

# ***Rolling Thunder***<sup>®</sup>

## **Indiana Chapter 6**



**April - June 2016**

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**Jerry Blake- President**

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**Board Member**

***Grady Davis***

### ***Letter from the President...***

Hi Everyone,

Summer is here and man is it hot. Wanted to let everyone know that we will be nominating officers for 2016-2017 in July and August. We will vote at September's meeting.

I know a lot of you will be traveling this summer so please be safe and enjoy your vacations. Please keep track of our web site and your email's as we will be getting busy with events and other interesting things.

I want to thank Tamara for taking care of the news letter for us and also ask if any of you are interested in helping her. If you are interested please let me or Tamara know next meeting and we will sit down with you and go over what you can do to help.

I am switching to DIRECT TV so my new email address is [jerryoblake@gmail.com](mailto:jerryoblake@gmail.com). As always if you have any questions for me, please don't hesitate to ask.

Thanks,  
Jerry Blake

Rolling Thunder, Inc.'s major function is to publicize the POW-MIA issue. To educate the public of the fact that many American prisoners of war were left behind after all past wars. To help correct the past and to protect the future veterans from being left behind should they become Prisoners Of War/Missing In Action. We are 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.



## *Marine Missing From World War II Accounted For*

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, unaccounted for since World War II, have been identified and are being returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

Marine Pfc. John F. Prince, 19, of New York, will be buried June 17 in Calverton, New York. In November 1943, Prince was assigned to Company F, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, which landed against stiff Japanese resistance on the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll of the Gilbert Islands, in an attempt to secure the island. Over several days of intense fighting at Tarawa, approximately 1,000 Marines and Sailors were killed and more than 2,000 were wounded, but the Japanese were virtually annihilated. Prince died on the first day of the battle, Nov. 20, 1943.

Despite the heavy casualties suffered by U.S. forces, military success in the battle of Tarawa was a huge victory for the U.S. military because the Gilbert Islands provided the U.S. Navy Pacific Fleet a platform from which to launch assaults on the Marshall and Caroline Islands to advance their Central Pacific Campaign against Japan.

In the immediate aftermath of the fighting on Tarawa, U.S. service members who died in the battle were buried in a number of battlefield cemeteries on the island. In 1946 and 1947, the 604th Quartermaster Graves Registration Company conducted remains recovery operations on Betio, but Prince's remains were not recovered. On Feb. 28, 1949, a military review board declared Prince's remains non-recoverable.

In June 2015, a nongovernmental organization, History Flight, Inc., notified DPAA that they discovered a burial site on Betio Island and recovered the remains of what they believed were 35 U.S. Marines who fought during the battle in November 1943. The remains were turned over to DPAA in July 2015.

To identify Prince's remains, scientists from DPAA used laboratory analysis, including dental comparison, which matched Prince's records, as well as circumstantial and material evidence.

DPAA is grateful to History Flight, Inc. for this recovery mission.

Of the 16 million Americans who served in World War II, more than 400,000 died during the war.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for Americans who went missing while serving our country, visit the DPAA website at [www.dpaa.mil](http://www.dpaa.mil) or call (703) 699-1420.



## Chaplain's Corner

How do we control our anger? Do we open our mouth first and later wish we had stuck our foot in it? In I Samuel 25: 14-17, David protected a man named Nabal's shepherd's and sheep while they were in the wilderness. Yet when David sent young men to offer greeting's and to ask for some food for them, Nabal was ungrateful, hateful and refused to give them anything.

David in return seeking revenge was going to take 400 men and wipe out Nabal and all of his men for returning evil for good. Abigail, Nabal's wife not wanting people to suffer for her husband's evil, went out with food for all of David's men before he could reach them, and reminded David of all the Lord had done for him, and he did not want bloodshed on his hands for avenging himself..

Leviticus 19: 18 NIV

18. Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.

Proverbs 16: 7-9 NIV

7. When a man's ways are pleasing to the Lord, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him.
8. Better a little with righteousness than much gain with injustice.
9. In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps.

If you have a spiritual need or in need of someone to talk to, call Chapter 6 Chaplain Steve Suter at [812-925-3627](tel:812-925-3627) or e-mail at [kspl69@wowway.com](mailto:kspl69@wowway.com)



## Rolling Thunder<sup>®</sup>, Inc. *Indiana Chapter 6*



### Rolling Thunder<sup>®</sup> IN Chapter 6 Calendar of Events

Revised 6-10-2016

Month	Date	Event
June	23	ESGR Golf Outing Setup
	24	ESGR Golf Outing
	26	Chapter 6 Benefit Ride
July	1	Flag Presentation at ARK Crisis Center
	2	Membership Meeting – 9pm
	4	Mt Caramel Parade

For anyone wanting to share pictures or events please send information to [perkeme@gmail.com](mailto:perkeme@gmail.com).  
We will do our best to include all information.

Don't forget to check out the Rolling Thunder Indiana Chapter 6 Website as well, [www.rollingthunderin6.com](http://www.rollingthunderin6.com) and find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/pages/Rolling-Thunder-Indiana-Chapter-6](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Rolling-Thunder-Indiana-Chapter-6)

## April Patch Recipients



Robert Wefel  
Boot Patch

## May Patch Recipients



Jessica  
Montgomery  
Boot Patch



Zachary  
Montgomery  
Boot Patch



Mike Norvell  
Rocker and Eagle



# June Patch Recipients



Mike Like  
Boot Patch



Brittan Carrie  
Boot Patch



Richard Carrie  
Boot Patch



Wendy Gee  
Boot Patch



Randall Canary  
Rocker and Eagle



Dennis Knowles  
Rocker and Eagle



# Honor Flight EVV 4





April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Indiana Chapter 6 had the pleasure of assisting with the 100th anniversary celebration of the Soldiers & Sailors Veterans Memorial Coliseum. This building is a great piece of our American heritage. If only walls could talk, the stories they could tell!  
The picture on display showed three of our four historic buildings.



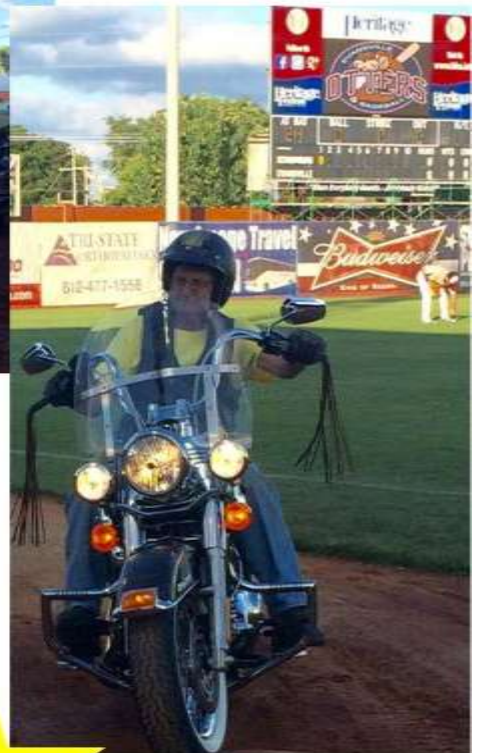


A wonderful day for our first Homeless Vet Cookout of 2016.  
Food was awesome and so are our members!  
Thank you to the Chapter 6 Grill Team for the chops, brats, hot  
dogs, potatoes & baked beans. Yum, yum!!!





Rolling Thunder IN 6 participated in ESGR Military Night @ Otter's baseball game. It was a brisk night but fun!







Congratulations to Alexander Paul, grandson of Jeff & Joyce Hopkins, our 2016 Scholarship winner.

Our grandson Kristopher Appel graduated from Hampton University and received his Navy Commission this May. He picked his grandfather, Steve Suter, to be his first salute!

Paula Suter





# Congratulations

IN Chapter 6 Vietnam Veterans honored with  
Gold Star Mothers challenge coin.  
Presented by Sarah Taylor.



RT IN 6 participated in the RedHawks Memorial Day 5k.



Rolling Thunder IN 6 joined HFSI, friends and family to welcome home 2 Korean & 5 Vietnam Veterans after a trip to DC.





Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Chapter 1 is saddened to report the loss of a fallen brother in Washington D.C May 29th, 2016 after the 29th Annual Ride for Freedom demonstration.

SFC Craig A. Van Brunt was 66 years old and a retired Army Military Policeman (MP) with 22 years of service. Craig and his wife Denise lived in Pendleton, Indiana. After the 29th Annual Ride for Freedom demonstration, Craig and three other motorcycles were riding down I-66 West back to the hotel when they came upon slow moving traffic when approaching the Rosslyn Tunnel. Craig applied his breaks and unfortunately, the bike started sliding and flipping and Craig fell off his bike and hit his head on the pavement. After the accident, one of the Indiana Chapter #1 members and fellow riders took charge of the situation and contacted 911 for emergency assistance. CPR was administered on the scene until emergency assistance arrived. Later that evening, Craig succumb from his injuries.

Craig's mission was to visit the Vietnam War Memorial Wall and pay his respect to his fallen comrades. Craig was able to visit the Wall during our Friday night vigil and participate in the Ride for Freedom demonstration prior to his wreck. Craig was able to accomplish his mission and now he is on his way home.

Rest in peace brother.



## **Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Veterans Fund & POW/MIA License Plate**



*363 plates were sold in May 2015.*

*Year-to-date, \$45,350 has been contributed to the RTIVF.*

### **THE FUND | THE PLATE**

#### **THE FUND**

RTIVF is open to all honorably discharged Veterans, effective July 1, 2015. Financial assistance may be used by the veteran/family for needs such as housing, utilities, medical services, transportation, and other essential family support expenses which have become difficult to manage. Assistance may be requested once per running year, with a maximum of up to \$2,500.00 may be approved. (exclusions, auto loans, cable, satellite, cell, internet services, all insurance, dental care, credit cards, child support, attorneys, debt collectors, storage fees, and funeral expenses, some others may apply) Assistance will be considered by the RTIVF State Committee, and the applicant will be notified of their decision.

There may be an emergency waiver granted in some cases, only upon written request indicating the circumstances justifying such a waiver.

Assistance will also be considered by the RTIVF State Committee for Group Housing, Veterans Homeless Shelters etc.

#### **Requirements:**

- The applicant must have received an "Honorable Discharge". (DD 214, DD 256, NGB-22)
- The applicant must have served a minimum of 30 continuous days of active duty.
- Applicant must be a permanent resident of Indiana, with a two (2) year minimum residency.
- The applicant must sign & date their application, provide all required proofs, and documentation requested.
- Documentation of need is required to apply for the needed assistance.

### **THE LICENSE PLATE**

Effective January 1, 2015, when you purchase a Prisoner of War - Missing in Action plate from an Indiana BMV branch, all funds will be going into the Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana Veterans Fund (RTIVF, above). 100% of the funds go to helping our Hoosier Veterans.

There is an additional one time \$30 charge (BMV admin. fee) above the regular license fees.

**REMINDER:** When at the BMV, be sure to clarify that you want the POW/MIA Awareness Plate, NOT the Ex-POW plate. They are NOT the same plate.





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*Rolling Thunder*

*IN Chapter 6.*

[shopping.escrip.com](http://shopping.escrip.com)



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ARTICLES IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE NOT NECESSARILY  
THE VIEWS OR OPINIONS OF ROLLING THUNDER<sup>®</sup>, INC.

6/14/2016

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