

MIA Totals: WWI (3,344), WWII (72,674), Korean (7,631), Cold War (126), Vietnam (1,594), OEF, OIF (5)
Indiana WWI (104) WWII (1,499), Korean (170), Vietnam (51)

INCOMING!



April 2024 Newsletter

ROLLING THUNDER®, INC.

Indiana Chapter #1
“POW-MIA – You are not Forgotten”

<http://indianarollingthunder.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/RTINCh1>

Chapter Officers



President: Michael Clark

Vice President: David Craig

Secretary: Jessica Clark

Treasurer: Terry “Flash” Sanderson

President News

I hope everyone is doing well and in good health. Page 2 of the newsletter list our April birthday members. I wish all of you a happy birthday and hope you have many more.

April and May are going to be busy months for the Chapter. **Pages 12 and 13** of the newsletter highlights the upcoming events. I hope everyone will take a few minutes and look through the newsletter to see what the Chapter has done and what the Chapter is planning on doing in the next couple of months.

The main event for May will be the XXXVI Ride for Freedom. This is a CORE event and request maximum participation from the membership. A copy of the flyer is located on **pages 18 and 19** of the newsletter. You can also download the information from our website at www.indianarollingthunder.com. Request that everyone preregister so we can get a headcount of the number of people that will be attending the event. This will help us determine how much food to purchase and other logistics.

The Chapter is hosting another Gun Raffle this year. The 2023 Gun Raffle was very successful for the Chapter and we hope that the 2024 Gun Raffle will be even better. **The Gun Raffle will only be successful if we sell the raffle tickets.** Only 1,000 tickets were printed and we need memberships support to sell the tickets. The next Gun and Blade show will be May 31st through June 2nd. The winning ticket will be drawn at the June 2nd show. Therefore, we have from now to June 2nd to sell all 1,000 tickets. **Need your help !!**

There are a couple of articles in the newsletter that I would like to point out. **1)** On page 6 and 7, is an article on Jessica Lynch who was captured during the Iraq War and taken prisoner. She is reported to be the first successful rescue of an American POW since WWII and the first ever of a women. **2)** On page 8, is an article written by our Junior Member Matthew “Bones” Hubbard titled “**What Freedom Means to Me**”. This is an awesome job for a 12 year old. **3)** On page 10, is an article written by Teri Jeatran in 2017 who rode with the Chapter to Washing DC to participate in the Ride for Freedom Demonstration. Our journey's to Washington DC over the years to participate in the Ride for Freedom Demonstration has had a positive impact on a lot of people. We will never be able to reproduce this event in Indiana, however I believe our Ride for Freedom events that we have done the last couple of year has impacted more local people in the State of Indiana.

The next Chapter meeting is Sunday April 21, 2024

April
2024 Birthday's



Jim Smith (07)

Evan Smith (11)

AnnaLena Hubbard (13)

Linda Harrington (20)

William Smither (23)

Mark Smith (26)

Roger Roe (27)

Orin Morris (28)

Bill Reisa (29)

Hope you have many more

ACTIVE MEMBERS WITH 20 YEARS OR MORE OF SERVICE

First Name	Last Name	Date Joined	Remarks
Judy	Brinkley	September 1, 1998	
Sammy	Davis	September 1, 1998	Honorary
Carol	McFarland	September 1, 1998	
Don	McFarland	September 1, 1998	
Mark	Smith	September 1, 1998	Honorary
Bill	Reisa	November 19, 1998	
Terry	Sanderson	June 28, 1999	
Roger	Roe	November 19, 2000	
Donna	Ransdell	April 21, 2002	
Tom	Ransdell	April 21, 2002	
Ken	White	January 18, 2003	
David	Begala	June 1, 2003	
Alex	Barile	February 2, 2004	
Tony	Palmiero	March 1, 2004	
Larry	Paynter	March 21, 2004	

The above members are still active members in the Chapter and have 20 or more years of service starting in 2024. Rolling Thunder® Indiana Chapter #1 was chartered in September 1, 1998. The above members with Joined Date of September 1, 1998 are Charter Members.

The Chapter is fortunate to have dedicated members such as these and I thank them for their service to the Chapter. I hope all of you will continue your service for many more years. Thank You.

INDY 1500 Gun and Blade Show March 8-10, 2024

March 8th through 10th was a busy weekend for the Chapter at the INDY 1500 Gun and Blade show. The Gun and Blade show gives us a opportunity to meet new people to pass out literature and tell people about Rolling Thunder® and our mission. The Gun and Blade show is also a good source of revenue for the Chapter. In 2023, the Gun and Blade show generated over \$7,000 in ticket sales and donations. We are hoping to exceed that this year. The March 2024 Gun and Blade show generated \$1,387 in ticket sales and donations. **Thanks to all of the members that helped with the show.**



Greg Thompson profiling his Motorcycle at the show. The motorcycle did draw a lot of attention and gave us an opportunity to speak with the people who stopped and asked questions.

Both Darryle and Greg put a lot of time in show and we appreciate their support.



Darryle's Spider also got a lot of attention from the crowd at the show. Darryle was so wore out he had to take a short power nape to recover.

March Chapter Meeting Humane Society for Hamilton County March 17, 2024

The March Chapter meeting was held at the Humane Society for Hamilton County in support of the Pets Healing Vets program. An estimated 22 veterans commit suicide each day while approximately 2.7 million animals are euthanized in shelters every year. The main mission of the Pets Healing Vets program is to improve the emotional well-being of Hoosier veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) by pairing them with carefully selected shelter animals in need of homes.

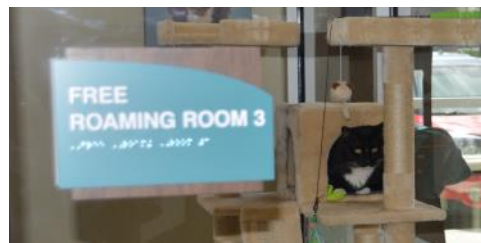
The Chapter had the privileged of hearing from two Veterans on how the Pets Healing Vets program has helped them to deal with life. Scott and Seneca told their touching stories on what their pets mean to them and how the Pets Healing Vets program has help them. The Chapter will host a fund raiser for the Pets Healing Vets program on October 5th. **See flyer on page 23.**



Scott with his Pet Ruby



Seneca with his Pet Pepper



After the meeting, Chapter members had an opportunity to tour the facility. Chapter Members also donated several products to the Humane Society's from their wish list to help with the daily operation of the facility. Many thanks to those who made the donations. Thank You.

Jessica Dawn Lynch (born April 26, 1983) is an American teacher, actress, and former United States Army soldier served in the 2003 invasion of Iraq as a private first class.



who

On March 23, 2003, she was serving as a unit supply specialist with the 507th Maintenance Company when her convoy was ambushed by Iraqi troops during the Battle of Nasiriyah; Lynch was seriously injured during the offensive and captured by Iraqi soldiers shortly afterwards. Her subsequent recovery by U.S. special operations forces on April 1, 2003, received considerable media coverage as it was the first successful rescue of an American prisoner of war since World War II and the first ever of a woman.

Initial official reports on Lynch's capture and rescue in Iraq were incorrect. On April 24, 2007, she testified in front of United States Congress that she had never fired her weapon (her M16 rifle reportedly having jammed), and that she had been knocked unconscious when her vehicle crashed during ambush.^[1] Lynch has been outspoken in her criticism of original stories that were reported regarding her combat experience. When asked about her heroine status, she "That wasn't me. I'm not about to take credit for something I didn't do... I'm just a survivor."^[2]



the
the

stated:

April 28, 2004

In 2014, Lynch made her acting debut as specialist Summer L. Gabriel in the 2014 film *Virtuous*. Her role was loosely based on her own experiences during the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003.^[3]

1. Archived at [Ghostarchive](#) and the [Wayback Machine](#): "[Hearing on Tillman, Lynch Incidents: Jessica Lynch's Opening](#)". [YouTube](#). April 24, 2007. Retrieved May 5, 2007.
2. "[Rescued POW disturbed by exaggerated early reports of her ordeal](#)". [NCTimes.com](#). Associated Press. 2007. Archived from [the original](#) on December 20, 2004. Retrieved August 1, 2007.
3. Scott, Jeffery (September 18, 2014). "[Former POW Jessica Lynch Starring in New Christian Film](#)". [Christian Post](#). Retrieved September 24, 2014.

**An afternoon with Iraq War Veteran and Former POW
Jessica Lynch
March 19, 2022**



Pershing Auditorium , Indiana War Memorial



**Daughters of the American Revolution presents
Jessica with an award.**



Chapter members attended the Jessica Lynch presentation at the Indiana War Memorial in front of the POW*MIA Chair of Honor. It was a honor to be at the presentation to hear Jessica tell her story as a POW.

Article by Junior Member Matthew “Bones” Hubbard

What Freedom Means to Me

CGMSN 6th Grade, Silver Team: Matthew Hubbard

Freedom is a fundamental human right that encompasses the ability to act, think, and speak without restraint or coercion. It is an essential component of a democratic society, fostering individual autonomy, self-expression, and the pursuit of happiness. This essay explores the significance of freedom, its role in shaping society, and the responsibilities that come with it.

Freedom allows individuals to make choices and take actions based on their own beliefs and values. It empowers people to express their thoughts and opinions openly, fostering a culture of dialogue, debate, and intellectual growth. Freedom of speech, for instance, enables individuals to voice their concerns, challenge authority, and contribute to public discourse. It serves as a catalyst for social progress and the exchange of diverse ideas, leading to innovation, creativity, and the advancement of knowledge.

Moreover, freedom serves as a cornerstone of political systems that prioritize individual rights and liberties. Democratic societies, for example, recognize and protect the freedom of assembly, allowing citizens to gather and express their collective views. The right to vote ensures that individuals can participate in the decision-making process, shaping the direction of their communities and countries.

In conclusion, freedom is a fundamental human right that empowers individuals, shapes societies, and drives progress. It allows for personal autonomy, self-expression, and the pursuit of happiness. However, it also comes with responsibilities, requiring individuals to exercise their freedom ethically and with regard for the well-being of others. By respecting the boundaries of freedom and advocating for its fair application, we can create a society that upholds individual rights, fosters diversity, and promotes the common good.

Doughboys

It's unknown exactly how U.S. service members in World War I (1914-18) came to be dubbed doughboys—the term most typically was used to refer to troops deployed to Europe as part of the American Expeditionary Forces—but there are a variety of theories about the origins of the nickname.

According to one explanation, the term dates back to the Mexican War of 1846-48, when American infantrymen made long treks over dusty terrain, giving them the appearance of being covered in flour, or dough. As a variation of this account goes, the men were coated in the dust of adobe soil and as a result were called “adobes,” which morphed into “dobies” and, eventually, “doughboys.”

Among other theories, according to “War Slang” by Paul Dickson the American journalist and lexicographer H.L. Mencken claimed the nickname could be traced to Continental Army soldiers who kept the piping on their uniforms white through the application of clay. When the troops got rained on the clay on their uniforms turned into “doughy blobs,” supposedly leading to the doughboy moniker.



However doughboy came into being, it was just one of the nicknames given to those who fought in the Great War. For example, “poilu” (“hairy one”) was a term for a French soldier, as a number of them had beards or mustaches, while a popular slang term for a British soldier was “Tommy,” an abbreviation of Tommy Atkins, a generic name (along the lines of John Doe) used on government forms. The nickname was still in use as of the early 1940s. Examples include the 1942 song “Johnny Doughboy Found a Rose in Ireland”, recorded by Dennis Day, Kenny Baker, and Kay Kyser, among others, the 1942 musical film *Johnny Doughboy*, and the character “Johnny Doughboy” in *Military Comics*. It was gradually replaced during World War II by “G.I.”

America's last World War I doughboy, Frank Buckles, died in 2011 in West Virginia at age 110. Buckles enlisted in the Army at age 16 in August 1917, four months after the U.S. entered the conflict, and drove military vehicles in France. One of 4.7 million Americans who served in the war, Buckles was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Article written by Teri Jeatran
Who has ridden with the Chapter to Washington DC in Squad 4

An Ode to Rolling Thunder®

Neither rain nor snow or sleet nor hail,
will keep Rolling Thunder from telling their
tale.

They fought for their country on all kinds of
shores.

Now Missing In Action or Prisoners of War.

So where ever they are, and where ever we
roam,
We just want to say, "They deserve to come
home!"

- By Teri Jeatran
Member Squad 4
Rolling Thunder®, Inc., IN #1
2017

Prisoner of War (POW)/Missing in Action (MIA) POW*MIA Chairs of Honor Program

The Chapter has dedicated 14 POW*MIA Chairs of Honor throughout the State of Indiana. The Chairs can be seen on our website at www.indianarollingthunder.com. These chairs are placed in venues where thousands of people will see these special chairs. These chairs honor those Service Members that went off to war and have haven't return home; their whereabouts are unknown, and their fate is yet to be determined. These special chairs are also a reminder to the family members of our POWs and MIAs that their loved one will not be forgotten.

The Chapter continues to look for venues that are willing to display one of these special chairs in their facility to honor those that remain unaccounted for. In 2024, the Chapter has four venues that we are looking forward to dedicating one of these special chairs in their facility. They include the following:

Rushville Elks Lodge #1307, located in Rushville Indiana.

Rushville High School, located in Rushville Indiana.

Mooreville High School, located in Mooreville Indiana.

Indianapolis Motor Speedway, located in Indianapolis Indiana.

The placement of a POW*MIA Chair of Honor in these venues, will be an honor to those who have served this great country and remain unaccounted for. They will also remind the family members of our POWs and MIAs that their loved one will not be forgotten, and we hope and pray that one day they will have closure.

If your organization would like to have one of these special chairs in your venue, please contact mike.clark@indianarollingthunder.com or call 317-991-3085.



Dedication projected for November 2024

Rushville HS Display



**Proposed location of chair at IMS
Tower Terrace Section 59**

The Rushville Elks Lodge and Mooreville HS displays are being worked.

Upcoming Events for April and May

April 13	Indy Honor Flight #40 (Reschedule from September 2023)
April 20	Vietnam Veterans of America Spouse and Survivor Benefits Seminar
April 21	Board/Chapter Meeting
April 28	Support the Troops, Kokomo Indiana
May 1	Chapter Event Planning Meeting
May 4	Dave and Kathy's Spring Fling
May 11	INDY Honor Flight #42

Indy Honor Flight #40 (Reschedule from September 2023)

On April 13th Indy Honor Flight will take Veterans to Washington DC to see their memorials. They will leave early in the morning and return to Indianapolis the same evening. There will be a Welcome Home Celebration at the Plainfield High School upon their return. The Chapter likes to meet the Veterans at the Airport as they debark the airplane to welcome them home. Please monitor your email for updates when we get closure to April 13th.

Vietnam Veterans of America Spouse and Survivor Benefits Seminar

VVA 295 will have a Spouse and Survivor Benefits Seminar at the Veterans Center on Saturday April 20th. **See flyer on page 14** for the details.

Board/Chapter Meeting

The April Chapter Meeting will be at the Fort Harrison Veterans Center. Ed Newbill, Jeff Thatcher and David Brewer will talk about their Military and Civilian backgrounds. We will also have Mr. Dominguez as guest speaker to talk about the Alpinestars Tech-Air 5 Airbag System for motorcycles. The Chapter meeting will start at 13:00 (1:00pm).

Support the Troops, Kokomo Indiana

ABATE of Indiana Region 3 is hosting their annual Support the Troops ride in Kokomo Indiana. The sign in starts at 11:00am and the ride departs at 13:30. The staging area will be at the former Aldi Grocery parking lot located at 1700 E. Sycamore St., Kokomo, IN 46903. monitor your email for updates.

Chapter Event Planning Meeting

Members are welcome and encouraged to attend the Chapter Event Planning Meetings. The meetings start at 18:00 using the same Zoom information as our monthly Chapter meetings.

Dave and Kathy's Spring Fling

Dave and Kathy Brewer is having their annual Spring Fling on Saturday May 4th. The event starts at 13:00 (1:00pm) and will go till 02:30am, or until you can't party any longer. Dave is asking that you **RSVP with the number of people in your party by April 19th by emailing to davidebrewer55@yahoo.com**. **See flyer on page 15** for the details on the party and directions.

INDY Honor Flight #42

On May 11th Indy Honor Flight will take Veterans to Washington DC to see their memorials. They will leave early in the morning and return to Indianapolis the same evening. There will be a Welcome Home Celebration at the Decatur Central High School upon their return. The Decatur Central High School is located at 5251 Kentucky Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46221. Monitor your email for updates.

Upcoming Events for April and May

May 17	Fowler State Bank Shred Day
May 17-19	Armed Forces Day at the Track
May 19	Board/Chapter Meeting
May 25	Hot Rods and Heroes American Legion Post #34
May 26	XXXVI Ride for Freedom
May 31 - June 2	INDY Gun and Blade Show

Fowler State Bank Shred Day

The Fowler State Bank has been a dedicated sponsor of the Chapter for several years. On May 17th they are hosting a Shred Day at their facility. They are not charging for the shredding, but are excepting donations. The donations that they collect will be donated to the Chapter. Please mark May 17th on your calendar to show Fowler State Bank how much we appreciate their support. **See flyer on page 16.**

Armed Forces Day at the Track

The Chapter will setup our Mobile Display Unit at the track to pass out information about Rolling Thunder® and our mission. This event is a good opportunity to meet some new people and tell them about our mission.

Board/Chapter Meeting

The May Chapter Meeting will be at the Fort Harrison Veterans Center. The Board meeting (Board Members Only) will be from 11:00 - 12:45 and the Chapter meeting will start at 13:00 (1:00pm). Everyone is welcome to attend the Chapter meeting. This will be a good time for you and your friends to register for the Ride for Freedom.

Hot Rods and Heroes American Legion Post #34

This is a annual fund raising event sponsored by the American Legion post #34. The proceeds for this years event will go to Helping Veterans and Families (HVAF) Counseling Services. Flyer will be provided at a later date. **See flyer on page 17.**

XXXVI Ride for Freedom

Our 36th annual Ride for Freedom is scheduled for **Sunday May 26th**. This year, we will return to the Veterans National Shrine and Museum at Fort Wayne Indiana. This is one of our main events for the year and looking forward to a great crowd. The program will be similar to the one last year with a few changes. The Veterans National Shrine and Museum dedicated a new Korean War Memorial in November last year. The memorial is similar is the Korean War Memorial in Washington DC. The main difference is the faces on the statues are faces of Allen County Korean War Veterans. **See page 18 and 19** for more details.

INDY Gun and Blade Show

The Chapter will attend the May 31—June 2, 2024 Gun and Blade Show to help raise funds for the Chapter. The Gun raffle was a good source of revenue for the Chapter in 2023 and we are hoping that the 2024 Gun raffle will be profitable as well. There will only be 1,000 tickets sold and we need the membership to help with selling tickets. Contact Darryle Swartzlander if you need tickets to sell. **See raffle flyer on page 20/21.**

Are you the spouse or survivor of a veteran ?

Do You Know Your Rights ?

**Vietnam Veterans of America
Spouse and Survivor Benefits Seminar**

SATURDAY APRIL 20, 2024 AT 1:00PM

**Death Benefits
Survivor Benefits
Pension Benefits**

Lunch Provided

**Ft. Harrison Veterans Center
9450 E. 59th St. , Lawrence, IN
317-313-1577**



May 4, 2024 - May 5, 2024
1:00pm - 2:30am
Dave & Kathy's 4th Annual Spring Fling

We will be having a barn party at our house. This is an all day event, drop in anytime after 1:00 PM. Burgers, dogs, pulled pork, potato salad, coleslaw, macaroni & cheese and baked beans will be provided. There will be ice, water, ice tea, lemonade, soda, and beer in the fridge. There will be an open bar with several mixers provided. Feel free to provide your favorite side, dessert or drink. Bring your own chair! All beds have been claimed, but there is room for tents or a few campers, or to sleep on the barn floor. PLEASE RSVP number attending by email to davidebrewer55@yahoo.com by April 19 so we have time to shop for food! Or if you indicate you are coming on Facebook, please comment with number in your party.

DIRECTIONS: Approximately 1.5 hours from Indy.

I-65 South from Indy to exit 55, right on S.R. 11 South. (Point of interest: After crossing the iron bridge, then past the Amish Roofers sign on the left there is a large white house on a hill in the trees which is John Mellencamp's boyhood home.) Follow S.R. 11 South through Rockford into Seymour. After passing City Cemetery on the right (burial site of Reno brothers, worlds first train robbers), turn right at 1st light onto S.R. 258. 4 blocks turn left on Walnut Street (watch for directional sign for hospital on left). At the stop light turn right on U.S. 50 West (Tipton Street) and proceed approximately 10 miles to Brownstown. At the stop light turn right following U.S. 50 to S.R. 135 South (left at yellow flasher and Country Mark gas station). About 11 miles you will pass Goat Hollow Road then 2 more miles will be Lick Skillet Road (fire house). You will see a brown sign for Delaney Park as you start around the big right curve. Approximately .2 miles (still in curve) turn left on Rooster Hill Road (big yellow sign for Delaney Park and brown DNR sign with three attractions). At fork immediately split left onto Old Forestry Road. Pass Dead End sign, house is 1 mile on left. Name and house number 8852 on mailbox. Or you can GPS.

Alternate Scenic Route (add an hour) is SR 135 South from Indy and through Nashville.

In case you get lost:

Dave 317-902-1484

Kathy 317-997-1783

Fowler State Bank Shred Day

ROLLING THUNDER



Williamsport

*Come See the
Motorcycles*

Supporting Our Community
Donations From...

- SawDustMemories
- Budreau's
- Attica Coffee House
- Attica Lumber
- Theres a whole list I could add....

DID YOU KNOW?

Indiana has over 1,700
Warfighters still listed as
unaccounted for since WWII.
The Rolling Thunder, Inc.
Indiana Chapter 1 mission is
not over until all our missing
are accounted for.

SHRED DAY

Friday

May 17, 2024

510 State Road 28

There is no cost for the shredding services.
However, monetary donations will
be accepted, which will benefit the
Rolling Thunder-Indiana Chapter.
(paper only)



Community Owned. Community Grown. Community Focused.

*Best Eats & Treats
Food Truck*

Purchase Tickets To Win!
(\$5 Tickets)

- 1st - Cornhole Boards
- 2nd - Gift Basket
- 3rd - Gift Basket



**AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY**

**PRESENTED
BY:
ALA Unit 34**



**GOAL 40
VEHICLES
\$25/car
MOTORCYCLES
\$15/bike**

**WHISKEY
PULL
WINE
TOSS**

**HOT RODS &
HEROES**



**SATURDAY
MAY 25, 2024**

**Car
check-in
11am-12:30pm
Opening
Ceremony
at 1 pm**

**American
Legion Post 34
2210 E. 54th St
Indianapolis**

RIBS & SUCH
PROVIDED BY
BACK YARD
CAFÉ



DUNK TANK

PIE
THROWING

**HOTEL
TANGO
WHISKEY
TASTING**



**PROCEEDS BENEFIT
HVAF COUNSELING SERVICES
CONTACT:
Melissa Clawson, Event Director
secretary.unit34@outlook.com or 317-941-6605**

**HVAF & VA
VETERAN
SERVICES
INFORMATION
BOOTHS**

Annual Raffle License # 000106

Rolling Thunder®[®], Inc.

Indiana Chapter #1

XXXVI Ride for Freedom

Indiana Casualties

Mexican War – 542

Civil War- 24,416

Spanish War - 73

WWI - 3,709

WWII - 9,649

Korean War - 921

Vietnam War - 1,534

Desert Storm - 11

911 - 8

OIF/OEF - 208



Indiana MIAs

WWI - 104

WWII - 1,499

Korean War - 170

Vietnam War - 51

Allen County

WWII - 40

Korean War - 10

Vietnam War - 1

May 26, 2024

Come Join Rolling Thunder® Indiana Chapter #1

To Honor our Fallen from all Wars and to Remember our POWs and MIAs

Program to be held at the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum

Fort Wayne Indiana

When One Service Member is not worth remembering, we as Americans are Lost

Please See Details on back of the Flyer

Visit our website at www.indianarollingthunder.com or



Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall



Korean War Memorial

XXXVI Ride for Freedom Schedule Sunday May 26, 2024

Registration: \$20.00 donation per individual to help cover the cost of the event and to help Rolling Thunder® Indiana Chapter #1 to carry on with their POW/MIA Mission. The registration donation will include a XXXVI Ride for Freedom Commemorative Ride Pin or Patch.

Staging Location: Fort Harrison Veterans Center, 9450 East 59th Street Indianapolis, IN 46216, IVY Tech Parking Lot across the street.

Staging and Registration Times: 07:00 to 08:30am (Breakfast items will be available at the Veterans Center).

Sendoff Briefing and Prepare for Departure: 08:30 to 09:00am.

Departure Time: 09:00am, Ride to Harley Davidson of Fort Wayne located at 6315 Illinois Rd, Fort Wayne, IN 46804 .

Arrival Time: Approximately 11:30am. Registrations will be offered for the Fort Wayne riders from 10:00am to 11:45am.

Departure Time: 12:00pm, Ride to the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum located at 2122 O'Day Road Fort Wayne, IN 46818.

Arrival Time: Approximately 12:30pm.

Memorial Program Start Time: 1:00pm

Mode of Transportation: We encourage participants to ride their motorcycle with Rolling Thunder® if possible. However, the mode of transportation is not the most important thing. Its more important to be at the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum to honor our Fallen and to remember those that are still Unaccounted for Nation-Wide. It doesn't matter whether you Ride or Drive, just be there.

**Use QR Code for program details and
additional information on the event.**



**We ride for our Brothers that Can't
Never Forget**

Rolling Thunder® Inc. Mission Statement

The major function of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. is to publicize POW/MIA issues. To educate the public that many American Prisoners of War were left behind after all past wars and to help correct the past and to protect future veterans from being left behind should they become Prisoners of War or 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.

Indy 1500 Gun & Blade Show



The Chapter will have a booth at the Indy 1500 Gun and Blade show to meet new people and bring more awareness to the public about our POWs/MIAs, and our Mission. We will also raffle off two weapons to help generate additional operating funds for the Chapter. The final show for the Chapter will be May 31 through June 2nd. The drawing for the weapons will be on June 2nd.

May 31st - June 2nd

Darryle will be the Chapters point of contact for the shows and will be asking for your help to maintain the information table and sell raffle tickets at the show. Please give Darryle your support to help make these events successful.

In 2023, the raffle generated close to \$7,000 in revenue for the Chapter. We hope to do better in 2024. The key to success is for the membership to get involved in selling raffle tickets. The Chapter is currently looking at raffling off an AM and a Kiger-9C 9MM pistol.



KIGER-9c



The raffle winner will receive both weapons pending a background check. The tickets will be \$10.00 each and only 1,000 tickets will be sold. Tickets will be available starting in February 2024.

Tickets \$10

TWO FER
RAFFLE

Tickets \$10

BY

Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana
Chapter #1

Sponsored by



Drawing will be June 2nd at the Indy 1500 Gun and Blade Show.
Limit 1,000 tickets. To purchase tickets, contact Darryle Swartzlander at
stlcurt@gmail.com. The winner takes home:



AM-15 Utility Rifle

AND



Kiger 9C



BY



Funds raised go to helping our veterans in financial need.

License # 012156



Rolling Thunder®, Inc., IN #1



Indy Arms Co.

Save the Dates

The below Chapter events are considered **CORE** events and we ask for maximum membership support. Please put these important dates on your calendar and plan on attending these CORE events.

May 26th - Rolling Thunder® XXXVI Ride for Freedom.

The Ride for Freedom is one of our main events for the year. This year, the Chapter will return to the Veterans National Shrine and Museum at Fort Wayne Indiana. Last year, we had 61 people that registered at the Veterans Center with 20 being FNG's. In Fort Wayne, we had 23 people that registered with 12 of them being FNG. All together we had 32 FNG's that attended the event. That is 32 new people that learned about Rolling Thunder® and our mission. With your help in advertising this years event, we hope to have many more people to attend this special event.

This year, we will change our program up a little bit. The Veterans National Shrine and Museum has a new Korean War Memorial that was dedicated in November 2023. This memorial is similar to the Korean War memorial in Washington DC with the exception that the faces on the statues are faces of Korean War veterans from Allen County. Some of the Allen Korean War Veterans are still alive and attended the dedication in November. The flyer for the XXXVI Ride for Freedom event is located on pages **18 and 19**.

August 17th - Hoosier Heroes Appreciation Day (Veterans Support Council).

August 24th – Veterans Center Support Event.

This is an important event for the Chapter and the Veterans Center to help keep the facility operational, so we, and other tenant organization will have a place to meet. Without this facility, the Chapter would have a difficult time finding a place to meet and store our equipment necessary to carry on with our mission.

September 19th – Watch Fire Ceremony.

September 20th – POW/MIA Recognition Day Escort and Ceremony.

The Watch Fire and POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremonies are important events that every Chapter Member should plan on attending. These events is were we remember our brave War-Fighters that went off to battle and have never returned home to family and friends. We also, honor the families of these brave War-Fighters to let them know that their loved one will not forget them.

Please take a few minutes and read the letter on the next page from Ann Whitcomb Guggenheim and Trish Whitcomb, daughters of former Governor and WWII POW Edgar Whitcomb. This letter tells me, what the POW/MIA Council, and our Chapter does for our MIA families, does matter.

October 5th – Pets Healing Vets Ride.

This is an important fund raiser event sponsored by the Chapter and Harley Davidson of Indianapolis for the Pets Healing Vets program. The Pets Healing Vets program helps our Veterans by matching them with a pet for companionship to help deal with day to day life. If you want to help with this event, please contact Don Leasure or Darryle Swartzlander. Their contact information is listed on the Pets Healing Vets flyer located on **page 23**.

October 5th, 2024 Benefit Ride For



Presented by



Escorted ride through Hamilton County

\$25 for Rider/\$15 for Passenger

Registration at Harley Davidson of Indianapolis 9:00 to 10:30 am

Kickstands up at 11:00

Lunch and after party with music by The Tempos 1:00 to 3:00

Pre-registration at Harley Davidson of Indianapolis

Friday, September 20th 4:00 to 7:00 pm

Saturday, September 21st 12:00 to 4:00 pm

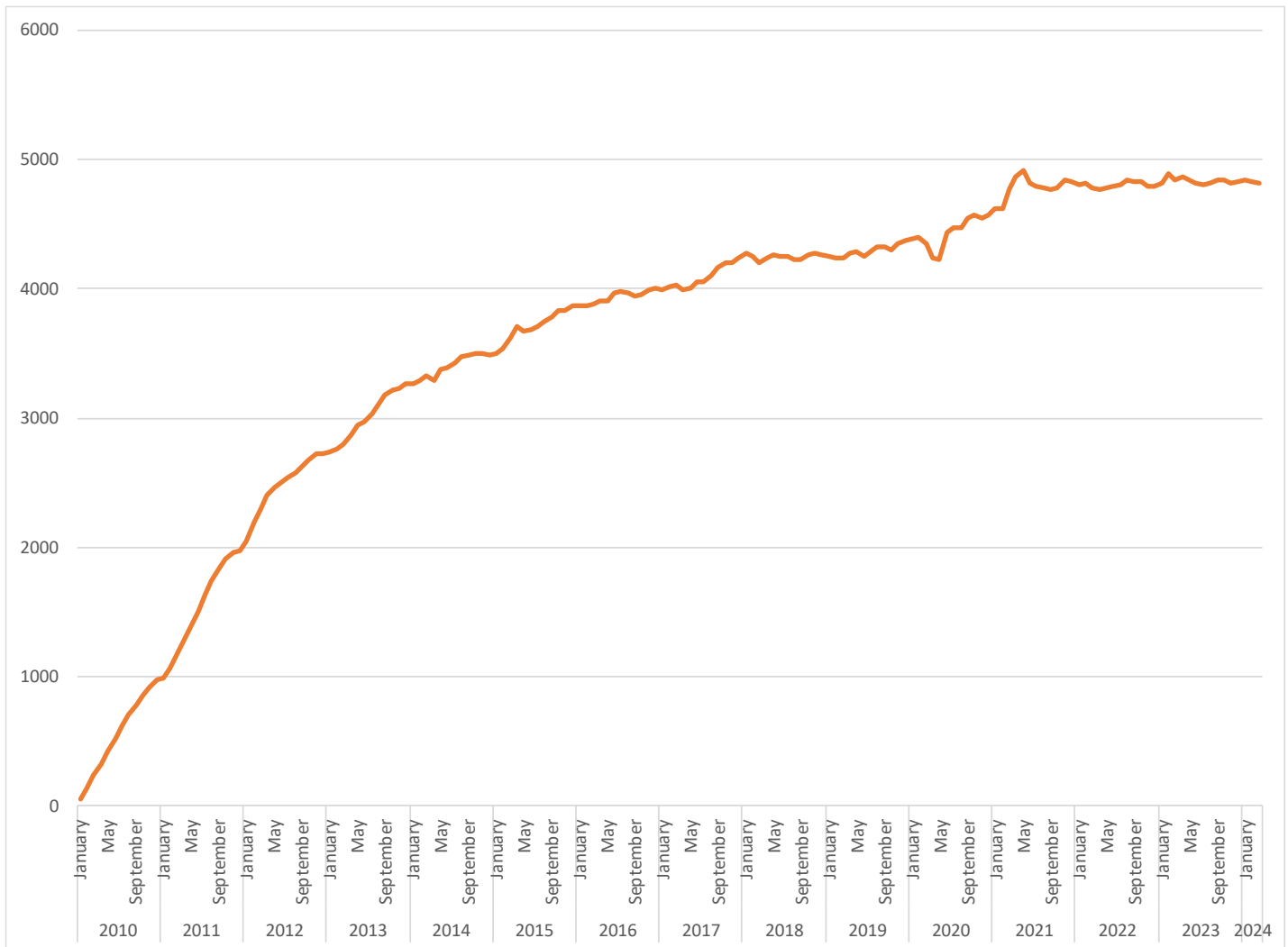
THIS IS A RAIN OR SHINE EVENT

For more information or to donate contact :

Don Leasure (765) 274-3588 don.leasure@indianarollingthunder.com

Darryle Schwartzlander (317) 400-6938 stlcurt@gmail.com

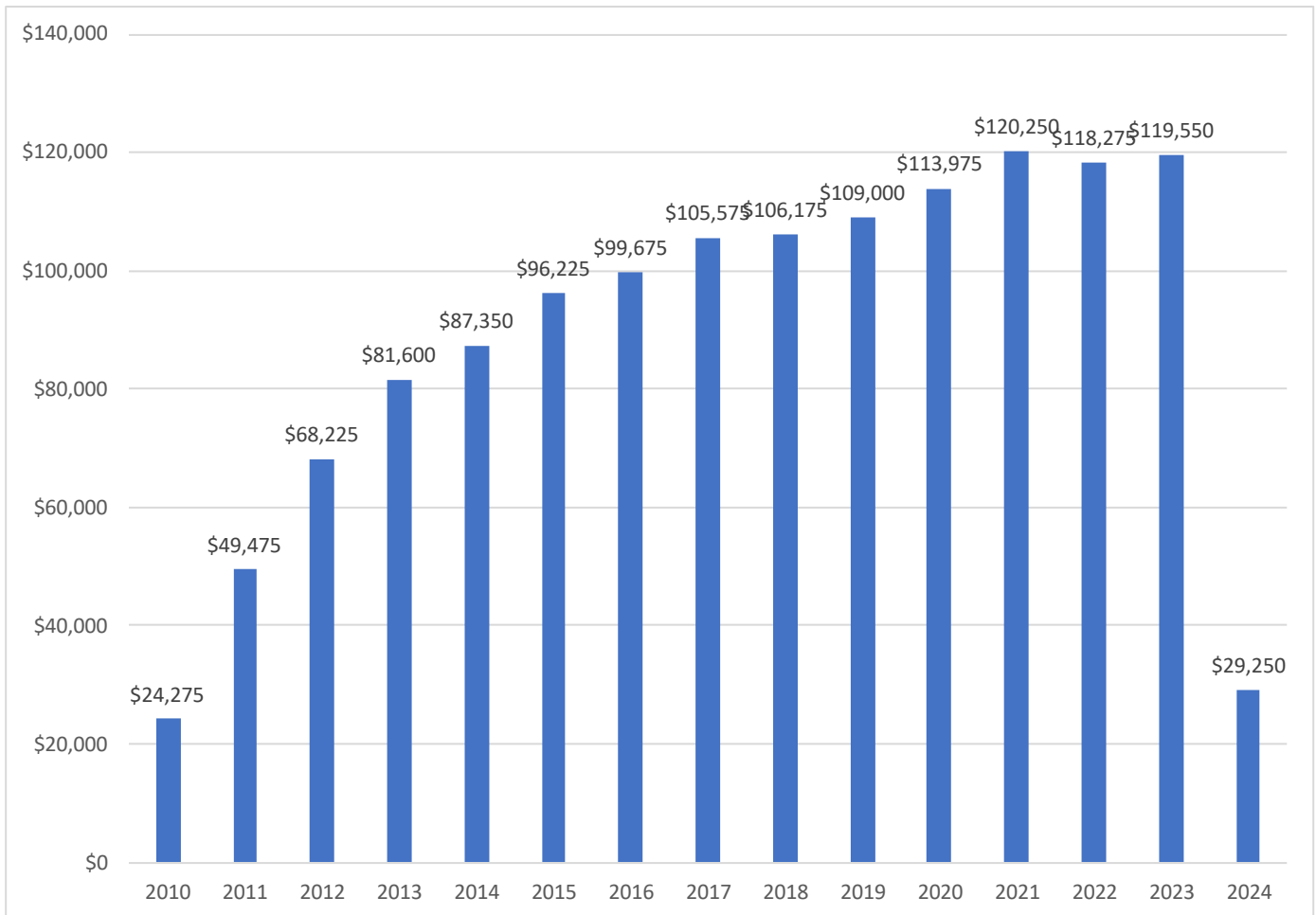
Indiana POW/MIA Specialty Plates on the Streets As of March 31, 2024



As of March 31, 2024, we have **4,824** POW/MIA specialty plates on the streets of Indiana helping to bring awareness to the public about our POWs, and MIAs. The funds generated from the sale of the POW/MIA Specialty plate goes towards helping our Indiana Veterans in need through the Indiana Military Family Relief Fund (MFRF). **463 plates were Renewed/Sold in March 2024. We are down 14 plates compared to 2023.**

Indiana POW/MIA Specialty Plate Fund

From 2010 to 2024



Since the introduction of the Indiana POW/MIA Specialty Plate in January 2010, the plate has generated an estimated **\$1,328,875**. 100% of the proceeds generated from the sales of the POW/MIA specialty plate goes to the Indiana Military Family Relief Fund (MFRF) to help our Indiana Veterans in need.

If you don't have a Indiana POW/MIA Specialty Plate on your vehicle, please let the Bureau Motor Vehicle (BMV) know that you would like to purchase a Rolling Thunder® sponsored POW/MIA specialty plate on your next renewal or new purchase.

With the purchase of a Indiana POW/MIA specialty plate, not only will you be instrumental in helping to bring awareness to the public about our POWs and MIAs, you will be helping our Indiana Veterans in need.

2024 Chapter Sponsorship Program

Sponsorship is an important program for the Chapter to stay financially strong so we can carry on with our POW/MIA Mission and helping our Indiana Veterans in need. Below is benefits offered for each Sponsorship level.

Additional information on the Sponsorship can be seen on our website by clicking on the following URL [RTIN1 Sponsorship | Indiana Rolling Thunder, Inc.](#)

Sponsorship Benefit Levels



Sergeant Sponsorship – Donation of \$800 and over

Plaque to display at your home or business as a proud sponsor of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter 1.

POW/MIA Flag or Banner at your home or place of business.

You or your business will be posted on the Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter 1 website for 1 year as a proud sponsor of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter 1.



Corporal Sponsorship – Donation of \$500 to \$800

Certificate of Appreciation to display as a proud sponsor of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter 1.

POW/MIA Flag or Banner at your home or place of business.

You or your business will be posted on the Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter 1 website for 1 year as a proud sponsor of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter 1.



Private Sponsorship – Donation of \$200 - \$500

Certificate of Appreciation to display as a proud sponsor of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter 1.

You or your business will be posted on the Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter 1 website for 1 year as a proud sponsor of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter 1.

Note: In-Kind donations less than \$200 will receive a thank you letter for your support of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter 1 and our POW/MIA Mission. No matter how small or large the donation, Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter 1 appreciates and welcomes all donations.

Please help the Chapter stay financially strong so we can carry on with our POW/MIA Mission and Helping our Indiana Veterans in need.



Chapter Scholarship Program



The Chapter is giving back to the family members of our Indiana heroes by offering a \$1,000 scholarship to a high school senior or student receiving the GED, seeking a higher education at an accredited college, university, or trade school. This scholarship opportunity is only available to family members that are residents of Indiana and have a verifiable family relationship to a former POW or MIA.

The Chapter Scholarship started in 2021 and has helped four of our MIA families in continuing their education to better their lives. The Chapter has generously donated \$4,000 in Scholarship funds to our MIA family members since 2021.

To be eligible for this Scholarship, the applicant must be a resident of Indiana and have a verifiable familial relationship to a former Prisoner of War (POW) or Missing in Action (MIA). The student applying for the scholarship will be required to independently write an essay on a POW/MIA themed topic of their choosing. The theme of the essay should be original and based on an event, person, philosophy or ideal.

Possible topic themes might be a discussion of POWs during a particular war (Revolutionary War, Civil War, WWI, etc.), POW encampments such as in Andersonville, Georgia, Camp Atterbury, Camp Morton, internment camps of Japanese-Americans during WWII.

The deadline for application submission is **April 30, 2024**. Winner announcement and scholarship award will be made by June 30, 2024.

To learn more about the Chapter Scholarship program, go to www.indianarollingthunder.com.

Never Forget the Families that have given all

Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Membership Patches and Obligations National Constitution

The Rolling Thunder® patches are items that members strive to obtain. The Boot patch represents the members Chapter, and the Rocker and Eagle represents Rolling Thunder® National. These patches should be worn proudly and with respect. When a member is issued these patches, they have an obligation to take care of them and turn them in if they decide to quit Rolling Thunder® for whatever reason. Below is an abstract from the National Constitution on the members obligations that they agree to when they receive these patches.



The Chapter Boot Patch. All members will receive a Rolling Thunder® Membership Boot patch when they become a full member at the end of a 120-day period. If a member meets his/her obligations before the 120 days are up they are entitled to receive their Boot patch no earlier than 90 days, provided they meet all other (loyalty and conduct) requirements. A new member must make 3 meetings or events, or a combination thereof, during the 120-day trial period to become a full member. **A \$50.00 patch deposit is required before National will issue the Boot Patch.**



The Rocker and Eagle Patches. After a member completes his/her first year (from the day they receive their boot patch) as a member in good standing, they will be issued the Eagle & Rocker patches, **which is the property of National.** **A \$100.00 patch deposit is required before National will issue the Rocker and Eagle Patches.**

Membership Obligations

Retrieve Patches: It's the Chapters responsibility to retrieve all patches. If a member does not renew dues in a reasonable time, thirty days from the end of February the Chapter President or his appointed representative will collect their patches. Any Chapter that does not retrieve the members patches will be held liable for their cost. Any problems from a delinquent member to collect our property, if needed have a lawyer send a letter and take them to court (quote the constitution) that a member will pay all court and lawyers fees. **The Chapter will pay National \$150.00 per set lost and members deposit will not be refunded.**

If you mail your patches to the Chapter, make sure you send the package CERTIFIED or PRIORITY mail for tracking purposes and insure the package for \$150.00.

Please DO NOT Glue your patches on your vest. National will NOT accept damaged patches and you may lose your patch refund.

2024 DPAA MIAs Accounted-For

Total Accounted for in 2024: 17

As of March 31, 2024

Accounted-For by War

WWII (15)

Korea (2)

Vietnam/Laos (0)

Accounted-For By Service

U.S Army (11)

U.S Army Air Forces (3)

U.S Marine Corps (0)

U.S Marine Corps Reserves (0)

U.S Navy (2)

U.S Navy Reserves (1)

U.S Air Force (0)

U.S Coast Guard (0)

Indiana Heroes that have been Identified

Name	DOL	Identified	Returned	County	HOR
F3C Alferd E. Livingston	12-7-1941	2-1-2007	7-21-2007	USS Oklahoma	Worthington
1st Class Paul A. Nash	12-7-1941	4-15-2015	6-30-2016	USS Oklahoma	Carlisle
1LT Robert L. McIntosh	5-12-1944	8-1-2015	8-13-2016	Italy	Tipton
3rd Class Francis L. Hannon	12-7-1941	10-24-2017		USS Oklahoma	Indianapolis
PVT USMC Fred Freet	11-20-1943	8-6-2018	4-18-2019	Tarawa Atoll	Marion
PFC Marvin E. Dickson	11-13-1944	9-27-2018	6-8-2019	Germany	Indianapolis
MSG Charles H. McDaniel	11-1-1950	9-12-2018	10-27-2018	Korea	Greenwood
PFC Army Clifford M. Mills	9-18-1944	1-29-2019	3-30-2019	Germany	Troy
SEA1 Oris V. Brandt	12-7-1941	2-20-2019		USS Oklahoma	Kentland
TSGT Charles G. Ruble	9-17-1944	5-31-2019	3-2-2020	Netherlands	Parker City

POW/MIA Affairs Committee

Continue

Indiana Heroes that have been Identified

Name	DOL	Identified	Returned	County	HOR
PVT USMC William E. Ramboo	11-20-1943	7-13-2019		Betio Island	LaPorte
PFC USMC Marley R. Arthurholtz	12-7-1941	9-18-2019	12-7-2019	USS Oklahoma	South Bend
PFC USMC Louis Wiesshan	11-21-1943	9-23-2019	6-11-2020	Tarawa Atoll	Richmond
SEA1 Maurice V. Spangler	12-7-1941	3-27-2020		USS Oklahoma	Ft. Wayne
CPO B. James Booe	12-7-1941	9-29-2020	6-1-2021	USS Oklahoma	Veedersburg
2nd Class Harold F. Trapp	12-7-1941	11-24-2020		USS Oklahoma	LaPorte
3Rd Class Willaim H. Trapp	12-7-1941	11-24-2020		USS Oklahoma	LaPorte
PFC USMC Charles D. Miller	11-22-1943	5-19-2020		Tarawa Atoll	Albany
SGT Stanley Lee Dewitt	11-1-1950	6-5-2020	10-19-2021	Chosen Reservoir	Royal City
George Gilbert	12-7-941	8-24-2020	6-6-2022	USS Oklahoma	Indianapolis
SFC James A. Coleman	10-3-1952	5-23-2022	10-19-2022	Korea	Hillsdale
SGT Charles Garrigus	12-1-1950	8-2-2022	3-7-2023	Chosen Reservoir	Terre Haute
PFC Leonard E. Adams	1-21-1945	7-20-2022	6-13-2023	France	Dana
2LT Gene F. Walker	11-24-1944	7-21-2023		Germany	Richmond

**POW/MIA Education Reading
And
Websites**

Recommended Books

Title	Author
Leave No Man Behind	Bill Bell
Why Didn't You Get Me Out	Frank Aton
Kiss The Boys Goodbye	Monika Jensen-Stevenson & William Stevenson
Betrayed	Joseph D. Douglass, Jr
Still Waiting	Linda Cope
An Enormous Crime	Bill Hendon and Elizabeth A Stewart
Scars and Strips	Captain Eugene "RED" McDaniel USN Retired
Reflections on Captivity	Porter Alexander Halyburton
Escape from Corregidor	Edgar D. Whitcomb

Note: Books marked in RED are highly recommended reads.

Recommended Web Sites

Title	URL
Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA)	http://www.dpaa.mil/
Biographies on Prisoners of War and Missing in Action	http://www.pownetwork.org/bios.htm
Rolling Thunder National	http://www.rollingthunder1.com/
National League of POW/MIA Families	http://www.pow-miafamilies.org/
Rolling Thunder Indiana Chapter 1	http://www.indianarollingthunder.com/
Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve	http://esgr.mil/in
Veterans Support Council of Marion County	http://www.vscmc.com/
Veterans Events	http://www.veteranevents.org/
American Ex-Prisoners of War	http://www.axpow.org/default.htm

The Coachman Restaurant and Lounge



Larry Paynter is a proud Marine, Chapter Member, and along with his wife Becky, own and operate the Coachman Restaurant & Lounge in Plainfield, IN. The Coachman is famous for mouthwatering Prime Rib, Fresh cut steaks, large seafood selection, and the best Pork Tenderloin sandwich anywhere.

The Coachman offers daily lunch, and dinner food specials, with discount on appetizers, desserts, wine, liquor, and beer.

Join us for great food, and service along with our beautiful Patio for outside dining and entertainment (weather permitting). The Coachman is located at 6112 Cambridge Way, Plainfield, IN 46168

Mr. Paynter with his wife Becky. Hard to believe that a Marine could make such a catch

Visit the Coachman at <http://www.thecoachmanrestaurant.com>



The Coachman Restaurant and Lounge

10% discount with this coupon

Not available with any other discounts

Always remember our American POWs and MIAs





Ed Duam is a long time Rolling Thunder Chapter Member, and owner of the Do it Best Hardware store in Plainfield, IN. Ed has a great selection of hardware products for you do-it-yourselfers. If you are in a need of an American, POW-MIA, or State flag, see Ed. His flags are top American quality at a reasonable price.

Ed offers 10% discount to Veterans.

Web site: <http://www.plainfielddoitbest.com/>

Store Address: 1001 East Main Street, Plainfield, IN 46168 (317) 839-2353

Ed will love to see yea



This page is dedicated to our brothers and sisters hat have gone on to ride the heavens

NEVER FORGET

Tookolo, Allen, Member, November 2002	Booth, Frank, Member, 2004
Walker, Bruce, Member, October 2004	Parish, Bruce “Buz”, Past President, Sept 2008
Brinkley, Jon Past President, January 2009	Leck, Lou, Member, September 2009
Hall, Bruce, Member, March 2010	Gigle, Gene, Member, August 2011
Jolly, Ron Past Vice President, December 2011	Kaler, Steve, Past President, June 2012
Wilson, John, US Army WWII POW, July 2012	Loffredo, Nicholas, Member, August 2012
Freeman, James, Past Board, August 2012	Fulmer, Kenneth, Member, August 2012
Huelskamp, Glenn, Member, February 2013	Hillis, George “Sam”, May 2013
Winters, Steve, Member, September 2013	Meyerrose, Timothy, Member, May 2014
Richard (Dick) Forrey, Member June 2015	Hutchinson, James Alt Board Member, Dec 2015
Mary Brodrick, Member April 2016	Van Brunt, Craig, May 2016
Gary Stanley, Member October 2017	Jimmie Earl Brown , Member August 2018
Ruth Smith, Member September 2018	Damon Gastineau , Member December 2018
Joseph Smith, Member April 2018	Linda Cope, Past Secretary June 2019
Walter “Wally” J. Dudek, Member November 2019	Joe Kernan, USN Vietnam War POW, July 2020
Melanie Bailey, Member November 25, 2021	Katherina Bean, Member December 14, 2021
Donald Leffler, Member December 20, 2021	Richard Harrington, Past COB, January 17, 2022
John Byers, Member August 27, 2022	Kaler, Shirley, Member October 13, 2022
James “Jim” Weaver, Member December 14, 2022	Joseph B. Stuart, Member July 20, 2023