

The Thunder Gazette

Published by Rolling Thunder® Inc. Chapter 1 Ohio

November, 2019

PLEASE NOTE

OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP

MEETING WILL BE HELD AT

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

**SUNDAY, November 17, 2019
2:00 p.m**

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 17, 2019 - Board/
Membership Meeting - 1:00/2:00

Saturday, December 14, 2019 - Wreaths
Across America - Western Reserve National
Cemetery

Sunday, December 15, 2019 - Membership
Meeting

As most of you probably know, Lew Ballard was involved in a motorcycle accident on Tuesday, October 29, 2019 while participating in the escort of the remains of Sgt Thomas Cole Walker, who was killed in a training accident. Lew sustained multiple injuries and was life flighted from Geneva Hospital to University Hospital. He has now been moved to University Hospitals Rehabilitation 23333 Harvard Rd., Beachwood, OH 44122. He has rehab during the day, and is up to seeing visitors after 3:00 pm.

Please keep Lew and his family in your prayers for a speedy recovery.



**The National POW/MIA flag
Act was signed into law by
President Trump on Thursday,
November 7, 2019.**



**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**BOARD MEMBERS**

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JEFF BRADY 440-669-1794

HANK LANGOWSKI 216-513-5712

LARRY FELEAN 440-439-4914

MIKE NEILAN 440-241-2655

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VIKKI CARROLL 440-283-7766

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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. Navy Fireman 3rd Class Herbert B. Jacobson
U.S. Army Pvt. Horace H. Middleton
USMC Cpl. Thomas H. Cooper
U.S. Navy Reserve Ensign Frances C. Flaherty
U.S. Navy Seaman 2nd Class Lloyd R. Timm
U.S. Naval Reserve Machinist's Mate 1st Class
Paul H. Gebser
U.S. Navy Fireman 1st Class Bethel Walters
U.S. Navy Coxswain Layton Banks
U.S. Navy Seaman 2nd Class Everett Windle
U.S. Army Pvt. Porfirio Franco
USMC Sgt. Jerome B. Morris
U.S. Army Pvt William Hedtke
USMC Res. Pvt. Channing Whitaker
U.S. Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Earl Ferguson
USMC Pfc. Quentin McCall

Korean War Remains Identified:

U.S. Army Cpl. Leon E. Clevenger
U.S. Army Cpl. Earl W. Duncan
U.S. Army Sgt. William C. Holmes
U.S. Army Cpl. William L. Brown
U.S. Army Sgt. James E. Smith, Jr.

Gus Dante & Mike Wolff

Gus Dante: Legislation that we are pushing is on our Rolling Thunder® Inc. National Website

H.R. 2819/S 1673- Gold Star Families National Extension Act of 2019. We are adding two bills to the Government Affairs Web. H.R-2819/S-1673 - Gold Star Families National Extension Act of 2019; sponsored by Congressman Andy Kim (D-NJ) in the House, and sponsored by Senator Booker (DNJ) in the Senate. The Gold star families have been waiting for 9 plus years to get this monument placed at Arlington National Cemetery where it should be. The Gold Star Families have faced many obstacles for getting this monument completed. The funding for the monument will end 2020. This legislation will extend funding to 2027.

The National POW/MIA flag Act was signed into law by President Trump on Thursday, November 7, 2019.

"UNTIL THEY ALL COME HOME"

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

District	Name	Room	Phone
1	Chabot, Steve	2408 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	2303 Rayburn 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.	2467 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-6405
6	Johnson, Bill	2336 Rayburn 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	1107 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	2082 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	Balderson, Troy	1221 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	2234 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-2015
16	Gonzalez, Anthony	1023 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515	202-225-3876

We Did it!

President Trump Signs the National POW/MIA Flag Act

President Donald J. Trump, joined by Veterans Affairs Secretary Robert Wilke, left, and invited guests signs S. 693 the National POW/MIA Flag Act Thursday, Nov. 7, 2019, in the Oval Office of the White House. (Official White House Photo by Tia Dufour)



Gold Star Family Members Can Now Become Congressional Fellows

30 Oct 2019

Military.com | By [Dorothy Mills-Gregg](#)

To give members of families of the fallen first-hand experience in Congress, lawmakers approved a yearlong fellowship for them Tuesday.

"It will allow Gold Star Families to both participate in and learn about the democracy their loved one gave the ultimate sacrifice to protect," said Rep. Zoe Lofgren, D-California, while introducing the resolution on the floor.

Passed by voice vote, the paid fellowship is named in memory of Army Sgt. 1st Class Sean Cooley and Spc. Christopher Horton. The fellowship will be open to children, stepchildren, spouses and siblings of service members who died while serving for any reason other than "willful misconduct" and the families of those who died from a service-connected disability within four years of leaving service. The fellowship will be in Washington, D.C., or in the district office of a representative or delegate in the House.

Horton's widow, Jane, said the program will help Gold Star families "give purpose to pain" and have a "living legacy" close to representatives, reminding them of what their votes mean. Only 15 percent of Congress has served in the military.

"You can walk into almost any members' offices and there'll be a sign that says, 'We hire heroes,'" Horton said. "And there's never been anything like that to include Gold Star families or the families left behind in war."

Horton worked with Rep. Trent Kelly, R-Mississippi, to create the program, which she said will probably take a few months to set up.

It will mirror Congress' current wounded warrior program.

"It's a beautiful thing, you know, of the people, by the people and for the people," Horton said. "I really feel that this bill is the epitome of that process. It's something I was passionate about. I met a member of Congress who cared, and so we worked on the bill together, and here it is."

After watching from the House balcony with other Gold Star families as the resolution passed, she posted on Facebook, "Today was a humbling day -- and one that reminds us that in America -- the land of the free, and home of the brave, anything can be done if you don't give up."

Cooley, 35, a member of the Mississippi Army National Guard's 150th Combat Engineer Battalion, died in 2005 during Operation Iraqi Freedom when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle.

Horton, 26, died in 2011 during Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. He was attached to the 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team of Oklahoma National Guard and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

"Nothing can ever fill the void left by the loss of a loved one who was killed serving the nation," Lofgren said. "But we in Congress should be doing everything we can to help lift up those who have suffered that unfathomable loss."

Chaplain's Corner

(submitted by Dan McGinnis)

Our Blessings, His Love

To him who led his people through the wilderness; *His love endures forever.*

Psalms 136:16

In 2015, a woman discarded her deceased husband's computer at a recycling center—a computer that had been made in 1976. But more important than *when* it had been made was *who* made it. It was one of 200 computers hand built by Apple founder Steve Jobs, and was worth an estimated quarter of a million dollars! Sometimes knowing the true worth of something means knowing who made it.

Knowing that it's God who made us shows us how valuable we are to Him (Genesis 1:27). Psalm 136 catalogs key moments of His people—ancient Israel: how they had been freed from captivity in Egypt (vv. 11-12), journeyed through the wilderness (v. 16), and were given a new home in Canaan (vv. 21-22). But each time a moment of Israel's history is mentioned, it's paired with this repeated refrain: "His love endures forever." This refrain reminded the people of Israel that their experiences weren't random historical events. Each moment had been orchestrated by God and was a reflection of His enduring love for those He'd made.

Far too often, I allow moments that show God at work and His kind ways to simply pass by, failing to recognize that every perfect gift comes from my heavenly Father (James 1:17) who made me and loves me. May you and I learn to connect every blessing in our lives to God's enduring love for us.



Thanksgiving
is a day when we pause
to give thanks for
the things we have.



"Veterans Day"
is a day when we pause
to give thanks to the
people who fought for
the things we have.