

MIA Totals: WWI (3,344), WWII (72,674), Korean (7,631), Cold War (126), Vietnam (1,594), OEF, OIF (5)  
Indiana WWI (104) WWII (1,498), Korean (169), Vietnam (51)

# INCOMING!



December 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:** Darryle Swartzlander

**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 December birthday members. I wish you all a happy birthday and hope you have many more.

I want to thank the members that provided funds to the HVAF’s Fire Assistance Fund. The total donations from the membership was \$2,332. With the additional 1,800 donation from the Chapter, the total donation made to the HVAF’s Fire Assistance Fund was **\$4,132**. These funds will be a big help in helping our HVAF Veterans that were displaced due to the fire.

I want to congratulate our newest Junior Member Aaron Beers. Aaron received his Junior Member patch at the November Chapter meeting and I’m looking forward to his participation in the Chapter. The membership also provided a great Thanksgiving meal at the November Chapter meeting to include Ham, Turkey, Fired Chicken, and all kinds of great tasting food and deserts. Thank you.

On November 7, 2024 we lost another Vietnam War Veteran. Jesus Quintana Jr., 75, of Indianapolis passed away on November 7, 2024 from health complications. Jesus was wounded in Vietnam and as result of his wounds, he lost both of his legs and was eventually awarded a total of 3 Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star. Jesus was also an active members of the Indianapolis POW/MIA Council for many years.

On November 27th, the Chapter was honored to dedicate it’s 18th POW\*MIA Chair of Honor at the Rushville High School Memorial Gymnasium. The dedication took place during the varsity game halftime period between the Rushville Lions and the Shenandoah Raiders. See pages 7 and 8 of the newsletter.

We currently have 7 events scheduled for December to finish out 2024. Please review page 10 of the newsletter for the scheduled events and mark them down on your frig or smartphone calendar. Our last Chapter meeting for the year will be on December 15th, which will include some special ceremonies and a great meal catered by the Coachman Restaurant. Bring the whole family and invite friends to the meeting.

**Membership Dues:** The 2025 membership dues are due to National by February 2025. I encourage members to pay their membership dues as soon as possible so we can get them to National on time to keep the Chapter in good standing with National. Thank you.

**The next Chapter meeting is Sunday December 15, 2024**

## **December 2024 Birthday's**



**Debbie Bailey 12-2**

**Norman Crawford 12-3**

**Gene Byers 12-8**

**Susan Davis 12-14**

**Darryle Swartzlander 12-23**

**Carol McFarland 12-25**

**Hope you all 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 November 17th

The November Chapter meeting included issuing Aaron Beers his Junior Membership patch, and President Clark administering the Oath of Office to the newly elected Executive and Board members. The Chapter membership also pitched in and provided a great Thanksgiving meal. I thank all of the members that pitched in and brought in food. As always, you all did a great job.



**Aaron Beers receives his Junior Member Patch**



**President Clark administers the oath of office to the newly elected Executive and Board Members.**



**Chapter members enjoying the Thanksgiving meal provided by the membership. Everyone pitched in and provided a great meal for the membership.**

**Jesus Quintana JR**  
**February 19, 1949 - November 7, 2024**



Jesus Quintana Jr., 75, of Indianapolis passed away on November 7, 2024. He was born in Mercedes, Texas on February 19, 1949, to his parents, Jesus Quintana and Maria (Ochoa) Quintana. His parents relocated to Indianapolis, Indiana when Jesus was very young.

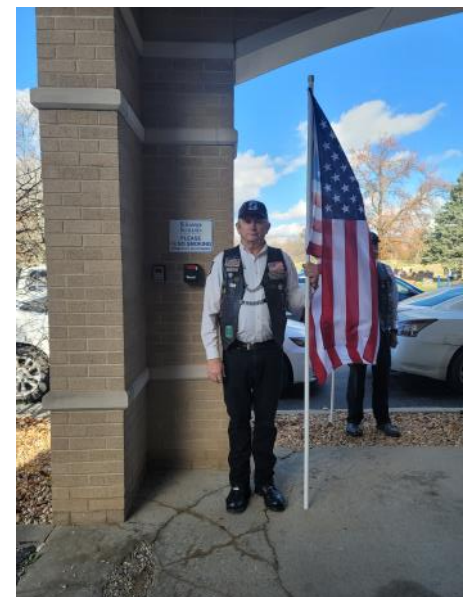
Jesus enlisted in the United States Marines on June 29, 1967, and dutifully served his country for many years. He was Honorably Discharged from the Marine Corps after being wounded in Vietnam. He lost both of his legs as a result of his wounds and was eventually awarded a total of 3 Purple Hearts for his injuries and Bronze Star. Jesus was a very proud Marine who volunteered with VA Hospital throughout the years of his retirement. He was a Veterans service officer for the Department of Veterans Affairs. Jesus was a proud Christian and served as Chaplain for the Marine Corps League Bears Detachment #089. He was a member of numerous other military organizations.



Jesus was also an active member of the Indianapolis POW/MIA Council for many years. Jesus was responsible for the team that rang the bell during the POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony, and represented the United States Marine CORPS.

At the request of the family, Chapter members stood flag line during the funeral service. See next page.

**Jesus Quintana JR**  
**February 19, 1949 - November 7, 2024**



## Rushville High School Memorial Gymnasium POW\*MIA Chair of Honor Dedication November 27, 2024

On November 27, 2024 the Chapter was honored to dedicate its 18th POW\*MIA Chair of Honor at the Rushville High School Memorial Gymnasium. The dedication took place during their varsity game halftime period. The Chair was placed in a location overseeing the activities taken place in the Gymnasium. The Chair will be a reminder to all that see it the price of freedom and to never forget the men and women who paid the ultimate price for our freedoms that we enjoy today.



The POW\*MIA Chair of Honor was unveiled by Veterans Terry Drake and Bud Cowan of the Rushville High School.



After the POW\*MIA Chair of Honor was unveiled, American Legion Post #150 presented the National Colors and TAPS was played by Rushville High School student Hunter Parmerlee. TAPS is commonly known as the final bugle call and is a sign of respect and a tribute to those known, and unknown.

The sign below the Chair reads, “ **Chair of Honor For those that answered the call and yet to return home. Never Forget** “

President Calvin Coolidge made a quote that is so true, “**The nation which forgets its defenders will itself be forgotten**”.

**Rushville High School Memorial Gymnasium  
POW\*MIA Chair of Honor Dedication  
November 27, 2024**

Chapter members watch the Rushville Lions taken on the Shenandoah Raiders before the POW\*MIA Chair of Honor dedication. I thank the Chapter members that took the time to travel to Rushville Indiana to attend the POW\*MIA Chair of Honor dedication. Thank you.



The Rushville High School staff did an awesome job with the POW\*MIA Chair of Honor display.

Special thanks goes to Athletic Director Melissa Winkler, the Rush County Schools maintenance staff, Bud Cowan, Kevin Creager, Terry Drake, Brett Turner, and Dan Wright, Tom & Patty Pike at Sign Masters in St. Paul for the sign, Principal Mr. Warren Cook and Superintendent Mr. Jim Jameson. Mr. Brad Hatfield and Robert L. Jenkins of American Legion Post #150. TR and Heather Campbell, and the RCHS Roarin Regiment.

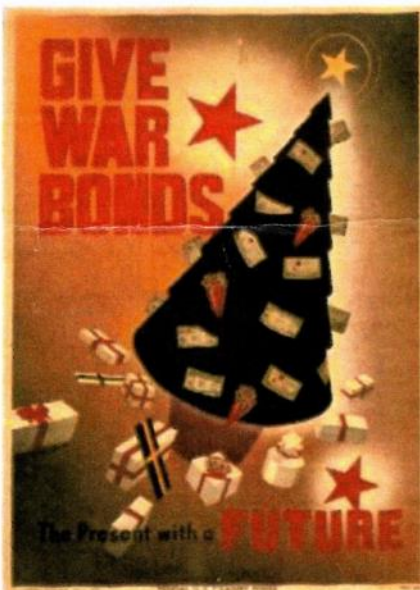
The Chapter has dedicated three POW\*MIA Chairs of Honor in 2024 to include, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Rushville Elks Lodge #1307, and the Rushville High School Memorial Gymnasium.

I'm proud of the Chapter for these accomplishments and looking forward to what the Chapter will accomplish in 2025.



# Christmas on the WWII Home Front

- ❖ During World War II Christmas trees were in short supply because of a lack of manpower to cut the trees down and a shortage of railroad space to ship the trees to market. Americans rushed to buy American-made Visca artificial trees.
- ❖ In 1941, a five-foot Christmas tree could be purchased for 75 cents.
- ❖ The shortage of materials—like aluminum and tin—used to produce ornaments led many people to make their own ornaments at home. Magazines contained patterns for ornaments made out of non-priority war materials, like paper, string, and natural objects, such as pinecones or nuts.
- ❖ Electric bubble lights were created during the 1940s and remain popular even today.
- ❖ To give their Christmas tree a snow-covered effect, people mixed a box of Lux soap powder with two cups of water and brushed the concoction on the branches of their tree.
- ❖ Fewer men at home resulted in fewer men available to dress up and play Santa Claus. Women served as substitute Santas at Saks Fifth Avenue in New York City and at other department stores throughout the United States.



- ❖ "I'll Be Home For Christmas" and "White Christmas" were both written during the 1940s and quickly gained popularity with the war-weary, but optimistic, population.
- ❖ Travel during the holidays was limited for most families due to the rationing of tires and gasoline. Americans saved up their food ration stamps to provide extra food for a fine holiday meal.
- ❖ Many Americans threw their German blown-glass ornaments and exotic Japanese ornaments in the trash as soon as the war began. Shortly after the war, Corning Glass Company in New York began mass-producing Christmas tree balls using machines designed to produce light bulbs. Corning could make more ornaments in a single minute than a German cottage glass blower could make in a whole day.

Happy Holidays from  
The National WWII Museum

The National WWII Museum • 945 Magazine Street, New Orleans, LA 70130  
[www.nationalww2museum.org](http://www.nationalww2museum.org)



## Upcoming November/December Events

<b>December 3</b>	Annual Project Blue Light Ceremony
<b>December 7</b>	Indiana Veterans Home BINGO
<b>December 11</b>	Chapter Event Planning Committee
<b>December 11</b>	WWII Veteran Jim Collins 100th Birthday Party
<b>December 12</b>	Board Meeting
<b>December 14</b>	Wreath Across America
<b>December 15</b>	Chapter Meeting and Luncheon

### Annual Project Blue Light Ceremony

Annual Project Blue Light Ceremony is to honor our fallen police officers and their families. The ceremony will be at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy located at 5402 Sugar Grove Road in Plainfield. The program starts at 19:00.

### Indiana Veterans Home BINGO

Playing BINGO with our Veterans at the Indiana Veterans Home is always a great time and they appreciate us being there to play BINGO with them. These Veterans take their BINGO games serious and will call you out if you make a mistake. The Chapter always makes sure that no Veteran will leave the BINGO game without some jingle in their pocket. Please mark this date on your calendar and plan on attending.

### Chapter Event Planning Meeting

This is the Chapters monthly planning meeting for upcoming events. All Chapter Members are welcome and encouraged to join the event planning committee to provide input and share you ideals. The event planning meeting is a Zoom meeting and uses the same Zoom access information as our Chapter meetings. The meeting will start at 18:00.

### WWII Veteran Jim Collins 100th Birthday Party

Jim Collins will turn 100 tears old on December 11th and Larry Paynter is hosting a birthday party for Jim at the Coachman Restaurant located at 6112 Cambridge Way, Plainfield, IN 46168. The birthday party will start at 12:00.

### Board Meeting

The Board and Executive meeting for December will be a Zoom meeting for Board and Executive members only. The Board meeting will start 18:30.

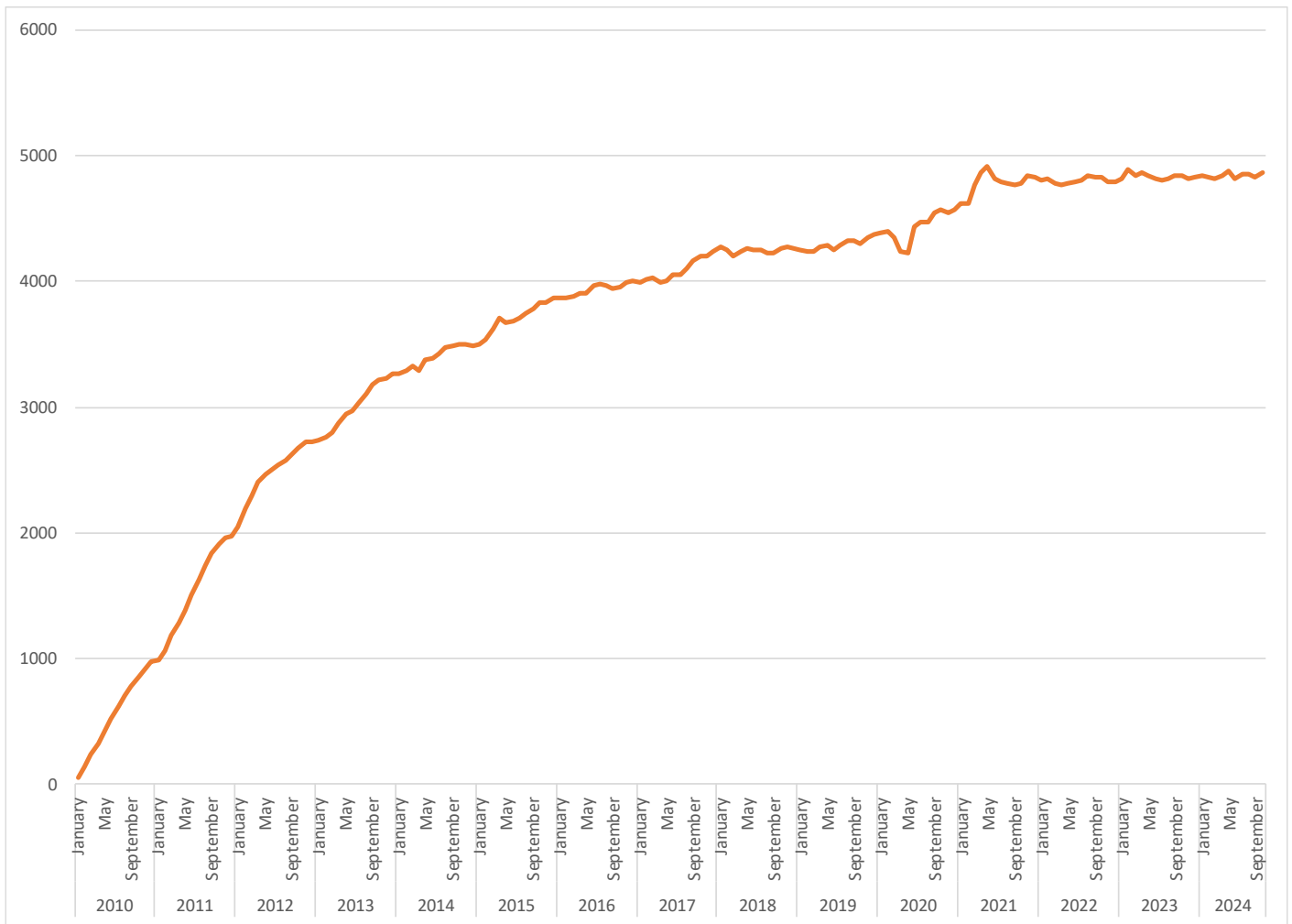
### Wreath Across America

The mission of the Wreath Across America is to remember the fallen. Honor those who serve. Teach the next generation the value of freedom. This is a National event that happens every year in December. People throughout the States will visit a Veterans Cemetery to place wreaths on the headstone of the fallen. Take some time and visit your local Veterans Cemetery and participate in the Wreaths Across America program.

### Chapter Meeting and Luncheon

Please mark December 15th on your calendar for our December Chapter meeting and Christmas luncheon. This will be a special meeting where we encourage you to bring family members and friends to the meeting so they can learn about our mission. The Chapter meeting will include the flame of Freedom ceremony, the Missing Man Table ceremony, and a few other special ceremonies. The Coachman Restaurant will cater our Christmas lunch with some good food as always. Hope to see many of your there.

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

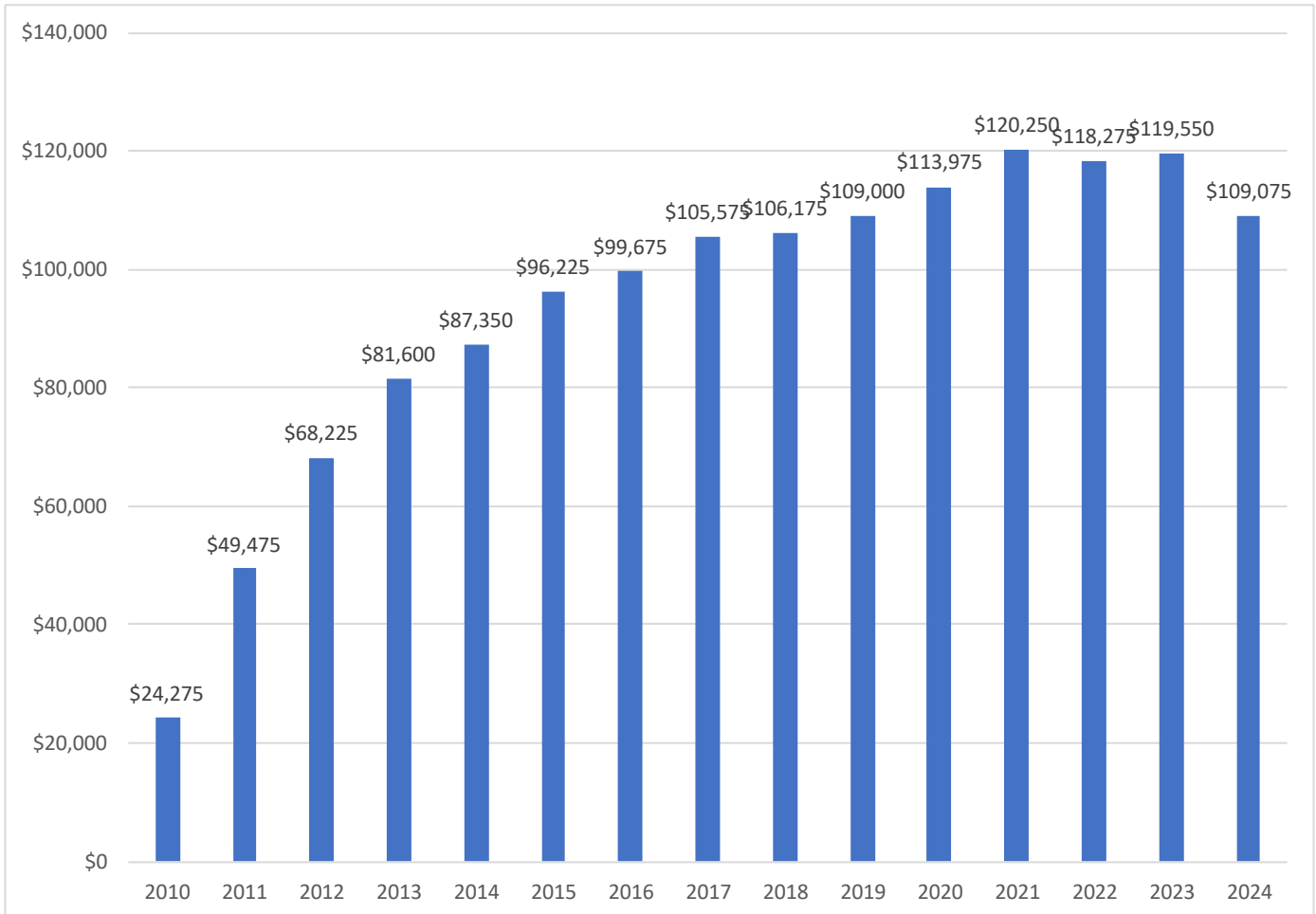


As of October 2024, we have **4,864** POW/MIA specialty plates on the streets of Indiana helping to bring awareness to the public about our POWs, and MIAs. The funds generated from the sale of the POW/MIA Specialty plate goes towards helping our Indiana Veterans in need through the Indiana Military Family Relief Fund (MFRF). **We are 22 plates up from this time last year.**

**The November plate numbers will be provided at the December Chapter meeting.**

## 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 **\$1,408,700** 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.

# 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.**

## DCAA MIAs Accounted-For

**Total Accounted for in FY 2025: 8**

### Accounted-For by War

**WWII (4)**

**Korea (4)**

**Cold War (0)**

**Vietnam/Laos (0)**

### **Indiana Heroes that have been Identified**

<b>Name</b>	<b>DOL</b>	<b>Identified</b>	<b>Returned</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>HOR</b>
<b>F3C Alferd E. Livingston</b>	12-7-1941	2-1-2007	7-21-2007	USS Oklahoma	Worthington
<b>1st Class Paul A. Nash</b>	12-7-1941	4-15-2015	6-30-2016	USS Oklahoma	Carlisle
<b>1LT Robert L. McIntosh</b>	5-12-1944	8-1-2015	8-13-2016	Italy	Tipton
<b>3rd Class Francis L. Hannon</b>	12-7-1941	10-24-2017		USS Oklahoma	Indianapolis
<b>PVT USMC Fred Freet</b>	11-20-1943	8-6-2018	4-18-2019	Tarawa Atoll	Marion
<b>PFC Marvin E. Dickson</b>	11-13-1944	9-27-2018	6-8-2019	Germany	Indianapolis
<b>MSG Charles H. McDaniel</b>	11-1-1950	9-12-2018	10-27-2018	Korea	Greenwood
<b>PFC Army Clifford M. Mills</b>	9-18-1944	1-29-2019	3-30-2019	Germany	Troy
<b>SEA1 Oris V. Brandt</b>	12-7-1941	2-20-2019		USS Oklahoma	Kentland
<b>TSGT Charles G. Ruble</b>	9-17-1944	5-31-2019	3-2-2020	Netherlands	Parker City
<b>PVT USMC William E. Ramboo</b>	11-20-1943	7-13-2019		Betio Island	LaPorte
<b>PFC USMC Marley R. Arthurholtz</b>	12-7-1941	9-18-2019	12-7-2019	USS Oklahoma	South Bend
<b>PFC USMC Louis Wiesshan</b>	11-21-1943	9-23-2019	6-11-2020	Tarawa Atoll	Richmond
<b>SEA1 Maurice V. Spangler</b>	12-7-1941	3-27-2020		USS Oklahoma	Ft. Wayne
<b>CPO B. James Booe</b>	12-7-1941	9-29-2020	6-1-2021	USS Oklahoma	Veedersburg
<b>2nd Class Harold F. Trapp</b>	12-7-1941	11-24-2020		USS Oklahoma	LaPorte
<b>3Rd Class Willaim H. Trapp</b>	12-7-1941	11-24-2020		USS Oklahoma	LaPorte
<b>PFC USMC Charles D. Miller</b>	11-22-1943	5-19-2020		Tarawa Atoll	Albany
<b>SGT Stanley Lee Dewitt</b>	11-1-1950	6-5-2020	10-19-2021	Chosen Reservoir	Royal City
<b>George Gilbert</b>	12-7-941	8-24-2020	6-6-2022	USS Oklahoma	Indianapolis
<b>SFC James A. Coleman</b>	10-3-1952	5-23-2022	10-19-2022	Korea	Hillsdale
<b>SGT Charles Garrigus</b>	12-1-1950	8-2-2022	3-7-2023	Chosen Reservoir	Terre Haute

## POW/MIA Affairs Committee

### Continue

#### Indiana Heroes that have been Identified

Name	DOL	Identified	Returned	County	HOR
<b>PFC Leonard E. Adams</b>	1-21-1945	7-20-2022	6-13-2023	France	Dana
<b>2LT Gene F. Walker</b>	11-24-1944	7-21-2023		Germany	Richmond
<b>PFC Clossie D. Brown</b>	1-21-1945	4-25-2024		France	Kirkin
<b>MSG Wallace Simmons JR</b>	12-6-1950	6-20-2024		Chosin Reservoir	Marion, CO

# POW/MIA Education Reading And Websites

## Recommended Books

Title	Author
<b>Leave No Man Behind</b>	Bill Bell
<b>Why Didn't You Get Me Out</b>	Frank Aton
Kiss The Boys Goodbye	Monika Jensen-Stevenson & William Stevenson
Betrayed	Joseph D. Douglass, Jr
<b>Still Waiting</b>	Linda Cope
<b>An Enormous Crime</b>	Bill Hendon and Elizabeth A Stewart
Scars and Strips	Captain Eugene "RED" McDaniel USN Retired
Reflections on Captivity	Porter Alexander Halyburton
Unwavering	<b>Taylor Baldwin Kiland</b>
Lessons form the Hanoi Hilton	<b>Taylor Baldwin Kiland</b>

**Note: Books marked in RED are highly recommended reads.**

## Recommended Web Sites

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



## 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 that 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
Gary L. Porter, Charter Member, June 7, 2024	Ralph Coulter, Member July 6, 2024