

Rolling Thunder[®]

Indiana Chapter 6



February 2016

In this Issue:

- ❖ Presidents Letter
- ❖ POW/MIA News
- ❖ Chaplin's Corner
- ❖ Calendar of Events
- ❖ Patch Recipients
- ❖ Chapter 6 - General Orders, Debriefing & Sergeants Stand Down



Jerry Blake- President

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.

Executive Board

President

Jerry Blake

Vice President

Jeff Meeks

Secretary

Mary Jane Miller

Treasurer

Darrin Maxey

Chaplain

Steve Suter

Board of Directors

Chairman of the Board

Jack Miller

Board Member

W.D. Buckner

Board Member

Bob Hayes

Board Member

Donna Hohiemer

Board Member

Grady Davis

Letter from the President...

Hello everyone hope everyone is enjoying this good weather it can only get better.

Sorry about getting the letter out so late. We have a lot of things coming up in the very near future so please pay attention to your emails.

We will be starting to put the committee together for our ride in June. Marie will be heading this up again this year.

Let's make this the best year we've had so far and as usual, if you have any questions please contact me.

Thanks,
Jerry Blake

**KEEP YOUR
HEAD UP.
GOD GIVES
HIS HARDEST
BATTLES TO
HIS STRONGEST
SOLDIERS**

Even Marines — the few, the proud, the first to fight — can cry.

More than seven decades have passed since Racine resident Marvin Roslansky endured exhausting slave labor, intentional malnutrition, filthy living conditions and brutal beatings as a prisoner of war in a Japanese labor camp during World War II. While the physical pain has subsided, the emotional wounds still sting. Tears well in Roslansky's eyes when he even thinks about his three long years of captivity in Zentsuji prison camp.

"I still can't really talk about Japan," says Roslansky, now 93 years old, his eyes red and watery. "We did what we could. We lived one day at a time. There was no place for us to go. We couldn't escape. We were in hell and you had to have a lot of faith."

Faith and dreams of returning home to his native Lakeview, Minn., for the next holiday kept Roslansky alive for his 45 months of hell.

"You could be beaten at any moment for any reason at all," he remembered. "We knew you would have to do what they said or you would never go home."

Roslansky was one of 147 Marines based on the island of Guam in September 1941. Guam was an idyllic, sought-after destination: tropical climes, white sand beaches, cheap beer. The peace was shattered Dec. 7, 1941, when the Japanese bombed the island as part of their coordinated attack across the Pacific, including Pearl Harbor.

Two days later, 6,000 soldiers from the Imperial Japanese Army waded ashore. Roslansky helped the short-lived defense before the island was captured.

Roslansky and the rest of the Marines were loaded aboard the MS Argentina Maru, a luxury liner turned into a warship. They were sent to Shikoku, Japan, a small island about 400 miles from Tokyo, and imprisoned in Zentsuji.

For long hours each day, Roslansky and his fellow prisoners loaded and unloaded railroad cars in the Sakaide rail yards.

Guards beat prisoners without provocation or reason, he said. By night, prisoners tried to survive on starvation rations, and sometimes no food at all. They got English language newspapers, but those had more paper than news.

"They were cut full of holes," he said.

The most frightening time was the final months of the war. Prison officials knew the end was near. The Army issued orders to not feed prisoners, then directed guards to execute them.

"Our graves were already dug," Roslansky said.

After almost a year of bloody fighting — Marines raised the flag on Iwo Jima 71 years ago Tuesday — Japan surrendered in August 1945. But it took Allied forces another month to liberate all the prison camps. The now-free Marines from Guam hung on for 30 more days without food and little water.

Miraculously, 103 of the 147 Guam Marines survived their ordeal. They spent months in Guam and San Diego recovering.

Roslansky then spent six months at Great Lakes Naval Training Base near Waukegan, Ill., before moving to Racine in 1946.

Copyright 2016 Journal Times. February 22, 2016 • Story by [MARK FELDMANN mark.feldmann@journaltimes.com](mailto:mark.feldmann@journaltimes.com)



Chaplain's Corner

These are words from Max Lucado's book, *Glory Days*.

When the authority of Christ is proclaimed, the work of Satan must stop.

Consult God in all things. We're so busy in our lives, our jobs, children, children's school activities, after school activities, and our activities; but do we stop to pray?

How often have we bought something new and regretted it later? Did we pray about the thing we wanted first and ask God to direct our path?

When things are going bad in our lives, do we ask God to bind Satan from our lives or do we just try to handle things the best we can?

Election time is coming up. If ever we need God's direction it's now. Ask God to direct us to who he wants to lead our Country, then pray for them and our leaders, whoever they may be, they need God's direction and our prayer's.

Hebrews 4: 14-16 NIV

14. Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens. Jesus, the son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.

15. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weakness, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are- yet was without sin.

16. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need... AMEN

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





Rolling Thunder[®], Inc. *Indiana Chapter 6*



Rolling Thunder[®] IN Chapter 6 Calendar of Events

Revised 2-29-2016

Month	Date	Event
March	4	Board Meeting - 6pm
	5	Membership Meeting – 9am
April	1	Board Meeting - 6pm
	2	Membership Meeting – 6pm
	TBA	Biker Sunday
	14	Honor Flight Meet and Greet
	16	Honor Flight Welcome Home
	29	Vet Center Cookout
May	1	CMA Run for the Son
	6	Board Meeting - 6pm
	7	Membership Meeting – 9am
	8	Abate Blessing
	15	2016 River Run
	25-26-27	Ride to the Wall DC

For anyone wanting to share pictures or events please send information to 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 and find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pages/Rolling-Thunder-Indiana-Chapter-6

January Patch Recipients



Russ Brandenstein
Rocker and Eagle

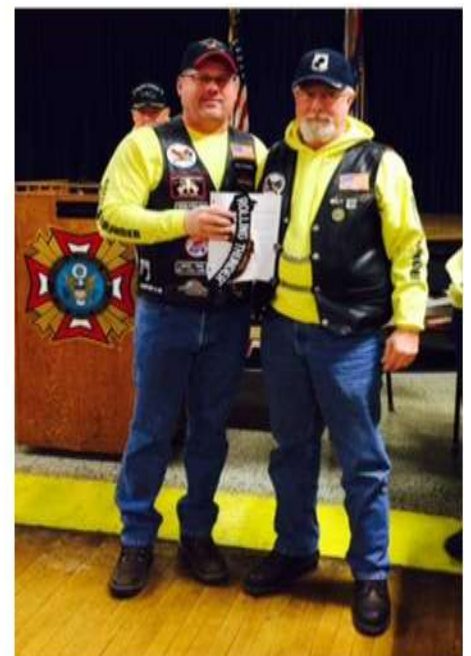
February Patch Recipients



Mike Hunter
Rocker and Eagle



Brad Hildenbrandt
Rocker and Eagle



Thomas Tener
Rocker and Eagle

Presented to Rolling Thunder® Indiana Chapter 6
at the February Membership Meeting.



380th QUARTERMASTER BATTALION

Proudly Presents



Rolling Thunder Ch6 of Indiana



In Honor, Appreciation and Recognition of your
selfless service and commitment to the
Soldiers and families of the 380th Quartermaster Battalion.
Your example of support is one that does not go
unnoticed and your act of patriotism encourages
continued success of the Army Reserve mission.

Many thanks and appreciation from the
Soldiers of the 380th Quartermaster Battalion.



2016 Scholarship

Rolling Thunder Inc. Indiana Chapter 6 membership voted to approve a \$500.00 scholarship for post high school education to one student for the fall semester of 2016 to assist with tuition, fees and books.

Applicants will be judged on several criteria as listed on the Scholarship Application. All applications must be postmarked no later than **March 30, 2016**.

Selection of recipient is based on an evaluation of your GPA, Community service, recommendations, and an essay.

No Rolling Thunder member is involved in the selection process. A Scholarship Committee will select the winner of this scholarship from all eligible applications.

All efforts will be made to present the scholarship at the recipient's school award ceremony. The award will be made payable to the institution that the recipient is attending and will be sent directly to the institution.

The application and letter were emailed to the membership. Please email Mary Jane Miller if you need them emailed again. If you have any questions concerning the application or requirements (listed on application) please contact Bonnie Waelde @ [812-459-4959](tel:812-459-4959).

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.



The major function of Rolling Thunder[®], Inc., is to publicize the POW-MIA issue, to educate the public that many American prisoners of war were left behind after all previous wars and to help correct the past and to protect future veterans from being left behind should they become Prisoners of War- Missing in Action. We are also committed to helping American Veterans from all wars.

ARTICLES IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE NOT NECESSARILY
THE VIEWS OR OPINIONS OF ROLLING THUNDER[®], INC.

2/29/2016
###