

The Thunder Gazette

Published by Rolling Thunder® Inc. Chapter 1 Ohio

February, 2025

PLEASE NOTE

OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP

MEETING WILL BE HELD ON

SUNDAY,

February 16, 2025

2:00 p.m.

Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.

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

*If you haven't already done so, please
pay your 2025 dues of \$40/member.*

To be a member in good standing, one must:

- Attend at least 3 meetings & 3 events per year;
- Pay the annual membership dues of \$40/yr;
- Abide by the Membership Patch rules;
- Remain loyal to Rolling Thunder® in word, deed and action;
- Conduct him/herself in a professional and courteous manner at all times.

Piston & Power Show - Friday, March 28 -
Sunday, March 30, 2025

*We seek accountability - the return of living
POW's and when that is not possible - the
repatriation of their remains. We further
advocate the same for all MIA.*



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 16, 2025 - 1:00/2:00 p.m. -
Board/Membership meeting.

Sunday, March 16, 2025 - 1:00/2:00 p.m. -
Board/Membership meeting

**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 440-537-0955

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
TIM EXTON 216-789-9272

NEWSLETTER STAFF
CHERYL PILNY 440-543-8468

PLATOON LEADERS:
#1 MIKE NEILAN 440-241-2655

#2 SALLY FELEAN 440-349-2470

#3 RUSS TUBBS 440-391-3833

#4 DAN MCGINNIS 330-618-1720

STATE LIAISON IRA "SHREK" SKEEBY 937-541-5927

WE CARE

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
CHUCK KETTLER 330-636-5315

VA VISITS – OPEN

EVENTS CHAIR OPEN

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.

The advocacy group Rolling Thunder®, Inc. / Rolling Thunder® Charities, Inc. supports U.S. Military Active Duty, Veterans, Prisoners Of War, and Personnel Missing In Action from past wars.

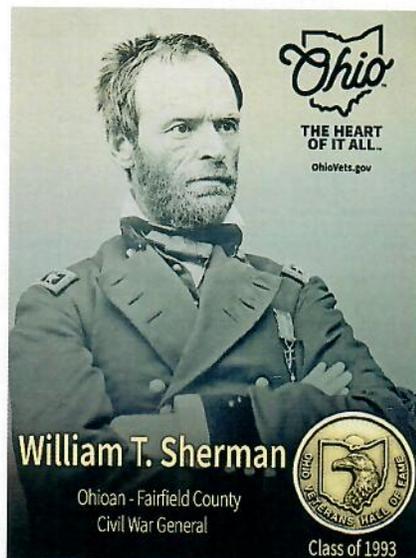
Our Adopted MIA/POW – Wade Groth



U.S. Artillery. He saw his first action in Florida in the Second Seminole War. In 1859, Sherman accepted a job as the first superintendent of the Louisiana State Seminary of Learning & Military Academy (now LSU), where in 1861 he refused to turn over military weapons as southern states began seceding from the Union. After the bombardment of Fort Sumter and its subsequent capture by the Confederacy, Sherman volunteered for service in the Union Army, first commissioned as colonel of the 13th U.S. Infantry Regiment. He distinguished himself after being wounded in the first Battle of Bull Run, and President Lincoln promoted him to brigadier general of volunteers in 1861. Under the command of fellow Ohioan and future President Ulysses S. Grant, Sherman distinguished himself again after being wounded twice at the Battle of Shiloh, and was promoted to major general of volunteers. After his victories at Vicksburg, Chattanooga and Atlanta, Sherman would successfully march his troops to the sea in the closing months of 1864, burning a path through Georgia and South Carolina, famously destroying everything of military value until the end of the Civil War.

When Grant became president in 1869, Sherman was appointed commanding general of the United States Army and promoted to the rank of full general. After the war, he refused to be the Republican presidential nominee in 1884. Toward the end of his highly accomplished military career, Sherman established the Command School (now the Command and General Staff College) at Fort Leavenworth. He later became a devotee of the theater and the arts in New York City, but never forgot his Ohio roots and the sacrifices of service. In fact, he was active in several social and charitable organizations, including those for veterans. William Tecumseh

Sherman died of pneumonia in New York City on Feb. 14, 1891, six days after his 71st birthday. He was inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame in 1993.



Chaplain's Corner

(submitted by Dan McGinnis)

I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: everywhere and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. *Philippians 4:12-13*

Inspiration

One of the most important things we should learn, as Christians, is to be content. We will face periods in our lives where we will have plenty, and we will face times of lack. Neither situation reflects on God's character. God's character is revealed in our endurance and our contentment because of our trust in Him. Don't be moved by your situations. Be content in God. He has all your needs covered.

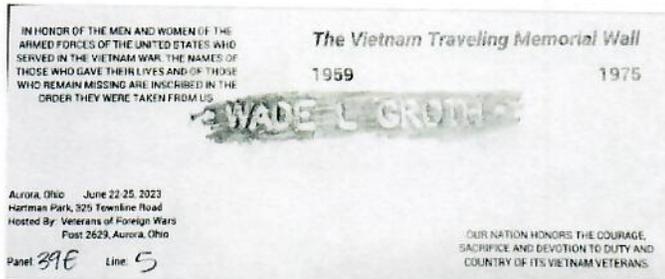
Prayer

Dear God, I thank you that you are the source of my strength in every situation I go through. I know I can endure anything because Christ is my strength. May I never forget this, Lord. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen

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 -

With the new Congress being in session, new bills need to be introduced. Stay tuned.

"UNTIL THEY ALL COME HOME"

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

Remains Identified

WWII

U.S. Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Justice J. Buttala
U.S. Army Pvt. Charles W. Smalley
U.S. Army Air Forces Capt. Arthur M. Lingo
U.S. Army Air Forces Donald E. Bays

Korean War

U.S. Army Sgt. James Byron Brock
U.S. Army Sgt. Delorean Dellis Dage

Viet Nam War

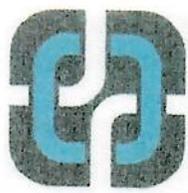
None listed

On January 7, 2025 Chapter 1 attended the quarterly Honors Ceremony at the Western Reserve National Cemetery for 41 Veterans who were buried in the last quarter without family or military honors. We cannot let this happen without paying our respects.



Fun Fact - William T. Sherman

Born near the banks of the Hocking River in Lancaster, Ohio in 1820, William Tecumseh Sherman would excel at West Point, entering the Army as a second lieutenant in the 3rd



Challenge America

Virtual Music Therapy Retreats

The Challenge America Virtual Music Therapy Retreat leverages technology, the healing power of music, and best practices from trauma-informed music therapy to help Veterans cope with the diagnosis or symptoms of PTSD and Military Sexual Trauma.

Over the course of this 4-week program, Veterans meet together twice a week to learn brain-balancing skills utilizing guitar and mindfulness, while experiencing two 1:1 songwriting collaborations with a professional songwriter who will perform the Veteran's song in a virtual concert during the last week.



Veteran participants benefit from:

- Trauma-informed music therapy with a Board-Certified Music Therapist
- A songwriting opportunity with a professional songwriter to facilitate self-expression 
- A Veteran group experience that interrupts the vicious cycle of isolation
- A guitar to turn to in times of darkness for comfort and to express emotions 
- Access to resources, including the Challenge America Veteran Arts Community (CAVARTS), the Military Sisterhood Initiative (MSI), & our growing library of free video tutorials on guitar, songwriting, & mindfulness lessons
- A renewed sense of hope, belonging & purpose 

National Peer-Support Communities



Created by Veterans, for Veterans, CAVARTS is an exclusive community that brings together 8,200+ Veterans & service members to connect, learn, & grow through the creative arts. Members have access to workshops, concerts, panel discussions, guitar lessons, clubs, & more.



MSI is a national peer support network of and for women of the military with 5,600+ members. Members provide support for one other & build connections through shared experiences in mental health, MST, PTSD, art, cooking, & more.





Challenge America

Ohio DAC State Regent's Project 2024-2027

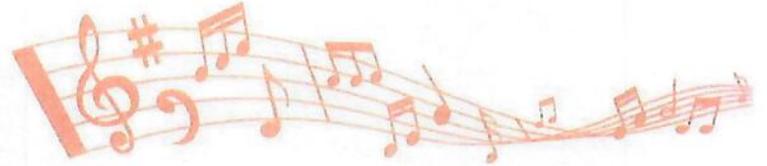
GOAL

To provide Virtual 4-Week Music Therapy Retreats for Ohio Veterans with PTSD and/or MST

10 Veterans Per Retreat

How many retreats will Ohio DAC Daughters provide in 2024-2027?

Questions about the retreat?
Susan Bock, MM, MT-BC
susan@challengeamerica.com



Participant Testimonials



"This helped me get my motivation for living life back."

"The concert was the most inspirational time of my life. There was connection."

"The amount of stress hasn't changed, life has gone on and things are coming up but my ability to manage them has increased."

"Learning the guitar has brought my son and I closer together because it's something we can share."

"Being a part of this retreat hit me in the soul."



How You & Your Chapter Can Donate

\$980 - Provides for one Veteran to attend the retreat

or PER VETERAN:

\$250 - Provides a guitar

\$250 - Provides a Songwriter

\$250 - Provides the Music Therapist

\$100 - Provides Program Coordination

\$85 - Provides Materials & Shipping

\$45 - Provides a Gig Bag & Guitar Stand

Purchase your State Regent's Project Pin

