

The Thunder Gazette

Published by Rolling Thunder® Inc. Chapter 1 Ohio

September, 2025

PLEASE NOTE

OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP

MEETING WILL BE HELD ON

Sunday

September 21, 2025

2:00 p.m.

Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.

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

To be a member in good standing, one must:

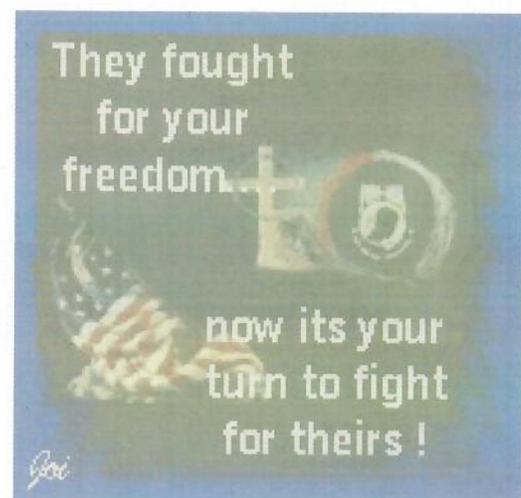
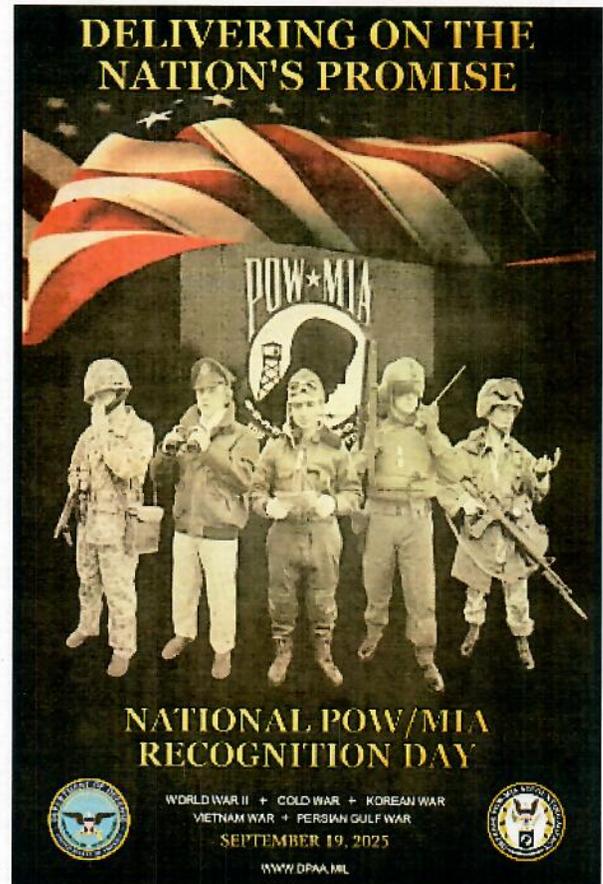
- a. Attend at least 3 meetings & 3 events per year;
- b. Pay the annual membership dues of \$40/yr;
- c. Abide by the Membership Patch rules;
- d. Remain loyal to Rolling Thunder® in word, deed and action;
- e. Conduct him/herself in a professional and courteous manner at all times.

Final nominees are:

President:	Lew Ballard
Secretary:	Cheryl Pilny
Board Member:	Bill Street
	Ted Rood
	Dan Hubbard
	Ted Pilny

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 21, 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 CHUCK KETTLER (Interim)

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
CHUCK KETTLER 330-636-5315

BOARD MEMBERS

BILL STREET 440-537-0955

JIM ROSSI 216-218-1692

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

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P. O. Box 1145
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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.

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.

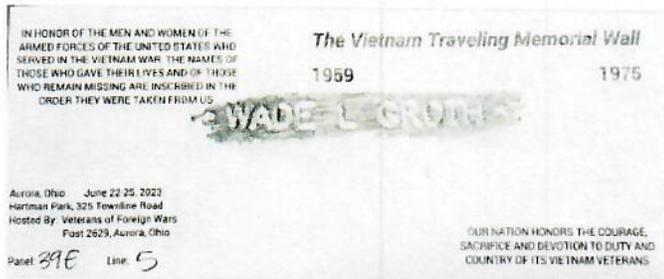
Our Adopted MIA/POW – Wade Groth



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)



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.

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.

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

While there's no guarantee that applying pressure from elected officials or veteran organizations will automatically generate instant results, it can be a valuable approach to ensure the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) remains focused on specific cases and to potentially gain updates or information that might otherwise be less readily available.

Here's why and how involving these groups can be helpful:

Elevated Awareness: Involving a Senator, Governor, Congressman, or a VFW or American Legion Post can bring higher-level attention to the case within the DPAA, potentially prompting a review of the case's status and actions taken to date.

Congressional Inquiries and Oversight: Elected officials have the ability to submit official inquiries to federal agencies on behalf of constituents, notes the University of Denver and Security Clearance Jobs reports. This can lead to the DPAA providing a more comprehensive response than might be received through a standard inquiry.

Advocacy and Support: Veteran organizations like the VFW and American Legion are dedicated to advocating for veterans and their families, including those affected by POW/MIA cases. They often have established relationships with the DPAA and can offer support and guidance to families seeking information or action on a case.

Navigating Bureaucracy: These individuals and organizations may be able to help families navigate the DPAA's processes and protocols, ensuring all necessary information is provided and proper channels are followed.

Important considerations

DPAA's Priorities: The DPAA operates with a sense of urgency, prioritizing cases based on factors such as the risk of losing evidence due to environmental or geopolitical factors, and the age of the immediate family members involved.

Geopolitics: In cases involving certain countries, such as North Korea, geopolitical factors can significantly impact the DPAA's ability to operate and obtain information or access to sites.

Information Availability: The DPAA is committed to providing the fullest possible accounting for missing personnel, according to the agency. They maintain case files and work to declassify and release documents as appropriate. While it's important to understand the DPAA's mission and process, seeking assistance from elected officials and veteran organizations can certainly be a constructive step for families and individuals striving to achieve resolution after decades of waiting.

Remains Identified

WWII

U.S. Army Air Forces PFC Bernard F. Sweet
U.S. Army Leo Rakoff

Korean War

None Listed

Viet Nam War

None listed

Chaplain's Corner

(submitted by Dan McGinnis)

Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another.
Romans 12:10

Inspiration

Love one another; it is as simple as that. For if God demands you to honor his creation, this also includes his people. Love is not a science, it is an art that takes constant negotiation, communication and consideration. But should we become better in this, all the better not only for this world, but also in preparing us for the next, wherein everything resides within the arms of our everlasting and loving Father.

Prayer

Lord, give us your guidance. Through Jesus' actions show us how to commit to your brotherly love and understanding, honoring one another as we break bread upon Your holy sacrament and salvation. Help us treat one another as we would like to be treated ourselves, and thereafter, finding lasting peace and love in giving thanks to Your holy name, O Lord most high. Amen.

Harvey High School Chair of Honor dedication





Our busy lives can make it hard to keep up with loved ones and friends. Make the time today to pick up the phone and check on a buddy. You never know the positive impact one call can make.

The Veterans Crisis Line is here for you 24/7.

Dial 988 then Press 1, chat at [VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat](https://www.VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat), or text 838255 for immediate support.

Macedonia Walmart Fundraiser

