



ROLLING THUNDER® NH-1 NEWSLETTER



WE RIDE FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T

February 2010, Volume 10, Issue 2

Officers:

- **President**, Jeffrey "DOC" Stewart, jeffreystewart276@msn.com
- **Vice President**, Steve Grundy, stevescastle@comcast.net
- **Secretary**, Marsha Bailey, jmbailey14@comcast.net
- **Treasurer**, Janice Maramaldi-Jolly, themagicrat@comcast.net

Board Members:

- **Chairman**, Jay Robicheau, Jay_Robicheau@comcast.net
- Joseph Evans, ba.henderson@comcast.net
- Russell Jolly, bulldog1957@yahoo.com
- Bill Niland, bc111@aol.com
- Scott Suchovsky, twotall55@yahoo.com
- Joe Pepin, peppy4971@yahoo.com
- Leo Thomas, Leo96ci@yahoo.com
- Dave Mott, Alt., dmottv@yahoo.com
- Bernie Thibault, Alt., btueseacoat@yahoo.com

- Jay Robicheau, Jr. Program Director
- Steve Grundy, Jr. Program Ass. Director
- Bill Niland, Rd Cpt, Sgt-at-arms—Qmstr
- Jim Chisholm, Legislative Liason, teacherjim@gmail.com
- Denise Coulson, Chapter Photographer, dneez@comcast.net
- Pat McGhie; NE Director, Webmaster, pmcghie@comcast.net
- Richard Borghi, Chapter Chaplain
- Dan Loper; Newsletter Editor, dloper0418@gmail.com

Meetings are at 7:30 PM the first Tuesday of each month at the Epping American Legion Hall, Post 51, located on Route 125, across from Telly's Restaurant Epping, New Hampshire.



A Note from the President

The Holidays are over and we are already into full swing. From a business perspective, our budget and National reports are in progress and we should have them ready for the Chapter's review by the March meeting. I heard great feedback regarding the Rockingham Bike Show; we had a very strong & positive presence. In addition to a great financial performance with our Quartermaster sales, we also distributed over 400 informational flyers on our POW-MIA Mission – Excellent Job Everybody!!

Please welcome Joe "Ghost" Evans as your new Sergeant @ Arms. He did a great job at our Patriotic Night with the welcoming committee and we look forward to a smooth and supportive transition. Becca Pepin who has been and is still functioning as one of our Historians has also agreed to take on the Junior Director appointment. She already has two projects lined up for the juniors to tackle and we are excited to expand our junior program. Please take a moment to congratulate and thank Ghost and Becca on their new roles!

The suggestion box has had some activity. We have had it the last three meetings and we have been responsive to the suggestions. The last suggest which really was already an open issue but certainly needed some rekindling is an Event Coordinator position. Yes we have such a position, yes it is open and yes we want to fill it. So as discussed at the January meeting, the primary role is maintaining the Calendar. Now this may seem easy enough but looks are deceiving. We are constantly requested to participate at various functions across this State and in New England.

In this issue:

President's Corner 1
 Did You Know? 2
 New England Director's Corner ..3
 Thunder News..... 3
 In the Know 4
 Recent Events..... 5
 Upcoming Events 5

Both the Executive and Board of Directors works diligently to try to iron out the conflicts, however, we could use some assistance with this process. In addition to the Calendar and ensuring notifications to all concerned parties regarding our events, this person can provide some stimulus and fresh eyes for opportunities to increase our awareness activities. Things such as informational brochures, display stands, joint opportunities with other VA groups, etc. Legislative Liaison – as you know Jim Chisholm has been our Legislative Liaison for a few years now. He has expressed a desire to get some fresh blood into the role so he can do some other

activities. His words – “this is not a forever position”.

The Legislative Liaison sits at the SVAC Meetings in Concord, NH on a monthly basis and provides contacts and consultation with the Board regarding legislative issues. He also keeps the Chapter updated on issues important to our Mission and Veteran issues. This is also a key position for us. We are one of a few organizations that hold a voting seat on the SVAC. We worked very hard to secure that seat and we obviously want to maintain it. Jim has done an excellent job in paving the way for us, represented us honorably and really brought our name and Mission to the awareness of our legislative representatives. He now wants to get someone else up to speed to carry on our connections and message.

If you have an interest in legislative matters and would like some more information on this role please follow up with Jim Chisholm. Both of these positions are presidential appointments, so if you are interested or would like to just discuss it please contact me. You all have my email and telephone number as both of them are posted on the website.

Finally on a personal note: I must reiterate my true appreciation for all your support with my Uncle’s

recent passing. As you know that is why for the last six months I have been spending a large amount of time in Franconia, NH trying to address his healthcare needs. My Uncle and I were very close and this has been quite a reality check for me. My Uncle served in the Green Berets from 65 – 68 and then worked for the Government from 71- 82, ending his service only to be a Father to his twin daughters. It meant a lot to me to have all your emails, texts, and calls during this time. It is not easy as many of you know, but it is reassuring to know you have support. For that I really do thank you and I must also extend a special thank you from me and on behalf of my Family who were quite surprised to see 20 or so of you come strolling through the Church doors in full RT gear in respect to my Uncle and in support of the Family at the time of our loss. It has been the “talk of the town” for the last 2 weeks. I have heard rumors that someone actually took a photo from the back of the church of the 2 plus rows of Rolling Thunder Vests. If I find it I certainly will pass it along. My Uncle’s memory is honored and I greatly appreciate it – THANK YOU!

Good Health and Safe Travels!!

Jeffrey “Doc” Stewart
President RT NH Chpt. 1

Did You Know?

During the 1900 Boxer Rebellion, a US Marine Private named Daniel Daly volunteered to crawl along a wall for 100 yards to snipe at any Chinese who attempted to exploit a vulnerable flank while a barricade was erected. During the night, as Chinese tried to infiltrate the shaky perimeter, Daly cut them down one at a time with expert rifle fire. When they almost overran his position, in which he was the only man defending, he fought with his bayonet and rifle butt against great odds. Not a single Chinese got past him. The next morning, his comrades found him, alone and unhurt, surrounded by the bodies of dozens of Chinese he killed himself.

He got the Medal of Honor for this feat. He got a second for his actions in Haiti in 1915.

He was later nominated for a third.

* We would like to invite members to submit military factoids which will be featured each month.
We will reserve factoids of each branch of the armed forces for their respective birth month.

Director's Corner

The Holidays are over, I hope that each one of you enjoyed the time you were able to spend with family and friends. It is appropriate at this time to take a moment and reflect on our servicemen and women who are deployed and were not able to enjoy the family time we had.

February is upon us and with that a reminder that dues need to be paid at this time if you have not had a chance. Try to make your Chapters meeting in February and pay it, or if you cannot, then consider mailing the check in so your treasurer can complete his or her job.

February is also when the reports to National start becoming due. This month the Activities and Financial reports are due. I ask each Chapter to copy me on the reports so that I know when they went in. There is an inventory report due later (March?) and this is only an assets inventory. Tables, tents chairs, trailers, vehicles, etc. You do not have to report pins and patches that you have for sale. They may add that next year but it is not required this year.

Rolling Thunder XXIII is fast approaching. It is only 4 short months away until our annual Demonstration in Washington DC. It is not too early to start making your plans and especially to book your room at the HQ Hotel, Hyatt Crystal City.

Be Safe out there, keep our military in your thoughts and prayers and thank you all for what you do.

Patrick McGhie
NE States Director
pmcghie@comcast.net



THUNDER NEWS

The Quartermaster Team would like to sincerely thank the MANY volunteers who helped make this (difficult at times) event at Rockingham Bike Show both days a great success. As those of you who attended, you know that our space was not spacious or in the best place, but we persevered.

We would like to thank all of you for putting in many hours helping to get the word out about the POW/MIA issues. For your information we handed out over 450 tri-fold handouts in the two days and personally spoke to many more about our mission.

We will give a full report about sales at the next meeting. Once again a heartfelt THANK YOU to you all.

Steve Cantelli
Rolling Thunder, Chapter NH 1

----- IN THE KNOW -----

A Thank You to Vietnam Vets from a Marine in Iraq.

A guy gets time to think over here and I was thinking about all the support we get from home. Sometimes it's overwhelming. We get care packages at times faster than we can use them. There are boxes and boxes of toiletries and snacks lining the center of every tent; the generosity has been amazing. So, I was pondering the question: "Why do we have so much support?"

In my opinion, it came down to one thing: Vietnam. I think we learned a lesson, as a nation, that no matter what, you have to support the troops who are on the line, who are risking everything. We treated them so poorly back then. When they returned was even worse. The stories are nightmarish of what our returning warriors were subjected to. It is a national scar, a blemish on our country, an embarrassment to all of us. After Vietnam, it had time to sink in. The guilt in our collective consciousness grew. It shamed us. However, we learned from our mistake.

Somewhere during the late 1970's and into the 80's, we realized that we can't treat our warriors that way. So, starting during the Gulf War, when the first real opportunity arose to stand up and support the troops, we did. We did it to support our friends and family going off to war. But we also did it to right the wrongs from the Vietnam era. We treated our troops like the heroes they were, acknowledged and celebrated their sacrifice, and rejoiced at their homecoming instead of spitting on them.

And that support continues today for those of us in Iraq. Our country knows that it must support us and it does. The lesson was learned in Vietnam and we are better because of it. Everyone who has gone before is a hero. They are celebrated in my heart. I think admirably of all those who have gone before me. From those who fought to establish this country in the late 1770's to those I serve with here in Iraq. They have all sacrificed to ensure our freedom.

But when I get back, I'm going to make it a personal mission to specifically thank every Vietnam Vet I encounter for their sacrifice. Because if nothing else good came from that terrible war, one thing did. It was the lesson learned on how we treat our warriors. We as a country learned from our mistake and now treat our warriors as heroes, as we should.

I am the beneficiary of their sacrifice. Not only for the freedom they, like veterans from other wars, ensured, but for how well our country now treats my fellow Marines and I. We are the beneficiaries of their sacrifice.

Semper Fidelis,

Major Brian P. Bresnahan
United States Marine Corps

Recent Events

TV Donation to White River Junction VA Hospital White River Junction, VT



Upcoming Events

Weekly POW/MIA Vigil in Meredith: every Thursday at 7pm in Hesky Park

High Hopes Breakfast Fundraiser: Sunday, February 28th

Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, March 2nd at 730pm

Monthly POW/MIA Vigil in Manchester: Wednesday, March 3rd (1st Wednesday of each month)

*For more information please visit www.rolling-thunder-nh1.org

Rolling Thunder® New Hampshire Chapter 1
PO Box 343
Epping NH 03042
Phone: 603 370-0691
Jeffrey "Doc" Stewart, President
jefferystewart276@msn.com

Each and every individual donates his or her time because they believe in the issues at hand!