

The Thunder Gazette

Published by Rolling Thunder® Inc. Chapter 1 Ohio

April, 2018

PLEASE NOTE

OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP

MEETING WILL BE HELD AT

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

**SUNDAY, April 15, 2018
2:00 p.m.**

Chili cook-off – Bring your best pot of chili

Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.

Our veterans need white socks. We will be collecting white 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.**

IF ANYONE HAS ANY OUTSTANDING NATIONAL BIKE RAFFLE TICKETS AND/OR MONEY, IT NEEDS TO BE TURNED IN ON SUNDAY.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday, April 14, 2018 - Domiciliary cook-in -
Arrive at 11:30 a.m. - serve at noon**

Sunday, April 15, 2018 - Board/Membership Meeting - 1:00/2:00 p.m. - Chili cook-off

**Saturday, April 28, 2018 - Wade Park Visit -
Bingo 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, April 29, 2018 - Rally For the Troops
The trailer will be at Rock & Roll Harley Davidson**

Tuesday, May 8, 2018 - Escort of the Red Tail Squadron Tribute to the Tuskegee Airmen "Rise Above" traveling exhibit to Wayne County Airport

Wednesday, May 9, 2018 - Sunday, May 13, 2018 - Tuskegee Airman Exhibit and Museum - Wayne County Airport - See attached flyer.

**Saturday, May 12 & Sunday, May 13, 2018 -
Mentor Walmart - 10:00 a.m.**

Saturday, May 12, 2018 - Blessing of the Bikes, VFW Post 6768 - 9:00 to 11:00. Breakfast available \$6.00. Bike Blessing at 11:30. Short ride afterward, return to post for beer, pop and brats.



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

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TREASURER ANDY KLUSH 330-620-6047

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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 Staff Sgt. Leo J. Husak
USMC Reserve Pfc. Joe Lukie
USMC 2nd Lt. Harvel L. Moore
U.S. Navy Gunner's Mate 2nd Class William F. Hellstern
U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class Henry G. Tipton
U.S. Navy Machinist's Mate 3rd Class George H. Gibson
USMC Reserve Pfc. Herman W. Mulligan, Jr.
U.S. Army Air Forces 1st Lt. William W. Shank
U.S. Navy Radioman 3rd Class Howard V. Keffer
U.S. Army Staff Sgt. David Rosenkrantz
U.S. Navy Fireman 1st Class Jarvis G. Outland
U.S. Army Air Forces Capt. Geore Van Vleet
U.S. Navy Radioman 3rd Class Jack R. Goldwater
U.S. Navy Seaman 2nd Class Bernard V. Doyle
U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class Walter C. Foley
U.S. Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Percy C. Mathews
U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class William G. Bruesewitz
U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class Robert V. Young
U.S. Navy Chief Machinist's Mate Dean S. Sanders

Korean War Remains Identified:

U.S. Army Cpl. Leonard V. Purkapile
U.S. Army Sgt. Julius E. McKinney
U.S. Army Cpl. James I. Jubb
U.S. Army Sgt. Donald L. Baker
U.S. Army Cpl. Thomas W. Reagan

Viet Nam War Remains Identified:

U.S. Army Lt. Col. Robert G. Nopp
U.S. Air Force Col. Peter J. Stewart
U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Marshall F. Kipina

Government Affairs by Ed Rutledge (Federal Legislative & Government Affairs for National chapter) - UPDATE

Report submitted by Gus Dante Part (1) ASKING FOR COSPONSORS: 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. With 7 cosponsors and a few more to be added at the end of the month I urge all Rolling Thunder Inc. Chapters Presidents and other veteran organizations to have their members call, email, or visit members of

Congress while they are in their district offices or the DC offices. Ask them to cosponsor this bill H.R. 504. This is a bipartisan issue. No CBO (Congressional Budget Office) involved. Both the POW/MIA Chair of Honor that Rolling Thunder Inc. National placed in the Emancipation Hall on Nov. 8, 2017 in the U.S. Capitol, and the POW/MIA flag flying on ALL DAYS that the American flag is displayed, will be a reminder to the families of our missing and to the public that our government has not forgotten those that did not come home. Tell your representative to Contact John Byers at Rep. Lance office 202-225-5361 to sign on as a co-sponsor.

Part (2) CONTINUING TO CONTACT COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Action on H.R. 504: Held up in the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. I would appreciate Rolling Thunder Inc. Presidents, and members that are constituents of Members of the Subcommittee to continue to follow up with their House members, who are part of the Judiciary Subcommittee of Constitution and Civil Justice to move this piece of legislation out of committee and to the House floor for a vote. Committee Members: Rep. Steve King Chair of the Subcommittee Iowa 4th District Rep. Ron Desantis Florida 6th Rep. Louie Gohmert Texas 1st Rep. Karen Handel Georgia 6th Rep. Steven Cohen Tennessee 9th Rep. Jamie Raskin Maryland 8th Rep. Ted Deutch Florida 22nd Thank You all for your continuing help in this matter Gus Dante

I understand that getting a hold of your Members of Congress (MOC), communicating with your MOC's is not only challenging and difficult at times, but we must continue to "press" forward by doing our part to keep our concerns/issues on the "doorstep" of our MOC's as well as continue to seek support with getting the Bills/Legislation we support to the "floor" for a vote! This is very important for our American POW/MIA's, Veterans' and our organization! Please keep in mind that these Bills/Legislation will "die" at the conclusion of the 115th Congress which will cause these Bills/Legislation to have to be reintroduced during the 116th Congress! Please continue to make contact with your MOC's by visiting their offices and writing letter requesting for the support (if they are not already a cosponsor), or request they request that the Bills/Legislation are taken to the "floor" for a vote! If you need "sample" letters or information in

reference to Bills/Legislation, please send me an e-mail and I will help you and or send you information and or help you the best I can! Might I suggest that you contact and or send letters to Representative Paul Ryan, Speaker of the House, Senator Mitch McConnell, Majority Leader as well as members (preferable Ranking, Majority and Minority Leaders) whom "sit" on a Committee where these Bills/Legislation current "sit" stagnate! Please continue to follow the Bills/Legislation that we currently support and check for any updates.

We are continuing to "push" the following pieces of legislation:

H. Res. 129 (120 co-sponsors)/S. Res. 61 (8 co-sponsors) - 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 (8 co-sponsors) - Establishing a Select Committee on POW and MIA Affairs.

H. R. 299 (328 co-sponsors)/S. 422 (49 co-sponsors) - 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 only EIGHT 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	2166 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

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

Vietnam commission's Certificate of Honor program pays tribute to POWs, spouses and families

In addition to providing lapel pins for Vietnam War-period veterans, the Vietnam War Commemoration has four certificates available to honor specific groups of veterans and family members.

The Certificate of Honor program recognizes individuals in these four categories:

- Living former prisoners of war from the Vietnam War, as listed by the Defense Department.
- Immediate family members of U.S. military personnel listed by DoD as missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War.
- Immediate family members of veterans listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.
- Surviving spouses (from time of death) of a veteran who served between Nov. 1, 1955, and May 15, 1975.

Those eligible for the above awards must obtain them through a commemorative partner — a local organization that works with the commission.

To find out more about partners in your area, as well as specific eligibility requirements, visit www.vietnamwar50th.com, call the commemoration offices at 877-387-9951, or email vnwar50th_coh@mail.mil.

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

March was Women's History month, so in their honor:

Vietnam Women's Memorial Honors Thousands Who Courageously Served by BY JACOB H FROM THEVETERANSITE.COM



Diane Carlson Evans was 21 when she volunteered to serve with the U.S. Army Corps as a nurse in Vietnam. Along with thousands of other women, she bravely risked her life to help save those injured on the battlefields and jungles. She was immensely proud of what she and the other women who served had done for their country and the soldiers they saved. But when she returned home, she found that the thousands of women who served were going completely unrecognized — both by the public and the government.

In 1984 when the Vietnam War Memorial Wall was dedicated in Washington, D.C., Evans felt left out. More importantly for her, she saw that all of the women who served were being overlooked. So she decided to lead the effort for a women's memorial that would honor those who served alongside the men and bring awareness to the work women had done serving in the military.

It was a long battle to get the Vietnam Women's Memorial approved, built and dedicated on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., but for Evans and other women who served, it was well worth the years of struggle just to be recognized. On November 11, 1993, the memorial was officially dedicated and stands to this day as a reminder of the 265,000 women who volunteered and served in the Vietnam War.

Evans started the campaign for a women's memorial in 1984, and years of advocating for the women who served saw her meet with veterans organizations, government leaders and officials, congressional hearings and memorial commissions, and eventually

had to get a bill passed through Congress. It wasn't easy, but it was worth it.

"The head of the commission said he didn't want to open floodgates for other proposals for memorials," Evans said in an interview about the process. "The Canine Corps had a proposal for a memorial, and he said if we give the women a monument, the Canine Corps will want theirs. And that's when Morley Safer of 60 Minutes called me to ask if I would talk about the memorial and why it was denied."

It was that interview on 60 Minutes that turned the tides for the women's memorial movement, bringing national attention to the issue where Evans had before only been faced with indifference, animosity or the "Bronze Ceiling." As support grew for the women's memorial — much of which came from male veterans — the years of work and grassroots efforts paid off and in 1993 Glenna Goodacre's bronze statue of three women and a wounded male soldier was dedicated as the national Vietnam Women's Memorial.

"I looked out on the sea of people who were there, and I felt this enormous sense of pride, pride that the people in this country, the Americans, did get behind us, and that's why that memorial was there," Evans said of seeing the Vietnam Women's Memorial finally dedicated on the National Mall. The struggle for Evans, like so many other Vietnam veterans, started long before her fight to get a memorial for the women who served. It started the moment they returned home from the war, due to the anti-war sentiments in the country which turned into anti-troop sentiments. The brave men and women who volunteered or were drafted into the war were met with disdain back here in the States.

"When we landed, we were given a briefing and told not to go out in our uniforms, not to be seen in the streets," Jackie Rhoads, a surgical nurse, told 60 Minutes. "And I remember how confused I was at that time, because I thought, 'Well, God, we've done good. We've saved a lot of lives. I know we've saved a lot of lives.'"

Today the Vietnam Women's Memorial Foundation still works to educate the public about women's roles in

the Vietnam War and to advocate on behalf of those women.

"The women who served during Vietnam have given the women who serve today a great legacy to uphold and continue," said Army Command Sgt. Maj. Cynthia A. Pritchett, the Army's most senior-ranking female non-commissioned officer, during a ceremony at the Vietnam Women's Memorial. "I personally owe so much to the women who have gone before me, for their outstanding service and sacrifice. For they have opened so many opportunities for me and my fellow service women."

Chaplain's Corner

(submitted by Dan McGinnis)

Sweet and Bitter

Some people like bitter chocolate and some prefer sweet. Ancient Mayans in Central America enjoyed chocolate as a beverage and seasoned it with chili peppers. They liked this "bitter water," as they called it. Many years later it was introduced in Spain, but the Spaniards preferred chocolate sweet, so they added sugar and honey to counteract its natural bitterness.

Like chocolate, days can be bitter or sweet as well. A seventeenth-century French monk named Brother Lawrence wrote, "If we knew how much [God] loves us, we would always be ready to receive equally . . . from His hand the sweet and the bitter." Accept the sweet and the bitter equally? This is difficult! What is Brother Lawrence talking about? The key lies in God's character. The psalmist said of God, "You are good, and what you do is good" (Psalm 119:68).

Mayans also valued bitter chocolate for its healing and medicinal properties. Bitter days have value too. They make us aware of our weaknesses and they help us depend more on God. The psalmist wrote, "It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees" (v. 71). Let us embrace life today, with its different flavors—reassured of God's goodness. Let us say, "You have done many good things for me, Lord, just as you promised" (v. 65 nlt).

Father, help me to see Your goodness even in times of trouble.

God is good.

"Rise Above" Movie

**May 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13, 2018
9 AM to 5 PM**

This FREE one of a kind Tuskegee Airmen exhibit is brought to you by:

**Shreve American Legion Forest Post 67
&
Wayne County Airport**

Sponsored By:

Red Tail Event Sponsor

Mid Ohio Aviation/Seaman Corp.

Rise Above Sponsor

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NAACP - Rolling Thunder

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CHA Design/Const. Solution

Tuskegee Sponsor

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Ralph & Connie Hodgdon

American Legion

Purvis Brothers Inc.



Don't miss seeing one of the most important WWII fighter aircrafts ever built, the North American P-51!

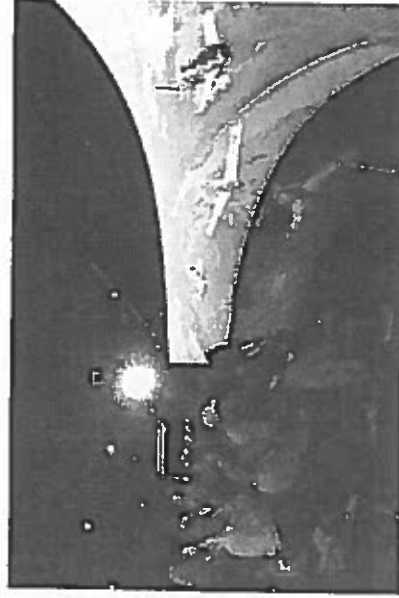
Group Reservations Recommended

Walk-Ups Welcome

Call or R.S.V.P. at 330-669-9212

Rise Above Traveling Exhibit

This exhibit is a one-of-a-kind climate controlled movie theater. It includes a 160 - degree screen, providing you a multi-media experience that you will not forget!



May 9-13 2018, 9 AM to 5 PM.

FREE ADMISSION

Come and learn the CAF Red Tail Squadron's Six Guiding Principles. These principles are based on the Tuskegee Airmen's ability to rise above the obstacles they faced in order to fly and fight for America: **Aim High, Believe In Yourself, Use Your Brain, Be Ready To Go, Never Quit and Expect to Win.**

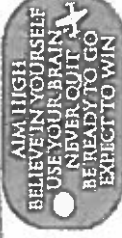
This film is for all ages, showing that even the most difficult obstacles can be overcome.



ADMISSION IS FREE!

Come and enjoy the FREE RISE ABOVE Experience!

Tuskegee Airmen Exhibit



The First 500 Students Receive a FREE

"RISE ABOVE"

Dog Tag After Watching Our Short Video.



May 9 -13 2018

9 AM to 5 PM

RSVP for Group Seating and/or Call 330-669-9212