



Hello all,

So sorry to be so late in getting this all to you. Between the Edison Company doing work on our street on different days for hours at a time and the weather, my computer AND printer have gone berserk! Am grateful that with Ann's reminder, I can send you what I had typed up for our March bulletin about Gold Star Mothers/Families and the TAPS organization.

Gold Star moms are women entitled to display a gold star on a service flag as the mother, stepmother, adoptive mother, or foster mother of a U.S. Armed Forces member that died while engaged in action against an enemy recognized by the Secretary of Defense.

On 5/4/1928, a group of twenty-five mothers living in Washington, D.C. met to make plans to organize a national organization. On 1/5/1929, the organization was incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia.

American Gold Star Mothers is a member of the Advisory Board of the Veterans Affairs Voluntary Services. The organization collaborates closely with all veterans' organizations. Mother's Cupboard is now The AGSM Store. Please go to their site AmericanGoldStarMothers.org to see what is new. There are chapters in every state! Their national address is AGSM, Inc., 2128 Leroy Pl. NW, Washington D.C. 20008 & phone is (202) 265-0991.

Do you know what TAPS stands for? Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors. They support surviving families, and you can donate to TAPS or volunteer your time. They have seminars, peer mentors, care groups, youth programs, men's programs, young adults' programs & an online community. For more information contact: info@taps.org or (800) 959-TAPS.

Oh my, almost forgot to remind you that end of year reports are due soon. Please get them to me as soon as possible (best if you mail a copy). Thanks for understanding.

Sorry, this is so short but have a pile of emails and phone calls that am still trying to get through. Hopefully will have better luck AND a better printer next month.

Pat Alvarez, Western Div. NS chair

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