

Rolling Thunder[®]

Indiana Chapter 6



October 2018

In this Issue:

- ❖ President's Letter
- ❖ Chaplin's Corner
- ❖ From the Editor
- ❖ Calendar of Events
- ❖ POW/MIA News
- ❖ Suzanne Hoff Ogawa Story
- ❖ Michael Hoff Story
- ❖ Photo Collage of Our Members



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

Roy Holder

Board Member

Donna Hohiemer

Board Member

Bob Hayes

Letter from the President...

Hello Everyone,

Sorry we missed a lot of members at our October meeting, we still had 70 to 80 members but should have had over 100.

Don't forget the November 10 meeting will be at 8am at the VFW 1114. Also, don't forget that same day, we have the Veteran's Parade, we also have Honor Flight coming in from Washington DC Nov 3rd.

Looks like winter is finally upon us, we're starting to gear up for the Christmas party, we will be announcing the date again at the November meeting so please make plans to be there. Everyone will have a great time. It would be nice to see a couple of hundred people there. Make sure you take a good look at all the newsletters coming out, Warren is doing a fantastic job on putting this together and adding new things.

As usual, if any of you have anything you would like to talk about or any questions, feel free to call me at 812-453-0799. My phone is on 24hrs a day except when I am sleeping.

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,
Nov 10th
8:00 am**

Chaplain's Corner

TRIP OF A LIFETIME

What would you do if someone offered you a trip of a lifetime?
Sunshine, perfect weather, beautiful flowers and trees everywhere you look.
Clean streets no litter, no mosquitoes or bugs chewing on you.
No health problems and rivers running clear as crystal.
Would you accept it?
One day all this can be yours free, just for the asking.
All you have to do is accept God's gift, Jesus Christ.
Jesus already paid the price for us.

John 3:16 KJV

For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Revelation 21:4 KJV

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

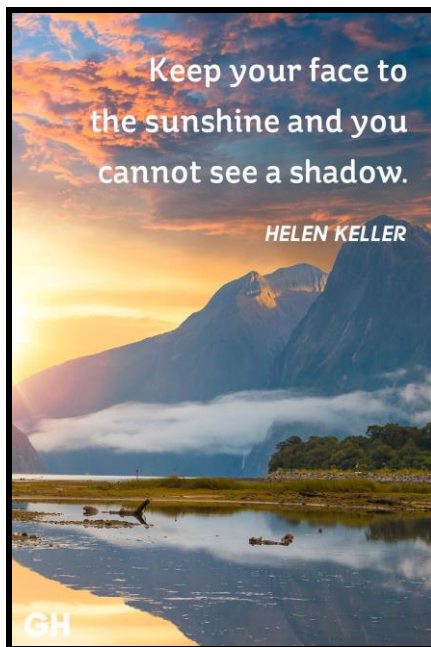
And Jesus said;

John 14:3 KJV

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

God's word is true. Jesus will come again, be ready.

If you have a spiritual need or someone to talk to, call Chapter 6 Chaplain Steve Suter at [812-573-8924](tel:812-573-8924) or e-mail him at kspl69@wowway.com.



From the Editor

Hello Members,

We had several events the last few weeks, The Ride Home, Susan G Komen Race for the Cure, YMCA ½ Marathon, we had a send-off for Navy Veteran Quinlin Morris who is getting deployed on the USS Boxer. We have a small break, then in November, things will pick up again with Honor Flight's Meet & Greet followed by the Welcome Home. We also have two parades, Veteran's & The Evansville Christmas Parade that we ride in. Please keep an eye out for emails from MJ who will have more information on these events.

Honor Flight is fast approaching and we will need a lot of volunteers for traffic marshal's, flag line, security, etc., please sign up if you can help. It is such a fun time seeing the smiles on these hero's as they return home from visiting their memorials.

12 Chapter 6 members made the trip to "The Ride Home" in Georgia, it was another busy but very rewarding event. I met Suzanne Hoff Ogawa & her brother Michael Hoff, they spoke at the National POW/MIA Recognition Day in Andersonville. Their father CDR Michael George Hoff is missing in action and their mother Mary who tirelessly dedicated her life to serving others- family, Veteran's, other POW/MIA's and the homeless, she is credited with the creation of the POW/MIA Flag. Suzanne & Michael have graciously given permission to post their stories' here. Within the next 2 months, I am hoping post the story of Michael Coon's father who was a POW and survived the Bataan Death March, Michael is also spearheading bringing the Mission 22 Suicide Awareness Monument to Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, Michael became involved with Mission 22 after his son SSG Michael Coon committed suicide.

I have added a link to a story that was given by former WWII POW William Pebley, I cannot remember his exact age but he is 90+. The clarity as to his descriptions of his time from a young soldier throughout his life is amazing This video taken by Monica Cash did not capture the entire story but it got the majority of it.

<https://www.facebook.com/monica.v.cash/videos/10155470868931193/>

Ride / Drive Safe!!!

Thank you

Warren Montgomery

(812) 205-8383

rtnewsletter6@gmail.com



www.theridehome.com



www.mission22.com



www.newfreedomfarm.net



www.honorflightso.org



www.esgr.mil



Soldierdogs.org



Rolling Thunder[®], Inc. Indiana Chapter 6



Rolling Thunder[®] IN Chapter 6 Calendar of Events 2018

Month	Dates	Event	Notes
November	1	Honor Flight (Meet & Greet)	Volunteers Needed
	3	Honor Flight Welcome Home	Volunteers Needed
	9	Board Meeting (6:00 pm)	VFW 1114
	10	Membership Meeting (8:00 am)	VFW 1114
	10	9 th Annual Veteran's Parade	
	18	Evansville Christmas Parade	
	30	Board Meeting (6:00 pm) For Dec	VFW 1114
December	1	Membership Meeting (6:00 pm)	VFW 1114
	2	Boonville Christmas Parade	
	8	Chapter 6 Christmas Party	VFW 1114
	10	Homeless Vet Christmas Dinner	

For anyone wanting to share pictures or events please send information to
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 and find us on Facebook at [Rolling Thunder Chapter 6](#)



Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

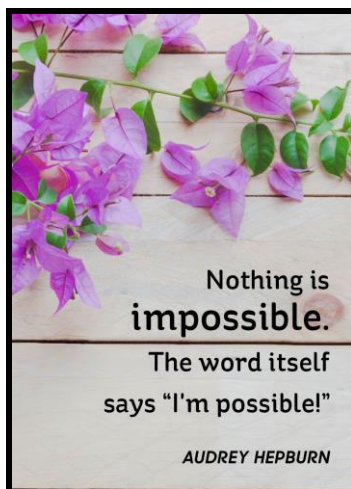
September 2018 Accounted for MIA's

Rank	Name	Branch	Unit	Lost	Location	Identified
Chief Pharmacist's Mate	James T. Cheshire	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	9/28/2018
PFC	Marvin E. Dickson	U.S. Army	Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 110th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division	11/13/1944	Germany	9/27/2018
Storekeeper 2nd Class	Gerald L. Clayton	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	9/26/2018
Musician 2nd Class	Francis E. Dick	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	9/26/2018
Seaman 2nd Class	Deward W. Duncan, Jr.	U.S. Naval Reserve	Aviation, Construction, Ordnance, Repair, Navy Fourteen, Standard Landing Craft Unit 4	1/12/1944	Tarawa	9/26/2018
PFC	Joseph I. Natvik	U.S. Army Air Forces	1330 Army Air Force Base Unit, Air Transport Command	7/17/1945	India	9/26/2018
PFC	John W. Martin	U.S. Army	Medical Company, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division	12/2/1950	North Korea	9/25/2018
PFC	Lewis E. Price	U.S. Army	Company E, 2nd Battalion, 109th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division	11/6/1944	Germany	9/24/2018
Fireman 1st Class	Claude O. Gowey	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	9/21/2018
Seaman 1st Class	Millard Burk	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	9/20/2018
Seaman 2nd Class	David B. Edmonston	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	9/20/2018
Electrician's Mate 3rd Class	Merle A. Smith	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	9/20/2018
CPL	Edward M. Jones	U.S. Army Reserve	Company D, 1st Battalion 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division	2/12/1951	North Korea	9/19/2018
PVT	Charles G. Kaniatobe	U.S. Army	Company A, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division	7/10/1950	South Korea	9/17/2018
Seaman 1st Class	Robert W. Headington	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	9/14/2018
SSG	Karl R. Loesche	U.S. Army	3rd Pursuit Squadron, 24th Pursuit Group	11/16/1942	Philippines	9/13/2018
MSG	Charles H. McDaniel	U.S. Army	8th Cavalry Regiment Medical Company	11/2/1950	North Korea	9/13/2018
PFC	William H. Jones	U.S. Army	Company E, 2nd Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division	11/26/1950	North Korea	9/13/2018
SGT	Eugene G. McBride	U.S. Army	Company I, 3rd Battalion, 311th Infantry Regiment, 78th Infantry Division	1/30/1945	Germany	9/12/2018

Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

September 2018 Accounted for MIA's

Seaman 1st Class	James W. Holzhauser	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	9/10/2018
Radioman 3rd Class	Bruce H. Ellison	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	9/10/2018
TSGT	Robert J. Fitzgerald	U.S. Army	Company I, 3rd Battalion, 311th Infantry Regiment, 78th Infantry Division	1/30/1945	Germany	9/7/2018
Water Tender 2nd Class	Edgar D. Gross	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	9/6/2018
Fireman 3rd Class	Robert J. Bennett	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	9/6/2018
Water Tender 2nd Class	Clarence M. Lockwood	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	9/6/2018
Seaman 1st Class	George E. Naegle	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	9/5/2018
Seaman 1st Class	Earl P. Baum	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	9/5/2018
Seaman 1st Class	Joseph K. Maule	U.S. Navy	USS Oklahoma	12/7/1941	Pearl Harbor	9/5/2018
SSG	Herbert W. Harms	U.S. Army Air Forces	569th Bombardment Squadron, 390th Bombardment Group, 13th Combat Bombardment Wing, 3rd Air Division, 8th Air Force	8/16/1944	Germany	9/4/2018
1LT	John D. Crouchley, Jr.	U.S. Army Air Forces	828th Bombardment Squadron, 485th Bombardment Group, 15th Air Force	6/28/1944	Bulgaria	9/4/2018
SFC	James S. Streetman, Jr.	U.S. Army	Company B, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division	7/22/1950	South Korea	9/4/2018
PFC	Leonard A. Tyma	U.S. Marine Corps Reserve	Company E, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force	11/20/1943	Tarawa	9/4/2018
1LT	Seymour P. Drovis	U.S. Army	Company A, 105th Infantry Regiment, 27th Infantry Division	7/7/1944	Saipan	9/4/2018



The Hoff Family Story at National POW/MIA Recognition Day

Andersonville National Historic Site September 21, 2018

Suzanne Hoff Ogawa –

Good Morning.

My father, CDR Michael George Hoff, was born and raised in Oregon. One of his dreams was to fly jets for the US Navy. In following that dream, he attended Eastern Oregon University, then enlisted in the Navy and was eventually accepted into flight school as an officer candidate. He flew the A-4 Skyhawk with the VA-22 Fighting Redcocks which included a Far East cruise aboard the USS Midway. He then transitioned to the A-7 Corsair which led to another goal of his – to fly combat missions in the conflict that was currently underway in Southeast Asia.

On January 7, 1970, he was a LCDR with the VA-86 Sidewinders aboard the USS Coral Sea when he launched for an armed reconnaissance mission over the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Laos. After committing his heavy ordnance, he initiated strafing runs which led to his plane being hit by anti-aircraft fire. Based on information obtained years later, we do believe he died that day.

When my father departed for war in September 1969, he left behind a wife and five children ages newborn to almost 7 years old. While I have no memories of my father, from my older brothers I have heard stories of his love for sports, his zest for life, and his natural charisma and outgoing personality – “he was someone who never met a stranger”. My dad was many things but first and foremost he was a son, a brother, a husband and a father.

His loss had a profound impact on our lives. It was a loss that is still felt today, almost fifty years later – birthdays, graduations, and weddings missed, the birth of ten grandchildren, walking me down the aisle to be married. The only solace we have is that he died where he wanted to be, doing exactly what he wanted to do. I remember my mother telling us how he was upset at the thought of missing the war as he wanted to serve and do his part. He went and gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country- his life. All we ever wanted is for him to be brought home and not forgotten.

Our story is not complete without also mentioning my mother, Mary. After my father was shot down, she joined the National League of Families and is credited with the creation of the POW/MIA Flag – our national symbol for all prisoners of war and unaccounted for service personnel. She dedicated her life to serving others – her family, the Veterans, the POW/MIA’s, and the homeless. Even with all that she suffered in this life, she never lost the capacity for joy. The most important thing she did for us is show us what true faith in God means. She was the saint God gave us to show how to live. She passed away November 10, 2015 – the day before we honor our Veterans – which seemed so fitting to us as she loved our Veterans so dearly, yet would not want to take that day away from them for our family.

In closing, I would first and foremost like to thank our Veterans and active duty military personnel for their service to our country and most especially the Vietnam Vets who were not given the proper homecoming they so deserved at the time. Please know that you are always in our prayers.

Secondly, a special thanks to all family members of those Vietnam soldiers, such as our mother, who refused to accept POW/MIA and PKIA status for their loved ones. Their sheer determination and perseverance are the reason why we have a national symbol today and an agency dedicated to finding missing personnel from all conflicts.

We would also like to thank:

- The Ride Home for their hospitality during this tremendous event.**
- The DPAA for their continuing efforts to find our family members.**
- And last, but not least the Rolling Thunder who have dedicated their lives to ensuring our loved ones are not forgotten. We can’t thank you enough for the support and love you give our veterans, our POW/MIA’s and to us. I personally will never forget the send-off you gave our mother and you all will forever hold a special place in our hearts and prayers. We hope one day to experience this again with our father coming home. God Bless you all and God bless our country. Thank you**

Michael Hoff -

Good morning.

I would like to speak briefly about one of the most recognized symbols in the world...the Prisoner of War-Missing in Action Flag, more commonly known as the POW-MIA Flag.

Back in the 1960s and 70s the United States was involved in the Vietnam War where over 58000 of our military's finest made the ultimate sacrifice. During that war several thousand personnel - including many Naval and Air Force pilots - either became prisoners of war or were declared missing in action.

In the early 1970s a small band of those pilot's wives got together down the road in Orange Park Florida and decided their voices needed to be heard. Among those wives was my mother Mary as well as the wife of future Senator John McCain, to name but a few. Together they formed the League of Families and started to lobby Washington for an accounting of those POWs and MIAs.

At some point early on the League decided their cause needed a symbol to rally around. I'm very honored to say that my mom was instrumental in that effort. She approached a company that manufactured flags and provided them with a rough idea of what she was looking for. The company went to a local advertising company, one of their graphic artists took up the challenge and as the saying goes, the rest is history.

This next fact is truly incredible. Because the League wanted everyone to be able to use this symbol, no one got a trade mark or copyright on it - which means no one has ever benefitted financially from its sales. Today one could only wonder how many millions those ladies could have made on such a copyright - but heh, it wasn't about the money, it was about the cause.

Anyway, here are some other interesting facts about the POW-MIA flag:

In 1988 it flew over the White House on National POW/MIA Recognition Day. It remains the only flag other than the official U.S. Flag to do so.

In 1989 that flag from 1988 was installed in the US Capitol Rotunda as a result of legislation passed by the 100th Congress. It remains the only flag ever displayed there.

In 1990 the 101st Congress passed a law officially recognizing the POW-MIA flag.

In 1998 the 105th Congress signed a law requiring that this flag fly six days each year - on Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW-MIA Recognition Day and Veterans Day.

This law also requires that the POW-MIA flag be displayed at the White House, the US Capitol, the Departments of State, Defense and Veterans Affairs, the headquarters of the Selective Service System, major military installations designated by the Secretary of Defense, all Federal cemeteries, and all offices of the US Postal Service. It should be noted that the Department of Veterans Affairs voluntarily displays this flag 24/7

By law it must also be displayed daily at the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, and World War II Memorial.

This flag is indeed one of the most recognizable symbols in the world today. Drive down I-95 and you should see one flying at every rest stop. The late comedian and actor Robin Williams was a great supporter of the POW-MIA effort and he often worked the flag into his roles - if you ever see the movie Good Will Hunting, keep an eye on the scenes where Mr. Williams' character, a college professor, is in his office. In those scenes you will see this flag on one of the walls in the background. I always thought that was pretty cool.

Today this flag seems to be everywhere - on patches, shirts, jackets, hats, coffee mugs, you name it. On a trip back from Georgia about a year ago I saw a car with a giant painted POW-MIA flag covering the entire hood. Mom would've been tickled pink, I'm here to tell ya.

In closing, I'd like all of you to remember that band of intrepid women who created a symbol of this great nation's dedication to its armed forces. Please join me in also remembering every man and woman who wears the uniform today or has done so in the past to defend our way of life throughout the world. Thank you and God Bless.



CDR Michael George Hoff



Mike and I with the original banner, our mother Mary donated to the National POW War Museum Andersonville National Historic Site



Mary Hoff



