

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!



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

May is going to be busy months for the Chapter. **Pages 9 and 10** of the newsletter highlights the upcoming events. Take a few minutes and look through the newsletter to see what the Chapter is planning on doing this month.

The main event for May will be the XXXVI Ride for Freedom. This is a CORE event and request maximum participation from the membership. A copy of the flyer is located on **pages 13 and 14** of the newsletter. You can also download the information from our website at **www.indianarollingthunder.com**. Request that everyone preregister so we can get a headcount of the number of people that will be attending the event. This will help us determine how much food to purchase and other logistics.

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

I'm happy to announce that we have another WWII Indiana War Fighter that has been identified. The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) has announced the identification of PFC Clossie Brown of Kirkin Indiana. PFC Brown was a member of 45th Infantry Division, 157th Infantry Regiment. It's reported that PFC Brown went missing during a battle with the Germans in Strasbourg France on January 21st, 1945. The DPAA website didn't have any additional information on PFC Brown. The honorstates.org website had information on PFC Brown listed on page 24. Indiana still has 1498 still missing from WWII.

We are currently working with IMS on the dedication date for the POW*MIA Chair of Honor. The tentative date of May 14th has been discussed, but not confirmed. Please monitor you email for updates.

The next Chapter meeting is Sunday May 19, 2024

May
2024 Birthday's



Ken White (1)
Don McFarland (10)
John Mascari (14)
Tom Ransdell (14)
Christina Johnson (17)
Tony Palmiero (21)
Cary Crowder (23)
Kathy Brewer (24)

Hope you have many more

ACTIVE MEMBERS WITH 20 YEARS OR MORE OF SERVICE

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

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

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

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

The Chapter has dedicated 15 POW*MIA Chairs of Honor throughout the State of Indiana. The Chairs can be seen on our website at www.indianarollingthunder.com. These chairs are placed in venues where thousands of people will see these special chairs. These chairs honor those Service Members that went off to war and have haven't return home; their whereabouts are unknown, and their fate is yet to be determined.

These special chairs are also a reminder to the family members of our POWs and MIAs that their loved one will not be forgotten.

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

Rushville Elks Lodge #1307, located in Rushville Indiana.

Rushville High School, located in Rushville Indiana.

Indianapolis Motor Speedway, located in Indianapolis Indiana.

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

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



Dedication projected for November 2024

Rushville HS Display



**Location of the IMS POW*MIA Chair of Honor
Tower Terrace Section 59**

Dedication Date to be Determined

Honor Flight #40 April 13, 2024

Honor Flight #40 took off early Saturday morning on April 13th to take a load of Veterans to Washington DC to see their monuments. Chapter Member William Newbill was on the Honor Flight with his son as his Guardian. The flight included WWII, Korean, and Vietnam Veterans. Some Chapter Members met the Veterans at the Indianapolis Airport as they debark the airplane, and others went to the Welcome Home Celebration at the Plainfield High School. Ed stated that his experience on the Honor Flight was awesome.



William “Ed” Newbill and Son



Members welcome home the Veterans at the Indianapolis Airport.



Chapter Meeting April 21, 2024

At the April Chapter meeting, we had guest speaker Jose Dominguez from Cycle Gear to talk about the Alpinestars Tech-Air 5 Airbag system for motorcycle riders and how it can help save your life in case of an accident. We also had Jeff Thatcher, David Brewer, and Ed Newbill to share their Military and Civilian backgrounds with the membership. All three did an awesome job.



Jose Dominguez
Cycle Gear



Jeff "Fuzzy" Thatcher



Dave "Cigar-Man"
Brewer



William "Breakdown" Newbill

2024 Chili Cook-Off Champ



Carla Henderson took the trophy as the 2024 Chapter Chili Cook-Off Champ. The Chapter membership voted her Chili as the best out of several great pots of Chile. It was a close race, but Carla pulled it off.

Congratulations Carla

I thank the membership for bringing in some great Chili. They were all good.

The Membership also voted for the **2023 Member of the Year**. You will have to attend the May Chapter meeting to find out who the 2023 Member of the Year recipient is.

Louis Anthony "Lou" Conter, age 102
last survivor from the USS Arizona at Pearl Harbor
Died 1 APRIL 2024



Louis Anthony Conter was born in Ojibwa, Wisconsin, on September 13, 1921, to Nicholas Anthony Conter and Lottie Esther Milligan. Conter had one older and one younger sister. He and his family moved from Wisconsin to New Mexico in 1922, before moving again to Denver, Colorado, in 1924. Conter moved to Stockton, Kansas, in 1927 before returning to Denver in 1930, where he lived on a farm. Upon finishing school, Conter began working at the same company as his father.

Following the entry of the United States into World War II as a direct result of the Attack on Pearl Harbor, Conter was selected for and entered naval flight training as a naval aviation cadet (NAVCAD). He qualified as an enlisted naval aviation pilot (NAP) in November 1942, participating in several nighttime bombing raids flying a PBY-5 variant, the Consolidated PBY Catalina with Patrol Squadron Eleven (VP-11), then known as Black Cats, in the South Pacific. He was shot down twice over the Pacific during his Navy flying career, but managed to use a raft to row to shore on both occasions. Later commissioned as an ensign, Conter went on to serve in the New Guinea campaign and in the European theater at the end of the war. During this time, he reached the rank of lieutenant and was a recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V" device.



The USS Arizona returned to her base at Pearl Harbor on December 6, 1941. On the morning of December 7, Conter was on watch on the quarterdeck station between the third turret and main deck, when the ship was attacked by a squadron of Japanese torpedo planes and bombers at 8 am. About five minutes later, the Arizona was struck by a 1,760-pound (800 kg) bomb between the first and second turret, which ignited the ship's ammunition magazine. The following explosion blew off the ship's bow and lifted the battleship out of the water, knocking over Conter while killing and injuring many others. As the ship burned and started to sink, she was hit by more Japanese projectiles. Meanwhile, Conter was aiding wounded fellow sailors, keeping them from jumping in the burning oil covering the water's surface. When Conter was already knee deep in water, the captain gave the order to abandon ship and Conter took to the lifeboats. The Arizona sank in nine minutes, taking the lives of 1,177 of her crew. Her 334 surviving crew struggled to escape the burning ruins, of which Conter saved several by pulling them out of the water into his lifeboat before rowing to shore. Following the attack, Conter spent several weeks helping to put out fires and recovering the bodies of the fallen.

The Spirit of the American Doughboy Came from Spenser, Indiana

The *Spirit of the American Doughboy* memorial features a single man, dressed in a World War I army uniform, complete with a hat. He raises his right fist, which holds a grenade, toward the sky triumphantly, proclaiming victory. His other arm holds a rifle, complete with a bayonet.

Today imagery of the doughboy persists in more than 100 World War I commemorative statues across the United States. Most of the statues were erected in the 1920s and often through the fundraising efforts of grassroots veteran and women's groups. Even small communities were able to pay for the statues since versions of the doughboy statue were mass-produced and, therefore, more affordable.

The statue designed by E. M. Viquesney in Spencer, Indiana during the 1920s.

It's suggested that, second to the *Statue of Liberty*, Viquesney's *The Spirit of the Doughboy* is the most-seen statue in the United States.



Although he never said so, it's suspected that the pose Viquesney chose for his sculpture was deliberately inspired by the *Statue of Liberty*. The sculptor, a canny salesman, probably counted on the fact that this would unconsciously strike a chord with the public, and thus help boost his creation's popularity.



Written: April 2024

Upcoming Events for May

May 11	INDY Honor Flight #42
May 17	Fowler State Bank Shred Day
May 17 - 19	Armed Forces Day at the Track
May 19	Board and Chapter Meeting
May 25	Hot Rods and Heroes American Legion Post 34
May 26	Rolling Thunder XXXVI Ride for Freedom

INDY Honor Flight #42

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

Fowler State Bank Shred Day

The Fowler State Bank has been a dedicated sponsor of the Chapter for several years. On May 17th they are hosting a Shred Day at their facility. They are not charging for the shredding, but are excepting donations. The donations that they collect will be donated to the Chapter. Please mark May 17th on your calendar to show Fowler State Bank how much we appreciate their support. **See flyer on page 11.**

Armed Forces Day at the Track

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

Board/Chapter Meeting

The May Chapter Meeting will be at the Fort Harrison Veterans Center. The Board meeting (Board members only) will be from 11:00 to 12:45 and the Chapter meeting (Everyone welcome) will start at 13:00 (1:00pm). Please monitor your email for updates,

Hot Rods and Heroes American Legion Post #34

This is a annual fund raising event sponsored by the American Legion post #34. The proceeds for this years event will go to Helping Veterans and Families (HVAF) Counseling Services. Flyer will be provided at a later date. **See flyer on page 12.**

XXXVI Ride for Freedom

Our 36th annual Ride for Freedom is scheduled for **Sunday May 26th**. This year, we will return to the Veterans National Shrine and Museum at Fort Wayne Indiana. This is one of our main events for the year and looking forward to a great crowd. The program will be similar to the one last year with a few changes.

This year, Mission BBQ will cater lunch to the Veterans National Shrine and Museum. The menu will include Pulled Pork, Pulled Chicken, Baked Beans with Brisket, Maggie's Mac-N-Cheese, Cold Slaw and other goodies.

The Veterans National Shrine and Museum dedicated a new Korean War Memorial in November last year. The memorial is similar is the Korean War Memorial in Washington DC. The main difference is the faces on the statues are faces of Allen County Korean War Veterans. **See page 13 and 14** for more details.

Upcoming Events for May

May 31 - June 2	INDY Gun and Blade Show
June 5	Chapter Event Planning Meeting
June 9	Board and Chapter Meeting
June 22	Veterans Memorial Ride, Madison Indiana

INDY Gun and Blade Show

The Chapter will attend the May 31 - June 2, 2024 Gun and Blade Show to help raise funds for the Chapter. The Gun raffle was a good source of revenue for the Chapter in 2023 and we are hoping that the 2024 Gun raffle will be profitable as well. There will only be 1,000 tickets sold and we need the membership to help with selling tickets. Contact Darryle Swartzlander if you need tickets to sell. **See raffle flyer on page 15/16.**

Chapter Event Planning Meeting

The Chapter Event Planning meeting will be on Wednesday June 5 at 18:00. The planning committee will go over the monthly and future events. Chapter members are welcome and encouraged to attend these planning meetings. The meeting will be Zoom using the same access information as our Chapter meetings.

Board/Chapter Meeting

The June Chapter Meeting will be at the Fort Harrison Veterans Center. The Board meeting will start at 11:00 (Board Members Only), the Chapter meeting (Everyone Welcome) will start at 13:00 (1:00pm). The June Chapter meeting will be the first announcement of the 2025 election cycle. This election cycle will include the Chapter Vice President, Chapter Treasurer, Chairman of the Board, and three Board Members. Nominations for Officer positions will be taken at the July and August meetings only. The election will take place at the September Chapter meeting

Veterans Memorial Ride

The Chapter will ride to the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Madison Indiana to honor our Veterans that have passed on, and remember our members that have been laid to rest at the Cemetery. Please monitor your email for updates.

Fowler State Bank Shred Day



ROLLING THUNDER

Williamsport

Come See the Motorcycles

Supporting Our Community Donations From...

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

DID YOU KNOW?

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

SHRED DAY

Friday
May 17, 2024
510 State Road 28

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



**FOWLER
STATE
BANK**

Community Owned. Community Grown. Community Focused.



Best Eats & Treats

Food Truck

Purchase Tickets To Win!
(\$5 Tickets)

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



 **AMERICAN
LEGION**
AUXILIARY

**PRESENTED
BY:
ALA Unit 34**



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

**WHISKEY
PULL
WINE
TOSS**

**HOT RODS &
HEROES**



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

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

**SATURDAY
MAY 25, 2024**

**RIBS & SUCH
PROVIDED BY
BACK YARD
CAFÉ**



**DUNK TANK

PIE
THROWING

**HOTEL
TANGO
WHISKEY
TASTING**



**PROCEEDS BENEFIT
HVAF COUNSELING SERVICES**

CONTACT:
Melissa Clawson, Event Director
secretary.unit34@outlook.com or 317-941-6605

**HVAF & VA
VETERAN
SERVICES
INFORMATION
BOOTHS**

Annual Raffle License # 000106

Rolling Thunder® , Inc,

Indiana Chapter #1

XXXVI Ride for Freedom

Indiana Casualties

Mexican War – 542

Civil War- 24,416

Spanish War - 73

WWI - 3,709

WWII - 9,649

Korean War - 921

Vietnam War - 1,534

Desert Storm - 11

911 - 8

OIF/OEF - 208



Indiana MIAs

WWI - 104

WWII - 1,499

Korean War - 170

Vietnam War - 51

Allen County

WWII - 40

Korean War - 10

Vietnam War - 1

May 26, 2024

Come Join Rolling Thunder® Indiana Chapter #1

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

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

Fort Wayne Indiana

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

Please See Details on back of the Flyer

Visit our website at www.indianarollingthunder.com or



Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall



Korean War Memorial

XXXVI Ride for Freedom Schedule Sunday May 26, 2024

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Arrival Time: Approximately 12:30pm.

Memorial Program Start Time: 1:00pm

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

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



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

Rolling Thunder® Inc. Mission Statement

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

We are also committed to helping American veterans from all wars. Rolling Thunder, Inc. is a non-profit organization and everyone donates his or her time because they believe in the POW/MIA Issue.

Indy 1500 Gun & Blade Show



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

May 31st - June 2nd

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

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



KIGER-9c



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

Tickets \$10

TWOFER
RAFFLE

Tickets \$10

BY

Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana
Chapter #1

Sponsored by



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



AM-15 Utility Rifle

AND



Kiger 9C



BY



Funds raised go to helping our veterans in financial need.

License # 012156



Rolling Thunder®, Inc., IN #1



Indy Arms Co.

Save the Dates

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

August 10th - CentreBank Porker Run. Covington Indiana.

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

August 24th – Veterans Center Support Event.

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

September 19th – Watch Fire Ceremony.

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

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

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

October 5th – Pets Healing Vets Ride.

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

October 5th, 2024

Benefit Ride For



Presented by



Escorted ride through Hamilton County

\$25 for Rider/\$15 for Passenger

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

Kickstands up at 11:00

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

Pre-registration at Harley Davidson of Indianapolis

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

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

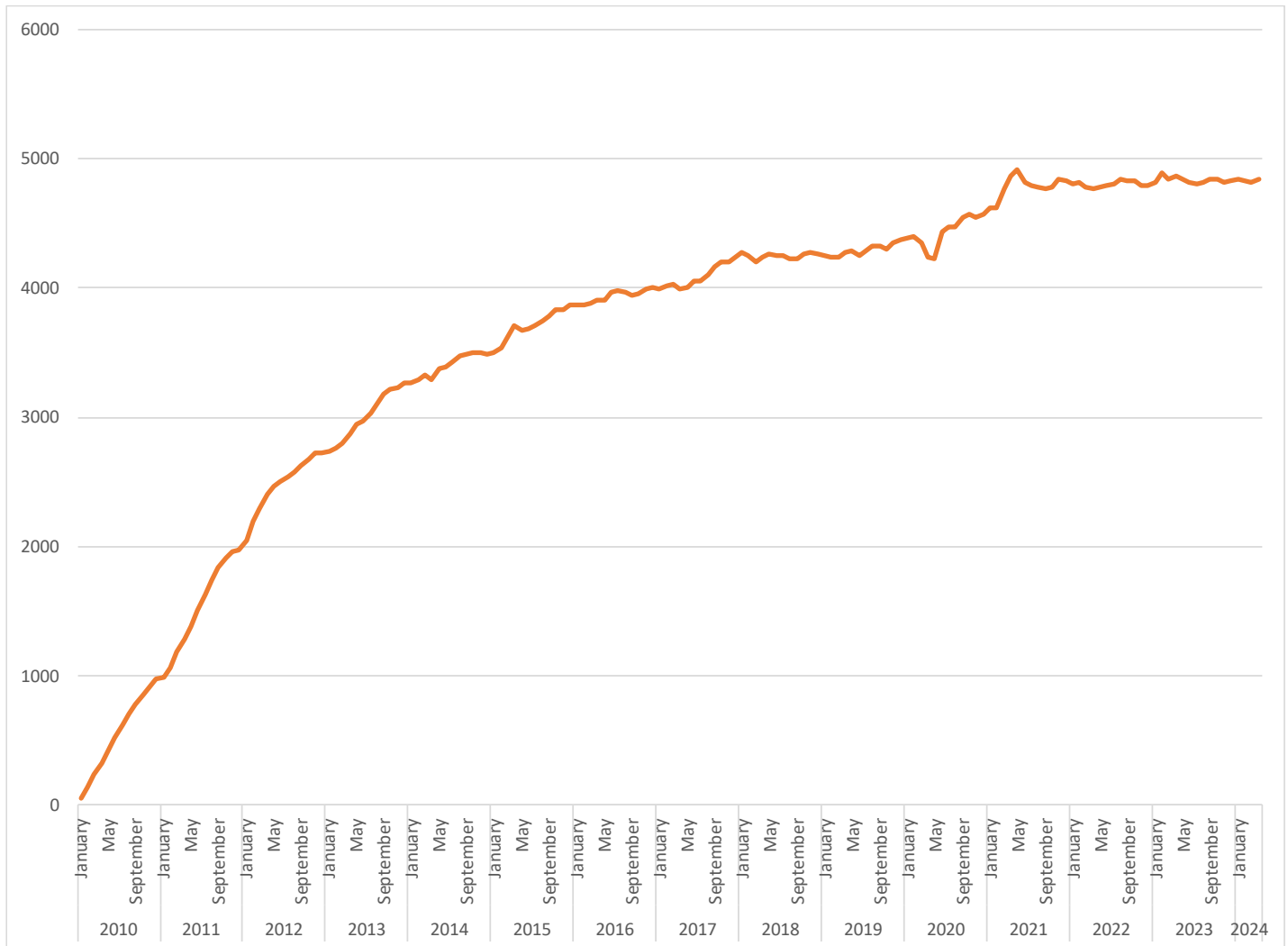
THIS IS A RAIN OR SHINE EVENT

For more information or to donate contact :

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

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

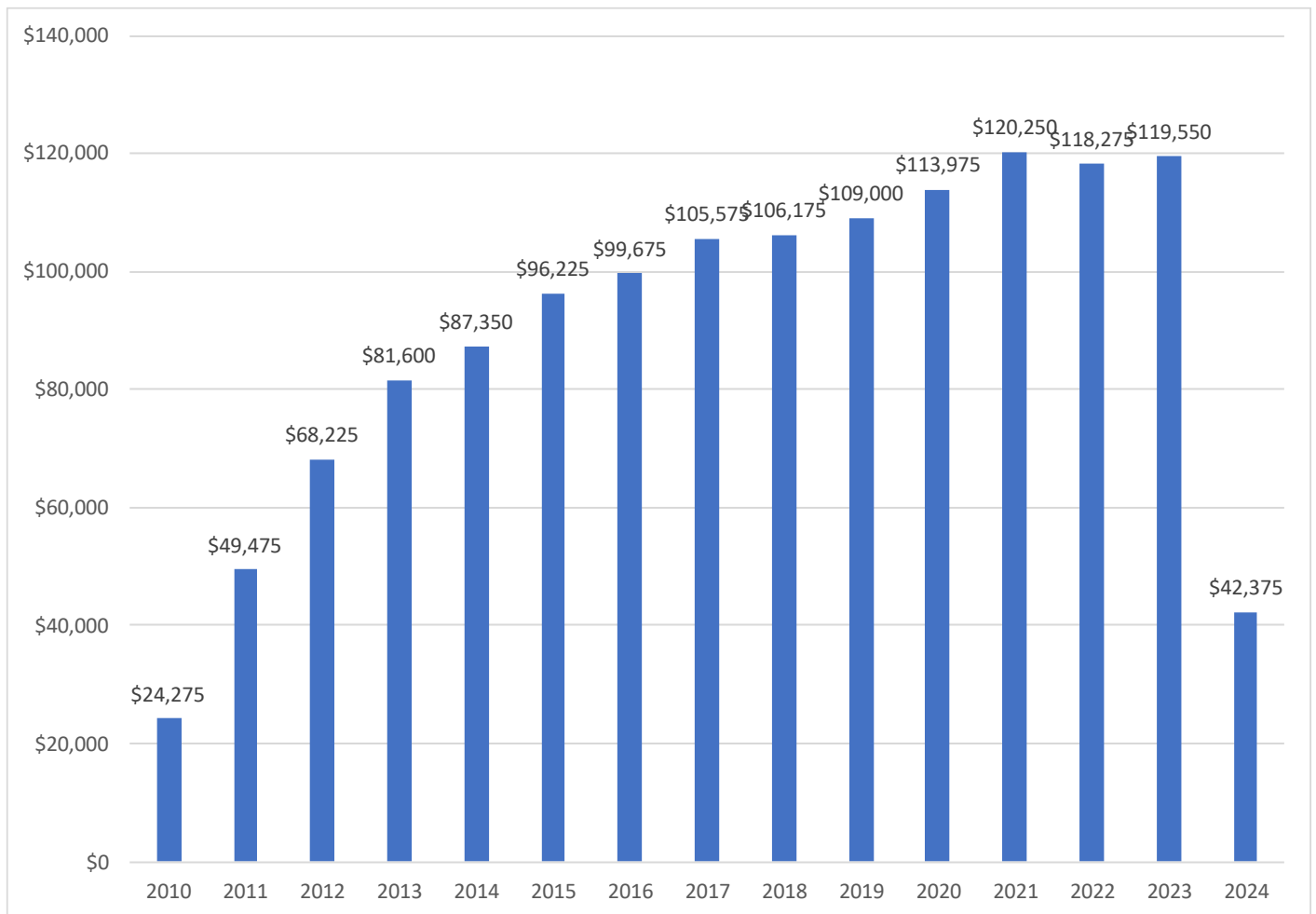
Indiana POW/MIA Specialty Plates on the Streets As of April 30, 2024



As of March 31, 2024, we have **4,847** 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). **527 plates were Renewed/Sold in April 2024. We are down 18 plates compared to 2023.**

Indiana POW/MIA Specialty Plate Fund

From 2010 to 2024



Since the introduction of the Indiana POW/MIA Specialty Plate in January 2010, the plate has generated an estimated **\$1,3242,000**. 100% of the proceeds generated from the sales of the POW/MIA specialty plate goes to the Indiana Military Family Relief Fund (MFRF) to help our Indiana Veterans in need.

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

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

2024 Chapter Sponsorship Program

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

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

Sponsorship Benefit Levels



Sergeant Sponsorship – Donation of \$800 and over

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

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

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



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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

Chapter and Linda J. Smith-Cope Scholarships

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

The deadline for students to submit their application for the 2024 Chapter Scholarship was April 30th, 2024. Unfortunately, despite all of the advertising, there were no applications submitted for this scholarship. We need to find a better way to notify the family members of our POWs and MIAs in 2025.

Linda J. Smith-Cope Scholarship

The Linda J. Smith-Cope scholarship was offered to the Covington and Fountain Central High Schools students only. The \$1,000 scholarship is to be awarded to a Covington or Fountain Central High School graduating senior seeking a higher education at an accredited College, University, or Trade School. The subject for both scholarships were the same. The students were required to independently write an essay on a POW/MIA themed topic of their choosing.

This year, we had three student applications submitted from the Fountain Central High School and one from the Covington High School. The application from the Covington High School student was returned for not being complete.

The Covington Scholarship Committee reviewed all three scholarship application and chose Noah Armstrong from Veedersburg Indiana as the recipient of the scholarship. Noah will continue his higher education at Purdue University. **Congratulations to Noah on a job well done.**

The Covington Scholarship Committee will present Noah with the scholarship award letter at the Fountain Central High School graduation ceremony on May 8th, 2024.

Never Forget the Families that have given all

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

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



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



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

Membership Obligations

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

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

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

WWII MIA PFC Clossie Denver Brown
Identified on April 25th, 2024

This Profile ID	40016
Service ID	35831035
Name	Clossie Denver Brown
From	Kirklin, Clinton County, Indiana
Birth Date	September 24, 1908
Casualty Date	January 21, 1945
War	World War II
Service Branch	Army
Rank	Private First Class
Unit/Group	45th Infantry Division, 157th Infantry Regiment
Casualty Type	Missing in Action
Location	Strasbourg, France
Burial	Tablets of the Missing at Epinal American Cemetery, Epinal, France
Notable Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Bronze Star ★ Purple Heart

Clossie D Brown was born and raised in Indiana. He was the son of **Alonzo Denver Brown** and **Mary Elizabeth Schimmel**. He was reported missing in action in France on January 21, 1945. He was officially declared dead on January 22, 1946.

The DPAA website did not have any additional information on the circumstances of PFC Brown's case. If you are a family member of PFC Brown, please contact the Army casualty office representative at 800-892-2490.

2024 DPAA MIAs Accounted-For

Total Accounted for in 2024: 29

As of April 30, 2024

Accounted-For by War

WWII (22)

Korea (6)

Vietnam/Laos (1)

Accounted-For By Service

U.S Army (20)

U.S Army Air Forces (4)

U.S Marine Corps (0)

U.S Marine Corps Reserves (1)

U.S Navy (2)

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

POW/MIA Affairs Committee

Continue

Indiana Heroes that have been Identified

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

Note: Books marked in RED are highly recommended reads.

Recommended Web Sites

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

The Coachman Restaurant and Lounge



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

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

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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.plainfelddoitbest.com/>

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

Ed will love to see yea



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

NEVER FORGET

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