

# ***Rolling Thunder***<sup>®</sup>

## **Indiana Chapter 6**



**July 2017**

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**Jerry Blake- President**

### **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**

***Tim Mahone***

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

Hello Everyone,

We had a good meeting in July and we also had our first round of nominations for next year's officers. We will have the last round of nominations for next year's officers during the August meeting. After that you will vote before September's meeting for who you want to assume the positions of Vice President, Secretary, Chairman of the Board, and two board members. If you have any questions about any of the officer positions, please call me and I will inform you of what the job duties of whatever position you are interested in.

Our next big ride will be in September to THE RIDE HOME in Georgia. We always have fun interacting with the EX-POW's and their family and learning about what they went through. If you have never taken this trip I encourage you to do so. We normally leave out on Thursday and return on Sunday. Mary Jane Miller will be putting out more information at the August meeting in case anyone wants to go.

I want to thank all of you for helping our veterans and our community

If you have any questions, 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,  
August 4th  
6:00 pm**

## *Chaplain's Corner*

Charles Spurgeon was an English Baptist Preacher in the mid 1800's, well known for his quotes. He used to say "Little faith will take your soul to heaven, but great faith will bring heaven to your soul." "It is not how much we have, but how much we enjoy, that makes happiness.

"We have come to a turning point in the road. If we turn to the right mayhap our children and our children's children will go that way; but if we turn to the left, generations yet unborn will curse our names for having been unfaithful to God and to His Word."

In this time in our history, when it seems everyone in our Government is at each other's throats, we need faith. Faith that God is in control. Faith that no matter what happens when we stand before God, he will say "Well done good and faithful servant!" as in Matthew 25:21 and 23, the Master said this to his servant's. Think about what you have in life, material things. Do these things truly make you happy? Or spending time with your wife, husband, children, family, do they make you truly happy? Sometimes when you think back on your life, what were the happiest times? Sometime's a peanut butter and jelly sandwich in a park with someone you loved because that's all you could afford. Or living in a one bedroom tiny house or apartment on very little money because that's all you could afford. These were happy times. Having faith in God is affordable, knowing Jesus Christ as your Savior is truly happiness, no matter what we have or where we live. We want Heaven as our final home.

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).



Before you act, listen  
Before you react, think  
Before you spend, earn  
Before you criticize, wait  
**Before you quit, TRY!**

**- Ernest Hemingway**

## **From the Editor**

**Rolling Thunder Members,**

**Hello, I want to apologize for not getting June's Newsletter out, it was a crazy month for Tammy & me;**

**The busy months of May and June has passed, We had a successful Honor Flight Meet & Greet, & Welcome Home, River Run (Traffic Marshals), The Ride For Freedom in DC, Benefit Ride, Funeral Flagline Detail. We had good turnouts from our membership to make these events a success.**

**The Benefit Ride brought in \$3713.00 after all expenses were taken care of, The Gun Raffle brought in an additional \$3000.00, (Thank you Jeff & Christina Meeks!!)**

**During the Shriner's Fest, with the military artifacts display, Missing Man Table, Tiger Cage, We had 426 visitors come through on Saturday and 160 on Sunday to look at the different displays.**

**June 30<sup>th</sup> was the Homeless Vet Cookout at the Vet Center, had a total of 76 vets show up with 60 of those being homeless,**

**July has started out busy, but things should slow down a little bit as far as events until September. The July meeting brought the initial nominations for Officers & Board Member openings, There will be another chance to nominate someone at the August meeting and the vote will take place in Sep. Here are the current openings and the June meeting nominations.**

**Vice President – Jeff Meeks**

**Secretary – Mary Jane Miller**

**Chairman of the Board – Jack Miller**

**Board Members (2 openings) – Roy Holder & Donna Hohiemer**

**Due to various commitments of several members and with the Fall Festival going on, It has been decided that there **WILL NOT** be an October Membership Meeting.**

**The 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary “Ride for Freedom” in DC had an estimated 900,000 participants this year; the weather was not the best for the trip as several of our members got rained on from Corydon, IN to West Virginia. If you ever go to DC for the “Ride”, or just to visit, two museums that I highly recommend seeing are The Holocaust Museum, and the Marine Corps National Museum in Quantico (a short drive out of DC) an excellent museum to see, regardless of what branch of service that you were in.**

**If you enjoyed the “Live Feeds on Facebook” please thank my wife Tammy, she did a great job for her first time, and she is already looking at different ways to improve for the next time.**

**Thank you**

**Warren Montgomery**



# Rolling Thunder<sup>®</sup>, Inc.

## Indiana Chapter 6



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

Month	Dates	Event	Notes
July	1	Membership Meeting (9am)	VFW 1114
	1	Welcome Home (B Barbee)	Roy & Sylvia Holder's Nephew
	2	Flag Raising (Buggy Bath Car & Dog Wash)	
	3	Thank you for your service (Buster Lindsey)	
	4	Patriots 5K Sponsored by VA Clinic	Traffic Marshals
	4	Mt Carmel Parade	
August	4	Chapter 6 Board Meeting 6pm	VFW 1114
	5	Chapter 6 Membership Meeting 6pm	VFW 1114
	27	Vet Center Cookout (VFW Post 1114)	Volunteers Needed
September	1	Chapter 6 Board Meeting 6pm	VFW 1114
	2	Chapter 6 Membership Meeting 9am	VFW 1114
	9	Chapter 6 Candlelight Vigil	
	10	Chapter 6 Group Ride/Drive	Location TBD
	14-15-16-17	Ride Home to Andersonville	
	17 TBC	Pink Ribbon Ride (Bud's HD)	This does not count as an event
	24	Susan B Komen Race for the Cure (Traffic Marshall)	Volunteers Needed

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**



## June Patch Recipients Congratulations!!



Jackie Brandenstein  
Eagle / Rocker



Terri Warren  
Boot Patch



Tom Ford  
Boot Patch



Dan Marion  
Boot Patch

## July Patch Recipients Congratulations!!



Jessica Montgomery  
Eagle / Rocker



Tom Phingston  
Eagle / Rocker



Bill Koeing  
Boot Patch



Zach Montgomery  
Eagle / Rocker



## Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

May/June 2017 Accounted for MIA's

Rank	Name	Branch	Unit	Lost	Location	Identified
SGT	<a href="#">Richard G. Sowell</a>	U.S. Army	295th Joint Assault Signal Company, Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 106th Infantry	7/7/1944	Saipan	6/27/2017
LT	<a href="#">William Q. Punnell</a>	U.S. Navy Reserve	VF-14 Fighter Squadron	7/25/1944	Palau	6/26/2017
SFC	<a href="#">Max E. Harris</a>	U.S. Army	Company L, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division	12/12/1950	North Korea	6/23/2017
PFC	<a href="#">Gerald F. Wipfli</a>	U.S. Army	Company I, 3rd Battalion, 112th Infantry	11/4/1944	Germany	6/23/2017
CPL	<a href="#">Clarence R. Skates</a>	U.S. Army	Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division	11/30/1950	North Korea	6/22/2017
MSG	<a href="#">George R. Housekeeper</a>	U.S. Army	Company L, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division	12/12/1950	North Korea	6/21/2017
CPL	<a href="#">Thomas H. Mullins</a>	U.S. Army	Company L, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division	11/2/1950	North Korea	6/21/2017
PFC	<a href="#">Charlie H. Hill</a>	U.S. Army	Battery D, 15th Anti-aircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Self-propelled Battalion, 7th Infantry Division	12/2/1950	North Korea	6/21/2017
CAPT	<a href="#">Robert E. Holton</a>	U.S. Air Force	497th Tactical Fighter Squadron	1/29/1969	Laos	6/16/2017
PFC	<a href="#">Albert E. Atkins</a>	U.S. Army	Company E, 2nd Battalion, 187th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team	5/23/1951	South Korea	6/13/2017
PVT	<a href="#">Archie W. Newell</a>	U.S. Marine Corps	Company C, 2nd Tank Battalion, 2nd Marine Division	11/20/1943	Tarawa Atoll	6/12/2017
COL	<a href="#">Roosevelt Hestle, Jr.</a>	U.S. Air Force	388th Tactical Fighter Squadron	7/6/1966		6/12/2017
PFC	<a href="#">George B. Murray</a>	U.S. Marine Corps	Company B, 1st Battalion, 2nd Marines Regiment, 2nd Marine Division	11/20/1943	Tarawa Atoll	6/9/2017
1LT	<a href="#">George W. Betchley</a>	U.S. Army Air Forces	429th Bombardment Squadron, 2nd Bombardment Group, 15th Air Force	3/22/1945	Poland	6/9/2017
SSG	<a href="#">Gerald L. Jacobsen</a>	U.S. Army	134th Infantry Regiment, 35th Infantry Division	7/15/1944	France	6/9/2017
CPL	<a href="#">Edward L. Borders</a>	U.S. Army	Dog Battery, 82nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion (Automatic Weapons), 2nd Infantry Division	2/13/1951	North Korea	6/5/2017
CMDR	<a href="#">Charles B. Goodwin</a>	U.S. Navy Reserve	Detachment D., VFP-63, CVW-15	9/8/1965	Vietnam	6/1/2017
CPT	<a href="#">Joseph S. Smith</a>	U.S. Air Force Reserve	612th Tactical Fighter Squadron, 401st Tactical Fighter Wing	4/4/1971	Cambodia	5/12/2017
CPL	<a href="#">Glen E. Kritzwiser</a>	U.S. Army	Battery C, 15th Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division	2/13/1951	North Korea	5/9/2017
CPL	<a href="#">Henry Andregg, Jr.</a>	U.S. Marine Corps Reserve	Company C, 2nd Amphibious Tractor Battalion, 2nd Marine Division	11/20/1943	Tarawa	5/9/2017

PFC	<a href="#">Sam J. Kourkos</a>	U.S. Marine Corps Reserve	Company M, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division	11/21/1943	Tarawa	5/9/2017
PFC	<a href="#">Lonnie B.C. Eichelberger</a>	U.S. Army	Company I, 371st Infantry Regiment, 92nd Infantry Division	2/10/1945	Italy	5/5/2017
SSG	<a href="#">Michael Aiello</a>	U.S. Army	Company G, 401st Glider Infantry Regiment	9/30/1944	Netherlands	5/5/2017
CPL	<a href="#">John Lane</a>	U.S. Army	Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division	7/31/1950	South Korea	5/3/2017
CPL	<a href="#">Frank L. Sandoval</a>	U.S. Army	Battery A, 15th Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division	2/13/1951	North Korea	5/3/2017
CPL	<a href="#">Richard J. Seadore</a>	U.S. Army	Company D, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division	12/14/1950	South Korea	4/28/2017
2LT	<a href="#">George S. Bussa</a>	U.S. Marine Corps	Company F, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division	11/20/1943	Tarawa Atoll	4/19/2017
PVT	<a href="#">Walter F. Piper</a>	U.S. Army	Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division	2/13/1951	North Korea	4/18/2017
Seaman 1st Class	<a href="#">Milton R. Surratt</a>	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	4/14/2017
CPL	<a href="#">Leslie R. Sutton</a>	U.S. Army	Battery C, 99th Field Artillery Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division	11/2/1950	North Korea	4/13/2017
PVT	<a href="#">Harold S. Hirschi</a>	U.S. Army Air Forces	Headquarters Squadron, 19th Bombardment Group	11/19/1942	Philippines	4/13/2017

**ENJOY LIFE NOW.  
THIS IS NOT  
A REHEARSAL.**



*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,*