

# ***Rolling Thunder***<sup>®</sup>

## **Indiana Chapter 6**



**January 2017**

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**Board Member**

***Tim Mahone***

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

Hello Everyone,

I want to thank Warren Montgomery for taking over the newsletter and website for us, it is a lot of work and I know that Warren will do a good job. I also want to thank Tamara Caliendo for getting us started and helping Warren out. I want to thank everyone for all of your support during this past year and ask that each one of us look inside ourselves and see what we can do to make this chapter even better than what it is now. Please get involved and help us help other people in our community.

We have come a long way in 8 years and I know the National Officers know who we are and that is why they ask us to help them during the Ride to the Wall, because they know our Chapter will take care of business and do what is right for the Rolling Thunder family. Hope to see you at our next meeting in February.

Again if you have any questions, please don't be afraid to ask them. You can talk to any officer and you can also call me at [812-453-0799](tel:812-453-0799).

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.

Membership Meeting

**Saturday,**

**February 4th**

**6:00pm**

**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
BE  
THERE**

## Chaplain's Corner

In the June issue of "Our Daily Bread", there was a story about "You Have A Purpose".

There was a lady standing by the road holding a sign, the person thought it was a sign asking for food or money but instead it said "You Have A Purpose".

God created each of us to bring honor to Him and one way we do that is meeting the needs of others.  
I Peter 4:11 KJV

If anyone serves they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.

We have a purpose to serve our present and past Veterans, to help feed and clothe our homeless veterans.

Hebrews 13:1 & 2 KJV

1. Let brotherly love continue
2. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers! For thereby some have entertained angels unaware.

Rolling Thunder family has a New Year set before us; let us all continue to reach out to others in our communities to find ways to serve.

If you have a spiritual need or are 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).

**Freedom has a taste to it that those who fight and nearly die for it that the protected will never know.”** (Quote etched on a POW prison wall)



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



## Rolling Thunder<sup>®</sup> IN Chapter 6 Calendar of Events 2017

Month	Date	Event
February	3	Board Meeting
	4	Membership Meeting (6pm)
March	3	Board Meeting
	4	Membership Meeting (9am)
	12	Logan's Promise Walk to Remember
	31	Board Meeting (April)
April	1	Membership Meeting (9am)
	Tentative Dates	
	2	Home Depot Cabin Fever (Honors Veterans)
	9	Biker Sunday at New Day
	TBA	Chapter 6 Group Ride (Location TBD)
	20	Honor Flight (Meet & Greet)
	22	Honor Flight Welcome Home
	28	Vet Center Cookout (VFW Post 114)

For anyone wanting to share pictures or events please send information to  
[RTnewsletter6@gmail.com](mailto:RTnewsletter6@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 [Rolling Thunder Chapter 6](#)

**UPDATES TO THE WEBSITE ARE COMING SOON. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE**



# January Patch Recipients Congratulations!!



Curtis Brown  
Eagle / Rocker



Steven Gee  
Eagle / Rocker



Tammy Montgomery  
Eagle / Rocker



Warren Montgomery  
Eagle / Rocker





Shawn Mason & Tony Payne

Tony did this beautiful drawing in honor of the many trials and tribulations that Shawn has overcome since returning from Afghanistan.



# U.S. Unaccounted-For from the Vietnam War

Report for: **Indiana**

## Prisoners of War, Missing in Action and Killed in Action/Body not Recovered

Military Service	Country of Casualty	Name	Loss Rank	Status	Date of Incident	Home of Record
USAF	N. Vietnam	BANCROFT, WILLIAM W JR	O2	BB	1970/11/13	INDIANAPOLIS, IN
USA	S. Vietnam	BEALS, CHARLES ELBERT	E4	BB	1970/07/07	FRENCH LICK, IN
USA	S. Vietnam	BEECHER, QUENTIN RIPPETOE	W2	XX	1967/06/11	TERRE HAUTE, IN
USMC	S. Vietnam	BREINER, STEPHEN EUGENE	E2	BB	1968/09/24	DECATUR, IN
USA	S. Vietnam	CARVER, HARRY FRANKLIN	E6	BB	1968/04/10	NEW ALBANY, IN
USMC	S. Vietnam	CHOMEL, CHARLES DENNIS	E2	BB	1967/06/11	COLUMBUS, IN
USAF	N. Vietnam	CLARK, LAWRENCE	E5	XX	1966/10/18	LOGANSPOUT, IN
USMC	N. Vietnam	CLEM, THOMAS DEAN	O2	XX	1968/05/03	NEW PARIS, IN
USAF	Laos	DAVIS, GENE EDMOND	E5	XX	1966/03/13	EVANSVILLE, IN
USMC	S. Vietnam	DUCAT, PHILLIP ALLEN	O3	BB	1966/09/25	FT WAYNE, IN
USAF	Laos	DUVALL, DEAN ARNOLD	E3	XX	1966/03/13	MONTICELLO, IN
USA	Laos	GREEN, GEORGE CURTIS JR	E5	BB	1970/12/04	ATTICA, IN
USA	S. Vietnam	HEITMAN, STEVEN W	E5	XX	1968/03/13	INDIANAPOLIS, IN
USAF	S. Vietnam	HELD, JOHN WAYNE	O3	XX	1968/04/17	INDIANAPOLIS, IN
USAF	Laos	HILLS, JOHN RUSSELL	O4	BB	1966/02/14	SOUTH BEND, IN
USAF	Laos	JOHNS, PAUL F	O4	XX	1968/06/28	LACONIA, IN
USA	S. Vietnam	JOHNSON, JAMES REED	E3	BB	1966/08/21	INDIANAPOLIS, IN
USA	S. Vietnam	JONES, GRAYLAND (NMN)	E3	BB	1969/11/23	INDIANAPOLIS, IN
USAF	S. Vietnam	KLUTE, KARL EDWIN	O3	BB	1966/03/14	RICHMOND, IN
USN	N. Vietnam	KNOCH, CHARLES ALLEN	O3	BB	1966/09/22	LAFAYETTE, IN
USMC	S. Vietnam	KUHLMAN, ROBERT J JR	O2	XX	1969/01/17	RICHMOND, IN
USN	N. Vietnam	LAMBTON, BENNIE RICHARD	E7	BB	1966/06/13	INDIANAPOLIS, IN
USA	S. Vietnam	LAUTZENHEISER, MICHAEL (NMI)	E5	BB	1971/10/26	MUNCIE, IN
USA	S. Vietnam	LAWSON, KARL WADE	E4	BB	1968/04/09	TERRE HAUTE, IN
USA	S. Vietnam	LYON, JAMES MICHAEL	O3	KK	1970/02/05	INDIANAPOLIS, IN
USAF	S. Vietnam	MANN, ROBERT LEE	O3	BB	1965/10/22	LAFAYETTE, IN
USA	S. Vietnam	MARTIN, JERRY DEAN	E3	BB	1970/11/03	BEDFORD, IN
USMC	N. Vietnam	MCGARVEY, JAMES MAURICE	O4	XX	1967/04/17	VALPARAISO, IN
USAF	N. Vietnam	MIDNIGHT, FRANCIS B	O2	XX	1967/08/23	GARY, IN
CIVILIAN	S. Vietnam	MILLER, GEORGE C		BB	1975/03/12	IN
USN	S. Vietnam	MITCHELL, HARRY E	E8	XX	1968/05/05	MARION, IN
USN	N. Vietnam	MONTGOMERY, RONALD WAYNE	E5	BB	1969/10/02	MOORES HILL, IN
USA	S. Vietnam	MOORE, RALPH EDWARD	E3	BB	1967/05/03	INDIANAPOLIS, IN
USAF	N. Vietnam	NELLANS, WILLIAM L	O3	XX	1967/09/17	WARSAW, IN
USA	S. Vietnam	NEWBURN, LARRY STEPHEN	E3	BB	1967/08/29	KOKOMO, IN
USN	S. Vietnam	PARKER, THOMAS AQUINAS	E6	BB	1967/04/05	OXFORD, IN
USN	S. Vietnam	POSEY, GEORGE RAY	E3	BB	1968/09/05	ANDERSON, IN
USN	N. Vietnam	ROGERS, BILLY LEE	E3	BB	1969/12/01	GARY, IN
USAF	Laos	ROGERS, CHARLES EDWARD	O4	BB	1967/05/04	GARY, IN
USN	S. Vietnam	SCHOONOVER, CHARLES DAVID	O4	BB	1966/01/16	INDIANAPOLIS, IN
USA	Laos	SMITH, RONALD EUGENE	E7	BB	1970/11/28	COVINGTON, IN
USN	N. Vietnam	SOUCY, RONALD PHILIP SR	E5	BB	1967/05/23	WHITING LAKE, IN
USMC	S. Vietnam	STAEHLI, BRUCE WAYNE	E3	XX	1968/04/30	CROW POINT LAKE, IN
USAF	N. Vietnam	STONEBRAKER, KENNETH ARNOL	O3	XX	1968/10/28	HOBART, IN
USAF	N. Vietnam	STUART, JOHN F	O4	XX	1972/12/20	INDIANAPOLIS, IN
USA	S. Vietnam	STUCKEY, JOHN STEINER JR	E2	BB	1967/11/11	CLOVERDALE, IN
USA	S. Vietnam	TRAMPSKI, DONALD JOSEPH	E2	XX	1969/09/16	CHESTERTON, IN
USAF	Cambodia	WAGNER, RAYMOND ANTHONY	E3	BB	1972/03/27	EVANSVILLE, IN
USA	S. Vietnam	WHITTLE, JUNIOR LEE	E4	BB	1966/09/24	INDIANAPOLIS, IN
USAF	Laos	WRIGHT, THOMAS T	O3	XX	1968/02/27	GARY, IN
USA	S. Vietnam	YOUNG, JEFFREY JEROME	E3	BB	1970/04/04	INDIANAPOLIS, IN

**Status Codes:** AR - AWOL/Deserter/Collaborator/Returnee    KK - Died in Captivity, Remains Not Returned    PP - Prisoner (Civilians Only)  
BB - Killed in Action, Body Not Recovered    KR - Died in Captivity, Remains Returned    RR - POW Returnee  
BR - Body Recovered    MM - Missing (Civilians Only)    XX - Presumptive Finding of Death  
EE - Escapee    NR - Remains Returned/Remains Recovered

## Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

January 2017 Accounted for MIA's

Rank	Name	Branch	Unit	Lost	Location	Identified
SGT	<a href="#">James W. Sharp</a>	U.S. Army	Battery B, 57th Field Artillery Battalion, 31st Regimental Combat Team, 7th Infantry Division	12/6/1950	North Korea	1/10/2017
2nd Lt	<a href="#">Charles E. Carlson</a>	U.S. Army Air Forces	62nd Fighter Squadron, 56th Fighter Group, Eighth Air Force	12/23/1944	Germany	1/9/2017
1st Lt	<a href="#">William J. Gray</a>	U.S. Army Air Forces	391st Fighter Squadron, 366th Fighter Group	4/16/1945	Germany	1/5/2017
Mr.	<a href="#">Peter W. Atkinson</a>	Civilian	Central Aircraft Manufacturing Company, American Volunteer Group, "Flying Tigers"	10/25/1941	Burma	1/4/2017
Mr.	<a href="#">Maxx C. Hammer, Jr.</a>	Civilian	Central Aircraft Manufacturing Company, American Volunteer Group, "Flying Tigers"	9/22/1941	Burma	1/4/2017
Mr.	<a href="#">John D. Armstrong</a>	Civilian	Central Aircraft Manufacturing Company, American Volunteer Group, "Flying Tigers"	9/8/1941	Burma	1/4/2017
2nd Lt	<a href="#">Ernest Matthews</a>	U.S. Marine Corps Reserve	Headquarters Company, Headquarters Battalion, Division Special Troops, 2nd Marine Division	11/20/1943	Tarawa	1/4/2017
PFC	<a href="#">James O. Whitehurst</a>	U.S. Marine Corps	Company E, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division	11/20/1943	Tarawa	1/4/2017
PFC	<a href="#">Larry Roberts</a>	U.S. Marine Corps	Special Weapons Group, 2nd Defense Battalion, Fleet Marine Force	11/25/1943	Tarawa	1/4/2017
Gunnery Sgt.	<a href="#">Sidney A. Cook</a>	U.S. Marine Corps	Company E, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division	11/20/1943	Tarawa	1/4/2017
CPL	<a href="#">Walter G. Critchley</a>	U.S. Marine Corps	Company F, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division	11/20/1943	Tarawa	1/4/2017
Mess Attendant 1st Class	<a href="#">Ralph M. Boudreaux</a>	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	1/3/2017
1st Lt.	<a href="#">William C. Ryan</a>	U.S. Marine Corps Reserve	Marine Fighter Attack Force 115, Marine Aircraft Group 13, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Fleet Marine Force Pacific	5/11/1969	Laos	1/3/2017

## **US Sailor's Remains Return Home After 72 Years In "Known Unto God" Grave**



When Don Franklin was a boy in Willmar, Minnesota, he rode in the basket of his uncle John E. Anderson's bicycle. Now Franklin is 77 and living in Pittsburgh. He traded letters with his uncle for a while, until his uncle became the only casualty of German artillery that struck his ship off the shore of Normandy on June 6, 1944 – otherwise known as D-Day.

Anderson was 24 years old and working as a machinist's mate in the Navy. When the ship was hit, he was alone in the boiler room and died instantly, according to the reports. At first, the family was told that his remains would stay overseas until the war was over. Later, they were told that his remains washed out to sea.

Last year, after investigating for years and pushing both the French and U.S. governments, Franklin found his uncle. DNA testing confirmed that Anderson had been buried in an unmarked grave in France.

Franklin said that he is joyful at bringing closure for the family after 70 years of uncertainty. Anderson was the only son and the youngest child of Oscar and Anna Anderson, Swedish immigrants who settled in Willmar. "My grandfather never really recovered and had what they called "an emotional heart attack," Franklin said. "It altered the course of his life."

Anderson's remains will be returned to the States and buried next to his parents in Willmar. Franklin will be there for the ceremony. Anderson was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart. Now, he'll get the military farewell he never received.

As documents about that day became public, a pair of amateur military researchers took on the mission of identifying unknown soldiers from World War II. In 2009, they let Franklin know that grave X-91 in the American Cemetery in Normandy contained the remains from the boiler room from LCT-30, Anderson's ship.

The process would continue for years. Franklin needed permission from the French to disinter the remains and cooperation from the U.S. government to test the DNA. In the beginning, Franklin was skeptical while his mother, Anderson's oldest sister, was not enthusiastic. "It became sort of a mystery, sort of a puzzle," he said. In 2011, the family was able to convince Franklin's mother to provide a DNA sample. She died shortly after at the age of 97.



U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar helped in the pursuit of identification. She personally sent a letter to the Department of Defense. “This is a family that would not give up,” Klobuchar said. She added that those who lost their lives in war deserve respect from the rest of us.

Jon Lindstrand, a 36-year-old Willmar man who’s had an obsession with war memorabilia and history, felt a kinship with Anderson. He assisted Franklin with the search for Anderson’s remains. When Lindstrand read an article in the Willmar paper in 2009 about the possibility of Anderson’s remains being identified, he called the reporter. He offered to give Anderson’s family clippings from his collection about the sailor. Three years later, Franklin reached out to Lindstrand. He was hitting a wall in trying to get the Navy to test the remains in the unmarked grave.

Lindstrand “dug a little deeper” but he was also turned down. Eventually, he was able to obtain the military’s “after action report”, which is an account of what happened, from the family of the captain of Anderson’s ship. The report, which included photographs, showed that Anderson’s remains were recovered after the ship was hit.

Last year, Lindstrand and Franklin asked the Department of Defense to test the remains from the grave in France. At this point, Klobuchar stepped in. “We believed in them,” she said. “They cared so much about finding out about [Franklin’s] late uncle.” Naval officers came to Franklin’s house with photos of the remains and the samples they used to extract the DNA. Currently, Anderson’s remains are in a DNA lab in Nebraska. They will be moved to Willmar next month.

Lindstrand said that, in a sense, Anderson had become a part of his family. “It’s kind of numbing,” he said about the return of Anderson’s remains. “It was an extreme honor to be involved in this.”

Anderson had graduated from Willmar High School in 1937. Before he enlisted in 1942, he worked in his father’s painting and decorating business.

Up to this point, a stone placed near his parents’ grave was his commemoration. Franklin said that they will now be getting him a proper headstone. Lindstrand said, “He’ll be returned to Willmar almost 72 years, to the day, after he died.”

Story shared by Tamara Caliendo



*Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Indiana*

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



[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.
- The applicant must currently be a permanent resident of Indiana for a minimum of two (2) consecutive years.
- 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.

### **Disbursement:**

All disbursements will be made directly to the vender, and not to the applicant.

### **Completed Forms:**

Forms must be Typed or Printed (hand written forms will not be considered).

- [Application](#) (PDF)

# **POW/MIA Awareness Plate Facts & History**

Prior to January 2015, funds generated from the sale of the POW/MIA Awareness Plate went toward the Indiana Military Family Relief Fund (MFRF). This period saw **12,456** plates sold which equated to **\$311,400** being added to the MFRF.

In 2015, **3,866** license plates were sold, resulting in **\$96,650** being deposited into the RTIVF. For 2016, **158** POW/MIA plates were sold in January and **391** in February totaling **\$13,725** deposited into the RTIVF (*March plate sales pending*). From January to March of 2016, **\$17,439.37** has been paid out to assist our Indiana Veterans.

The POW/MIA specialty plate started as an idea of **former Rolling Thunder®, Inc Indiana Chapter 1 President, Jon Brinkley**. Brinkley wanted to find a way to raise awareness for those left behind in all wars and conflicts, and at the same time raise funds for struggling military families. The dream came to pass in May 2009 when the plate was first announced at the [North Side Harley-Davidson](#) store on 96th street with **Mayor Greg Ballard, State Senators Tom Wyss and Jim Merritt, Commissioner of the [Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles](#), Andy Miller, and Tom Applegate, Director of the [Indiana Office of Veterans Affairs](#)** in attendance. Rolling Thunder®, Inc.'s application was one of many received and reviewed. The plate was accepted, in part, **due to an uncommon level of distinction that sets the organization and its purpose for the plate apart from others.**

There are several military specialty plates, **but this one is different in several ways.** There is **no application process** to purchase a license plate; it is available to anyone with a valid registration, and it directly offers support to veterans in need.

The cost of the POW/MIA license plate includes vehicle registration fees and taxes, a group fee of \$25, and a Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles administrative fee of \$15. **The \$25 group fee will go towards the RTIVF.**

Plates are available for cars, trucks (up to 11,000 lbs), and motorcycles. RV Motor Homes as well as RV pull trailers may also be plated with the POW/MIA plate. Requests can be made for a special numbered POW/MIA plate.

**Commissioner of the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Andy Miller**, summed up the purpose and motivation behind this plate saying,

*"As motorists everywhere see this Indiana license plate,*

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**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.**

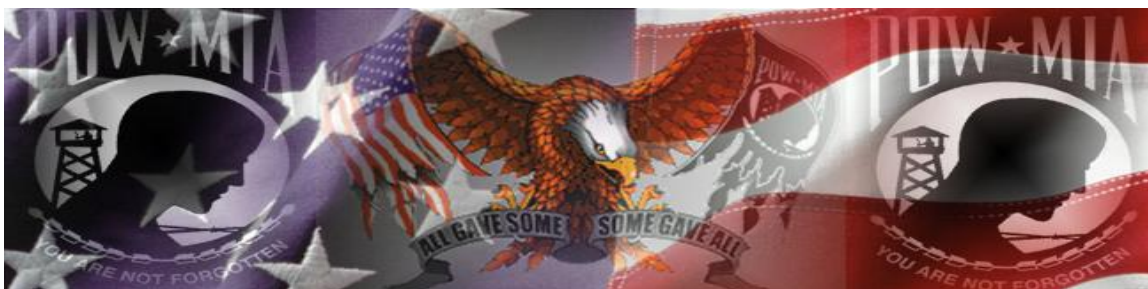
ARTICLES IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE NOT NECESSARILY  
THE VIEWS OR OPINIONS OF ROLLING THUNDER®, INC.

1/19/2017

# **ROLLING THUNDER IN CH. 6**

## ***9th Annual Benefit Ride for Veterans***

**Sunday June 04, 2017**



**Ride starts at:**  
**VETERAN'S MEMORIAL COLISEUM**  
(DOWNTOWN EVANSVILLE @ 307 MARKET ST.)

**Grand Prize**  
**32" FLAT SCREEN TV**  
(CHAPTER 6 MEMBERS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR GRAND PRIZE DRAWING!)

<b>Sign in</b>	<b>9:00 - 11:00 am</b>
<b>First bike out</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>
<b>Last bike out</b>	<b>11:00 am</b>
<b>Last bike in</b>	<b>3:00 pm</b>
<b>Live Auction &amp; Drawings begin @</b>	<b>3:30 pm</b>

**\$ 15.00 per card or \$25.00 for 2**

(MEAL, GRAND PRIZE TICKET, DOOR PRIZE, & BEST/WORST HAND)

**Gun Raffle Tickets are being sold and the drawing will be held @**  
**Benefit Ride**

**All proceeds benefit Tri-state Veterans**

**For information call: (812)453-0799**