



From the desk of the National President:



It is hard to believe it is less than two weeks until National Convention. Serving as your National President has certainly been an honor.

There have been many unforgettable moments as we honored veterans and our heroes at Arlington, as well as the visits to the Departments of Michigan, Ohio and Minnesota. The time I have spent visiting in person and by telephone and email with our members has been an experience I will forever treasure.

As we bring this fiscal year to a close and start planning for the next one, I would like to point out some events this year of which I am especially proud. We initiated a Public Affairs Committee and published two press releases through PR Wire. I encourage each chapter to make use of your community's newspaper and radio media to promote your activities and tell everyone who we are and what we do.

We also had a Fundraising Committee that worked very hard to give chapters ideas on fundraising and grants; every chapter should apply for a Walmart Grant as well as grants from any other business in your community that offers them.

And last, but not least, we initiated a mentoring program where every chapter was assigned a mentor. The success stories continue to come in on this program and I am pleased to announce that we had 100% compliance this year with no chapters being suspended for lack of the proper paperwork.

The National Executive Board this year worked very hard on many projects as did the appointed officers and I would like to thank each and every one of them at this time.

And that's a wrap – see you in Minneapolis!

Anne Parker
National President
Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.

