# The Thunder Gazette

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February, 2021

#### **PLEASE NOTE**

**OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP** 

MEETING WILL BE HELD AT

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

SUNDAY, February 21, 2021 2:00 p.m.

There is no Board meeting.

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

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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.

I hope everyone is doing well and staying healthy and warm.

If you haven't already done so, 2021 dues are due now. If you're not going to be at the meeting on Sunday, please mail them to Sue Bailey, 106 Hampshire Cove, Painesville, OH 44077

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 21, 2021 - Membership Meeting - 2:00 p.m.

Unfortunately, all other events/activities have been put on hold because of the pandemic.

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In Memory of Jack Fedor



Sadly, we lost Jack on December 7, 2020. Jack was a charter member of Ohio Chapter 1. Jack was a veteran of the Vietnam War and had received a Purple Heart, Bronze Star and Vietnam Campaign Ribbon. Rest easy Jack. We will miss you!

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 O	F THE BOARD CHUCK KETTLER	216-401-4984
BOARD MEME	BERS TED PILNY JEFF BRADY HANK LANGOWSKI LARRY FELEAN MIKE NEILAN PAUL WIGET	216-346-6407 440-669-1794 216-513-5712 440-439-4914 440-241-2655
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GOVERNMENT CHUCK	AFFAIRS KETTLER	216-401-4984

COORDINATOR FOR WADE PARK VISITS - OPEN

**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
ckettler6480@yahoo.com

Check us out on Facebook: Rolling Thunder Chapter 1 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.

ROLLING THUNDER®, INC. IS A NON -PROFIT ORGANIZATION AND EVERYONE DONATES HIS OR HER TIME BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE IN THE POW-MIA ISSUE.

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Our Adopted MIA/POW - Gregory Harris



#### Remains Identified

#### WWII Remains Identified:

U.S. Army Air Forces Tech Sqt.

Alfred F. Turgeon

U.S. Army Pvt. Alevin A. Hathaway

U.S. Navy Water Tender 1st Class

Oliver K. Burger

U.S. Navy Fireman 1st Class Wesley J. Brown

U.S. Navy Fireman 1st Class Beoin H. Corzatt

U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class Gerald J. Bailey

U.S. Navy Shipfitter 3rd Class Robert E. Bailey

U.S. Navy Radioman 3rd Class Earl M. Ellis

U.S. Navy Seaman 2nd Class Howard S. Magers

U.S. Navy Radioman 3rd Class

Theodore Q . Jensen

USMC Pfc. John F. Middleswart

U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class Wallace G. Mitchell

U.S. Navy Boilermaker 1st Class

William E. Blanchard

U.S. Navy Fireman 1st Class

James W. Davenport, Jr.

U.S. Navy Ship's Cook 3rd Class

Robert Goodwin

U.S. Navy Seaman 2nd Class David Clark, Jr.

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#### Government Affairs

Gus Dante has stepped down as the government affairs person at National, and Berney Jarosz has taken over.

On January 5th, the Deborah Sampson Act was signed into law. Women veterans will have greater access to critical care and services following the signing of US Senator Jon Testers historic Deborah Sampson Act signed into law by the president.

Also signed into law on January 8th was two bills supporting the Native American Veterans Bill, to better address the needs of Native American Veterans. This is groundbreaking moment for Native American Veterans in Montana and across

the country who will now have greater access to health care and representation at the VA.

Four bills were just introduced in the House.

H.R 290: The GI Bill Transferability Protection Act. This bill would make it clear that the servicemember, not their spouse or dependent is responsible for repaying GI Bill expenses incurred as a result of the servicemember's failure to fulfill their service obligation.

H.R. 291: The Department of Veterans Affairs Cost Savings. Creation of on-site treatment systems affording Veterans Improvements and numerous general enhancements act.

H.R. 292: VA Health Center Management and Stability Act.

H.R. 293: VA Hospital Establishing Leadership Performance Act. This would require the VA to establish qualification standards and performance metrics for HR professionals. The VA would be required to report to Congress.

Bills we are still tracking:

<u>H.R.712/S.179</u> - VA Medicinal Cannabis
Research Act of 2019 To direct the Secretary
of Veterans Affairs to carry out a clinical trial
of the effects of cannabis on certain health
outcomes of adults with chronic pain and posttraumatic stress disorder, and for other
purposes. Senate Veteran's Affairs - 8
cosponsors House Veteran's subcommittee on
Health - 102 cosponsors

S.785 - Commander John Scott Hannon Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act of 2019 A bill to improve mental health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes. Senate Veterans' Affairs - 42 Cosponsors

#### Related Bills:

H.R.2201 - To modify the presumption of service connection for veterans who were exposed to herbicide agents while serving in the Armed Forces in Thailand during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes. House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs - 70 Cosponsors.

S.1673/H.R.2819 Gold Star Families National Monument Extension Act - This bill extends through January 2, 2027, the authority of the Gold Star Mothers National Monument Foundation to establish a commemorative work in honor of Gold Star families.

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

#### "UNTIL THEY ALL COME HOME"

Remember: <u>You</u> are the voice of our POW and MIAs.

### 2020-2021 Rolling Thunder Bike Raffle Update New Drawing Date - June 1, 2021

Greetings to All the Rolling Thunder Chapters and Members: Considering all, I hope that you are doing as well as possible during these very trying times of the pandemic in all parts of our country. As a result of the National shut down, quarantine and cancelation of events in our Country and much consideration the 2020 Rolling Thunder Bike Raffle drawing date was changed to Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 2:00 pm. The drawing will take place at the Harley Davidson Washington dealership where the bike is currently being shown and hosted. National will also pay the State Sales Tax for the winner. God Bless and Heal our Country! Elaine Muller

<u>Chaplain's Corner</u> (submitted by Dan McGinnis)

#### Hold Steady

I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand.

Isaiah 41:13

Harriet Tubman was one of the great American heroes of the nineteenth century. Showing remarkable courage, she guided more than three hundred fellow slaves to freedom after she first escaped slavery by crossing into free territory in the United States North. Not content to simply enjoy her own freedom, she ventured back into slave states nineteen times to lead friends, family, and strangers to freedom, sometimes guiding people on foot all the way to Canada.

What drove Tubman to such brave action? A woman of deep faith, she at one time said this: "I always told God, I'm going to hold steady on you, and you've got to see me through." Her dependence on God's guidance as she led people out of slavery was a hallmark of her success.

What does it mean to "hold steady" to God? A verse in the prophecy of Isaiah might help us see that in reality it's He who holds us as we grab His hand. Isaiah quotes God, who said, "I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you" (41:13).

Harriet held tightly to God, and He saw her through. What challenges are you facing? Hold steady to God as He "takes hold" of your hand and your life. "Do not fear." He will help you.

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

### Amazon will donate 0.5% of all eligible purchases to Rolling Thunder Charities

## All you have to do is sign up: it is free to sign up and there is no price difference on items

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- 2. Sign in using your Amazon username and password
- 3. Search for Rolling Thunder Charities in the search bar
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- B. Rolling Thunder will only receive donations on items purchased from If you use the Amazon App on your smart phone, follow these instructions:



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