



## **American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.**

2025 - 2026 National Executive Board

Meeting Minutes -September 24, 2025

The business meeting was called to order at 9:03 am by President Annette Kirk (see agenda in *Attachment 1* ) A motion to dispense with the ritual was made by Sherrie McGhee and seconded by Teresa Bullock. The motion carried.

Chaplain Sherrie McGhee offered the opening prayer, and Sergeant-at-Arms Denise Torbert led the members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Chanta Vasquez conducted the roll call of officers. Twelve members of the NEB were present: President, Annette Kirk; First Vice President, Joyce Paulsen; Second Vice President, Teresa Bullock; Treasurer, Theresa Karlson; Secretary, Chanta Vasquez; Sergeant-at-Arms, Denise Torbert; Chaplain, Sherrie McGhee; Flag Guard, Evelyn Baltierra; Banner Guard, Tammy Bell; NSO, Rose Duval; VAVS National Chair, Carla Wicks; and IT Chair, Nichole Chilton.

### **Report of Treasurer**

The budget is in QuickBooks and in good standing.

Wells Fargo as of 8/31/2025 - \$347,355.96  
Library of Congress of 8/31/2025 - \$4,223.53  
Flourish as of 9/7/2025- \$155,109.01

Effective September 18, the interest rate on the Flourish Account will decrease from 4% to 3.75%.

## **Officer Reports**

Madam 1st Vice President noted that there were four officers who needed to amend their reports to include their department liaison activities. She stated that this information is important so that we can have open communication between the National Board, departments, and chapters. Madam Banner Guard Tammy Bell shared how she has received some nice responses from her assigned departments.

## **Standing Committee Reports**

### **Finance and Budget- Chair Theresa Karlson**

- Madam President noted she would like to receive a monthly budget to the actual report.
- 1st Vice President Joyce Paulsen suggested a discussion on moving \$100,000 from the Wells Fargo account to the Flourish account. After discussion, a motion to move \$100,000.00 from the Wells Fargo account to the Flourish account was made by Sherrie McGhee and seconded by Teresa Bullock. Motion carried.
- Madam President shared that she would initiate fundraising efforts for her convention beginning in October. Sergeant-at-Arms Denise Torbert shared that her chapter has created a fund where they take a portion of their fundraising efforts for donation for the National Convention.

### **Headquarters- Chair Joyce Paulsen**

A thank you to Rose Duval and Theresa Karlson, both of whom are local and keep us updated on headquarters.

Madam President asked Rose Duval if her grandson, William Scott, could write a short article for the AGSM newsletter on his successful volunteer project at headquarters.

### **Constitution & Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Ceremonial Business Procedures - Chair Teresa Bullock**

#### **Standing Rules**

- Suggested that National Department Liaisons should remind departments that when their standing rules change, they need to submit the updated Standing Rules to National.
- IT Chair Nichole Chilton suggested she could create a JotForm to collect important department and chapter documents. Then upload these documents to the National Database so they are easily accessible for future reference.

- The committee also discussed that ALL departments and chapters should submit their most current Standing Rules to National every 10 years.

### **Legislative Committee - Chair Carla Wicks**

Carla shared her written report with no amendments.

### **Special Committee Reports**

#### **VAVS/CDCE-Chair Carla Wicks**

- September 30th is the end of the VA's fiscal year.
- There are 53 active volunteers, with 37 reporting times.
- Carla shared the difference between an affiliated volunteer and a committee volunteer for the VA.
- Carla is planning on sharing an article in the AGSM newsletter regarding the different types of volunteering opportunities Gold Star Mothers can participate in within the VA.
- There is no information regarding an October VAVS meeting as of this meeting.

Break 10:25 AM

Return from break 10:36 AM

### **Compliance Committee - Chair Teresa Bullock**

1st Vice-President Joyce Paulsen shared what Harbor Compliance is and how they assist the National organization for new board members. Including what the \$25,000.00 we pay them is for

1. Managing annual service reports
2. Having registered agents
3. Registering special agents
4. Handling charitable disclosure statements.

### **Ways & Means - Chair Theresa Karlson**

- The committee is still working with Vista Print to get the gold stitching on the patches and gold lettering on the table runners to actually be gold and not green as currently presented.

- The committee discussed possibly purchasing a rocker that would have office positions, i.e., secretary or chaplain, on it to add to the current membership pin. Also discussing a rocker that says Veteran. The committee will continue to discuss this option.
- Theresa will research pricing for an order of 5,000 brochures with the updated centennial logo.
- Madame President shared information on a possible future fundraiser. Lady Jayne Jewelry, which is used by AMVETS and other organizations. She has created jewelry for AGSM to sell as a fundraiser. She can also create the AGSM logo as a necklace. Madam President encouraged the board to research and consider this idea for a later meeting.

### **Membership - Chair Rose Duval**

There has been an influx of membership in the states of California, Ohio, Indiana, Florida, New York, Maryland, Arizona, and Minnesota.

The Membership Committee makes a recommendation to the AGSM application to include a phone number identifier, such as a cell phone or home number.

The Membership Committee makes a second recommendation to include an instructional page with the application.

Membership cards will go back to the Membership Chair. Previously, the permanent membership cards were made by the IT Chair. This update will facilitate the quicker distribution of permanent cards.

Membership Chair Rose Duval has created a membership worksheet to help ensure accuracy and promptness in the new application process.

### **Community Service - Chair Carla Wicks**

Community service chair Carla Wicks discussed updating the current forms with the national community service email.

The Community Service Committee has also updated the reporting forms to provide members and community service representatives with more lines for reporting.

A discussion on adding a video tutorial on how to complete the PDF forms for membership to enable accuracy and ease of use was considered, and Carla will follow up.

Madam President will ask the Community Service Chair to join her on the next President's Forum so she may answer the FAQ.

### **Historian Committee- Teresa Bullock**

This year, the History Committee's goal is to continue scanning AGSM applications, as the documents are nearly 100 years old and delicate, and they must be carefully scanned by hand. They are then added to a thumb drive and will eventually be added to the history database. Once scanned, the original documents will go to the Library of Congress.

Teresa Bullock reiterated that nothing leaves headquarters without permission from the NEB.

Teresa Bullock also shared on the President's Forum how important it is for chapters and departments to have a historian to preserve their chapter and department's information and to be a future contact for the upcoming Centennial.

Teresa will also include a copy of the scanning process in her report.

### **Americanism - Chair Denise Torbert**

The Americanism Committee made a motion to send a letter of support for Dillion Krueger, the DAR nominee, for his book *Why We Pledge Allegiance*. After the discussion, the motion was carried.

### **Grants and Scholarships - Chair Rose Duval**

A brief discussion was held on what the Giving Grace Grants cover and assist. Currently, the committee considers it on a case-by-case basis.

Madam President wanted to make sure that the NEB understands the process of how the grants work.

The Centennial Committee has not submitted a report.

A motion to approve all of the standing committee and special committee reports with the amendments was made by Joyce Paulson and seconded by Denise Tolbert. Motion carried

Lunch break at 12:45

Return from lunch 14:00

### **Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business to be discussed.

### **New Business**

Madam President provided extra cards for the Veterans Last Patrol service project and asked that the Board fill out some cards while here, or they may take some cards home to fill out with their chapter. She reminded the board that this year's goal is to complete over 25,000 cards and that the cards must be postmarked by November 1st. The NEB will review the cards during their visit back to headquarters in November, and then Nichole will take them to Veterans Last Patrol in South Carolina.

Madam President passed out the national officer pins to the new board members.

Madam Treasurer updated the Board regarding the AGSM trademark registration. She stated that every 10 years, the trademark registration is due for review and payment.

Madam President shared a beautiful poem titled "Gold Star Mom" by Kenneth M. Petersen, a Vietnam Veteran. A few copies were sent to share. Secretary Chanta Vasquez was asked to email Mr. Petersen to request that the Board share his poem on the AGSM website and send him a letter of thanks.

### **Good of the Order**

Madam President shared that, due to the tragic loss of the son of Mission BBQ Co-Owner Bill Kraus, we may be approached by the media at any of the Gold Star Events. She just asked the NEB to please remember to respond gently and mindfully.

National Chaplain Sherrie McGhee spoke about death notifications. She noted that we should always share the link for death notifications on our AGSM website. If contacted by a family member of the deceased, please share the link and gather as much information as possible, including contact details.

Motion to adjourn was made by Teresa Bullock and seconded by Sherrie McGhee. Motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 14:27

Respectfully submitted, Chanta Vasquez,  
National Secretary

NEB Approved date: October 6, 2025

Chanta Vasquez      10/25/2025  
Chanta Vasquez                      Date



## *American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

2025-2026 National Executive Board Meeting

September 25, 2025

### Agenda

Call to Order

Motion to Dispense with the Ritual

Opening Prayer - Sherrie McGhee

Pledge of Allegiance – Denise Torbert

Roll Call of Officers – Chanta Vasquez

Report of Treasurer

Report of Standing Committees

- a. Finance and Budget
- b. Headquarters
- c. Constitution & Bylaws, Standing Rules
- d. Legislative

Report of Special Committees

- a. VAVS/CDCE
- b. Compliance
- c. Ways & Means
- d. Membership
- e. Community Service
- f. Americanism
  1. DAR request Letter of Support

Reading of Communications by the Secretary

Unfinished Business

New Business

Good of the Order

Motion to Adjourn



## *American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

### National President's Report

June 22, 2025-September 10, 2025

- 6/30/25 - Met with Churchill Hotel coordinators for Gold Star Mothers Day Weekend events
- 7/12/25-7/24/25 – Visited AGSM, Inc. HQ in Washington, D.C. for mail collection and work
- 7/17/25 – Met with Bonnie Carroll and Brittany Bonin-Bruder from TAPS to discuss new TSA guidelines for Gold Star Family members
- 7/25/25 – Met with Bend Heroes Foundation, Gold Star Wives of America, and America's Gold Star Families to discuss a National Gold Star Highway
- 8/6/25 – Met with Linda Dotterer from Mission BBQ Headquarters
- 8/7/25 – Guest speaker at National Purple Heart Day Ceremony, Tampa, FL
- 8/8/25 – Attended Retirement Ceremony for CENTCOM Commander U.S. Army General Erik Kurilla/Change of Command Ceremony CENTCOM Commander U.S. Navy Admiral Brad Cooper, Tampa, FL
- 8/15/25 – Attended American Gold Star Manor Board meeting in Long Beach, CA
- 8/16/25 – Attended meeting with Department of So Cal/HI in Long Beach, CA
- 8/16/25 – Meeting with MOWW Commander in Chief David Worley
- 8/22/25-8/24/25 – Attended AM VETS National Convention in Greensboro, NC
- 9/5/25-9/7/25 – Attended the rededication of the GWOT memorial at Ft Benning, GA. Tended to the vendor table to provide information on AGSM, Inc.
- Presided over Zoom board meetings and facilitated e-votes
- Responded to calls and correspondence coming to the organization
- Worked with National Executive Board members to accomplish mission-related goals
- Attended and participated in committee meetings
- Attended and participated in the Centennial subcommittee and committee meetings
- Worked with the NSO to plan Gold Star Mothers Weekend activities



*American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

**National 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's Report**  
**September 2025**

Participated in National Executive Board meetings and e-votes.

Participated in the following meetings:

- American Gold Star Manor Board
- AGSM, Inc. Centennial Committee
- AGSM, Inc. Centennial subcommittee marketing

Participated in the following Standing Committees:

- Constitution and By-Laws, Standing Rules, & Ceremonial Business Procedures
- Finance & Budget
- Headquarters – Chair

Participated in the following Special Committees:

- Membership
- Compliance
- Community Service

Communicated as NEB Liaison program:

- Drafted the August Liaison communication
- Emailed my assigned departments:
  - Department of New York
  - Department of Washington – Oregon – Alaska
  - Department of Maryland – Delaware

Miscellaneous:

While in Long Beach attended the SoCa/Hi Department meeting held at the manor.

Looking forward to the upcoming year, assisting Madame President and the NEB as needed.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Paulsen – National 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President



## *American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – September 2025**

For the period June 23 to September 9, 2025

**Participated in the National Executive Board Meetings and e-votes**

**Served as Parliamentarian**

**Chair for the following committees:**

- Constitution & Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Ceremonial Procedures
- History
- Compliance

**Participated as part of the following committees:**

- Finance and Budget
- Membership
- Americanism (deputy)
- Centennial Committee
  - Centennial Sub-Committees
    - History
    - Marketing, Branding and Publicizing
    - Financial and Fundraising

**Communicated as NEB Liaison with:**

- Department of Arizona
- Department of Arkansas
- Department of Minnesota
- Department of Missouri
- Department of Wisconsin

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa Bullock – National 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President



## *American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

National Treasurer Position Report - September 2025

National Treasurer: Theresa Karlson

Reporting Period: July 1, 2025 - September 22, 2025

### **Finance & Budget Chair:**

- Worked with Annette and Rose 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 for all Dept and Chapter Treasurers
- Created new sign in information for financial accounts

### **Member:**

- Grants Committee
- Headquarters Committee
- History Committee
- Ways & Means Chair

### **Support:**

- Attended and spoke on behalf of the AGSM at the Doughboy Foundation Lafayette Birthday Celebration on September 6<sup>th</sup>. Did a write up about this event for our newsletter.
- Attended the 72<sup>nd</sup> National Korean War Memorial Ceremony with Rose on July 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Centennial Committee Finance

Respectfully submitted by Theresa Karlson



*American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

## **Secretary's Report - September 2025**

Prepared general donation thank you letters for the President's signature.

- Nine monetary donations

Recorded 10 e-votes:

- June - 1
- July - 2
- August - 6
- September - 1

Prepared minutes for NEB meetings.

- June 22, 2025
- July 24, 2025
- August 13, 2025

Participated in the following meetings:

- Community Service Committee
- Compliance Committee
- C&BL, Standing Rules and Ceremonial Business Committee
- History Committee

Scheduled Secretaries Forum

- September 21, 2025

Department Liaison for the following departments:

- Tennessee
- West Virginia
- Maine
- Northern California
- Wyoming
- Ohio



*American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

Miscellaneous other administrative duties to assist NEB members as requested, to include:

- Schedule Zoom meetings
- Provide donor list for AGSM newsletter

Respectfully submitted,

Chanta Vasquez  
National Secretary



## *American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

### **Chaplain's Report – September 2025**

June 23, 2025 – September 22, 2025

1. Prepared Death Notifications of AGSM members and associates and mailed newsletters and condolence cards:
  - Prepared 4 Death Notifications for the July-August Newsletter
  - Prepared 6 Death Notifications for the September-October Newsletter
2. Participated in NEB Zoom Meetings
  - July 24, 2025
  - August 13, 2025
3. Participated in all E-Votes
4. Participated in the following Committee Zoom Meetings
  - Community Service
  - Ways and Means
  - Grants and Scholarships
  - Constitution and By-Laws
  - Centennial
    - i. Finance Subcommittee
    - ii. Events Subcommittee
5. Communicated as NEB Liaison in July and August with:
  - Alabama
  - Connecticut
  - Illinois
  - Nebraska
6. Prepared for Quarterly Chaplains' Zoom meeting to be held October 14, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,

Sherrie Battle McGhee – National Chaplain



*American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

Sgt - at- Arms Report -September 2025

For the period July 1, 2025 - September 10, 2025

- \*Participated in National Executive Board Meetings
- \* Participated in Committee Meetings
- \*Voted in E-Votes
- \* Created "Chore List" for NEB Members
- \*Created room assignments for NEB Members
- \* Co assembled with NSO grocery list for GSM weekend

Respectfully Submitted

Denise Torbert

National Sgt-at-Arms



## *American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

### **National Flag Guard - September Report**

#### **Participation in National Executive Board Meetings and Events**

- **June 19–22, 2025** - Attended the AGSM National Convention, served as Page during the business meeting, and was officially inducted as National Flag Guard for the 2025–2026 term.
- **NEB Zoom Meetings:**
  - July 24, 2025
  - August 13, 2025
  - September 4, 2025 - Gold Star Mothers Weekend Preparation
- Participated in all E-Votes.

#### **Committee Involvement**

- **Standing Committee:** Headquarters
  - Zoom meeting held August 12, 2025
- **Special Committees:**
  - Grants and Scholarships - Zoom meeting held August 21, 2025
  - History - Zoom meeting held September 3, 2025
  - Americanism - Pending September 8 or 9

#### **Liaison Responsibilities**

Communicated as NEB Liaison in July, August, and September with the following Departments:

- Georgia
- Kansas
- Pennsylvania
- **Correspondence Sent:**
  - July 14, 2025 - "A Warm Introduction from Your New AGSM Department Liaison"
  - August 19, 2025 - "HELLO THERE! From your AGSM Department Liaison"
  - August 20, 2025 - "Woody Williams: Legacy of Service Celebration"
  - September 5, 2025 - AGSM ~ Opportunities, Grants, Service, and Fun Events Ahead!

#### **Publications**

- August 4, 2025 - Submitted an introduction article for the newsletter, sharing a bit about myself, highlighting my personal hero, and including Bryan's favorite recipe.
- August 7, 2025 - Submitted article: *"How Gold Star Mothers Relate to Patriot Day - National Day of Service, September 11"*

*Respectfully submitted by Evelyn Baltierra, Flag Guard*



# American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

## NEB 25 - 26 Banner Guard Report

### June 22 through September 23, 2025

Participated in Executive Board meeting in North Carolina June 22,

Participated in Zooms / Email meetings and e-voting.

Participated in part in 2 of 3 Committees on zoom, assigned by the National President.

1. Constitution & By-Laws
2. Membership

Communicated monthly with NEB Liaison assigned Departments by the National President.

1. Department of Iowa
2. Department of Michigan
3. Department of Kentucky
4. Department of South Carolina

Participated and submitted a photo / paragraph for the AGSM Newsletter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Bell

NEB 25 - 26 Banner Guard

[bannerguard@americangoldstarmothers.org](mailto:bannerguard@americangoldstarmothers.org)

Proud Marine Mother of

Sgt, Jerome C Bell Jr.

KIA Afghanistan, 09/19/2008



American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.



## *American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

National Service Officer Report

July 2025-September 2025

For the period July 2025 - September 2025:

- Processed Member and Associate Applications, Transfers, and Change of Address.
- Provided a list of members and associates for the Newsletter.
- Provided a list of new and transferring members to IT for permanent membership cards.
- Participated in National Executive Board Meetings and e-votes
- Worked with Madam President to plan and attend Gold Star Mother's Week, and Veterans Day.
- Attended Global War on Terror Memorial Rededication, Fort Moore, GA
- Responded to correspondence coming to NSO email.

Participated in the following committees:

Executive Committee

Membership Committee (Chair)

Grants Committee (Chair)

Scholarship Committee (Chair)

Finance and Budget

Treasurers Forum

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Duval, National Service Officer



## *American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

It is an honor and a privilege to fill the role of Information and Technology Chair for the 2025-2026 year. Advancing our beloved organization by incorporating technology to better serve our Members, Donors, and Supporters is the primary focus of this position.

- Participated in National Executive Board Meetings and e-votes
- Transitioned email addresses for the incoming NEB
- Updated inventory for the online store and added products from the 2025 Convention
- Designed and created invitations, programs in digital and print form for Gold Star Mothers Weekend
- Worked on building, printing and published 2 newsletters
- Updated business cards for the NEB
- Created graphic for Operation Holiday Salute
- Trained new NEB members how to use Quickbase
- Printed and mailed out new membership cards
- Suggested and ordered center pieces and flowers for GSM Weekend
- Troubleshoot tasks with NEB and members
- Updated Blogs and Events on website
- Attended National AMVETS Convention in Greensboro, NC
- Participated and sent emails in the department liaison email program
- Participated in the following committees:
  - • Ways & Means Committee
  - • History Committee
  - • Community Service Committee

Respectfully Submitted

Nichole Jackson Chilton

Information and Technology Chair

September 10, 2025



*American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

**Finance & Budget Committee Report - September 2025 (amended)**

**Chairman:** Theresa Karlson

**Members:** Rose Duval (Deputy Chair), Joyce Paulsen, Teresa Bullock, Chanta Vasquez

**Ex-Officio:** Annette Kirk

**Meetings:** Our initial meeting was held on July 29<sup>th</sup> and then on August 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss the FY25 budget

**Budget**

- Worked with President and Deputy Chair to establish the FY25 Budget
- Created a Working 2025-2026 Budget Spreadsheet
- Attended two online training sessions to learn QuickBooks Online (QBO)

**Finance**

- Maintain Financial Worksheets as created by our Deputy Chair
- Met with Wells Fargo staff member to add my credentials and signature authority to the checking account
- Continue to learn the coding of categories for QBO
- Create budget reports as requested by Committee members
- Continue to track Centennial Committee spending, specifically for coins

**Bank Statements**

- Wells Fargo Ending Balance as of 8/31/2025 \$347,355.96
- Library of Congress Ending Balance as of 8/31/2025 \$4,223.53
- Flourish Ending Balance as of 09/07/2025 - \$155,109.01 Beginning 09/18/2025 the Annual Percentage Yield (APY) will be 3.75% as compared to 4.00%

Respectfully submitted by

Theresa Karlson

National Treasurer



*American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*  
Headquarters Committee

September 2025

**Members:**

Joyce Paulsen (Chair), Teresa Karlson, Rose Duval, Evelyn Baltierra, and Annette Kirk (Ex Officio)

The Headquarters Committee meeting 8/12/25 reports the following:

Updates from Rose and Theresa, who are local and keep updated on headquarters.

- 1) The water project finished on the headquarters street of Leroy. The alley is torn up, and they are working on repairing it.
- 2) Darkening curtains for the president's room with rods will run \$200.
- 3) Front Garden update, which continued from last year at no cost.
  - a. Rose's grandson, William Scott, 16 years old, did a volunteer project.
  - b. It took 25 buckets of rocks to get to dirt, and also found chicken wire under it all. Treated the ground with manure and weed control.
  - c. Added water system with an automatic sprinkler system for plants.
  - d. All plants are shade-tolerant.
  - e. The neighbor next to Dominique asked questions about the new planting and then gave a compliment about how it was done.
- 4) Carpet cleaning needs to be done. Stanley Steemer was quoted at \$1000. Would like to get it done before GSM week.
- 5) Ordered a second set of sheets for the bunkroom—\$200 or less.
- 6) Grandson will power wash the back, tack the loose wire, and paint the wood panel.
- 7) Mosquitoes have increased. Fogged for the house, deep wood spray may be needed.
- 8) The overhead bulb in storage with a pull chain is not working. Billy will replace it.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Paulsen - Chair



## *American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

### **Constitution & Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Ceremonial Business Procedures- September 2025**

**Chair:** Teresa Bullock, **Members:** Joyce Paulsen, Chanta Vasquez, Sherrie McGhee, Tammy Bell, **Ex-Officio:** Annette Kirk

#### **Constitution & Bylaws:**

- Confirmed the deadline for February submissions and will schedule a meeting if needed to read and discuss submissions.

#### **Standing Rules:**

- No changes currently.
- Reminder that Standing Rules can be changed at any time with NEB approval

#### **Ceremonial Business Procedures:**

- No changes currently.

#### **Recommendation:**

- None currently.

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa Bullock – Committee Chair



*American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

**LEGISLATIVE CHAIR REPORT** September 2025

For the period from June 23<sup>rd</sup> to Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Prepared a document for keeping track of action items in Congress regarding Gold Star or Veteran Community.

Helped Annette with issue from Paul Shamon regarding a Gold Star/Military Veteran Headstone religious marker change. – July 29th

Attended a Zoom Call with TAPS in regard to the Legislative change in TSA status for Gold Star Families. – July 17<sup>th</sup>

Wrote Article for the Sept/Oct issue of Gold Star Mother Newsletter on the TSA procedure.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carla Wicks, Legislative Chair



*American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

VAVS CDCE COMMITTEE REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2025

Period from June 23<sup>rd</sup> – September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025

This is a breakdown of the CDCE reporting for Quarter 3 (April 1 to June 30).

There was a total of 53 Active Volunteers, 37 with time reported.

On the graphs attached any highlighted in yellow are NON – GSM volunteers.

The first report graph is for those Committee Volunteers and shown are Q3 stats

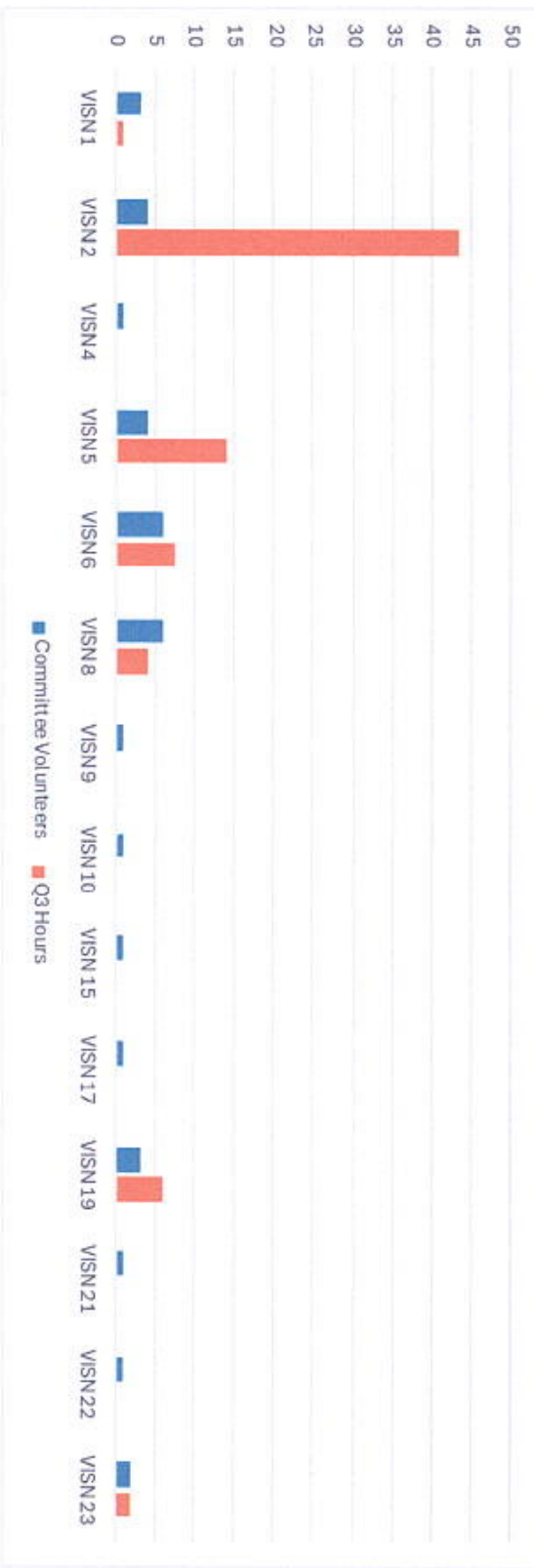
The second graph is the complete Affiliates Volunteer listing. I included Q1 and Q2 with Q3 stats to show how each volunteer is either increasing or decreasing in hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carla Wicks, VAVS Rep

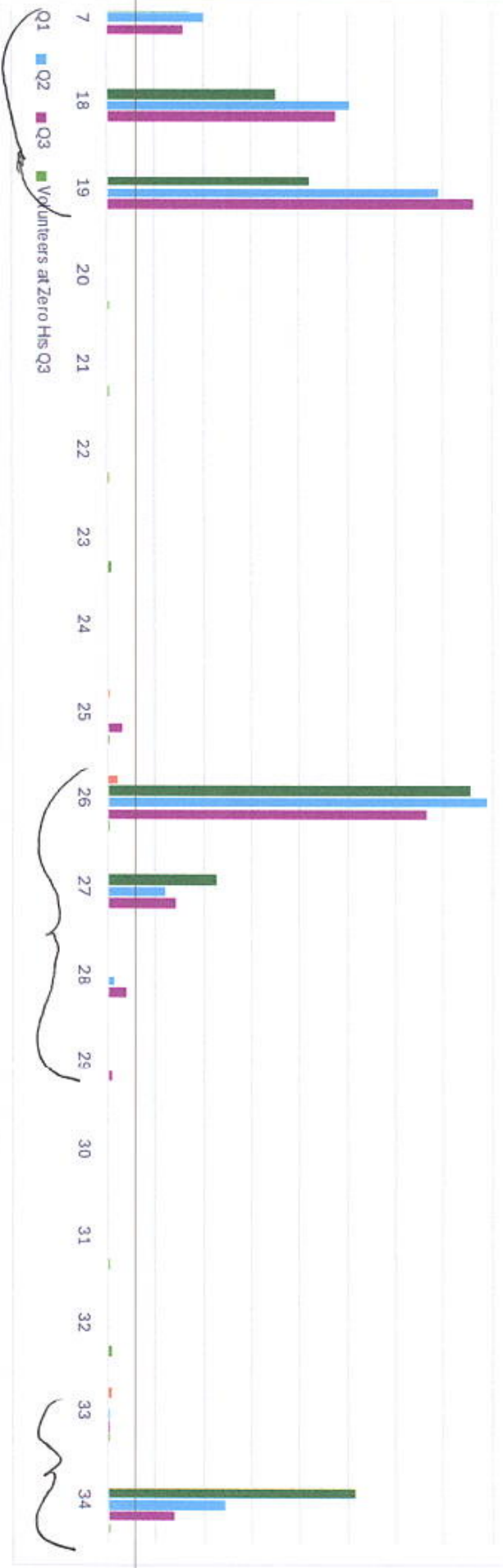
Location	VISN 1	VISN 2	VISN 4	VISN 5	VISN 6	VISN 8	VISN 9	VISN 10	VISN 15	VISN 17	VISN 19	VISN 21	VISN 22	VISN 23
Committee	3	4	1	4	6	6	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	2
Volunteers	1	43.5	0	14	7.5	4	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	2
Q3 Hours														

Chart Title



	VISN 9	VISN 10	VISN 12	VISN 15	VISN 16	VISN 17	VISN 19			VISN 20	VISN 21	VISN 22	VISN 23	
	0	0	0	0		1	4				0	0	2	
84						0	150.5	45.5	0	0			0	103.25
138						0	158	24	3	0			1	48.5
153						6	133	28.5	8	2			1	27.5
	1	1	1	2		1	1				1	2	1	1

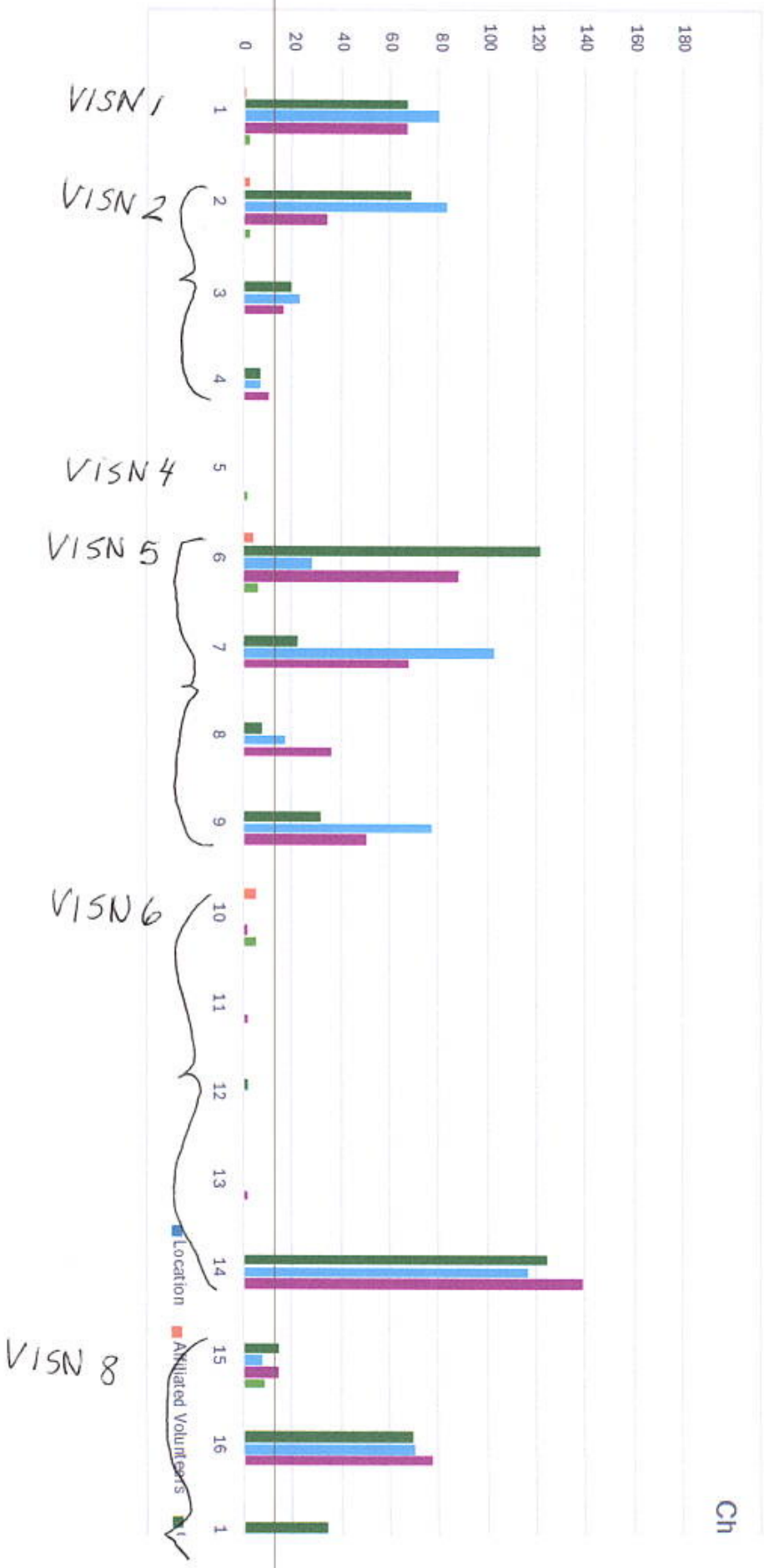
art Title



- VISN 9
- VISN 10
- VISN 12
- VISN 15
- VISN 16
- VISN 17
- VISN 19
- VISN 20
- VISN 21
- VISN 22
- VISN 23

Location	VISN 1	VISN 2			VISN 4	VISN 5			VISN 6				VISN 8						
Affiliated Volunteers	1	3			0	4			5										
Q1	67	69	20	7.25		122	22	8	32	0	0	1.5	0	124.75	15	69.5	34.5	70	
Q2	79.5	83	23	7		28	103	17.5	77	0	0	0	0	116.5	8	70	40	101	
Q3	66.5	34	16.5	10.25		88	67.5	36	50.5	2	2	0	2	139.25	15	77	32	95	
Volunteers at Zero Hrs	3	3			2	6				5					9				

Ch





*American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

**VAVS UPDATE FORM**

**Email completed form to: *AGSMVAVS@americangoldstarmothers.org***

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Status** (*mark all that apply*):

Chapter Appointed Officer VAVS Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Department Appointed VAVS Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Certified VAVS Representative \_\_\_\_\_ Certified VAVS Deputy \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Location of VA Volunteer Service Facility:**

Name of Facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

**Regular Volunteer:** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Occasional Volunteer:** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Donate Hours to AGSM:** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Member/Associate Signature \_\_\_\_\_

-----OFFICE USE ONLY-----

VAVS Certified with letter on file as: Rep \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy \_\_\_\_\_ NEB approval Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Appointment: Date \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Change \_\_\_\_\_ Replacing who \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_



*American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

**Compliance Committee September 2025 Report**

**Chair:** Teresa Bullock, **Members:** Joyce Paulsen, Chanta Vasquez, Theresa Karlson, **Ex-Officio:** Annette Kirk

Held a meeting by Zoom on August 26, 2025

Joyce and I have had monthly Zoom meetings with Shauna from Harbor Compliance for training and review of progress. This has been helpful, and I am able to ask questions and get training on any issues that need to be addressed.

I have worked on updating the Charity Registrations, our records, forwarded all information received, and worked with Departments and Chapters when information is needed.

No recommendations currently.

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa Bullock, Compliance Chair



*American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*  
**Ways & Means Committee Report**  
**September 2025**

Committee Members: Theresa Karlson, Sherrie McGhee, Nichole Chilton, Carla Wicks, President ex-officio – Annette Kirk

The Ways & Means Committee met on August 11, 2025

Topics discussed:

- 2025-2026 Projected Budget –

<b>50000 AGSM Store Expenses</b>	
50100 AGSM Store Inventory/Supplies	7,000.00
50200 AGSM Store Postage & Shipping	600.00
50300 AGSM Store Refunds	200.00

- City Pride – They have the tooling for the Chapter President pin. I would like to make a motion to put this pin on their site so that members can purchase directly from City Pride. There are two purchase options: Gold plated - \$75 each or 10 K gold-filled - \$135 each.
- Ordering low inventory. Gold Star Decal (4) in stock; AGSM/Am Flag crossed pin (24); AGSM Car Window sticker (10); Patriotic Ribbon Hanger Magnet – sold out
- AGSM Logo Embroidered Patch – Gold stitching looks green and Table Runner’s gold print looks green. Theresa will work with VistaPrint to try to get the correct “gold” lettering for these items.
- Convention T-shirts – We have 21 t-shirts left over from convention. These are available through the AGSM Store for purchase.
- AGSM black note pads – We have 18 black note pads left over from convention. These are available through the AGSM Store for purchase.
- New Pins? There have been discussions about providing officer pins such as Chapter Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain and Vice President. Theresa contacted Valor Coins and Pins and they have provided an estimate for each pin.
- We are running low on brochures, and it is recommended that we put in a new order after GS Mothers Weekend. We also need to discuss adding the Centennial design.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Theresa Karlson  
Chair



## *American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

### Membership Committee Report

September 2025

Membership Committee: Chair Rose Duval

Members: Joyce Paulsen, Teresa Bullock, Carla Wicks, Denise Torbert, Tammy Bell, Annette Kirk (Ex-Officio)

Committee meeting held: August 18, 2025

#### Current Status

Total Active Membership: 870

Over 80: 150

Under 80: 720

Associates' w/ newsletter: 21

#### **Applications:**

1. Recommendation #1 include phone number identifier. Cell or Home.
2. Recommendation #2 include an instructional page with the Application and Media Consent form.

#### **Membership Cards**

1. Printing of the permanent membership card will be with the NSO or person responsible for membership.

#### **Membership Processing:**

1. A Membership Application Worksheet has been created for tracking the membership process through completion. It is a work aid and optional for use.

Recommendations to the NEB:

Accept attached Application Form.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rose Duval*

Rose Duval

Membership Chair



*American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

**COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIR REPORT** September 2025

For the period from June 23<sup>rd</sup> to September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Chair: Carla Wicks

Members: Chanta Vasquez, Sherrie Battle-McGee, Nichole Chilton

Ex-Officio: Annette Kirk

Lead the Community Service Committee Zoom Meeting on August 6<sup>th</sup>

Reviewed "Healing thru Service" Award forwarded to me from Chanta

Tasked Nichole with updating CS Reporting forms (per the committee recommendations) and then after I get them and approve, she will upload to the website.

Preparing Community Service Article of the Nov/Dec Newsletter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carla Wicks,

Community Service Chair

(Report Amended 9/24/25)



## *American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

Historian and Committee - September 9, 2025

Chair: Teresa Bullock, Members: Theresa Karlson, Chanta Vasquez, Evelyn Baltierra, Nichole Chilton, Pam Stemple PNP, Ex-Officio- Annette Kirk

Our meeting was held on September 3, 2025. All were present except for Theresa Karlson.

Our goal this year is to continue with the scanning of the applications at headquarters. Reviewed with the assistance of Pam Stemple the process of scanning the applications, how they will be transferred to the drive, and eventually entered to the database.

I encouraged committee members to attempt to spend some time at headquarters in November to work on scanning the documents.

We discussed the need to make sure all items from headquarters do not leave without the notification and approval of NEB. When applications are scanned and scrap books are approved by the committee and then the NEB they are to be sent to the Library of Congress.

There will be a display for the Open House on Gold Star Mother's Weekend set up, some of the items on display will be from a box stored at headquarters and returned from the June 2025 Convention.

Another meeting will be held before February meeting to discuss the progress of the above-mentioned goal.

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa Bullock, Historian



*American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.*

Americanism Committee Report - September 2025

Chair; Denise Torbert , Members; Teresa Bullock, Evelyn Baltierra, Tammy Bell  
Ex-Officer; Annette Kirk

Zoom Meeting called : September 8,2025

Decused Americanism articles for the newsletter for Veterans Day and Memorial Day.

Respectfully submitted

By Denise Torbert

National Sgt-at-Arms



31 August, 2025

Annette Kirk  
American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. Headquarters  
2128 Leroy Place NW  
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear National President,

Enclosed is a copy of the recently published book "Why We Pledge Allegiance", by Dillon Krueger. Mr. Krueger, an Army Veteran, has taken his love of country and artistic talents and created a beautiful book that aims to teach children the symbolism of the Flag of the United States of America and the meaning behind the Pledge of Allegiance.

Our Chapter would like to nominate Mr. Krueger for the NSDAR Excellence in American History Children's Book Award, to honor his work spreading the history of the Flag and the Pledge of Allegiance. Part of the nomination process includes getting letters of recommendation for the book from others outside the Daughters of the American Revolution who have a deep understanding of its subject matter. As the National President of American Gold Star Mothers Inc., I can think of no one more qualified to provide a recommendation than you.

If you are willing to provide a letter of recommendation, I want you to know that it will be kept confidential and only used for the award nomination process, and not shared with the author or publicly without your consent. A recommendation letter needs to be no more than a single page and only needs to discuss the contents of the book enclosed. This is not intended to be a personal recommendation of Mr. Krueger or his military service.

If you are not able to provide a letter of recommendation, please enjoy the book enclosed and share it with a child in your life.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. Your letter of recommendation can be sent digitally to the email address below. Please let me know if you have any questions. We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Dolan  
Regent  
David City Chapter  
Daughters of the American Revolution



DAVIDCITYCHAPTERNSDAR@GMAIL.COM



402-577-1236



# American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Grant and Scholarship Committee

Report for Period July 1 to September 15, 2025

Chair: Rose Duval

Members: Sherrie McGhee, Evelyn Baltiera, Theresa Karlson, Annette Kirk (Ex Officio)

Chapter Grants – Application period currently open. Closing on September 30, 3 requests have been awarded, if others are received, we will discuss at that time.

Giving Grace Grants – Application period was opened July 1, 2024. Received 9 applications, 1 denied due to not being eligible, 2 referred to the Manor, 3 awarded, 3 pending additional information for assessment.

Dues Assistance – 3 Applications for 2025 dues.

Disaster Assistance - None awarded to date

Recommendation: None at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rose L. Duval*

Rose Duval  
Grants and Scholarship Committee Chair