

The Thunder Gazette

Published by Rolling Thunder® Inc. Chapter 1 Ohio

July, 2016

PLEASE NOTE

OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE HELD AT

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

**SUNDAY, July 17, 2016
2:00 p.m.**

There will be no Board meeting.

Nominations will begin this month at the membership meeting for the positions of president, secretary, and 3 board positions (Mike Neilan, Ted Pilny & Larry Felean are the 3 board members whose positions are up for nominations). Nominations will again be taken at the August meeting.

To be eligible for the position of chapter president, a member must have held a chapter executive officer position or been a member of the Board of Directors for 12 months prior to being nominated. To be nominated and/or elected for any other officer position, a Chapter member must be a member in good standing for a period of one (1) year or longer. The person must be a full member at the time of the nomination and have earned their patches. The member must also have attended six (6) meetings prior to nominations in the past twelve (12) months. You must be present at time of nomination to accept the nomination. Elections will be held at the September membership meeting. If you have someone in mind to nominate for any of these positions, please discuss with that person before nominating them.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, July 17, 2016 - Membership Meeting
2:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, July 23, 2016 - Picnic for veterans at
Wade Park - 9:30 a.m.**

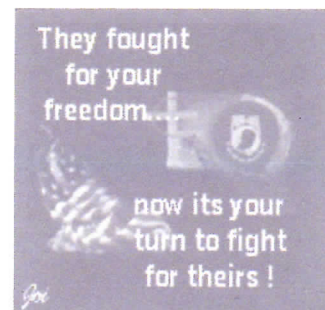
**Saturday, July 30, 2016 - Moving Wall at
American Legion, Post 678 - Eastlake, OH - 12:00
p.m. We will have our trailer there.**

**Thursday, August 11, 2016 - Elvis Night - This has
changed. Elvis will be at the Northfield Rocksino,
and our chapter is not participating.**

**Saturday, August 13, 2016 - American Legion
Riders POW/MIA Rittman Run to Ohio Western
Reserve Cemetery, Rittman, OH - Stage at: Brook
Park Rec. Center, 17400 Holland Rd., Brook Park, OH
11:00 a.m. Kickstands up at noon. Free run. Ceremony
time: 1:15 p.m.**

**Saturday, August 13, 2016 - Veterans
Appreciation Dinner at St. Helen's Catholic Church,
12060 Kinsman Rd. (St. Rt. 87), Newbury, OH - Doors
open at 5:00. Buffet begins at 6:00 p.m. - No charge
for veterans, everyone else \$20. Put on by Feed My
Sheep.**

**Wednesday, August 17, 2016 - Transition Home
visit - 6:00 p.m. - Pizza party**



**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

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TED PILNY 216-346-6407
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LARRY FELEAN 440-439-4914
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MIKE NEILAN 440-241-2655
(ALTERNATE) CHUCK KETTLER 330-273-5102

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
JIM COZZARIN 440-255-6464

NEWSLETTER STAFF
CHERYL PILNY 440-543-8468

PLATOON LEADERS:

#1 MIKE NEILAN 440-241-2655

#2 PAT MALONE 440-232-1088

#3 TOM BLECHSCHMID 440-349-2470

#4 SALLY FELEAN 440-439-4914

#5 JEAN CHASE 330-467-1494

#6 VIKKI CARROLL 440-283-7766

#7 SUSAN BAILEY 440-639-2222

STATE LIASION AL KECK 216-332-1780
Cell: 216-374-3310

ASST. STATE LIASION
TY GEISER 330-466-0086

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

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

CLAUDETTE WLASUK 216-281-8810
VIKKI CARROLL 440-283-7766

COORDINATOR FOR WADE PARK VISITS

VICKI CARROLL 440-283-7766

EVENTS CHAIR DAVE BUSH 216-408-2639

PUBLIC RELATIONS CHUCK KETTLER 330-273-5102

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

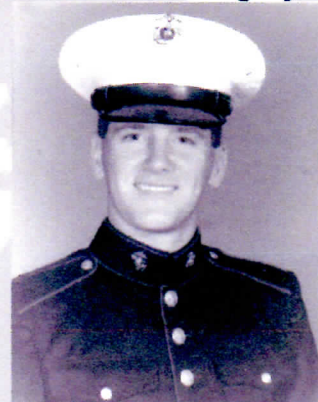
**Check us out on Facebook: Rolling Thunder
Chapter1 Ohio**

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



OUR VETERANS NEED STUFF

We are collecting items for the inpatients at the VA Hospital at every meeting. Please help our veterans who have served our country honorably. Here is the monthly list (socks are always welcome):

January	Body wash
February	Deodorant
March	Toothpaste/Brush
April	Shaving Cream
May	Denture cleaner
June	Shampoo/conditioner
July	Body wash
August	Deodorant
September	Toothpaste/Brush
October	Shaving Cream
November	Lotion
December	Shampoo/conditioner

As most of you already know, one of our members, Roger Spies, was injured in a motorcycle accident on his way back from Washington, D.C. over the Memorial Day weekend. He is out of the hospital and home and well on his way to recovery. We are so thankful for this. Roger sent this note to Winston:

Winston,

Please extend my thanks to all the people who sent cards. The doctors all are surprised by my fast road to full recovery. I feel the cards helped. I still have many doctors appointments , speech & physical therapy sessions. I wanted to go to the next meeting to tell them my self but I am told I should not drive. I am able to go to several parties for Rachael's friends from collage and Hannah's from high school, the two both graduated this year, so Louise (Trixie) my wife does all the driving.

It was good to see you and several members on the 2nd. I will not be able to drive until next month.

Thanks ,Roger

Remains Identified

Korean War Remains Identified:

U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Lawrence Smith

U.S. Army Master Sgt. Charles J. Brown

U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer Adolphus Nava

As we continue to move forward through the 114th Congress, we are making significant progress. With the recent introduction of H. Res. 590: Establishing a Select Committee on POW and MIA Affairs, a committee that will conduct a full investigation of all unresolved matters relating to any United States personnel unaccounted for from the Vietnam era, the Korean conflict, World War II, Cold War Missions, Persian Gulf War, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation Enduring Freedom, including MIAs and POWs missing and captured, we as an organization need to do our part with contacting our representatives in the House and seek their support and co-sponsorship. Please contact your Reps. by phone, e-mail, letters and or personal visit. We are seeking 100% compliance!

To date, there are 41 co-sponsors for this bill, including only one Ohio representative.

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

District	Name	Address	Phone
1	Chabot, Steve	2371 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	202-225-2216
2	Wenstrup, Brad	1318 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	202-225-3164
3	Beatty, Joyce	133 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	202-225-4324
4	Jordan, Jim	1524 Longworth 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	329 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	202-225-6265
8	Davidson, Warren	1011 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	202-225-6205

District	Name	Address	Phone
9	Kaptur, Marcy	2186 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	202-225-4146
10	Turner, Michael	2239 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	1421 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

The original Toxic Exposure Act of 2016 (H.R. 1769 / S-901) went from 19 pages to 331 pages when it was merged with a number of other Veteran related legislation.

The new H.R. 5286 was pulled from the floor by the VFW and DAV shortly before it was to be voted on. If this legislation is not voted on and passed this summer we will have to start over again in January with the new congress.

So please have your members and anyone else who will help call:

The Speaker of the House Paul Ryan at 202-225-0600
(Chief of Staff- Mike Sommer)
Ask him to move H.R. 5286 back to the house floor for a vote.

These representatives may also be of help:

Rep. Jeff Miller Chair. of (Veterans Affairs)--Maj. Staff Dir. Jon Tower--- 202-225-3527 at VA Office.

Rep. Corrine Brown Ranking. Member (Veterans Affairs)--- Min. Staff Dir. Don Phillips.

We need to make The Speaker of the House hear our opinions. We are very close to getting this legislation passed because of the hard work of a lot of our members. We just need to make this last effort.

Thank you

Tom D'Alessio
Rolling Thunder® Inc.
National Vice President

Anyone Interested in escorting the Moving Wall --

To all, just want to send out a reminder of the Wall escort coming to Middleburg Hts on Monday July 18th. The escort will stage @ the NORTHBOUND Rest Area on Interstate 71 which is located between the Rte 3 exit and Rte 303 exit at Mile marker 224, staging will begin at 4pm and roll at 5pm. This is a Police escort which will be led by U S Army jeep with two Korean War Veterans, Mayor of Middleburg and a Silver Star Recipient from Viet Nam on board. If you are unable to ride in this event we are asking you to come out and show your support by lining Pearl Rd from 71 to Bagley Rd and Bagley to the Commons. Riders - if you could please bring your kickstand plate as there may not be enough parking on the lot to accommodate all the bikes. This event is open to all riders so help pass the word. Damon's will be providing food for the ESCORT RIDERS ONLY so if you could let me know the number of riders you have for this event please let me know as soon as possible.

Also, anyone willing to volunteer at the Wall please let me know,

God Bless,
John Hohne, VP
Rolling Thunder Ch 8, Ohio
440-382-1578

If you are a veteran and willing to give some of your time to be a mentor to another veteran please contact Sean Ennis at

s.ennis@sbcglobal.net . Sean is the mentor coordinator for the Veterans Court. This is an excellent opportunity to assist other veterans who can use some common sense advice from another veteran. If you would first like to observe the proceeding, they take place at 2:00 PM every Thursday in courtroom 15D at the Justice Center. No special qualifications except the requirement that you are a veteran.

Medals of Honor History

On July 12, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln approved the legislation authorizing the preparation of 2,000 Medals of Honor (MoH) to "be presented, in the name of the Congress, to such non-commissioned officers and privates as shall most distinguish themselves by their gallantry in action, and other soldier-like qualities."

During the Civil War, U.S. Army Private Jacob Parrott, from Fairfield County, Ohio, was the first recipient of the MoH on March 25, 1863.

According to the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, since then, there have been 3,497 recipients of the MoH. Currently, there are 76 living recipients of the MoH.

Colonel (then Captain) Roger Donlon, **U.S. Army**, Ret. was the first U.S. servicemember (and the first special forces member) to be awarded the medal for actions during the Vietnam War.



While serving as the commanding officer of the U.S. Army Special Forces Detachment A-726, Captain Donlon and his Special Forces team were attacked by Viet Cong on July 6, 1964.

While two of his fellow comrades were killed, Captain Dolon, who was shot in the stomach and unded three more times during the attack, continued to fight.

After being award the Medal of Honor by President Lyndon Johnson, Captain Donlon commented to the president, "The medal belongs to them, too."

Vietnam Magazine has scheduled an interview with Colonel Donlon that will appear in an upcoming issue.

Compiled by MSgt Rob Wilkins, USAF, Ret.

Chaplain's Corner

(submitted by Dan McGinnis)



The Eagle does not fight the snake on the ground. It picks it up into the sky and changes the battle ground, and then it releases the snake into the sky. The snake has no stamina, no power and no balance in the air. It is useless, weak and vulnerable unlike on the ground where it is powerful wise and deadly. Take your fight into the spiritual realm by praying and when you are in the spiritual realm God takes over your battles.

Don't fight the enemy in his comfort zone, change the battle grounds like the Eagle and let God take charge through your earnest prayer. You'll be assured of clean victory. Pray without ceasing.