

The Thunder Gazette

Published by Rolling Thunder® Inc. Chapter 1 Ohio

May, 2018

PLEASE NOTE:

BIKE BLESSING & VETERANS TRIBUTE SERVICE

HAMB DEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
13840 GAR Highway (Rt. 6)
Hambden Twp.

Sunday, May 20, 2018

Meet at Chardon Square at 9:00 a.m.
departure at 9:45 a.m.
Service to start by 10:15 a.m.

Picnic to follow the service at Hambden Twp.
Park. Bring a dish to share.

The membership meeting will follow the
picnic at Hambden Twp. Park (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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, May 20, 2018 - Bike Blessing & Veterans Tribute Service - Hambden Congregational Church -
See above for details.

Sunday, May 20, 2018 - Membership Meeting - 1:00 p.m. at Hambden Twp. Park.

Memorial Day Weekend - Run To The Wall - Washington, DC

Saturday, June 2 & Sunday, June 3 - Streetsboro Walmart

A REMINDER THAT THERE IS NO JUNE MEETING

Saturday, June 16, 2018 - State Run

Saturday, June 16, 2018 - Lake County Captains game - details and sign-up sheet at meeting

Wednesday, June 20, 2018 - TR Home Visit - 6:30 p.m.

Friday, June 22 & Saturday, June 23, 2018 - Highway Hellions Bootleggers Bash - Mansfield, OH - Proceeds to benefit Rolling Thunder® Chapter 1 Ohio. See flyer attached.

Saturday, June 23, 2018 - Claudette Wlasuk Memorial Run - VFW Post 2133 - 4435 W. 131st St., Cleveland, OH - 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, June 27, 2018 - Escort of Vietnam Memorial Wall to Tri-C

June 28, 2018 - July 1, 2018 - The Vietnam Memorial Wall at Tri-C.

Saturday, June 30 & Sunday, July 1, 2018 - Chardon Walmart - 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, July 7, 2018 - Breakfast at Concord Family Restaurant - 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, July 8, 2018 - Board/Membership Meeting - 1:00/2:00 p.m. - Northfield VFW

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

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LEW BALLARD 440-942-1688

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LEW BALLARD 440-942-1688

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arphersfolks@windstream.net

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COORDINATOR FOR WADE PARK VISITS

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PUBLIC RELATIONS CHUCK KETTLER 216-401-4984

EDUCATION CHAIR DAN MCGINNIS 330-618-1720

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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:

USMC Pfc. Clarence E. Drumheiser
U.S. Navy Steward Mate 1st Class Ignacio C. Farfan
U.S. Army Pfc. John H. Walker
U.S. Navy Seaman 2nd Class Joe M. Kelley
U.S. Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Vincent L. Politte
U.S. Navy Aviation Machinist's Mate 2nd Class
Durell Wade
U.S. Navy Water Tender 1st Class Stephen Pepe
U.S. Army Pfc. Oscar E. Sappington
USMC Pfc. William F. Cavin
U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class Natale I. Torti
U.S. Navy Fireman 2nd Class George C. Ford
U.S. Navy Shopfitter 3rd Class John M. Donald
U.S. Army Sgt. Melvin C. Anderson
U.S. Navy Seaman 2nd Class William V. Campbell
U.S. Naval Reserve Ensign Harold P. DeMoss

Korean War Remains Identified:

U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Rufus L. Ketchum
U.S. Army Cpl. Terrell J. Fuller

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	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

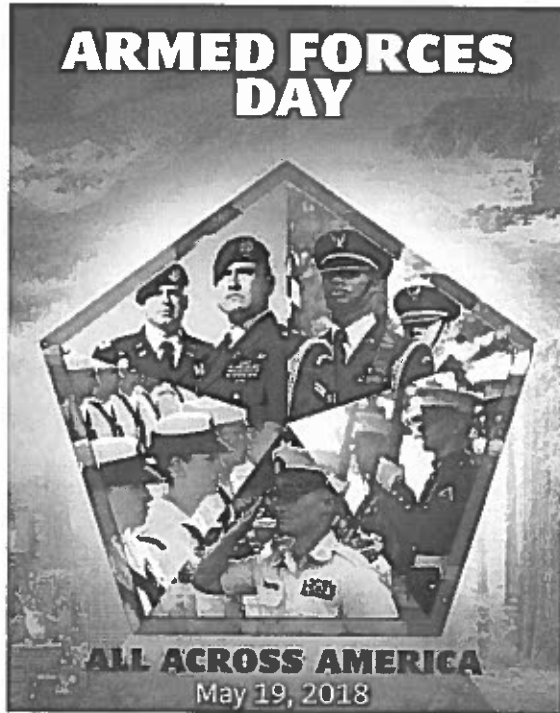
More information may be found on the Rolling Thunder, Inc. National's website under the heading "Government Affairs" www.rollingthunder1.com

ARMED FORCES DAY - Saturday, May 19, 2018

President Harry S. Truman led the effort to establish a single holiday for citizens to come together and thank our military members for their patriotic service in support of our country.

On August 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force Days.

The single day celebration stemmed from the unification of the Armed Forces under the Department of Defense.



National Military Appreciation Month 2018

Declared by Congress in 1999, National Military Appreciation Month (NMAM) is celebrated every May and is a declaration that encourages U.S. citizens to observe the month in a symbol of unity. NMAM honors the current and former members of the U.S. Armed Forces, including those who have died in the pursuit of freedom. The month of May is characterized by six national observances which highlight the contributions of those who have served.

Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW)

Date: Sunday, May 6th - Saturday, May 12th, 2018.
Celebrated the first full week in May.

About: A time set aside to honor the men and women who serve our nation as federal, state, county and local government employees and ensure that our government is the best in the world.

Victory in Europe Day AKA V-E Day or VE Day

Date: Tuesday, May 8th, 2018

About: May 8th, 1945 is the day when Germans throughout Europe unconditionally surrendered to the Allies. This day marked the end of World War II in Europe

Military Spouse Appreciation Day

Date: Friday, May 11th, 2018. Traditionally set for the Friday before Mother's Day.

About: A day to honor military spouses with appropriate ceremonies and activities. Recognizes the important role our military families play in keeping our Armed Forces strong and our country safe.

Armed Forces Day

Date: Saturday, May 19th, 2018. Celebrated the third Saturday in May every year.

About: A single holiday for citizens to come together and thank our military members for their patriotic service in support of our country. This day honors everyone serving in the U.S. Military branches; Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy. There is also Armed Forces Week which typically leads up to Armed Forces Day, although it is not an official observance, many activities are planned nonetheless during the week.

Memorial Day

Date: Monday, May 28th, 2018. A Federal holiday observed on the last Monday in May.

About: A remembrance of our veterans.

Commemorates the men and women who died while in military service

So, if you see a military veteran, thank them for their service to this great country.

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

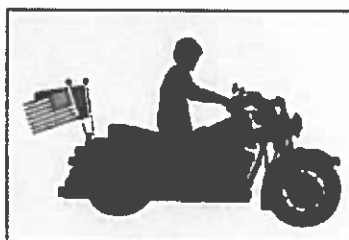
Fly your flags (the correct way)

As Memorial Day approaches, it is certain that you will start to see more motorcycles out and about all over the country.

In case you are preparing to ride for Memorial Day and you're getting your bike flags unfurled, here is some info on the correct way to display your flags.

"When the US flag is flown alone, it needs to be at the center on the back of the motorcycle, or to its "marching right." The "marching right" is on the right side of the motorcycle to the rider's perspective when facing forward. If the US Flag is on your bike with another, it should be to its "marching right." All flags flown with the US Flag are the same size and at the same height of the US Flag. While the US Flag is on your bike with several other flags the US flag is placed at the center and highest. Other flags should be arranged in alphabetical order and in decreasing importance - Nations first, states (in order of admittance) and territories second, military third (in order of establishment), and then any others."

From: www.flagandbanner.com



And remember, Memorial Day is not about bar-b-ques and sales. Take some time this weekend to remember those who have sacrificed all.



Chaplain's Corner

(submitted by Dan McGinnis)

God in the Details

A friend had a "chocolate" Labrador retriever puppy that was three months old. He took him to the veterinarian's office for his shots and checkup. As the vet carefully looked him over, she noticed a small white marking in his fur on his left hind paw. She smiled and said to him "That's where God held you when He dipped you in chocolate."

She had unintentionally made a meaningful point about the deep and personal interest God takes in His creation.

Jesus tells us in Matthew 10:30 that "even the very hairs of your head are all numbered." God is so great that He is able to take infinite interest in the most intimate details of our lives. There is nothing so small that it escapes His notice, and there is no concern too trivial to bring before Him. He simply cares that much.

God not only created us; He sustains and keeps us through every moment. It's sometimes said that "the devil is in the details." But it's better by far to understand that God is in them, watching over even the things that escape our notice. How comforting it is to know that our perfectly wise and caring heavenly Father holds us—along with all of creation—in His strong and loving hands.

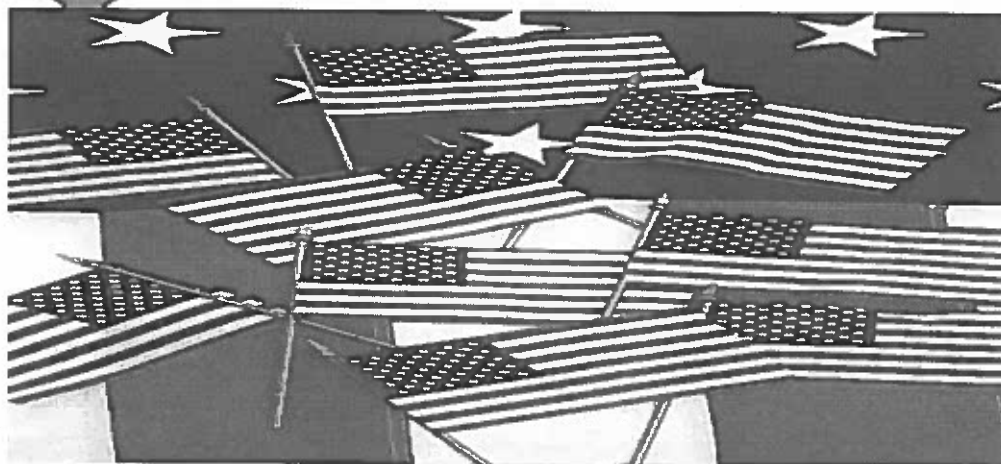
Loving Lord, I praise You for the wonder of Your creation. Help me to reflect Your compassion by taking care of what You've made.

God attends to our every need.





HONORING & SUPPORTING OUR
MILITARY
AND THEIR FAMILIES



Please join us on Medina's
Historic Square,
6:30pm on
Saturday, May 19, 2018
ARMED FORCES DAY



Presented by Rolling Thunder,® Inc. Chapter 8,
Medina, Ohio for more information please
call Becky or Dave 330-723-0116

GOD BLESS AMERICA



**PATRIOTIC SERVICE AND BIKE BLESSING
WITH ROLLING THUNDER**

MAY 20, 2018

**HAMBDEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
13840 G.A.R. HIGHWAY
HAMBDEN TOWNSHIP, OH 44024**

Motorcycles will gather in Chardon Square-leaving there at 9:45 a.m.
They will ride to H.C.C for service beginning at 10:15 a.m.

Come join us for this special service for Rolling Thunder followed by a
bike blessing and a pot luck picnic at Hambden Township Park. Please
bring a dish to pass. Burgers, Hot dogs and a beverage will be provided
by the church.

VFW Chardon Post will be on hand to do the grilling, and the Young
Marines will also be participating in this event, along with Jack Martin
on bagpipes

Everyone Welcome, 2 wheels or 4....! Rain or Shine!



President's Letter

Dear Members:

Spring has finally sprung in the northeast, everything has turned green and the sound of motorcycles is everywhere. Rolling Thunder "Ride for Freedom" 2018 is just a few weeks away and hopefully Memorial Weekend weather will be good.

Artie, Pete and I had our rescheduled meetings in Washington, DC for two days with Pentagon, Police Departments and Park Services Officials to go over plans for Rolling Thunder XXXI Memorial Weekend. The Police and Park Services meetings went well, the Pentagon meeting is the same old, same old! It's an unbelievable job trying to pull this event off each year.

Rolling Thunder members and chapters who are attending the 2018 "Ride for Freedom" in Washington, DC are all needed to WORK in some area that weekend. There are enough jobs (Sales, Security, Parking, Escorts) for everyone, I don't want to see members/chapters sleeping on their motorcycles in the North Pentagon Parking lot. This is a WORKING weekend for all the organization members, in order to keep our Mission going we need the support from our membership.

Rolling Thunder® Inc. XXXI is in a couple weeks and hopefully your hotel reservations are made. Most of the Hotels are now booked and it may be hard to get a reservation. The Host Hotel for Rolling Thunder XXXI is the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, 2799 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA. 22202. I encouraged all members/chapters to attend the Hospitality Room, Saturday night May 26th at 8:00 PM following Committee (Sales, Security, Parking, Escorts) Meetings.

Be careful while riding and do not take anything for granted, especially when it comes to automobiles. You have to ride defensively and be aware of the traffic around you. Those riding to DC for Rolling Thunder XXXI have a safe trip!

Please keep our Veterans and the POW/MIA's in your hearts and in your prayers.

"Thank you, Veterans and Welcome Home"
"God Bless America"

Yours truly

Joe Bean

Joe Bean
National President
Rolling Thunder® Inc.

ROLLING THUNDER®, INC. XXXI

**“RIDE FOR FREEDOM” pays homage to the Nation’s Veterans, particularly those still
Prisoners of War/Missing in Action from all wars**

WEEKEND ITINERARY

Subject to Change

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. Rolling Thunder®, Inc. is a non-profit organization and everyone donates his or her time because they believe in the POW/MIA Issue.

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 2018

National Alliance of Families Meeting

8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Hyatt Regency Crystal City

Harley-Davidson of Washington Barbeque

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

9407 Livingston Road

Fort Washington, MD

U.S. Navy Memorial - 11:00 a.m.

701 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest

Washington, DC (On the Plaza)

Washington VA Medical Center - 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

50 Irving Street NW Washington, D.C.

Departure Noon Sharp Hyatt Regency Crystal City

**Mary K. McKeith/Coordinator – Rolling Thunder®,
Inc. National**

Friday, May 25, 2018

Washington National Cathedral – 5:00 p.m.

“Blessing of the Bikes”

3101 Wisconsin Ave., NW Washington, DC

Candle Light Vigil – 9:00 p.m.

Parking on Henry Beacon Drive

Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Washington, D.C.

Rolling Thunder® Hospitality Room - 8:00 p.m.

Hyatt Regency, Crystal City

Main Banquet Room - Speakers, Awards

SUNDAY, MAY 27, 2018

Pentagon Parking Lot - 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Rolling Thunder® XXXI - Departure to Washington, D.C. – 12:00 p.m.

Rolling Thunder® Speakers Program - Approximately 1:30 p.m.

(Stage Location: Reflecting Pool across from the Lincoln Memorial)

Musical Tribute to Veterans - Approximately 3:00 p.m. –

Rockie Lynne, Gordon Painter and Ben Mason

For Additional Information Go To www.rollingthunder1.com

Everyone is Welcome!

Highway Hellions Bootleggers Bash

June 23rd gates open at 8am

Friday night Pre-Party

770 Fleming Falls Mansfield, Ohio

Free primitive camping

Pre-73 car show

Live entertainment

Pin-Up contest

Vendors

Proceeds go to

Rolling Thunder

Chapter 1 Ohio

\$10 Entry Fee

**Rolling Thunder®,
Inc.**

Chapter 1 Ohio



For questions:

Contact Mike at 419-566-1792

Highway Hellions Bootleggers Bash Event Schedule

Friday Night Pre-party June 22nd, 2018

5pm-6:30pm Midlyfe Crysis

7pm-8:30pm System 303

9pm-10:30pm Death by Rodeo

Saturday June 23rd, 2018

12pm-1:30pm Shorty Allen

2pm-3:30pm Bomb City Royals

4pm-5pm Pin Up Contest

followed by award ceremony

5pm-6:30pm 45 Spider

6:30pm-6:50pm Red Hot Heathens

6:50pm-7:30pm Beer Belly Competition

7:30pm-7:50pm Red Hot Heathens

8pm-9:30pm The Living Deads

9:30-10pm Monster Dolls

10pm-11:30pm Whiskey Daredevils

And if this isn't enough for you....we have the lovely Jai Merina filling in between sets, as well as club against club beer olympics. Pre-73 car show, food and merchandise vendors, free primitive camping \$10 per person All proceeds go to Rolling Thunder Chapter one (a nonprofit organization that supports our veterans)