

The Thunder Gazette

Published by Rolling Thunder® Inc. Chapter 1 Ohio

February, 2023

PLEASE NOTE

OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP

MEETING WILL BE HELD AT

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

**SUNDAY, February 19, 2023
2:00 p.m.**

Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.

**Paul Wiget will be collecting 2023 dues -
\$40 / person**

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 \$40/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, February 19, 2023 - Board/
Membership Meeting - 1:00/2:00 p.m.**

**Friday, March 31 - Sunday, April 2, 2023
- Piston & Power Show**



CHAPTER OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS AND PLATOON LEADERS

PRESIDENT LEW BALLARD 440-725-8157

VICE-PRES PAUL WIGET 440-476-3656

SECRETARY CHERYL PILNY 440-543-8468

TREASURER ANDY KLUSH 330-620-6047

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
CHUCK KETTLER 330-636-5315

BOARD MEMBERS

BILL STREET
JIM ROSSI
MIKE NEILAN 440-241-2655
TED PILNY 216-346-6407
DAN HUBBARD 216-741-3992

(ALTERNATE) TED ROOD

CHAPLAIN DAN MCGINNIS 330-618-1720

RUN COORDINATOR OPEN

MEMBERSHIP OPEN

QUARTERMASTER
DAN HUBBARD 216-741-3992

ASST. QUARTERMASTER OPEN

SARGENT AT ARMS OPEN

NEWSLETTER STAFF
CHERYL PILNY 440-543-8468

PLATOON LEADERS:

#1 MIKE NEILAN 440-241-2655

#2 TOM BLECHSCHMID 440-349-2470

#3 SALLY FELEAN 440-439-4914

#4 OPEN

STATE LIAISON James "Spy" Reilly – Chapter 9

WE CARE

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
CHUCK KETTLER 330-636-5315

VA VISITS – OPEN

EVENTS CHAIR

PUBLIC RELATIONS CHUCK KETTLER 330-636-5315

EDUCATION CHAIR DAN MCGINNIS 330-618-1720

Address: Rolling Thunder Chapter 1 Ohio
P. O. Box 1145
Mentor, OH 44060

Web Site Address: www.rollingthunder1ohio.org
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 – Wade Groth



GROTH, WADE LAWRENCE

Name: Wade Lawrence Groth
Rank/Branch: E4/US Army
Unit: 50th Medical Detachment, 43rd Medical Group,
44th Medical Brigade
Date of Birth: 14 May 1947
Home City of Record: Greenville MI (joined Army in
Cleveland OH)
Date of Loss: 12 February 1968
Country of Loss: South Vietnam
Loss Coordinates: 121721N 1074713E (ZU030600)
Status (in 1973): Missing In Action
Category: 4
Aircraft/Vehicle/Ground: UH1H
Refno: 1046

Other Personnel In Incident: Harry W. Brown, Alan
W. Gunn, Jerry L. Roe (all
missing)

Government Affairs -

1. S.42 - 118th Congress (2023-2024): BUILD
for Veterans Act of 2023 -
To improve the management and performance of
the capital asset programs of the Department of
Veterans Affairs so as to better serve veterans,
their families, caregivers, and survivors, and for
other purposes. Has been referred to the
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
[https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-
congress/senate-bill/42?s=1&r=5](https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/42?s=1&r=5)
Ohio Senator Brown is a co-sponsor of this bill. Need
to get Senator Vance on board.

2. S.10 - 118th Congress (2023-2024): VA
Clinician Appreciation, Recruitment, Education,
Expansion, and Retention Support (CAREERS)
Act of 2023 -
To improve the workforce of the Department of
Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.
[https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-
congress/senate-bill/10/text](https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/10/text)
No Ohio senators have signed onto this bill yet.

3. H.R.214 - 118th Congress (2023-2024):
Veterans' True Choice Act of 2023 -
To amend title 10, United States Code, to
provide eligibility for TRICARE Select to
veterans with service-connected disabilities, and
for other purposes.
[https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-
congress/house-bill/214/text?s=1&r=41](https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/214/text?s=1&r=41)
No Ohio representatives have signed onto this bill
yet.

4. H.R.232 - 118th Congress (2023-2024): Real
Justice for Our Veterans Act of 2023 |
Congress.gov | Library of Congress
[https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-
congress/house-bill/232/text?s=1&r=29](https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/232/text?s=1&r=29)
There are no co-sponsors to this bill yet.

5. H.R.236 - 118th Congress (2023-2024): To
direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to
designate a week as "Battle Buddy Check Week"
for the purpose of outreach and education
concerning peer wellness checks for veterans,
and for other purposes. | Congress.gov | Library
of Congress
[https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-
congress/house-bill/236/text?s=1&r=27](https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/236/text?s=1&r=27)
Sponsor: Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-
18] (Introduced
There are no co-sponsors yet to this bill.

01/10/2023 - Committees: House - Veterans'
Affairs Latest Action: House - 02/08/2023
Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (All
Actions)

On April 26, 2022, VA announced the addition of
nine rare respiratory cancers to the list of presumed
service-connected disabilities due to exposure to fine
particulate matter for Veterans who served any
amount of time in

- Afghanistan, Djibouti, Syria or Uzbekistan
during the Persian Gulf War, from September
19, 2001, to the present, or
- The Southwest Asia theater of operations
from August 2, 1990, to the present.

VA is taking a new approach to making decisions on presumptives, one that takes all available science into account, with one goal in mind - getting today's Veterans, and Vets in the decades ahead - the benefits they deserve, as fast as possible.

VA identified, through a focused review of scientific and medical evidence, a biological plausibility between airborne hazards, specifically particulate matter, and carcinogenesis of the respiratory tract; the unique circumstances of these rare cancers warrant a presumption of service connection.

Veterans and survivors who had claims previously denied for any of the below respiratory cancers are encouraged to file a supplemental claim for benefits:

- Squamous cell carcinoma of the larynx;
- Squamous cell carcinoma of the trachea;
- Adenocarcinoma of the trachea;
- Salivary gland-type tumors of the trachea;
- Adenosquamous carcinoma of the lung;
- Large cell carcinoma of the lung;
- Salivary gland-type tumors of the lung;
- Sarcomatoid carcinoma of the lung and;
- Typical and atypical carcinoid of the lung.

VA will contact impacted Veterans and survivors to inform them about their eligibility and it will provide information on how to apply.

To apply for benefits, Veterans and survivors may visit VA.gov or call toll-free at 800-827-1000.

"UNTIL THEY ALL COME HOME"

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

Remains Identified

WWII Remains Identified:

U.S. Army Air Forces 1st Lt. James Deeds
U.S. Army Air Forces 1st Lt. George Reuter
U.S. Army Air Forces 1st Lt. George Winger
U.S. Army Pvt. Leroy Slenker
USMC Sgt. George Greenless

Korean War

U.S. Army Cpl. Donald DuPont

***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)

Rejoicing Love

As a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will
your God rejoice over you.

Isaiah 62:5

Brendan and Katie beamed at each other.

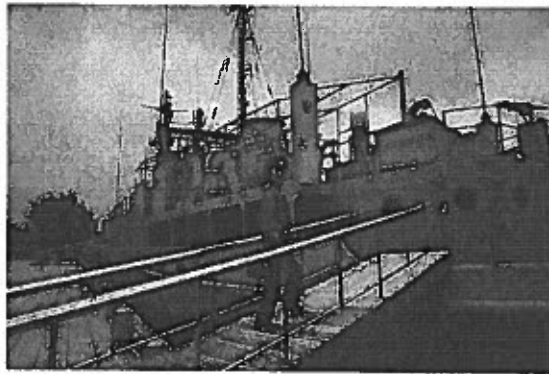
Looking at the pure joy on their faces, you would have never guessed the difficult ways so many of their wedding plans had been dramatically altered due to COVID-19 restrictions. Even with only twenty-five family members present, joy and peace radiated from the two as they said their vows because of their love for each other and expressed their gratefulness for God's love sustaining them.

The image of a bride and groom delighting over each other is the picture the prophet Isaiah painted to describe the type of delight and love God has for His people. In a beautifully poetic description of His promised deliverance, Isaiah reminded his readers that the salvation He offered them reflected the reality of living in a broken world—comfort for the brokenhearted, joy for those who mourn, and provision for the needs of His people (Isaiah 61:1-3). God offered help to His people because, just like a bride and groom celebrate their love for each other, "so will your God rejoice over you" (62:5).

It's a remarkable truth that God delights in us and wants a relationship with us. Even when we struggle because of the effects of living in a broken world, we have a God who loves us, not begrudgingly, but with a rejoicing, lasting love that "endures forever" (Psalms 136:1)

US House passes resolution calling for return of USS Pueblo seized by N. Korea

2023-01-24: 09:41



A Korean People's Army (KPA) guide walks aboard the USS Pueblo at the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum in Pyongyang, in this July 28, 2017 file photo. AFP-Yonhap

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a resolution last week calling for the return of a U.S. Navy ship seized by North Korea 55 years ago.

The resolution calls for the return of USS Pueblo while denouncing North Korea's seizure of the ship and its crew Jan. 23, 1968.

The House "maintains North Korea's seizure of the vessel USS Pueblo and its detention of the crew were in violation of international law," it states.

It also adds the House "declares that USS Pueblo is the property of the United States government and it should be returned to the United States."

North Korea's official Rodong Sinmun newspaper reported Saturday that Pyongyang will wipe out "not only a port or an airfield of a warmonger or invader but their entire land if a second USS Pueblo enters our territorial waters again."

The ship and its 83 crewmembers were seized while on an intelligence gathering mission in the East Sea.

The House resolution argued the ship had "strict orders to remain at all times at a distance more than 13 nautical miles from the near point in North Korean territory, in order to avoid any possible incident."

"The United States has no reason to believe the orders were not obeyed," it added, also noting the ship was carrying three 50-caliber machine guns at the time of its seizure, but that not a single shot had been fired.

One of the crewmembers, Fireman Duane Hodges, died on the day during the North Korean seizure of the Pueblo. His body and the other 82 sailors were repatriated in December 1968 after being detained in the North for 11 months.

The crew and their family members filed a damage suit against North Korea in 2018 for the "mental and physical abuse" they were exposed to during their time in the reclusive country.

A U.S. federal district court ruled against the North in 2021, ordering it to pay over \$2 billion in total or a minimum of \$3.35 million to each of the crewmembers in compensation. (Yonhap)