BAA Briefing

Here we are at the beginning of September, and it's time to think about gearing up for the winter season. Let me know if any of you need a Kelly mouthpiece for the cold months ahead.

I have been sending to Jen some of the thank you cards and stories I've received from families who have been so honored to have many of you sound TAPS for their loved one or a special event recently. These notes, as well as many phone calls come in with stories about how great you all were helping the families provide proper and dignified honors. It gives me a great sense of pride to know that our group continues to step up and serve so selflessly. I am so very appreciative of you all.

I just got back from the Special Forces "Green Beret" 50th Anniversary ceremonies and associated activities in West Virginia. I was truly honored to have been invited to attend and share the story of Bugles Across America. It was great experience, and working as a team we presented over 50 Gold Star Mothers/ Families Flags. The Mayor of Charleston, WV was there, and came up to me to say that she plays trumpet and is interested in what we do. She said that she would like to do this but on Bugle. When she said that she has no idea where to get a good one, I said, “Problem solved. Here is a custom G-Bugle that was made by my friend Zig Kanstul in California”. The Mayor was delightfully surprised and very happy. The Gold Star Moms and the Green Beret teams were also impressed with the story and participation of BAA. Next, I'm hopping to get Chicago's new Mayor, who also plays trumpet, to sign up as a BAA volunteer.
I'll be working directly with her in March as we put together the 2020 Memorial Day program and parade. On a side note....I remember some of you telling how many miles you put on your vehicles while serving as BAA volunteers. I have a 2014 Dodge and I looked at mine and realized I've logged 75,000. We do get the job done.

On August 21st I represented BAA as the speaker at the 2019 graduation program for Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, IL to honor seven newly trained members of the Funeral Details Team. It’s always an honor to be a participant in this recognition service. While there, I got acquainted with the new Cemetery Director. The best part, however, was to hear long-time BAA Bugler Ed Crobie sound TAPS. I have to say that in all my years of sounding TAPS, and hearing some very good trumpet players, there is no one who sounds any better than Ed Crobie on his bugle. By the way, Ed was the first person to sound TAPS at this Cemetery almost 20 years ago, and has been serving faithfully there ever since. Kudos to Ed!

Thank YOU ALL for everything you so faithfully and do for "The Families of the Fallen", and God Bless you.

Brother Tom
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:

* Delaware
* Iowa
* Massachusetts
* Michigan
* Montana
* North Dakota
* Rhode Island
* South Carolina
* Wisconsin
* Wyoming

Qualifications:

* Computer literacy
* Passion for serving veterans
* Communication Skills
* 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 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 is complete!

The winners drawn from all who entered are….

Vincent Divincenzo of Illinois
Thomas Sneeringer of District of Columbia
Ruben Zapata of Illinois

Congratulations to these fine BAA members!

The next drawing is in June. 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.

Winner from issue # 47

Thanks again for the Andalucia horn. It will definitely get good use on future missions. The shepherds crook, silver and brass finish make it a beauty.
Chet Ruminski - Pennsylvania
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 October 1st. 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 Pacific Time on the 30th day after publication of that newsletter.
* Selection of winning entries will be final.
* Newsletter staff and BAA National Officers are not eligible for contest entry.
* Bugles Across America, nfp will not be liable for any misdirected or incomplete entries.
* No substitutions for awarded prizes will be made.
I Found The Bugle!

In the Bugler’s Post, Issue #: _____
I found the BUGLE hidden on page: _____
in the: _________________________
(describe the specific location, such as article, paragraph, line number or picture)

Name: ___________________

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

Telephone: ___________________

Mailing Address:
  Street: _______________________________
  City: _________________________________
  State, Zip: ____________________________

All entries must be by email submission of this Official Entry Form, and must be received no later than midnight Pacific time, thirty days after the publication of this Bugler’s Post issue. Entry sequence will be determined by the time stamp indicated upon arrival of form.

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

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

Copy and Paste this form into your email. Fill in the blanks and email the entry to findthebugle@gmail.com
We want to extend a hearty congratulations to the three winners of Issue #47 who were selected at random from all the correct entries.

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

**Stephen Thompson** of Oklahoma  
**Alan Williams** of Michigan  
**Daniel Tomasek** of Washington

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.

**Michael Finkelstein** of Arizona recently became the latest Grand Prize Winner in the Find the Bugle Contest.

*I am super excited to have won this beautiful horn and am looking forward to playing it. It represents a wonderful organization doing good deeds in the community. Thank you very much.* - Michael Finkelstein
New State Director

Jennifer Curran - Assistant State Director, Maine

Jennifer started playing the trumpet at the young age of 9. She was first asked to sound Taps for the Georgetown, Massachusetts VFW in 7th grade when she was 11. She continued sounding Taps for the VFW throughout Junior High and High School, finding the experiences extremely rewarding.

After High School graduation in 1985, Jennifer attended Wheaton College in Norton, MA, where she studied music. In 1989, following college graduation, she continued sounding Taps along with various other performance opportunities. In 1993, she attended Boston Conservatory to pursue graduate studies in music education.

Since that time, Jennifer has continued to perform and has enjoyed learning a variety of musical instruments, including trumpet, Celtic flute, bagpipes, and guitar. Jennifer has many family members in the military...most are Marines. Her father, uncles and several cousins have dedicated their lives to protecting this country. She considers sounding Taps for BAA a sincere opportunity to give back to these amazing people.
Roger Ellis - Arizona State Director

Kate Menasco, my wife Mitzi, and I conducted a Veterans Day program on behalf of BAA that was organized by the Trilogy Veterans Club in Peoria, Arizona. Mitzi spoke about the meaning of Veterans Day. Kate and I played a duet of the service song medley plus the songs of the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force (their club has members from both). We concluded with a remembrance by Mitzi of the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI, then Kate and I sounded Echo Taps. The crowd was quite large and appreciative of our efforts.

Ray Mallen - Florida

I sounded Taps for Airman Basic Gary Edward Wells U.S. Air Force on Feb 11, 2019 at Bay Pines National Cemetery on the grounds of the V. A. Hospital St. Petersburg, Fl. I’ve recently retired and moved to Florida from California and love honoring our fallen heroes. There were funerals every 1/2 hour that day. The Air Force did a wonderful job on the Flag folding ceremony. Many thank you's from the Wells family. God Bless BAA.
Larry Ballenger - California

When the one-hundredth anniversary of the World War I armistice came in 2018, the British-American club of North Hollywood, California, called the Mayflower Club, as they were planning a special event. They meet regularly in their well-appointed clubhouse to have tea, swap stories, exchange family history and occasionally honor and hear from a British diplomat or consular official. They have had visits from members of England’s royal family.

For this 100th Armistice Day commemoration, they would recount the WW I history, sing some of the songs, wear some of the clothes and uniforms, and, of course, have a proper British memorial ceremony, just like the one at the memorial Cenotaph in London. All over England on that day, often at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, fallen soldiers are honored with the playing of a bugle and the reading of appropriate names and poems.

They needed a bugler and they found Bugles Across America… and BAA found me. I saw the request come in and it sounded fascinating. However, the event was on a Sunday, and I wasn’t sure what or where my church responsibilities might be. Then a second, urgent appeal came out from our state director, and I assessed my schedule, and decided I could take the mission. I punched the “Accept” button on the website. I could see that I could make it from worship across town to North Hollywood. The freeways are light on Sundays. It was do-able.

Then the work began. The bugle calls they wanted wasn’t Taps, but the British calls, Last Post, and Rouse. Those are played at the Cenotaph, and that is what they wanted.

In 1862, during our Civil War, General Dan Butterfield altered some notes and the phrasing of “Extinguish Lights” to create what soon thereafter became known as Taps.

The Mayflower Club wanted Last Post. I have a lot of bugle calls in my repertoire, and I coach Boy Scouts in the fifteen that are required for the Bugling merit badge. But Last Post isn’t one of them. So I had to do some research.

I found some printed music for Last Post and Rouse, and I went on line to hear a recording of approximately what the tempo should be. I practiced them, got myself ready, and made my way across town to the Mayflower Club on Sunday afternoon. (My wife and I were lured, in-part, by the British tea which would follow the program!) The program was well done, not excessively long, and at the appropriate time I played my two British bugle calls, with the time of silence and the reading of the poem “In Flanders Fields” in between.
There are no more veterans of World War I still living. However, in Britain and the countries of the Commonwealth, as well as in the United States, the heroes of that war are still remembered. They were especially remembered on November 11, 2018, the 100th anniversary of the Armistice.

Seth Rivkin - Pennsylvania

Here are two photos from the 2018 Wreath’s across America at Washington Crossing National Cemetery in Bucks County, PA. The uniform is from the Bucks County Firefighter and EMS Memorial Honor Guard. I’m a founding member of the organization, and the Bugler. Additionally my background comes from serving in a US Air Force Honor Guard team from 1983-1984.

Gayle Dembski - California

I come from a Military family. My dad was an Air Force pilot and flew “The Hump” during WWII. My stepfather was a Navy commander and a pilot. My oldest brother served in Viet Nam and my middle brother was in the Navy. So growing up I learned a lot about the military life, the sacrifices and of course the respect for God, country and the flag! Sounding Taps at funeral services and special services such as Memorial Day, is not just an honor as you know, it is also a privilege and a service that I take very seriously! Every service I have done has been memorable in it’s own way! All of the services have one big thing in common…the people who are in charge of the service and the family members are the nicest, kindest and most polite people I have had the pleasure of encountering ! They are always so grateful… The most memorable moment at one service still brings a smile on my face and warmth in my heart. As I finished sounding Taps at the end of the ceremony, I slowly lowered my trumpet, and a woman turned around, caught my eye and just whispered, “Thank you”! I will never forget that.
Tim Griffin - New Jersey

I wanted to share with fellow buglers my recent experience sounding Taps at two separate funerals and how that experience makes me truly appreciate the opportunities the BAA provides to me daily. Though the demands of my job as a police chief take up much of my time (like so many of you in your work), I try to accept the missions that I am able to do and I look forward to a time in the future when I am able to do much more.

The first funeral service was in October for former US Congressman Cornelius "Neil" Gallagher, a political icon in Hudson County, New Jersey, who passed at the age of 97. Congressman Gallagher was the grandfather of a dear friend of mine, Bridgette. While she intended to ask me personally to sound Taps, little did she know, I had already received a BAA request and accepted the mission. The Congressman was an Infantry Captain in the United States Army and had served in both World War II and Korea. He was awarded two Bronze Star Medals and three Purple Heart Medals for wounds received from enemy gunfire and artillery. That’s right…3 Purple Hearts, which is an astounding sacrifice for any one person to have had to make.

As the flag was being folded, I noticed an elderly gentleman sitting in a wheelchair near the casket saluting his friend goodbye, the kind of salute only a military man would know how to pull off. Later in the day, I had the honor and pleasure of meeting this man, Mr. Cornelius J. "Neil" Carroll, and learned that he was not only the Congressman’s childhood and lifelong friend but had also served as his Chief of Staff in Congress. I would later learn that Mr. Carroll had served as the Chief of Staff to three other US Congressmen during his lifetime. He, too, was a decorated veteran who served in the United States Navy during both World War II and Korea.

Ironically, just two months later, I found myself serving as Mr. Carroll’s bugler when he passed in December at the age of 91. Afterward, the family members came up to me with tears in their eyes to tell me how I made them cry, like so many other family members have told me before. I replied as I always do with a comforting smile, “That’s my job…to make you cry”.

While both men had very impressive backgrounds and each had achieved high political offices, it is their military service and sacrifice that I found astonishing as I served during these two bugle missions. With each passing of these men and women from the greatest generation, I am reminded of how much they were willing to give of themselves to preserve the freedom and liberties that we all enjoy today. There will never be another greatest generation like them and I am truly honored to have met so many of them.
Who Was Arthur F. Church, Bugler?
By Glenn Ledbetter - Washington

The first time I sounded “Taps” near the Chimes Tower at Veterans Memorial Park in north Seattle, I found myself standing near a headstone reading, “Arthur F. Church, Idaho, Bugler, 109 Inf., 28 Div., 28 October 1889, 10 January 1945.” Imagine that---what a rare, unusual find! His grave is among those of 5,000 veterans buried in this section of the larger Evergreen-Washelli Cemetery. That was in 2011. Every time I return, I stand in the same spot near my departed comrade from “Auld Lang Syne” (old times gone by). I’ve developed a fond image of the man buried there. I knew his name but not his story. Lately, I’ve wondered, “Who Was Arthur F. Church?”

I had imagined that he might have been a career musician, perhaps even playing cornet in a military band. Perhaps he served in WWI, maybe in the cavalry, perhaps in Europe, even in combat, sounding “To Arms, Charge, Retreat, Commence Firing, Cease Firing,” and more. Buglers were special targets; kill a bugler, and you disrupt your enemy’s communications.

After much searching on the internet, his real-life story emerged. I read about the regiment and the division, his active duty in the military, his family, his two wives, his work, his troubles with opium and the law, his early death at 55, and more. Let me focus on the bugle because that’s what we have in common.

It appears that Arthur was drafted into the Army toward the end of WWI and served only one year. He enlisted on 24 May 1918 and was discharged on 20 May 1919. The Armistice (cease fire agreement) that ended WWI was signed on 11 November 1918. He already was a married man. He had married Florence Strike in Wallace, Idaho on 2 April 1917. Did he play a brass instrument before entering the service? I don't know. In any case, the Army made him a bugler, and apparently, that's all the bugling he ever did.
Census records in 1920 and 1930 indicate that after the war, he lived as a lodger in Seattle and worked as a miner and a hook tender in the regrading industry. Other public records describe him thus at age 34: height 5'6", weight 144 lbs., dark brown hair, brown eyes, medium build, ruddy complexion, with gold-crowned, upper left molar teeth and scars on the back of his head, right hand, and right thigh. Arthur seems to have had a "hard-knock life," as the song goes in the musical, Annie.

There is a book that covers all the calls that every 1918 U.S. military bugler had to know. It's by V.F. Safranek and was published in 1918 in New York by Carl Fischer, 158 pages. It's entitled, Complete Instructive Manual for Bugle, Trumpet and Drum. Now we know what Arthur F. Church, Bugler, knew.

The next time I sound “Taps” near the Chimes Tower in Veterans Memorial Cemetery, I'll again stand next to Arthur F. Church, whose gravestone bears the cross above his name.

**Russell Person - California**

While serving with BAA and the Son's of Confederate Veterans, I sounded a very mournful Taps to help consecrate the grave of a Confederate soldier buried at the Union Cemetery in Bakersfield, California. The group, along with the Daughter's of the Confederacy, identify and place headstones, provided by the Federal Government for American Veterans. The service was accompanied by more than thirty people.

Deo Vindice

**Dani Masterson - New York State Director**

It was a real honor to be on the Keep the Spirit of '45 Alive float in the National Memorial Day Parade with some of our true American Heroes which included Pearl Harbor survivors, World War II veterans, and some of our last remaining Rosie the Riveters. At 3pm when the parade came to a standstill for the National Moment of Silence, I sounded Taps from the float.

Just waiting for the parade to start.
Glenn Ledbetter - Washington

Once in a while during these past 10 years, a memorial service stands out as special to me. Such was the case on Sunday, 10 February at Purdy & Walters Funeral Home at Floral Hills in Lynnwood, Washington.

It was between snowstorms that we gathered in the chapel at 1 p.m. to remember and honor Laurence Joseph (“Larry Joe”) Mensing, who passed away on 21 January. His son, Joe, then contacted me through Bugle Across America for “Taps.” Born and raised in Montana, Specialist (SPC) Mensing had joined the Army in 1968 and served almost 24 years. He met his wife, Yoko Makishi, while stationed at Fort Buckner, Okinawa. They were married 45 years and had four children and six grandchildren. She preceded him in death.

Two of Larry Joe’s younger brothers and a niece spoke tearfully about his significance in their lives. He was clearly adored and honored. One brother, with choked, cracking voice, said Larry Joe was his best friend and talked about how the Army had changed his older brother into a dignified gentleman. Another brother, pounding the podium and mourning the loss, said that all his life, he wanted to be just like Larry Joe. The niece said Larry Joe was known for pranks and teasing, and from a young age, she was always certain that he loved her. He was the family leader.

The Army Honor Guard, comprised of 9 soldiers, fired the three-volley rifle salute, and as six of them held the flag level above the casket, I sounded “Taps” on my beautiful Getzen bugle with the BAA engraving on the bell.

There were lots of red eyes and wet cheeks among the audience. He was that beloved. On leaving, I went up to Joe, who held the flag in his arms. We shook hands, and I thanked him for the honor and privilege of sounding “Taps.” Like the others, his eyes were wet and red. RIP, Larry Joe. You were special.
Chester Ruminski – Pennsylvania

I recently retired from a network security firm and became a BAA volunteer based out of Southeastern Pennsylvania. I became involved after learning about BAA while attending a trumpet workshop in Lubec, Maine. I’m very proud to be a member of BAA and glad for the new relationships. I served on destroyers (WWII vintage) in the US Navy between 1972-1976 and like many of you, have been playing since elementary school.

As of this writing, I’ve completed eight missions. My first one was a graveside service in February on one of the coldest and windiest days, 24 degrees 30 MPH winds. I was kind of nervous but pulled it off without cracking a note. The family was very kind and appreciative.

One mission recently for a USCG veteran took me to the cemetery where my father, a WWII veteran, is buried. I always felt I should have sounded Taps at his funeral. After the USCG service, I sounded Taps at my Dad’s WWII marker. I’m so glad I did. I noticed some in cemetery that were walking stopped in honor when I started sounding Taps. I’m going to do the same for my uncle who proudly served under General Patton.

Another mission that I just completed was for a WWII Naval Officer who ferried wounded from the shores of Iwo Jima to hospital ships. His kind family said he was so proud of his service. After they sang the Navy Hymn I sounded Taps. It was a moving experience and I am grateful for the opportunity to deliver honors for this man. Sometimes you honor a mission that just touches the heart. His family was extremely gracious.

~~~Duty Honor Country~~~

I, along with several other BAA members, attended the Armed Forces Day tribute at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery. I put together a collage from my clips and what Doug Wilburne and Pete Willeford sent me, Next year I plan on bringing a couple of my trumpet buddies from SE PA.

Click for the video!
Tom Day - Illinois, BAA Founder

I was recently asked to sound Taps for the founder of the Rosemont Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps. While sitting in the chapel of Saint Joseph’s Cemetery, I heard busses drive up outside. I went to the door and saw five very large busses and getting out of them were young men dressed in kelly green, black and white. Drums and horns were unloaded and voices started calling the Cavaliers to attention. The entire Corps lined up, the Saber Team made two lines so Don’s casket would come thru. Then as the people came in, the Corps played… and it was the best. I did my best to sound a perfect Taps, but the emotion I was caught up in… it turned out to be good… but not my best.

This was right up there with another funeral when I was flown out to at Arlington for Pappy Boyington's funeral. Pappy called me a week prior and asked that I sound Taps. Then the Marines called and said they would fly me out and I could film the entire program they had put together. I recorded the whole program and got to meet Pappy's family.

5,000 funerals and many, many stories, and I guess you could say I get emotional at them all. "God Bless them all" and "God Bless all our BAA buglers. Thank you for all you do for the families of the fallen.

Jim Doepke - Florida

Here I am playing National Anthem Number 27 in Yankee Stadium. I have a personal goal of performing the US National Anthem at every major league baseball park in America. I have two more MLB parks to go (Miami and Atlanta) to reach all 30. See: www.AnthemAcrossAmerica.org

Watch the CBS news interview
Tim Park - Colorado State Director

This is a photo of BAA Bugler Mike May (front right) with the District 6 (Colorado) Commander Annette Johnson (front and center) and participants of the American Legion Post 2012 Memorial Day Celebration.

This is Mike May (right) and Tim Park (left) with the Colorado Honor Bell before sounding Echo Taps at the Englewood Veterans Memorial Celebration, Memorial Day weekend. As Mike and I began sounding Echo Taps, it started to rain, clearly tears from Heaven.

Victor Aguilar - Hawaii

Aloha! This is a photo of Jhay Bryan, JROTC cadet at Wamea High School, Hawaii, receiving BAA’s medal from SGM Keith K. Castaneda.

Harry Dillon III - Pennsylvania

I had the honor of representing BAA at the Pennsylvania Weekend at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD. I participated in the service to honor the PA firefighters that died in the line of duty this past year.
Larry Icenogle - California

Though BAA doesn't 'officially sanction' the sounding of 'Echo Taps,' I had an experience recently that was unique.

I accepted the mission to sound Taps for the funeral of Chief Rubinie Pappan, a 24-year Navy veteran of World War II. In the run-up coordination to the service, I was contacted by the local VFW Post in Covina and told about the honor guard that would be attending the service as well.

During the course of the conversation, I was asked about sounding 'Echo Taps' with their regular bugler. After explaining our official position, the NCOIC asked if I'd at least talk to their guy. I agreed to do so.

Bernard 'Bernie' Cain, age 94 and himself a WW II and Korean War Navy veteran, called me and convinced me to 'audition' him and see if we could work out a suitable solution. I agreed to meet with him an hour before the funeral and, to my pleasant surprise, Bernie was indeed a 'player.'

We tuned up and ran several reps of 'Echo Taps' until we were both satisfied that this could be done to a very high standard.

The graveside service went off without a hitch, and the family was both pleased and appreciative.

I asked one of the sailors from the San Diego flag detail to take a photo of Bernie and me afterwards. We've dubbed ourselves 'Bernie and the Kid,' since he's 94 and I'm only 70!

Afterwards, we chatted a bit more and he said, 'You want to be my Facebook friend?' I'm serious: Bernie and I are now Facebook friends. What a guy! In my Facebook post about this event, my final comment was, "When I grow up, I want to be just like Bernie!"
Pat Bocker - Nevada

Bugles Across America has increased the international connection! As a bugler in Southern Nevada, I recently had the opportunity to support our Veteran’s from Down Under by sounding for ANZAC Day on April 25th. ANZAC day is a day of remembrance in Australia and New Zealand, much like our Memorial Day. This is the fifth year ANZAC Day was celebrated in Las Vegas. After the ceremony, I had a chance to talk with some of those who attended. Two ladies from Australia happened to be on vacation in Vegas and were able to attend. It is a very important ceremony honoring the servicemen of both countries. After opening remarks and prayers, the Australian and New Zealand National anthems sung, Veterans laid wreaths honoring the military members who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Although a small group attended, it was still important to provide the proper honors. Taps was not sounded at this ceremony, instead, The Last Post and The Rouse were sounded. Thanks to an assist from Mary Sedgewick, Assistant State Director for NV and to YouTube, I was able to sound both calls in a proper and dignified fashion. The woman who organizes this event hopes to continue having Bugles Across America support this event. I know if at all possible I will be there to support ANZAC Day each time they request a bugler.

Tom Laffey - California

In the past few years I have taken the liberty, as a member of BAA, of placing a business card sized ad in the summer concert program for the Pomona Concert Band (PCB). This 50-60 member community band has been in existence since 1947 to entertain the Pomona, CA, and surrounding communities with symphonic band music. I have played cornet/trumpet in this band since 1984. I am sending you a PCB summer program so you can see what and where in the program I have placed the ad. I have also included a "Thank You" letter from our band treasurer.

Even though I don't sound Taps very often any more, I am still ready and proud to bring BAA to the attention of any and all. I really believe on our cause and the wonderful support we all give the families and friends of those departed Veterans we honor. I was able and honored to sound Taps for my father several years ago.
Matthew Griffith - Indiana

How to Sound Taps With a Mouth Full of Gun Blank Paper

I am not an experienced bugler, but I've had a couple interesting experiences in my short bugler career. My first time sounding Taps at a military funeral is undoubtedly my most interesting experience, for a couple reasons.

It was a beautiful day, with a blue sky and just a few white puffy clouds. I drove to the cemetery and arrived early. I was there with trumpet in hand almost two hours early, because this was important and I was nervous. I've played trumpet and french horn for 40 years. I've played in marching bands, concert bands, pit orchestras, full orchestras, chamber orchestras and jazz bands. I even played in a soul band and a southern rock band in law school. So, over the years, I've played 1,000's of hours of music and millions of notes before 10,000's of people.

So, why in the world would I be so nervous about 24 more notes?

That day, I was playing for a WWII vet who had served as a belly gunner in the Pacific. He went off to war in his early 20's. When he returned home, he married his high school sweetheart, started a family, volunteered at his church and charities, served as a volunteer fireman, and had lived a good life. He was a proud American with a loving family, and he was a veteran. This was a good man, deserving of the highest and most honorable send-off. I was nervous, because I was unsure whether I could sound 24 notes well enough to honor him and his family. That's why I was so nervous, and I've never been that nervous before a performance before or since that day.

I also was unsure of where to stand, when to start, what to say to his family, etc. Oh sure, I had attended funerals before, but I had never sounded Taps at a veteran's funeral. Luckily, the honor guards and the other vets helped me with suggestions and coordination. So there I was, standing where I was supposed to be, facing the grave site, downwind from the honor guard, trumpet in hand, ready for my cue.

The ceremony started, and I watched from a distance. At first, it felt like the ceremony was in slow motion, and that my time to sound Taps would never arrive. I waited and waited and waited, and as I waited, small waves of nervousness came and went and came again. Then suddenly, time sped up. The honor guard fired its volley salute, and it was time!

I took a deep breath as I slowly raised my trumpet. As my mouthpiece drew closer to my
mouth and right as I was finishing to draw in my big breath, I tasted something bitter and metallic and dry hit my tongue. Something I had never before experienced. Something strange and a bit frightening. For a split second, I thought it might be a physical reaction to my extreme nervousness.

Then it hit me. . . I had a mouth full of the paper packing from the gun blanks! The paper had blown from the honor guard, positioned upwind, straight toward me and into my mouth.

**Now what?**

I didn't have much time. I certainly could not call a time out and go to my car, where I had a bottle of water. Luckily, the sour taste of the paper made my mouth water a little, and I was able to spit under my trumpet and mostly cleared my mouth. I took a much shorter and shallower breath and started to sound Taps.

It was not my best performance. It was not my worst. But it was good, and no one noticed what had happened or that I had struggled to start my Taps. I got very nice compliments from the honor guard and the family. In the end, I survived. But more importantly, I learned to stand upwind from the honor guard.

Most importantly, I had played my small part to honor a life well lived.

**Sharon Corner - Virginia**

My son, Ben Corner, was asked if being a member of Bugles Across America was a job. He said, “No, it’s an honor.”

#ProudMom

Showing off his new cool-weather BAA jacket!
Phillip Corbin - Tennessee

Many of us serve regularly by sounding Taps for our fallen veterans, but sometimes it's a little closer to home. Recently I got a call that one of our church members had unexpectedly been involved in a motorcycle accident that took his life. The veteran's name was Jim Stevenson and the Bugler was me, Phillip Corbin, Assistant State Director for Tennessee. When I first heard of the incident I knew immediately what I needed to do. I reached out to our pastor to confirm the name of the funeral home to offer my services for a LIVE bugler at the graveside. I was able to get in touch with the funeral home director and sure enough, the honor guard was going to be using an electronic bugle. When the funeral home director passed along the information to the family that I was willing to provide Taps live they did not hesitate to ask the funeral home director to work with the honor guard as there would be a BAA Live Bugler present to sound Taps.

I spent the next several days running through those 24 notes a few more times than I normally would for a flawless rendition. At the same time, I had to prepare a bit more mentally than normally because I personally knew Jim. When we sound Taps, it comes from the heart, but when it's someone we know personally it's more difficult. The memorial service was well attended so I knew the graveside would also be well-attended since it was not a private internment. I arrived at the cemetery a few minutes before the family and met the honor guard. We talked about the order of events to ensure we were all on the same page. Once everyone had arrived, the casket team escorted Jim to the grave and set the casket down.

The honor guard proceeded to secure the flag by ensuring that it was stretched out, level and centered over the casket. The brief service started, and then the pastor asked the family to rise for honors. The rifle volley completed, and I listened intently for the "Present Arms". I raised my bugle to sound those 24 notes for Jim. As I do every time before I play, I asked God to bless this ability he gave me and that I serve both Him, the veteran and the family well with what I was about to play.

My attitude is to always sound those 24 notes of Taps like it is the last time I am ever going to sound them for anyone. I treat every service as if it's the first and last time I will ever sound Taps, and Jim's was no different. A bit harder, yes, but just as polished as all previous and future ones to come.

The photo taken was courtesy of our pastor as I was standing at attention while the casket team escorted Jim to his final resting place.
Gene Bell - California

The following recaps a serendipitous happening that began as a normal Bugles Across America assignment and ended as a heart-warming combination of circumstances.

On June 5, I received the request to respond to a BAA request: a Memorial Service for a WWII Navy Veteran, 1st Class Petty Officer Don Wythe. The event was to be Saturday, June 15 in the rural area of Cedar Grove, El Dorado County, California.

On June 7, I called the requestor and was advised Mr. Wythe was 97 years old when he died. He had been a ham operator for 85 years and had heard about Pearl Harbor on his Ham radio before it was announced publicly. Soon thereafter, he joined the Navy and served in the Pacific. Wendy, his daughter, hoped that a Navy Honor Guard would be available for the event, but had not yet heard from them. I told her I would be there regardless of whether they were available. (It turned out that through some glitch the Navy had never been contacted.)

On Wednesday, June 12, I received a call from the local VFW Post member of who acts as coordinator of all Honor Guards from the various military organizations in the county (VFW, Fleet Reserve, Marine Corp League, American Legion, etc.) He told me “It’s County Fair week and all the groups have booths there so no one is available.” He asked if I knew of any Honor Guards that might be available for the Wythe Memorial. I knew of only one, but he said he had already contacted them and they couldn’t do it. He felt awful! I said I was serving with BAA on Friday with the US Navy and I would mention it to them.

On Friday, June 14, I sounded Taps at the National Cemetery in Dixon with the Navy Honors Team for another WWII Navy Veteran, Mr. Edwin Clark. Before Clark’s honors, I told the Navy Honors Team--Chief Petty Officer Wong and LCdr Dantice--about the following day’s dilemma near Camino (100 miles away).

He could arrange the Saturday event. He said the Navy would never let any WWII sailor be memorialized without an Honor Team present. I took him to my car where I had Mr. Wythe’s information. He phoned Wendy Wythe, assuring her the Navy Team would be there. I called the VFW member with the news; he was ecstatic.

The next day I arrived at Mr. Wythe’s home in Cedar Grove; a few minutes later, three US Navy Petty Officers arrived. A short service was held, memories shared, the Flag Folding ceremony, sounding of Taps and Flag Presentation made. Another WWII Veteran was appropriately honored.
Ron Tranmer - Utah

My name is Ron Tranmer. I am 78 years old. I served in the Marine Corps from 1958-1961. I am a bugler for an American Legion Honor Guard, as well as Bugles Across America.

Today, July 13, 2019, our American Legion Post 140 was assigned to perform military graveside honors for Robert Dalton, a USMC WWII veteran. Whenever our assignment is for a fellow Marine, I don my blues in honor of a fellow comrade and prepare to sound “Taps” live on my bugle. Our post usually fires a gun salute and sounds Taps. Often a military reserve unit is also assigned to fold and present the flag.

A Marine unit was there today, and I was told by the Marine sergeant in charge that they would be playing Taps on their ceremonial bugle. I said, “But mine is a LIVE bugle”. “Doesn’t matter”, he said. "Our orders are to use the ceremonial bugle unless the deceased’s family requests a live bugle”. I asked him if he would rather see this World War II veteran honored by someone pretending to play Taps on a phony bugle or to have it sounded live, from the heart, from a fellow Marine”? He said, “Live… but I have my orders”.

The ceremonial bugle has its place because there are not enough live buglers to go around. However, It used to be understood that when a live bugler is present, the fake (ceremonial) bugler would step down.

It is a sad day when even our military lacks the proper respect due to their own.

I have sounded Taps at hundreds of veterans gravesites. I don’t do it for personal attention or glory, but out of honor and respect for those who have served my country.

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

Ron Tranmer
Aidan Peterson - Pennsylvania

Aidan attended the Pacific Music Institute in Honolulu and while there, he wanted only one thing - to visit and sound Taps at Pearl Harbor and the National Cemetery. Thanks to Pennsylvania State Director, Howard Reitenbaugh, and Hawaii State Director, Christina Kolodziej, that happened. Aidan played aboard the Battleship Missouri facing the USS Arizona Memorial. They announced his name over a loudspeaker and thanked him for playing. They also presented him with a special commemorative pin that is given to musicians invited to play at the memorial. We also had a personal tour of the Missouri. Our tour guide told us that it was very meaningful that Aidan was volunteering to sound Taps because the Arizona Memorial has been off limits to visitors for over a year. He said Aidan's notes carried over the water was the closest thing the memorial would get to a visitor to honor and remember the lives lost. The trip was so incredibly emotional for us because we know a Pearl Harbor survivor from Philadelphia. While there we met another survivor, Sterling Gale. We are so grateful to Bugles Across America for helping to coordinate this memorable experience!

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

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

The deadline for this is October 10th.

Please email JenDayBAA@iCloud.com
Letters of Gratitude

I want to send my gratitude to your organization and Mr. Mike Hewitt. My grandfather, a WWII vet with 4 bronze stars and a Purple Heart was laid to rest today. Mr. Hewitt accepted my request within a half hour and his presence truly made the ceremony honorable for my hero. When I found out there may not be an actual bugle, I saw a link to your organization and was impressed with the quick response and professionalism. It was truly appreciated.
Kandice Schucker

Thank you so much! John Carson responded immediately! He sounded a beautiful rendition.
Floy An Sp

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you so much for the service you provided. My husband, Lawrence P Marcum, was a 20 year veteran from the Marine Corp and Army. He unexpectedly died last month. While my family was planning the services, I remembered that he told me that he would want a bugler at his service. No recordings or trumpet. He wanted a bugler. He would play the bugle (not so well) every time he and his team would leave base to go a mission (in Iraq). The funeral home wasn’t sure if they would be able to get one. A veteran who worked there found your organization. We were very honored and appreciative of the bugler that came to the cemetery and expertly sounded Taps. I cannot tell you how much this meant to me. On behalf of my family and myself, I thank you from the bottom of my heart.
Sincerely,
Patricia Marcum
I cannot thank you enough! Yesterday was my father’s funeral in Paramus NJ and Pete Gasiewicz came to sound Taps. What a beautiful service! Thank you for this wonderful organization blessing and honoring military men!!
Mission complete.
Sandy Dicarlo

I just want to give you a thank you in general and specifically for Larry Cichelli’s great service. Larry was there to greet us at the church and had all the details worked out with the Navy Honors Team when they arrived. During the wait between the viewing and service, he walked over to the church playground and entertained a family. Great job, great service, and a great representative of BAA.
Thanks for all you do and your dedicated team of buglers.
John Glueckert, Glueckert Funeral Home

The Gold Star Flag arrived and we can’t thank you enough! Mary was thrilled with it and it is proudly displayed on her flag pole.
Thank You again,
The Fitzgibbon Family

Thank you for all you do for our veterans. God bless you.
Linda Turner

On May 11th, 2019, our post conducted a flag retirement ceremony at which Bugles Across America rendered Taps. On a personal note, on April 14, 2018, Ray Zanni from Bugles Across America rendered Taps at my US Navy reunion in San Diego California. As we have come to expect, your buglers are punctual, professional, and respectful of the event. Keep up the good work and please except this donation on behalf of post 171.
Sincerely,
Anthony M. DeShiro

Thank you for a job well done. Living near Riverside National Cemetery makes me aware of the need for buglers. Please keep up the good work.
Sincerely,
Jo Ann O.
Dear Tom, I saw your story on power player of the week and Chris Wallace’s Fox last Spring. God bless you for your personal sacrifice and serving our country as a Marine and your ongoing service to our men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice or are serving. You are a true patriot and an American hero by honoring our fallen and deceased soldiers. May God continue to bless you and all of the members of your organization. You all are to be admired and emulated.
Most respectfully,
Betty and Ken Manning

Thank you for honoring our deceased servicemen and women in this way. I am happy and proud to support your fine work.
Best,
Judy Peterson

Tom, thank you for taking on this project. As an Air Force veteran (1968 to 1972), every veteran should be entitled to having a real person sounding live Taps at their funeral.
Al & T Machia

Words cannot express the gratitude I have for Bugles Across America for providing Taps for the family and those who served with Marine Corporal Victor Perez Junior, KIA Oct 1, 1968. Those that served with Victor began their search 2 1/2 years ago, in hopes of connecting with family members, in order for us to pay our respects to the family.

Only weeks prior to leaving for Chicago for the 2019 memorial weekend, Ms Arvidson provided an address for Victor’s brother, living in Fox River Grove, Illinois. Contact was made and the family members plan to meet us in San Diego, California for our reunion to take place, August 2019.

I cannot imagine this ever happening without the dedication and hard work of Ms. Mary Arvidson, representing BAA and the Saint Joseph cemetery located in Fox River Grove, Illinois.
Respectfully, Dan Tollison, Oklahoma City
Larry Belvins, Atlanta
Brad Reynolds, St. Louis
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 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

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!

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 and large bugle pins with folded flag** - 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**: I have 3c & 7c Kelly mouthpieces.

**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
Cool Weather Jacket - $65  
(plus shipping)  
This beautiful embroidered black jacket is nicely lined, has elastic cuffs, 2 side pockets and a zippered inside pocket! The embroidery is a 9 ½ inch replica of our BAA logo on the back and your name embroidered on the front.

Warm Weather Jacket - $50  (plus shipping)  
This is a high-quality, light weight, embroidered jacket. It is solid black, micro-fiber (will protect from light rain), Raglan sleeves, standard color, lightly gathered elastic bottom and cuffs. There are slash pockets on the outside and one velcro-closed inside pocket (Large enough to hold a large smartphone). Large, full-colored BAA logo embroidered on the back.

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

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

Individuals may order the jacket by contacting Jeanie Buchanan at:

GENIE BEE’S EMBROIDERY  
586-749-9700  
geniebees@gmail.com

She takes check and requires half as a down payment at the time of ordering. Sizes beyond 1XL may require a slightly higher price, but Jeanie will work with you on this. Current turn around time has been running about a couple weeks, but will depend on demand.
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.
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 its 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

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"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

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Bugler on Duty
Sounding “Taps” For Heroes
BuglesAcrossAmerica.Org
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.
### Key Links

#### Bugles Across America Pages
- Bugles Across America
- BAA Bugler Directives
- BAA on Facebook

#### Gear & Decorative
- Getzen
- Getzen Order Form
- Kanstul
- Scentsy Service & Sacrifice Warmer

#### BAA Individual State’s Facebook Pages
- BAA New York on Facebook
- BAA Kentucky on Facebook
- BAA Hawaii on Facebook
- BAA Oklahoma on Facebook
- BAA Utah on Facebook
- BAA Michigan on Facebook
- BAA North Carolina on Facebook
- BAA South Carolina on Facebook

#### 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

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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.