

The Thunder Gazette

Published by Rolling Thunder® Inc. Chapter 1 Ohio

October, 2017

PLEASE NOTE

OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP

MEETING WILL BE HELD AT

V.F.W. POST #6768
8584 Olde Eight Rd.
Northfield, OH

SUNDAY, October 15, 2017

2:00 p.m.

Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.

- To be a member in good standing, one must:
- a. Attend at least 3 meetings & 3 events per year;
 - b. Pay the annual membership dues of \$30/yr;
 - c. Abide by the Membership Patch rules;
 - d. Remain loyal to Rolling Thunder® in word, deed and action;
 - e. Conduct him/herself in a professional and courteous manner at all times.

Below are the results of the September election:

Vice-President: Dave Bush

Treasurer: Andy Klush

Chairman of the Board: Lew Ballard

Board Members: Jeff Brady
Hank Langowski

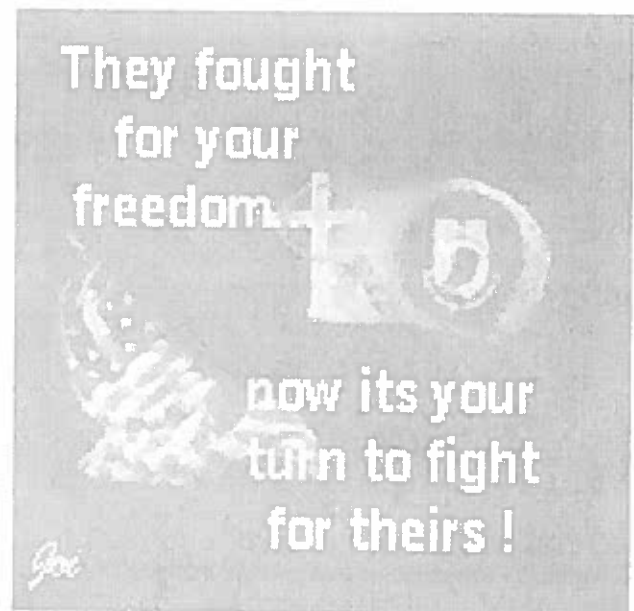
UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, October 15, 2017 - Board/
Membership Meeting - 1:00 p.m./2:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 21, 2017 - Christmas
Party at Wade Park - 1 - 3 Atrium

Sunday, October 29, 2017 - Breakfast at
9:30 a.m. - Concord Family Restaurant, 9853
Johnnycake Ridge Rd, Concord

*I was prepared to fight, prepared to die. But
I was not prepared for my country to leave
me behind.*



**CHAPTER OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS
AND PLATOON LEADERS**

PRESIDENT WINSTON BAILEY 440-639-2222
VICE-PRES DAVE BUSH 216-408-2639
SECRETARY CHERYL PILNY 440-543-8468
TREASURER ANDY KLUSH 330-620-6047
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
LEW BALLARD 440-942-1688

BOARD MEMBERS

TED PILNY 216-346-6407
JEFF BRADY 440-669-1794
HANK LANGOWSKI 216-513-5712
CHUCK KETTLER 216-401-4984
MIKE NEILAN 440-241-2655
(ALTERNATE) LARRY FELEAN 440-439-4914

CHAPLAIN DAN MCGINNIS 330-618-1720

RUN COORDINATOR OPEN

MEMBERSHIP SUSAN BAILEY 440-639-2222

QUARTERMASTER

FRANK FOX 440-494-7165
GERI PHILLIPS 440-494-7165

ASST. QUARTERMASTER
LEW BALLARD 440-942-1688

SARGENT AT ARMS
OPEN

NEWSLETTER STAFF
CHERYL PILNY 440-543-8468

PLATOON LEADERS:

#1 MIKE NEILAN 440-241-2655
#2 RONNIE DINGER 216-799-5539
#3 TOM BLECHSCHMID 440-349-2470
#4 SALLY FELEAN 440-439-4914
#5 TOM TROJAN 440-384-0744
#6 VIKKI CARROLL 440-283-7766
#7 SUSAN BAILEY 440-639-2222

STATE LIASION TY GEISER 330-466-0086

ASST. STATE LIASION
AL KECK 216-374-3310

WE CARE YVONNE GIEMAN 440-285-3864
arphersfolks@windstream.net

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS OPEN

COORDINATOR FOR WADE PARK VISITS
VICKI CARROLL 440-283-7766

EVENTS CHAIR JEFF BRADY 440-669-1794

PUBLIC RELATIONS CHUCK KETTLER 216-401-4984

EDUCATION CHAIR DAN MCGINNIS 330-618-1720

Address: Rolling Thunder Chapter 1 Ohio
P. O. Box 1145
Mentor, OH 44060

Web Site Address: www.rollingthunder1ohio.org
Webmaster: CHIP KETTLER 330-472-0871
Please send any pictures you may have to Chip at
ckettler6480@yahoo.com

Check us out on Facebook: Rolling Thunder
Chapter1 Ohio

MISSION STATEMENT

THE MAJOR FUNCTION OF ROLLING THUNDER®
INC. IS TO PUBLICIZE THE POW-MIA ISSUE: TO
EDUCATE THE PUBLIC THAT MANY AMERICAN
PRISONERS OF WAR WERE LEFT BEHIND AFTER
ALL PREVIOUS WARS, AND TO HELP CORRECT
THE PAST AND TO PROTECT FUTURE VETERANS
FROM BEING LEFT BEHIND SHOULD THEY
BECOME PRISONERS OF WAR-MISSING IN ACTION.
WE ARE ALSO COMMITTED TO HELPING
AMERICAN VETERANS FROM ALL WARS.

EACH AND EVERY INDIVIDUAL DONATES HIS OR
HER TIME BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE IN THE ISSUES
AT HAND.

Our Adopted MIA/POW – Gregory Harris



Remains Identified

WWII Remains Identified:

U.S. Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Bobby J. Younger
U.S. Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Thomas M. McGraw
U.S. Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Robert O.
Shoemaker
U.S. Army Air Forces Tech Sgt. Allen A. Chandler, Jr.
U.S. Army Air Forces Tech Sgt. John F. Brady
U.S. Army Pfc. Billy R. Ball
USMC Pfc. Harold V. Thomas
U.S. Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Robert L. Maine
U.S. Navy Fireman 1st Class Gerald H. Pirtle
U.S. Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Donald E. Underwood
U.S. Navy Fireman 1st Class Charles R. Ogle
U.S. Navy Fireman 2nd Class John D. Wheeler
U.S. Army Air Forces Sgt. Charles H. Daman
U.S. Navy Water Tender 2nd Class Porter L. Rich
U.S. Navy Seaman 2nd Class George J. Wilcox
U.S. Army Pvt. Shirley E. Bailey
U.S. Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Homer A. Spence
U.S. Army Air Forces Tech Sgt. John S. Bailey
USMC Res. 2nd Lt. Elwood R. Bailey
USMC Pvt. John M. Tillman
U.S. Navy Storekeeper 3rd Class Eli Olsen
U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class Clifford G. Goodwin
U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class Joseph M. Johnson
U.S. Navy Storekeeper 3rd Class Wallace E. Eakes
USMC Pfc. Harold P. Hannon

Korean War Remains Identified:

U.S. Army Pfc. James J. Leonard
U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Elmore B. Goodwin
U.S. Army Pfc. Leroy W. Bryant
U.S. Army Cpl. Donald L. Baer
U.S. Army Maj. Stephen T. Uurtamo
U.S. Army Pfc. Willie E. Blue
USMC Res. Sgt. Johnson McAfee, Jr.
U.S. Army Sgt. Kermit J. Lejeune

Government Affairs by Gus Dante (Federal Legislative & Government Affairs for National chapter) - UPDATE

Gus Dante reported that all is going well in the process to place the POW/MIA Chair in Emancipation Hall at the Capitol Building. In mid-September delivery of the plaque is expected. In speaking with Representatives Lynch and Warren's offices, a Resolution is required to close down Emancipation Hall of the Capitol building for an hour and half for the Dedication. We are looking at early November or Veterans Day.

Regarding the Bill to place the POW Flag at the White House and Capitol we do not have the necessary co-sponsors as of yet. The resistance of some to the new Trump administration prevents work being done. Gus remarked that the best way to contact your elected representative is email and phone as letters get delayed in processing.

To take action: Go to <http://www.govtrack.us/>. Search and review a bill or bills of interest, go to the website listed for your US Representatives or US Senators and send letters, e-mails and or faxes requesting an action (preferably in writing) to be taken such as to cosponsor the bill or support getting the bill/resolution to the floor for a vote. Or, call their DC office and ask to speak to their Military or Veteran Affairs staffer and request that an action be taken.

Remember: You are the voice of our POW and MIAs.

*To date there are still only three co-sponsors to this bill—none from OHIO.
Get those letters sent!*

Below is a listing of the Ohio representatives.

District	Name	Room	Phone
1	Chabot, Steve	2371 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-2216
2	Wenstrup, Brad	2419 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-3164

District	Name	Room	Phone
3	Beatty, Joyce	133 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-4324
4	Jordan, Jim	2056 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-2676
5	Latta, Robert E.	2448 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-6405
6	Johnson, Bill	1710 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-5705
7	Gibbs, Bob	2446 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-6265
8	Davidson, Warren	1004 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-6205
9	Kaptur, Marcy	2186 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-4146
10	Turner, Michael	2368 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-6465
11	Fudge, Marcia L.	2344 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-7032
12	Tiberi, Pat	1203 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-5355
13	Ryan, Tim	1126 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-5261
14	Joyce, David	1124 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-5731
15	Stivers, Steve	1022 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-2015
16	Renacci, Jim	328 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-3876

Other bills that are being worked on:

H. Res. 219- Rep. Walker R-NC-6: Establishing a Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs.

H. Res. 129/ S.61: Calling on the DOD, other elements of the federal Government and foreign governments to intensify effort to investigate, recover, and identify all missing and unaccounted for US personnel.

H.R. 299/ S. 422: Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2017.

For information on these bills go to links:

<https://www.congress.gov> or <https://www.govtrack.us/accounts/login>

More information may be found on the Rolling Thunder, Inc. National's website under the heading "Government Affairs"
www.rollingthunder1.com

Chaplain's Corner

(Submitted by Dan McGinnis)

The Perfect Prayer Partner

Few sounds are as beautiful as hearing someone who loves you praying for you. When you hear a friend pray for you with compassion and God-given insight, it's a little like heaven touching earth.

How good it is to know that because of God's kindness to us our prayers can also touch heaven. Sometimes when we pray we may struggle with words and feelings of inadequacy, but Jesus taught His followers that we "should always pray and not give up" (Luke 18:1). God's Word shows us that one of the reasons we can do this is that Jesus Himself "is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us" (Rom. 8:34).

We never pray alone, because Jesus is praying for us. He hears us as we pray, and speaks to the Father on our behalf. We don't have to worry about the eloquence of our words, because no one understands us like Jesus. He helps us in every way, presenting our needs before God. He also knows when the answers we ask for would not be good for us, handling every request or concern with perfect wisdom and love. Jesus is the perfect prayer partner—the friend who intercedes for us with immeasurable kindness. His prayers for us are beautiful beyond words, and should encourage us to always pray with thankfulness.

Thank You, Lord Jesus, for interceding for me with love. Help me to love and serve You with my prayers today.

There's no greater privilege than praying with Jesus.

Call to Action

Bring Our Heroes Home Act: This bill has been reintroduced to this Congress by Sen. Dean Heller of Nevada. The BOHHA has been newly named S. 120. The bill will mandate the release of POW debriefings, intel reports, and more. Senate cosponsors are needed to move the bill out of committee. One has signed on (Sen. Crapo, ID). Please reach out to your Senators and explain how important declassification is to you and ask them to co-sponsor the bill. It does not matter if you are a family member and it is important to your case or because you are a concerned citizen. Without your voice our Senators will not take action!

Bring Our Heroes Home Act

This bill: (1) requires the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) to establish the Missing Armed Forces Personnel Records Collection; and (2) establishes the Missing Armed Forces Personnel Records Review Board, which shall require all missing Armed Forces personnel records to be transmitted to NARA and disclosed to the public in the collection.

Each government office shall: (1) identify, review, and organize each such record in its possession for transmission to NARA; and (2) identify and review for public disclosure each such record previously transferred to NARA that remains classified.

Each presidential archival depository shall: (1) have as a priority the expedited review for public disclosure of such records in its possession, and (2) make such records available to the board.

NARA shall: (1) make each such record identified as classified available for review by the originating body, and (2) prepare and make available to all government offices a standard form for collecting information relating to such records,

All such records shall be publicly disclosed in full and made available in the collection within five years after enactment of this bill unless the President certifies that: (1) postponement is necessary because of an identifiable harm to the military defense, intelligence operations, or conduct of foreign relations; and (2) the harm is of such gravity that it outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

The Board shall: (1) render a decision on a determination of a government office to postpone the disclosure of any such record; (2) determine, within two years after enactment of this bill, whether all government offices have complied with it; (3) terminate after four years; and (4) transfer all of its records to NARA for inclusion in the collection.

The Board may request the Attorney General to petition any U.S. or foreign court to release information relevant to the loss, fate, or status of missing Armed Forces personnel that is held under seal of such court.

***ROLLING THUNDER®*, INC. XXX**
MESSAGE POINTS
(Revised November 2017)

H.R. 504 - To amend title 36, United States Code, to require that the POW/MIA flag be displayed on all days that the flag of the United States is displayed on certain Federal property.

Sponsor: Rep. Lance, Leonard R-NJ-7, Introduced 01/12/17, Committee: House-Judiciary

Latest Action: 02/06/2017 Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.

Cosponsors: 3 as of 06/22/17

H.R. 299 - To amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes.

Short Title: "Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2017".

Sponsor: Rep. Valadao, David G. R-CA-21, Introduced 01/05/17, Committee: House-Veterans' Affairs

Latest Action: 04/05/17 Subcommittee Hearings Held.

Cosponsors: 307 as of 10/04/17

S. 422 - To amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes.

Short Title: "Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2017".

Sponsor: Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. D-NY, Introduced 02/16/17, Committee: Senate-Veterans' Affairs

Latest Action: 02/16/17 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Cosponsors: 42 as of 05/11/17

H. Res. 129 - Calling on the Department of Defense, other elements of the Federal Government, and foreign governments to intensify efforts to investigate, recover, and identify all missing and unaccounted-for personnel of the United States.

Sponsor: Rep. Johnson, Sam R-TX-3, Introduced 02/15/17, Committees: House-Foreign Affairs, Armed Services

Latest Action: 02/24/17 Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

Cosponsors: 94 as of 10/03/17

S. Res. 61 - Calling on the Department of Defense, other elements of the Federal Government, and foreign governments to intensify efforts to investigate, recover, and identify all missing and unaccounted-for personnel of the United States.

Sponsor: Sen. McCain, John R-AZ, Introduced 02/15/17, Committee: Senate-Foreign Relations

Latest Action: 02/15/17 Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Cosponsors: 5 as of 09/28/17

H. Res. 219 - Establishing a Select Committee on POW and MIA Affairs.

Sponsor: Rep. Walker, Mark R-NC-6, Introduced 03/21/17, Committee: House-Rules

Latest Action: 03/21/17 Referred to the House Committee on Rules.

Cosponsors: 8 as of 09/18/17

Why is the POW/MIA flag NOT displayed over the White House/US Capitol as during previous administrations?

What can be done to eliminate Homelessness/Suicide among Veterans' of the United States?

What can be done to assist Veterans' from all wars who suffer from PTSD and other service related injuries? **NOTE: All injuries are not visible.

What can you/we do to eliminate the Backlog of VA Claims?

Backlog of VA Claims as of September 30th, 2017:

Compensation and Pension Entitlement Nationwide

as of:	# Pending	Over 125 days	% Over125days	# Appeals Pending
September 30 th , 2017	330,820	74,331	22.5%	279,555 **

** Appeals pending under Veterans' Benefits Administration (VBA) control.

For more information, please contact the Rolling Thunder®, Inc. National Government and Veterans' Affairs Committee Edward Rutledge, Chairman at harleyd4u1@aol.com or 317-363-1922 or Gus Dante at 908-240-3201 or at adantesp4@comcast.net. Please visit the Rolling Thunder®, Inc. National website at www.rollingthunder1.com.

"America's POW/MIA's will never die until they are forgotten."

NEVER FORGET!!