

The Thunder Gazette

Published by Rolling Thunder® Inc. Chapter 1 Ohio

May, 2021

PLEASE NOTE

OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP

MEETING WILL BE HELD AT

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

**SUNDAY, May 16, 2021
2:00 p.m.**

There is no Board meeting.

**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 16, 2021 - Membership
Meeting - 2:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, May 30, 2021 - Rolling Thunder®
Inc. Ride for Freedom XXXIII Ohio -**
Flyer attached. More details at the meeting
on Sunday.

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



**ARMED FORCES DAY - Saturday, May 15,
2021**

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.

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

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VICE-PRES LEW BALLARD 440-942-1688

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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



National Military Appreciation Month 2021

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 2th - Saturday, May 7th, 2021.

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, 2021

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 7, 2021. 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 15th, 2021. 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 30th, 2021. 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.

Government Affairs - Berney Jarosz

First off, I want to mention that the POW/MIA Flag is back where it belongs atop the White House. It was announced on National Former POW Recognition Day, April 9th. In keeping with the president's commitment to honor the sacrifices of all those who serve, including veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors, the president has restored the POW/MIA flag to its original location on top of the White House residence. The decision followed a bipartisan push for the POW/MIA flag to be restored to its former location by Senators Maggie Hassan (D-N.H.), Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) and Tom Cotton (R-Ark), who wrote to The President days after he took office asking that the flag be returned to the top of the White House.

I sent a letter of support to Senator John Boozman to let him know that we support the bill S.657 (A bill 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.)

We have been looking into a bill that was introduced by Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6] on March 29th. H.R.2281 - To award a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States Army Dust Off crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their

extraordinary heroism and life-saving actions in Vietnam. I am preparing a letter of support to send to Representative Kilmer. The bill honors a small group of Americans that have made unique contributions to the American military mission in the Vietnam War. Dust Off was the radio call sign used by helicopter ambulances during the war. These heroic Americans operated regularly with an unwavering dedication to the preservation of human life and sacred American values through their indomitable courage, extraordinary aviation skill, and sound judgement under fire. Helicopters were used for medical evacuation beginning in World War II, but their use expanded during the Vietnam War when about 900,000 U.S., South Vietnamese or allied troops were evacuated, as well as some wounded enemy forces. Able to rescue wounded in almost any weather from almost any terrain, the swish-swish-swish or whop-whop-whop noise of an approaching medevac chopper became an iconic sound of the war for soldiers. During 11 years of operation from May 1962 - March 1973 in and over South Vietnam's jungles, the pilots, crews, and medical staff of Dust-off units refined lifesaving techniques and proved the increased odds of survival for combat casualties who could be quickly transported to surgical facilities. This was dangerous duty for the Dust-Off crews, with a 1-in-3 chance of being wounded or killed. These soldiers earned a national reputation for their service in what was considered to be one of the most dangerous jobs in one of the world's deadliest conflicts in the modern era. The Dust-Off crews of the Vietnam War truly embody some of the most talented and heroic service members in American history, these warriors displayed the utmost courage and resilience while under fire by flying to the treacherous front lines to get wounded soldiers out of harm's way. Because of their bravery, hundreds of thousands of lives were saved.

With regard to legislation from the 116th Congress, that is being cleared out and are getting into contact with the 117th Congress to

see if past legislation that we are backing will be reintroduced.

REMEMBER: The NATIONAL SUICIDE HOTLINE DESIGNATION ACT OF 2020 was passed on October 17, 2020. The number 9-8-8 is the universal number for the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline.

Progress of Bills from the 116th Congress:

H.R. 712/S.179 - VA Medicinal Cannabis Research Act of 2020 - letter written to Rep. Andy Kim

S.191 Burn Pit Accountability Act - became law 116-92 on 12/20/2019

S.514 Deborah Sampson Act Benefit for women veterans - became law 116-315 1/5/2021

H.R. 326 - Victims of Agent Orange Relief Act of 2019 - No NJ Rep. Cosponsors

H.R. 1350 - Corey Adams Green Alert Throughout the US. - letter written to Rep. Donald Payne, Jr.

HR. 2201 - Modify Presumption for service-connected veterans who served in Thailand during the Vietnam Era. - letter written to Rep. Andy Kim

H.R. 2819/ S. 1673 - Gold Star Families National Monument Extension. - letters written to Rep. Andy Kim and Senator Corey Booker.

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: You are the voice of our POW and MIAs.

District	Name	Office Room	Phone
1st	<u>Chabot, Steve</u>	2408 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	(202) 225-2216
2nd	<u>Wenstrup, Brad</u>	2419 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	(202) 225-3164
3rd	<u>Beatty, Joyce</u>	2303 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	(202) 225-4324
4th	<u>Jordan, Jim</u>	2056 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	(202) 225-2676
5th	<u>Latta, Robert E.</u>	2467 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	(202) 225-6405
6th	<u>Johnson, Bill</u>	2336 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	(202) 225-5705
7th	<u>Gibbs, Bob</u>	2217 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	(202) 225-6265
8th	<u>Davidson, Warren</u>	2113 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	(202) 225-6205
9th	<u>Kaptur, Marcy</u>	2186 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	(202) 225-4146
10th	<u>Turner, Michael</u>	2082 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	(202) 225-6465
11th	<u>Fudge, Marcia L.</u> - Vacancy	2344 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	(202) 225-7032
12th	<u>Balderson, Troy</u>	2429 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	(202) 225-5355
13th	<u>Ryan, Tim</u>	1126 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	(202) 225-5261
14th	<u>Joyce, David</u>	2065 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	(202) 225-5731
15th	<u>Stivers, Steve</u>	2234 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	(202) 225-2015
16th	<u>Gonzalez, Anthony</u>	2458 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515	(202) 225-3876

Remains Identified

WWII Remains Identified:

U.S. Navy Patternmaker 1st Class Stanislaw F. Drwall
U.S. Navy Water Tender 1st Class Charles E. Hudson
U.S. Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Ernest N. Vienneau
U.S. Navy Fireman 1st Class Kenneth E. Doernenburg
U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class Walter C. Stein
U.S. Navy Musician 2nd Class Lloyd P. Wiegand
U.S. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Hugh R. Alexander
U.S. Navy Fireman 3rd Class Harry R. Holmes
U.S. Navy Fireman 2nd Class Ralph C. Battles
U.S. Navy Seaman 2nd Class Charles L. Saunders

Korean War Remains Identified:

U.S. Army Pfc. Philip T. Hoogacker

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

Chaplain's Corner

(submitted by Dan McGinnis)

No Need Is Too Trivial

Several mothers of small children were sharing encouraging answers to prayer. Yet one woman said she felt selfish about troubling God with her personal needs. "Compared with the huge global needs God faces," she explained, "my circumstances must seem trivial to Him."

Moments later, her little son pinched his fingers in a door and ran screaming to his mother. She didn't say, "How selfish of you to bother me with your throbbing fingers when I'm busy!" She showed him great compassion and tenderness.

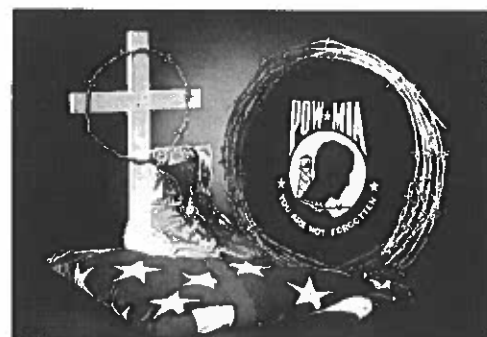
As Psalm 103:13 reminds us, this is the response of love, both human and divine. In Isaiah 49, God said that even though a mother may forget to have compassion on her child, the Lord never forgets His children (v.15). God assured His people, "I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands" (v.16).

Such intimacy with God belongs to those who fear Him and who rely on Him rather than on themselves. As that child with throbbing fingers ran freely to his mother, so may we run to God with our daily problems.

Our compassionate God doesn't neglect others to respond to our concerns. He has limitless time and love for each of His children. No need is too trivial for Him.

You take great delight in me, Lord, and quiet me with Your love. You rejoice over me with singing, like a mother singing a lullaby over her child. Thank You for Your tender love for me.

God holds His children in the palm of His hand.



ROLLING THUNDER® INC

RIDE FOR FREEDOM

XXXIII
OHIO

283 MILES



CINCINNATI TO CLEVELAND

MAY 30 2021

7:00 AM KICK STANDS UP

RIDE STARTS AT QUEEN CITY HARLEY DAVIDSON

5960 DIXIE HWY FAIRFIELD OH

ENDS NORTHFIELD OHIO VFW POST 6768

STOPS IN SUNBURY OHIO, ASHLAND OHIO

AND CLINTON OHIO

FUEL STOPS

JEFFERSONVILLE AND LODI, OHIO