

Dear Mothers,

I continue to read many wonderful letters and well wishes in support of the coming year. Thank you all so much!

It is a tremendous honor to have the approval of so many members through the election process allowing me to serve BSMA as your National President for the term year 2007-2008. We will all have a challenging yet rewarding year reorganizing, recognizing, responding and taking action to fill the needs of our loved ones who serve as well as honoring our Veterans and lending much needed sister support to each other.

As I listened to chapter reports at convention, I felt deep pride as well as reassurance that our organization has found creative and amazing ways to honor and be of service to our military and veterans. Fundraising efforts are alive and well! Our BSMA Chapter and Department leadership is extraordinary. EVERY member of BSMA has worked so hard to make a difference in the lives of our men and women serving this great Nation whether through care packages and correspondence, service within our VA hospitals, through our commitment to PTSD awareness, in providing vital pre-deployment information, or the solid commitment to bringing aid and comfort to our wounded. We must continue to be ever vigilant, recognizing the immediate and future needs of our active military and veterans.

Patriotism, unity of pride in our nation runs deep throughout our organization. I am so proud of all of you.

Our newly elected National Executive Board have expressed a commitment to unity while serving the organization through the administration of day to day business, legal awareness and reporting requirements, improvements to financial accounting, improvements to membership oversight, in providing a solid administrative operating budget, and the list goes on and on. I am so very impressed with our newly elected board's commitment to improving how our organizational functions. You, the members, have shown your commitment to the organization as well. Your recognition of the cost of doing business through approval of the financial rules and through motion and vote for funding will help our administrators carry out the duties of each office as well as allowing us to seek and provide the much needed tools to be able to serve you in a timely, organized and efficient way. We are committed to accountability and to timely reporting to the members of BSMA. Communication is the key. Procedures for communication are currently under review for the next 30 days and we will implement a reliable and timely process for interactive communication between the board and all of our members of BSMA.

It takes many mothers working simultaneously yet together for our organization to be effective. Delegation and experience are paramount to covering the vast responsibilities of the organization.

**Our newly elected 2007-2008 Executive Board is as follows:**

National President-Sabrah Rolfe-New Mexico

First Vice President-Anita Wagner-Ohio

Second Vice President-Tina Perez-California

Third Vice President-Jane Davis-South Carolina

Recording Secretary- Kimberly Piol-Kentucky

Financial Secretary-Barbara Lamonde-New Mexico

Treasurer-Peggy McClanahan-Kentucky

Sgt of Arms-Judy Medlock-Oklahoma

Acting Washington D.C. Rep-Susan Nail-Florida

VAWS Representative to Washington D.C.-Helen Nero-Ohio

**Newly Appointed-**

National Chaplain-Karen Stevens-New Mexico

Parliamentarian-Judy Rittenhouse-Kentucky

Patriotic Instructor/Americanism/American Flag Bearer-Linda Carr-Virginia

Historian/BSM Banner Bearer-Debora Nichols-Kentucky

POW/MIA Banner Bearer-Katie Crowley-Texas

**Committees**

Finance Committee-Chair-Susan Nail-Florida

Bylaws Committee-Chair-Judy Kwarta-New York

BSMA Official Documentation Review Committee-Chair-Kimberly Piol-Kentucky

Yearbook Committee Editor- Jean Duane-Minnesota

BSMA Departments Oversight and Study Group-Chair-Patsy Varnell-Oklahoma

National Legislation Study Group-Chair-Kathryn Hood-California

Online Database and Website Committee-Chair-Wendy Hoffman-New Mexico

Oversight and Technical Consulting-Sabrah Rolfe

Wounded Warrior Committee-Chair-Jan Downs-New Mexico

PTSD Committee-Chair-Emily Afuola-New Jersey

National Fundraising Committee-Chair-Juanita Christenson-Oklahoma

Corporate Financial Grants Committee-Chair-Karen Stevens-New Mexico

Sew Much Comfort Committee-Chair-Jean Burlingame-New York

BSMA Historic Archives Committee Project-Chair-Peg McCarthy-Maryland

Risk and Liability Insurance Committee-Chair-vacant

Yahoo Online Message Groups Committee-Chair-Merinda Mullins-Washington

National 2008 Convention Committee-

- Chair-Sabrah Rolfe
- Co-chair-Jan Downs-New Mexico
- Co-Chair-Karen Stevens-New Mexico-

Big Dipper Educational Assistance and Fun Group Auxiliary-Pres.-Linda Humphrey-Ohio

Website Updates-Susan Braun and Sabrah Rolfe

BSMA Legal Oversight-Don Alexander-Attorney-Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld-Washington D.C.

Susan Ruge-Attorney- Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld- Washington D.C.

Certified Public Accountant-(under review) Dan Medlin-California

Congratulations to our new committee chairpersons, our newly appointed officers, and to our newly elected officers. We will have information on what the committees will work on and contact info available soon for all of the mothers mentioned above.

I would like to emphasize that is very important to me that our members throughout BSMA remember to create a healthy balance within their home lives, attending to personal health needs, and careers while serving BSMA. Although service is important, please remember to take care of your selves and families first, and foremost.

I will be quite busy over the next 30 days typing up the convention minutes and various other documents from our National convention. The outgoing recording secretary is responsible for creating the convention minutes and the required documents from convention. As you can imagine, listening to recordings for many days/hours of minutes will be very time consuming and will require a great deal of focus. I may be out of pocket some days over the next month due to this final responsibility.

In closing I ask for every member's patience as we acclimate our newly elected board, our committees, exchange information, collect preferred contact information, our volunteers hours of availability, update the website, etc. We need to create files and documentation for this information as well as update our website and assign correct contact emailing addresses. We will have the majority of the information available within 30 days as well as ready to go out in the post-convention information packet.

Thank you so much for every contribution that each member within BSMA does in support of the BSMA Mission! This is a new year and we will move forward with not only a fresh perspective on how to carry out the business of BSMA, but with our primary mission at the heart of all we do, support and service to our active military, and veterans.

Holding all of you close in thought, meditation, blessings and service,

Sabrah Rolfe, National President BSMA

Proud Mom of Petty Officer Christopher Mueller (IRAQI Freedom)

505-831-1100

BSMA work Hours Mountain Time- 7am-6pm M-F, 7am-10am Saturdays

Third Saturday of each month no National BSMA Administrative Work

No BSMA National Administrative work over Holiday Weekends or on Sundays