspirations, all of which came to a heartbreaking and abrupt end.

They wanted the ceremony to be memorable, so they set up a video camera in front of his tombstone, said a prayer, and had me perform Taps. Afterwards they thanked me, gave me a hug, and departed.

I poured my soul into Taps that day, and I believe I gave them the best performance of which I was capable. This simply cannot be duplicated with a fake bugle.

The recording inside the bell of the fake bugle won't make mistakes and can perform adequately as long as the batteries are strong. But is machine-like precision the only objective? Personal tribute is a much loftier goal. Imagine if the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were guarded by robots instead of the highly disciplined professionals who currently uphold this tradition. People come from around the world to see their world-class precision because it is done by living soldiers dedicated to performing their best, every single day.

During John F. Kennedy's funeral, Army Sergeant Keith Clark played Taps in cold temperatures after waiting hours. He cracked and slightly missed the sixth note. That missed note was later dubbed the "broken note" by several news organizations, a "tear from a weeping nation." Some call it the best version of Taps they ever heard.

Having a live bugler perform Taps makes a world of difference on an awful day. When it comes to our fallen veterans, the United States should never settle for second best.

Musician First Class Kurt Zemaitaitis, U.S. Navy, is currently the trumpet instructor at the Naval School of Music

[Click here for full article](#)

Suggested article by BAA member
JC Wagner - Florida



State Director Spotlight: Texas

Steve Kalowski - State Director

I joined Bugles Across America in 2002 after Chicago area native Ed Crobie played Taps at the funeral of my father-in-law, John Hosty, an Air Force veteran. I asked myself, "How come I am not doing this?" I was quickly able to get in contact with Tom Day and the rest is history.

I started playing the trumpet in 5th grade, after first wanting to play the saxophone, but apparently our grade school band needed trumpets. My father was a Lieutenant with the Chicago Fire Department and I had the great privilege to play Taps at the CFD Memorial Day parade on several occasions throughout my school years. High school years found me attending Marmion Military Academy, a catholic, all boys boarding school where I learned all the basic JROTC duties as an officer and platoon leader, and was a member of the concert, jazz, marching, and other ensemble band/groups. Through my junior year in school, I had the privilege of playing reveille at 0615 every morning for wake-up and Taps at night for bedtime. I was also one of only a few trumpeters who played various bugle calls for the military formations held throughout the school year and at outside functions.

After high school, I played in a couple of different community bands but quickly realized I did not want to spend the next 20 years living off my friend's couch waiting for my next 'gig' or to be discovered.

Later in life, moving to Texas with the BNSF Railroad was a wonderful opportunity! Through my wife's encouragement and contacts, my first playing of Taps with BAA was with the Paralyzed Veterans of America Wheelchair Honor Guard at the Dallas Ft Worth National Cemetery. It's true, behind every man is a great woman, and my wife Lisa is no exception!

Today I am proud of both Doug and Larry for their extraordinary help and ongoing commitment to BAA and helping Texas continue to be a true patriotic state and proud member of BAA.

Doug Ebersole - Assistant Director

My Journey to BAA:

I am a second generation bugler. As a Boy Scout my father won First Place in the Des Moines All City Bugle Championship for two consecutive years (1927-28). As a young man, he went on to become an elite trumpeter while also bugling to honor Civil War and WWI veterans. When he passed away in 2004 I realized we needed a bugler to sound Taps for one who had played for so many others. I found a bugler through the Des Moines Police Department and he played beautifully on that clear, cold, December day. That event was to become the call to duty for this Navy Vietnam/Cold War veteran.

I have been a musician all my life, primarily on trombone. But not until my Dad's passing did I ever consider the possibility of simultaneously playing another brass instrument. From that momentous day I began to seriously wonder why I couldn't play bugle like my father, and if I could have played for his service. I sought council from a good friend, retired Marine Bandsman, fine trumpeter, and BAA member, Dave Wolfe, who took me aside and convinced me that, indeed, playing trumpet would not be incompatible with trombone performance. He inspired me and also told me about BAA. I acquired a trumpet and started taking lessons. After 18 months of trumpet lessons and practice I was ready to join BAA as an Active Bugler. I performed my first service in November 2006. I continued my trumpet lessons. Then to further develop my bugling confidence and proficiency, I joined a New Horizon Band on trumpet. It was difficult at first, but I quickly grew to love this band and playing trumpet in it. I am still primarily a trombone player and in 5 other bands.

During this time I joined Vietnam Veterans of America where I met and became best friends with Larry Crossman. We both serve in the VVA Honor Guard as buglers and have performed Echo Taps for countless services and ceremonial events. He subsequently joined BAA and quickly became a very active member.

In 2012, our State Director, Steve Kalowski, asked me to become his Assistant Director. It's been a privilege and a pleasure to serve this outstanding organization with Steve in this capacity and now also with Larry Crossman our other AD.

What is the hardest part about being a SD?

Conducting a periodic audit of our Texas member list which confirms our members' current status and continued interest in BAA in order for us to efficiently fill our missions in Texas.

What is the best part about being a SD?

Turning new registrants in to new buglers and seeing them accept missions.

What has been your best experience with BAA?

"Taps150", Armed Forces Day 2012, Arlington National Cemetery, and in October 2013, at the invitation of the American Battle Monuments Commission to sound Taps at the Normandy American Cemetery at noon and also for their closing ceremony.

What is your goal for your state?

- 1) Register new members especially in underserved areas of our state, and
- 2) Hold additional annual meetings in at least two other central locations of our large state in addition to the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

My hope for National is another Director's Conference next year to provide another opportunity to get together with National and State Directors.



Larry Crossman, Tom Day, Doug Ebersole

Larry Crossman - Assistant Director

How long have you been with BAA?

I have been a member since January 2007.

Why did you join?

I had been bugler for Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 920 Honor Guard in Denton since 2003. My best friend, Doug Ebersole, also became a bugler with 920's Honor Guard. He invited me to become a member of BAA. I wanted to be able to give back with the talent that I have by sounding Live Taps.

How long have you been playing?

I began playing cornet in the sixth grade and continued to play through high school. After graduating I did not continue to play with any regularity until I became involved with VVA920 Honor Guard.

What is the hardest part about being a BAA Director?

The most difficult part has been not being able to get every request for Live Taps accepted. As large as our state is, some requests come in that are "way out in the boonies" where we may only have one or two buglers, who may be at the closest 75 to 100 miles away.

What is the best part about being a BAA Director?

That would be seeing requests accepted quickly, and knowing that a veteran's family and other loved ones will receive the proper and deserved honor sounded by a competent and qualified LIVE bugler!

What has been your best experience with BAA?

I have had several, but two stand out. The first was in Wichita Falls when I was invited to sound Taps over the names of nearly 600 Texas veterans who had been killed in action in Iraq and Afghanistan. The other was when Doug Ebersole and I were interviewed at DFW National Cemetery by a local TV station about BAA. The first because it was a great honor and also very emotional. The second because we were honored to be able to share with so many about BAA.

What is your goal for your state?

My goal for the State of Texas would be that we would have enough willing and qualified buglers in all areas of the state that we could fill any and all requests we receive. Personally, I would like to meet all of our Texas buglers.

NEW STATE DIRECTORS

Christina Kolodziej - Hawaii



Although born and raised in New Jersey, Christina L. Kolodziej has travelled all over the world as a trumpet player for the United States Army. Her current assignment not only brings her to Oah'u, Hawaii for the second time but also to the seat of Hawai'i State Director for Bugles Across America for the second time!

Christina has a Bachelor of Science in Arts Management from Shenandoah Conservatory of Music, Winchester, Va, and has been playing the trumpet for 22 years. She is also a proud Drum and Bugle Corps alum!

In her free time, she enjoys reading, watching movies and television shows with her husband, Eric. They currently reside on Oah'u with their cat, Simba.

Richard Wacker - Illinois State Director

I have been playing trumpet for 50 years. I play in brass ensembles and currently play in the Des Plaines Community Band.

Being appalled at the government's decision to not provide Live Taps, I decided to join BAA in 2009. I've been keeping busy with funerals and memorial services and last year alone, sounded Taps at one hundred and fifty missions. It's my personal desire to honor veterans and their families at their time of grief.



I grew up in Berwyn just four blocks from where the BAA Learning Center is located. I graduated from Morton East and received my B.A. in Applied Music on Trumpet from Northeastern Illinois University. After graduating, I went on to attend seminary. Currently I am retired and love scorekeeping for youth basketball games in the Palatine Park District. I am married and have three sons who also play brass instruments.

I am looking forward to helping the Military Honor Guard honor the great men and women who served this country. BAA is great organization and we need to bring in younger players to be able to continue this tradition into the future.



Peter Duston - Maine

At two recent committals, the Military Honor Guard failed to show up due to communications glitches. Tasked to serve as bugler, at the first committal I was standing by with the pastor 30 minutes before the burial and no honor guard, I called my grandson who had recently returned home from tech school with the Air National Guard. "Are you home and do you have your blues ready to go?" With the answer, "Yes", I told Savage he had 10 minutes to get to the local cemetery. With 15 minutes to spare, Savage and I did a quick practice flag fold and standing "honors". With no honor guard, there was no flag but as a regular member of the Air Force Honor Guard, I always carry a spare flag. We marched on at the designated time, dressed, unfolded, displayed, refolded and Savage stood honors at the grave site while I marched off to my pre-positioned bugle. Following Taps, my 19 year old grandson did a proper presentation to the 95 year old widow "On behalf of the President of the United States and a grateful nation...." and a WWII Marine and Pearl Harbor survivor was properly honored.

Savage is an Eagle Scout and had folded flags before. He knew what to do.

Two weeks later, again, due to a communications glitch, the Army didn't get the word for another committal where I was to serve as bugler. Again, Savage was home from the Bangor Air Base and this time, we had a few more minutes to practice. Again, an even more polished performance. You can't imagine the pride I felt for this fine young Airman - my grandson A2cl Savage Bloomer.



1LT Peter Duston, USA-ret
Maine ASD

PS: Savage's mom, my daughter, is deployed to Northern Iraq as a flight paramedic. She shares my pride in her son's commitment to duty.

Sharon Corner - Virginia

Our school band, Orange County High School, was invited by the University of Virginia to participate with them on Military Appreciation Day. Our band, along with seven other number one bands in Orange County, Virginia, would accompany Lee Greenwood as he sang the song "I'm proud to be an American".

At one point when the kids were on the practice field, Mr. Greenwood was sitting right next to me and I thanked him for writing a song that resonated with all of America. I told him I had been to a funeral where they had used that song during the service. He then asked me if I had family in the service. I said no, but my son sounds Taps for Bugles Across America.

Mr. Greenwood gave many compliments about Bugles Across America saying it was an outstanding organization and it serves a much-needed purpose. Then he asked me where my son was, and I told him he was on the practice field. He asked how old my son was, and I said he was 16. He then said he would like to meet my son.

So I went on to the practice field and grabbed my child, who was worried that he would get in trouble for leaving the practice field. I explained to him that once his coaches knew why he was being pulled off the field there wouldn't be a problem.

I then walked up to Mr. Greenwood and Mr. Greenwood immediately started talking to my son. He told my son how he had worked with Bugles Across America and how Ben must be an outstanding player because Bugles Across America only took of the very best. He then spoke to Ben about different things that he had done with service members. He was a very kind, and gave my son some amazing compliments. He then posed for pictures with us.



Larry F. Icenogle - Illinois

Colonel, USA (Ret.)

On August 12th, I sounded Taps at the funeral for Specialist 4 Sean Brightman, USA (Ret.) in Decatur, Illinois. I introduced myself to the family, including the deceased veteran's father, brother and son, veterans all. While waiting for the Rifle Team to arrive, I went to the back of the sanctuary where the family had placed -- on an easel -- a blown-up copy of the feature story done on Specialist Brightman by the *Decatur Herald and Review*. The story explained how the deceased (aged 48) was grievously wounded during *Operation Desert Storm* in late February, 1991, when an Iraqi Scud missile struck one of our troop barracks near Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. Specialist Brightman was quickly evacuated from Saudi Arabia, underwent a number of surgeries and procedures, and was medically retired from active duty, owing to his injuries.

Here's where things took an interesting, 'six degrees of separation' turn: **1)** I, too, was IN Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, the night our barracks was hit, because I (as an Army Lt. Col. public affairs officer) was running the night shift at the U.S. Central Command's Joint Information Bureau and facilitated the media coverage of that attack; **2)** Specialist 4 Brightman was from Lovington, Illinois, just 8 miles from Arthur, where I grew up; **3)** were it not for the fact that I -- who just became a California resident in July -- was in my Illinois hometown on business during August-September, I would **not** have been able to support the mission of sounding *Taps* for this Army retiree; and **4)** 30 years before that Scud missile hit Dhahran, I was a paperboy for, you guessed it, the *Decatur Herald and Review*.

I shared all that with the Brightman family, a wonderful group of folks. It's amazing -- to me, anyhow -- how, against all odds, I would happen to be present at two of the significant mileposts in the life of a young man just like me, a small-town mid-westerner who just happened to 'become an American soldier when he grew up.

It's experiences such as this one that keep me as involved as I can be in representing **BAA** in the laying to rest of our fallen comrades.

Sara Karbeling - Iowa

My first opportunity to sound Taps as a member of BAA was Memorial Day 2017. Our extended family has attended Memorial Day services near my grandparent's farm nearly every year since I can remember. I have fond memories of racing around the cemetery with my twelve cousins, laying flowers down for each of the veterans after watching our Grandpa Pete and the other men and women from the Legion perform their functions.

As one of the most senior members of the Legion group still traveling to each of the eight cemeteries on Memorial Day in 2016, my grandfather was in charge of 'playing the bugle' during the ceremony. The notes were moving, as they always are, but as I listened to the recorded Taps, I remembered a story of BAA I'd heard on the radio years before. I realized then that I wanted to be a part of providing the live sounding of Taps to honor those that have served.

I am, by no means, an amazing musician. I played trumpet throughout junior high and high school. Since then my horn has mostly been in storage, though I had pulled it out occasionally to show and play for my young daughters. This spring, after working my chops back into shape, I applied to join BAA. I was honored and humbled to join this organization.

On the morning of Memorial Day 2017, my mother, my husband and I along with our two daughters were invited to join my grandfather for his American Legion breakfast. I then joined my grandfather and the others at each of the eight sites. I sounded Taps and my grandfather played the echo. Being able to participate in this ceremony alongside my grandfather was such an honor. It was an experience I will never forget.



Bruce Caswell - Michigan

I recently sounded Taps at a Civil War Cemetery in Plymouth, Michigan. There were grave markers dating back to 1865.

BAA Participated in *"The Wall That Heals"*

Richard Wacker - Illinois

It's half the size of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., but "The Wall That Heals" traveling exhibit still seems to stretch endlessly with the names of 58,267 military members killed in the war.

The wall brought feelings of sorrow and healing for Vietnam veterans visiting the exhibit at Lake Park Pavilion in Des Plaines, Illinois for four days. Noreen Lake, from the VFW Post 2992, requested from BAA, buglers to participate in sounding Taps on the hour from 9 AM – 9 PM Thursday, Friday and Saturday and 9 AM to 1 PM on Sunday, which is a total of 41 time slots that were needed to be filled by trumpeters/buglers. BAA member Rich Wacker took on the task to organize the players from both the BAA and the trumpet section from the Des Plaines Community Band to sound Taps. BAA members who participated were: Greg Schorsch, Ruben Zapata, Sr. Sue Kilduski, John Carson, Mary Arvidson, Michael Golden, Richard Wacker and 5 members of the band to complete this mission.

The event organizers were extremely happy with all the players.

Picture courtesy of Madeleine Doubek

The Wall That Heals. Vietnam Wall replica at Lake Park. Taps played on the hour. Twenty-four from Des Plaines died.



Debbie Dawson - Washington

I played my new BAA Flumpet for a 9/11 ceremony wearing my Edmonds Police Honor Guard Uniform.

Picture by Larry Vogel.

Jim Steele - Florida

On September 16th, 2017 - Jacksonville National Cemetery. Jim Steele sounding Taps at the conclusion of the Ssgt Jason Dahlke Milestone Walk Celebration at JNC. 1948 Frank Holton Legionnaire G bugle. Photo by Bob Mack, Florida Times-Union.



Friends, family, and supporters joined Tessa Dahlke in the final 2 1/2 miles to her goal of walking the distance from her home in Jacksonville, FL to the location in Afghanistan where her step-son, Army Ranger SSG Jason Dahlke was killed on 8/29/2009. Tessa walked a milestone total of 7,687 miles celebrating Jason's life in her Walk-a-Mile-for-a Ranger quest. Her walk raises funds for the Sua Sponte Foundation supporting Army Rangers and their families. The final 2.5 mile walk ended with a ceremony honoring Sgt. Dahlke at his gravesite in Jacksonville National Cemetery.

Sgt. Dahlke was killed in 2009 while on duty in Afghanistan with the 1st Battalion of the 75th Ranger Regiment. He was the first Afghanistan Veteran killed in Action to be interred in Jacksonville National Cemetery.

Michael J. Del Vecchio - New Jersey

On 09/10/2017, I represented Bugles Across America and sounded Taps in Morris County's 9-11 Memorial Ceremony.



Bob Baccus - Alabama

I sounded Taps on October 7th for a Grave Marking of William Cordra Maples. As a young man, William fought in the American Revolution, and later in the War of 1812. A number of his direct descendants were present for the ceremony. I wore an 1812 Militia outfit for the ceremony.



John Carson - Illinois

Here I am this summer using my Kanstul Bugle Sounding Taps at The Gettysburg National Cemetery. I sounded three times around the Cemetery, and each time was a little more emotional. I wore my Navy Veteran hat and many visitors came up to me and thanked me for my service and especially sounding Taps. Tom Day, I will sound Taps for you and this organization until my heart stops beating.

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 December 10th.

Please email JenDayBAA@iCloud.com

Letters of Gratitude



Good Evening!, I'm TSgt Javier with the Air Force Honor Guard.
We're so pleased with the great work and professionalism of Bugler Michelle Poczobut, she's a great bugle player and very selfless. You make our job 10 times easier and our ceremonies are better because of you.

Thank you!
Respectfully,
TSgt. Javier

Tom: I wanted to let you know what a memorable experience it was to have bugler and honor guard at my father's funeral today. Everyone commented how moving that was. Faith Noah did a fantastic job, very professional. Jim Gallombardo went over and above his duty to assist us. He pulled strings with the assistance of Sergeant Hedrick Williams to make it happen on short notice.

*Many thanks,
Peter Sherry*

Doug Carmichael sounded Taps at my husband's memorial at the Union League club last Sunday. He was positively superb. It was very moving. I am so glad that we found your organization.

Best,

Mary Beth Cherskov

Your organization is the greatest! Over the last ten years when planning our Bi-annual reunions, I request a bugler to sound Taps in our closing night's banquet. Every time I request a bugler, I get a response within 15 minutes.

Thank you for the service you provide. Also, every bugler we have gotten, was top notch. Thank you.

The IVY DRAGOONS 3rd battalion 8th Infantry , Vietnam 1966 ~ 1970

Edward G. Goehring,

V.P. Ivy Dragoons

Bravo! I did not expect such a wonderful presentation! I don't hear Taps played too often but I can honestly say I've never heard a more perfectly played version. Everyone commented on what a nice surprise it was and truly felt our loved one would have been honored. He was 91 and a Navy Veteran. More than one guest thanked me for it with tears in their eyes. But all the thanks goes to our bugler from Richardson, TX. I'll never be able to fully express what yours and his kind gesture meant to our little group.

Daryl Cushenbery



Bugles Across America NFP
c/o Tom Day, Founder
1824 S Cuyler Avenue
Berwyn, IL 60402

October 8, 2017

Dear Tom,

The Des Plaines Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2992 wish to extend our profound thanks to your organization's part in the programs while The Wall That Heals was here in Des Plaines. Richard Wacker did a fantastic job in lining up buglers for each hour during the hours of 9 am to 9 pm for the four days the Traveling Vietnam Wall was at Lake Park.

From the time of acceptance and being awarded the visit of The Wall That Heals, many people and organizations stepped up and gave it their full commitment and help. Many donors who helped us with the financial needs, to the volunteers that gave of their time and expertise. It took all these pieces to put on the event, and make it the success that it was. Over 10,000 people came to see the wall, and we hope that it truly was a healing time for everyone. We were blessed with perfect weather, and a beautiful venue in which to have it.

Thank you again for your support.

Michael Lake
Event Chairman

CC: Richard Wacker



‘We will never forget’: Edmonds honors those who lost their lives on 9-11

My Edmonds News
September 11, 2017

The Monday morning sun caught the prism-like glass facets of the Edmonds Fallen Firefighter Memorial, casting a bright red, white and blue pattern on the memorial’s centerpiece — a broken section of girder that once formed part of the steel skeleton supporting the twin towers of lower Manhattan’s World Trade Center. It’s been sixteen years since the terrorist attacks that leveled both towers, but the memories live forever in the people it touched.

As the community has each year since that awful day, Edmonds came together in the morning sunlight to remember the more than 3,000 people who lost their lives that day, and to honor the 434 firefighters, 60 police officers, and 10 EMTs who selflessly ran into the collapsing inferno, never to emerge.

Monday’s ceremonies began promptly at 9:11 am with the raising of the flag by an honor guard of firefighters. Master of ceremonies Dave “Bronco” Erickson told the story of the memorial to the crowd of approximately 70 citizens, firefighters, police and government officials who had gathered for the event.



*An active member of Bugles Across America, **Debbie Dawson** regularly participates in burials, memorials and other events as a volunteer bugler. In recognition of her participation, she was recently awarded a new instrument from Bugles Across America. Called a "flumpet," the instrument combines the attributes of a trumpet and flugelhorn, producing a sound that borrows from both these instruments.*

[Click for full article](#)

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 am a Vietnam combat veteran very active in military affair and helping veterans. it has been brought to my attention that some veterans are having a hard time get military honor guards at their funerals. I know its required by law. Do you have any information on this

matter?

A: I honestly believe that the beginning of the problem is that too many veterans or their surviving families do not know that they are, by law, due to have military honors rendered upon request. Too many are carrying a false belief that military funeral honors are only for those that are killed or die while on active duty.

Then, we are finding that all too often some funeral directors do not even ask if the deceased is a veteran or if they wish to have military honors. It would seem that some Funeral Directors may not wish to be bothered with arranging these details.

In every issue of the Bugler's Post, which is accessible to the public, we provide a few direct links to complete information on the subject of Veterans Benefits. Of the resources listed probably the most complete is the Congressional Research Service Report, RS21545.

Bottom line, much help is needed in educating the veterans and their family as to the law, and getting the funeral directors to ask about the veteran status of the deceased. The actions required to seek and provide the proper military honors is not over burdensome, nor does it require addition expense. Kudos to those funeral directors that put their heart into seeing that the veteran is properly honored, but the few that seem to go out of their way to avoid it are in need of education and encouragement.

The law doesn't say the veteran will get MFH 'when available' or easy to put together..... the law says the veteran shall receive MFH 'when requested'.



Military.com [Military Funeral Honors](#)



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



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](#)

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:

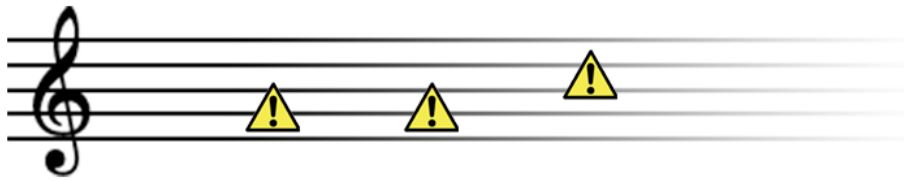
Wear your summer uniform.
Dress in dark cotton clothes.
HYDRATE TODAY FOR A MISSION TOMORROW!
(Advice to me from the Army).
Stay in your car with the air on until you see the hearse!
Stand under a tree if possible.
Carry a water bottle with you if necessary.
Put a folding stool in your trunk and USE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



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](#).



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:

- * **Bugle Pins** - These are not made of steel and will break if bent.
- * **Lyre pins** - We have a supply of gold and silver... however, the gold-colored ones must be painted silver for wear on the BAA uniform if you choose to include this optional item.
- * **Small bugle pins with folded flag** - Available and they are excellent for casual wear on suit lapels and caps.
- * **Gold Star Mom's pins** - In stock

Patches: We have the BAA logo patch and the BAA Learning Center patch available.

Coins: We have just a few BAA coins left.

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: We have BAA flags and Gold Star Mothers flags

Horn Accessories: We will have 4 7c Kelly mouthpieces and can get more when needed.

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.

Clothing: We now have both bright green and orange t-shirts and sweatshirts. Great for walkers and bikers. You'll be seen in these for sure. These shirts were updated to welcome BAA to its 18 year and to honor the 100th Anniversary of WWI.

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



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 |

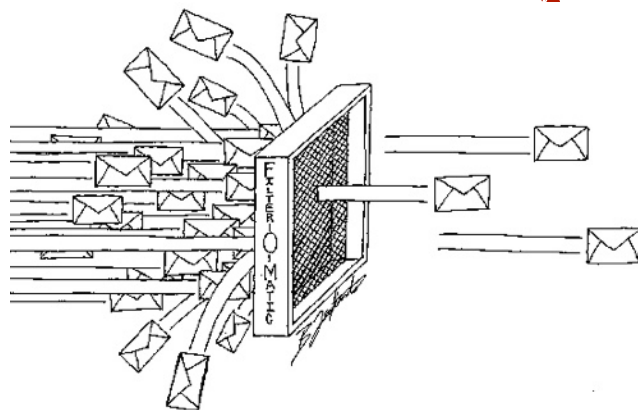
If you believe you may be interested in and have time for a leadership role with BAA, please email galaxypilot@verizon.net to be considered with your experience and why you'd like to be a director for your state.

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.



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.



"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](#)

BAA Individual State's Facebook Pages

[BAA New York on Facebook](#)

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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.