

The Thunder Gazette

Published by Rolling Thunder® Inc. Chapter 1 Ohio

October, 2020

PLEASE NOTE

OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP

MEETING WILL BE HELD AT

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

**SUNDAY, October 11, 2020
2:00 p.m.**

Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.

Sue will be collecting dues for 2021. Make checks payable to RT Chapter 1 Ohio.

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.

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



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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, October 11, 2020 -

Board/Membership Meeting - 1:00/2:00

**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

TED PILNY 216-346-6407

JEFF BRADY 440-669-1794

HANK LANGOWSKI 216-513-5712

LARRY FELEAN 440-439-4914

MIKE NEILAN 440-241-2655

(ALTERNATE) PAUL WIGET

CHAPLAIN DAN MCGINNIS 330-618-1720

RUN COORDINATOR OPEN

MEMBERSHIP SUSAN BAILEY 440-639-2222

QUARTERMASTER

FRANK FOX 440-494-7165

GERI PHILLIPS 440-494-7165

ASST. QUARTERMASTER

LEW BALLARD 440-942-1688

SARGENT AT ARMS

HANK LANGOWSKI 216-513-5712

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CHERYL PILNY 440-543-8468

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#2 TOM BLECHSCHMID 440-349-2470

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#4 SUSAN BAILEY 440-639-2222

STATE LIASION TY GEISER 330-466-0086

WE CARE YVONNE GIERMAN 440-285-3864
arphersfolks@windstream.net

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

CHUCK KETTLER 216-401-4984

COORDINATOR FOR WADE PARK VISITS -

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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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.

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

Our Adopted MIA/POW – Gregory Harris



Remains Identified

WWII Remains Identified:

U.S. Navy Fire Controlman 3rd Class
Robert T. Stout
U.S. Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. William H. Melville
USMC Pfc. John P. Langan
USMC Res. Pfc. Frank L. Athon
U.S. Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Charles G. McMackin
U.S. Army Sgt. John E. Hurlburt
U.S. Navy Fire Controlman 2nd Class George Gilbert
U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class Carl S. Johnson
U.S. Navy Musician 1st Class Joseph W. Hoffman
U.S. Army Pvt. Warren G.H. DeVault
U.S. Navy Mess Attendant 3rd Class Isaac Parker
U.S. Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Gabriel J. Eggud
U.S. Navy Electrician's Mate 3rd Class
Alphard S. Owsley
USMC Cpl. Elmer E. Drefahl

Korean War Remains Identified:

U.S. Army Cpl. Richard L. Henderson, Jr.
U.S. Army Sgt. James N. Stryker
U.S. Army Pfc. Bobbie Ray Daniels
U.S. Army Pvt. Donald A. Fabrize
U.S. Army Cpl. Robert C. Agard, Jr.
USMC Pfc. Henry

Viet Nam War Remains Identified

U.S. Air Force 1st Lt. Alva R. Krogman
U.S. Air Force Maj. Paul A. Avoles

Government Affairs

Per Mike Wolf from National, there has been little movement on most of what we are tracking this legislative cycle. Given that this is an election year, I do not expect much movement. Keep up the pressure to move these out of committee, but most likely we will have to take up the fight to have these re-introduced in the 117th Congress.

Listed below are items of legislation that members of the Rolling Thunder® Inc. National Government and Veterans' Affairs

Committee are working on. They are committed to working with members of Congress, Veterans and other organizations to discuss and work on legislation that directly and indirectly affects our POW/MIA's and Veterans.

Bills we are still tracking:

H.R.712/S.179 - 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 post-traumatic 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.5024 To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand health care coverage provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs during the transition of members of the Armed Forces from service in the Armed Forces to civilian life, and for other purposes.

H.R.5030 VA Suicide Prevention Services Accountability Act

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.

Related News:

January 6th Military Times article stating "Study results on new Agent Orange diseases not expected until 'late 2020' says VA secretary." The day President Donald Trump signed a funding bill including a provision ordering VA to announce its plans to add four conditions to the list of Agent Orange-linked diseases within 30 days, VA Secretary Robert Wilkie said the decision wasn't likely to come until at least "late 2020."

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.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources 1 - cosponsor Keep in mind that this year is critical to push these passing of the bills introduced in the 116th congress. If they are not passed by the end of 2020, they will have to be re-introduced in the 117th congress.

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	<u>Johnson, Bill</u>	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

District	Name	Room	Phone
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

"UNTIL THEY ALL COME HOME"

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

Our POW/MIA Officer Bruce Garry has asked for our help. As a POW/MIA advocacy group we must answer the call and reach out to the President to restore the POW/MIA Flag to the white house flag pole and enforce the law he signed into effect. Bruce explains it more below.

Bruce writes:

We have a situation I have been working on for about a week now that the members and all your contacts can help with now, especially for National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

In February 2020, a Bill was signed into law by President Trump that the POW/MIA Flag shall be flown below the American Flag on designated Federal flag poles in a "prominent location" everyday the American Flag is flown. A ceremony was held in the Oval Office which members of Rolling Thunder® National attended to sign the law. Two locations required is the White House and the U.S. Capital. It appears after this meeting, President Trump directed that a

POW/MIA Memorial be placed on the White House grounds located on the south lawn and was completed in June 2020.

The issue is, when the new POW/MIA Memorial was completed with its own flag pole the POW/MIA flag was removed from the top of the White House. Someone on the White House staff decided that having the POW/MIA flag over the memorial was good enough to remove the one flown over the White House. This came to the attention Gus Dante, of National, and other organizations like National League of POW/MIA Families, as far back as June.

Of course, they (we) all want the POW/MIA flag restored to the top of the White House. There is no reason why the flag cannot be flown at both locations at the White House. U.S. Senators Warren, Hassan, and Reed (all Democrats) sent a letter last Friday to the White House requesting the POW/MIA flag be restored back to the top of the White House. As of this email, the White House has not responded to any inquiries on this matter.

All of you can help in this mission by sending a personal message to the White House by following this link:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>

Just ask to have the POW/MIA flag to be restored to the top of the White House below the American flag. Please be civil and non-political. These simple words and your names will carry all the weight that is needed. Please send your message as soon as possible and ask your friends to do the same. Spread the word as our mission is to educate the public on the POW/MIA issue.

Thank you,
Bruce
POW/MIA Officer

Chaplain's Corner

(submitted by Dan McGinnis)

He Won't Let Us Go

Julio was biking across the George Washington Bridge—a busy, double-decked thoroughfare connecting New York City and New Jersey—when he encountered a life-or-death situation. A man was standing on a ledge over the Hudson River preparing to jump. Knowing that the police wouldn't arrive in time, Julio acted quickly. He recalls getting off his bike and spreading out his arms, saying something like: "Don't do it. We love you." Then, like a shepherd with a crook, he grabbed the distraught man, and with the help of another passerby, brought him to safety. According to reports, Julio wouldn't let go of the man, even after he was safe.

Two millennia earlier, in a life-or-death situation, Jesus, the Good Shepherd, said He would lay down His life to save and never let go of those who believed in Him. He summarized how He would bless His sheep: they would know Him personally, have the gift of eternal life, would never perish, and would be secure in His care. This security didn't depend on the ability of the frail and feeble sheep, but on the sufficiency of the Shepherd who'll never let one be snatched "out of [His] hand" (John 10:28-29).

When we were distraught and feeling hopeless, Jesus rescued us; now we can feel safe and secure in our relationship with Him. He loves us, pursues us, finds us, saves us, and promises to never let us go.

I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.

John 10:28