INCOMING!



September 2020 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

Secretary: Bill Bailey



Vice President: David Craig

Treasurer: Terry "Flash" Sanderson

President News

Chapter members, I hope everyone is doing well and in good health. I would like to congratulate David Craig, Terry "Flash" Sanderson, and Vern Rensing on their appointments as Chapter officers for the next two years.

The election for the Chapter Board positions will be on Sunday September 20th. The nominees for the two Board positions are William "Ed" Newbill, Rocco Brunelle, Brian Griffith and Orin Morris. I thank these members for willing to take on more responsibility within the Chapter. Good luck to all on the election. See page 9 for more details on the election.

Saturday August 29th was our 6th annual Veterans Center Support ride. Thanks to Mike and Karen Kraner, and all that helped with the event, the event was a success and raised some badly needed funds for the Veterans Center. We are working on tallying the amount of funds raised for the event and will have the numbers by the September Chapter meeting. Again, thanks to all that helped to make this event a success.

We have several events coming up in September that are posted on the website event calendar. The calendar is changing daily, so monitor the calendar of events at http://www.indianarollingthunder.com/events.html.

One event that I want to mention is the **Sandbox Reunion** on September 14th and 15th at the Howard County Vietnam Veterans Organization in Greentown Indiana. This will be the Chapters first year attending this event. The purpose of this event is to welcome home the Desert Storm Veterans and those who served in the Middle East. The Chapter will have an information booth to hand out information about Rolling Thunder® and our mission. We will need volunteers to maintain the booth for those two days. The Vietnam Veterans reunion will be on September 16th - 19th at the same location.

The Indianapolis **POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony** will be a virtual ceremony that will broadcast on Saturday September 19th. The Chapter will have a big part in the ceremony this year with Terry (Flash) Sanderson leading the Pledge of Allegiance, Tom (Big Daddy) Ransdell giving the invocation, benediction, and the Chapter Honor Guard Team performing the Missing Man Table ceremony. Please monitor your email for additional information on the when and how the video will aired on September 19th. Stay safe and hope to see you all at the Chapter meeting on Sunday September 20th.

September 2020 Birthday's



Brian Barrett 9-19

Angela Barrett 9-26

Jessica Clark 9-22

David Craig 9-12

Penny Crowder 9-24

Michael Kirkhoff 9-16

Terry Sanderson 9-26

Greg Thompson 9-21

Shawn Utterback 9-6

Happy Birthday to all

Chapter Meeting August 16, 2020



Patched

Don Leasure and Steve Wiederkehr were presented their back patches during the August Chapter meeting. The patches for David Brewer and Denise Van Brunt were not available for the Chapter meeting and was presented during the Veterans Center Support Ride last weekend. Congratulations to Don, Steve, David and Denise.



Don Leasure



Steve Wiederkehr



David Brewer



Denise Van Brunt

Indiana Veterans Home Impromptu Ride August 22, 2020

On Saturday August 22nd a few members made a trip to the Indiana Veterans Home in Lafayette Indiana to meet with some Landscapers to discuss the work that needed to be done at the POW*MIA Grove of Honor before we could deliver the Boulder. The Boulder will be put in place at the edge of the grove with the dedication plaque mounted on the Boulder.

The POW*MIA Gove of Honor was scheduled to be dedicated this month during the Saluting Branches event, but was canceled due to COVID-19. We hope to have everything in place by September 2021 so we can finally dedicate the POW*MIA Gove of Honor.

After our meeting, a few of us went to the Tippecanoe Battlefield to have a brown bag lunch and tour the Battlefield and others went to Delphi Indiana for lunch.

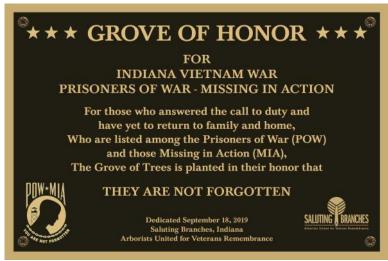
It was a great day for riding our motorcycles and Alex riding his little Mariachi.





Alex Barile in his little Mariachi

3 Ton Boulder



POW*MIA Grove of Honor Plaque

6th Annual Fort Harrison Support Ride Saturday August 29, 2020

The 6th annual Fort Harrison Support Ride turned out to be a great day for the ride. The weather was good and we had a decent turn out for the ride. Mike "Cowboy" Kraner and his Squad Leaders and Sweeps did an excellent job on the route and everyone that I spoke with enjoyed the ride. Mike and the Squad leaders made several runs on the route to make sure everyone knew the route and the roads were in good condition for the event. Job well done Mike and Squad Leaders!!.

The event started out with the CA-35 Sea Cadets presenting the Colors followed by the playing of the National Anthem, Pledge of Allegiance, and Prayer by the Chaplain. The Sea Cadets is a great group of young men and Women, and our future War Fighters. They always do a great job presenting the Colors.





The riders lined up in five Squads and each Squad had a leader and Sweep. The ride took us to the Henry County Memorial park in New Castle Indiana. We ended up with five squads with 6 to 8 bikes per squad.





6th Annual Fort Harrison Support Ride Continued



Cowboy briefing the group



Doughboy Statue

The Henry County Memorial Park has a lot to see to include a memorial for all wars, Gulf War, Wilbur Wright, and many more. The above statue of the Doughboy was dedicated by the Henry County Chapter American War Mothers in honor of the Henry County boys that died in WWI. The picture to the left is Mike "Cowboy" Kraner briefing the group on what the Henry County Memorial Park has to offer. The park is working on a museum that will be open to the public very soon. Karen Kraner provided drinks and snacks for the group to enjoy while at the park. The Henry County Memorial Park is a great place for a family visit.







Memorial for All Wars



Wilbur Wright Memorial



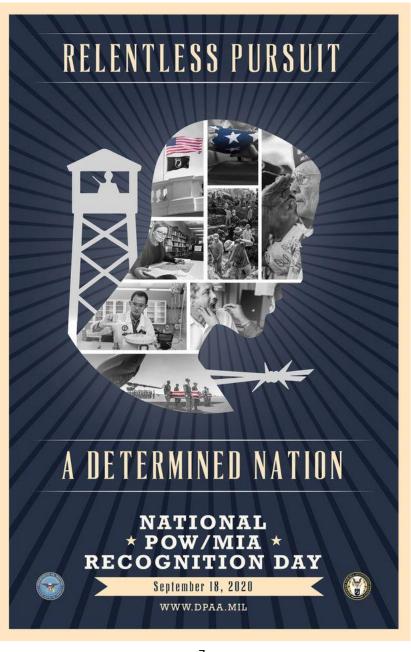
Gulf War

POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony Saturday September 19, 2020

The Indianapolis POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony will be a virtual ceremony that will broadcast on Saturday September 19, 2020. The Chapter will have a big part in the ceremony this year with Terry (Flash) Sanderson leading the Pledge of Allegiance, Tom (Big Daddy) Ransdell giving the invocation, benediction, and the Chapter Honor Guard Team performing the Missing Man Table ceremony.

The filming of the video will take place at the Indiana War Memorial on Wednesday September 9th.

Please monitor your email for additional information on the when and how the video will aired on September 19th. Below is the 2020 National POW/MIA poster.



ROLLING THUNDER®, INC

Membership Patches



The Junior Membership patch. The Junior Membership patch is available to individuals that wish to join the Chapter that are under the age of 18 years old. Once the Junior Member becomes 18 years old, they will be able to become a full Chapter member and eligible for the Chapter boot, Rocker and Eagle patches when they meet the requirements. The Junior Membership patch is no cost to the Junior Member.



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.

Chapter Election

The Nominees as of August 16, 2020

The following positions ran unopposed and will serve for the next two years.

Chapter Vice President - David Craig

Chapter Treasurer - Terry Sanderson

Chairman of the Board-Vern Rensing

The following members were nominated for the two Board Members positions. The election is Sunday September 20th. Please plan on attending the September Chapter meeting to vote for your favorite nominee,

Board Members - William "Ed" Newbill

Rocco Brunelle

Brian Griffith

Orin Morris

I thank the above members for willing to take on more responsibilities within the Chapter. I also want to thank Shawn Utterback for her four years of service and Cary Crowder for his two years of service on the Board.

PLEASE NOTE

The Chapter election is Sunday September 20th. Please mark this date on your calendar and plan on attending this important Chapter meeting. The officers that you elect will be responsible for the direction of the Chapter for the next two years.

Please remember that the election is by secret ballot and must be done in Person. Due to the concerns over COVID-19, we will allow members with prior approval to drop by the Veterans Center on Sunday September 20th from 13:00 to 14:00 to cast their vote in person. Please contact the Chapter President for prior approval by Saturday September 19th.

Only members in good standing will be given a ballot.

If you have any questions about your eligibility, please let me know before September 20th.

Every vote counts, please plan on voting.

2020 Chapter Member of the Year Award



The Rolling Thunder® Membership year runs from September 1st, 2019 to August 31st, 2020. As of September 1st, 2020 we have started a new membership year.

The September Chapter meeting is when we recognize those special members that went above, and beyond in support of the Chapter. The Chapter has several members that fall into this category, but unfortunately, we can only vote for one member.

Please take a few minutes and reflect back on the 2020 membership year and think about who you would like to see win the Member of the Year award.

Be prepared to tell the membership why you think your nominee should receive their vote.

The nominee must be a Member in Good Standing.

It's also time to renew your commitment to the Chapter for 2021. September is the start of our membership drive for 2021 The membership dues are \$30.00 and due to National by March 2021 to remain a member in good standing. The 2021 renewal forms will be available at the September Chapter meeting. Please renew your 2021 membership as soon as possible.

Marine PFC Louis Wiesehan Richmond Indiana



PFC Wiesehan who was accounted for on September 23, 2019 was scheduled to come home on June 11th, 2020. However, the Wiesehan family rescheduled his return for **Thursday September 17, 2020**. The Chapter will join the Indiana Patriot Guard in escorting PFC Wiesehan from the Indianapolis airport to Richmond Indiana when he arrives. The date for PFC Wiesehan funeral services will be announced when known. PFC Wiesehan will be buried at the Goshen Cemetery in Richmond, Indiana.

Still pending more information on the escort.

POW/MIA Affairs Committee 2020 MIAs Accounted-For

DPAA 2020 Accounted for: 95 As of August 31, 2020

Accounted-For by War

WWII (64)

Korea (30)

Vietnam/Laos (1)

Accounted-For By Service

U.S Army (41)

U.S Army Air Forces (4)

U.S Marine Corps (14)

U.S Marine Corps Reserves (9)

U.S Navy (25)

U.S Navy Reserves (1)

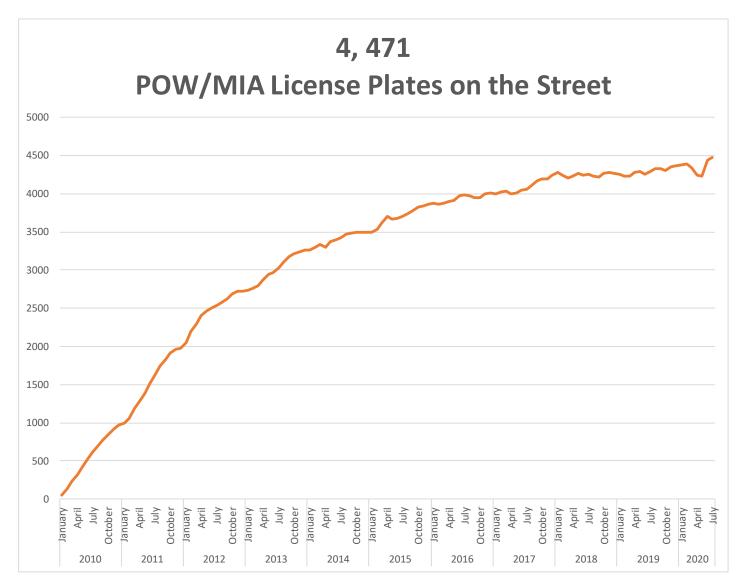
U.S Air Force (1)

U.S Coast Guard (0)

Indiana Heroes that have been Identified

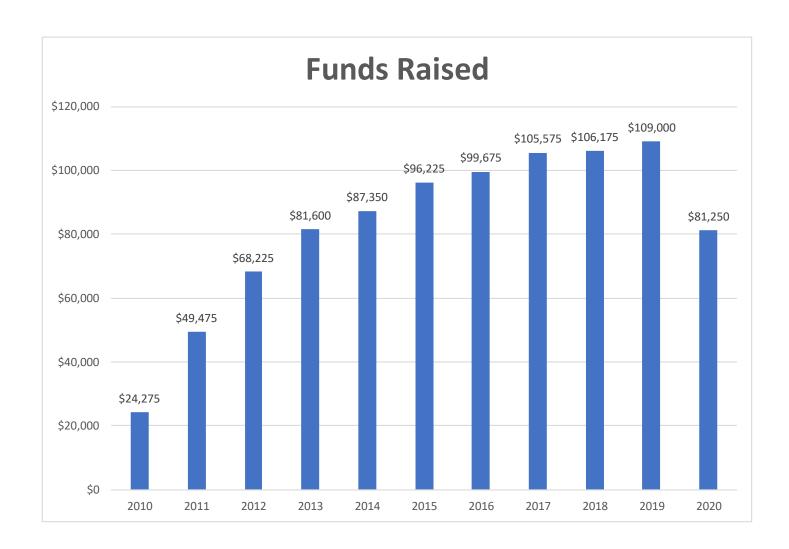
Name	DOL	Identified	Returned	County	HOR
PFC Army Clifford M. Mills	9-18-1944	1-29-2019	3-30-2019	Germany	Troy
PVT USMC Fred Freet	11-20-1943	8-6-2018	4-18-2019	Tarawa Atoll	Marion
PFC Marvin E. Dickson	11-13-1944	9-27-2018	6-8-2019	Germany	Indianapolis
PFC USMC Marley R. Arthurholtz	12-7-1941	9-18-2019	12-7-2019	USS Oklahoma	South Bend
PFC USMC Louis Wiesshan	11-21-1943	9-23-2019	6-11-2020	Tarawa Atoll	Richmond
PVT USMC William E. Ramboo	11-20-1943	7-13-2019		Betio Island	LaPorte
SEA1 Maurice V. Spangler	12-7-1942	3-27-2020		USS Oklahoma	Ft. Wayne
PFC USMC Charles D. Miller	11-22-1943	5-19-2020		Tarawa Atoll	Albany

Indiana POW/MIA Specialty Plates As of August 31, 2020



As of August 31, 2020 we have **4,471** 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).

Indiana POW/MIA Specialty Plate Fund From 2010 to 2020



Since the introduction of the Indiana POW/MIA Specialty Plate in January 2010, the plate has generated an estimated \$908,825. 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.

Please purchase your Indiana POW/MIA Specialty Plate Today.

Federal Government Affairs

Senate Bills

- S.514 "Deborah Sampson Act "Benefits for Women Veterans."
- S.785 "A bill to improve mental health for Veterans"
- S.1673 Gold Star Families National Monument Extension Act

House Bills

- H.R.326 "Victims of Agent Orange Relief Act of 2019
- H.R.1350 (Corey Adams) "Green Alert throughout the United States"
- H.R.712 "VA Medicinal Cannabis Research ACT OF 2019"
- **H.R.2201** To modify the presumption of service connection for veterans who were exposed to herbicide agents while serving in the Armed Forces in Thailand during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes.116th Congress (2019-2020)
- H.R.2819 Gold Star Families National Monument Extension Act

Please contact your Indiana Representatives as ask them to cosponsor the above bills. Details on the bills can be found at https://congress.gov/ then click on Legislation.

ROLLING THUNDER®, INC. National 2020/2021 Motorcycle



Due to the cancellation of the 2020 Rolling Thunder® Ride for Freedom Nationwide, the drawing for the above motorcycle has been extended until June 1, 2021.

POW*MIA Chair of Honor 2020 Venue Goals

The POW*MIA Chairs of Honor are important tools for the Chapter to help remind the public that we have over 82,000 service members still listed as unaccounted for Nation wide since WWII, and they must **NOT BE FORGOTTEN**. To date, we have (12) POW*MIA Chairs of Honor installed in venues throughout Indiana. Our first COH was installed at the Lucas Oil Stadium on November 2, 2014 and the latest one at the Plainfield High School on September 19, 2019.

These special chairs will remind thousands of people of the men that fought for our freedom and still need to come home, live or dead.

The placement of these special chairs in High Schools is specialty important to remind the younger generations of the cost of war and the price of freedom.

Listed below are the POW*MIA Chair of Honor venues that the Chapter will focus on in 2020.

TBD - INDY 500 Festival

The INDY 500 Festival has been cancelled for 2020, but we will continue to work on the display and hope to be able to dedicate it in 2021.

TBD - Indiana Disable American Veterans (IDAV)

The chair has been refurbished by David Wooldridge and in the process of being reupholstered.

TBD - **Purdue University** - The Chair is done and in the Veterans Center until the University can resume classes and accept the chair. Special thanks to David (Duke) Wooldridge for the great job on the chair.

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

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





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

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

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

Hair Cuts at the Vintage Style Barber/Beauty Shop Mention the Chapter Newsletter and a get \$5.00 discount Veterans always get a \$10.00 discount



Vintage style barber/beauty shop
Your hair & scalp doctors with style!
Featuring natural & organic products & services!!

Located in the So-Bro neighborhood on 52nd Street, just a few blocks east of the Monon Trail. There's even a bus stop directly in front of the shop. We have appointments available Monday through Saturday, call today!

Peace Love & Hair is Inspired by Sacrifice, Motivated by Compassion, & Driven by Commitment.

1469 E. 52nd Street Indianapolis, IN 46205 317-254-5655 Mention the Rolling Thunder newsletter & get \$5 off your first cut!

Veterans get \$10 off all services all day every day!!

For service options & pricing visit our website today! www.peaceloveandhairindy.com



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	