

# BUGLER'S POST

Official Newsletter of Bugles Across America



## BAA Briefing



Well, fellow buglers of BAA, the hot weather is with us, and we all must take proper care to be prepared. While some folks might welcome a 'bit warmer' weather than they routinely deal with for much of the year, there are plenty of us that are left questioning, "Where is the shade?"

Some things you can do, and some you must do to be prepared for serving these honors in the sweltering heat. Last year we published some very good advice on the topic of preparing for the weather extremes that was submitted by Ohio Assistant Director Carol McCutcheon. You can review this if you go to Buglers Post, Vol 36, page 25. I would suggest that we all pay particular attention to her statement on the importance of being hydrated. Note that she teaches us to "Hydrate Today for a Mission Tomorrow". And, remember that it is not only hot temps that can put our personal "water-level" on low!

We are on an ever increasing pattern of requests coming to us for bugler support, and this trend is showing in most all regions of the country. This is a result of the many and varied "public relations" outreach efforts being done by our directors, as well as that of individual members, and word of mouth through the public we serve. Of course, this is great news, and is exactly as we would wish it to be. But, along with the increase in requests for bugler support, we must keep pace with increased volunteerism by our buglers. I've often heard one of our National Coordinators remark, "It does no good to have the store open for business if we don't have product on the shelves." The essence of what he's saying is, if we ask folks to come to us for a bugler, we darn well



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better be able to provide.

If you have registered to be a volunteer bugler with BAA, please pay attention to the notices of requests that come to you by email. All too often, it is the same few folks that are carrying the great majority of the load when it comes to filling the missions. Our Directors pay attention to the status of requests in their state, and when they have to start the process of follow up calls to fill a mission, they find they have a small cadre of folks that seem to be available to serve the honors... no matter the personal inconvenience or cost. Let's share the 'production effort', folks. Being on the Bugler list is only the beginning. Actually serving to honor the veteran with that live and real sounding of Taps is what really puts the shiny finish on our organization.

We have just come through another major increase in awareness that has come to be expected surrounding the Memorial Day holiday period. Many news outlets have been in touch and have conducted interviews with Directors as well as individual buglers. These news stories, both print as well as radio and TV, have made thousands of folks newly aware of the existence of Bugles Across America. I thank all those that, in one manner or other, took part in getting the word out. That high level of publicity has resulted in many added volunteers seeking to participate, as well as many in the private sector seeking to support the mission of BAA by way of donation to the cause.

As we all do our utmost to serve in honoring the veterans as a part of Bugles Across America, I earnestly ask that every member renew their understanding of the "Privilege" as well as the "Process" by reading through our complete protocols, the Directives For Buglers. This document answers the many questions we continue to receive on how to do this, or what to wear, or what to do in case of issues.

Thank you all for being a part of this terrific group of unselfishly serving people. Keep cool, keep hydrated, and continue to "honor the veterans" with that sounding of Taps.

Tom Day, Founder and bugler

Note from the editor...

Hello all! This month concludes the State Director Spotlight. I started with Alabama and made it to West Virginia. I'm sure I'll start again since we've had new directors start after I've already covered their state.. but for the next issue, I want to feature Tom Day.

Please email me any and all questions you have about Tom... Everything from military or Drum & Bugle Corps stories to what flavor syrup he likes on his pancakes. Lets make it a fun and interesting issue!

Aaanndd because I'm a planner... I guess I'm up soon too. I'm not terribly good at talking about myself. I usually share too much and then there is that awkward silence. Haha. But.. use that... ask me anything... or I'll wind up telling you more than you care to know anyway.



Thanks,

Jen Day

BAA National Coordinator

[JenDayBAA@icloud.com](mailto:JenDayBAA@icloud.com)

## Attention: State Directors Needed!



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

### States in need:

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| * Iowa          | * North Dakota |
| * Kentucky      | * Rhode Island |
| * Massachusetts | * Wisconsin    |
| * Michigan      | * Wyoming      |
| * Mississippi   |                |

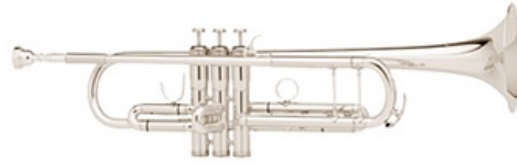
### Qualifications:

- |                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| * Computer literacy            | * Communication Skills        |
| * Passion for serving veterans | * Spare time you can dedicate |



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

# THE GREAT HORN GIVEAWAY!



The Great Horn Giveaway contest for June 2018 is complete!

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

**William Dooley of Montana**

**Rene Serrano of Florida**

Congrats to these fine BAA members!

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

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



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

# FIND THE BUGLE CONTEST!



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

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

**“How will I know if I won?”** Three winners will be selected randomly by drawing from all correct entries on **July 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](mailto:findthebugle@gmail.com)



# CONGRATULATIONS! *Winners!*

We want to extend a hearty congratulations to the three winners of Issue #40 who were selected at random from all the correct entries.

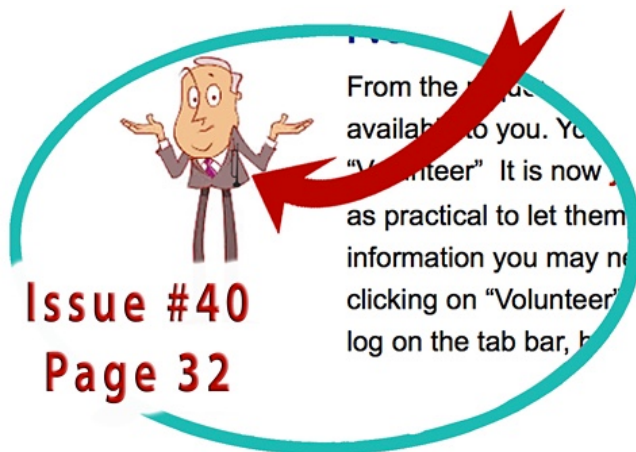
**And the winners are....**

**Carla Beaudoin of Maine**

**Paul Cormier of Michigan**

**David Vinson of Texas**

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?!**

**And**, by double-blind drawing a selection has been made for the semi-annual Grand Prize of a nice horn (selected by Tom) from the BAA Closet.

**The Grand Prize Winner is..... Jerry Kolb of Kansas**



## State Director Spotlight: West Virginia

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### Michael Wilson - State Director, West Virginia

#### How long have you been with BAA?

I registered with BAA in August 2012

#### Why did you join?

I joined to honor our veterans. My father was a marine who was wounded on Iwo Jima and after he passed in 1985, I found BAA and joined, mostly to honor his legacy, and the rest of the "Greatest Generation" as much as I could with my sounding of "Taps".



#### How long have you been playing?

It seems like all my life. I started with the trumpet in seventh grade, so I've been playing over 60 years now. Still play every week in a community band and play at several church services a year, in addition to my missions with BAA.

#### What is the hardest part about being a SD?

The hardest thing for me is keeping up with the changes in buglers. Moving, changing of e-mail addresses and missed assignments are really difficult to take care of.

#### What is the best part about being a SD?

Best thing is interacting with new buglers and talking about their experiences.

#### What has been your best experience with BAA?

Two missions come to mind: First, I was asked to sound Taps for the father of a Georgia National Guard sergeant in a nearby town. The service was exceptionally nice, and the sergeant was very appreciative. Military honors were spot on, and I was honored to sound Taps for the deceased. The second mission was to sound "Taps" for David D. Taylor, II - a young man from our community who had served in the Marines, then joined the fight against ISIS in Syria, where he was killed by an IED. His memorial service was held on our town's Walk of Valor, where banners with photos of our veterans who have served were hanging. David's banner was there and he was the first veteran to be killed in action when his banner was on display. It was extremely emotional, and a memorable experience that I won't forget.

#### What is your goal for your state?

Goals include increasing the numbers of buglers, attempting to educate the funeral directors of our mission and in general, making it easier to communicate between our members in West Virginia.

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

In my spare time I enjoy trumpet, obviously, collecting old fountain pens, fishing, playing in my community band and life in general.

# NEW STATE DIRECTORS

## New Mexico State Director - Russ McDuffie



Greetings!

My name is Russ McDuffie and I would like to introduce myself to you as the new Director for the State of New Mexico. I've been with BAA for two years now, and look forward to serving alongside you in this position.

I am a New Mexico native, born in Santa Fe, then raised here in Albuquerque. I started my musical career on the violin in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade, and after realizing the error of my ways (and from the pleading of my Orchestra director to please consider something else) I took up the trumpet in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and haven't looked back since. I have continually played since then, and presently serve in the Hoffmantown Church Orchestra as the Brass Section leader. All in all, I've been playing for 38 years and still love playing as much as when I started.

I discovered BAA in May of 2015 while searching protocol for sounding Taps with an Honor Guard and Rifle Volley. I had performed many times in the past with just Flag Honors, but never a volley. After following a few links and reading up on BAA, I knew this would be an honorable way for me to use my God-given gift and signed up immediately. The sad thing is, until this search I had never heard of BAA. I'd been a trumpet player for 35 years, had sounded Taps numerous times, and BAA had been around for 15 years. My plan is to "fix" this for New Mexico, and get our name out there for other trumpet players that may also want to serve in this fashion.

Taking on this position this time of year has been perfect with Memorial Day just around the corner (I am writing this the middle of May). With Memorial Events being planned by multiple cities and groups throughout the State, many are interested in a live bugler and excited to hear we can provide this valuable service. So far I have four missions for New Mexico buglers during the weekend, I also have received a request from the NM Dept of Veterans Affairs for a bugler at a Purple Heart Ceremony in August at the Santa Fe National Cemetery due to my initial outreach efforts. I have made quite a few new contacts, and for now, they seem eager to utilize our New Mexico buglers for their events and services in the future.

I would like to personally thank Douglas Conrady, State Director of Oklahoma, for covering our State and taking care of us for all the years he has. He will continue alongside me as the Assistant State Director for a short time to help in the transition, then step away to fully commit his time to Oklahoma.



## William Dooley - Montana

This year is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Tet Offensive. I was serving as a Medic in the 7<sup>th</sup> Cav, 1<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry. We fought a number of sharp battles during Tet. I was wounded and a number of my friends killed. So, this year I drove from Montana to DC and sounded Taps at



the VN Memorial Wall. I chose the panels which reflected most of my friends and others killed during Tet. There were a large number of people that stopped and thanked me for sounding Taps. I was more than pleasantly surprised to see the interest. We were in the DC area for less than an hour. No sightseeing or tourist stuff. The trip was part of the gift, we were there only for them.

This is a photo of me at the wall.

Bill Dooley, D-1/7<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> Air Cav. 1966-1968.

## Roger C. Ellis, State Director for Arizona

On a recent Saturday, a request was entered on the BAA website at 10 PM for a bugler to sound Taps on Monday morning May 7, 2018. I contacted the requester early on Sunday morning to clarify some details. I learned that she had been unable to arrange honors from the Army for her father because the family was unable to locate his discharge papers.

I sent a note to the BAA buglers who received this request explaining the circumstances and asking for someone to please step up and accept this short-notice request. Within a very short time Hans Jessen did, and so I sent Hans a note of thanks.

Hans replied as follows (the underline is mine): *"Thanks, Roger, happy to step up for this need. It's more important than the golf game I cancelled."*

I would like to suggest that this is an excellent example for all of us to emulate. Knowing that I have volunteers like Hans who will make serving others a priority makes me proud to serve as a leader in this organization.

## Gary Marquardt - Minnesota

Below is the announcement from our church regarding Memorial Day Mass celebration for Veterans. I did this last year at a different cemetery and it was really well received.

I know that many BAA members wish to have more opportunities to sound Taps and this is one that is very rewarding in that you are playing tribute to those who may have passed long ago but are remembered on this day.

### ***THIS YEAR A SPECIAL PERSONALIZED TRIBUTE TO INDIVIDUAL VETERANS AFTER MASS AT OLL CEMETERY***

*We will be holding a Mass at Our Lady of the Lake Cemetery on Memorial Day at 9:00 am.*

*At the conclusion of Mass, a local member of **Bugles Across America** will be on hand and will perform Taps at the graves of any veteran whose family is in attendance.*

*This organization provides volunteers to play Taps at veterans funerals across the country and this year Gary Marquardt has volunteered to perform this honor for anyone who has a veteran buried at the cemetery.*

*Most veteran's committal ceremonies don't have a live sounding of Taps. Instead, congress has authorized the use of a "mechanical bugle". Bugles Across America works to provide that final tribute of dignity and gratitude for their service.*

*With the aging of veterans from WWII, Korea, and Vietnam, the number of veterans passing away each year is climbing. Gary asks that anyone who knows of any veterans passing contact him or Bugles Across America ([www.buglesacrossamerica.org](http://www.buglesacrossamerica.org)) to arrange a **LIVE** sounding of Taps at their services either in the church or at the gravesite. It is free of charge.*

*Last year Gary started this tribute at the Mound Cemetery on Bartlett. Relatives of Veterans were most appreciative for having Taps played specifically for their veteran and most often other families followed from grave to grave in tribute to the other families. "Taps is very much a prayer" says Gary, who performs at nearly 100 funeral per year. "I am there, representing all of us and it is an honor to do so. He doesn't mind playing Taps at every grave because each veteran has his or her own story and deserves their own honor.*

*"Typically, Veterans don't ask" he stated. If they know it's available they will be happy they did.*

*Gary would like this to become a national exercise for Bugles Across America volunteers to spread awareness that LIVE Taps performances are available for any Veteran.*



## Roger C. Ellis - State Director for Arizona

I recently took over as State Director for BAA in Arizona and appointed my beautiful bride Mitzi as Assistant State Director. We became aware of how few requests were being received (about 25 per year), and asked Tom Day how to increase that number. Tom suggested reaching out to funeral directors and contacting military honor guards.

I contacted the Executive Director of the Arizona Funeral, Cemetery and Cremation Association (AFCCA) and requested an exhibitor space at their annual convention in Tucson. The AFCCA agreed to waive the exhibitor fee if BAA would conduct the opening ceremonies. I arranged for an honor guard detail from Davis Monthan Air Force Base to participate. We also purchased a full-page ad in the program where BAA was listed as Sponsor of the Opening Ceremonies.



We attended the annual convention on June 5, 6 and 7, 2018. The results exceeded our wildest expectations.

On Tuesday evening June 5th we hosted a get together for several volunteer buglers from the Tucson area. At 8 AM on Wednesday June 6th Mitzi asked everyone to rise if able for the presentation of the National colors, and I played "To the Color" as the honor guard marched in. Mitzi led the Pledge of Allegiance, then introduced a memorial video in remembrance of the members of the AFCCA who passed away during the prior year. Mitzi then talked about the origin and meaning of Taps and recited a verse from Taps. I sounded Taps, followed by the "Air Force Song" as the honor guard exited.

I made a brief presentation about the mission of BAA and asked two questions. By a show of hands, most were aware that Taps is usually delivered using a recording. Around half had personally been at a funeral when the recording device failed to function properly! I also encouraged everyone to stop by our table in the exhibitor area.

We received overwhelmingly positive feedback regarding the opening ceremonies and the mission of BAA. There was almost no prior awareness of BAA. We gave everyone who stopped by a handout and business cards, and showed videos of the ceremonial bugle failing to play properly at funerals. The videos were especially effective. We emphasized the fact

that our services are free, giving the funeral directors an opportunity to do something valuable for their customers at no cost. We were ably assisted in the exhibit area by BAA bugler Dan Pinda.

We also explained that we do not need a copy of the DD214 discharge papers. This is a key point, as families are sometimes in the position of wanting to conduct a service with military honors but are not able to locate or secure a copy of the DD214 on a timely basis to secure a detail from the military.

None of the members of the Air Force Honor Guard were aware of BAA, and all had experienced problems with the ceremonial bugle. Within an hour after they returned to base their NCO In Charge entered a request for a bugler for the next day, followed by seven more. She is now requesting a BAA bugler for all honors ceremonies conducted by the Davis Monthan Honor Guard.

We are already planning for a bigger and better opening ceremony for the 2019 AFCCA Convention to be held In Scottsdale, Arizona. We can't wait!



Arizona Funeral, Cemetery  
and Cremation Association



**FOCUS**  
FOCUSING ON THE "YOU" IN FUNERAL

**AFCCA ANNUAL  
CONVENTION & EXPO**

**JUNE 5 - 7**

WESTIN LA PALOMA  
TUCSON, AZ

SCHEDULE AND  
REGISTRATION AT

[AFCCAANNUALCONVENTION.ORG](http://AFCCAANNUALCONVENTION.ORG)

THANK YOU CONFERENCE SPONSORS!

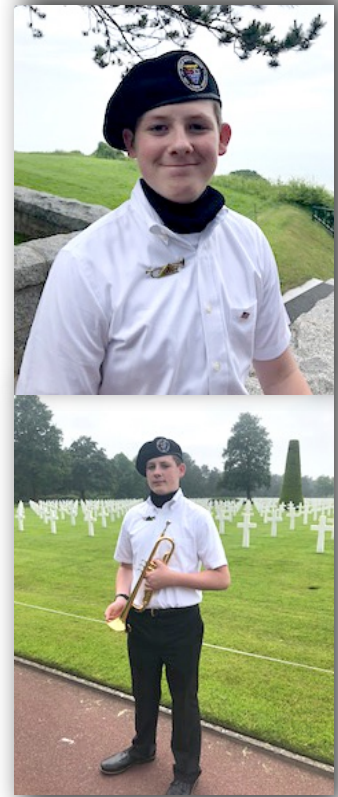
<p><b>PBF MFG Co.</b> Golf Tournament Host &amp; Sponsor - Golf Tournament Breakfast - Golf Tournament Lunch - Golf Tournament Prizes</p> <p><b>NFDA</b> Tote Bags and Lanyards Sponsor</p> <p><b>Dodge</b> Speaker and Golf Hole Sponsor</p> <p><b>Mickelson &amp; Ray</b> Foundation for Children Fundraiser Appetizer Sponsor</p> <p><b>Matthews Aurora Funeral Solutions / Cemetery Products</b> Speaker, Foundation for Children Fundraiser Drinks, Thursday Cocktail Reception Banquet Dinner Photographer Sponsor</p> <p><b>The Davis Whitehall Co.</b> Golf Hole Sponsor</p>	<p><b>Great Western Insurance Company</b> Golf Hole Sponsor</p> <p><b>Eagle's Wings Air</b> Golf Hole Sponsor</p> <p><b>Bugles Across America</b> Opening Ceremonies Sponsor</p> <p><b>Heritage Funeral Homes</b> Golf Hole Sponsor</p> <p><b>Messenger</b> Golf Hole Sponsor</p> <p><b>Dignity Memorial</b> Banquet Dinner Wine Sponsor</p> <p><b>Handley Precast Systems</b> Golf Hole Sponsor, Student Rooming</p> <p><b>Camino Del Sol Funeral Chapel</b> Golf Hole Sponsor</p>
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Our Sponsors are what truly make this annual event possible and we appreciate each and every one of you. There are still opportunities left for breakfast sponsors, lunch sponsors and golf hole sponsors. If you can't attend, a sponsorship is a great way to show your support to the Arizona Funeral Cemetery and Cremation Association and their Funeral / Cemetery Members.

Email Director for Sponsorship Opportunities

## Derek Messer - Texas

On Thursday, June 7th I had the honor of sounding Taps at the Normandy American Cemetery during the lowering of the flag. The staff were very organized and helpful in making my experience as easy as possible. The cemetery is astonishingly beautiful, complete with a museum, visitor center, and chapel. The view of Omaha Beach just beside the cemetery adds to the emotionally moving atmosphere of the memorial. Sounding Taps at this cemetery has been one of my proudest moments, and is one that I will never forget. I would strongly recommend visiting this site to anyone looking to expand their knowledge of the heroic acts and ultimate sacrifice that the Greatest Generation made on D-Day. I would like to thank Larry Crossman, Texas Assistant State Director for informing me of this opportunity prior to my visit.



## Carol McCutcheon, Assistant State Director, Ohio

I saw this online and thought this should be in the Bugler's Post.

## Peter Duston - Assistant State Director, Maine





## Jacob Petersen - Arizona

I don't know if this qualifies as a humorous story, touching story, sad story, or maybe even a scary story. It is definitely a true story however, and so far, the most memorable story I have as a bugler for BAA.

About 2 years ago, I accepted a request for a bugler to sound Taps at the funeral services of a Korean War Vet. It was a fairly small gathering of about 30 people and I was asked to sound "Taps" at the end of the service concluding the presentation of a flag to the widow of the recently deceased Vet. The widow was emotional throughout the services but became obviously more so while the flag was being folded. The flag was presented to her as next of kin and the Honor Guard stepped back and saluted which was my signal to begin "Taps." A vet in the group called "Ten-Hut!" and quickly stood up so everyone there quickly followed suit and also rose to their feet. I immediately started "Taps" and the widow (now on her feet also) began to sob fairly loudly. By about the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> note she let out a fairly loud cry and then suddenly collapsed on the floor unconscious! Her closest relatives on either side immediately stooped down to help her but all I could do was continue sounding "Taps" while the Honor Guard also held their attention and salute. The widow woke up while I was holding the last note and they helped her back into her seat. I don't know what she went through while passed out, but when she woke up she was obviously calmer, even smiling, and much more at peace. Afterward there were several people who commented to me how amazed they

were that I was able to maintain my composure and continue through "Taps" as if nothing were going on despite the chaos. I can't imagine the grief the relatives of these veterans feel, nor the emotions upon hearing the final tribute to their loved ones, but I hope it does bring closure and peace to them and that they feel the Honor and pride they should have in the service of their loved ones for us all.



This picture is **not** from this particular event, but of (from left to right) Roger C. Ellis (Arizona State BAA director) his wife Mitzi Ellis (Assistant Arizona State Director), and myself. We took this picture after Roger and I sounded Echo Taps at a Vietnam Veterans funeral on March 24 of this year.

## Dave Warren - New York

I picked up my trumpet in 2012 (many years after high school) for my town's bicentennial. There was a small group of us who participated in the parade, although we didn't "march" we rode on a flat bed. After this event, my wife and I, with a few others, decided to keep the "band" going. We did, and now perform 4-6 times during May, June, & July. I have also since joined another local community band, and have improved to the point of playing lead in both.

Two years ago we, the Kendall Community Band (the one I helped start), were asked to be part of the local Memorial Day event. As lead trumpet, I was also asked if I would/could sound Taps. This would be the first time since I was a senior in high school that I sounded Taps in this setting. It went well, and was well received. However, I was not overly pleased with my rendition. So I listened to a few military versions (they are all basically the same) and this year when asked again did a much better job.



So when my wife came home from her teaching job one day and told me about a news report she saw about the lack of buglers it got me thinking. I remembered going to her uncle's services and seeing a real bugle in the hands of one of the Honor Guard. I was intent on watching the "live" performance as I had never seen a live military rendition. When the Taps started and I realized that it was a recording I was more than a bit disappointed. Therefore, after learning about the shortage of players from the report she saw I immediately went on-line and registered. That was sometime mid-week, and by that Sunday night I did my audition and was accepted. The following Thursday I volunteered for my first mission.

I can't tell you all how honored I am to be part of this organization.

## Kimberly Shaw - Massachusetts

This past weekend, I was privileged to sound Taps on behalf of Daniel Hurd, who had been a Musician's Mate in the Coast Guard, and provided music on troop-transport ships across the Atlantic. So this family was especially appreciative that BAA could get a live bugler there for them!

## Michael J Del Vecchio - New Jersey

Fellow bugler John Garno and I had the opportunity recently to sound Echo Taps. (I am in the blue jacket with the gold horn I won from BAA!)



This photo shows the new memorial dedicated to the Korea Veterans who served after the cease fire was signed. The American involvement in the Korean war from 1950 to 1953 resulted in 33,742 dead and 92,134 wounded. Since 1954, 1,243 American military have died in Korea along with over 2,400 Korean military.

## Jared Macumber - Oklahoma

This Memorial Day I sounded Taps for VFW Post 4465 in Clinton, OK. They had borrowed a soundboard and amplifier system for the event and it wasn't working. As a public-school music teacher, I have a bit of experience working on these. We spent half an hour checking everything I could think of to get it to work. Even going to the plug and checking it along with the gfci breaker. Still nothing. Then at the last moment while walking to my spot, I noticed they were using two extension cords to reach the plug. Tucked behind a headstone was where the two cords connected. Sure enough, they weren't plugged. All that time and all it needed was to be plugged in. It was a wonderful service and a glorious day.





### **Tim Park - BAA State Director, Colorado**

This is a photo taken at Ft. Logan National Cemetery, Denver, Colorado of the five buglers that came out to render Echo Taps honors to our fallen Veterans. From left to right: Will Buckles (trumpet), Rich Gray (trumpet), Andy Van Hoesen (baritone), Andre Pounds (trumpet) and Tim Park (mellophone).

### **Lynne Adduci - Illinois**

Grace and her younger sister, Belle, were invited to sound Echo Taps at Grant Park in Illinois for their Memorial Day event. When they were introduced, they were identified as representing BAA.

[Click to see their performance](#)



### **Eddie Elkins - California**

My wife and I were on vacation in Hawaii and I was allowed to sound Taps at Pearl Harbor. It was an honor and a privilege to deliver honors overlooking the USS Arizona Memorial!



## Ernie Belanger - New York

I consider myself a professional musician. My main instruments are Tuba, String & Electric Bass and Guitar. That said, I am proud to say that I am one of two live buglers at the Saratoga National Cemetery in Schuylerville, New York.



I joined the Saratoga National Honor Guard in 2001 and primarily play trumpet with the Tuesday Squad. I only play 9 of the 12 months as my wife and I are snow birds and reside in Florida for over the three winter months. Unfortunately when I am away the squads use the fake bugle. It sounds real and does the job but can never replace a live player.

My wife is associated with The Blue Water Navy Association and Military Veterans Advocacy. For the last ten years she, along with the organizations, have been working with Congress and the Senate to pass Bill "HR 299 The Blue Water Navy Agent Orange Bill" to give Vietnam Veterans exposed to Agent Orange their VA Benefits. She has met with displaced VA Secretary David Shulkin twice to discuss this issue. When passed the bill is expected to benefit up to 90,00 veterans and restore there VA benefits due to agent orange exposure that were taken away from them in 2002. Boots on Ground Rule.

The last meeting she had with Secretary Shulkin she told him of my service at Saratoga National Cemetery. At that time I had performed 901 funerals. As of last Tuesday I have played 920. I expect to complete 1,000 by the end of this year. Secretary Shulkin was kind enough to write me a personal thank you note and as a token of appreciation enclosed a signed Challenge Coin.

## Stephen Gishorn - South Carolina

I sounded Taps on Easter Sunday for a WWII Coast Guardsman in Greenwood, South Carolina. An honor.



## **Donna Marie F. Berchtold - Assistant State Director, New Jersey & BAA National Director of Youth in Music**

Recently I attended the 24th Annual Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation Gala Tropicana in Atlantic City.

Ike Rucker, a Marine Vet who served in the personal guard to President Truman, was the person who invited my husband Howard, my daughter Heather and I to the Gala. It was our 2nd year attending.

We are in such awe of the Medal of Honor recipients, and what a pleasure it is to meet them. The Marine Corps Drum and Bugle Corps are absolutely amazing.

What is extra special to us, is that Heather and I tell the Veterans all about Bugles Across America. They appreciate us for our service.



(L - R: Howard Berchtold; Heather Berchtold - BAA Bugler; "Woody", Donna Marie Berchtold

The Veteran in red is: CWO4 Hershel Woodrow "Woody" Williams - USMC 1945. Age 94. Last living survivor of Iwo Jima who received a Medal of Honor. He tossed the coin at this year's Super Bowl game.



## Russ McDuffie - State Director, New Mexico

### Sounding Taps (with a background band)

In May of 2015, I had the honor to be asked to sound Taps for a Naval Lt Commander by a close friend who went to the same church as this veteran. I was told there would be a 3-Rifle Volley along with the Flag Ceremony. I had sounded Taps many times before, but never with this addition, so I “Googled” the protocol involved so that I would know at what point I was to render Taps and keep things flowing properly.

*(During this search is when I also discovered BAA (see my State Director Bio in this issue), and proceeded to immediately volunteer, although it would be after this service that I became an “official” bugler with BAA. I did read up on all the requirements and expectations of bugler, therefore implementing those expectations for this service. )*

I met up with the Honor Guard team when they arrived at the Church, explained who I was, and was there by request of the family, and they gladly had their Ceremonial Bugle cased and returned to their vehicle (where it belongs). I was given direction by the OIC as to where he wanted me during the flag ceremony and we were set. While waiting for the service to start, I then notice our very own Albuquerque Police Dept. Honor Guard ALSO arrive, six of them to be exact. I asked my buddy why they were at the service, and it turns out the Lt Commander’s son is a Lieutenant with APD, therefore they are here showing their respect. Wow, I’m thinking, that’s pretty cool, and as I turn back to where APD’s Honor Guard is, who else is standing there with them but the CHIEF of Police. Wonderful...no pressure, no pressure at all, two Honor Guards AND the Top Cop.

Fast forward to the Honors Service, which is being performed outside in the parking lot of the Church, a very small church with a small packed parking lot I might add. First volley fires off, half a dozen car alarms start blaring (oh nooooo), Second volley fires off and another dozen chime in, and by the third volley the ENTIRE parking lot is a cacophony of dissonant chords. (Are you KIDDING me?!?) Now at this time, I realize that not a single car alarm is pitched in Bb, of which I’m about to sound Taps, and in looking back I am pretty sure of all 12 keys that are available, I’m positive the ELEVEN remaining were sounding in all their glory. I bring my horn to my lips, take a deep breath and sound the honor. By the final “C”, all is quiet except for me fading away in a decrescendo. Wow...that was interesting.

I was standing with my friend after the service, and who makes a beeline for me, but none other than the Chief of Police. He sticks his hand out and says “Sir, how on earth did you do that?” I replied, with a smile, “I knew all they would hear was Taps, so I had to make it loud



and clear.” With that, I got a “great job” from him, and then thumbs up from both Honor Guard teams as they departed.

I guess the point in all this is “stay focused” on what we are there for and what our duty is and persevere through. Trust your ability and your equipment, who knows what memory can come from it.

### **Randy Ide - Pennsylvania**

In early May 2018, I received a phone call from Howard Reitenbaugh. He informed me that a BAA member, and acquaintance of mine, Brad Hersch, has served a Memorial Day mission for many years. This year, he was unable to serve. I was honored to be asked to serve in his place.



We held services at three different places, Calvary Cemetery, the Lower Greenfield War Memorial, and at the Lower Hazelwood War Memorial. Key note speaker for each location was Lieutenant Commander Todd McIntyre, USN. Not only is he an accomplished officer, he has also had to overcome a condition called Locked-In Syndrome. Many who suffer this never regain the ability to move, speak or eat. Although not perfectly, he is now blessed to be able to eat, speak, and walk on his own again.

At our last stop, I was placed on a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor porch overlooking the Lower Hazelwood War Memorial. I've included the picture my wife, Monica, took as I was sounding Taps. I thought the framing of the photo was interesting.

### **James Doepke - Florida**

Sounding Taps at Key West Navy League Annual Memorial Day Service.





### Stuart Knade - Pennsylvania

Recently, I played at two events commemorating the 150th anniversary of the first Remembrance Day. One was at the Lancaster Cemetery, Lancaster, PA, organized by Camp 19 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, as requested through BAA. The second was impromptu, inspired by the first. With plenty of daylight left, I decided to drive south of Lancaster city to visit the grave of my great-great-grandfather Henry D. Good in the cemetery of the Marticville United Methodist Church.

Henry was a civil war Union soldier who sadly did not make it home alive, leaving a wife and children. I sounded Taps for my ancestor and the other veterans interred there, with no living audience as far as I could see. A couple dozen graves were decorated with flags, and I saw at least one grave of a vet of the Revolutionary War. Given the age of the cemetery, there were probably vets of the French and Indian Wars too. I could not ask for a more appreciative audience!

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

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

**The deadline for this is August 10th.**

Please email [JenDayBAA@iCloud.com](mailto:JenDayBAA@iCloud.com)

## Letters of Gratitude



Dear Gretchen (Heffler),

With heartfelt gratitude, thank you for your generous service and tribute to our brother, David Bear, in honor of his service to our country's Navy.

We know you freely and generously volunteer in the service of others, veterans and their families. We personally are profoundly touched beyond the adequacy of words for your selfless gift to David and our family. Thank you.

To assist you in continuing your service to other veterans and their families, please except the amount enclosed, toward defraying your cost of gas or towards supplies or other costs that will be helpful to your noble work.

And may our good and loving God bless you and yours and as generously as he has blessed us with the gift of you and your service in our lives.

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Mojica  
Sister of David Bear, Navy Veteran

*Michelle (Murray-Poczobut),*

*We wanted to take this opportunity to let you know how very much we appreciated you taking time out of your life to honor our husband/dad as he was laid to rest. You sharing your talent in such an unselfish manner touched our broken hearts in a way we can't begin to convey to you.*

*Please except our heartfelt gratitude,*

*Dianne Moore*

*Pamela Parrigin & family*

*Melissa Space & family*

*Scott Moore & family*

Mr. Tom Day,

Thank you for founding Bugles Across America. Your mission is so very noble, and has touched many families deeply.

I work for a hospice organization, JourneyCare, which is often asked to provide programs for patriotic holidays and honoring veterans at senior living communities and nursing homes in our 10 county service area in northern Illinois.

I've worked with several buglers over the past three years. All are most gracious and helpful, but one - James Reynolds - goes above and beyond when it comes to honoring senior veterans. He dresses impeccably and performs Taps with dignity and feeling. He monitors all requests, and if no bugler responds and he's able. He has driven great distances to make sure we have a live bugler for all our veteran-honoring programs.

Jim is dedicated to BAA's mission and represents your organization well. I'm so grateful for his service and for his commitment to honoring veterans.

Linda Rockwell

*I have had Ben Corner as the bugler for the Lake of the Woods Veteran Club Ceremonies for the last two years, and he has continued to improve at each event. His uniform, poise and presentation of Colors and Taps enhances our Ceremonies. As President, it is a privilege to work with such a young man who continually strives to be better and is reliable.*

*Daniel L. Greene*

I wanted to give a huge shout out to Mr. Al Hall Jr, of Virginia Beach and Bugles Across America for providing such a great service. Mr. Hall represented your organization with stellar performance of Taps and played it with pride and honor.

Thank You again.

God & Country

Gerry Soucheray, Commander

American Legion Post 88, Nansemond

*Just saw about your service on Fox News. Thank you for your services. Many years ago, I lost my father and there was no one to sound Taps for him. I am thrilled that other families of veterans will not feel they are no longer important thanks to your members.*

*CeeJay Thomas*

Just wanted to say what a true blessing it was to have Ben Corner from Orange, VA come and sound Taps for my father's funeral yesterday. He arrived on time, dressed professionally, and provided Taps for a Seabee -Vietnam Veteran.

Thank you again from a grateful family.

Michelle Rapole Lyons

*Greg Murphy was absolutely incredible for us today. Everyone was brought to tears by his playing and honoring my grandfather in New Jersey. Thank you all for what you do and especially thank you to Greg for his immediate response to my request through the website and for being there for us in the rain. His professionalism was apparent and it meant the world to my family.*

*LaShandra C. Oliver-Moshier*



Our bugler Bill Coburn, was amazing. Bill's presentation was excellent, he played with such compassion, shook a few hands and quietly slipped away. I couldn't have asked for a better experience. He was the icing on the cake. We had a wonderful memorial service for our veteran and I know he would have felt so honored.

*Daryl Cushenbery*

*My father, Thomas J. O'Keefe, a WWII veteran, who served under Patton, fought at the Battle of the Bulge, fought in the Rhineland Campaign and served as an MP at the Nuremberg Trials passed away on June 1. He was buried on June 8 at Calverton National Cemetery,*

*Thanks to Bugles Across America, and to Tom Dwyer, who sounded Taps, my father received a wonderful send off! Oh, how I wish our young Americans would understand all that has been sacrificed.*

*May God bless you for what you do!*

*We will be making a donation, and asking others to donate to your organization, as well.*

*With humble and sincere thanks,  
Maureen O'Keefe*



Dear Mr. Day,  
Thank you for making another special morning for all of us at Pershing School. What a way to honor our soldiers! You and Julie are very dear to us.  
P.s. Love my new flag!



*As LCPL John Ferril's brother I want to thank you for your participation in the ceremony. It could not have gone better. Thank you again.*

*Sincerely*

*William N. Ferril*





## THE ORGANIZATION THAT'S PRESERVING LIVE BUGLERS AT MILITARY FUNERALS

Mark Athitakis  
Associations Now  
May 23, 2018



According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, [more than 600,000 U.S. military veterans die every year](#). And by federal law, nearly all of those veterans are entitled upon request to [military funeral honors](#), which includes the playing of “Taps.”

The law doesn't specify that “Taps” be played by a live bugler, though, so the funerals tend to use workarounds, such as a portable CD player or faux bugles with a device in the bell of the instrument that plays a digital recording of the song. For Tom Day, such performances are suboptimal and error-prone: He believes there's no substitute for a real musician at such a solemn event, and he's built an organization around it.

Day founded Bugles Across America (BAA) in January 2000, shortly after the Department of Defense established new rules for military funerals. As a bugler himself, he wanted to help close the inevitable gap of live musicians at the ceremonies. Starting with his network of friends and colleagues from his time in a drum and bugle corps, within a few years, he had a network of state coordinators nationwide.

Today, Day says BAA has more than 5,000 volunteer members who perform at approximately 5,200 funerals and military events every year. “People want live horn players,” Day said. “It means so much to the family. A military funeral is one of the most meaningful things for the family that requests it, and you want to make it the most moving thing that you can.”

[Click for full article](#)

## Young boy to play Taps

Gettysburg Times  
Jun 18, 2018

One Hundred Nights of Taps will feature one of the youngest buglers of the season next week. Aidan Peterson, 12, from Philadelphia, participated last year and is returning this year to play on June 21 and 22. He is the youngest registered volunteer bugler for Bugles Across America for the last three years. His commitment to the veteran community earned him three Presidential Volunteer Service Awards from the White House, the Legion of Honor Award from the Chapel of Four Chaplains, and numerous other awards/recognitions from local military organizations including the Marine Corps Honor Guard at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery.



As a Primavera Artist, Peterson has seven years of experience playing the trumpet. He is a member of the Delaware County Youth Orchestra, DeLaSalle String Band Orchestra, Upper Darby Sousa Band, and The Shipley School Honors Combo and Jazz Band. He was recently awarded second place in the North International Music Competition, competing against musicians from 41 countries.

This is the second year for the notes of Taps to fill the air in Gettysburg every evening of the summer as the famous 24-note call is sounded in honor of those who have served our nation. The Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania, in partnership with Taps For Veterans, and Gettysburg National Military Park, invite the public to attend One Hundred Nights of Taps daily at 7 p.m. through Labor Day, Sept. 3, at the Soldiers' National Monument in the Gettysburg National Cemetery. Buglers are coming from 15 states throughout the nation to play.

[Click for full article](#)



## Armed Forces Day at Fredericksburg National Cemetery

[National Park Service](#)

Becky Oakes

May 14, 2018

On Saturday, May 19, 2018, Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park will mark Armed Forces Day with a program in the Fredericksburg National Cemetery. At 11 a.m., Bugles Across America representative Garret Lewis will open the event with the playing of Taps. This will be followed by a 60 minute program highlighting the stories of some of the service men and women buried in the cemetery.

On August 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day. The single-day celebration stemmed from the unification of the Armed Forces under one department - the Department of Defense - and replaced separate Army, Navy and Air Force Days. In a speech announcing the formation of the day, President Harry S. Truman "praised the work of the military services at home and across the seas" as "vital to the security of the nation and to the establishment of a desirable peace." Today, the event is commemorated in communities around the country.

The Fredericksburg National Cemetery is located near the Fredericksburg Battlefield Visitor Center, 1013 Lafayette Blvd, Fredericksburg, VA 22401. Please call the visitor center at 540-693-3200 x 4040 with any questions.

[Link to 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](mailto:JenDayBAA@iCloud.com)



**Q:** I inherited my Dad's horn. He was in the Army during WWII and he played it... It just sits in a closet and I think it would be really wonderful for it to be put to good use sounding Taps and honoring his fellow service people. Please let me know how to donate it ?

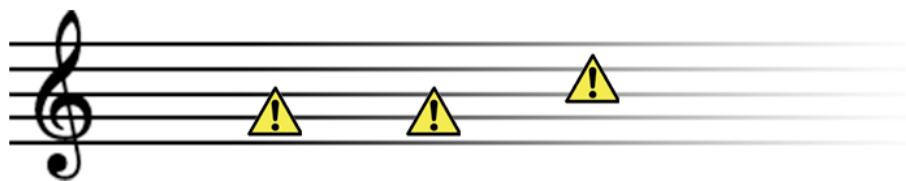
**A:** Your offer of donating this special instrument to Bugles Across America so that it might see continued use in honoring veterans is much appreciated. The best method to ship the horn would be to have it packaged and shipped by UPS. Send to our headquarters location at:  
BUGLES ACROSS AMERICA, NFP  
c/o Tom Day, Founder  
1824 S. Cuyler Ave  
Berwyn, IL 60402

**Q:** Is your program is reserved for Marines only? I served in the US Army and am retired but active and able to serve my fellow veterans.

**A:** Anyone can join Bugles Across America. Any age, military, civilian, male, female... as long as they can show they can sound Taps in a dignified manner on a horn and understand the responsibilities.

Have a question that you want answered?

Please email [galaxypilot@verizon.net](mailto:galaxypilot@verizon.net) and place "Q & A" in the subject line.



## 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](mailto:TomJDay@sbcglobal.net)

# 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](http://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>



## "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](mailto:vsprinting@hotmail.com)  
(708) 655-4774

### Bugler on Duty



Sounding "Taps" For Heroes  
[BuglesAcrossAmerica.Org](http://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>





# 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](mailto:galaxypilot@verizon.net) so we can provide membership verification to Getzen.**



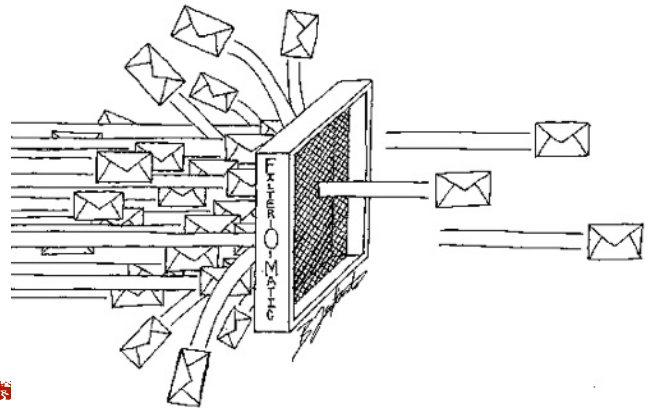


**Are you not receiving emails from BAA? You could be having....**

### ***Internet Service Provider and Firewall Problems***

If you receive email through a service provider such as [aol.com](http://aol.com), [yahoo.com](http://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](mailto:info@buglesacrossamerica.org) and [requests@buglesacrossamerica.org](mailto: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.





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](#)

## 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](#)

[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](#)

### Gear & Decorative

[Getzen](#)

[Getzen Order Form](#)

[Kanstul](#)

[Scentsy Service & Sacrifice Warmer](#)

### Organizations

[Spirit of '45](#)

[Boot Hill Bandits](#)

[Drum Corps International](#)

[Flags For Vets](#)

[Association of Military Musicians](#)

[Freelancers Alumni Drum and Bugle Corps](#)

[The Tributes Lady](#)

[Regimental Drum Major Association](#)

[The Bent Prop Project](#)

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

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