

The Thunder Gazette

Published by Rolling Thunder® Inc. Chapter 1 Ohio

November, 2018

PLEASE NOTE

OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP

MEETING WILL BE HELD AT

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

SUNDAY, November 18, 2018
2:00 p.m.

Sue is collecting dues for 2019

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.**

**Below are the results of the special election to
elect a vice-president:**

**Vice-President: Lew Ballard (which left open
the Chairman of the Board position)**

**Chairman of the Board: Chuck Kettler (which left
open a Board position)**

**Board Member: Larry Felean
Alternate Board Member: Mike Neilan**

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, November 18, 2018 - Board/Chapter
Meeting - 1:00/2:00 p.m. - Northfield VFW.**

Wednesday, December 12, 2018 - 6:00 p.m.
TR home dinner - 6:00 P.M.

**Saturday, December 15, 2018 - Wreaths
Across America - Western Reserve National
Cemetery**

**Sunday, December 16, 2018 - Membership
Meeting - Pot luck meal to follow the meeting**



***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 LEW BALLARD 440-942-1688

SECRETARY CHERYL PILNY 440-543-8468

TREASURER ANDY KLUSH 330-620-6047

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
CHUCK KETTLER 216-401-4984

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JEFF BRADY 440-669-1794

HANK LANGOWSKI 216-513-5712

LARRY FELEAN 440-439-4914

RONNIE DINGER 216-799-5539

(ALTERNATE) MIKE NEILAN 440-241-2655

CHAPLAIN DAN MCGINNIS 330-618-1720

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QUARTERMASTER

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ASST. QUARTERMASTER

LEW BALLARD 440-942-1688

SARGENT AT ARMS OPEN

NEWSLETTER STAFF

CHERYL PILNY 440-543-8468

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#2 RONNIE DINGER 216-799-5539

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#4 SALLY FELEAN 440-439-4914

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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

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Please send any pictures you may have to Chip at
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**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. Michael L. Salerno
U.S. Navy Seaman 2nd Class Charles C. Gomez, Jr.
USMC Sgt. Dwight W. Randall
U.S. Navy Buglemaster 2nd Class Lionel W. Lescault
U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class John A. Karli
U.S. Navy Fireman 1st Class Grant C. Cook, Jr.
U.S. Merchant Marines Wiper Elvis N. Spotts
USMC Reserve Pfc. William E. Brandenburg
U.S. Navy Fireman 1st Class Angelo M. Gabriele
U.S. Navy Reserve Seaman 2nd Class Ira N. Slaton
USMC Reserve Pvt. Fred E. Freet
U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class Kirby R. Stapleton

Korean War Remains Identified:

U.S. Army Cpl. Frederick E. Coons

Viet Name War Remains Identified:

Civilian: George L. Ritter
U.S. Naval Reserve Lt. Richard C. Lannom

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS, Gus Dante

As elections are drawing near the politicians will not be in DC and out at their districts campaigning. We will lobby their staffers at Conference in DC.

The Bills we are pushing are as follows:

S422 - This is the Senate version of the Blue Water Navy Bill giving benefits to Navy veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange even though they did not set foot on shore in Vietnam. It passed unanimously in the House (Congress). Lawrence, VA Undersecretary, opposes it. And, there is a controversy as it would cover ships up to 12 miles off the coast of Vietnam, and we do not have the records of exactly how close some ships were. Posted on my Facebook page is an article for more information.

Flag Bill - We will be advocating to have the POW/MIA Flag flown over the Whitehouse and US Capitol on all days the Stars and Stripes is flown. I would like President Trump to sign an executive order making this happen. We are trying to get an appointment with his Chief of Staff John Kelly.

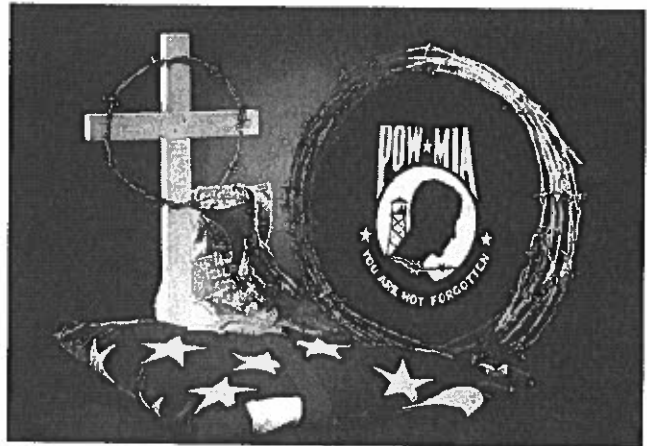
Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs - We have been advocating for this committee for some time.

Full Military Honors Act - To amend title 10, United States Code, to require a full military Honors ceremony for certain deceased veterans, and for other purposes.

Regarding our POW/MIA Chairs throughout the country I have asked all Chapters to submit a report. 44 of our Chapters have reported, and Rolling Thunder® nationwide has dedicated 373 POW/MIA Chairs!

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

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



First Thanksgiving Proclamation -- Did You Know?

Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor--and whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me `to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.'

Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be -- That we may then all unite in rendering unto him our sincere and humble thanks -- for his kind care and protection of the People of this Country previous to their becoming a Nation--for the signal and manifold mercies, and the favorable interpositions of his Providence which we experienced in the tranquility, union, and plenty, which we have since enjoyed--for the peaceable and rational manner, in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national One now lately instituted -- for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed; and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and in general for all the great and various favors which he hath been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech him to pardon our national and other transgressions--to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually -- to render our national government a blessing to all the people, by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed--to protect and guide all Sovereigns and Nations (especially such as have shewn [sic] kindness unto us) and to bless them with good government, peace, and concord -- To promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the encrease [sic] of science among them and us -- and generally to grant unto all Mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as he alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand at the City of New-York the third day of October in the year of our Lord 1789.

George Washington

Chaplain's Corner

(submitted by Dan McGinnis)

A Mother's Love

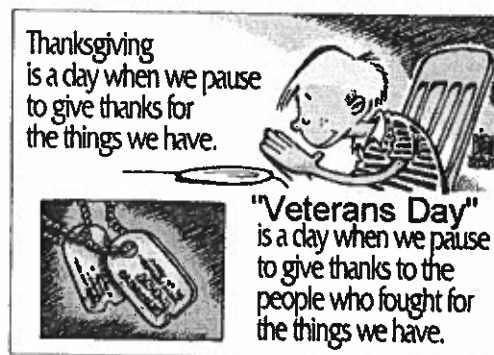
When Sue's parents divorced when she was young, the legal tussle over her custody and other matters resulted in her being sent to a children's home for a while. Bullied by bigger kids, she felt lonely and abandoned. Her mother visited only once a month, and she hardly saw her father. It was only years later, however, that her mother told her that while the home's rules prevented her from visiting more often, she had stood at the fence every single day, hoping to catch a glimpse of her daughter. "Sometimes," she said, "I would just watch you playing in the garden, just to check if you were okay."

When Sue shared this story, it gave me a glimpse of God's love. Sometimes we may feel abandoned and alone in our struggles. How comforting it is to know that God is in fact watching over us all the time! (Psalm 33:18). Even though we can't see Him, He is there. Like a loving parent, His eyes and His heart are constantly on us wherever we go. Yet, unlike Sue's mom, He can act on our behalf at any time.

Psalm 91 describes God delivering, protecting, and lifting up His children. He is more than a refuge and a shelter. As we navigate the dark valleys of life, we can take comfort in the knowledge that the all-powerful Lord is watching over us and is active in our lives. "I will answer [you]," He declares. "I will be with [you] in trouble, I will deliver [you]" (v. 15).

Lord, thank You for the assurance that we're always under Your watchful care.

Our heavenly Father is ever near.



Veterans Day Facts

Veterans Day originated as "Armistice Day" on Nov. 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I. Congress passed a resolution in 1926 for an annual observance, and Nov. 11 became a national holiday beginning in 1938. Unlike Memorial Day, Veterans Day pays tribute to all American veterans—living or dead—but especially gives thanks to living veterans who served their country honorably during war or peacetime.

- Veterans Day occurs on November 11 every year in the United States.
- In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower officially changed the name of the holiday from Armistice Day to Veterans Day.
- In 1968, the Uniform Holidays Bill was passed by Congress, which moved the celebration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. The law went into effect in 1971, but in 1975 President Gerald Ford returned Veterans Day to November 11, due to the important historical significance of the date.
- Great Britain, France, Australia and Canada also commemorate the veterans of World War I and World War II on or near November 11th: Canada has Remembrance Day, while Britain has Remembrance Sunday (the second Sunday of November).
- In Europe, Great Britain and the Commonwealth countries it is common to observe two minutes of silence at 11 a.m. every November 11.

The military men and women who serve and protect the U.S. come from all walks of life; they are parents, children, grandparents, friends, neighbors and coworkers, and are an important part of their communities. Here are some facts about the veteran population of the United States:

- 16.1 million Living veterans served during at least one war.
- 5.2 million Veterans served in peacetime.
- 2 million Veterans are women.
- 7 million Veterans served during the Vietnam War.
- 5.5 million Veterans served during the Persian Gulf War.
- Of the 16 million Americans who served during World War II, about 558,000 are still alive.
- 2 million veterans served during the Korean War.
- 6 million veterans served in peacetime.
- As of 2014, 2.9 million veterans received compensation for service-connected disabilities.
- As of 2014, 3 states have more than 1 million veterans among their population: California (1.8 million), Florida (1.6 million) and Texas (1.7 million).
- The VA health care system had 54 hospitals in 1930, since then it has expanded to include 171 medical centers; more than 350 outpatient, community, and outreach clinics; 126 nursing home care units; and 35 live-in care facilities for injured or disabled vets.