

March 2024

# ROLLING THUNDER® TIMES



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

Information is posted on  
Rolling Thunder® Inc. National Website  
[www.rollingthunder1.com](http://www.rollingthunder1.com)

Flyer on Pages 7-8

National Office  
PO Box 216  
Neshanic Station, NJ 08853  
Phone - 908-369-5439  
Fax - 908-369-2072  
Email - [rtnj1@att.net](mailto:rtnj1@att.net)  
[www.rollingthunder1.com](http://www.rollingthunder1.com)

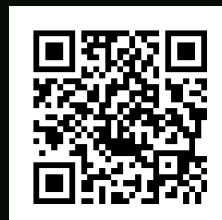


3/17 - National: Regular monthly meeting,  
Manville, VFW, 1PM

**March Food Drive**



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:

3<sup>rd</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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

Email :rtmj1@att.net

Website: [www.rollingthunder1.com](http://www.rollingthunder1.com)

### Come Check us out on Facebook and Like Us!

**Officers:**  
Executive Director Artie Muller 908-369-5439  
Executive Administrator Elaine Muller 908-369-5439  
President Carlos Ferreiro 973-902-5457  
Vice President Edward Crabtree 908-930-1920  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Jim Kosty 732-421-2552  
Secretary Brenda Einhorn 609-330-0040  
Treasurer Nancy Bottrel 908-996-0081

Chairman of the Board Ted Zabohonski 215-778-3606

**Board of Directors:**  
Andy Kerr 908-380-9116  
Tom McAtee 908-797-4200  
Joe McIlvaine III 732-685-7054  
Joe Weaver 732-427-2765

Alt. Board Members: Robert Anderson 201-398-3105  
Alt. Board Members: Betsy Ficken 973-714-5120

POW/MIA Chair of Honor & Missing Man Coordinator Elaine Martin 908-442-4491

Head of Security Tom Epps 609-841-8785

Sergeant-at-Arms Joe McIlvaine 732-685-7054

National Attorney Kuchinsky & Rotunno 908-782-4911

Quartermaster Rob Stroka 908-797-2312  
Bob Piscopo 732-926-8331

Government Affairs adantesp4@comcast.net Gus Dante 908-240-3201

Government Links [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov) [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov)

Congress Operator 202-224-3121

Membership Committee/Junior Membership/Roster:  
Mike Bottrel [Foxyzz28@aol.com](mailto:Foxyzz28@aol.com) 609-306-5248

### Media & Public Relations

nicolesforzachati@gmail.com Nicole Chati 646-331-1969

Run Coordinator Jackdaniels7292021@gmail.com Gerry Franke 609-577-8898

Sunshine Committee Sue Weaver 732-540-2124

Chapter Reports/ Relations Elaine Muller 908-730-6711

Chapters Activity Report Elaine Muller 908-730-6711

Education Committee

WWII/Korea War Gary Domanski 908-369-4785

Gulf War Affairs Gus Dante 908-240-3201

Gold Star Mothers Committee Tom Epps 609-841-8785

NJ Mission of Honor for Remains of American Veterans Brenda Einhorn 609-330-0040  
Ted Zabohonski 215-778-3606

Joe Weaver 732-427-2765

Executive Counselor

VA Hospital Visits Gus Dante 908-240-3201

Tom McAtee 908-797-4200

Color Guard

KIA Service & Remembrance Deb Teall 908-917-3990

Junior Members Comm. Pat & Andy Kerr 732-388-0864

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

### IN MEMORY OF

**Jeffery B. Mease 66**, passed away January 22, 2024. Jeff served in the U.S.A.F. for 6 years. He was a member of Rolling Thunder Chapter 2 South Carolina for over 7 years. He was a board member of Chapter 2 S.C. Jeff was a member who was always there to help. He will be missed by all. May he rest in peace and may he ride free in the Heavens above.

**Duane R Pierce 70**, passed away January 23, 2024. He served in the U.S.N. for over 6 years during the Vietnam War. He was a member of Rolling Thunder Chapter 3 Wisconsin for 20 years. He was a founding member of Rolling Thunder Chapter 3 Wisconsin. He was a past Vice President and a road Captain. He will be missed by all. May he rest in peace and may he ride free in the Heavens above.

**Jack Hodgkinson 76**, passed away January 27, 2024. Jack was a Vietnam Veteran serving in the U.S. Navy for 4 years. He was a member of Rolling Thunder National for over 19 years. He was always at Rolling Thunder Memorial Day demonstration in Washington DC. 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.

NATIONAL NEW LETTER MARCH 2024

## **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](mailto: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

**PATTEN CHARLES R**  
CPL - 54 INF 24 DIV - MISSOURI

U.S. Army Cpl. **Charles R. Patten**, 24, of Lebanon, Missouri, killed during the **Korean War**, was accounted for **June 7, 2023**.

**TIMELINE TO IDENTIFICATION**

- July 1950:** Cpl. Charles R. Patten, a Headquarters & Headquarters Company member, 34th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, goes missing during the retreat from Taejon, South Korea.
- Fall 1950:** The Army initiates recovery operations in Taejon, uncovering various remains, including Unknown X-2, provisionally linked to Patten.
- Dec. 31, 1953:** The Army issues a presumptive finding of death for Cpl. Charles R. Patten.
- July 2018:** DPAA proposes a comprehensive disinterment strategy targeting 652 Korean War Unknowns from the Punchbowl.
- February 24, 2020:** DPAA executes Phase Two of the Korean War Disinterment Project, resulting in the exhumation of Unknown X-2.
- 2020-2022:** DPAA conducts thorough forensic examinations on Unknown X-2's remains, employing dental, anthropological, radiographic, and mtDNA analysis methodologies in the identification process.
- June 7, 2023:** Cpl. Charles R. Patten is officially accounted for by DPAA.
- February 12, 2024:** DPAA publicly announces the accounting of U.S. Army Cpl. Charles R. Patten was previously missing in action during the Korean War.

## Six Ozarkians Listed as Dead

Six Ozarkians, all Army personnel previously listed as missing in action in Korea, are now presumed to be dead, the Department of the Army announced yesterday.

The six are among 22 Missouri servicemen now presumed to be dead by the Army.

The Ozarkians are listed as Sgt. Lloyd A. Alumbaugh, brother of William Alumbaugh, Route 1, Jasper; Pfc. Paul E. Daniels, son of Mrs. Grace A. Daniels, Marshfield; Pfc. Melvin E. Farmer, son of Jesse Farmer, Goodson; Pfc. Roy L. Kirkpatrick, son of Mrs. Cassa E. Kirkpatrick, St. James; Cpl. Charles R. Patten, son of Mrs. Edna Patten, Lebanon and Sgt. Charles E. Waits, husband of Mrs. Lina May Waits, Nevada.





## 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 *Rolling Thunder FLAME OF FREEDOM (NATIONAL)*

Event Contact Person *John McKendree (National)*

Telephone *(642) 607-0611* <sup>(Email)</sup> *johnmckendree@bellsouth.net*

Event Name *FLAME OF FREEDOM*

Day/Date of Event *CHOICE OF CHAPTER*

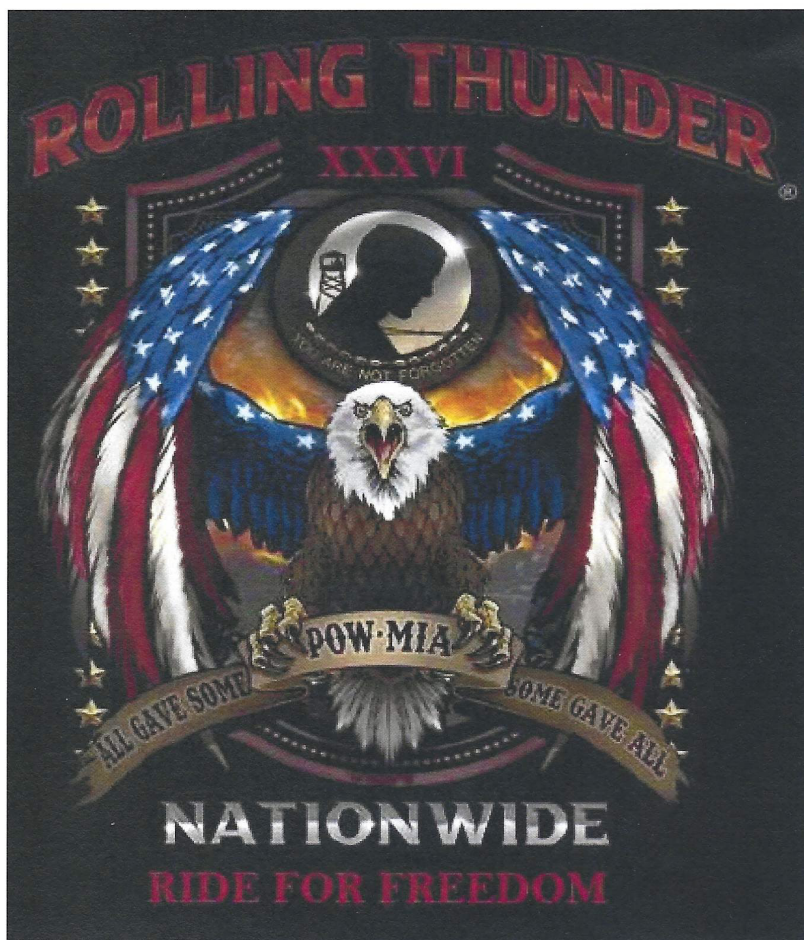
Time of Event *Set by CHAPTERS*

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**



## NEW JERSEY

### WE WILL NOT FORGET

WWI 4,422	WWII 72,255
COLD WAR 126	KOREA 7,517
VIETNAM 1,581	
IRAQ-PERSIAN GULF-LIBYA 6	

## POW PRISONERS-OF-WAR /MIA MISSING-IN-ACTION

More than 80,000 American Service Personnel are missing from previous conflicts and wars.

This year is the 36<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ride and Demonstration in support of POW/MIA and Veterans' Issues. In 2024, the priority remains the same:

We seek accountability - the return of living POW's and when that is not possible – the repatriation of their remains. We further advocate the same for all MIA.

### 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 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

## DEMONSTRATION

**Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup>**

### Starting Location:

Raritan Valley Community  
College 118 Lamington Rd.  
Branchburg, NJ 08876

Assembly: 7:00AM-12:00PM

Kick Stands Up: 12pm Sharp

Police Escorted Route

### Ending Location:

Village Elementary School  
100 Main Blvd, Skillman, NJ  
08558

Skillman Park Somerset  
County

Food/Music/Vendors

Chair of Honor / Missing  
Man Ceremony

**Registration Fee: \$10.00 Per  
Bike/Car - Cash Only**



Event Sponsor Since 2001



## MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 2024 ITINERARY



### SATURDAY MAY 25<sup>th</sup>

- NJ Vietnam Veterans Memorial -Flame of Freedom-Wreath Presentation

Assemble at the Memorial at 10AM

1 Memorial Lane, Holmdel, NJ 07733 (Exit 116 on NJ Parkway)

- East Brunswick Community Arts Center - The Traveling Vietnam Wall Tribute

Assembly at the Arts Center at 1PM

721 Cranbury Rd, East Brunswick, NJ, United States, New Jersey 08816

### SUNDAY MAY 26<sup>th</sup>

- ROLLING THUNDER®, INC. NATIONAL XXXVI NATIONWIDE RIDE FOR FREEDOM

Assemble at Raritan Valley Community College

118 Lamington Rd.

Branchburg, NJ 08876

Time: 7:00am to 12:00pm

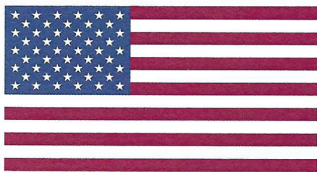
Kick Stands Up: 12PM Sharp

Media Contact

Nicole Chati

646\*331\*1969

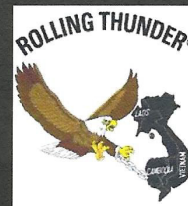
**No Attitudes Please! Everyone must wear a helmet! No Alcoholic Beverages are permitted!**



Rolling Thunder® Inc. is a 501(c)(4) organization established to seek accountability for all POW/MIA from past wars and to promote the needs of Veterans.

Rolling Thunder Charities®, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization with 95% of all funds going to Veterans and our Troops in need of help.

**RIDE FOR FREEDOM**



**ROLLING THUNDER®  
INC.**

**ROLLING THUNDER®  
CHARITIES, INC.**

**PO BOX 216**

[www.rollingthunder1.com](http://www.rollingthunder1.com)



# 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](https://www.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/>



# **FUNDRAISER DINNER \$8 (CASH OR CREDIT)**

**Home Cooked meal of your choice:  
American Chop Suey or Mac and Cheese  
along with bread, salad with dressing ,  
dessert, water or soda**

**Saturday March 9, 2024**

**4:30PM— 6:00PM**

**VFW POST 9335**



**1 HUTCHINSON STREET**

**SANFORD, ME.**

**50/50 and RAFFLES**

**All monies help veterans, veterans' families  
and to further the POW/MIA cause.**





ROLLING THUNDER  
CHAPTER 6

NJ

*Saint*  
**PATRICK'S DAY**

DINNER AND DANCING!!!

Saturday March 16th

6:00 - 10:00 PM

Entry fee \$20 Per Person  
(includes corned beef/cabbage dinner/coffee/  
dessert)  
Cash Bar

50/50  
Lucky Lotto Hat

33 Daniel Road  
Spotswood NJ

DJ DEMO

VETERANS EAT FREE!

All proceeds go to helping veterans



# **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

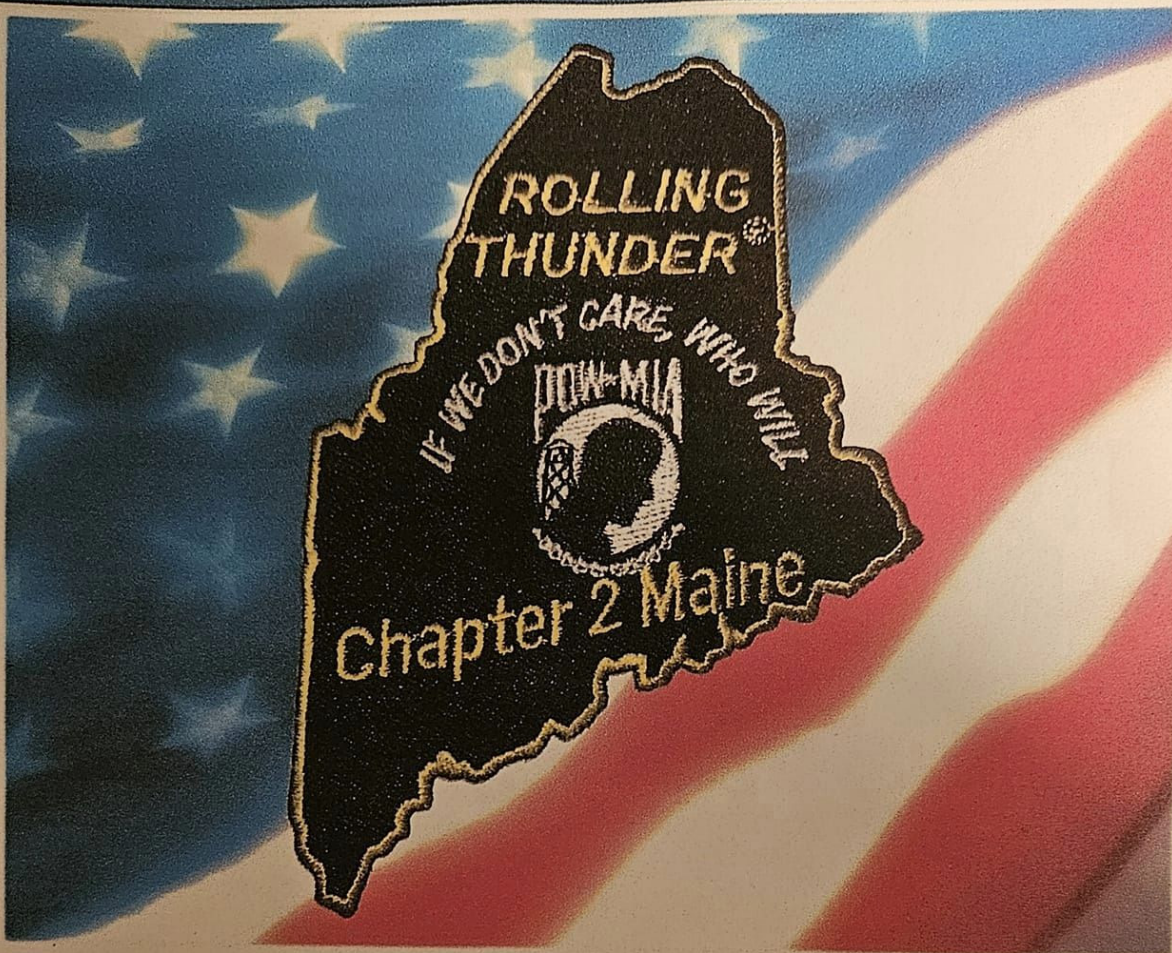
#### **ALSO NEEDED IS - “BACK PACK FOOD”**

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





## Ride for the Homes June 22, 2024

Ride starts at the Maine Veteran's Home  
290 US-1 Scarborough ME

Registration begins at 9:00 am

Kick Stands up at 10:30

Ride ends at the Huot House 335 Lincoln Street Saco

Raffles, 50/50 drawing, BBQ

Donation \$20 per bike \$5 per passenger  
(includes ride and lunch)

All proceeds benefits local homeless veterans  
FMI David 207-3211661



**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"

### 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.