

BUGLER'S POST

Official Newsletter of Bugles Across America



Becoming Pro-Active

by Tom Day, Founder



We are about to enter the last part of 2012 and so far this year we have had great success reaching out to our members via the Bugler's Post. However, if members don't read it, they miss out in ways to help build their own base in their own town.

Remember, do good things and tell people about it. Become *THE* bugler in your own town.

Members all across the country are doing things to make themselves known in their own area.

There are several events coming up in the second half of this year. Don't just wait for requests to come in... make a point to get involved, become pro-active. See what is going on in your area. Let your local organization, township or city know about BAA. Let them know that you are available to play Taps.

Here are some upcoming opportunities:

Sept 11th - 9/11 Memorial Observances

Sept 21st - POW/MIA Recognition Day

Sept 30th - Gold Star Mothers Sunday

Nov 11th - Veterans Day

Dec. 7th - Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Thanks for all you have done so far this year. Now go out, do *more* good things... and tell people about it!



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UPCOMING EVENTS



TAPS 150 Ice Cream Social in the Chicago Area

Please join us for two days of great music, a Civil War history lesson and Ice Cream!

The program is called "Requiem for an Era" in honor of Col. Truman Crawford U.S.M.C., Drum and Bugle Corps at 8th and I Streets in Washington, D.C., and the 150th

Anniversary of the hardest 24 notes called Taps. Col. Crawford was one of the first members of Bugles Across America.

Saturday, September 29th, 2012:

What: Taps 150 Ice Cream Social

Where: Helping Hand Center, 9649 W. 55th St. Countryside, IL, 60525

When: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Cost: FREE!

The Ice Cream Social will open with a prayer by Civil War Rev. Jerome Kowalski. Then Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln, aka Max and Donna Daniels, will recite the Gettysburg Address, our United State National Anthem and the presentation of Colors presented by Tom Day, a one hour musical program of patriotic Civil War songs by the famous Divine Infant Choir from Divine Infant Jesus Church in Westchester, Illinois, and then by a short program by the "Chimes Ensemble," also from Divine Infant.

Intermission.....for more ice cream of course!

After intermission, the 16-member Marcy Night Brigade Band will entertain us with nearly 2 hours of spirited patriotic music. You'll hear songs like Johnny Comes Marching Home, The Two Battles, Battle Cry of Freedom, Battle Hymn of the Republic, Dixie, She Wore a Yellow Ribbon, Gary Owen and others from the Civil War Era.

The close of the show will feature Taps historian, Jari Villanueva, providing us with a short history of the origin of Taps and about its first player, the legendary Mr. Oliver Willcox Norton.

Saturday's show will close with Buglers of Bugles Across America sounding Taps in unison.

Our host for this magnificent event is the Helping Hand Center. One of the finest special needs centers in Chicagoland. <http://hhrehab.org/>

This is a first-come-first-seated event and only holds 360 people in the performance area and Ice cream will be served until it runs out starting 1:00 P.M. So get there early!

- *Ice Cream Social, Continued* -

Sunday, September 30th, 2012:

What: A trip to Oak Woods Cemetery in Chicago, IL

Where: Countryside City Hall/Police Station, 5550 E. Ave., Countryside, IL, 60525

When: 10:00 AM

Cost: FREE!

We will have two 36-passenger buses at Countryside City Hall at 10:00 A.M. for a trip to Oak Wood Cemetery. The bus ride is optional and sadly, not equipped for wheelchairs. If you want to ride the bus, you **MUST** sign up!

Many important Chicago people are buried there; Jessie Owens, famous Olympic Track Star, Mayor Washington, and many more. Oak Woods is also where the cremated remains of Mr. Oliver Willcox Norton, the first player of Taps

Oak Woods National Memorial also has a large memorial for over 4,000 Confederate Soldiers who died at Camp Douglas, which was located down the street, now called Martin Luther King Drive.

Here, Taps will be played and a wreath placed in honor of Bugler Norton by Major Villanueva, who is credited as the best Civil War Music Historian. Norton died about October 1, 1920.

The program is sponsored in part by Helping Hand Center, Bugles Across America, and by www.Taps150.org Here is your chance to see one of the finest care centers for those with disabilities.

Civil War re-enactors are welcome to help educate people about the Civil War and why it was fought.

So, come out and fill your sweet tooth and your soul with history and great music of our country.

For more information and to sign up for the bus ride, please email Tom Day at tomjday@sbcglobal.net

September 11, 2001 Memorial Taps

During our previous two “September 11th Memorial Taps” the last two years, we had over 200 participants and we consider that a great success. Once again I thank all those participants along with the fire and police departments that joined some of our buglers.

The 11th anniversary of September 11, 2001 is coming fast upon us and I invite all buglers to participate in the performance of Taps at the exact times of each of the four attacks on the United States and its citizens on that fateful day.

This year on the third annual “September 11th Memorial Taps” our goal is to increase the number of participating buglers as much as possible.

I strongly believe that there is a need to remind the American public of this “Second Day of Infamy” in a meaningful and emotional way. What can be more meaningful and emotional than hearing Taps performed across the entire United States at the exact moment of these attacks?

Sadly, each year I am reminded of the David Worley song, *Have You Forgotten?*

“Have you forgotten how it felt that day?
To see your homeland under fire
And her people blown away
Have you forgotten when those towers fell
We had neighbors still inside goin’ through a livin’ hell
And you say we shouldn’t worry about Bin Laden
Have you forgotten?”
I’m afraid that many Americans have forgotten.

I ask you now to participate in the event that truly means
“Bugles Across America” on September 11, 2012 and that
you will help make it a continuing annual event that will
always be remembered!



At 8:46 am, American Airlines Flight 11 was commandeered and flown into the World Trade Center's North Tower, followed by United Airlines Flight 175 which hit the South Tower at 9:03 am.

Another group of hijackers flew American Airlines Flight 77 into the Pentagon at 9:37 am. A fourth flight, United Airlines Flight 93 crashed near Shanksville, Pennsylvania at 10:03 am after the passengers on board engaged in a counter attack with the hijackers. All times are in the Eastern time zone.

This year we ask again that you consider saying a prayer after the fourth rendition and then a 5th rendition in memory of all the fallen patriots since the first days of the United States of America and those who have died since those days until now.

Please make appropriate adjustments for your time zone so that all buglers play at the exact same moments.

It doesn't matter where you are at those moments, in front of your house, in the public square or even at the side of the road if you are traveling. The force and impact of thousands of buglers playing Taps will be heard by millions of Americans and will remind them of all the Americans who have sacrificed their lives for our freedom. It will honor the victims of that day as well as all those who have sacrificed so much in so many wars.

Let us never forget. Even though most of the victims of that day were not veterans, they deserve the honor you can bring them by your participation. They died in an act of war perpetrated against our nation.

I also ask those buglers that choose to participate in this event to contact their local fire and police departments and ask them to participate. If given enough time to plan, I have found these departments to be grateful for remembering them and will add to the poignant moments during your performance.

For those of you that have the time, I would also suggest contacting your local media in order to let the public become aware of the event and allow them to participate. Calling your local Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and military organizations as well as any veteran's organizations in your area would also be helpful.

Please remember that September 11th, 2001 must never be forgotten, it was the beginning of our troops being committed to the fight against terrorism that has caused so many of our troops and civilians to be killed or maimed.

Please respond by emailing me at: september11thmemorialtaps@yahoo.com and let me know where you plan to participate. Please provide city and state and any other pertinent information. Feel free to call me at any time for any further clarification at (775) 410-1269 any time.

Thank you for your participation in this event.

Fred Speckmann

American Veterans Organization, Inc



Founder's Call To Action

The current response for volunteers to honor those on 9/11 has been overwhelming. Currently, we have BAA volunteers performing some form of memorial service in just about every state.

Some volunteers are part of a larger contingency planning elaborate memorials and remembrances.

Others, are doing something simple with family and friends. Whatever way you are honoring those that perished on that day - we thank you and appreciate all your efforts. It is each of you, representing Bugles Across America that shows the world that we will "NEVER FORGET".

If you did not see the Founders "Call to Action" - here is your opportunity to take part.

For many, the anniversary of 9/11 and the attacks on America soil are all but a distant memory, but for one volunteer group of individuals, it is an opportunity to continue honoring those that were taken so soon – and to keep their memories alive for future generations.

Marine and founder of Bugles Across America, Tom Day is sending out a call for volunteers to play taps and honor the memories of those who were lost on 9-11 – "We should never forget".

Further, Mr. Day has stated that "By coming together as a volunteer organization, we can help provide a sense of healing as we remember and reflect on those solemn days 11 years ago,"

We want to know what you have planned. Are you doing a memorial service on your own? or are you part of a larger contingency that is honoring those on 9/11. No matter what you are doing - we would like to showcase your efforts.

Let us know by contacting Tom Day at tomjday@sbcglobal.net or Mark Paradis at mparadis@markparadis.com

Thanks for everything you do.



Know of an event?

Submit events to BAA.JDay@gmail.com for inclusion into the next newsletter.

The Bugler's Post is published every other month so please give plenty of time for the event's notice.

BRASS FROM THE PAST

Last Men To Die - Vietnam War

No one wants to be the last man to die in a war, but in the Vietnam War that distinction belongs to LCPL Darwin L. Judge of Marshalltown, IA and CPL Charles McMahon of Woburn, MA. On April 28, 1975 during Operation Frequent Wind, Option IV was executed, the largest helicopter evacuation in history. In 19 hours, 81 helicopters would carry more than 1000 Americans and almost 600 Vietnamese to aircraft carriers offshore. On April 29, 1975, communist shells and rockets continued to rain down on Tan Son Nhut airbase while American helicopters circled the base suppressing anti aircraft fire. LCLP Judge and CPL McMahon, members of the American Embassy Security Guard, were killed early on the morning of April 29, 1975 during a rocket attack. They were the last two servicemen to die as a result of enemy action. Their bodies were left behind and were later returned by the Provisional Revolutionary Government of Saigon.

Later that morning, Captain William C. Nystul of Coronado, CA and 1st Lt Michael J. Shea of El Paso, TX were killed when their CH46 helicopter crashed into the South China Sea near the carrier USS Hancock.

On April 30, 1975, the South Vietnam Government surrendered unconditionally.



LCPL Darwin L. Judge



CPL Charles McMahon

State Director Spotlight: California

Howard Hudson - State Director

How long have you been with BAA?

I joined BAA in November 2003

What inspired you to join?

I had been a bugler for military funerals since 1998. Then in 2001 I saw the Wall Street Journal article, was intrigued and thought it would be good to be a part of a group that was committed to sounding Taps for veterans. But I didn't see a web site or contact information at that time. Then, in November 2003, I was asked by the local



Marine Corps League to be the bugler for their Marine Corps Birthday celebration here in Santa Barbara. Since they wanted more calls than just Taps, I found I needed the music for the additional calls they had requested. So after finding them on line, I remembered the Wall Street Journal article and searched for BAA. As soon as I found it and read about the mission, I was on board and have been excited to be a part of the organization ever since then. It was shortly after joining that I saw that BAA would be in Washington, DC for the dedication of the World War II Memorial. It was the opportunity to meet and get to know so many other buglers that inspired me to do more than just be a bugler but to take it further and really get involved with the organization.



How long have you been playing?

I began playing the trumpet when I was in the fourth grade and continued playing through college and for several years after that. When the various ensembles with whom I had been playing began breaking up, I put the trumpet down, only to pick it up again when our younger son began to play the trumpet back in 1995. I first sounded Taps in 1998 when a member of my Lions Club who was a World War II veteran had died and the family wanted full military honors with a live bugler. When the army couldn't provide one, another friend who remembered that I had played the trumpet suggested that I step in. The service went well and I've been assisting at funerals, veterans events and civic ceremonies ever since then.

Hardest part/Best part about the job?

I would say that both the hardest part of the job and the best part of the job revolve around

keeping up with the new members who join BAA. It is the hardest because I do need to keep alert as to who is involved. As a CPA with my own practice, I find that there are times during the year that I do have trouble keeping up with this. But it is also the best part of the job because I get to be in contact and meet folks who excited to be a part of our organization and serve our veterans. The second part of being the hardest and best part of the job is following requests that come through the Bugler Request System, making sure that those requests all covered. That also turns out to be the best part because when the event is covered, I know that the families realize that someone is there to care about and honor their family member who had served and who has now died.

Best experience with BAA?

No question about it – the experience at Arlington National Cemetery this past May is the highlight. I had gone to Washington, DC in May 2004 with BAA, met Tom Day, Jari Villeneuve and several other folks from BAA and there, first felt the desire to play at Arlington. I also understood how difficult it would be to ever consider playing there. So when this opportunity came along, it was something I couldn't pass up. Not only was it a highlight to be able to play there, I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to put the faces of other BAA members with the names I have only seen on BAA web site postings. I only wish we had more of an opportunity to have a real "meet and greet" time with each other. It makes me wish I could have also gone to Berkeley Plantation to meet more of our buglers and spend time with them.

In addition to these, because of my involvement with BAA and getting to know Tom and Jari among others, I have been giving talks around the state at various veterans organizations, service clubs, church groups and retirement homes about the history of the bugle, the meaning of Taps and other calls along with the value and honor we are able to pass on as live buglers taking part in funerals and ceremonies throughout the year.

Do you have a goal for your state?

My goal for California is to be able to spread the word about the live buglers we have here who can honor our veterans so that all requests coming through the Bugler Request System are covered. It would also be that the word about live buglers be made know so that anyone wanting military honors can find a bugler, if not through the BAA system, then through their local funeral homes, cemeteries and veterans groups.

BEHIND THE BUGLE - YOUR STORIES

Gene Ramsay - Alabama

Two brave souls in the Spirit of '45 office volunteered to travel cross country to share in the news of the events held ever year for the past 2 years.



Because of myself and the great group at the Alabama National Cemetery Support

Committee, they said they had to stop in Birmingham to say thank you to Bugles Across America, the Committee and to present a medal of appreciation to Dr. and Mrs. Carter for their founding the Rosie the Riveter organization which celebrates with us every year.



Tim Ghebeles - Pennsylvania

I joined Bugles Across America in January 2012, and have been playing the trumpet for 38 years. It has been a privilege and honor to sound Taps on 14 BAA missions.

My first mission on February 4, 2012 was especially meaningful as it was a request from a family friend. It was extremely rewarding to ensure our friend's USMC veteran brother received military funeral honors with a live sounding of Taps. In this time, I have logged 14 BAA missions, and traveled more than 800 miles. I have done eight military funeral honors, three Memorial Day events, two Revolutionary War Veterans (DAR/SAR) ceremonies, and one Flag Retirement Ceremony (SAR). Each time, BAA gets credit for the work that we do.



The picture (above) was taken at a grave-marking ceremony on June 21, 2012 for Revolutionary War Soldier Philip Klein (December 9, 1763 to July 22, 1834). During the Revolutionary War he was a member of Captain John Reegel's Company of the Berks County, Pennsylvania Militia from 1780 to 1781. Klein was only 17 years old when he drove provisions for George Washington's army to and from Baltimore. The ceremony was held at the Altalaha Lutheran Church Cemetery in Rehrersburg, PA, and was sponsored by Philip Klein's descendants Ms. Diane Groome, Regent, and Ms. Carole Vercellino, Registrar, of the Jose Maria Amador Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR). The event was hosted by Ms. Elizabeth Dechant, Regent, Berks County Chapter, NSDAR.

During my fourteen BAA missions, I have had extremely positive comments regarding my official BAA uniform. Most of these comments have come from active duty service members and veterans that I have worked with during military funeral honors. I was even subjected to a friendly, but very close inspection by one Air Force General. He was very impressed with the appearance and quality of the uniform. I know Larry Wiseman and the BAA Uniform Committee put much thought and effort into designing the uniform, and it shows. I'm happy to report that the uniform has been very well received in all instances, and I am proud to wear it.

I am honored to be part of the Bugles Across America family, and would like to acknowledge as the inspiration to join BAA, my US Navy veteran uncle, Martin Zimmerman (WWII, Battle of

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Leyte Gulf). Although he did not receive military funeral honors at the time, I hope to keep alive the memory of his service and all our veterans by honoring them with the live rendition of Taps.

Along with a few other BAA members, I have also partnered with a local group called the Red Rose Veterans Honor Guard (<http://www.rrvhg.org>). This is a veterans group that provides the military funeral honor guards at most of the veterans funerals in Lancaster County. They work directly with the National Guard out of Fort Indiantown Gap. They do about 370 funeral services a year in Lancaster County. I think they will be keeping me quite busy.

I want to extend a special thanks to our founder Tom Day, and Pennsylvania State Director Howard Reitenbaugh for their service, their inspiration, and their continued support of the BAA mission.

Ted Smith - Virginia

Like most buglers, I started playing the cornet and trumpet at age 10. When I became a Boy Scout in Silver Spring, MD, my folks bought me an official Rexcraft bugle, which I still have, and my mother made a soft "gig" bag to protect it on campouts. During WW II, a drummer, sax player, and I started a jazz combo that played (paid!) for many teen socials, and I studied with the principal trumpet of the Navy Band (who was waaay above my meager talents).



At the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, naturally I was a cadet bugler, already knowing all the calls for rotating bugler duty (e.g., exempt from other guard duty). I had to teach enough other untrained classmates the requisite bugle calls to have a favorable rotation, some of which were a little painful. Colors was played only by an enlisted USCG Band member because we were marching to classes, but I did get to play colors on cruise aboard the CG Cutter Eagle, and years later at the Academy when a classmate became CGA Superintendent. Later, as a student pilot in the USAF, I was asked to play calls for various formations, and we had an ad hoc marching band to & from the flight line.



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Later in life, as a B.S. Scoutmaster, I tutored some boys for the bugling merit badge. When my USCGA class of '53, began to have 5-year reunions at the Academy, and mini-reunions in between, I played various calls, mostly Tattoo and Taps. As our class losses (spouses included) have increased, I have played memorial services and grave-side burials at civilian and military chapels and cemeteries (except Arlington Cemetery at Ft. Myer won't let me play outdoors), which is extremely gratifying both to the survivors and to me. My BAA volunteer events and Echo Taps in the local area have been equally satisfying. I have also learned "Il Silenzio" for lower emotional private occasions.

On September 11, 2010 I started playing Taps at four locations around McLean, VA at the exact times of the four terrorist attack impacts, which had very nice publicity for BAA. I repeated that in 2011, and I hope to make it a tradition wherever I live. In 2010, I was joined by a McLean High School ("Highlanders" in kilts) drummer and bagpiper. In 2011, a McLean fireman, Mark Baban, contributed "Amazing Grace" when I played at the firehouse, and we planned to expand on that this year. Mark died unexpectedly this last February, but I got to play Taps at his memorial service. Now 81, I try to play some every day, both for my own improvisational pleasure and to be prepared "for the call." The question is, who's going to play at my service?



Roger and Mitzi Ellis - Florida

This is a photo from Memorial Day 2012 which was done by David Taylor along with a certificate of appreciation that was given to my wife and I.



Bill Seaman (Wisconsin) and **Rich Yndestad** (Illinois) - at the TAPS150 event at the Berkeley Plantation in Charles City, VA.

There were approx. 50 BAA buglers in attendance, and we all sounded Taps along the James River, at the site where Taps was first played back in 1862.



The second photo is of re-enactors playing the parts of Major Gen. Daniel Butterfield and Bugler, Oliver W. Norton at Harrison's Landing in July of 1862.

Ross Rumore - Arkansas

On July 21st, 2012, I played Taps on deck of the USS Razorback submarine in the Arkansas river for a WWII Navy submariner whose ashes were committed to the river.

Semper Fi
USMC Bugler



Bob Chavanne - New York

Memorial Day; what a weekend to honor. I spent four long hours at Long Island National Cemetery. Tired, sun burnt but all worth it. Touching family's hearts, and to remember.

Long Island National Cemetery is one of the largest military cemeteries in the country. 365,000 interments. I have played there for BAA several times and have spent many Memorial Days and Veterans Days there. To Honor and dedicate those American Veterans is a gift. Tom would be proud, I let them out there know that BAA is strong by sounding the call.



Warren Hegg - National Supervisor, Keep the Spirit of '45 Alive!



I wanted to personally thank all of you again for coming out last week to perform on Memorial Day on such short notice.

I thought you all might enjoy having the attached photo to remember being on the steps of the National Archives with the hundreds of kids who marched in the Parade

honoring the fallen of WWII. (Check out the doves flying overhead).

Again, thanks to each of you for stepping up in support of what we plan to make an annual tradition.

Bill Seaman - Wisconsin State Director

This being the 150 anniversary of Taps it has been an awesome time to be a bugler. After being a part of the Arlington 150 and the Berkeley event, I thought it was time for Wisconsin to have one!



I saw that Stars and Stripes Honor Flight folks were having an event at Miller Park. A movie showing called "Field of Honor: A Salute to the Greatest Generation". Wisconsin has 6 different Honor Flights, and the movie was about four WWII vets from Stars and Stripes Honor Flight in Milwaukee. I offered up 100 buglers to provide 4-part Taps. They gave me the OK and I set out to find buglers.

With the help of Jen Day and my new Assistant Director Scott Lawrence, emails were sent. 1500-2000 people were contacted. Months went by without much response. I was thinking it would never happen. The week before 10-20 finally responded.....Ok I wasn't going to get my 100+.....but was I going to get 10? 20?.....I didn't know the number.

The day before we went for a meeting. I took my AHFT to Miller Park because I wanted to say I played there and since I was directing I would not be able to on Saturday. The thrill of walking on the field was so awesome!....the sights and sounds grabbed me with excitement. It was then decided that I would get to play assembly and "charge" in the beginning. I played that night and the sound was special! I still didn't know how many folks were coming. BAA and friends? Hum, how many would be there to support our Vets and my dream?



The next day was busy, I played a gig at noon and I was getting calls all day...."can I still come?", "what time?", "where are we meeting?", "are we still playing".....talked to many folks that day and I really still had no idea how many were coming.

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After my gig I went to the parking lot. Wow what a surprise! My friends had come through... and brought their friends. We had 55 volunteers that day.

A most beautiful day at Miller Park and very special for BAA. There were Over 29,000 in attendance, WW II re-enactors, live music, the Stars and Stripes Honor Flight Art Show, flyovers and fireworks and of course, the movie premiere.

My Illinois friends came through as they always do!

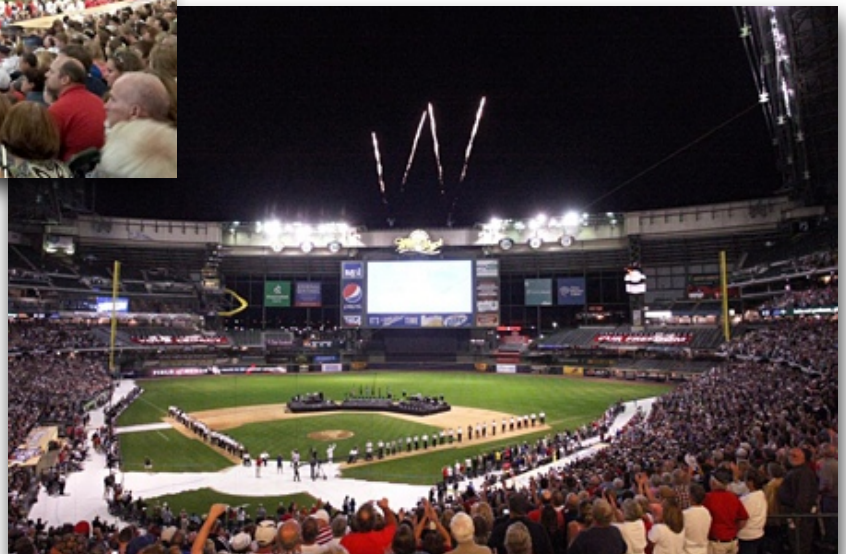
New friends, new

members?.....August 11, 2012 was a great day to be a bugler! A big thanks go out to all who came and an even bigger thanks to Tom Day for his vision!



Here's a great YouTube [Video](#) of the 55 of us playing Taps.

Here is an impressive [photo compilation](#) of that day



Douglas Conrady - Oklahoma

On June 6th, State Director of Oklahoma, Douglas Conrady took the flight of a lifetime. He was a guardian on an Oklahoma Honor Flight. Also on this flight was his Grandfather. The group of 100 vets and about 70 guardians went wheels up at 7 A.M. and landed in Baltimore about 10. By noon they were at the WW2 memorial. Douglas had planned on a special duty while there. He pulled his vintage bugle out of his backpack and was able to sound taps under the Oklahoma pillar. Douglas had been preparing for months, and says "I just knew I would be nervous, but when lips met mouthpiece, I couldn't have felt calmer." "It was one best sounding I had performed." The group then loaded up and went to the other end of the reflecting pool to see the



Korean War memorial, Vietnam Wall or the Lincoln Memorial. After that stop, the busses stopped at Arlington Cemetery to watch the changing of the guard. The last stop of the trip was the Marines' memorial, the flag raising at Iwo Jima. Douglas and his other charge got out to see the memorial. "I carried my bugle everywhere and the moment just felt right." Out

came his bugle and he sounded taps at the Marines' memorial as well. The caravan of busses then headed for the airport. They went wheels up around 7 and landed back in OKC about 10, a short 15 hours later.

Not only was Douglas able to be a guardian for his grandfather, but he was able to sound taps for the 400,000 soldiers that are memorialized there. As an added bonus, was he was able to spread the word of BAA to many, many Oklahomans. Many high ranking officials and other dignitaries were on hand throughout the day, and Douglas took advantage and visited with most of them.

If you have any interesting facts or history to share with BAA, please email BAA.JDay@gmail.com Photos desired but not required.

Military Honors for a Fallen Senior Airman

A1C Daniel N. Thrower, USAF Band of the West
Lackland Air Force Base, Joint Base San Antonio
21 May 2012



My first year in the Air Force has offered a multitude of first experiences. Today's "first" was, in my inexperienced opinion, long overdue. Though I have played "Taps" at many military funerals as a civilian (never for pay), today was the first time I had the profound honor of doing so in uniform. The overall experience has lasted four and a half days, from the time I accepted the assignment to today's emotional culmination.

The Ops representative from the Band of the West, MSgt Michelle Kuntz somewhat reluctantly approached me with the printed request to play "Taps" at an Active Duty Serviceman's funeral. I say reluctantly, because in asking this, she was also asking me to give up a Crew Rest day (day off). Of course I could make it up later, but even if not, I accepted the assignment without hesitation. *His* life is gone; I think I can manage to "sacrifice" a day of mine.

The morning after the task was extended, I found myself at Scobee Elementary School giving a presentation about the Alamo and Texas History due to a remarkable ancestral connection of mine. The Gateway Brass from the Band of the West had played at the school just a couple of weeks before, so the fourth grade recognized me as an Airman. After the lecture, some of them swarmed me with exciting tidbits and various comments. One girl timidly held back a while until the other more outspoken kids cleared out, and then she meekly approached me, gave me a gentle hug and softly expressed, "Thank you for your service." Of course that absolutely melted me, but my initial inner reaction was, "Why are you telling *me* this? I've only been in the Air Force for a year; I'll likely never even be in harm's way as a Bandsman. *I'm* no hero!" No, it isn't about me—it is *much* bigger. Just as I accepted a Texas flag that was flown over the Alamo *on behalf of* my ancestor, I recognize my position as a serviceman to accept this girl's gratitude *on behalf of* all who serve and

I didn't ponder the implications of this humble fourth grader's comment until the next day when I was playing in a ceremony honoring our Veterans. It isn't an everyday fourth grader that would have the presence of mind and maturity to think of doing that! A tear formed as I thought, "I bet her Daddy is deployed, or an uncle, or a brother... or maybe she has lost a loved one in the Service." Truly, there was much more meaning than the simple five words that the little girl mustered the courage to say to me.

A family in my neighborhood came to mind—a widow and her two children—whose house I pass literally a hundred times a week as I go on my morning runs. The first time I met them, they were on a walk together. I unknowingly asked the mom about her husband. The two children instinctively clasped each other's hands as the mother nobly informed me that he is no longer with them. Tenderness was on the surface, and it was clear that tears were a frequent occurrence. But they were so strong! Their husband and father was a military man—a fallen hero. Those he left behind are no less heroic! I've rarely seen such bravery and courage, such love and devotion as I witnessed between this teenage boy and a first-grade girl finding and giving comfort with a preconditioned response of holding hands. The pain never leaves; the hole in their lives will never be filled. There is no expression of gratitude deep enough to make things well and whole. But grateful we must be!

When I finally got it, I decided that is what I wanted to say to this Senior Airman through the playing of "Taps": "Thank you for your service." I woke up earlier than usual to get my five-mile run in, and then took a little extra time to prepare for this special work day. I polished my shiny black shoes with more detail than ever before, shined my trumpet, clipped some little strings on my ceremonial uniform that I had let go for too long, and I even practiced saluting in the mirror to ensure the proper dignity and meaningfulness of that final gesture. My radio was solemnly off during the ride to the cemetery.

Joining 23 Honor Guard members from Randolph Air Force Base, we rehearsed the honors a couple of times before patiently waiting for several hours for the family and friends to arrive from the funeral service. We were given a 20-minute heads-up to get in our places. As people began to arrive, I stood at attention with as little motion as possible. The mosquitoes were terrible, but as I felt one land on my cheek I heard my MTI's voice echoing from the not-too-distant past, "*You don't move at the position of attention!*"



- cont -

The flag-covered casket was extracted from the hearse and a lump formed in my throat. This is real! I absorbed all the details I could without moving my head: the unison steps of the Honor Guard pallbearers, the Color Guard's call to attention, the Firing Team's well-rehearsed movements to my left.

After the last volley I slowly raised my trumpet and sounded the military swansong—the final farewell to this SrA whose name I never did learn. To me, this became the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, so to speak. My attention to detail in every note's length and dynamic, the precise moments of vibrato, the drawn out decay of the final note, the deliberate final salute with my white-gloved hand, all were calculated to say to him, "Thank you for your service." I am confident that if he were there, he would have graciously accepted that tribute on behalf of all who serve, have served, and especially the millions who paid the ultimate sacrifice so I can freely sit here at my own computer and write this without fear.

To all who do their various jobs in the armed forces, thank you for your service!

Bill Vann - California

I wanted to share my Arlington experience with you. My first stop was in Sacramento, California on May 18th. While at the Spirit of '45 ceremony, I had the pleasure of playing my horn before the arrival of the statue of the Times Square "Kiss". Then the ceremony ended with

TAPS. It was a priceless moment for me, and Denny.



Next stop, TAPS 150 at Arlington where we finally met Tom Day and Jari Villanueva and provided TAPS in Section 60 Honoring Captain Rippetoe.

Thank you to everyone involved in making this event happen and a HUGE thank you to Lt Colonel and Mrs Joe Rippetoe for treating us so well.



STOLEN DIGNITY!

BUGLES ACROSS AMERICA: Honoring America's Veterans and Providing Military Funeral Honors To Our Heroes

Hello, My name is G.P. (Chip) Stickler, and I am the Maryland State Director of Bugles Across America. I was recently contacted by former Exalted Ruler, and now Americanism Chairman (MD,DE,DC) Mary Cardinal-Vogt. Chairman Vogt was looking for a Bugler to play TAPS at the Maryland Elks Flag Day Ceremony.

When we were discussing the details of the event, I was asked to play a Patriotic Medley in addition to TAPS. We agreed on the time and date, and all was set.



On the day of the event, (June 16, 2012), arriving a little over an hour early, I had time to set up my bugle and trumpet and a small display for Bugles Across America. I came to find out that Mr. Vogt had recently been installed as the Commander of the VFW, Maryland division, I was anxious to talk with him. We spoke briefly, but the meeting was about to start. As the members entered, my "Dress Blues" and Bugles attracted many of the attendees, to come over and see what this was all about. I realized quickly, that most of these people were Veterans themselves.

The meeting was called to order and when introduced, I played a patriotic medley of the bugle call-"Tattoo", then went into the Civil War song, "Tenting Tonight". The response was unexpected. Whether out of respect for the uniform, or the Bugle and what it represents, I received a standing ovation.

Towards the end of the ceremony, immediately following the presentation of the flags, I sounded a slow version of "TAPS". By the time I sounded the 24th and last note, there were Veterans standing all over the room, and the stage, wiping their eyes. Called to the podium, I was then given a few moments to speak about Bugles Across America. This is what I said:

"How many of you here are Veterans? Many hands quickly shot up. How many of you have heard TAPS sounded for another Veteran?" Hands went up and then to their eyes all over the very large room. I continued; "You see, some people think it's funny... They laugh when they see it... Some think it is a big joke... I personally think it is a crime....!" pausing . " There is a video on YouTube where you can see a young soldier standing at the grave of a fallen Veteran, holding a bugle. In the end of the bugle is a recorded device. The idea is, that he doesn't know how to play it, but if he hits a button, it will sound TAPS for him. It is a fake, a phony." I paused again to let them think about that for a moment.

"You see, this particular time, the soldier pressed the button, and nothing happened. He lowered the bugle and pressed it again. Nothing. The third time, he tipped the Bugle straight up so that he could examine the device, and while straight up, the Bugle started playing a few notes on it's own. The soldier put his arms down and stood there totally embarrassed. When I viewed it, I didn't laugh..... I didn't chuckle.... While I felt badly for the quote "bugler", I was more embarrassed for the grieving widow and family. You see, this Veteran, and every honorably discharged Veteran who put it all on the line for us and our freedom. This is not the time to hand a grieving widow, a phony anything." It was at that time, having said those words, that I received the longest and most rousing standing ovation I have ever received in my life.

I continued: "In 2000, Congress passed a law stating that every honorably discharged Veteran of the military shall be entitled to have at least two Honor Guardsman to fold the flag, and bugler at the grave site at their interment. The problem is, there aren't enough buglers to cover the need. The statistics are that there are nearly 1800 funerals a day across this United States for Veterans of WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Iraq, Afghanistan, and every other conflict that these United States have been in. That is how the fake, electronic bugle came to be. The argument is that most of the time, they work fine. Not true! The last statistic I heard on that, was that 30% fail. Even one failure is unacceptable! These people are Heroes!

Our founder, Marine Gunnery Sergeant Tom Day, Retired, called that, "Stolen Dignity". That is why, in the year 2000 he started, Bugles Across America. We are here to take up, where the Military falls short. It began with a premise, "That Every Honorably Discharged Soldier, from any branch of the United States Military deserves the dignity of having a live bugler at his or her funeral." It began with one Bugler, Tom Day, and as of the latest figures, we are now over 7,000 Buglers strong! Every one of us are volunteers. We would rather give up a few hours of our time for our Veterans and their families, Heroes all, rather than to hand out something fake or phony in their memory.

If you know a Veteran, or his/her family who needs us, please call, or go on our website. We would be proud to honor their memory. Don't steal their dignity, let us Honor it!" You can request a Bugler at www.buglesacrossamerica.org, or call one of us.

Thank You all for your time.

Respectfully,
G.P. (Chip) Stickler
BAA Maryland State Director
Email: sticklersmusic@gmail.com

Funeral of an Old Soldier

Bushnell National Cemetery lies tucked away behind a forest preserve, off a country road in a very beautiful, rural area of Florida. It is dotted with giant oak trees and carefully placed blooming plants. During the day, hoove marks from deer eating acorns at night are visible everywhere. All in all, it is one of the prettiest cemeteries I have ever seen. It is here that I went through 'basic bugle training' with the Florida National Guard. Tom Day had sent me my first bugle and I played Taps those first months under the supervision of Sgt. Jones, a fair man, but a perfectionist as far as his funeral details went.

The day was perfect. Sgt. Jones' soldiers' uniforms and attitude were perfect. When the call, "Mission", was given, everyone was in their proper place and at attention. We were all puzzled at the vehicle the cemetery cart was leading. It was a large Ford panel van. A bewildered looking woman stepped out of it, as the guard soldiers worked the coffin with precision in detail. I watched all this in confusion, not really knowing what I was looking at. The ceremony began and I was given the queue to play Taps. I played well and I felt sorry for the soldier that only had one person in attendance at his funeral.

After it was all over, I would find out that this soldier was from a nursing home and had no family. The woman that received the flag was simply a nursing home attendant. She would later turn the flag over to the cemetery, where it would be displayed in an area reserved for funerals like his.

I'll never forget that funeral. That old soldier was not buried without family. He had those proud young National Guard soldiers, and he had me, playing my horn from the heart.

Steven Grzesik
F Co, 75th Rangers, Vietnam
Bugles Across America



BAA- IN THE NEWS

DAR Chapter Sisters Mark Grave of Ancestor

Revolutionary War militiaman honored at ceremony by José Maria Amador Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

[Pleasanton Patch](#) By Cindee Delavara

July 11, 2012

José Maria Amador Chapter members, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Regent Diane Groome and Registrar Carole Vercellino recently traveled to Rehrersburg, Pennsylvania to attend a grave marking ceremony. The sisters honored their patriot ancestor Philip Klein, at 11 a.m. Thurs., June 21, at Altalaha Lutheran Church by dedicating a grave marker that will permanently reside on Klein's tombstone in the church's cemetery where Klein is buried.



The ceremony was hosted by the Berks County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. An honor guard from the Gov. Joseph Heister Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, posted the colors, and Tim Ghebeles of Lebanon, Pa., a participant in Bugles Across America, played taps. About 40 people in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance and sang "America." A memorial wreath was placed at the burial site.

"He (Klein) was a patriot of the American Revolution who helped establish our freedom," said Berks County Chapter Regent Elizabeth Dechant of Wyomissing, Pa. "He deserves to be recognized."

Dr. Robert M. Kline of Newmanstown, a descendant of Philip Klein, gave a biographical account of the patriot's life:

Private Philip Klein was born Dec. 9, 1773, and served in the American Revolution. Around 1780, as the battle for America's independence raged, the Berks County Militiaman Private Philip Klein shuttled vital provisions to Gen. George Washington's encampment in Baltimore. Klein was 17 years old when he served in the American Revolution under the command of Capt. John Reege's Company Militia from 1780 to 1781. Philip Klein returned from the Revolutionary War and married Elisabeth Adams in 1785. They had eight children. He died July 22, 1834 at age 71.

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This was the first time that Groome and Vercellino had marked one of their ancestor's grave sites. They began planning the dedication years ago.

"It's a process," said Vercellino.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution bylaws state that markers and dedications for Revolutionary War Soldiers, Patriots, Wives, Daughters and Real Daughters (a DAR member who was a daughter of a Revolutionary Soldier or Patriot) can be placed only after given permission from the Office of the Historian General in Washington, DC.

"I had approval back in 1998 but never followed through since I thought the markers and plaques were over \$400.00, plus the expense of traveling to Pennsylvania." Vercellino eventually found out that there is a list of NSDAR-approved bronzing firms which reproduce markers with the Society's insignia, so the cost was more reasonable. The cast bronze plaque states that José Maria Amador Chapter placed the Marker.

The next problem was how and where to adhere the marker.

"The old headstone was too fragile to embellish it with the heavy bronze DAR Marker and Plaque," said Vercellino. "So, they were attached to the headstone placed by the US Veterans Affairs, which sits in front of the old headstone."

"Believe me, they are heavy," said Vercellino, who planned to take them as carry-on luggage. "We couldn't have a grave marking without the markers!"

Once the sisters decided they would go to the Rehrersburg cemetery where their ancestor is buried, they contacted the local Pennsylvania DAR chapter in the area to arrange for the ceremony. They planned the dedication with Dechant.

"In remembering the past, we honor the men and women who gave their lives for the preservation of our freedoms and our future," Dechant said in a graveside declaration, recognizing Klein's unselfish service to his country 178 years after his death.

Groome, as José Maria Amador Chapter Regent, spoke at the ceremony and the sisters placed a wreath at the site.

Groome and Vercellino were able to coordinate the grave marking ceremony so that it fell during the time they would be on the east coast for the Daughters of the American Revolution 121st Continental Congress, June 27-July 1, 2012, held at the DAR National headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Ceremony Recognizes Revolutionary War Militiaman

[Reading Eagle](#)

6/23/2012

by Ron Delvin

Around 1780, as the battle for America's independence raged, Philip Klein drove provisions to Gen. George Washington's encampment in Baltimore.

A member of the Berks County Militia, Klein was only 17 when he shuttled vital supplies to Washington's army during the Revolutionary War.



Klein's unselfish service to his country was recognized this week - 178 years after his death - at a grave-marking ceremony in Altalaha Lutheran Church Cemetery, Rehrersburg.

"He was a patriot of the American Revolution who helped establish our freedom," said Elizabeth Dechant of Wyomissing, regent of the Berks County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. "He deserves to be recognized."

The DAR officiated at the dedication of a grave marker that will permanently reside on Klein's tombstone.

"In remembering the past, we honor the men and women who gave their lives for the preservation of our freedoms and our future," Dechant said in a graveside declaration.

Dr. Robert M. Kline of Newmanstown, a descendant of Philip Klein, gave a biographical account of the patriot's life.

Diane Groome and Carole Vercellino, also descendants of Philip Klein, attended the ceremony. Both are members of DAR chapters in California, where they reside.

Groome and Vercellino, who are sisters, planned the ceremony with Dechant.

An honor guard from the Gov. Joseph Heister Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, posted the colors. About 40 people in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance and sang "America."

Tim Ghebeles of Lebanon, a participant in Bugles Across America, played taps.

Philip Klein returned from the Revolutionary War and married Elisabeth Adams in 1785. They had eight children. He died in 1834 at age 71.

George Alexa - Fairfax Station, VA

World War II Veterans came to Washington, DC and were entertained by the Knights of Columbus. I made the [Catholic Press](#)

Knights Welcome War Heroes

Arlington council honors WWII vets

By [Dave Borowski](#) | Catholic Herald

American humorist Will Rogers once said, “We can’t all be heroes because somebody has to sit on the curb and clap as they go by.”

There was much clapping last Thursday as the Edward Douglass White Council of the Knights of Columbus in Arlington opened its doors to 55 World War II veterans from Dallas. They were flown here as part of an effort by the Brookshire Grocery Co. of Tyler, Texas. It was the fourth flight the company sponsored that brings members of the “greatest generation” to visit the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. They are not affiliated with the Honor Flight Network.

It was a two-day affair — Thursday and Friday — with dinner on both days and entertainment on Friday that included patriotic music and dancing.

Owen J. Beirne, a council member, organized the event for the Knights.

Beirne offered the services of the council when Sam Anderson from the Brookshire Grocery Co. found his name on an Honor Flights Network list, called him and asked for a suggestion for dinner on each of the two days.

Anderson was surprised by the offer. “Why would you do that?” he asked. “Because we can,” Beirne responded.

A crowd started gathering at the council home around 5 p.m. Weather delayed the flight from Dallas. The veterans arrived late into BWI Airport in Baltimore and the trip from the airport to Arlington by bus during the height of rush-hour traffic further delayed their arrival. They got to the council home at 6:15 p.m. Unfortunately, they had to leave for a 7 p.m. tour of the Capitol. There was just enough time to get off the bus to stretch their legs.



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Undeterred, the Knights boxed up their dinners for the road.

The crowd waved flags as the old warriors left the bus and a band played patriotic music. Some walked on their own, others used wheelchairs and canes and crutches.

“Thank you for your service,” was repeated by the crowd throughout their short stay as people clapped and shook the veterans’ hands.

Arnold Taylor, 86, a veteran living in Washington welcomed his comrades dressed in an Army uniform, which was decorated with his original stripes, ribbons, patches and medals.

The veterans finally boarded the bus for Washington as flags waved and applause followed as the heroes left the council home.

If you have seen BAA in the news recently or have been featured in an article while playing with BAA, Please send the article or information to BAA.JDay@gmail.com

KEY NOTES

What Happens When Two Buglers Show Up at a Request?

Once in a while a duplicate will be accidentally made by a requester. Sometimes they don't think the request went through, they may have pressed "submit" twice while the mapping system was working. Whatever it happened to be, more than one request has now been posted. Unless the mistake is caught immediately, this obviously leaves it open for 2 buglers to accept the requests. Now what? Who gets to play the request?

When this happens, please try to work it out by talking respectfully to the other bugler. Perhaps consider playing Echo Taps. If not, the person who arrived to the funeral first has the preference on what they'd like to do; to play or to let the other bugler play.

If we find that a bugler was acting disrespectfully at a funeral or an event, their BAA membership will be terminated. There is absolutely no excuse for behaving as such.

Also, there will be no randomly showing up to a request or an event and insist on playing when another bugler has formally volunteered for the event. This is why we have the request system on the web site, for accountability. You may want to print out your request information and bring that with you in case there are any questions.

For the most part, most events go off... reasonably uneventful. As they should be. When there is a hiccup though... remember to be respectful and work things out between yourselves. Do **not** bring the mourning family into this.

Tom Day, Founder



PUBLICITY TIP OF THE MONTH: CRAIGSLIST

As a service to our BAA volunteers and members at large, we present our
PUBLICITY TIP OF THE MONTH.

So you thought Craigslist was only for finding an apartment, a job, a car or a date. Did you know that the wildly popular web portal can be one of the most valuable tools in your PR campaign, particularly if you're looking for grassroots publicity targeted at certain cities or countries?

Craigslist is a giant community bulletin board, an almost entirely free classified ad service where you can buy, sell or give away just about anything. It was started in the late 1990s by Craig Newmark and began as a list only for San Francisco. But it became so popular that it's turned into 190 separate lists for people in all 50 states in the United States and 35 other countries. The more than 80 discussion forums are devoted to a wide variety of topics. More than 10 million people use Craigslist each month, so you never know who might be reading. No one edits your posts, but you'll be kicked off the list if your message is obscene. You can't post identical messages to more than one city or category, but you can post a photo if you wish.

Most posts are live for only 30 days. Posts in the events and classes categories are live for only 14 days. Once a message expires, you can repost it again and again. That means that if you're advertising an event in December, you can start posting it as early as September, then keep reposting it whenever it expires.

Here's just a small sample of the types of things Publicity Hounds can post on Craigslist:

- * Meetings
- * Fundraisers
- * Volunteer Opportunities (Maybe even for Bugles Across America?)
- * Free Tips - Veteran Information and How To
- * Awards and Announcements
- * Speaking engagements, book signings and other events hosted by authors, speakers and experts

Every post is free except if you're posting job listings at the New York, San Francisco and Los Angeles lists.

- cont -

You may find the site difficult to navigate - but the more you use it the easier it is to figure out. The categories can also be confusing. So before you decide on a category you want to post to, call up the other posts in that category to see if those are the types of people you want to target with your message. If not, find a category that's a better fit.

You can post a photo, but only if it can be found somewhere else on the Internet. If you plan to post numerous messages, it's a good idea to create your own account, which is free. Every time you log on, you'll see a color-coded chart that will tell you which posts are still live and which have expired.

Read the frequently asked questions before you begin, then have fun. Once you start posting, you'll be hooked.

Submitted by Mark Paradis
BAA Volunteer and Media Coordinator
908-236-8464
baamedia@markparadis.com

REFLECTIONS

A video had been passed on to me via email a few months ago with the subject line, "This is why we bugle." It turned out to be this incredibly moving video montage made by a young woman by the name of Lizzie Palmer. I wasn't the only one who liked the video. Lizzie's video has over 31 million views on YouTube.



[Remember Me](#) (Click on link for video)

Created in 2006

I contacted her and asked her a few questions. She was kind enough to reply back.

Where are you from?

I was born and raised in Columbus, Ohio.

What was the first video you made?

The first video I made and uploaded to YouTube was "Home: A Tribute to the Fallen" which was in February of 2006.

What inspired you to create these videos?

I've always been interested in the military, even when I was little, and I was raised to have respect and appreciation for what our troops do. My grandfathers were Navy and Air Force, my cousin was National Guard, and I have several friends in various branches. Why I started, and still do make videos, is because I want to do something that can maybe show a bit of my appreciation and support for our troops.

They go through so much and give up so much, as do their families, so that we don't have to. Also, to spread the word that, "Hey. These guys need to know we love them and are behind them. Don't forget."



Do you have any favorites?

I guess they'd be "[Til the Last Shot's Fired](#)" (Memorial Day 2011), "[This Is For the Soldiers](#)" (which was cool because I was asked by the band Drowning Pool to collaborate with them, and am listed on VH1.com as the director for the music video),

["Remember Me"](#) (because all I wanted was for my message to get to people, and I could never have imagined what has come from that one video), and ["Dedication"](#).

How does it feel to know that over 31 million viewers have viewed your videos?

When I think of how big some of these videos have gotten, I can't even fathom it sometimes. I never thought they would get so much attention. I started as a 15-year-old kid making videos on Windows Movie Maker in her spare time after school, and now there are 30,000,000+ views. It's insane. In a good way, of course. I'm so happy to see that so many people care about our military and have as much love and support for them as I do. All I wanted was to say thank you, and I'm so glad that message seems to have come across. I've been blessed with so many opportunities because of Remember Me, and met so many wonderful people.

Looking back at some of the places I've been and people I've met, it hardly seems real, or like it couldn't have possibly happened to me of all people. The video has taken me to Orlando, Amarillo, Los Angeles. I've spoken to Gold Star families thanking me for making sure people know that the fallen are not just a number on a press release. I've received coins from officers and organizations, certificates of appreciation from branches, a personal letter from President Bush thanking me (which absolutely blew me away). So many things have happened; I've been incredibly blessed and can never truly express my gratitude for everything that has come from this experience. I never saw it coming, but I'm grateful that the video has made a difference to so many.

Have a great weekend and God bless!

Lizzie Palmer

It also happens to be Lizzie's birthday this month. Happy Birthday Lizzie! Thank you for sharing your heart with the world!

"Reflections" is the opportunity to share the intangibles: your thoughts and feelings on what we do and how it affects us. Poetry or prose, contribute what is important to you. Submit to BAA.JDay@gmail.com

Ever Wondered What Each of the BAA Ribbons and Medals Mean?



The Taps 150 medal: This blue and grey ribbon medal was designed by myself and given to those who do an event for the year 2012 and Taps 150.

The red ribbon: This is the Remembrance Medal and ribbon. Fred Hart who crafted the statue at the Wall and others in D. C. gave me permission to use the art work. The red means that a person has done good things for Veterans and their families.

The white ribbon and Col. Joe Day medal: This is in honor of my Dad who served in Marine aviation and the 108th Army Air Corps. To old for WW2 he was asked to start Civil Air Patrol in Illinois Dec 1-1941. He recruited 4,000 high school cadets who became Pilots and crews for the Army Air Corps . One Cadet that Dad got into West Point went on to be a 4 star general in the Air Force. Don Kutyna. Dad was honored by the President on the 50th anniversary of CAP. We again give this to people who go that extra step to better themselves and others.

The blue ribbon: Shows membership in BAA.

The red, white and blue ribbon/Medal of Valor: This indicates that this person has done more for this country, than asked.

The gold ribbon: This is for BAA buglers who take the time to make themselves the best bugle players that they can be. This is our medal and our own BAA Buglers Hall of Fame. Not to be confused with the Buglers Hall of Fame with the Drum and Bugle Corps program in Bridgeport, CT.

The blue ribbon with the red and white stripes: This is a ribbon and medal I designed for all our members. We were awarded this medal in January of 2011 by the Freedom Foundation for the work BAA does. I was presented the award but felt it was because I could have only earned it with the help of each member of BAA. So I designed this medal and ribbon to thank all BAA members.

SEEN THIS MONTH ON FACEBOOK

Some items of interest from our Bugles Across America [Facebook](#) page

Photo of the Day -

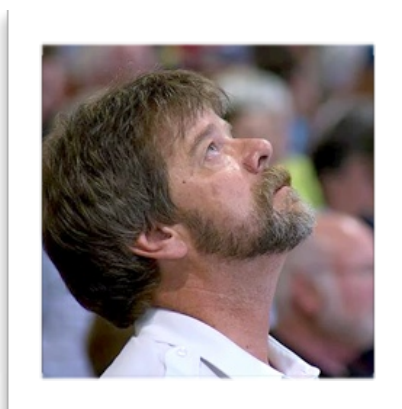
BAA Bugler **Scott E. McDonald** in Renaissance garb performing on a Renaissance (Natural) Trumpet as Sergeant Trumpeter Master Benedict Browne



Photo of the Day -

Bill Hall plays taps at a Memorial Day ceremony last month in Rock Island

Wisconsin's State Director, **Bill Seaman**, organized buglers to play at this incredible event. What a night! 55 buglers playing Taps to over 29,000 in attendance at Miller Park. Wow! Bravo Bill!



Thanks to all our new Facebook friends for making us feel so welcome!

Great feedback on the Founders Call to Action to help memorialize the 11th anniversary of 9/11. We have events going on in many communities across the USA!

A shout out to BAA Utah and State Director **L. Brent Christensen** for their 9/11 memorial participation at the "FIELD OF SORROWS". A 3x5 flag is posted for each life lost on that day.....very powerful!

Giddy-Up.....we reached 1,700 facebook fans this month!

A big shout out to our "**Aussie**" members....

Editor's Note: Thank you to Mark Paradis, BAA New Jersey Assistant State Director and BAA Media Coordinator for helping make our Facebook fresh and active!

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.

These states are:

- * Mississippi
- * North Dakota
- * Montana
- * New Mexico
- * Oregon

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.

Not Getting a Chance To Volunteer?

Are you not seeing as many opportunities to honor our nation's heros in your state as you'd like? Fact is, in many areas, the word about what BAA does needs to reach the attention of unknowing funeral directors, VAs, VFWs, ALs and cemetery locations.

You are more than welcome to share with them about Bugles Across America. Already available to you on our web site is a BAA business card template and a letter that you can modify with your contact information if you choose, print out and take or send to the business, organization or person of choice.

Location for BAA business cards and BAA letters

<http://www.buglesacrossamerica.org/Education/ForBuglersOnly.aspx>

The business card template is a standard Avery template #8371 for simple print and separate cards or Claude at Sir Speedy has a great format for our cards too. His email is sirspeedyberwyn@sbcglobal.net

Come Visit The TAPS 150 [Store!](#)

This is the place to purchase TAPS items:

- * TAPS 150 Medals
- * TAPS 150 Pins
- * TAPS 150 Coins
- * TAPS 150 Patches
- * TAPS 150 T-Shirts
- * TAPS 150 Coffee Mugs
- * "Day is Done"-The TAPS 150 CD
- * 24 Notes That Tap Deep Emotions" The Taps book by Jari Villanueva



The Day Is Done CD has 33 tracks of Taps and Taps related music including calls and settings of our National song of Remembrance. It is also available on [iTunes](#)

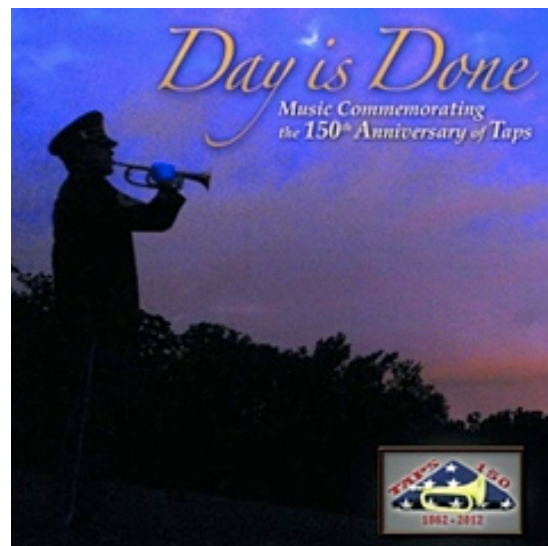
All proceeds benefit the TAPS 150 projects this year. These include the Commemoration at Arlington National Cemetery, the 150th Anniversary "Birth of an American Tradition" at Berkeley Plantation in Charles City, Virginia, and a commemoration at the grave of Major General Daniel Butterfield at West Point in October.

Please support TAPS150 and BAA in these worthy projects! [Make a purchase today.](#)

For more information on the events this year, please visit [Taps 150](#)
And visit our [Facebook Page](#)

Thanks!

Jari Villanueva, President, TAPS 150



BUGLES ACROSS AMERICA ON THE SOCIAL WEB

Find and subscribe to us on the following web sites:



<http://www.facebook.com/BuglesAcrossAmerica>



<http://twitter.com/baataps>



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/buglesacrossamerica>



<http://www.linkedin.com/groups/BAA-Bugles-Across-America>



<http://www.youtube.com/user/BuglesAcrossAmerica>

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If you have any articles or bugler stories that you would like to see in the next Newsletter, please email BAA.JDAY@gmail.com

All stories should 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.