

BUGLER'S POST

Official Newsletter of Bugles Across America



Wrapping up 2012 - Thank you.

by Tom Day, Founder



Welcome to November! Depending on where you live, November and the few months to come can be bitter cold. Last year we had a mild year but based on the weather here in Chicago now I think we might get real cold again. You may want to consider [The Kelly Plastic mouthpiece.](#)

As we look at November we have the 237th birthday of the Marines on the 10th and Veterans Day on the 11th. These are two great opportunities to play for the Marine Corps League in your town and of course at your local Veterans Memorial.

The best way to do this is to ask them now if they need help and at the same time introduce yourself as YOUR TOWN'S OFFICIAL BUGLER.

December 7th is another date we should never forget. The attack on Pearl Harbor. See if YOU can gather up those men and women from the GREAT GENERATION and offer to sound Taps for their fallen comrades. Start at the retirement centers and nursing homes in your town, i'm sure they would love it.

This is the last two months of TAPS 150. Are there any Civil War re-enactors in your area? Another chance to sound TAPS for the Civil War vets buried in your area.

If you haven't caught the theme of this month's newsletter it's getting out, letting people know your there and doing some events.



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Things that may interest you

Schools are always looking for speakers about the topics mentioned here. I have nine events coming up that I'll be at from Nov. 4th to the 16th. Six of these are schools.

Again, thank you all for your work on TAPS 150 projects, Veterans work, ball games and the thousands of funerals you have performed at. 2012 has been one of our finest years. We started in 2000 and we have no debt, we receive no government help, we service families and Veterans for free, members are not charged a fee to join and there are no dues.

You are all GREAT AMERICANS who can say YOU are a member of an organization that has given over a million hours of volunteer time. God Bless You and God Bless the United States of America.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Tom Day
Founder and President



If you are local to the Chicago area, these are currently the upcoming events Tom Day will be playing and speaking at:

- * Nov. 4th - Lutheran Church Berwyn, IL. (10th year). 10 am.
- * Nov 8th - Union ridge school, Harwood Heights, IL, 8:15 am.
- * Nov 9th - Pershing School, Berwyn, IL, 8:30 am.
- * Nov 9th - Divine Infant Church in Westchester, IL, 1:45pm.
- * Nov 9th - Marine Corps League, Marine Birthday Ball, Batavia, IL, 7 pm.
- * Nov 10th - Vietnam Memorial, State St. and Wacker, Chicago, IL, 9:30 am.
- * Nov 11th - Echo Taps 4th Year in Elkhart, IN, 9 am.
- * Nov. 16th - Indian Trail School, Plainfield, IL, 8:30 am.

Bugles Across America sends it's prayers out to all those in the path of Sandy and will donate \$1,000.00 to help with recovery. Mark Paradis, New Jersey State Director, will advise us on a viable Red Cross fund.

God Bless all on the East Coast.

Thomas J. Day, Founder and Marine Bugler

UPCOMING EVENTS

2014 Bugles Across America Conference

In 2014, Bugles Across America will be hosting a BAA Conference which will be open to all members and will be special meetings for state and assistant directors.



When: September 25th - 28th, 2014

Where: The DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Chicago.

1909 Spring Road, Oak Brook, Illinois, 60523,

Tel: (630) 472-6000

We are currently looking for American sponsors to be presented in a hospitality room showing off their products. American made horns, flags, mouthpieces, etc. If you have any suggestions, please email Tom Day at TomDay@sbcglobal.net

The convention will include two trips:

- * To The Getzen Company in Elkhorn, WI, to see how horns are constructed
- * To Oakwood Cemetery in Chicago where 4000 Confederates are buried.

We are taking suggestions for seminar topics and speakers. Please email Tom Day with your ideas of what you'd like to hear and learn about. TomDay@sbcglobal.net

Seminars currently scheduled:

- * Care and upkeep of valved and valveless instruments
- * Military Funerals - How BAA members can take part. Flag folding, M1 rifle firing, prayer, and presenting the flag.

Please do NOT make reservations yet. This is just to inform you that a conference is in the works. We are trying to get the best rates possible and to have a great weekend lineup of seminars you won't want to miss! With your ideas, we will have an amazing and memorable convention.

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. Please have event information in the format and worded as you'd like to be published.

BRASS FROM THE PAST: VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day History and Facts

The First World War ended on November 11, 1918. It was called the Great War, because up to that time, there had never been another like it.

One year later, on November 11, 1919, President Woodrow Wilson declared it as Armistice Day, to honor those involved in the war.

On May 13, 1938, Congress passed legislation making the 11th of November a legal holiday. It was still known as Armistice Day.

The Second World War was fought 1941-1945.

The Korean War was fought 1950-1953.

On June 1st, 1954, President Dwight Eisenhower changed the name of the holiday from Armistice Day to Veterans Day, to include the veterans from all the recent wars.

In 1968, the Uniform Holidays Bill was passed by Congress, which moved the celebration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. The law went into effect in 1971, but in 1975 President Ford returned Veterans Day to November 11, due to the important historical significance of the date.

Veterans Day is not to be confused with Memorial Day--a common misunderstanding, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Memorial Day (the fourth Monday in May) honors American service members who died in service to their country or as a result of injuries incurred during battle, while Veterans Day pays tribute to all American veterans--living or dead--but especially gives thanks to living veterans who served their country honorably during war or peacetime.

Here's a couple videos created and produced by The History Channel that inform nicely!

[Bet You Didn't Know: Veterans Day](#) and [History of Veterans Day](#)



Veterans Facts

The brave men and women who serve and protect the U.S. come from all walks of life; they are parents, children and grandparents. They are friends, neighbors and coworkers, and an important part of their communities. Here are some facts about the current veteran population of the United States.

- 9.2 million veterans are over the age of 65.
- 1.9 million veterans are under the age of 35.
- 1.8 million veterans are women.
- 7.8 million veterans served during the Vietnam War era (1964-1975), which represents 33% of all living veterans.
- 5.2 million veterans served during the Gulf War (representing service from Aug. 2, 1990, to present).
- 2.6 million veterans served during World War II (1941-1945).
- 2.8 million veterans served during the Korean War (1950-1953).
- 6 million veterans served in peacetime.
- As of 2008, 2.9 million veterans received compensation for service-connected disabilities.
- 5 states have more than 1 million veterans in among their population: California (2.1 million), Florida (1.7 million), Texas (1.7 million), New York (1 million) and Pennsylvania (1 million).
- The VA health care system had 54 hospitals in 1930, since then it has expanded to include 171 medical centers; more than 350 outpatient, community, and outreach clinics; 126 nursing home care units; and 35 live-in care facilities for injured or disabled vets.



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

State Director Spotlight: Colorado

David Burkhardt - State Director



How long have you been with BAA?

April, 2004

What inspired you to join?

I found the BAA website while surfing. BAA struck me as a perfect way for a trumpeter to do service

for one's community. Live Taps is a unique and personal "Thank You" to families, in honor of their loved ones who served our country. The need is great.

How long have you been playing?

Fifth grade

Hardest part/Best part about the job?

Keeping thoughts focused during performance is always a challenge, as it is hard not to think about the individual being honored. The unasked-for handwritten notes of thanks have special meaning to me.

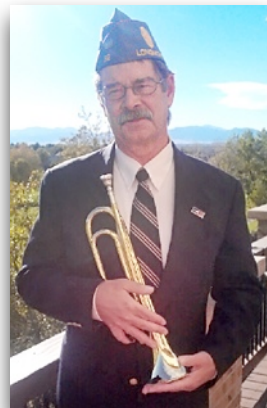
Best experience with BAA?

The honor of sounding Taps

Do you have a goal for your state?

As in many states, our buglers live all over in both densely and sparsely populated regions. My goals are to create more opportunities for our buglers to meet and build connections, to increase public awareness of BAA in Colorado, and to help buglers build connections locally with those who are in a position to pass our name to families in need.

Craig Fischer - Assistant Director



How long have you been with BAA?

I signed on with BAA in 2001 or 2002.

What inspired you to join?

I wanted to be a part of an organization that honors our Veterans. It's the last chance a grateful nation has to

say "thank you for your service".

How long have you been playing?

I began playing the trumpet at age 10. I took lessons from a gentleman who had played in John Phillip Sousa's band. This same man taught my dad how to play 30 years earlier.

Hardest part/Best part about the job?

Hardest: Trying to balance a family, a job and accommodating the numerous funerals that my Honor Guard participates in. Its also hard knowing that some veterans receive Taps via an electronic bugle. Best: Being a small part of an organization that provides final honors to America's veterans.

Best experience with BAA?

Seeing the commitment and sense of patriotism demonstrated by BAA members, most notably the other Colorado Director David Burkhardt.

Do you have a goal for your state?

I would like to be able to provide buglers for every service at Denver's Ft Logan National Cemetery. A big part of this task is convincing the Veterans Honor Guards that they don't need to rely on their electronic bugles and having a supply of BAA buglers to accommodate this need.



Founder's Call To Action: Sept 11th

When you organize a Call to Action, one never realizes how effective it will be or how people will react. I have to say that this call to action exceeded my expectation in every way!

First, let me apologize for taking so long to get this out to you. As I continue to receive emails from BAA volunteers informing us what they did on 9/11, I did not want to wait any longer to get the list compiled and sent out. If we missed you on the list, again, please do not take it personal. I was pulling names from emails, Facebook and the BAA web site - and I hope I got everyone. Some emails sent stated that a group of BAA volunteers were performing together and unfortunately, there were instances where not everyone was mentioned - so you may be missed.

From my count, we had 183 BAA volunteers honoring those that died on 9/11. Florida had the most BAA volunteers participating at 20, followed by California with 13, New York with 12, and a tie with Texas and New Jersey with 10.

Our volunteers were young, and young at heart. There were active duty and retired military. We had police and fire personnel participate. Some events were elaborate and well organized, and others were intimate and personal.

Either way, we as an organization honored those that died on 9/11 with honor, dignity and compassion. And in our own small and special way - we offered others the opportunity to NEVER FORGET.

If you have pictures, news clippings, comments or suggestions for how we may improve this for next year, we would be happy to hear from you.

Let me close by saying THANK YOU! I am humbled beyond words at the comments and actions of each and every one of our BAA volunteers.

Semper Fi

Mark Paradis

Marine veteran, BAA volunteer and BAA Media Coordinator

I can be reached at baamedia@markparadis.com or via phone at 908-236-8464

BEHIND THE BUGLE - YOUR STORIES

Sr. Sue Kilduski - Illinois

For the last three years I have been invited by Rabbi Goldhammer to give a sermon at Benet Shalom, a synagogue for the Deaf. For this year's sermon he asked me to talk about "How do we love our enemies." In the opening lines of the talk I spoke of the fact that I go every day to our monastery basement and play Taps for every soldier – alive and dead - , their families, friends and not just Americans, but for every country across the globe – the Afghans, the Iranians, the Syrians, the Chinese, the Egyptians, those from Iraq and from all the countries in Africa. The reason I do this is because I believe the world is confused. We were not created for war. When we were created the word "enemy" did not exist. And the sermon goes on and on, etc.



As the Rabbi and I were going over the sermon, as soon as he read this opening line, he said, "You have to start by playing Taps." I felt a bit uncomfortable, as I had never heard a sermon that had the speaker introduced, only to hold up a trumpet and play Taps when it was not a funeral. But he convinced me and I said "sure."

At this time I had just come to be a member of Buglers Across America. So when the month came for me to actually give the sermon, I asked if I could wear my BAA uniform, as I wanted to speak a bit about it in the sermon. My sermon ended as I was telling the congregation that it takes just one solitary bugler playing Taps in a monastery basement to change my perspective and open my heart for hope, so that I could give others hope in times of weakness and sadness. Then I talked about Tom Day and how his initial experience with that digital trumpet that failed, made him certain that something should be and could be done about this. I told them how he started with a number of people he knew in 2000 and how the organization has grown to 7000 today. I told them about my one and only experience of sounding Taps at a funeral so far. I spoke of the honor it was for me (and my guardian angel who showed up also due to a computer posting problem, making me more at ease) and how it comforted the family. I explained to them that now there was an opportunity for a single bugler's daily renditions to join with an organization's and make a difference also.

Chicago Premiere of "Until They Are Home"

Dear Tom,

I want to extend our deepest gratitude to you for bringing the flags for the Premiere and for your beautiful trumpet playing "Taps" at the end of the movie. It was such a great way to end such a moving film on bringing our service-members home.

We will bring the film to the Pritzker Military Library for a smaller event in the near future and hope you will once again join us. In the meantime, please accept our heartfelt THANK YOU.

A small [video of the evening](#): Chicago reaction of "Until They Are Home" - Sunday, September 9, 2012

Warmest regards.

Linda De Bella - The De Bella Agency



Recently Jarett Story (BAA) and the Director of NC-BAA answered the call for a funeral event for a 30yr Veteran. Complete with Army Honor Guards, Amer. Legion Post 16 honor guards and plenty of flags.

I introduced Jarett to the director, who was in full Air Force honor guard uniform. Since they both answered the call, the director decided to play Amazing Grace on his fugal horn and both he and Jarett would later play Echo Taps to the large attendees.

They went over it a few times, and the director turned to Jarett and asked "Are you ready?", Jarett (also smartly dress in full Boy Scout uniform) replied, "I'm ready." Together they nailed the rendition, to the notes. The crowd was in awe.

Both parents of Jarett were present and many of the folks came and spoke with the two, mostly about the fact, they had never heard Echo Taps. It was a very impressive performance.

BAA should be very proud to have this young man as a representative of BAA. SOUND THE HONOR...

Respectfully, Don Barker, BAA, Conover, NC.

Taps in Afghanistan

by U.S. Air Force Major David J. Murphy

CAMP MARMAL, Afghanistan – As NATO coalition forces began their evening meal, a bugle sounded Taps over the public affairs system at a Forward Operating Base in Mazar-e Sharif. The bugler's first note pierced the evening air at 5:16 p.m. local time, the exact moment (8:46 a.m. EDT) that American Airlines Flight 11 flew into the World Trade Center's North Tower in 2001. During the next 77 minutes, buglers all over the United States simultaneously sounded Taps at the impact moments of the other three hijacked airliners.

The unison chorus of buglers was planned by Bugles Across America, a non-profit organization linking live buglers with requests for military honors. "Please make appropriate adjustments for your time zone so that all buglers play at the exact same moments," said Fred Speckmann in an August email to the bugler volunteers. "Please remember that September 11, 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."

In the days leading up to the anniversary, Master Sgt. Keith McMillan, Senior Airman Shanel Phillippe, and Lt. Col. Rich Gaddis, all deployed to the NATO base, coordinated the memorial event with the American and German base leadership. Radio Andernach, a German Morale and Welfare radio station, recorded Gaddis' Taps rendition. The recording was used on the morning news and talk show to commemorate the solemn anniversary. Gaddis said, "I was inspired by all the cooperation we received. It was truly a group effort. A bugle was available, and I was honored to play it. The notes speak for themselves."

Organizing a group of servicemen outside the Mayor's Cell for a ceremony, Staff Sgt. McMillan remarked, "When I listened to my oldest daughter's eyewitness account of the second plane hitting the tower, I knew we were at war. This is a solemn reminder of why we're here."

At 5:16 p.m. Afghan time, in the base command post, Battle Captain executive officer Friedrich announced, first in English, then in German, over the public address system, "In memory of the victims of September 11, 2001, a U.S. Air Force bugler will sound Taps." Then Gaddis sounded 24 notes into the microphone.

"To see the determination in Lt. Col. Gaddis was admirable," commented Senior Airman Phillippe, who helped obtain permission for the public ceremony. "I have not seen that kind of drive for honoring the fallen since the early 2000s."

- continued -

CAMP MARMAL, Afghanistan – With the mountains of northern Afghanistan in the distance, Lt. Col. Rich Gaddis sounds Taps at a Forward Operating Base memorial ceremony on September 11, 2012. In formation in the front row from left to right are, Staff Sgt. McMillan, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Grover, Master Sgt. Wollett, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Carter; and in the back row are, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Buckalew, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jones, and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Landies. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Tamieka Wanzo)



CAMP MARMAL, Afghanistan – German Petty Officer 1st Class Butschke, USAF SMSgt Laflam, and German Navy Lt. Longen watch as Lt. Col. Gaddis records Taps in the Radio Andernach studio. The recording was played September 11, 2012, on the local news and talk program. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Shanel Phillippe)

CAMP MARMAL, Afghanistan – German Air Force Staff Sgt. Rudolf looks on as Lt. Col. Rich Gaddis records an introduction message for Taps in the Radio Andernach studio. The recording of the bugle call was played September 11, 2012, on the German Morale and Welfare radio's local news and talk program. (German Navy photo by Lt. Christoph Jan Longen)



Billy Howe - South Carolina



9/11 Remembered:
Our tribute with the
local fire department at
Hilton Head IB
Elementary was a
huge success and
ended up being a
history lesson as well.

The principle had us
play Taps in the hall at 8:46 and interrupted the program each
other time to play taps: 9:03, 9:37 & 10:03. Planning on making this an annual event at the
school.

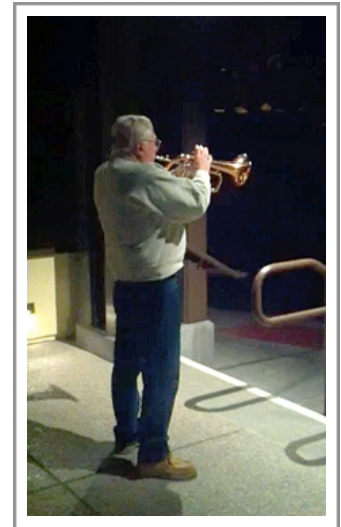


Bill Smith - California

Belvedere resident, Bill Smith, stood outside City Hall around 0530
hours this morning. He came down to salute as I put the flags up.
He then played Taps on his bugle at the exact times the planes
crashed into the towers in NY.

I was very touched by this extremely sincere act & was happy to
hear neighbors yell "Thank you" when he was finished.

Submitted by Officer Janessa Gapinski
Belvedere Police Department



John Cogan - Vermont

The New England Edition of the *New York Times* for September 11, 2012 is unusual in that it is an almost completely typical edition of the paper. Page One has no mention of the eleventh anniversary of the terrorist attacks on that city. There were a variety of headlines and stories, but the only mention of something related at all are two short sentences at the bottom left directing the reader to an inside article about Bagram Prison.

A search through the paper showed no editorial, but instead, there was an op-ed piece and graphic about the missteps in dealing with information earlier in 2001 which had pointed to the attack. There was no tribute.

The only other article dealing with the anniversary appeared on Page A17: "For Some, Moving On From 9/11 Means Scaling Back."

Nothing else. Not even advertisements mentioning the date.

Except for one thing. Looking closely at the obituary section there was a half-inch of column space in almost the smallest type available:

In Memorium

LEVIN--Neil. In memory of my beloved son Neil and the men and women who perished with him on 9/11/01. Our love never fades. - Gloria Levin

On Sept 11th, 2012, I stood next to the clock tower at Johnson State College, facing the flags of the United States, and of Vermont.

Just before 8:46 am, I sounded the bugle call "Attention." Then there was a minute of silence. I ended with "Taps."

It was a very beautiful and sunny September Tuesday... just like that one eleven years ago.

Thank you, Johnson State, for placing the flags at half-staff.



Larré Robertson - Idaho

In 1970 at the ripe old age of 19, I was honored to sound TAPS at Gen. G.S. Patton's gravesite at the American National Cemetery in Luxembourg with a Luxembourg bugle sounding echo from across the cemetery. Brings chills to me this day!

At the really ripe old age of 61 (2012 :) at ANC, on May 19th 2012 I was honored to sound TAPS for Gen. G.S. Patton, Jr.

How honored an old guy from Idaho can be? No words...



Carl Copp - Massachusetts



During Memorial Day 2012 weekend, I was privileged to play Taps for the evening flag lowering at the St. Mihiel American Cemetery, France where 5,100 soldiers, Marines and sailors are buried following the final major assault of WWI on German lines.

The senior guides of our small group of veterans touring these battlefields and the cemetery administrator requested I

form a color guard and bugle during the flag ceremony. Former Marine Corps Commandant Carl Mundy received the folded flag but then presented it to me as a representative of the Bugles Across America.



Tom Day, Jari Villanueva and Ed Crobie - Illinois

This was Sunday Sept. 30 2012 at the Oak Wood cemetery in Chicago where 92 years ago about this time the first player of Taps was cremated and the site of 4,000 Confederate Soldiers burial. Now a National memorial.

BAA fired 3 volleys and played Taps LIVE.



Ed Crobie (over 6,000 services) Taps 150, BAA member, Jari Villanueva, and BAA Founder and President Tom Day



Wreath laying, September 30th, 2012
Oakwood Cemetery
Tom Day and Jari Villanueva

Tom Day playing Taps



L. Brent Christensen - Utah

"Keep the Spirit of '45 Alive" Day in Utah was held Saturday, August 11, 2012 at the "Gold Star Mothers Memorial" Monument located in Salt Lake City Cemetery.



LTCM David Bettinson, Ms. Colleen F. Parkin, Gold Star Mother and L. Brent Christensen, BAA State Director

The Borgstrom Brothers/ Family from Thatcher, Utah



Ms. Colleen F. Parkin and "Woody" re-enact the "Kiss" to the delight of the attendees

Group Photo: Bugles Across America State Director Brent Christensen, LTCM (ret) David Bettinson (Assistant BAA State Director) join Ron Temu of Evans and Early and Robert and "Woody" saying farewell until August 11.



BAA- IN THE NEWS

Battle of Antietam - 150th Anniversary (Sept 17th 1862 - Sept 17th 2012)

We'd like to share some Bugles Across America (BAA) news with you.

Mason - Dixon BAA forces joined efforts with PA member SMSgt Todd Kirkwood and MD member CMSgt Ron Glazer, Sr. We worked together to help conclude a 4 day event commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Antietam. Both members are also part of the 167th Airlift Wing Base Honor Guard Team from Martinsburg, WV. We were honored and consider it a privilege to be able to play echo Taps at Antietam National Cemetery, Sharpsburg, MD at sunset on the evening of September 17th, 2012.

Following a 21 gun salute with civil war re-enactors firing their muskets into the darkened skies, the sound of echo taps piercing the quiet night air on such hallowed ground was an amazing experience. At the final salute, it seemed to bring past and present together in a timeless remembrance.

A special thanks to 167th Airlift Wing LTC Keith Snyder (Antietam Park Ranger) for inviting us to serve in this historic event!

About [Battle of Antietam](#)

Featured news from [CBS on the 150th anniversary](#)



Ron Glazer, Keith Snyder and Todd A. Kirkwood

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

How To Acquire A Military Funeral For Your Loved One

When the time comes (or beforehand if you can) try to find discharge papers (a DD Form 214). If you don't have that, go to the VA web site and under [Veterans Service Records](#) with proper information, the veteran or next of kin may request a copy by filling out a SF 180 form.



Your request must contain certain basic information to locate service records. This information includes:

- The veteran's complete name used while in service
- Service number
- Social security number
- Branch of service
- Dates of service
- Date and place of birth (especially if the service number is not known).
- If you suspect your records may have been involved in the [1973 fire](#), also include:
 - Place of discharge
 - Last unit of assignment
 - Place of entry into the service, if known.
- All requests must be **signed** and **dated** by the veteran or next-of-kin.
- **If you are the next of kin of a deceased veteran**, you must provide proof of death of the veteran such as a copy of death certificate, letter from funeral home, or published obituary.

When the time comes, take the papers to the funeral director and tell them you want Military Funeral Honors. The funeral director has a list of numbers to call depending upon the branch of service. This will get you at least 2 people to fold and present the flag.

The flag. The funeral director completes a 2008 form and takes it to the Post Office and gets a free official military Burial Flag. Do not get charged for this.

Then as soon as all arrangements are made, go to the [Request a Bugler](#) tab on the BAA web site. Fill in **ALL** the requested information and hit "submit". Wait.. it will take up to a minute for the request to send. Please don't hit "submit" more than one. Once you receive confirmation, you will know that the request has been sent to all BAA bugler's within a 100 mile radius. Hopefully you will hear back soon saying a bugler has accepted your request.

The BAA bugler will work with the Military or any Veterans group that may come out.

Important Member Reminders



If you can't volunteer for a request, it is not necessary to reply and tell us why you can't make it. While we truly appreciate your willingness to serve, you are replying to an automated message.

If you are available to volunteer for a request, please 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.

After you've officially volunteered for a request, please contact the requester ASAP with the contact information that will have been sent to you. If you don't see an email with the requester's contact information, please check your spam folder.

Changing Your Contact Information: If you need to update your email, phone number or address, please log in to the BAA web site and update your profile. Click on your name in the upper right corner to get started.

Formally volunteering for a request and then needing to cancel 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, please log in and use the Contact Director option under the Contact Us tab to contact your State Director to let them know. You will only see the [Contact Directors](#) option if you are logged in. Not showing up lets down the family of the deceased and is grounds for membership removal.

If you've lost your 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!

If you find that the event you've volunteered for already has another bugler, please contact your state director and they can find out if the event was posted twice accidentally and who accepted the request first.

Thank you so much everyone. We really do appreciate your generous hearts. We just wanted to remind you of a few things that will help make things run a little smoother.

A Word To All About Our Bugler Request System...

Since its inception in October of 2010, we have processed over 5800 requests. Now, admittedly, some of them have been done as a means of testing by Directors, and some have been unintentional duplicates, but the vast majority of that number represent legitimate requests for the provision of a live bugler to support military funeral honors or special memorial events. We are averaging, at this point, 10 to 15 requests coming in to our national system each day.

With that expanding public reliance on the Request System have come some growing pains. We have had to make adjustments to the coding on several occasions, and we will continue to monitor for any additional tweaks that may be required. When you stop to think of the size of our organization and the magnitude of the potential, we have been doing amazingly well. **A heartfelt and most sincere “Thank You” is extended to all that have had a part in making this a successful endeavor.** To serve in honoring the veteran is our highest calling and the core of the BAA mission.

In order to continue to serve this rapidly growing outreach, we must all take it seriously and be prepared to do our part. Your level of involvement in support of Bugles Across America determines the particular attention and action required.

For the volunteer bugler:

- 1) Maintain a regular watch on your registered email contact address so that you will see the requests as they come in;
- 2) Carefully consider your availability as to date, time, and location. If the date or time would prevent you from attending, or the distance is beyond your personally-established limit of travel, simply delete the request;
- 3) If you are certain that you can serve the mission, follow the hot link within the email, and then volunteer for the mission.
- 4) As soon as reasonably possible, contact the requestor directly to provide assurance of your intent to serve.
- 5) Save and print out the request details and the message acknowledging your assignment. Always carry that with you when you report for the service.
- 6) Provide a message of feedback to your State Director after serving the mission. While some states have established this as a requirement, it is certainly a good thing to do in all cases.

For the State Director:

- 1) When you receive that notice of a request within your state, immediately click the [View Online](#) link to verify the request as being for a purpose within the bounds of the BAA mission statement; check on the reasonable validity of the date and time specified; and look to ascertain that the list of buglers receiving notice is appropriate to the location of the event. If you find a problem with any of these issues, contact the requestor to get the correct information. Assist in reposting the request. Contact a National Admin if you require assistance, but in any case to have them remove the incorrectly posted request after the matter is resolved.
- 2) Monitor the request for response of acceptance. If within 24 hours of the event date and time, and no volunteer has accepted, it may help to make some direct contact by telephone with any of the potential buglers that are within reasonable distance. Do not harangue or attempt to lay a 'guilt trip' on the bugler, however, you may find someone who, for some reason, was unaware of the request.
- 3) If you become aware that the request is not going to be accepted, it is simple courtesy to call the requestor to let them know of that. A sincere apology for not being able to meet this request is much better than just letting it pass unrecognized. You might offer suggestions for alternative methods of providing Taps. Remember that an 'active search for a qualified bugler was made' (in accordance with DoDI 1300.15) and if none is found, this is when the digital horn is better than silence.
- 4) When a request is accepted, send a note of 'Thanks' to the volunteer and remind them to contact the requestor. Provide the bugler with any assistance or advice they may request. Ask for some feedback after the mission has been served.

We full well acknowledge that our volunteers continue to serve a great number of missions that never make it in to our request system. This, of course, is a good thing. All BAA buglers are encouraged to publicize their availability within their locale. It is not a national policy, but some state directors have asked their members to submit a periodic summary of missions served a BAA representative including any that are done as a result of direct contact.

A Good Reminder for BAA Members Who Are Former Service: Wearing Medals



Although medal displaying was encouraged in Great Britain and other allied countries after WWII, the U.S. did not develop the tradition early on. As medals have become more available and the services have improved on issuing and presenting them, Americans are starting up their own tradition of displaying their awards after service. The Armed Forces are now one of the most respected and admired institutions in the U.S. Since World War II over 28 million Americans have served their country in the Armed Forces and their pride and their families' pride of their service is reflected in the enormous respect of their fellow countrymen.

Beginning with Veterans Day 2006, the Secretary of Veteran Affairs urged Veterans to show their pride of service by wearing their medals on Veterans Day. He expressed the hope this display of military decorations, which he called the "Veterans Pride Initiative," would become a traditional part of Veterans Day, Memorial Day, the Fourth of July and other patriotic observances.

Army Regulation 670-1, paragraph 30-6, says that former members of the Army (including active duty, reserves, or Army National Guard) may wear medals on "appropriate" civilian clothing on Veterans Day, Memorial Day, and Armed Forces Day, as well as at "formal occasions of ceremony and social functions of a military nature."

"Appropriate" civilian clothes include clothes designed for Veteran and patriotic organizations, such as VFW or American Legion uniforms. You can wear either the full-size or miniature-size medals. You should place the medals and decorations in approximately the same location and in the same manner as for the Army uniform, so they look similar to medals worn on the Army uniform.

REFLECTIONS

The Bugler on the Hill

by Del Delamont (Georgia)

Out on a sad and cross-lined place, a broken family grieves.
A solemn sadness in each face, when e're a loved-one leaves.
When life on earth is stilled, and only memories remain,
A bugler stands upon a hill to sound the last refrain.

The mournful echoes linger soft, across the great divide,
As though to build a bridge aloft ... to reach the other side!
A flag, a handkerchief, a tear, ... a knock on heaven's door,
As tender angels gently bear the ones who've gone before.

Behold the bugler sounds for all believers who have died,
Who know on resurrection day, those resting now ... shall rise!
What glorious fanfare that will be, when heaven's trumpets blare,
And every eye on earth shall see ... Christ coming in the air!

All buglers from the earliest horn, 'til that great day appears,
Will join in regal uniform, for every ear to hear!
For then, in Revelation's awe, shall heaven and earth stand still ...
When "Zion" sounds the final call ...

... The Bugler On The Hill!

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"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

SEEN THIS MONTH ON FACEBOOK

This bench, donated by Bugles Across America, located at the Veterans Wall of Honor in McDonough, Ga. If you are ever traveling to Florida, the Wall of Honor is only minutes off I-75, just south of Atlanta. This Memorial is comparable to many of those in the DC area; very well done. For more information, [Click](#).



Retired 1stSgt Chester Dunn, USMCR, WWII Veteran
Oorah, 1stSgt!

Never pass up the opportunity to thank a Veteran, regardless of when they served. Chances are, the freedom that you enjoy today, they fought, protected, and some even paid the ultimate sacrifice for. Semper Fi!

Hats off to a true hero, Jack Hallowell, who helped liberate Dachau concentration camp with the 157th in 1945. Jack passed away in March of this year, but will always be honored for his service and humanity.



BAA member SSgt John W. Rhoden. This picture was taken at North Jones Elementary in Laurel, MS for a 9/11 ceremony honoring those who have died, plus all the military members who have died since.



WELCOME BACK! And THANK YOU for your service! Caption: Spc. Marques Turpin, one of the 70 D.C. Army [National Guard](#) soldiers with the 273rd military police company returning from Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan after 10 months kisses his son Josiah, 2, following a welcome home ceremony held in front of the D.C. Armory, Washington, D.C., Tuesday, October 16, 2012. (Photo by Andrew Harnik/The Washington Times)

The Veteran asked ONE of the Marines if he could have a photo taken with him.... Well, as you can see from the photo the Marines answer.



BAA member Jonathan Lamm - Thank you Bugles Across America for all you do. I am the bugler for the Fire Dept. This is a picture of me playing "TAPS" on Memorial Day at a local service.

Rhode Island State Director,
Michael Jackson, at RI
Veterans Cemetery, February
2011





New Jersey Bugler's Get Recognized for Their Volunteerism!

Fellow New Jersey Bugles Across America Volunteers,

It is with great excitement I share with you the news that the bill I worked on for over a year with my local assemblymen and senator was signed by Governor Christie last week!

I described the details of the bill (**A2024/S1614**) in my email to New Jersey BAA members on August 11th. I pursued this to recognize our volunteerism. Upon sounding live "Taps" for 30 Military Funeral Honors missions in New Jersey, you will be eligible for an Honor Ribbon of Service to be presented by the Governor.

Click to see [the governor's action](#) and click to read [the bill's contents](#).

New Jersey BAA members, please contact me for the Excel spreadsheet that is needed to be filled out in order to manage the services performed. Each mission must be logged and email it to me within 3 days of completing that mission. If you do not have Excel, I have attached a PDF file for you to send me in a text file with the columns I need. I will review this with the Adjutant General once per month and provide him with a report of qualifying missions for audit purposes.

If there are any State Directors interested in trying to get the same type of bill signed in your state, let me know and I will offer advice.

Best regards,

Jim Gallombardo

State Director - New Jersey

gallombardo@yahoo.com

BAA Calendar Photo Deadline: NOVEMBER 3, 2012!

Bugles Across America Members, Fans and Friends - we are looking for some of your favorite BAA pictures to include in a proposed calendar to be made and used to raise funds for BAA.

All pictures should be at least 1MB and be in either .jpg or similar photo format.

Please include the name or names in the picture, date of event, state and city picture was taken and any other pertinent info you feel may be helpful in the description.



All pictures and any questions can be sent to Mark Paradis at baamedia@markparadis.com.

Any pictures not of public domain must have permission from the photographer to use.

This is a great project to raise funds for BAA and show your support for our nations veterans.

Do you have a most unusual or funny story to tell regarding an event or request you played Taps for? The Bugler's Post wants to publish your most unusual bugling stories.

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

The deadline for this is December 15th

Please email BAA.JDAY@gmail.com

Attention: State Directors Needed!

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

These states are:

* Mississippi

* West Virginia

* Nevada

* 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



Veterans Day Sale!

November 1st through November 12th EVERY ITEM in the TAPS 150 store will be marked down!

TAPS150 is looking to move the TAPS150 merchandise so we can finish one last project (refurbishing an original manuscript by Oliver Willcox Norton) and make a substantial contribution to Bugles Across America! Please help us out as we wind down this fantastic year of commemoration and celebration!

[Taps 150 Store](#)

In the Taps 150 store you will find TAPS 150 Medals, pins, coins, patches, t-shirts, coffee mugs, a booklet written by Jari Villanueva and the Day is Done CD

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. 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>

KEY LINKS

[Bugles Across America](#)

[BAA on Facebook](#)

[BAA New York on Facebook](#)

[BAA Kentucky on Facebook](#)

[BAA Nashville on Facebook](#)

[BAA Hawaii on Facebook](#)

[BAA Oklahoma on Facebook](#)

[BAA: Ohio's Blog](#)

[BAA: New Jersey](#)

[BAA Bugler Directives](#)

[Taps 150](#)

[Day is Done on CD](#)

[Day is Done in iTunes](#)

[Regimental Drum Major Association](#)

[Taps Bugler](#)

[Getzen](#)

[Kanstul](#)

[Spirit of '45](#)

[Drum Corps International](#)

[Flags For Vets](#)

[Operation Taps](#)

[Association of Military Musicians](#)

[Wounded Warriors](#)

[Freelancers Alumni Drum and Bugle Corps](#)

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.