



ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
American Gold Star Mothers National Convention
Raleigh, NC
June 21, 2025

The business meeting of the 88th Annual National Convention of the American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. was called to order at 8:51 a.m. by President Patti Elliott. (See Attachments)

Chaplain Sherrie McGhee gave an opening prayer, and members recited the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Americanism Chair, Joyce Paulsen. The Preamble was read by Annette Kirk and Mission Statement read by Joyce Paulsen.

Roll Call of Officers - President, Patti Elliott; 1st Vice President, Annette Kirk; 2nd Vice President, Joyce Paulsen; Treasurer, Rose Duval; Secretary, Theresa Karlson; Sergeant-at-Arms, Teresa Bullock; IT Chair, Nichole Chilton; VAVs Representative, Pam Stemple; Flag Guard, Denise Tolbert; Chaplain, Sherrie McGhee. 10 of 11 officers were present and accounted for.

Roll Call of Delegates and Alternates – 2nd VP Joyce Paulsen conducted the roll call of delegates and alternates. There were 65 voting delegates. Motion to approve the credentials report as presented by Lorrie Flemming and seconded by Misi Mosier. Vickie Castro mentioned that she counted 64; however, it would be 43 at two-thirds. The revised report stated 64 delegates and that 43 is two-thirds. Motion carried.

Reading of Convention Rules – Acting Sergeant at Arms, Pam Stemple read the Convention Rules. Motion to approve convention rules as read was made by Evelyn Brady and seconded by Sandi Fox. Motion carried.

Report of the Treasurer - Rose Duval presented the Treasurer's report. Following discussion and questions, the report will be filed for audit.

Standing Committees Reports

Finance and Budget - Rose Duval presented a PowerPoint showing the budget flow and breakdown of income and expenses for the organization, including Funding Sources, Financial Structure, State of Financial Position and Statement of Activity. Our recent audit review was successful.

Karen Meredith questioned whether we could accept stock donations. Rose will entertain that option.

Rose mentioned that we gained a substantial increase in the Flourish account within eight months as compared to the other money accounts. We will wait to decide if we should put more money from the Wells Fargo account into the

Flourish account for the next NEB. Our current Guide Star rating is 97%; however, Tammy Pulaski stated that if we place our 990 on our website, we should have a 100% rating.

Special Committees Reports

Membership - Teresa Bullock reported that as of 6/15/2025 we have 867 members, 156 members over the age of 80, and 524 associates. She challenged all chapters and departments to check on the inactive members and see if they can assist them to become active again. She also shared that the New Hampshire Department is restarting with 5 members and 4 associates. She also re-iterated that if Chapters and Departments want a current roster, they need to contact her or the current National Service Officer.

Jennifer Jackman – Database should have birthdates. Teresa mentioned that the database needs to be cleaned up but needs that information from the Chapter/Dept Presidents.

Elaine Brittain suggested going to digital membership cards. Teresa mentioned that our older members like the membership card. She also mentioned that in the past, when members leave or pass away, their membership cards were sent back to headquarters, and these are wonderful artifacts for our history files.

Venessa Bone asked what are the guidelines for Associates. There is an application online and Fathers, Brothers, Sisters, Stepfathers, and Grandparents are eligible.

Lynda Lambert met a 93-year-old Gold Star Mother recently who has an old membership card; however, she is not a current member because she does not have the backup documentation. The board decided that we would re-instate her without membership application and backup documentation.

Sandy Miller questioned whether we will we go completely digital for the newsletter. Teresa stated that there are members who prefer the paper newsletter.

Business meeting adjourned for a break at 10:06 am
Business meeting returned at 10:30 am

Roll Call - After a brief break, the roll call of delegates was conducted, and 64 delegates were still present. 43 counted as two-thirds.

Grant Committee – Teresa shared information about special chapter, Giving Grace and disaster grants. She also shared that we received a total of \$25,234.62 of designated funds for Giving Grace grants.

Angela Bell asked how many times a member can apply for a grant. Teresa stated that they can apply once a calendar year.

Debbie Rowland asked whether we could carry grant money over to the next fiscal year. Teresa mentioned that it depends on the grant's guidelines.

We received a \$25,000 donation from the Columbus Foundation.

Nomination Committee – Elaine Brattain - Slate of 2025 National Officers reported

- Annette Kirk, President
- Joyce Paulsen, 1st Vice President
- Teresa Bullock, 2nd Vice President
- Chanta Vasquez, Secretary
- Theresa Karlson, Treasurer
- Denise Torbert, Sergeant at Arms
- Sherrie Battle McGhee, Chaplain
- Evelyn Baltierra, Flag Guard
- Tammy Bell, Banner Guard

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dues

A motion was made to keep the current membership cost at \$40/person by Jennifer Jackman and seconded by Lorrie Fleming. Becky Christmas requested Jennifer to rescind her motion since the dues will remain the same and we do not have to vote on this motion. Motion rescinded.

Gold Star Statues – Judith Young shared about her NEB 2007 project to create and raise money for a Gold Star Mother statue to be placed in Arlington National Cemetery. During this process, the House, Senate and President approved of this project. After seven years, they could not place the statues due to the expiration of the government's approval. Judith and the sculptor decided to end the project. She decided to purchase the statues and donate them to several locations. One of these statues will be placed at the Gold Star Manor in California and the other will go to the Chapel of the Four Chaplains in Philadelphia. Another one will go to the museums in Jacksonville, NC. Eight statues are planned to be placed throughout the country. There was a discussion about whether they could create and members could purchase a smaller replica of the statue. It was decided that the 2025-2026 NEB would follow up with this suggestion.

Constitution and ByLaws

The NEB presented a proposal for the Chapter Bylaws – Article III, Section 7. The proposed change is to remove the word "Dad" and replace it with the word "Associate".

Becky Christmas made a motion to adopt this proposed amendment. Sandi Fox seconded. Motion carried.

The Department of Virginia presented a proposal for Article III, Section 1 to change the name "National Executive Board" to "Board of Directors" in order to

keep our organization in compliance as suggested by Harbor Compliance.

On behalf of the NEB, Patti Elliott made a statement to defeat this proposal.

A motion to defeat this proposal was made by Jennifer Jackman and seconded by Lynda Lambert.

Proposal is defeated.

Business meeting adjourned 11:46 am for the VAVS/Community Service Luncheon
Business meeting resumed at 1:30 PM

Roll Call -Following lunch 63 delegates were present. 43 constituted two-thirds.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers

Elaine Brattain, Nominations Chair, announced the National Executive Board Nominees and their nomination letters. She opened nominations from the floor for all offices.

There being no nominations from the floor, National Secretary, Theresa Karlson cast the ballot by acclamation for all candidates. The Officers for the 2025 - 2026 National Executive Board are:

- Annette Kirk, President
- Joyce Paulsen, 1st Vice President
- Teresa Bullock, 2nd Vice President
- Chanta Vasquez, National Secretary
- Theresa Karlson, Treasurer
- Sherrie Battle McGhee, Chaplain
- Denise Torbert, Sergeant at Arms
- Evelyn Baltierra, Flag Guard
- Tammy Bell, Banner Guard

President Patti Elliott made closing remarks and reminders. Patti shared Years of Service for each member who attended the convention. Judith Young has been a member for 39 years.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Doris Syrakos from the Newton Chapter presented a scrapbook album to Patti to be displayed. This album includes all the activities that the Massachusetts/Rhode Island Department members participated in during Patti's presidency.
- Lauren Wyatt shared information about the Green and Gold Congressional Aide Program. She served at her local representative's office. She is recommending that Gold

Star families serve in this program. Members can search for their State Program online through USA Jobs. Lynda Lambert also shared that this program does not recognize families whose Heroes died by suicide.

- Myra Rintimaki, as part of the Centennial Committee, shared that they are planning on going on an overseas pilgrimage to replicate our Gold Star sisters from WWI.
- Evelyn Brady mentioned the Red Star Flag initiative recognizes those military members who died by suicide.
- Laura DeRoo asked what is included in the new members welcome packet. Teresa shared that they receive a welcome letter, membership card, membership pin, newsletter and three brochures – Gold Star Manor, VAVS and National.
- MargieTaylor mentioned that there is a Bill in congress to take care of our active military by doing an online health assessment and that they will use AI to scan medical records.

Chaplain Sherrie McGhee provided a prayer and closed the Bible. The business meeting of the 2025 National Convention was adjourned at 2:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Theresa Karlson, National Secretary



6/25/25

Patti Elliott, President

Date

Theresa Karlson

Date



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

National President's Report

2024-2025 Year End

It has been my honor to serve as the 2024-2025 National President. I am proud of the job the National Executive Board has accomplished this year. I have asked a lot of these ladies, and they have come through for our organization every single time.

So traditionally, our reports list all the things we have done, meetings we have participated in, events we have attended, speaking engagements, etc. I am going to stray from that a little bit. If you have followed us on social media this year and the updates to our website, you know we have been very busy. Rather, I want to take this opportunity to highlight what I feel are some important accomplishments.

I am a firm believer that communication is crucial for the success of any organization. Clear and open communication fosters trust, strengthens relationships, and ensures everyone is on the same page. To that end, I hope you have been paying close attention to our website and social media presence this year. We have continuously updated the website, adding new content and making improvements.

We began a wider distribution of our newsletter electronically to all members and to the staff who work in our Survivor Outreach Programs in different branches.

We started Zoom forums for many of the key positions in our Departments and Chapters. This year, we have met quarterly with our Presidents, Treasurers, Secretaries, Chaplains and VAVS representatives. This exchange of ideas has hopefully fostered new friendships and helped those key people who keep our Departments and Chapters going.

We increased the amount of the Chapter Grants available each quarter, as well as offered \$10,000 in Special Project Grants for your mission-related activities in your communities.

We expanded the opportunities to bring members to our bigger events: Gold Star Mothers Weekend, Memorial Day and National Convention.

We had "lost" some key relationships with some of our other Veteran and military-connected service organizations. Through the assistance of Past National Presidents and other connections with our partners, we have been able to "refresh" those commitments and participated in many events with these groups this year.

We renewed our Memorandum of Understanding with Wreaths Across America. The WAA Family has been important to us for many years. Participating in the Convoy to Arlington in December was one of the most incredible experiences of my year and one that has forever changed how I look at the world.

We engaged Holly Fenelon to begin work on Volume 2 of our History, picking up where Volume 1 left off and leading us up to our Centennial Celebration in 2028.

We were able to get our outside accounting review/audit completed this year. The review period was the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Although we started the compliance process three years ago, this was the final piece that was needed to get all of National's charitable registrations going. We got a "clean" bill of health for our financial procedures, which is something we are VERY proud of.

I cannot stress enough how important it is for you to read communications that come from National. On some of our position Zoom meetings, we would make reference to information that was sent out in an email, and without fail, someone would always indicate they hadn't seen that information. Communication helps unleash the power of any organization, and we are no different. We at National strive to keep you informed, but at some point, the responsibility falls on members to be diligent in reading the information we put out and sharing it with others.

Our mission is an ongoing endeavor. We cannot sit back and be complacent and expect things to happen. We must work actively every day to keep the memories of our Heroes alive and to advocate for all those who are serving and have served. The Gap will always be there. I hope you will continue to join me in Standing in the Gap.

Again, thank you for this privilege. God bless and much love!!

Patti Elliott



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

National 1st Vice President's Report Year End 2025

Participated in National Executive Board meetings and e-votes

Participated in the following:

- American Gold Star Manor Board meetings
- AGSM, Inc. Centennial Committee meetings
- AGSM, Inc. Chapter and Department Presidents' Zoom meetings
- AGSM, Inc. National VAVS Deputy training
- Attended the USS Olympia Ceremony
- Attended and participated in Veterans Day events in DC
- Participated in Wreaths Across America in Tampa, FL

Participated in the following Standing Committees:

- Ceremonial and Business Procedures
- Finance & Budget
- Headquarters-Chair

Participated in the following Special Committees:

- Membership
- Community Service
- History

Communicated as NEB Liaison with:

- Department of Alabama
- Department of Maryland/Delaware
- Department of Nebraska
- Department of Maine
- Department of Wyoming

As the first vice president, I continue to learn about various topics. I also assist Madam President while preparing for the future Board and the organization's Centennial. It has been my honor to serve on this National Executive Board.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Kirk
National 1st Vice President



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

National 2nd Vice President's Report May 2025

Participated in National Executive Board meetings and e-votes

Participated in the following committees:

- Constitution & Bylaws Committee – Chair
- Americanism Committee – Chair
- Compliance Committee – Chair
- Little Gold Book Committee– Chair
- Finance and Budget Committee
- Membership Committee
- Ways and Means Committee
- Centennial Committee

Communicated as NEB Liaison with:

- Department of AZ
- Department of GA
- Department of NJ

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Paulsen
2nd Vice President



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

National Service Officer Report – July 2024-June 2025

For the period July 2024 - June 2025:

Processed Member and Associate Applications, Transfers, Change of Address, and Death Notices.

Provided a list of members and associates for the Newsletter.

Provided a list of new and transferring members to IT for permanent membership cards.

Entered Per Capita and Officer updates in database.

Participated in National Executive Board Meetings and e-votes

Worked with Madam President to plan and attend Gold Star Mother's Week, Veterans Day, Memorial Day Week, and convention events.

Participated in Wreaths Across America Radio interview for Centennial Committee.

Met with the Department of Southern California-Hawaii, Long Beach, CA

Attended Chief Plenty Coups Day of Honor, Billings MT

Attended Global War on Terror Memorial Rededication, Fort Moore, GA

Traveled to and spoke at Port Angelos, Washington Wreaths Across America event.

Responded to correspondence coming to NSO email.

Participated in the following committees:

Executive Committee

Membership Committee (Chair)

Grants Committee (Chair)

Scholarship Committee (Chair)

Compliance Committee

History Committee

Centennial Committee

Communicated as NEB Liaison with:

Department of Texas-Oklahoma

Department of Washington-Oregon-Alaska



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Department of Florida-Puerto Rico

Participated in quarterly meetings with:

Chapter and Department Presidents

Chapter and Department Secretaries

On the Centennial Committee I am on the following sub committees:

Our History on all Levels

Marketing, Branding, Publicizing

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Bullock, National Service Officer



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

National Secretary's Report

2024-2025

1. Prepared general donation thank you letters for the President's signature.
 - 59 monetary donations and one in-kind donation
2. Recorded 52 e-votes
3. Prepared NEB meeting minutes for June, July, August, September in 2024 as well as January, February and April in 2025.
4. Established and conducted the Department and Chapter Secretaries Forum for two quarters.
5. Participated in the following meetings:
 - Ways & Means – Chair
 - Finance Committee
 - Community Service Committee
 - Headquarters Committee
 - Department & Chapter Secretary's Forum
 - Department & Chapter Treasurer's Forum
 - Department & Chapter President's Forum
 - Miscellaneous administrative duties to assist NEB members as requested, to include:
 - ❖ Scheduled Zoom meetings
6. Newsletters – Provided a personal article for the Gold Star Mothers Blog and provided an historical article about the American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. organization for the Doughboy Foundation.
7. Gold Star Mothers Weekend – Prepared and managed the AGSM store for the Open House and volunteered for the Decorations Committee.
8. Attended a free seminar for DC non-profits in November.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Karlson
National Secretary



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Record of Votes

2024-2025

1.

TOPIC: Motion to ratify Teresa Bullock as National Service Officer					
Motion: Joan Snyder		Second: Theresa Karlson			
Vote called for: 7/2/2024 9:34 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Abstain
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 9:45 AM		Result: Carried		Tally: 10-0-1	

2.

TOPIC: Motion for logo usage request – Armed Forces Brewing Co for AGSM Fundraiser					
Motion: Joan Snyder		Second: Sherrie McGhee			
Vote called for: 7/10/2024 @ 11:38 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 7/12/2024 @ 7:30 AM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

3.

TOPIC: Motion to get Disaster recovery grant information out to Membership from the affected areas that FEMA designated for Hurricane Beryl					
Motion: Pam Stemple		Second: Teresa Bullock			
Vote called for: 7/13/2024 @ 5:44 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 7/13/2024 @2:15 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Record of Votes

2024-2025

4.

TOPIC: Motion to approve revised Charter application request form					
Motion: Teresa Bullock			Second: Joyce Paulsen		
Vote called for: 7/16/2024 @ 11:34 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 7/17/2024 @ 5:41 PM			Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0

5.

TOPIC: Motion to Approve Logo Request from National Coalition for Patriots					
Motion: Teresa Bullock			Second: Nichole Chilton		
Vote called for: 7/26/2024 @ 8:00 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 7/27/2024 @ 8:30 AM			Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0

6.

TOPIC: Motion to approve 8/4/2024 Meeting Minutes as amended					
Motion: Teresa Bullock			Second: Annette Kirk		
Vote called for: 8/8/2024 @ 8:00 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Abstain
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Abstain
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 8/11/2024 @8:00 AM			Result: Carried		Tally: 9-0-2

7.

TOPIC: Motion to Approve Logo Request from Subeca, Inc.					
Motion: Teresa Bullock			Second: Annette Kirk		
Vote called for: 8/12/2024 @ 12 Noon					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 8/13/2024 @ 12 Noon			Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Record of Votes

2024-2025

8.

TOPIC: Disaster Recovery Grant for Members Affected by Hurricane Debby					
Motion: Annette		Second: Teresa			
Vote called for: 8/18/2024 @ 10:00 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 8/18/2024 @ 10:00 AM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

9.

TOPIC: Logo Usage Application from Keller North America for Charity Golf Tournament on Nov 1, 2024					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Denise			
Vote called for: 9/3/2024 @ 11:00 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 8/28/2024 @ 7:40 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

10.

TOPIC: Motion to approve 8/28/2024 Meeting Minutes with attachments					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Pam Stemple			
Vote called for: 9/3/2024 @ 11:10 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Abstain	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 9/4/2024 @ 3:10 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 10-0-1	



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.
Record of Votes

2024-2025

11.

TOPIC: Motion to approve logo request from the US Veterans MC of Oklahoma					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Annette			
Vote called for: 9/8/2024 @ 8 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 9/9/2024 @ 3:00 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

12.

TOPIC: Motion to approve logo request from Keller North America, Inc. for their charity golf tournament on Nov 1, 2024					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Pam			
Vote called for: 9/9/2024 @ 9:13 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 9/11/2024 @ 7:00 PM		Result:		Tally:	

13.

TOPIC: Motion to approve logo request from Maryland Dept of Veterans and Military Families for their Oct 2 nd event.					
Motion: Teresa B		Second: Theresa K			
Vote called for: 9/11/2024 @ 10:48 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 9/13/2024 @ 10:00 AM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Record of Votes

2024-2025

14.

TOPIC: Motion to approve the AGSM logo request from the US Veterans MC from OK for the revised flyer which includes the Woody Williams foundation graphic by Teresa and seconded by Rose. Motion Carried. 11-0-0					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Rose			
Vote called for: 9/16/2024 @ 8 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 9/18/2024 @ 8 AM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

15.

TOPIC: A motion to order 500 AGSM Challenge Coins from Valor Coins and Pins was made by Theresa.					
Motion: 10/1/2024 @ 1:51 PM		Second: Pam			
Vote called for: 10/2/2024 @ 2:00 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 10/2/2024 @ 5:00 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

16.

TOPIC: A motion to purchase cookware on Amazon for \$462 plus tax and shipping for the tomb guards					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Annette			
Vote called for: 10/2/2024 @8:40 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval		Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee		Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 10/4/2024 @ 8:21 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 9-0-0 (2 members did not vote)	



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.
Record of Votes

2024-2025

17.

TOPIC: A motion to approve the NEB September 24 & 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes.					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Annette			
Vote called for: 10/5/2024 @ 3:00 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 10/7/2024 @ 3:00 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

18.

TOPIC: A motion to approve the logo usage as requested by the Tampa Bay Chapter, Department of Florida.					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Pam			
Vote called for: 10/9/2024 @ 9:00 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 10/10/2024 @ 9:00 AM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

19.

TOPIC: A motion to approve the logo usage as requested by the Maryland Chapter for WID Breast Cancer Luncheon Sponsorship					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Rose			
Vote called for: 10/10/2024 @ 9:00 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk		Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert		Joan Snyder			
Vote closed: 10/12/2024 @ 9:00 AM		Result: Carried		Tally: 8-0-0 (3 members did not vote)	



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Record of Votes

2024-2025

20.

TOPIC: Motion to approve the logo usage as requested by Lisa and Michael Jordon for special bicycle fundraiser					
Motion: Teresa			Second: Theresa		
Vote called for: 10/14/2024 @ 7:00 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton		Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 10/16/2024 @ 7:00 AM			Result: Carried		Tally: 10-0-0 (1 member did not vote)

21.

TOPIC: Motion to purchase a 3x6 banner to be used during parades for no more than \$200 including delivery.					
Motion: Teresa			Second: Pam		
Vote called for: 10/16/2024 @ 2:00 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 10/18/2024 @ 2:00 PM			Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0

22.

TOPIC: A motion to approve that the HQ Committee spend no more than \$500 for 2 modems and 2 ceiling fans.					
Motion: Annette			Second: N/A		
Vote called for: 10/25/2024 @ 10:30 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 10/26/2024 @ 8:30 AM			Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Record of Votes

2024-2025

23.

TOPIC: A motion was made to purchase \$300 worth of snacks and cleaning supplies for the DC Fisher House to be delivered by the Board on 11/8/2024.					
Motion: Pam		Second: Nichole			
Vote called for: 10/30/2024 @ 2PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 10/31/2024 @ 2 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

24.

TOPIC: A motion was made to approve the MOU with WAA					
Motion: Annette		Second: Pam			
Vote called for: 11/4/2024 @ 12:41 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 11/5/2024 @ 1PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

25.

TOPIC: A motion was made to purchase the tooling and one President's Pin as created by City Pride for \$733.50					
Motion: Theresa		Second: Sherrie			
Vote called for: 11/7/2024 @ 9AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 11/8/2024 @ 7 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Record of Votes

2024-2025

26.

TOPIC: A motion was made for Patti to use a rental car to pick up documents from DOMA					
Motion: Annette		Second: Pam			
Vote called for: 10/19/2024 @ 10 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 10/21/24 @ 10 AM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

27.

TOPIC: A motion was made to purchase the hard drive with AGSM documents from DOMA for \$700					
Motion: Pam		Second: Joyce			
Vote called for: 11/12/24 @ 12:28 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 11/14/24 @ 4:36 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

28.

TOPIC: A motion was made to approve the logo request from Syrus A. Vincent for CW02 Dyers Memorial Ruck to raise money for AGSM.					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Annette			
Vote called for: 11/14/24 @ 4:42 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 11/16/24 @ 5:00 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.
Record of Votes

2024-2025

29.

TOPIC: A motion was made to spend no more than \$1,000 for pens and disc fans as giveaways for the Dedicated Financials' 10 th Anniversary Celebration to be held in January 2025.					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Annette			
Vote called for: 11/16/2024 @ 11:16 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 11/18/24 @ 8:30 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

30.

TOPIC: A motion was made to approve the logo request for the Ocean City, NJ 2025 beach tags to be used by active-duty military and veterans.					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Annette			
Vote called for: 11/19/24 @ 2:53 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 11/21/24 @ 3PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

31.

TOPIC: A motion was made to provide a letter of support for the Red Star Service Banner initiative.					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Denise			
Vote called for: 12/4/24 @ 6 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	N
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 12/5/24 @ 6 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 10-1-0	



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Record of Votes

2024-2025

32.

TOPIC: A motion was made to restock low inventory items for the AGSM store.					
Motion: Theresa		Second: Rose			
Vote called for: 12/9/24 @ 10 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	No Vote		
Vote closed: 12/11/24 @ 10:00 AM		Result: Carried		Tally: 10-0-0 (One member did not vote)	

33.

TOPIC: Motion to approve the NEB 1/5/2025 Meeting Minutes					
Motion: Theresa		Second: Rose			
Vote called for: 1/5/2025 at 5:00 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	y	Teresa Bullock	
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder			
Vote closed: 1/7/2025 @ 5:00 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 9-0-2 (2 members did not vote)	

34.

TOPIC: Motion to approve renewal of annual membership to the Center for Non-Profit Advancement					
Motion: Rose		Second: Teresa			
Vote called for: 1/10/2025 @ 2:00 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder			
Vote closed: 1/11/2025 @ 2:00 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 10-0-1 (1 member did not vote)	



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Record of Votes

2024-2025

35.

TOPIC: Motion to approve the usage of the AGSM logo by Veterans Council of Hillsborough County FL					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Theresa			
Vote called for: 1/28/2025					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 1/30/2025 @ 7:30 AM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

36.

TOPIC: Motion to approve the February 2025 NEB Meeting Minutes with changes.					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Pam			
Vote called for: 2/8/2025 @ 3:00 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	(absent)	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 2/8/2025 4:15 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 10-0-1	

37.

TOPIC: Motion to purchase three (3) chapter president pins from City Pride for \$135 each					
Motion: Theresa		Second: Nichole			
Vote called for: 2/13/2025 @ 9 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 2/14/2025 @ 9 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Record of Votes

2024-2025

38.

TOPIC: Motion to have National Convention held on June 1-4, 2028 in Washington, D.C.					
Motion: Theresa			Second: Rose		
Vote called for: 2/17/2025 @12:00 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 2/18/25 @ 12:30 PM			Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0

39.

TOPIC: Motion to approve a second edition of Holly Fenelon’s Book “The Knock at the Door”. The cost would be \$23.95 each with free shipping not to exceed \$2,695 (100 copies)					
Motion: Denise			Second: Annette		
Vote called for: 2/27 @ 6:08 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 2/28 @ 6:08 PM			Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0

40.

TOPIC: Motion to approve Holly Fenelon to do research and write the second volume of the “A bit of History” not to exceed \$11,500.					
Motion: Denise			Second: Annette		
Vote called for: 2/27/2025 @ 7:30 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 3/1 @ 8:00 PM			Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Record of Votes

2024-2025

41.

TOPIC: Motion to approve logo request from the City of Albuquerque, NM to use for their Vietnam Veterans Dau Ceremony					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Annette			
Vote called for: 3/5/25 @ 8:00 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton		Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 3/6/25 @ 9:00 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 10-0-1	

42.

TOPIC: A motion to purchase toiletries and puzzle books for the AFRH in DC no more than \$250.					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Theresa			
Vote called for: 3/10 @ 6:00 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 3/12/25 @ 9 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

43.

TOPIC: Motion to purchase uniform prep items for Tomb Guards					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Annette			
Vote called for: 3/23/25 @ 12:16 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 3/25/25 @ 2:00 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Record of Votes

2024-2025

44.

TOPIC: Motion for AGSM to sponsor a flight for a member to 2025 convention					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Sherrie			
Vote called for: 3/26/25 @ 2:30 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee		Nichole Chilton		Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 3/27/25 @ 3:00 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 9-0-2	

45.

TOPIC: Motion to support the Fallen Service Members Religious Heritage Restoration Act with a letter of support.					
Motion: Rose		Second: Annette			
Vote called for: 4/6/25 @ 3:47 PM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 4/7/25 @ 4:00 PM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

46.

TOPIC: Motion to accept logo usage from the City of Ocean City, NJ					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Annette			
Vote called for: 4/8/25 @ 9 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 4/10/25 @ 9 AM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.
Record of Votes

2024-2025

47.

TOPIC: Motion to provide a letter of support to the State of California for Bill 55 giving Gold Star families free access to their state parks.					
Motion: Annette		Second: Nichole			
Vote called for: 4/11/25 @ 2:30 pm					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 4/12 @ 2:30 pm		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

48.

TOPIC: Motion to pay the first deposit of \$5,000 for the 2026 National Convention Hotel					
Motion: Rose		Second: Joyce			
Vote called for: 4/21/25 @ 9:00 AM					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 4/23/25 @ 11:00 AM		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

49.

TOPIC: Motion to purchase a large wreath for the WIMSA wreath laying ceremony on Memorial Day weekend for no more than \$150 from Holly.					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Denise			
Vote called for: 4/30/25					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 4/30/25		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Record of Votes

2024-2025

50.

TOPIC: Motion to donate \$500 to the Korean War Memorial Foundation in lieu of a wreath for the Memorial Day weekend.					
Motion: Teresa		Second: Denise			
Vote called for: 4/30/25					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 4/30/25		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

51.

TOPIC: Motion to approve the 2025 National Convention budget.					
Motion: Nichole		Second: Rose			
Vote called for: 4/30/25					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder	Y		
Vote closed: 4/30/25		Result: Carried		Tally: 11-0-0	

52.

TOPIC: Motion to accept the April 30, 2025 National Executive Board Meeting Minutes					
Motion: Annette		Second: Pam			
Vote called for: 5/5/2025					
Patti Elliott	Y	Annette Kirk	Y	Joyce Paulsen	Y
Theresa Karlson	Y	Rose Duval	Y	Teresa Bullock	Y
Sherrie McGhee	Y	Nichole Chilton	Y	Pam Stemple	Y
Denise Torbert	Y	Joan Snyder			
Vote closed: 5/6/2025		Result: Carried		Tally: 10-0-1	



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

National Treasurer Position Report - 2024-2025

National Treasurer: Rose Duval

Reporting Period: July, 2024 - June, 2025

Budget & Finance Chair:

- Worked 1:1 with AGSM, Inc President to establish FY25 Spend Plan
- Assisted in briefing the budget to the Finance and Budget Committee Members
- Attended online training sessions to learn QuickBooks Online
- Scheduled the Quarterly Treasurer's Forum (idea sharing) for all Dept and Chapter Treasurers
- Scheduled Quarterly Finance & Budget Committee Meetings
- Successfully facilitated the Audit Review for AGSM, Inc
- Continuously monitored spending to ensure efficiencies and deficiencies

Legislative:

- Presented current Congressional Actions for AGSM NEB awareness and engagement

Headquarters Member:

- Checked mail on a weekly basis
- Got estimates for Blinds, Sheets, Front Garden, and replacement furniture
- Maintained Google Nest Doorbells as needed
- Organized incoming mail for NEB
- Scanned time-sensitive mail to appropriate NEB members
- Purchased and Installed ceiling fans, blinds, and replaced/repaired broken furniture.
- Organized kitchen, storage, laundry rooms and office supplies.
- Purged and organized financial files in accordance with guidelines provided by the AGSM, Inc accountants
- Facilitated the window cleaning and deep cleaning of AGSM Hq

Member:

- Chapter Grants and Giving Grace Grant Committee
- Compliance
- Membership

Support:

- Support the Membership Committee
- Support Ways & Means Committee
- Supported the President's Agenda with two (2) emails to assigned Dept/Chapters.
- Represented AGSM, Inc at the WWI Remembrance Ceremony
- Participated in the National Veterans Day Parade
- Participated in the Memorial Day Wreath Laying Ceremonies
- Participated in the Vietnam Veterans Day Wreath Laying Ceremonies
- Attended the Tomb Guards Last Walk at Arlington National Cemetery

Respectfully submitted by Rose Duval



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Information and Technology Chair

July 2024 - June 2025

It is an honor and privilege to fill the role of Information and Technology Chair for the 2024-2025 year. Advancing our beloved organization by incorporating technology to better serve out Members, Donors, and Supporters is the primary focus of this position.

- Participated in National Executive Board Meeting and e-votes
- Participated in the following committees:
 - Ways and Means Committee
 - History Committee
 - Community Service Committee
 - Membership Committee
- Updated national website and continue to rework and add to site as needed
- Posted blogs on website
- Added and updated products for the store website
- Worked with the National President and Waveline to print and publish newsletters
- Printed and mailed membership cards to new members
- Participated in numerous events throughout the year including:
 - Gold Star Mothers Day weekend
 - Veterans Day
 - White Rose Ball
 - Woody Williams Foundation Gala
 - Memorial Day Events
 - Vietnam Veterans Memorial Day events
- Built the History Database
- Designed numerous media for various events
- Participated in planning 2025 National Convention
- Continued to design and provide printed media 2025 National Convention
- Redesigned VAVS brochure
- Created and managed Jotforms for various events and submissions

Respectfully Submitted
Nichole Jackson Chilton
Information and Technology Chair
May 9, 2025



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Sgt at Arms Report-July 2024 – June 2025

For the period July 2024 to June 2025

- Participated in National Executive Board (NEB) Meetings for June, July, August, September 2024, January, February, April and June 2025.
- Participated in Executive Board Meetings.
- Created “Chore List” for NEB Members for Gold Star Mothers weekend, Veteran’s Day, and Memorial Day for the NEB Headquarter stays.
- Created Room Assignments for NEB Members at Headquarters.
- Created menu and grocery list for GSM Weekend, Veteran’s Day and Memorial Day Headquarter stays.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Bullock

National Sgt at Arms



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

VAVS National Representative Report

April 30, 2025

VAVS National Chair – Pam Stemple, VAVS National Deputy – Courtney Chavez

Madame President,

I have had a very busy year getting the VAVS Program back up and running alongside the CDCE National Volunteer Office. Last year we had only 25 Rep's and Dep's.

Total AGSM VAVS Hours for FY 2024 - 2277.25

- 2025 Total AGSM VAVS Member Volunteer's - 41
- 2025 Total Chapter and Department VAVS Rep's and Dep's – 35
- 2025 Total Associates and Non-Members – 9

What we have done this year:

- Designated Ms. Courtney Chavez the National VAVS Deputy in January 2025
- American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. was certified to continue the CDCE National Advisory Committee for another 2 years. This was due to our having the 25 certified VAVS Representative's and Deputy's needed. I can see that our outreach to our membership has helped in getting our number of Rep's and Dep's up to 35.
- This year I started the manual for the AGSM VAVS Volunteer's to use for information for new members and those who are interested in being a volunteer at the VA. More to come on that.
- We printed a new AGSM VAVS Volunteer brochure for new members and for general information.
- Held quarterly meetings with the AGSM VAVS Volunteers
- We gave out certificates for our volunteers at the National Convention
- Certified 10 new VAVS Representatives and Deputies
- Filed Minutes and Reviews from the VA for our Volunteers
- New updates to the AGSM National Database to track our VAVS Volunteers.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Stemple, VAVS National Chair



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.
Chaplain's Report 2024-2025 – End of Year

June 23, 2024 – May 2025

1. Prepared Death Notifications of AGSM members/associates and mailed newsletters and condolence cards to their families:
2. Participated in the following NEB events:
 - Gold Star Mothers Weekend in Washington DC
 - Veterans Day Weekend in Washington DC
 - i. Delivered gift boxes to the Fisher House in Washington DC
 - ii. Assisted with the organization of Christmas cards for Operation Holiday Salute
 - Attended NEB Meeting in Pittsburg February 5-8, 2025
 - Memorial Day Events in Washington DC
3. Participated in NEB meetings:
 - June 23, 2024
 - August 4, 2024
 - August 28, 2024
 - September 24-25, 2024
 - January 5, 2025
 - February 6, 2025
 - April 30, 2025
4. Held Chaplain's Zoom Meeting for Department and Chapters on March 16, 2025
5. Participated in all NEB e-votes.
6. Participated in the following committees:
 - Constitution & By-Laws/Standing Rules
 - Grants & Scholarships and all e-votes
 - Open House – AGSM Weekend 2024
 - Centennial
7. Communicated monthly as NEB Liaison with:
 - Missouri
 - West Virginia
 - Iowa
 - South Dakota
 - Minnesota

Respectfully Submitted,

Sherrie Battle McGhee – National Chaplain



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Historian Report

April 30, 2025

Historian Pam Stemple

Madam President,

This year has been very busy

- During the Gold Star Mothers Weekend in September, I oversaw the selection of documents and pictures to have available for our visitors to Headquarters.
- The History Committee gave tours to our visitors on Gold Star Mothers Weekend of Headquarters
- Held meeting with the History Committee and discussed the process of scanning and putting the Historical documents in the Google Shared drive.
- Worked with Nichole, our IT Chair, to start a Lineage and Service database to continue to put our historical applications and documents into for the future.
- From over 3,500 scanned documents from Feb 2024, I put together all the applications and documents related to the application and moved them to the Shared Drive for the History Project by Mothers name and Department.
- From over 4,000 scanned documents from Doma, I took each record, which included the mother's application and documentation, and updated the names and moved them to the Shared Drive for the History Project to go forward with the database input.
- Wrote the procedures for both the scanning of documents and processing them to the shared drive and then database.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Stemple, History Chair



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

National Executive Board Yearly Report 2024-2025

National Flag Guard

Our First responsibility was Gold Star Mothers weekend in DC in September 2024.

I served on the food committee for the Friday night open house.

I participated as part of the following committees:

Americanism

Constitution and By-Law, Standing Rules

Grants

Attended and participated in Veteran's Day at Arlington in November 2024.

Attended all National Board meetings and participated in E-votes.

Attended and participated in Memorial Day activities in DC and at Arlington.

Attended and participated in NEB responsibilities at the National Convention.

Communicated as NEB Liaison with:

Department of Nevada

Department of Ohio

Department of Kentucky

Department of Virginia

Department of District of Columbia

Denise Torbert



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

National Banner Guard report

October 2024-February 2025

Attended November NEB meeting – attended Veterans’ Day weekend events at Headquarters

Participated in Veteran’s Day Parade in Washington, D.C.

Veteran’s Day Service at Arlington

Represented AGSM at Women In Military Service (WIMSA)

Participated in NEB zoom meetings, Committee meetings, emails and e-voting.

Committee Assignments are as follows:

Americanism

Compliance

Headquarters

Community Service – chair

Written and submitted an article on the importance of reporting our membership’s community service hours for AGSM magazine.

Assigned as the NEB Liaison to the following departments:

Department of New York

Department of Tennessee



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

C&BL and Standing Rules Committee Report May 2025

Members:

Joyce Paulsen (Chair), Sherrie McGhee, Denise Torbert, Pam Stemple, Becky Christmas PNP and Patti Elliott (Ex Officio)

The Constitution and By-Laws –

- The NEB sent in this proposal Chapter Bylaws, Article III, Section 7. The Chapter Chaplain.
 - Meets criteria and will be submitted at the convention business meeting.
- The Dept of VA sent an Article III Sec 1 proposal change was submitted.
 - Meets criteria and will be submitted at the convention business meeting.
- The Dept of KS sent an Article IV Sec 6 proposal change was submitted.
 - Does not meet criteria and will not be submitted at the convention business meeting.

Standing Rules –

- Received SR from Central PA Chapter.
The committee reviewed and recommended changes were emailed to the President.
- Received SR from Chapter Volunteer TN Chapter
The committee reviewed and recommended changes were emailed to the President.

Respectfully submitted,

C&BL Committee



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Ceremonial & Business Procedures Committee MAY 2025

Members:

Joyce Paulsen (Chair), Annette Kirk, Jennifer Jackman PNP, Becky Christmas PNP, and Patti Elliott (Ex Officio)

Meetings:

7/14/24 and 8/8/24

The focus was to update the Little Gold Book as well as the name.

Utilized the LGB 2nd Printing, October 2017.

- Updated verbiage.
- Installation updates for AGSM officer description positions
- Updated name to Ceremonial and Business Procedures.
- Newest version listed as 3rd Edition September 2024

Formatted new updated book and is now available to all members via AGSM website.

Patti is to check pricing for potentially publishing a small booklet.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Paulsen
2nd Vice President



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Finance & Budget Committee Report – End of Year 2024-2025

Chairman: Rose Duval

Members: Annette Kirk, Joyce Paulsen, Theresa Karlson

Ex-Officio: Patti Elliott

Meetings Called: July 21, 2024 (Zoom), July 30, 2024, (email), January 19, 2025 (Zoom) and May 1, 2025(Zoom)

Budget

1. Worked 1:1 with AGSM, Inc President to establish the FY25 Spend Plan.
2. Assisted the President in briefing the budget to the Committee Members.
3. Established a Working 2024-2025 Budget Spreadsheet.
4. Attended 3 online training sessions to learn QuickBooks Online.
5. Recorded all Revenue and Expenditures in Quickbooks Online
6. Monitored the Budget & Grants spending.
7. Processed Centennial Committee purchase requests.

Finance

1. Researched point of service vendors.
2. Reviewed investment opportunity.
3. Established a Vendor/Contractor Directory.
4. Established a formal tracking of Grant Donations.
5. Consolidated all Subscriptions under a single credit card.
6. Established an account with a High Yield Saving Account (Flourish)
7. Established ShipThrifty account and cancelled Stamps.com

Respectfully submitted by Rose Duval

Attachments: Statement of Financial Position

Statement of Activity

Budget vs. Actuals: Fiscal Year 2024-2025



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Headquarters Report February 2025

Annette Kirk-Chair
Rose Duval
Theresa Karlson
Joan Snyder
Patti Elliott (Ex-Officio)

Participated in Zoom and group text with the committee members

The HQ Committee determined the following maintenance and upgrades-

- HQ deep cleaning (incl carpets) will be completed in July/August.
- Installation of blinds in stairway window between kitchens (blinds were purchased in September 2024)
- Installed two ceiling fans in the kitchen (purchased September 2024)
- Washed comforters started in March and were completed for Memorial Day
- Possibly replace bed pillows, starting with the dorm room
- Invest in a soaker hose for the front garden
- Consider which region 7a shade-loving perennials to plant in the front garden

The HQ Committee asks that all guests and visitors not open the windows. It has been an honor to be the HQ Chair. I have learned so much about the home and how precious it is to our organization.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Kirk
National 1st Vice President



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Legislative Committee

2024-2025

During the period of 1 July 2024 to May 11, 2025, there have been eight (8) congressional actions where the words Gold Star were mentioned. Of those eight actions there were none that effected the American Gold Star Mothers, Inc or required any interactions.

Respectfully submitted

Rose Duval



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Official Title as Introduced: To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain spouses eligible for services under the disabled veterans' outreach program, and for other purposes.

Short Title(s) as Introduced: Gold Star and Surviving Spouse Career Services Act

9/14/2024

[H.Res.1447](#) - Expressing support for the designation of the week of September 22 through September 28, 2024, as "Gold Star Families Remembrance Week".

No Action

Sponsor: Rep. Newhouse, Dan [R-WA-4] (Introduced 09/12/2024)

Bill, Resolution, or Law Text: [Introduced in House \(09/12/2024\)](#)

Official Title as Introduced: Expressing support for the designation of the week of September 22 through September 28, 2024, as "Gold Star Families Remembrance Week".

10/19/2024

[H.R.9869](#) - Gold Star Children Education Act of 2024

No Action

Sponsor: Rep. LaLota, Nick [R-NY-1] (Introduced 09/27/2024)

Bill, Resolution, or Law Text: [Introduced in House \(09/27/2024\)](#)

Display Title: Gold Star Children Education Act of 2024

Official Title as Introduced: To make dependents of members of the Armed Forces who died while serving on active duty eligible for enrollment in Department of Defense Education Activity schools on a tuition-free, space-available basis.

Short Title(s) as Introduced: Gold Star Children Education Act of 2024

10/23/2024

[H.Res.1551](#) - Expressing support for the designation of October 23, 2024, as a national day of remembrance of the tragic 1983 terrorist bombing of the United States Marine Corps barracks in Beirut, Lebanon.

Sponsor: Rep. Pence, Greg [R-IN-6] (Introduced 10/22/2024)



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Actions: 10/22/2024: Referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Actions: 10/22/2024: Introduced in House

Bill, Resolution, or Law Text: [Introduced in House \(10/22/2024\)](#)

Committees: House Armed Services; House Veterans' Affairs

Cosponsor: 10/22/2024: Rep. Stefanik, Elise M. [R-NY-21]

Display Title: Expressing support for the designation of October 23, 2024, as a national day of remembrance of the tragic 1983 terrorist bombing of the United States Marine Corps barracks in Beirut, Lebanon.

Official Title as Introduced: Expressing support for the designation of October 23, 2024, as a national day of remembrance of the tragic 1983 terrorist bombing of the United States Marine Corps barracks in Beirut, Lebanon.

12/17/2024 [December 17, 2024 - House \(Vol. 170, No. 187\)](#) - MILITARY FAMILIES NATIONAL PARKS ACCESS ENHANCEMENT ACT; Congressional Record Vol. 170, No. 187



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Community Service Committee Report

Period End of Year 2024-2025

Members: Joan Snyder (chair)
Annette Kirk
Theresa Karlson
Nichole Chilton
Patti Elliot (Ex-Officio)

The Community Service Committee met either in person or via zoom throughout the past year. Over the past year the committee;

1. Updated the Community Service forms for the 2024 reporting year.
2. Participated in Veteran's Last Patrol 6th Annual Operation Holiday Salute for 2024. As an organization, we sent in 25,954 Christmas Cards from 37 different states, surpassing last year's by over 6,917 cards.
3. Improved reporting response by our members by distributing a digital tally form (Excel spreadsheet) so members could gather their information in real time.
4. Offer opportunities for all members to participate in service to our veterans and their communities –
5. Healing Through Service Award – new to the organization this year. The committee was looking for ways to recognize an individual AGSM member for their outstanding community service.
 - a. Created criteria for the award
 - b. Named the award
 - c. designed selection process.
 - d. Award presentation
6. Submitted an article regarding Community Service for the September /October AGSM Newsletter.
7. Tallied all Community Service reports from received from individuals, chapters and departments
 - a. Service to Military and Veterans
 - i. 20,611.98 miles
 - ii. 188,742.7 hours
 - iii. \$189,363.21 monetary or in-kind donations
 - b. Service to the Gold Star Community
 - i. 24,893.2 miles

- ii. 229,033.1 hours
 - iii. \$51,027.89 monetary or in-kind donations
- c. Service to the Community
 - i. 10,215.36 miles
 - ii. 50,828.4 hours
 - iii. \$104,253.75 monetary or in-kind Donations
 - iv. 124 units of blood donated

Respectfully submitted

Joan Snyder – Community Service chair



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Grant Committee

Report for Period July 2024 to June 2025

Chair: Teresa Bullock

Members: Sherrie McGhee, Denise Torbert, Rose Duval, Patti Elliot (Ex Officio)

Chapter Grants – A total of 13 grants were awarded for a grand total of \$3900.

Special Event Grants -This year we offered 10 special event grants to chapters in the amount of \$1000.00. These grants are to fund an event that is a service-related project, covering one of our mission areas: Veterans, Active-Duty service members or Gold Star community. We received 9 applications and awarded a total of \$9,000.

Giving Grace Grants – Application period was opened July 1, 2024. Five grants were awarded for a total of \$5,421.49

Giving Grace Dues Assistance – Three dues assistance grants were awarded for a total of \$120.

Disaster Relief Grants – Applications for hurricane Beryl for members in areas identified by FEMA, received and awarded 3 grants for a total of \$2,793.13. No applications for hurricane Debby were received. Applications for hurricane Helene received and awarded 2 grants for a total of \$2,000. Applications for hurricane Milton received and awarded 2 grants for a total of \$2,000. The total awarded for Disaster Relief is \$6,793.13.

Total grants awards: \$25,234.62

Donations – AGSM, Inc. received the following designated funds for Giving Grace Grants:

Chapter/Dept Grants: \$100.00

Giving Grace : \$26,162.66

Due Assist: \$0. 00 donations

It has been a pleasure to serve as this committee chair and be a part of this organization that truly cares about our members.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Bullock
Grants and Scholarship Chair



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Ways & Means Committee Report
April 2025

The third Ways & Means Committee Meeting was held on 4/23/2025. Attendees included Theresa Karlson, Pam Stemple, Joyce Paulsen, Nichole Chilton and Ex-Officio Patti Elliott. The following items were discussed:

- 2024-2025 Budget - As of 4/20/2025, The AGSM Store's revenue was \$7,114.33 and shipping was \$465.10; Expenses were \$8,678.45 and postage was \$781.26.
- City Pride – City Pride has provided a link to purchase the Past President's pin directly through them. This link is now located on our website.
- ShipThrifty – This has been a good shipping tool for our organization.
- New Items – Patriot Ribbon magnet is now available for purchase.
- AGSM Koozies will be provided in the convention swag bags.
- Theresa and Joyce will pack up store items from HQ and Theresa will bring them to the convention.



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Americanism Committee Report May 2025

Members:

Joyce Paulsen (Chair), Joan Snyder, Denise Torbert and Patti Elliott (Ex Officio)

Meetings:

- The focus was to provide something new and fresh for the website or social media.
- Be aware of any news articles or magazines. Any military anniversaries or military stores that you personally know about, please share them. Members may have to do some research.
- Shared new ideas for the second half of the year.
 - All - Will ask friends and co-workers for articles.
 - Joyce - Will ask her SOS coordinator for an article.
 - Joan - Elks Lodge, American Legion, or VFWs may seek essays or history from members to contribute.
 - Joan – Does some educational Q&As for various ages. Will send questions to me.
 - Denise - Will seek a teacher who might have a personal story to share.
 - Denise – Anywhere she has moments to share and educate, what a Gold Star Mother is, she does.
- All submissions are sent to chair Joyce, and she will forward them to publications.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Paulsen
2nd Vice President



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

History Committee Report

April 30, 2025

History Committee Chair, Pam Stemple, Committee members, Patti Elliott, Annette Kirk, Teresa Bullock, Nichole Chilton

Madam President,

This year the History Committee did the following:

- During the Gold Star Mothers Weekend in September, we put together documents and pictures to have available for our visitors to Headquarters.
- We gave tours to our visitors on Gold Star Mothers Weekend of Headquarters
- We met and discussed the process of scanning and putting the Historical documents in the Google Shared drive.
- Nichole, our IT Chair, updated our database to include a side database for our Lineage and Service database to continue to put our historical applications and documents into for reference for the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Stemple, History Chair



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

VAVS National Chair Report

April 30, 2025

VAVS National Chair – Pam Stemple

VAVS National Deputy – Courtney Chavez

Madame President,

We have had a very busy year getting the VAVS Program back up and running alongside the CDCE National Volunteer Office. FY 2024 we had only 25 Rep's and Dep's.

Total AGSM VAVS Hours for FY 2024 - 2277.25

- 2025 Total AGSM VAVS Member Volunteer's - 41
- 2025 Total Chapter and Department VAVS Rep's and Dep's – 35
- 2025 Total Associates and Non-Members – 9

What we have done this year:

- American Gold Star Mothers was certified to continue the CDCE National Advisory Committee for another 2 years. This was due to our having the 25 certified VAVS Representative's and Deputy's needed. I can see that our outreach to our membership has helped in getting our number of Rep's and Dep's up to 35.
- This year we started the manual for the AGSM VAVS Volunteer's to use for information for new members and those who are interested in being a volunteer at the VA.
- We printed a new AGSM VAVS Volunteer brochure for new members and for general information.
- Held quarterly meetings with the AGSM VAVS Volunteers
- We gave out certificates for our volunteers at the National Convention
- Certified 10 new VAVS Representatives and Deputies
- Filed Minutes and Reviews from the VA for our Volunteers
- New updates to the AGSM National Database to track our VAVS Volunteers.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Stemple, VAVS National Chair



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Compliance Committee May 2025

Members:

Joyce Paulsen (Chair), Teresa Bullock, Rose Duval, Joan Snyder, and Patti Elliott (Ex Officio)

The Compliance Committee Meeting 5/2/25 reports the following:

Joyce had several Google Meet meetings with Shauna DeWolf from Harbor Compliance. Joyce provided to HC our 990 and our Audit Review for 2023-2024. Joyce reviewed and approved the necessary invoices that were provided through HC online portal.

The additional services that we will be adding to our national AGSM account are as follows:

- 41 states for the Charitable Solicitation Registrations.
 - 12 states for the Managed Annual Report Service
 - 12 states for Registered Agent
 - 9 states for Registered Agent – Special Agency
 - 25 states for Charitable Disclosure Statements
- These services, managed by Harbor Compliance, will cost the organization \$13,854.00 annually.

Additional charges will come from state fees:

- Charitable Solicitation Registrations state fees
- Managed Annual Report Services state fees

Note: There may be issues with re-registering states. Harbor Compliance will keep us informed if issues arise.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Paulsen - Chair



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc

Centennial Planning Committee Report 2025 National Convention Raleigh, North Carolina June 19 – 22, 2025

The Centennial Planning Committee consists of Past National Presidents (PNP), Past National Officers (PNO), and current members of the National Executive Board. The committee's first meeting was held in October 2023 and it continues to meet monthly by Zoom on the second Sunday of the month. The committee launched their plans by engaging the members at the 2024 National Convention in Colorado Springs. During a workshop on Friday, there was a brief skit involving our founder, Grace Darling Seibold and two other mothers, involved in a discussion following their first meeting. Then the convention attendees participated in a Gallery Walk sharing their ideas of how we can celebrate 100 years on all levels, how to finance and fund the events that would be planned around the country and the closing Gala. Following that convention, five subcommittees (below) were created for smaller groups to focus on a particular task or area and bring recommendations back to the full committee for action. Below is a list of actions taken by the Centennial Planning Committee and subcommittees since the 2024 National Convention.

Marketing, Branding, Publicizing

- Researched community partners and organizations who can offer suggestions for media, marketing, donors, fundraising and solicitation to support the Centennial for professional messaging and support.
- Approved the tagline "A Century of Service" and a logo for marketing, branding, and all centennial business.
- Approved a centennial challenge coin to be introduced at the 2025 National Convention.
- Approved a button with Grace Darline Seibold's picture and the statement, "Ask Me About 100 Years of Grace." The button is intended to foster engagement between members and people they meet about our upcoming centennial. Ordered 100 buttons to be a member gift at the 2024 national convention.
- Created an email for direct communications with the Centennial Planning Committee (100years@americangoldstarmothers.org).
- Placed an advertisement in the American Legion National Convention program to market our upcoming centennial.
- Created a schedule for monthly interviews with committee member by Jeff Pierce and Wreaths Across America Radio to market and promote the upcoming centennial.

- Created a schedule for committee members to write an article publicizing the planning of the upcoming centennial in the *Gold Star Mother* beginning in the November-December 2024 and continuing through November-December 2025
- Approved a letter drafted by Theresa Karlson to the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee to create a special stamp to honor the centennial.

Finance and Fundraising

- The NEB approved designating 10% of donations from the AGSM Friends line item for use in the Centennial Celebration.
- Created a disbursement form to be submitted to the National Executive Board for approving projected expenditures for Centennial Planning.
- Created an acknowledgement letter to be sent to donors for tax purposes when making contributions to AGSM Centennial celebration.

History on all Levels

- Started scanning and uploading applications to the database at headquarters for WWII and Korean War mothers with a possible activity for members to research the fallen servicemember and their families for the “Mother and Her Hero” project.
- Received and reviewed information from Chris Dickon who has researched, published and produced a documentary on Gold Star Mothers. He worked in collaboration with John Graham and Michael Hitt who are particularly interested in the history of Countess Constance de Caen known as the “Little Mother” who aided WWI American soldiers in France. She is buried in Washington, DC in an unmarked grave.
- Reviewed a document, “Legacy & Vision” that American Legion used to plan their centennial in 2019. Their information on “Every Post Has a Legacy,” suggested an opportunity for chapters and departments to begin to do research on the history of their chapter and department. Each chapter needs to identify their chapter historian to begin writing their history.
- Holly Fenelon, author of *American Gold Star Mothers: 1928-2010 A History*, has agreed to do Volume 2 to be launched in 2028. An April email was sent requesting the participation of the membership to be included in this volume. A paperback version of the first book is also now available from the AGSM Store online.

Chapter/Department Involvement

- Created and Sent a Jot Form to all members with the questions from the Gallery Walk to get ideas from members who were not at the 2024 national convention. We received 12 responses to add to those that were collected at the convention, and they will be reviewed for possible incorporation into the plan.
- Phone calls to PNPs informing them of the Centennial Planning Committee to allow them an opportunity to offer suggestions and ideas. Each PNP received a “Grace” button along with a note as an informational follow-up.

- Document review of “Legacy & Vision” a plan utilized by the American Legion for their centennial in 2019. The information on “Every Post Has a Legacy,” suggested an opportunity for our chapters and departments to begin researching their respective histories. This led to the idea of having a Centennial link on the organization’s website and Facebook page.

Events On all Levels

- The Centennial Celebration kicked-off is planned for the 2027 National Convention with events, activities, and celebrations continuing through December, 2028. The culminating Centennial Celebration will be a closing Gala during the June 2028 National Convention to be held in the Washington, D.C. area.
- A survey was sent to the membership to get their interest in recreating the Pilgrimage in 2027 and honoring the mothers and their heroes buried overseas in the American Cemeteries in France. There was an article in the January-February 2025 *Gold Star Mother* newsletter with additional details.
- Exploring the possibility of collaborating with the Chapter and Department Involvement subcommittee for holding regional events at museums in Kansas City (WWI), New Orleans (WWII), Everett, WA (Museum of Flight), Angel Fire, NM (Vietnam Veterans Memorial), Columbus, GA (The Infantry Museum and Soldiers Center). These visits will highlight our centennial and all fallen heroes throughout these conflicts for families and public to visit.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mona Gunn Co-Chair
Becky Christmas Co-Chair