

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 (170), Vietnam (51)

INCOMING!



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

May was a real busy month for the Chapter with the Linda J. Smith-Cope Scholarship award, Indy Honor Flight #42, Fowler State Bank Shred Day, Armed Forces Day at the Track, Dedicating the IMS POW*MIA Chair of Honor on May 18th, the 36th annual Ride for Freedom, the 1500 Gun and Blade Show, and escorting WWII MIA PVT Harold Oscar Poulter from the Indianapolis Airport to Greenup Illinois. It was a real honor to be able to escort this young WWII Hero. We had a good Chapter showing for the escort and had to opportunity to partner with Rolling Thunder® Illinois Chapter 3 in honoring PVT Poulter.

It's that time of the year again for the Chapter membership to choose its officers for the next two years. The July Chapter meeting will be the first round of nominations for officers, and the last opportunity to make nominations is at the August Chapter meeting. The Chapter election will be held at the September Chapter meeting. The positions that will be up for election is the Vice President, Treasurer, Chairman of the Board, and (3) Board Members. Refer to page 4-8 of the newsletter for more details on the election.

Ride for Freedom 36 is in the books and I think we had a great event. We had 63 people that registered for the event with 15 of them being FNG's. This year, we returned to the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum in Fort Wayne Indiana. Their staff greeted us again with open arms and provided outstanding support to the Chapter. See pages 15 through 20 for details on the event.

The Chapter gun raffle was very successful again this year thanks to Darryle Swartzlander and other members who helped to sell raffle tickets. The funds generated from the gun raffle will help the Chapter to carry on with our POW/MIA mission and helping our Indiana Veterans. The lucky winner of the AM-15 and 9mm Kiger Pistol was Bethanne Ruble. Ms. Ruble purchased 1 ticket at the March Gun & Blade show.

At our June Chapter Meeting, we were honored to welcome two new members to the Chapter. Eric Meyers and Brian Rochester. Both Eric and Brian have been assigned mentors to help them get acquainted with the Chapter and our mission. Welcome to the Chapter gentlemen.

The next Chapter meeting is Sunday July 21, 2024

June 2024 Birthday's



Gregory Jones (01)

Lindsey Smith (14)

Don Leasure (20)

William J. Bailey (22)

Randen Miller (26)

Carla Henderson (28)

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.

Rolling Thunder® Indiana Chapter 1 Elections

The June Chapter meeting was the start of our 2024 election cycle.

In accordance with the National Constitution, all members will be duly notified of elections by an announcement at the June, July and August Chapter meeting. **Nominations will be taken at our July and August Chapter meetings only.** You MUST be present to accept the Nomination.

To be nominated and/or elected for any officer position, a member must be in good standing for a period of (1) year or longer.

The member must have their Rocker/Eagle patches and have attended six (6) Chapter meetings in the past (12) months prior to nomination.

The election will be held at our September 15th Chapter Meeting.

The positions that will be up for election is the Vice President, Treasurer, Chairman of the Board, and (3) Board Members.

In accordance with Chapter Rules Version 1.2, Any Chapter member in good standing wishing to run for the office of President, or Chairman of the Board, must first have held another office, i.e.: Treasure, Secretary, or Board member, for a full term with RTIN Chapter #1.



**Chapter Vice President
David Craig**



**Chapter Treasurer
Terry "Flash" Sanderson**



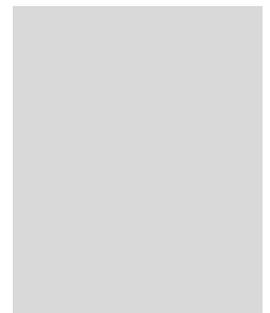
**Chairman of the Board
Jeff "Fuzzy" Thatcher**



**Board Member
Ed Newbill**



**Board Member
Greg Thompson**



**Board Member
Vacant**

Chapter Vice President Duties and Responsibilities Description

The Chapter Vice President is an elected official with a (2) year term. The Chapter Vice President enhances the organization's public standing by clearly articulating the Rolling Thunder mission statement, accomplishments, and goals to the public and garners support from the community.

The duties of the Chapter Vice President will include, but not limited to the following duties.

- a. Reports to the Chapter President.
- b. Takes over the Chapter President's duties in his/her absence.
- c. Assist the Chapter President in the daily operation of the Chapter.
- d. Attend all monthly Chapter meetings.
- e. Assist the Chapter President to make sure all members follow the Rolling Thunder® National Constitution.
- f. Performs any other task assigned by the Chapter President.
- g. Manages new membership applications.
- h. Recommends programs to the Chapter Board, and membership on promoting new membership.
- i. Must not miss (3) consecutive meetings without legitimate excuse submitted to the Chapter President.
- j. Must abide by the Rolling Thunder® National Constitution Rules of Conduct at all times.

Chapter Treasurer Duties and Responsibilities Description

The Chapter Treasurer is an elected official with a (2) year term. He/she maintains custody of all the Chapter funds, and securities and will keep a full and accurate account of all receipts and disbursements in a ledger. The Chapter Treasurer enhances the organization's public standing by clearly articulating the Rolling Thunder® mission statement, accomplishments, and goals to the public and garners support from the community.

The duties of the Chapter Treasurer will include, but not limited to the following duties.

- a. Disbursement of the funds of the Chapter as directed by the Board of Director after approved by the Board of Directors and/or Membership in accordance with the Chapter rules, and will comply with the Rolling Thunder® National Constitution.
- b. Maintains full accountability of all finances, to include the reconciliation of all Chapter bank accounts (General Operating Account, Gaming, and PayPal).
- c. Maintains comprehensive documented audit trail: receipts etc. of all accounts receivable and payable.
- d. Assist in the preparation of annual financial report.
- e. Provides monthly financial report to the Chapter.
- f. Collects and deposits annual membership dues, patch deposits, and other funds received by the Chapter.
- g. Prepare financial analytical reports as needed for the Officers and Board of Directors.
- h. Prepare an annual budget of revenues and expenses for Board of Directors and Membership approval.
- i. Prepare Federal and State tax returns.
- j. Obtain raffle licenses from the Gaming Commission and prepare event reports and annual reports. Prepare and submit lease contracts for events supporting raffle ticket sales.
- k. Must have business background and experience, and/or education in finance and accounting. Comfortable in the use of the computer for email, internet, and accounting software.
- l. Must abide by the Rolling Thunder® National Constitution Rules of Conduct at all times.
- m. Must not miss (3) consecutive meetings without legitimate excuse submitted to the Chapter President.

Chapter Chairman of the Board Duties and Responsibilities Description

The Chairman of the Board is an elected official with a (2) year term. The Chairman of the Board enhances the organization's public standing by clearly articulating the Rolling Thunder® mission statement, accomplishments, and goals to the public and garners support from the community.

The duties of the Chairman of the Board will include, but not limited to the following duties.

- a. Runs the Board meeting and ensures they are run by the Rolling Thunder® National Constitution and Roberts rules when applicable.
- b. He/she is the deciding vote should there be a deadlock on the tabled issues.
- c. Responsible to the President of the Chapter or Vice President if filling in for the President.
- d. Prepares agenda for each scheduled Board meeting and ensures that the agenda is followed by the Board members.
- e. Must not miss (3) consecutive meetings without legitimate excuse submitted to the Chapter President.
- f. Must have held another office, i.e.: Treasure, Secretary, or Board member, for a full term with Indiana Chapter #1.
- g. Must abide by the Rolling Thunder® National Constitution Rules of Conduct at all times.
- h. Have a working knowledge of the National Constitution and Chapter Rules found on the Rolling Thunder Indiana Chapter 1 website.

Chapter Board Member Duties and Responsibilities Description

The Chapter Board Member is an elected official with a (2) year term. The Chapter Board Member enhances the organization's public standing by clearly articulating the Rolling Thunder® mission statement, accomplishments, and goals to the public and garners support from the community.

The duties of the Chapter Board Member will include, but not limited to the following duties.

- a. Reports to the Chairman of the Board.
- b. Must attend all scheduled Board meetings and special Board meetings as determined by the Chairman of the Board or Chapter President.
- c. Must not miss (3) consecutive meetings without legitimate excuse submitted to the Chairman of the Board or Chapter President.
- d. Makes recommendations to the Board that will help promote the Chapter's mission and goals.
- e. Participates in Board discussions as presented by the Chairman of the Board or other Board Members.
- f. Votes on subject matters as directed by the Chairman of the Board.
- g. Must abide by the Rolling Thunder® National Constitution Rules of Conduct at all times.
- h. Have a working knowledge of the National Constitution and Chapter Rules found on the Rolling Thunder® Indiana Chapter 1 website.

**Linda J. Smith-Cope Scholarship
May 8, 2024**



The Linda J. Smith-Cope Scholarship was awarded to Noah Armstrong of the Fountain Central High School. Chapter members attended the High School awards night and presented Noah with the award letter.

Three students submitted applications for the scholarship. The Covington committee reviewed all applications and chose Noah as having the best essay. Noah will continue his education at the Purdue University. The above picture is the Rolling Thunder® Covington committee (Cary Crowder, Jim Smith, Karen Smith, and Crystal Smith), with Noah and his mom and dad. Congratulations to Noah on a job well done.

INDY Honor Flight #42 May 11, 2024



Chapter Members gathered at the Indianapolis International Airport to welcome home our Veterans on INDY Honor Flight #42. The flight included veterans from WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. After the Veterans debarked the airplane, they headed over to the Decatur Central High School for their welcome Home celebration.

Greeting our Veterans at the Airport is always a good time and all Chapter Members should take the opportunity at the next Honor Flight.

**INDY Honor Flight #42
May 11, 2024**



Before heading over to the Indianapolis Airport to welcome our Veterans home, Chapter members met at the Coachman Restaurant for supper and to present Mr. and Mrs. Dick Poynter with their 2023 sponsorship award. Mr. and Mrs. Poynter have been long time supporters of the Chapter and great sponsors.

Chairman of the Board, Jeff Thatcher presents Mr. Poynter with the sponsorship plaque and certificate of appreciation.

Thank you Mr. and Mrs. Poynter for your continued support to the Chapter.

Fowler State Bank Shred Day

May 17, 2024



Chapter Members rode and drove to Williamsport Indiana to participate in the Fowler State Bank Shred Day event. The Fowler State Bank has been a good supporter of the Chapter over the years and we wanted to show them our support and appreciation. The donations collected from the shredding was donated to the Chapter. The donations will help the Chapter to continue on with our POW/MIA mission and helping our Indiana Veterans.

Thank you Fowler Bank for your continued support to the Chapter.

Armed Forces Day at the Track May 17th—19th

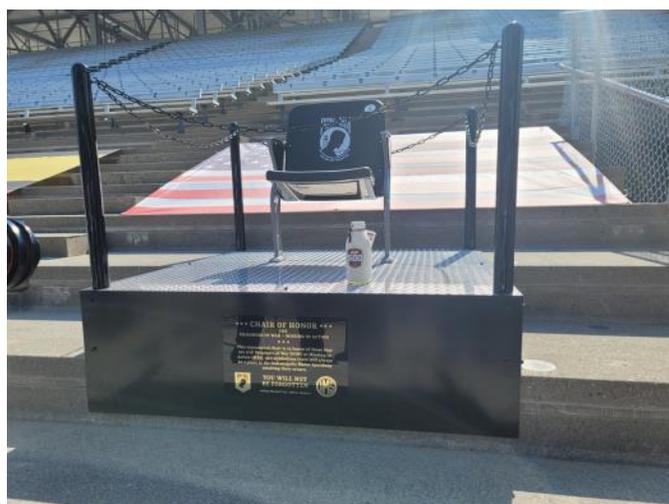


The Chapter partnered with the Indiana National Guard to setup a display booth in the midway at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. On May 17th, the day started out with a gathering at Stout Field at 06:00 for the organization that were going to setup their displays in the Midway. At approximately 07:00 a meeting was call by the Indiana National Guard to give a briefing on the convoy instruction to the Motor Speedway. At 08:00 the convoy headed to the track escorted by IMPD. Upon arrival at the Motor Speedway, organizations began setting up their displays.

The information booth gave the Chapter members the opportunity to meet new people to tell them about our mission and to sell raffle tickets. During the Armed Forces Day Weekend, Chapter members sold 109 raffle tickets.

The Indiana National Guard provided track bucks to our members to purchase food and drinks while at the track. The Indiana National Guard provided great support to the Chapter over the weekend and we really appreciate them. I also thank the Chapter members that dedicated their time supporting the Chapter during Armed Forces weekend. Great Job.

Indianapolis Motor Speedway POW*MIA Chair of Honor Dedication May 18, 2024



The highlight of the Armed Forces Day weekend was on Saturday May 18th when the Chapter and IMS dedicated the POW*MIA Chair of Honor. Having this special chair at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway will be seen by thousands of people. Unfortunately, the dedication ceremony was a short notice and we wasn't able to notify all of the organizations that would like to have been at the dedication ceremony. The IMS POW*MIA Chair of Honor project has been a 9 year endeavor and is finally a reality.

In the above picture is Barbara and John Wertz, who is the daughter and grandson of Chief Warrant Officer John William Frederick, Jr, United States Marine Corps, who was held as a Prisoner of War in North Vietnam from December 7, 1965 until his death in captivity on or about July 19, 1972.

On the right is Jim Smith, the brother of SFC Ronald Eugene Smith who went missing on November 28, 1970 during the Vietnam War and remains missing to this day.

The picture to the right is the IMS President Doug Boles, President Mike Clark, and Chaplain Tom Ransdell accepting the bottle of Milk from Mr. Boles.

On Race Day, we learned that IMS showed the Chair on National TV during the opening ceremony when TAPS was played. This chair will be a beacon to all that see it to remind them that freedom isn't free, and to never forget the sacrifices, and hardships that our POWs and MIAs have endured in the defense of our freedom.

Rolling Thunder® , Inc
Indiana Ride for Freedom XXXVI
May 26, 2024

The 36th Ride for Freedom is in the books. This year, we rode again to the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum in Fort Wayne Indiana. The staff at the memorial provided outstanding support to the Chapter and we really appreciated their support. They have a great facility.

We started out with registration at the Fort Harrison Veterans Center and rode to the Fort Wayne Harley Davidson shop to pickup the Fort Wayne riders that registered at the shop on the morning of the event. We had a total of **50** that registered at the Fort Harrison Veterans Center and **15** that registered at the Fort Wayne Harley Davidson shop. Out of the **65** that registered, **15** were FNG's.

The Lawrence Police Department did an outstanding job escorting the group from the Veterans Center through Lawrence to IN-234 where we continued our travels to Fort Wayne. Once we arrived at the Fort Wayne Harley Davidson shop, we were met by the Allen County Sheriff Department who escorted the group over to the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum.

Upon arrival at the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum, we started our program with the Marine CORP League Detachment #1435 Color Guard presenting the National Colors and Lisa McDavid signing the National Anthem. Ms. McDavid did an outstanding job with the National Anthem.

The Chapter President gave opening remarks followed by a Wreath Laying ceremony to honor those who lost their lives during WWI, WWII, Korean War, Vietnam War and the Global War on Terrorism. Chapter members read the names, performed the Roll Call ceremony, and placed Dog Tags on the wreath for the Service Members from WWII and the Korean War that are still missing from Allen County. Allen County currently has 40 MIAs from WWII and 10 from the Korean War.

The Chapter also performed the Roll Call ceremony, and placed Dog Tags on the wreath for the 50 Vietnam War MIAs from Indiana. During the Roll Call ceremony, Captain Phillip Alan Ducat's name was called and his Biograph was read by the Chapter President. Captain Phillip Alan Ducat is the only Vietnam War MIA from Allen County.

After the Roll Call ceremony for our Vietnam War MIAs, the Chapter President mentioned the number of Americans that served during Global War on Terrorism and the number American Casualties to include nine from Allen County. The names of the nine Service Members from Allen County were read.

As a tribute to the brave men and women who gave their lives for the freedoms that we enjoy today, the American Legion Post 241 fired a three Volley salute followed by TAPS.

At the end of the program, Pat Fraizer of the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum (VNMSM) gave a briefing on the facility. The Chapter President acknowledged the people and organization that helped to make the Ride for Freedom a successful event. Following the program, lunch was served by Mission BBQ.

Thanks to Chapter Member Larry Paynter, the Chapter had a 50/50 drawing which generated \$715 dollars. The winner donated the \$715 back to the Chapter, and the Chapter donated the \$715 back to the VNMSM. The Chapter passed the hat for additional donations, and all together, the Chapter donated \$1,171 to VNMSM.

Rolling Thunder®, Inc
Indiana Ride for Freedom XXXVI
May 26, 2024

The Sendoff

The sendoff briefing was held at the Fort Harrison Veterans Center. The sendoff briefing started with Pledge of Allegiance by all. The Chapter President gave the briefing on today's events and what to expect. Upon conclusion of the briefing, the Lawrence Police Department escorted the group through Lawrence to IN-234 where we continued our travel to Fort Wayne.



The Road Captain, Greg Thompson briefed the group on the route to Fort Wayne and how Rolling Thunder® rides in a group. He explained how we ride in Squads with a Squad Leader and Sweep and how they will be in constant Radio Contact to identify Road Hazards and keep the group together.

Unfortunately, the threat of thunderstorms hurt our over all attendance. However, we ended up with a dry ride to Fort Wayne and was able to conduct our ceremony at the Veterans National Shrine and without rain.

The return trip was a different story. Upon finishing lunch, the good Lord blessed us with rain drops that came down pretty heavy. Some of the members took off before the rain hit and got a little wet before getting home. Others waited out the rain at Fort Wayne and had a dry ride home.

Rolling Thunder®, Inc
Indiana Ride for Freedom XXXVI
May 26, 2024

The Rest Stop

After riding for about an hour, the group made a stop at the McClure Station at exit 259 on I-69 North for fuel and body necessities. After the break, the Gas City Police Department provided us with traffic light support for a safe entry back on I-69 North.



Harley Davidson of Fort Wayne

The groups next stop was on I-69 North, Exit 305 at the Harley Davidson of Fort Wayne. The group picked up several additional riders that registered for today’s event. Once registration was completed, the group staged for the escort by the Allen County Sheriff Department to the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum.



The Harley Davidson of Fort Wayne, provided the Chapter with outstanding support for our event. The staff came in on their day off and opened the shop to the group. They offered a discount on the merchandise and provided the Chapter with a gift basket. We thank Harley Davidson of Fort Wayne for their outstanding support to the Chapter.

Rolling Thunder®, Inc
Indiana Ride for Freedom XXXVI
May 26, 2024

Fun New Guy and Fun New Girl (FNG)

On this years Ride for freedom, we had 6 FNG's that registered in Indianapolis and 9 that registered at Harley Davidson of Fort Wayne. Each FNG was presented with their special FNG button. The FNG button is a special button that is suppose to be worn until next years Ride for Freedom event. The term **FNG** has a special meaning to our Vietnam Veterans.

If you want to know what the term FNG means, ask a Vietnam War Veteran.

Rolling Thunder® appreciates all of the FNG's that participated in this years Ride for Freedom and hope that we'll see you in 2025.



Indianapolis FNG's



Fort Wayne FNG's

Rolling Thunder®, Inc
Indiana Ride for Freedom XXXVI
May 26, 2024

Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum

The program at the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum started out with the Marine CORP League Detachment #1435 Color Guard presenting the National Colors. After the Colors were presented, the National Anthem was sung by Ms. Lisa McDavid who did an outstanding job.



After the Colors were retired, the Chapter President read the Rolling Thunder® Mission Statement and gave some opening remarks about the Rolling Thunder® mission.

Following the Chapter Presidents remarks, the Chapter performed a Wreath Laying ceremony to honor those who lost their lives during WWI, WWII, Korean War, Vietnam War and the Global War on Terrorism. Chapter members read the names of the Service Members from WWII and the Korean War that are still missing from Allen County. Allen County currently has 40 MIAs from WWII and 10 from the Koreans War.



Rolling Thunder®, Inc
Indiana Ride for Freedom XXXVI
May 26, 2024

Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum
Roll Call Ceremony



Roll Call is performed by reading the names, and reporting the whereabouts of the service members that are still listed as unaccounted-for. The ceremony simulates a squad leader reporting the whereabouts of their squad members to the platoon sergeant during a morning roll call.

This year, the Chapter performed roll call for the Service Members that are still missing from WWII and the Korean War from Allen County. In addition, roll call was performed for our 50 that are still missing from the Vietnam War.

Dog Tags were given to the participants to place on the wreaths when the name of the MIA was called. We were honored to have 5 Allen County Korean War Veterans at the ceremony to help place the Dog Tags on the Korean War Wreath.



Dog Tags for the Allen County WWII and Korean War MIAs, and the 50 Indiana MIAs from the Vietnam War.

Indy 1500 Gun & Blade Show

The Chapter gun raffle was very successful thanks to Darryle Swartzlander and other members that helped to sell raffle tickets. The funds generated from the gun raffle will help the Chapter to carry on with our POW/MIA mission and helping our Indiana Veterans. Thanks to all that participated.



March Gun and Blade Show



June Gun and Blade Show

The top row of pictures is at the March Gun and Blade show and the bottom pictures are at the June Gun and Blade show. Both shows were at the Indiana State Fair Grounds. The picture on the bottom row in the center, is one of our Navy members reading a book on the **US Army** Guerrilla Warfare. After several years in the Navy, he is finally reading an Army book to teach him a little bit about Warfare. This is a book that ALL sailors should probably read to learn about Guerrilla Warfare.

The picture on the bottom right is the winner of the gun raffle. Bethanne Ruble was the lucky winner of the AM-15 rifle and the 9mm kiger pistol. Congratulations Bethanne. With Bethanne on the left is Darryle Swartzlander of Rolling Thunder® and Mark of Indy Arms.

WWII MIA
PVT Harold Oscar Poulter Escort
Friday May 31, 2024



On January 17, 2024, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) identified the remains of Private Harold Oscar Poulter, missing from World War II. Private Poulter entered the U.S. Army in Ohio and served in Company G, 2nd Battalion, 318th Infantry Regiment, 80th Infantry Division. On February 7, 1945, this division crossed the Sauer River into Germany and began to assault enemy positions on the east bank. The next day, Pvt Poulter's 2nd Battalion advanced north through a wooded area toward the town of Biesdorf. Pvt Poulter was killed by small arms fire as he approached the crest of a hill. His body could not be recovered due to intense fighting against heavily reinforced German forces in the area. In 1951, human remains were recovered in the woods where Pvt Poulter was killed. They could not be identified with the technology available at the time and were buried as an unknown. In September 2022, the Department of Defense and the American Battle

Monuments Commission exhumed the remains for further study. The laboratory analysis and the totality of the circumstantial evidence available established an association between this set of remains and

On May 31, 2024 PVT Poulter remains arrived at the Indianapolis International Airport. Chapter Members, the Indiana Patriot Guard Riders, and guest met the PVT Poulter's procession in the cell phone parking lot. Upon arrival of the procession, the group joined in and rode to the Illinois State Line to the Cumberland Road Rest Stop located about 8 miles West of Terre Haute, IN. There we met up with Rolling Thunder® Illinois Chapter #3 and their guest. The procession then continued on to the funeral home located in Greenup, IL.

All along the route to the funeral home, the local community paid their respect to PVT Poulter by waving the American Flag and honoring the procession as it passed by. It was a great feeling to know that the American patriotism is still alive.



Airport Parking Lot



Cumberland Road Rest Stop



Barkley Funeral Chapel located at 300 North Kentucky, Greenup, IL 62428.

Pvt. Poulter was buried in Lerna, Illinois, on June 4, 2024.

June Chapter Meeting June 9, 2024

At the June Chapter meeting, the Chapter welcomed two new members. Eric Meyers (Top Picture) with his two mentors Chuck and Carla Henderson. Eric has participated in many of our Welcome Home Honor Flights events and a few other Chapter events. Brian Rochester (Bottom Picture) with his mentor Darryle Swartzlander. We welcome these two new members and hope they enjoy their time with the Chapter.



Veterans Memorial Ride June 15, 2024

On Saturday June 15th, Chapter Members traveled to the Veterans National Cemetery in Madison Indiana. The purpose of this trip was to honor and remember our members that have passed on and to let their families know that their loved one will be forgotten. The weather was great for the trip and we had a good turn out of members and guest. Chaplain Tom Ransdell passed out cards with the names of members that have passed on with comments on the card. Each member that received a card, would read the names and comments on the card. Members that had a story about the member would share their story with the group. Our Road Captain Greg Thompson did a great job putting a beautiful ride together and getting everyone down to Madison safety. Great job.



After the ceremony, the group gathered together at the Tapatio Mexican restaurant for lunch. Unfortunately, the restaurant had a large group before us and caused a slow down in service. However, once the food was served, some said that it was worth the wait. All in all, it was a good day.

USS Harder (US 257)



US Submarine USS Harder was discovered on May 22, 2024 in 3,000 feet of water off the Philippine Islands by an exploration team led by Tim Taylor. USS Harder sank the most Japanese warships during WWII and vanished on August 24, 1944. 79 sailors were onboard to include two from Indiana.

There was no mentioning of remains being found aboard the Submarine. Hopefully, these two families may finally have some closure.



Francis Xavier Scheibelhut
Rank: Motor Machinist's Mate, Second Class
Birth Date: December 21, 1921
From: Mishawaka, Indiana



Nelson Spice
Rank: Motor Machinist's Mate, Third Class
Birth Date: September 5, 1923
From: Fort Wayne, Indiana

Origin of the 21-Gun Salute

The use of gun salutes for military occasions is traced to early warriors who demonstrated their peaceful intentions by placing their weapons in a position that rendered them ineffective. Apparently, this custom was universal, with the specific act varying with time and place, depending on the weapons being used. A North African tribe, for example, trailed the points of their spears on the ground to indicate that they did not mean to be hostile.

The tradition of rendering a salute by cannon originated in the 14th century as firearms and cannons came into use.



Since these early devices contained only one projectile, discharging them once rendered them ineffective. Originally warships fired seven-gun salutes--the number seven probably selected because of its astrological and Biblical significance. Seven planets had been identified and the phases of the moon changed every seven days. The Bible states that God rested on the seventh day after Creation, that every seventh year was sabbatical and that the seven times seventh year ushered in the Jubilee year.

Land batteries, having a greater supply of gunpowder, were able to fire three guns for every shot fired afloat, hence the salute by shore batteries was 21 guns. The multiple of three probably was chosen because of the mystical significance of the number three in many ancient civilizations. Early gunpowder, composed mainly of sodium nitrate, spoiled easily at sea, but could be kept cooler and drier in land magazines. When potassium nitrate improved the quality of gunpowder, ships at sea adopted the salute of 21 guns.

The 21-gun salute became the highest honor a nation rendered. Varying customs among the maritime powers led to confusion in saluting and return of salutes. Great Britain, the world's preeminent sea-power in the 18th and 19th centuries, compelled weaker nations to salute first, and for a time monarchies received more guns than did republics. Eventually, by agreement, the international salute was established at 21 guns, although the United States did not agree on this procedure until August 1875.

The gun salute system of the United States has changed considerably over the years. In 1810, the "national salute" was defined by the War Department as equal to the number of states in the Union--at that time 17.

This salute was fired by all U.S. military installations at 1:00 p.m. (later at noon) on Independence Day. The President also received a salute equal to the number of states whenever he visited a military installation.

In 1842, the Presidential salute was formally established at 21 guns. In 1890, regulations designated the "national salute" as 21 guns and redesignated the traditional Independence Day salute, the "Salute to the Union," equal to the number of states. Fifty guns are also fired on all military installations equipped to do so at the close of the day of the funeral of a President, ex-President, or President-elect.

Today the national salute of 21 guns is fired in honor of a national flag, the sovereign or chief of state of a foreign nation, a member of a reigning royal family, and the President, ex-President and President-elect of the United States. It is also fired at noon of the day of the funeral of a President, ex-President, or President-elect.

Gun salutes are also rendered to other military and civilian leaders of this and other nations. The number of guns is based on their protocol rank. These salutes are always in odd numbers.

Source: Headquarters, Military District of Washington, FACT SHEET: GUN SALUTES, May 1969.

Upcoming Events for June/July

June 29	Veterans Ride Muncie Indiana
July 10	Chapter Event Planning Meeting
July 21	Board/Chapter Meeting
July 30	8th Annual USS Indianapolis Honor Watch

Veterans Ride Muncie Indiana

This ride is hosted by Benson Motorcycles. The proceeds will go to **Dog Tags & Go Bags** and **Pets Healing Vets**. This will be a escorted ride by the Delaware County Sheriff's Department. Registration will be from 9:00 to 10:30 with KSU at 10:45. See flyer on the next page.

Chapter Event Planning Meeting

The Chapter event planning meeting occurs the first Wednesday of each month. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the upcoming events and what needs to be done to make it a successful event. All members are welcome to attend the meeting.

Board and Chapter Meeting

This will be the Chapters monthly meeting at the Fort Harrison Veterans Center. The Board meeting is for Board Members only and the Chapter meeting is for everyone. This will be the first opportunity to make nominations for Chapter Officers. Ron "Chief" Flora will be our Guest speaker and has a 37 minute video to show from one of our Ride to the Wall events. **The Board meeting will be from 11:00 - 12:45. The Chapter meeting starts at 1:00PM.**

8th Annual USS Indianapolis Honor Watch

The Chapter has been invited to perform the Roll Call ceremony for the **31** Indiana Hoosier heroes, who served on the USS Indianapolis, and gave the ultimate sacrifice on July 30th, 1945 when the USS Indianapolis was sunk by the Japanese Navy. We'll need Chapter Members to help with the Roll Call ceremony by reading the names of the **31** that lost their lives on that terrible day.

Everyone is encouraged to attend this special ceremony on Sunday July 30th at the USS Indianapolis Memorial.

VETERANS RIDE

PRESENTED BY BENSON MOTORCYCLES, INC.

SATURDAY

JUNE 29, 2024

ESCORTED BY THE DELAWARE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT.

REGISTRATION: 9AM TO 10:30AM
WITH KICK STANDS UP @ 10:45AM



2024 T-Shirt Design
Sizes S-5X for sale
at event.

Join us after the ride for live music by 5 SPEED, food from Imagine Burgers, 50/50 raffle, military vehicles on display from The National Guard, and much more!

BIKERS ON THIS RIDE WILL BE DRIVING THROUGH THE MARION NATIONAL CEMETERY.

START & END POINT:

Benson Motorcycles, Inc.
6410 W McGalliard Rd. | Muncie, IN 47304

All proceeds from the Veterans Ride will go towards two veteran-supporting charities.

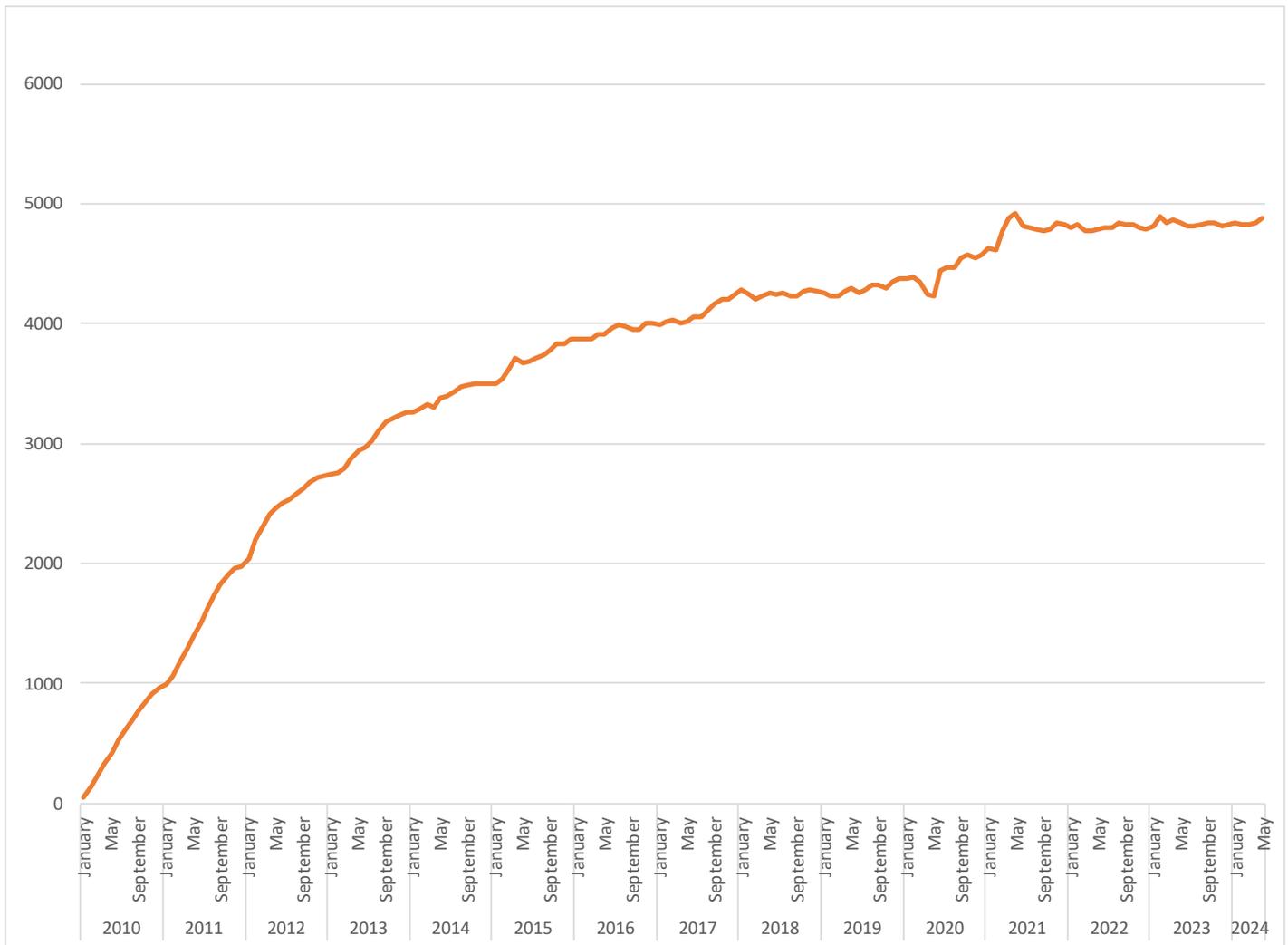
Dog Tags & Go Bags
Pets Healing Vets

All Bikes Are Welcome

\$20/Bike

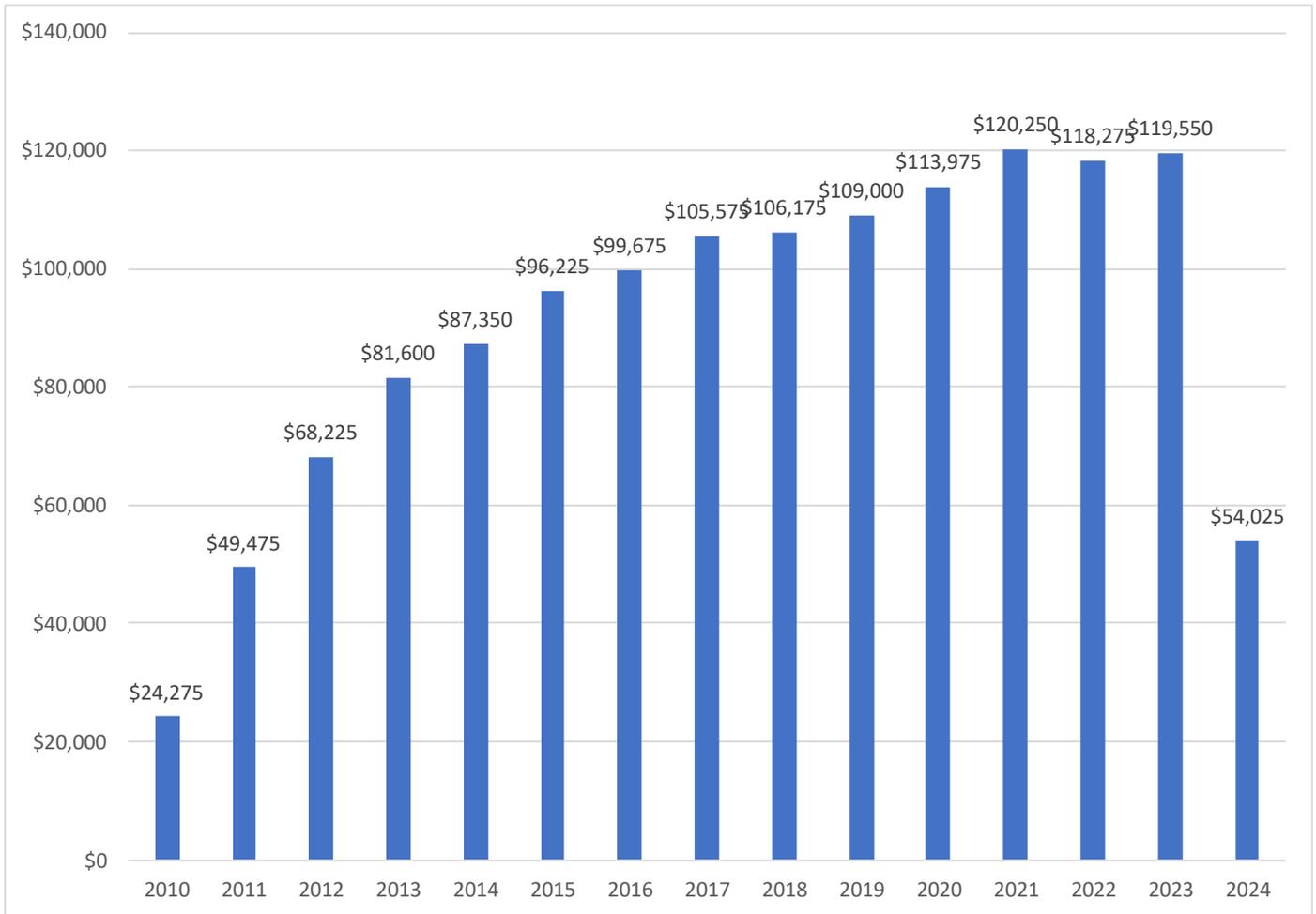
Indiana POW/MIA Specialty Plates on the Streets

As of May 31, 2024



As of May, 2024, we have **4,879** 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 39 plates up from this time last year.**

Indiana POW/MIA Specialty Plate Fund



Since the introduction of the Indiana POW/MIA Specialty Plate in January 2010, the plate has generated an estimated **\$1,353.650** 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.

2024 DPAA MIAs Accounted-For

Total Accounted for in 2024: 90

As of May 31, 2024

Accounted-For by War

WWII (71)

Korea (17)

Cold War (0)

Vietnam/Laos (2)

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
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

POW/MIA Affairs Committee

Continue

Indiana Heroes that have been Identified

Name	DOL	Identified	Returned	County	HOR
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
PFC Clossie D. Brown	1-21-1945	4-25-2024		France	Kirkin

POW/MIA Education Reading And Websites

Recommended Books

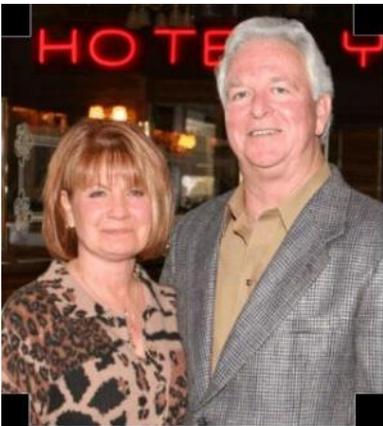
Title	Author
Leave No Man Behind	Bill Bell
Why Didn't You Get Me Out	Frank Aton
Kiss The Boys Goodbye	Monika Jensen-Stevenson & William Stevenson
Betrayed	Joseph D. Douglass, Jr
Still Waiting	Linda Cope
An Enormous Crime	Bill Hendon and Elizabeth A Stewart
Scars and Strips	Captain Eugene "RED" McDaniel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

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 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