

The Thunder Gazette

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December, 2017

PLEASE NOTE

OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP

MEETING WILL BE HELD AT

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

SUNDAY, December 16, 2017

2:00 p.m.

Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.

We will be having a pot luck buffet immediately following the meeting. Bring a dish to pass and come and celebrate the season.

Our veterans need socks. We will be collecting socks at each meeting.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, December 16, 2017 - Wreaths

Across America - Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery, Rittman, OH. 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 17, 2017 - Board/

Membership Meeting - 1:00/2:00 p.m. - Pot luck immediately following the meeting.

Veterans Advocate Information:

Christmas isn't happy for all. Here are numbers that may be of help. In addition to these, your local vet orgs are another source of help. Some places to share like VFW, AL, Rolling Thunder®, DAV, AMVET.

Offices are located in Federal Bldg (east 9th) Cleveland, Ohio. There are also some advocate offices at Wade Park. Services are no charge.

American Veterans (AMVETS), Room 1017E, 216-522-3500

American Legion (AL), Room 923, 216-522-3504
Disabled American Veterans (DAV), Room 1017B, 216-522-3507

Jewish War Veterans (JWV), Room 1023, 216-522-2446

Marine Corps League (MCL), Room 1360, 216-522-3515

Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH), Room 1023, 216-522-7237

Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), Room 1027, 216-522-7709

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Room 1013A, 216-522-3510

Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA), Room 1013B, 216-522-3119

County Veterans Service officer and the Disabled American Veterans are also providing assistance at the Parma Outpatient Clinic on Brook Park Road too.

Cuyahoga Veteran Service Commission
site: <http://vsc.cuyahogacounty.us/>; (for those outside Cuyahoga county, contact them for locations . . . or use your search engine for (example) Lorain County Veteran service commission.

Veterans Suicide Hotline 1-800-273-8255

**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
TOM THOMPSON 513-616-9887

WE CARE YVONNE GIERMAN 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 2nd Lt. William H, Harth, Jr.
U.S. Navy Fireman 2nd Class Martin A Gara
U.S. Navy Reserve Radioman 2nd Class
Julius H.O. Pieper
USMC Reserve 1st Sgt. David H. Quinn
USMC Reserve Pvt. Emil F. Ragucci
USMC Pfc. Lyle E. Charpiloz

Korean War Remains Identified:

U.S. Army Sgt. Ollie E. Shepard

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

We are continuing to "push" the following pieces of legislation: H. Res. 129/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. H. Res. 219 - Establishing a Select Committee on POW and MIA Affairs. H. R. 299/S. 422 - Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 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. NOTE: For information in reference to these and other POW/MIA and Veterans' legislation as well as current cosponsors and bill status, committee assignments, etc. please visit <https://www.congress.gov> or <https://www.govtrack.us/accounts/login/?next=/accounts/lists> These websites are very good resources and extremely user-friendly. Information in reference to talking points for our current bills of top priority can be found on the "Government Affairs" page on the National website. Please feel free to use any of this

information when speaking, corresponding and or meeting with your MOC's

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.

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.

*To date there are still only FOUR 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
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	<u>Johnson, Bill</u>	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,	202-225-6465

District	Name	Room	Phone
		Washington, DC 20515	
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

order to save us. God's greatest gift came in the fragile body of a baby, but God took the risk because He loves us. Let us be thankful today for such a gift!

Dear Lord, the Strong and Mighty One, I thank You for becoming small and fragile on that day long ago. It amazes me that You did that for me and the rest of Your world.

May you know the peace of Christmas every day of the year.

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)

A Fragile Gift

When we give a fragile gift, we make sure it is marked on the box that contains it. The word "fragile" is written with big letters because we don't want anyone to damage what is inside.

God's gift to us came in the most fragile package: a baby. Sometimes we imagine Christmas day as a beautiful scene on a postcard, but any mother can tell you it wasn't so. Mary was tired, probably insecure. It was her first child, and He was born in the most unsanitary conditions. She "wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn" (Luke 2:7 NKJV).

A baby needs constant care. Babies cry, eat, sleep, and depend on their caregivers. They cannot make decisions. In Mary's day, infant mortality was high, and mothers often died in childbirth.

Why did God choose such a fragile way to send His Son to earth? Because Jesus had to be like us in

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



The Veterans of Iraq & Afghanistan Owe Thanks and Gratitude to Vietnam Veterans

By Chad Storlie, Adjunct Professor of Marketing, Creighton University & Retired US Army Lieutenant Colonel (Special Forces)

I was speaking to a group of small business owners a few days ago about the benefits of military service and hiring military veterans for their businesses. As I received their still very special, "Thank You for Your Service," compliments following my talk, I realized that the public displays of gratitude for military service have their origins in the failure to honor, recognize, and respect military veterans from the Vietnam War upon their return. In so many ways, my generation of military veterans owes an incredible debt of gratitude and respect to the actions that the Vietnam War military veterans took to create a world-class military.

Vietnam Veterans Fought As Brothers In A War That Divided the Country. One of the truly unappreciated themes of the Vietnam War is the quality, professionalism, and sacrifice of the US military in Vietnam when the country was rife with racial, political, and societal strife. Daily in the Vietnam War military personnel performed heroic acts, combat operations, logistical support, medical training, civilian support operations, and the myriad of other tasks that a deployed military force needs to operate successfully. This extreme professionalism and sacrifice by service members for each other in an unpopular war is one of my greatest areas of gratitude to Vietnam Veterans.

Vietnam Veterans Gave The Military An Extreme Focus on Training. The best action that can be done for a military service member and a military force is difficult, challenging, and realistic combat training. I was just joining the US Army as the last generation of Vietnam War military veterans were in their final years of active service. My military training was marked by back crushing road marches, how to render life-saving first aid, how to work with foreign military forces, and how to train to instantly assume the role of a military leader when the current leader was "injured." These lessons all came from the truth that Vietnam War veterans experienced in their jungle battlefield. True to their service, they did not forget these lessons but ensured my generation learned them before we entered combat.

Vietnam Veterans Personally Re-entered Society with Honor & Vibrancy. Vietnam Veterans were given so little when they returned home, but they gave so much back. Vietnam War veterans became business people, nurses, entrepreneurs, civil rights leaders, doctors, inventors, politicians, government officials, teachers, parents, and leading members in society. What is so remarkable is that as the country turned away from their military service, they turned toward the country in terms of what more they could provide to make the country better. The lesson for my generation of military veterans is clear, we can and need to do more to create an even better United States.

Vietnam Veterans Innovated A Military Force That Was Technologically Superior. The military technology of the Vietnam War is scantily recognizable to today's military. The Global Positioning System (GPS), scopes on nearly all combat rifles, 1st round accuracy on artillery systems, thermal sights on attack helicopters, armed drones, night vision devices, and scores of other improvements create a well-armed, well trained, and well led military. These innovations and improvements came from thousands of Vietnam Veterans who recognized that US military technology needed to improve quickly and drastically.

On Veteran's Day, seek out, discover, and listen to the stories of service and sacrifice of Vietnam Veterans. The thanks, respect, hiring programs, and post-military treatment that the military veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan receive today is due in large part to the sense of gratitude for military service that was missing for military veterans of Vietnam. The United States owes more thanks and gratitude to this "great" generation of military veterans.

Chad Storlie is an Adjunct Professor of Marketing at Creighton University, an Iraq Combat Veteran, and a Retired US Army Special Forces Officer. Follow Chad Storlie on Twitter @CombatToCorp and Connect on LinkedIn. ChadwickStorlie@Creighton.edu