

February 2024

ROLLING THUNDER® TIMES



FEBRUARY

2/18 - National: Regular monthly meeting,
Manville, VFW, 1PM



Rolling Thunder® XXXVI
NATIONWIDE "Ride for Freedom"
Sunday, May 26, 2024

Information will be posted on
Rolling Thunder® Inc. National Website
www.rollingthunder1.com

National Office
PO Box 216
Neshanic Station, NJ 08853
Phone - 908-369-5439
Fax - 908-369-2072
Email - rtnj1@att.net
www.rollingthunder1.com

TIME TO
RENEW
MEMBERSHIP

Check Out
New QR Code For National Website



Mission Statement

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.

Rolling Thunder®, Inc. is a non –profit organization and everyone donates his or her time because they believe in the POW-MIA issue. All meetings must be orderly and every member must be heard. Everyone is as important as the next. Everyone has different views and we must all work together in an orderly manner.

Every Chapter must have an agenda to run a meeting. Everyone must get their turn to talk about any issue that concerns Rolling Thunder®, Inc. and its members

The Constitution and By-Laws of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. will not be changed or altered by any Chapter and everyone must abide by this constitution.

Meetings are held on:

3rd Sunday of every month at 1:00PM

Meeting Location: VFW 600 Washington St. Manville, NJ
(unless otherwise indicated in the events section)

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

To offer information to the newsletter it must be submitted by the 15th of the month to get in the next month's newsletter.

Newsletter Editor: National Office

P.O. Box 216, Neshanic Station, NJ 08853

Phone : 908-369-5439 Fax : 908-369-2072

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Website: www.rollingthunder1.com

Come Check us out on Facebook and Like Us!

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2 nd Vice President	Jim Kosty	732-421-2552	Sunshine Committee	Sue Weaver	732-540-2124
Secretary	Brenda Einhorn	609-330-0040			
Treasurer	Nancy Bottrel	908-996-0081	Chapter Reports/ Relations	Elaine Muller	908-730-6711
Chairman of the Board	Ted Zabohonski	215-778-3606	Chapters Activity Report	Elaine Muller	908-730-6711
Board of Directors:	Andy Kerr	908-380-9116	Education Committee	Gary Domanski	908-369-4785
	Tom McAtee	908-797-4200	WWII/Korea War	Gus Dante	908-240-3201
	Joe McIlvaine III	732-685-7054	Gulf War Affairs	Tom Epps	609-841-8785
	Joe Weaver	732-427-2765	Gold Star Mothers Committee	Brenda Einhorn	609-330-0040
Alt. Board Members:	Robert Anderson	201-398-3105	Ted Zabohonski	215-778-3606	
Alt. Board Members:	Betsy Ficken	973-714-5120	NJ Mission of Honor for Cremains of American Veterans	Joe Weaver	732-427-2765
POW/MIA Chair of Honor & Missing Man Coordinator	Elaine Martin	908-442-4491	Executive Counselor	Gus Dante	908-240-3201
	Tom Epps	609-841-8785	VA Hospital Visits	Tom McAtee	908-797-4200
Head of Security	Joe McIlvaine	732-685-7054	Color Guard		
Sergeant-at-Arms			KIA Service & Remembrance	Deb Teall	908-917-3990
National Attorney	Kuchinsky & Rotunno	908-782-4911	Junior Members Comm.	Pat & Andy Kerr	732-388-0864
Quartermaster	Rob Stroka	908-797-2312			
	Bob Piscopo	732-926-8331			
Government Affairs	Gus Dante	908-240-3201			
adantesp4@comcast.net					
Government Links	www.house.gov	www.senate.gov			
Congress Operator	202-224-3121				

Membership Committee/Junior Membership/Roster:
Mike Bottrel Foxyzz28@aol.com 609-306-5248

ROLLING THUNDER,® INC. NATIONAL
PO BOX 216
NESHANIC STA, NJ 08853

IN MEMORY OF

WWII REMAINS IDENTIFIED

Tech. 4 Herbert F. March/ U.S.A.A.F.

David Vincent 63, passed away December 8, 2023. He was a member of Rolling Thunder Chapter 1 S.C. for over 6 years. He served in the U.S. Navy for 6 years on the U.S.S. Holland, the U.S.S. Huntley and the U.S.S. Rayburn. He enjoyed helping Veterans in need. Dave will be missed by all. May he rest in peace and may he ride free in the Heavens above.

Eugene Montour, passed away December 22, 2024. Gene a Canadian served in the U.S. Army during the Iraq and Afghanistan War. Gene was a leader of the Mohawk Tribe. He was a a hard worker and he will be missed by all. He rode with us at our events. He passed after a long fight. May he rest in peace May be ride free in the Heavens above.

Harold L. Frank 99, passed away December 31, 2023. Harold served in the U.S. Army in WWII. He was a Prisoner of War and a member of Rolling Thunder Chapter 6 North Carolina for 5 years. He will be missed by all and may he rest in peace. May he ride free in the Heavens above.

Daniel A. Ingellis 77, passed away January 9, 2024. Dan served in the U.S. Army. He served in Vietnam and the Gulf War. He was a member of Rolling Thunder Chapter 2 New York for 2 years. He was the Chapter photographer and always participated in all events. He will be missed by all. May he rest in peace and may he ride free in the Heavens above.

David F. Johnson 62, passed away January 2, 2024. He served in the U.S. Navy for 4 years. He was a member of Rolling Thunder Chapter 4 Michigan for 9 years. He was a Board member and was an original member of Chapter 4 Michigan. He will be missed by all. May he rest in peace and may he ride free in the Heavens above.

Our respect to all family & friends. May our Brothers and Sisters be at peace with the Lord. May those who served Honorably Rest in Peace in the soil they fought for Freedom for all. Those who remain Prisoners of War/Missing in action, body not recoverable, we will never forget you.

Let us remember those who have given their lives for our Freedom in the War against Terrorist and Operation Iraq Freedom (Gulf War II). May God Keep our Troops safe.

When one American is not worth the effort to be found,
We as Americans have lost.
Remember our Troops Killed in action and those serving.

2024 Chapter Events Calendar Form

Publication in the National Newsletter, please allow at least Three (3) months prior notice to the event and/or flyer. The following information is require by E-mail or mail - Rolling Thunder® Inc., P.O. Box 216 Neshanic Station, NJ 08853.

If you prefer to send by email, contact rtnj1@att.net

Please make sure the following information is included:

Chapter State

Event Contact Person

Telephone

Event Name

Day/Date of Event

Time of Event

Event Location

Other Pertinent Information

NEVER FORGOTTEN

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) recently announced that U.S. Army Air Forces Major Theodore Willhite, 26, of Muscatine, Iowa, killed during World War II, was accounted for Sept. 19, 2023.



WAR BRIDE AND GROOM—The roar of bomber motors at McCord field punctuated for wedding bells when Lieut. Theodore Willhite of the United States army air corps took



Maj. Willhite Awards to Be Presented Wife

Maj. Willhite Killed In Raid Over France On March 11

Major Theodore E. Willhite, 26, son of Mrs. Ivy Willhite, 1124 Iowa avenue, serving in the United States Army Air Corps in the Italian theater of operations, was killed in action in a bombing mission over France on March 11.



Please Turn to Page 8

Holyoke Sailor Died At Pearl Harbor

Merle Hillman, pharmacist, second class, U. S. Navy, reported missing since the attack on Pearl Harbor, has been officially declared dead by the Navy Department, according to a telegram received by his sister, Mrs. Marjorie Malone, 66 Beech street, wife of Fireman Thomas Malone.

Hillman, who was a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Provost of this city, was a graduate of Holyoke High school. He had been in the Navy for seven years. After preliminary training at Newport, R. I., he was transferred to the hospital corps school at the San Diego Naval Hospital for a course in pharmacy. Later he served in the U. S. S. California.

Twice since the Pearl Harbor attack the Navy Department has reported to Mrs. Malone that her brother was listed as missing. The latest report says that after an exhaustive search it has been impossible to find him and that he has therefore been declared dead. Besides his sister and grandparents he leaves a brother, Donald.

Another Holyoke Boy Reported Missing in Action

Holyoke now has its third casualty of World War No. 2, it was evident today as Mrs. Marjorie Malone, wife of Fireman Thomas Malone of 66 Beech street, received word from the Navy department that her brother, Merle Hillman, pharmacist second class, was reported "missing in action." He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Provost and brother of Donald Hillman, also of 66 Beech street.

Pharmacist Hillman had been a member of the U. S. navy for the past six years and was on duty in the Pacific waters. He was graduate and from Holyoke high school and Holyoke's other two casualties were also members of the navy.



MARCH HERBERT F
TEC 4
HQ SQ 24 PUR GP
WASHINGTON



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If you prefer to send by email, contact rtnj1@att.net

Please make sure the following information is included:

Chapter State *Rolling Thunder FLAME OF FREEDOM (NATIONAL)*

Event Contact Person *John McKendree (National)*

Telephone *(642) 607-0611* ^(EMAIL) *johnmckendree@bellsouth.net*

Event Name *FLAME OF FREEDOM*

Day/Date of Event *CHOICE OF CHAPTER*

Time of Event *Set by CHAPTERS*

Event Location *set by CHAPTERS*

Other Pertinent Information *All Details discussed when John McKendree is contacted.*

Contact John McKendree Directly

DO NOT CONTACT NATIONAL OFFICE

Did You Know...

A few facts about the Vietnam wall.

There are 58,267 names on the wall.

39,996 were just 22 or younger.

8,283 were 19. 33,103 were 18.

12 were 17 years old.

5 soldiers were 16.

There are 3 sets of fathers and sons on the wall.

31 sets of parents lost 2 of their sons.

997 were killed their first day.

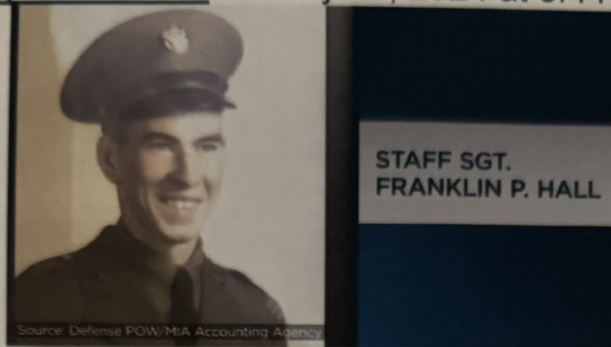
1,448 were killed on their last day.

8 women were on the wall, nurses.

244 soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor during the war and 153 of them are on the wall.

Remains of WWII airman from Central Florida will be buried this month

By [Beatriz Oliveira, WFTV.com](#) January 13, 2024 at 3:44 pm EST



LEESBURG, Fla. — Nearly 80 years later, a World War II U.S. Army Air Force gunner from Central Florida will be buried in Leesburg.

The remains of Hall will be interred on Jan. 21 at Lone Oak Cemetery.

Staff Sgt. Franklin P. Hall, of Leesburg, was assigned to the 66th Bombardment Squadron, 44th Bombardment Group (Heavy) in the European Theater in January of 1944. According to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), Hall was on board the B-24 Liberator heavy bomber “Queen Marlene” as a left waist gunner on Jan. 21, 1944, when German air forces near Equennes-Eramecourt, France, attacked the plane. Hall was killed in action, and he was only 21-years-old.

According to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, historians are conducting ongoing research into soldiers missing from combat around Équennes-Éramecourt, France, and found two sets of unidentified remains that were buried in the Normandy American Cemetery, an [American Battle Monuments Commission](#) site.

In April 2018, the remains were transferred to the DPPA laboratory analysis.

In July 2023, the DPPA laboratory determined that one of the sets belonged to Hall.

Veterans Crisis Line is here for all Veterans

Life is unpredictable and full of ups and downs that can affect your well-being. As a Veteran, you face unique and difficult challenges due to your experience in the military. If you're dealing with a crisis or thoughts of suicide, it can feel like you're carrying the weight alone.

While support may seem out of reach or difficult to find, it's only a phone call away. Regardless of your age, gender, rank, branch, tenure, discharge status or job in the military, the [Veterans Crisis Line](#) is a free and accessible resource for all Veterans.

Help is always available, day or night - Some Veterans may question if they're allowed to call the Veterans Crisis Line. One might think this resource is only meant for Veterans who served in combat, were injured through their service, were deployed overseas or are currently enrolled in VA health care and benefits. None of this is true. Spreading the word about the Veterans Crisis Line is a high priority for VA, not only because we want to save lives but also because we want all Veterans to know support is available 24/7, 365 days a year.

You can Dial 988 then Press 1 to be connected to a compassionate and trained responder ready to listen and help with any challenges you're facing. There are also chat ([VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat](#)) and text 838255 options. Even if you don't know what you need or how to explain it, our responders are here for you. After making sure you have the resources you need, they can connect you to one of the 165 suicide prevention coordinators located across the country for continued, local support.

Take the first step to healing - Reaching out might be the last thing you want to do. You might be nervous and anxious, or you might think no one can help. Healing can be a difficult journey and it's hard to not focus on the negatives especially if you've been suffering in silence. But consider the ways that support could change your life. Since the Veterans Crisis Line launched in 2007, we have fielded more than six million contacts from Veterans and their loved ones. With one call, you'll be connected to accessible resources and people who want to help. You also decide how much information you want to share with our responders. You don't have to share any personal details like your name.

Veterans have told me they would feel more comfortable contacting the Veterans Crisis Line if they knew more about what to expect. Here's a step-by-step guide to what happens when you call the Veterans Crisis Line (Dial 988 then Press 1):

1. A recording will alert you that you've reached the Veterans Crisis Line.
2. There will be a brief pause while the call is connected to a qualified responder ready to listen and help.
3. The responder will ask a few questions, such as whether you or the Veteran or service member you're concerned about may be in immediate danger or at risk for suicide.
4. Your call is free and confidential, and you decide how much information to share.
5. If you or the Veteran or service member you're concerned about is in danger, the responder will help you get through the crisis and then connect you with the services you need, either from your local VA medical center or elsewhere in your community.
6. If you or the Veteran or service member you're concerned about is in crisis but not at imminent risk for injury or suicide, the responder will listen, offer support and help you make a plan to stay safe.
7. Afterward, you may be connected with a local suicide prevention coordinator who will contact you the next business day for continued support.

For information on what happens when you chat or text the Veterans Crisis Line, visit our [How It Works](#) page.

Be prepared in case you need support

During a crisis, every second counts. Making sure you're prepared with how to find immediate support is critical and can potentially be lifesaving.

Even if you don't need support today, [saving the Veterans Crisis Line number](#)—Dial 988 then Press 1—can give you peace of mind knowing a trusted caring responder is waiting on the other end.

<https://news.va.gov/122599/veterans-crisis-line-is-here-for-all-veterans/>

Rolling Thunder ® Inc.

22ND ANNUAL
“CHILLY” CHILI
POKER RUN

SATURDAY
17 Feb 2024

ALL BIKES AND CARS WELCOME!



PEDRO the PEPPER says:
“Ride for the scholarships of the
children! Their education is
important !!



WHERE?... LEJEUNE MOTORSPORTS
955 Lejeune Blvd, Jacksonville, NC

Registration Starts at 9:00 AM

LAST BIKE in at 2:00 PM

Start / End at Lejeune MOTORSPORTS

Course directions given to each Rider

\$10.00 donation per hand2 hands same rider \$15.00
3 Hands same rider \$20.00...& Free T -Shirt (while supplies last)

1st Prize (BEST HAND).....\$500.00
2nd Prize (2nd Best Hand).....\$200.00
3rd Prize (Worst Hand).....\$100.00

Door Prizes/50/50/ AWESOME Auction Items for Bidding
FREE FOOD AND DRINK for each Rider!!!!!!

Need more info? Call Paul @ 910-389-7319 or Joe 910-545-0260

**Donations Benefit Veterans & POW/MIA Issues and the
SSGT Anthony L. Goodwin Memorial Scholarship fund for
Veteran’s Dependent Children**



ROLLING THUNDER INC.® CHAPTER 4 NJ PRESENTS



1st Annual TOWER SHOOT

**MARCH 10, 2024
7:30-8AM SIGN IN**



**GIBERSON GAME FARM
101 S PEMBERTON RD.
PEMBERTON, NJ 08068**

**\$280 PER PERSON
20-25 PARTICIPANTS
\$170 DEPOSIT TO HOLD**



venmo



LIKE US ON



SOFT BREAKFAST AND LUNCH SERVED

PRIZE BIRD - FRANCHI AFFINITY 3

12 GAUGE OR CASH OPTION

FLYER
DESIGNED
BY



Signs, Banners, Decals & Apparel



**WINGS
and
RINGS**

DINE & DONATE

Wednesday

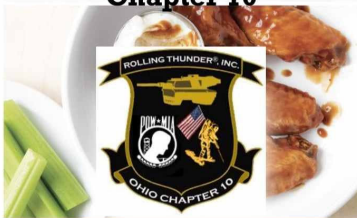
March 13th

From 5pm-8pm



**PROUD
SUPPORTER
of our Local
Community!**

**10% of food sales will be
going back to the
Rolling Thunder
Chapter 10**



1939 Roschman Ave. Lima Oh. 45804 - 419-222-9464

ROLLING THUNDER® INC.

“Thanksgiving”

IN

MARCH FOOD DRIVE

PLEASE BRING FOOD ITEMS TO THE March 17, 2024 MEETING
(at THE VFW MANVILLE, NEW JERSEY)

THE FOOD BANK NEEDS THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

CANNED MEATS (stews, corned beef, spam, chicken, turkey)
PARMALAT MILK, CEREAL (hot & cold), PANCAKE MIX, SYRUP
CANNED FRUIT (regular & no sugar)
CANNED VEGETABLES (regular & no salt)
SPAGHETTI SAUCE, RAVIOLI, SPAGHETTIOS, PASTA (boxes, mixes)
TUNA, MACARONI & CHEESE, WHITE or BROWN RICE (regular & mixes)
CANNED SOUP, CANNED TOMATOES, CANNED GRAVY
CEREAL (hot & cold), SNACKS (bars, pudding, Jello)
Also needed is hand soap, diapers/wipes, dish & laundry detergent
Paper towels, shampoo, toilet paper, toothpaste, deodorant

ALSO NEEDED IS - “BACK PACK FOOD”

BEEF STEW (small cans), VIENNA SAUAGES (small cans)
TUNA (3 oz. pull-top cans & bags), CHEF BOYARDEE CANNED PASTA (7 oz.)
JUICE BOXES, PUDDING CUPS, FRUIT CUPS, JELLO CUPS
RAMEN NOODLES, CEREAL (small boxes)
SNACKS – (individual packs, pretzels, cookies, bars)
MAC & CHEESE (microwaveable packets)
“Please no glass containers”

ALL DONATIONS WILL BE COLLECTED AT THE MARCH MEETING
ASK YOUR FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS, CO-WORKERS, LOCAL FOOD
MARKETS TO HELP

All items collected will be donated to the
Community Food Banks of New Jersey

2024
Rolling Thunder® National Inc.
Lyons VA Hospital Visits

6:30 pm-Community Living Center ~ 2nd Fl.

January 18
March 21
May (none)
July 18
September 19
November 21

7:00 pm ~ PTSD Ward
Bldg. 143~ 2nd Fl.
(Please bring a dessert)

February 15
April 18
June 20
August 25, Sunday (VA Picnic) 11:00am
October 17
December 4, Wednesday (Holiday party)

Recreation Dept. (908) 647-0180 Ext. 4327(Days)
Please obey speed limits on VA grounds

Directions

From Route 78:

Exit 33, head North to Valley Road (Approx 1 mi)
Right on Valley Road. Go approx. 3 miles.
Hospital entrance on left.

From Route 22:

At Bound Brook, take Warrentonville Road north.
Approx. 8 mi. take Valley Road **left**.
Hospital ½ mi. on right.

To CLC (Nursing Home):

Pass thru security gate. Follow signs for Community Living Center. Take next left. Nursing Home is a free-standing building on the right just beyond the parking lot.

To PTSD:

Pass thru security gate. Take second right, then quick left. Bldg. 143 is directly ahead, use parking lot to the right.

Speed limit on hospital grounds strictly enforced !

ROLLING THUNDER®, INC. NEWSLETTER



POW/MIA	
"We Will Never Forget"	
WWI	3,343
WWII	72,254
Cold War	126
Korea	7,514
Vietnam	1,581

POW/MIA "WE WILL NEVER FORGET"

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