

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!



March 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 March birthday members. I wish all of you a happy birthday and hope you have many more.

Well, February is gone and March is here. In a few more weeks spring will be here. Time to get the old bike out of storage and get it ready for the riding season. We’ve had some pretty warm days in February, so some of you have probably already gotten the bike out.

February was a slow month for Chapter events. However, the planning committee was pretty active with planning for the Gun and Blade show coming up on March 8th, the XXXVI Ride for Freedom coming up on May 26th, and the Pets Healing Vets fund raiser coming up on October 5th. On February 21st, some Chapter members attended the Sammy Davis event where Mooresville Indiana made a proclamation declaring February 21st as Sammy Davis Day and renaming a street in honor of Sammy Davis.

January is the start of a new Sponsorship year for the Chapter. In order to be able to do our mission, funding is a critical. Please visit our website at [RTIN1 Sponsorship | Indiana Rolling Thunder, Inc.](#) and download the sponsorship letter and help the Chapter get sponsors.

On pages 10 and 11, Bill Smither submitted a nice poem that I called **The Solider that Meets God**. Take a few minutes and read the poem. I think you’ll like it. Thank you Bill for sharing.

The Chapter events for March and April are listed on pages 13-14. Page 15 is our CORE events and members should make note of these dates. These are important events for the Chapter and we would like to have maximum participation from the membership. Page 16 is a letter to the POW/MIA Council 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.

Please remember that the March Chapter meeting will be at the Humane Society for Hamilton County starting at 13:00. Monitor your email for updates.

The next Chapter meeting is Sunday March 17, 2024

**March
2024 Birthday's**



Edward (Tony) Johnson (4)

Joseph Atkins (08)

Kathy Rensing (19)

David Brewer (24)

GraceLynn Hubbard (26)

Ed Daum (29)

John Elms (29)

Portia Graves (31)

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.

Chapter Meeting February 18, 2024

At the February Chapter meeting, sponsorship awards were presented to Darryle Swartzlander and Shawn Utterback. Darryle donated over \$700 to the Chapter and also got a \$500 sponsorship check from American Legion Chapter 64. Shawn got a \$1,100 sponsorship check from Marian, Inc. Marian has been a great sponsor for the Chapter for several years. Thank you Darryle and Shawn for what you do in supporting the Chapter.



The Chapter has many members with a lot of Military and Civilian experiences. Meeting only once a month doesn't give much time to learn about our members. Therefore, we started a "Know your Members" program in an effort to get to know more about our members. From left to right is Mike Clark talking about his Military, Civilian, and Rolling Thunder® experiences, as well as David Craig, and Terry "Flash" Sanderson. Flash talked about his special hat that he wore on his first trip with Rolling Thunder and how he picked up the nickname, **FLASH**. We will ask for volunteers to make a presentation each month until we know all of our members.

Sammy Davis Proclamation February 21, 2024

On February 21st, members went to the Mooresville's Historic Newby Gym to attend the Sammy L. Davis proclamation declaring the 21st of February as Sammy L. Davis Day. Sammy Davis is the only living Medal of Honor recipient from Indiana.

The program included a number by the schools children's choir and remarks from Sammy about his time in Mooresville. There was also an unveiling of a street being renamed in his honor.



After the event, members had an opportunity to meet with Sammy. Mr. Haarbauer being a shy member, hide behind the new Sammy Davis street sign when the picture was taken. We were also able to meet with the Communications Director to discuss a POW*MIA Chair of Honor in the Mooresville High School.

Edna's Birthday Celebration

February 25, 2024

On February 25th, Edna Swartzlander had her surprise Birthday celebration at the Byuum's Steakhouse with family and friends. The picture to the left is Darryle, with Edna and the Grandkids. The picture to the right, is Darryle chowing down on a \$93.00 Tomahawk Ribeye stake. The Byuum's Steakhouse has some great food and service. **Happy birthday Edna. Hope you have many more.**



Centre Bank Sponsorship Award Presentation March 4, 2024

Crystal and Jim Smith, presented the 2023 Sponsorship award plaque and POW/MIA flag to Centre Bank located in Veedersburg Indiana. Thanks to our Covington members, the Centre Bank has been a Sergeant level sponsor for several years. Centre Bank and TMF Center, Inc patterned together and donate \$1,500 to the Chapter.

On Friday May 27th, Centre Bank will host a Military Day and has invited Rolling Thunder® to attend the event with their motorcycles for a good showing of support. Please save the date and plan on attending. More details will follow.



From left to right, Centre Bank representative, Crystal Smith and Jim Smith. Thank you Crystal and Jim for your continue support to the Chapter. We do appreciate your efforts.

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.

US Space Force First A Guardian Goes Into Orbit

Story excerpted from online news and edited by Tom Alyea

The US Space Force may have its first boots off the ground and into orbit this year. U.S. Space Force Col. Nick Hague will join a NASA mission to the International Space Station sometime this fall, on a flight that would make him the first member of the nation's new space-focused military branch to launch into space.

The trip will actually be Col. Hague's third flight toward space. His previous two consisted of one very long trip and one very short one. In 2019, USAF Col. Hague spent more than six months on the International Space Station. But in 2018, he launched on a Russian mission headed to the ISS that suffered a near-catastrophic engine failure two minutes after liftoff. Hague and all aboard survived, parachuting back to earth in the emergency crew capsule.



USAF Col. Hague will be the pilot on NASA's Space X Crew-9 mission aboard the Dragon spacecraft. The launch is set to take place "no earlier than August," according to a Space Force press release. While Col. Hague will be the first member of the Space Force to go out of this world, the Department of Defense has been the main source of NASA astronauts since the 1950s. Nearly two-thirds of NASA astronauts have come from the various U.S. military services.

Col. Hague will join Commander Zena Cardman, Mission Specialist Stephanie Wilson, and Roscomos cosmonaut Mission Specialist Aleksandr Gorbunov. Once Hague gets to the space station, he will assume the role of space-flight engineer, helping the crew conduct various scientific research projects under unique space conditions like microgravity. He will be on board the space station for more than six months.

Tom Alyea, SM Sgt (E-8) served 20 years in the US Air Force as a Digital Communications and Computer Systems Superintendent.

The Soldier Meets God

The Soldier stood and faced God,
Which must always come to pass,
He hoped his shoes were shining,
Just as brightly as his brass,

Step forward now, Soldier
How shall I deal with you?
Have you always turned the other cheek?
To My Church have you been true?

The Soldier squared his shoulders and said,
No, Lord, I guess I ain't
Because those us who carry guns,
Can't always be a saint,

I've had to work most Sundays,
And at times my talk was tough,
And sometimes I've been violent,
Because the world is awfully rough.

But I never took a penny,
That wasn't mine to keep,
Though I worked a lot of overtime,
When the bills got just too steep,

And I never passed a cry for help,
Though at times I shook with fear,
And sometimes God, forgive me,
I've wept unmanly tears,

- Continue on Next Page -

The Solider Meets God (Continue)

I know I don't deserve a place,
Among the people here,
They never wanted me around,
Except to calm their fears,

If you've a place for me here, Lord,
It needn't be so grand,
I never expected or had to much
But if you don't, I'll understand,

There was a silence all around the Throne
Where the Saints had often trod,
As the Soldier waited quietly,
For the judgment of his God,

Step forward now, you Soldier,
You've borne your burdens well,
Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets,
You've done your time in Hell.

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 first show is March 8th and the final show for the Chapter will be May 31 through June 2nd. The drawing for the weapons will be on June 2nd.

March 8th - 10th

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 AR 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.

Upcoming Events for March and April

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| March 8-10 | INDY 1500 Gun and Blade Show |
| March 17 | Chapter Meeting at the Humane Society for Hamilton County |
| March 22 | 25th Anniversary of the Medal of Honor Memorial |
| March 29 | Welcome Home Vietnam War Veterans Day |
| April 3 | Chapter Event Planning Meeting |

INDY 1500 Gun and Blade Show

The Chapter will maintain an information booth at the INDY Gun and Blade show to sell raffle tickets and pass out information about Rolling Thunder® and our Mission. Membership participation will be necessary to work the booth. This will be a good opportunity to help raise funds for the Chapter so we can carry on with our Mission.

Chapter Meeting at the Humane Society for Hamilton County

The Chapter will meet at the Humane Society for Hamilton County located at 10501 Hague Rd, Fishers, IN 46038. The Chapter meeting will start at 13:00. We will have a opportunity to hear from some Veterans that have benefited from the Pets Healing Vets program. After the Chapter meeting, the membership will have an opportunity to visit the facility. There will be plenty of pets to choose from if you want to take one home with you.

25th Anniversary Indianapolis Medal of Honor Day

The 25th anniversary of the Indianapolis Medal of Honor Day is on **March 22, 2024** at the Indiana State Museum located at 650 W. Washington Street across the canal from the Medal of Honor Memorial. The program will start at 13:00 and will conclude at 15:00. Parking will be available at the White River State Parking garage on Washington Street. Guest speakers will include Medal of Honor Recipients Sammy Davis, Britt K. Slabinski, William D. Swenson, and Earl D. Plumkee. **RSVP by March 8th by emailing cmohs@darwitten.com or call 252-412-8671.**

Welcome Home Vietnam War Veterans Day

The National Welcome Home Vietnam War Veterans Day is the heroes welcome they never received. It underscores the need to heal their painful wounds and allows us the occasion each year to pause and give respect, admiration and thanks to the patriotic men and women who sacrificed so much in service to their nation. The Chapter is fortunate to have several Vietnam War Veterans in our Chapter. **Welcome home.**

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.

Upcoming Events for March and April

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| April 13 | Indy Honor Flight #40 (Reschedule from September 2023) |
| April 21 | Board/Chapter Meeting |
| April 28 | Support the Troops, Kokomo Indiana |

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. **Chapter member Ed Newbill will be on this flight and let's give him a great welcome home.** Please monitor your email for updates when we get closure to April 13th.

Board/Chapter Meeting

The March Chapter Meeting will be at the Humane Society for Hamilton County located at 10501 Hague Rd, Fishers, IN 46038. The meeting will start at 13:00 and everyone is welcome to attend. We will hear from some Veterans how the Pets Healing Vets program has helped them through difficult times. After the meeting we'll have an opportunity to tour the facility.

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.

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 17 and 18. The schedule listed on page 18 is subject to change before May 26th.

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.

Dear Ms. Beck and Indianapolis Nov. 2, 2023
POW/Mia Council,

This is a thank you note but I am embarrassed that it is written so long after the Ceremony, September 15th. My sister Trish and I had no idea that it was going to be so focused on the soldier/military person. Chasen to be honored. We thought it was going to be overall military. It was that also.

We were so happy to hear the story of our father, Ed Whitcomb again. The other stories of the POW/MIA's were so intriguing. The lives of these men and women are worth hearing over and over. Your organization is outstanding and represents the population that needs to be remembered. Thank you so much for

honoring our dad. We miss him and we are amazed how fortunate we are to be his daughter and he survived the things he endured.

Trish and I were so impressed with the Ceremony at the Veterans Center with the Rolling Thunder. The ladies and gentlemen participating are heroic in their dedication to the memory of the POW/MIA's. I hope to purchase a POW/MIA license plate. I am proud to support the organization and the brave military folks who sacrifice for our freedom. God Bless you all & much appreciation & gratitude. Ann & Trish Whitcomb

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.

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

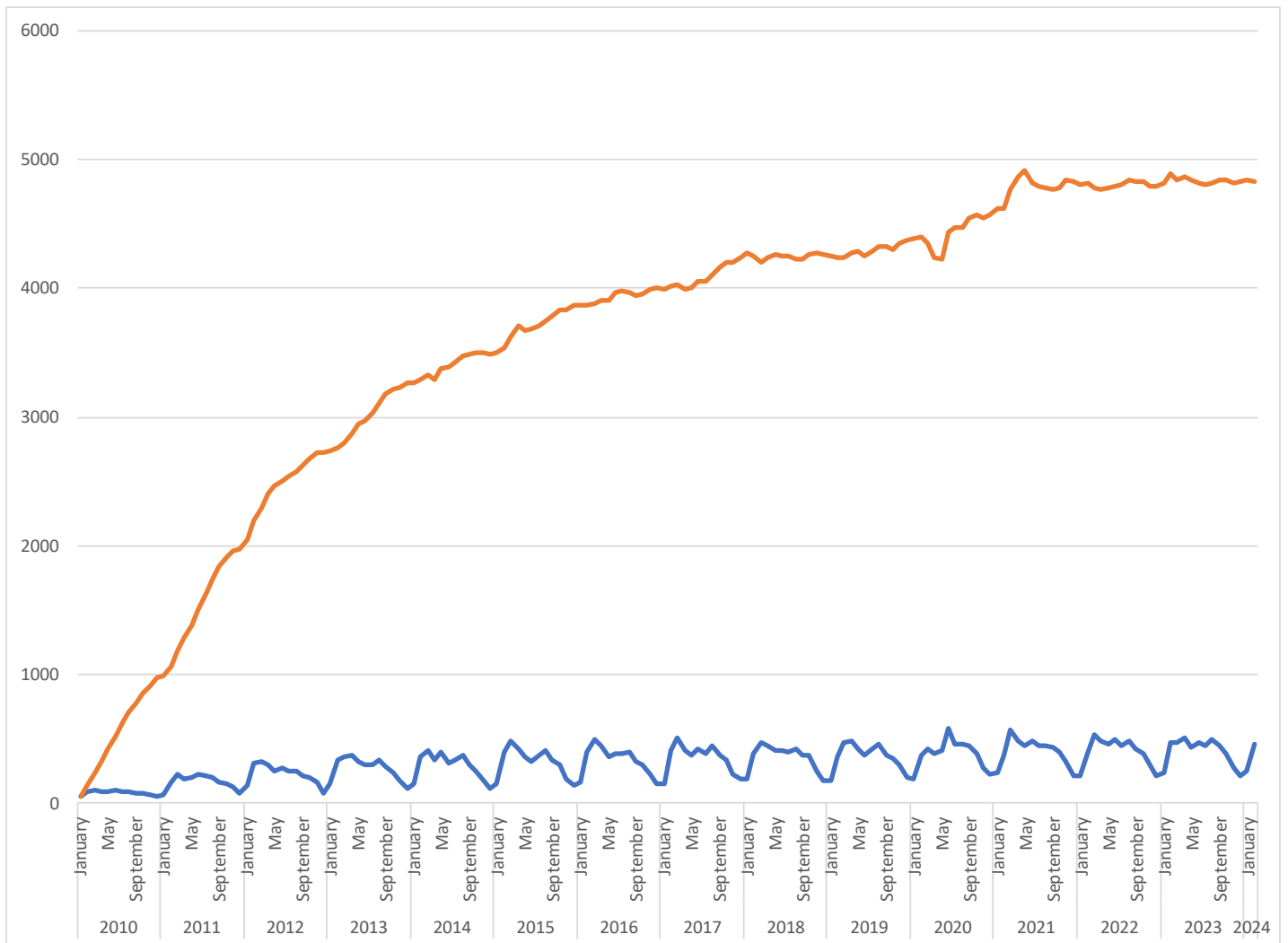
For more information or to donate contact :

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

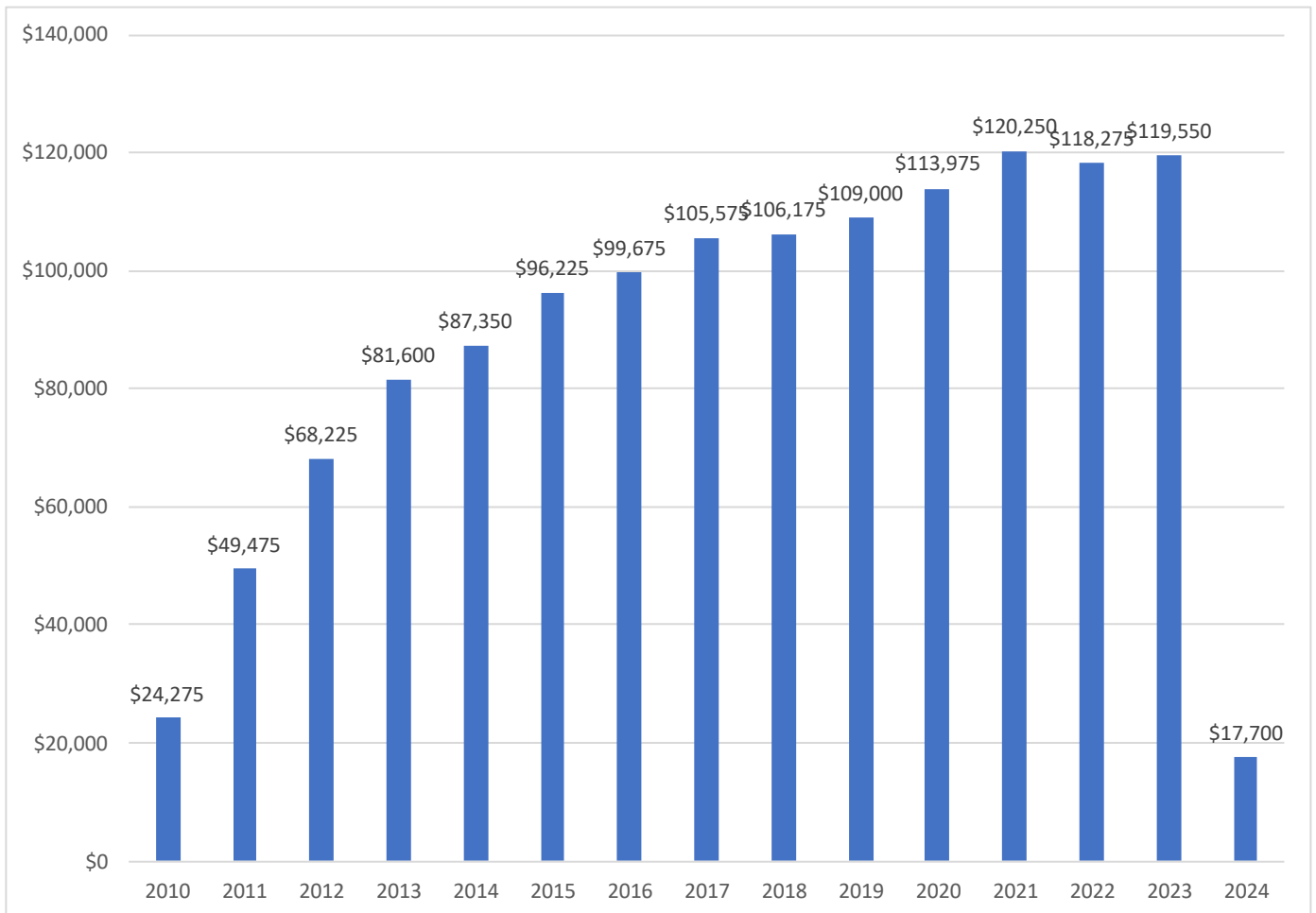
As of February 29, 2024



As of February 29, 2024, we have **4,833** 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). **458 plates were Renewed/Sold in February 2024. We are down 59 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 **\$1,317,325**. 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.



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: 6
As of February 29, 2024

Accounted-For by War

WWII (5)

Korea (1)

Vietnam/Laos (0)

Accounted-For By Service

U.S Army (3)

U.S Army Air Forces (1)

U.S Marine Corps (0)

U.S Marine Corps Reserves (0)

U.S Navy (2)

U.S Navy Reserves (0)

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.

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Becky. Hard to believe that a
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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.

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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 |