



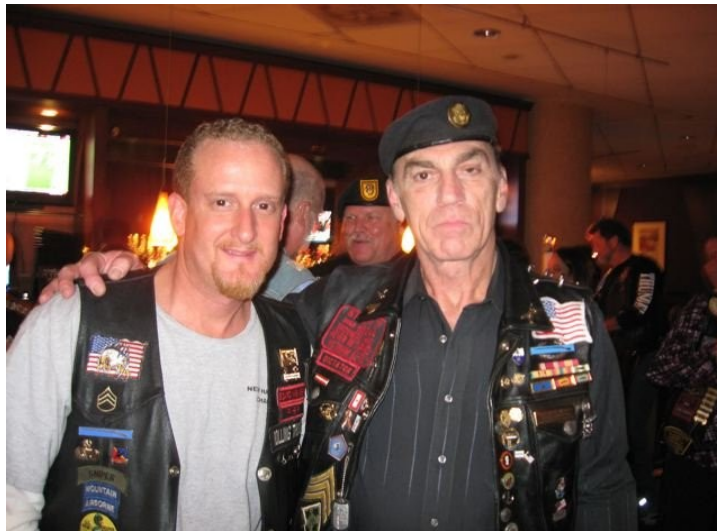
Rolling Thunder® NH-1 Newsletter

WE RIDE FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T
January 2012, Volume 12, Issue 1

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NEW PRESIDENT—JOE PEPIN TAKES THE REIGNS



Joe Pepin took the reigns as President Elect starting at the September meeting 2011. He had been the Vice-President previously for the past year and showed the Chapter his talents at assisting the Past President "Doc" Stewart. Joe has shown he has the leadership qualities it takes to lead "Rolling Thunder @NH Chapter 1" into the next two years of fundraising for the POW/MIA Mission.

PRESIDENTS CORNER January 2012

Hello Everyone,

It's looking like a pretty exciting year for 2012. Our membership is growing at an alarming rate. We currently have 121 active members as of 1/3/12. There have been a lot of new changes including new leadership and other positions being filled by mem-

Welcome to all our new members! Because of the growing rate of RTNH-1 we have people in place to help you have a pleasurable experience as you learn the ropes of being a Rolling Thunder member. We have a new member liaison, Board Member Steve Grundy, along with our experienced Board Members/ Executive Board who are here to answer any question you might have. To help you better understand things please read the Constitution, Bylaws, and our S.O.P hand book.

To all members, with the new year starting to roll into action, please keep your eyes on the calendar and emails from myself of upcoming events. We'll have hard copies available once we finalize the RTNH-1 calendar.

On a final note, as your new President along with our new leadership and veteran leadership, we are all excited to take on the challenges of our expanding chapter and the growth that comes with it. But remember whether you an Officer, a member of 10yrs, or 6 months, we're all ONE BIG TEAM with ONE GOAL.....OUR MISSION STATEMENT.

Happy New Year and let's make 2012 a year to remember!

Sincerely,
Joe Pepin
President
RTNH-1

25TH YEAR ROLLING THUNDER® ANNUAL RIDE FOR FREEDOM —WASHINGTON, DC. MAY 27,2012 STORY BY SGT ARTIE MULLER/FOUNDER NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/ ROLLING THUNDER®

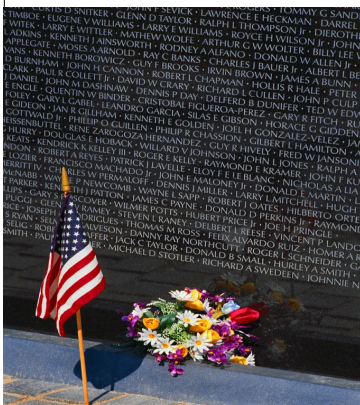
We hope everyone is well and looking forward to Rolling Thunder XXV on May 27,2012 in Washington, D.C.

We thank all of you for your continued support each year for our Prisoners of War/Missing in Action, Veterans and Troops. It's hard to believe its been 25 years since we started this demonstration; we are all much older than when we started but we hung in there and changed the POW/MIA issue from a lost cause to bring-

ing home remains and providing closure to many families.

Since Rolling Thunder started our government has recovered the following numbers of remains: WWI-6,WWII-240, Korean War-73, Vietnam War-697, Gulf War-14 and Iraq War-3 with 7 live paws returned from this war. No live American paws have come home from past wars. Why not?

To our knowledge no one in Washington has asked any foreign country about live Americans captured from all past wars. In almost 100 years no one cared enough to find remains from WWI until now. What is our government doing to find SSgt. Ahmed Al-Taie captured in Iraq and Sgt. Bowe R. Bergdahl captured in Afghanistan? We are pulling out of Iraq and leaving SSgt. Al-Taie behind.





ROLLING THUNDER® NH CHAPTER 1 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Joe Pepin	SGT AT ARMS	Joe Evans
VICE PRESIDENT	Bill Downs	NEWSLETTER	Steve Cantelli
TREASURER	Janice Jolly	PHOTOGRAPHER	VACANT
SECRETARY	Robin Cavallaro	WEBMASTER	Pat McGhie
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD	Jay Robicheau	EVENTS CHAIRMAN	VACANT
BOARD MEMBER	Darryl Cook	ROAD CAPTAINS	Scott Suchovsky
BOARD MEMBER	Russell Jolly		Jay Robicheau
BOARD MEMBER	Scott Suchovsky	QUARTERMASTER CHAIR	Kevin Rautenberg
BOARD MEMBER	Tom Bennett	LEGISLATIVE LIASON	Mark Willer
BOARD MEMBER	Steve Grundy	POW/MIA OFFICER	VACANT
1st ALTERNATE	Patti Connolly	HISTORIAN	Becca Pepin
2nd ALTERNATE	Mike Desjardins	JUNIOR PROGRAM DIRECTOR	Becca Pepin
CHAPLAIN	Richard Borghi	ASS'T JUNIOR DIRECTOR	Steve Grundy



When one American is not worth the effort to be found, we as Americans have lost.

ROLLING THUNDER®, INC. 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.

PLUCK A DUCK—GREAT FUNDRAISER AT THE 2011 NAULTS THUNDER RUN

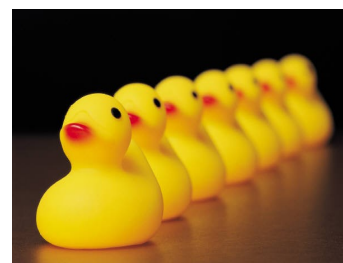
STORY BY ROBIN CAVALLARO



Pluck a Duck originally was a game I did for my day care children when I would have the carnival day at the end of the year for their graduation ceremonies. When attending Thunder Run my second year, I realized their was extra time and no one had anything to do while waiting for the bike raffle give-a-way. I brain stormed I simply tweaked the game prizes to reflect Rolling Thunder and our mission. I had a friend very willing to make an anonymous donation of patches, flags and cozies all with POW/MIA

themes, which was perfect. It was a simple game and seemed to bring even the baddest biker dudes back to their childhood with a little carnival game with a twist, that everyone wins a prize and who doesn't like a prize? Patti Connolly and myself armed with a bullhorn came up with the Pluck a Duck for a buck which caught every ones attention. The committee had reservations about the game at first but after our first year and making over \$280.00, Pluck a Duck reappeared this past year and our

profits increased to over \$300.00. This upcoming year we have bigger an better prizes and more floating ducks to pluck!!!



DIRECTORS CORNER

First, I want to say thank you to Patrick McGhie. He has served as our New England Director for the last 6 years and has done a fantastic job. He was the 1st New England Director and he has set the bar. As I transition into my new responsibilities as your New England Director, I have big shoes to fill and want to express my appreciation to Pat for what he has done for all of our Chapters over the last six years. THANK YOU PAT!!! I will do my best to serve in this new position and ensure we work to fulfill the Mission of Rolling Thunder®, Inc.

To serve is the key here; I don't take this lightly and recognize that my job is to support the Chapters in their efforts to promote and publicize the POW-MIA

issues and to assist Veterans. Together we make a difference and have done a tremendous job and together we will only do more. Thank you to the New England Chapter Presidents who have given me the opportunity to serve. I look forward to working with all of you over the next two years.

Doc Stewart
New England Director
Rolling Thunder®, Inc.



THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF POW/MIA FAMILIES UPDATE DECEMBER 20, 2011

AMERICANS IDENTIFIED:

There are now still **1,678** Americans listed by the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) as missing and unaccounted-for from the Vietnam War. On November 15th, DPMO added one name to the list of accounted-for US personnel: **First Lieutenant Robert E. Bennett, III, USAF**, from New Jersey. 1LT Bennett was listed as KIA/BNR in South Vietnam on December 13, 1967. His remains were recovered April 13, 2010 and

identified November 15, 2011. **The number of Americans returned and identified since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975 is now 905;** another 63 US personnel, recovered post-incident and identified before the end of the war, bring the total to 968. Of the 1,678 unreturned American veterans from the Vietnam War, our POW/MIAs, **90% were lost in Vietnam or in areas of Laos and**

Cambodia under Vietnam's wartime control: Vietnam-1,287 (VN-472, VS-815); Laos-326; Cambodia-58; Peoples Republic of China territorial waters-7; over 450 were over-water losses.





POW/MIA FEDERAL LAW FLAG REQUIREMENTS

Federal law requires the POW/MIA flag to be flown on the following days:

- Armed Forces Day, May 16
- Memorial Day, May 25
- Flag Day, June 14
- Independence Day, July 4
- POW/MIA Day, 3rd Friday of September
- Veterans Day, Nov. 11

NEW HAMPSHIRE—HB1165 (2012)

Naming a bridge in the town of Meredith the POW/MIA Vigil and Freedom Ride bridge.

Status: HOUSE: IN COMMITTEE ([Details](#))

Length: 128 words.

Revisions of this bill in our system:

[2011-12-14](#)

	House	Senate
Public hearing:	2012-01-19 13:15:00 LOB 201	(unscheduled)
Executive session:	(unscheduled)	(unscheduled)
Floor vote:	(unscheduled)	

POW/MIA NATIONAL MONUMENT



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<http://rolling-thunder-nh1.org/>

POW/MIA Summary Statistics						
World War I	World War II	Korean War	Cold War	Vietnam War	Iraq	Afghanistan
3,345	78,585	8,109	120	1,720	1	1

WEEKLY POW/MIA VIGIL - MEREDITH NH

Every Thursday evening starting at 7:00 p.m. people gather in Hesky Park, located in Meredith, New Hampshire. The Thursday evening Vigils started in August of 1989 in an effort to raise awareness about the abandonment of Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action. The first Vigil lasted 15 minutes; one minute to symbolize each year since the US State Department declared, "There are no more prisoners in Southeast Asia. They are all dead." The vigil now spans 32 minutes.

The Meredith POW/MIA Vigil is believed to be the longest consecutively-held vigil in the United States. There has never been a Thursday night Vigil unattended since its inception. Vigil goers have weathered rain, sleet, snow, hail, thunder, lightning, and even temperatures of -37 degrees Fahrenheit.

MONTHLY POW/MIA VIGIL - MANCHESTER NH

Just want to let everyone know that there is a monthly POW/MIA Vigil held in Manchester NH on the 1st Wednesday of every month. This is usually the day after our meeting. It is held at Veterans Park on Elm Street. Currently it's a small group and

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| FEBRUARY 7— | 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting Epping American Legion |
| FEBRUARY 25/26— | 10:00 am Northeast Motorcycle Expo Rockingham Park, Salem, NH |
| FEBRUARY 25- | NAM KNIGHTS Dinner Dance White Mountain Chapter |
| MARCH 6— | 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting Epping American Legion |
| APRIL 3— | 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting Epping American Legion |
| MAY 1— | 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting Epping American Legion |
| MAY 27- | ROLLING THUNDER ® "Ride for Freedom" Washington, DC |
| JUNE 5— | 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting Epping American Legion |



THE CLOSING SHOT



Patti Connolly & 10-K



NEVER
FORGET

