

# BLUE STAR MEMORIALS

## Garden Clubs Honoring Those Who Have Served Our Country

The Blue & Gold Star Memorials Program honors all men and women that serve in the United States Armed Services. This program began with the planting of 8,000 Dogwood trees by the New Jersey Council of Garden Clubs in 1944 as a living memorial to veterans of World War II. In 1945, the National Council of State Garden Clubs adopted this program and began a Blue Star Highway system that covers thousands of miles across the Continental United States, Alaska, and Hawaii. A large metal Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker was placed at appropriate locations along the way.

What we see today is a program that has expanded to include all men and women who had served, were serving, or would serve in the armed services of the United States. Memorial Markers and By-Way markers were added to the Highway Markers, to be used at locations such as National cemeteries, parks, veteran's facilities and gardens.

The Blue Star became an icon in World War II and was seen on flags and banners in homes for sons and daughters away at war, and in churches and businesses. This program has been active all through the years to the present, a fitting tribute to our Armed Forces and especially now.

- Does your garden club have a Blue Star Memorial Marker nearby? Please notify chairman of your marker's location so we can complete a map of Indiana's markers!
- Do you want a garden to do a Blue Star Marker in your community? Contact information below.

To donate or to install a Blue Star Marker, a Byway Marker or a Gold Star Family Marker:

- Download the form, follow directions, and submit to:  
[State Blue Star Memorials Chairman](#)
- [Blue Star Memorial Donation Form](#)
- [Blue Star Marker/Byway purchase instructions](#)
- [Additional information is on the NGC site](#)

## **Indiana Blue Star Memorials**

- Lincoln State Park, dedicated by Christmas Lake Village Garden Club, 2013 (Santa Claus, South West District)
- Black Creek Rest Area on I-64, dedicated by New Harmony Garden Club, 2013 (Southwest District)
- Gibson County Fairgrounds, dedicated by Green Thumb Garden Club, 2013 (Princeton, Southwest District)
- Syracuse Veterans Park, dedicated by Syracuse-Wawasee Garden Club, 2014 (Syracuse, North Central District)
- Washington City Park, dedicated by Arts and Flowers Garden Club, 2014 (Washington, Southwest District)
- Decatur County Courthouse Square, dedicated by Give Un Take Garden Club and Night Bloomers Garden Club, 2014 (Greensburg, South East District)
- Hobart Historical Society, dedicated by Hobart Garden Club, 2015 (Hobart, Northwest District)

PHOTOS from previous newsletters