



WE HONOR OUR KILLED IN ACTION AND WANT AN ACCOUNTING OR RELEASE OF OUR MISSING IN ACTION OR PRISONERS OF WAR.

Official Newsletter of... "Run For The Wall" ...Winter 2000

**Quarterly Newsletter
" We Ride For Those Who Can't "
Winter 2000**

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MIA Remains Repatriated

U.S., North Korea helped in search

The remains believed to be those of 12 American soldiers missing since 1950 were returned to the United States July 22. A joint U.S. - North Korean team found the remains about 60 miles north of the capital of Pyongyang.

The area was the scene of fierce fighting between U.S. and Chinese forces in November 1950. The remains are believed to be those of men who fought with the 1st Cavalry Division, the 2nd Infantry Division, and the 25th Infantry Division. This brings the total to 54 sets of remains repatriated since the effort started in 1996.

Five sets of remains have been identified and 10 others are in the final stages of identification. Another recovery team has moved into North Korea to begin searching for other sets of remains in the same general area. They will leave the country August 19.

More than 8,100 service members are listed as missing for the Korean War. Most of those were lost in the north.

- Associated Press

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World War II Prisoner Found

A Hungarian who was held in a Russian prison during World War II and then transferred to a psychiatric hospital soon will return home after 53 years in the hospital. Andras Tamas, 75, was recently found in the Russian town of Katyelnich, about 750 miles east of Moscow. Officials said Tamas was "lost because he does not speak any Russian."

- USA Today, 1 August, 2000

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Why We Ride

The two news articles which appear above are part of the reason we ride in Run For The Wall. Your efforts have brought these soldiers home from North Korea. They will be coming home to their families and loved ones. I ask you to remember our mission and continue in our fight for the accountability of all POW-MIAs from all wars.

We have helped to bring these soldiers home, yet there are still many more waiting to come home, too.

If this man who was found in a Russian hospital can survive after 53 years, who is to say that other POW-MIAs could not? And what about the South Korean soldier who escaped from North Korea in 1999, after being a POW since three weeks before the Armistice was signed?

Keep your head down, your powder dry, and your body armor near. Remembering our POW-MIAs.

- Joe "Dragon" Lozano, Chairman
RFTW Board of Directors

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Arizona Diamondbacks Fly POW Flag

The following letter was received by RFTW from Arizona RFTW supporter and POW-MIA activist George "BUGZ" Huntley. We thought you'd enjoy hearing of BUGZ' achievement in bringing more attention and support to the POW-MIA cause.

Dear Joe:

When you allowed me to address the people in the Run at the Pinon Truck Stop in this years' Run, I had told those in attendance that the Diamondback Baseball Organization was flying the POW flag for us since last year's Run.

Well, things have changed. When I went to the ballpark on 3 June to collect my POW flag from them, it was still on the flag pole with the American flag! I went into the offices and was told that the club has been to a lot of different parks in the country and they noticed that the POW flag was at a lot of them. Of course that saved me a lot of talking to get them to do just that. They decided that they would like to fly it ALL THE TIME NOW, EACH AND EVERY DAY!

At this point I asked for and was granted permission to have a pre-game Ceremony by the AZ Families and Friends of POW's-MIA's to present our Patch that we had made for an event here in 1987 to the Diamondback Organization! The D'backs also furnished us with tickets to sell for a game against the Atlanta Braves. The tickets were \$8.00, with \$2.00 being retained by AZ Families and Friends of POW's-MIA's.

I'm hoping that we may be able to help finance some AZ riders in next years Run on the new Southern Route besides myself (if the good Lord is willing.)

I had also mentioned about the RFTW riders coming into Phoenix on the first day's ride, and the D'backs said that they might be able to do something for the group, if they have a game scheduled for that day next year?

If you or anyone else have any input on this event or next year's Run, please contact me at:

GEOBUGZ@aol.com,

or mail me at:

George Huntley

17819 N. 43rd Street,

Phoenix, AZ 95032,

or call: (602) 482-7906.

IT WAS GREAT SEEING YOU AGAIN THIS YEAR, and I'm looking forward to next year's Run.

Yours with respect,

George "BUGZ" Huntley

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RFTW Board & Coordinator Changes

The RFTW Board of Directors met in September. The first item of business was the election of new Board members, and appointment of State Coordinators.

Ron "Rambler" Eschinger's term as a member of the RFTW Board expired in September. As the Virginia/DC State Coordinator and a Board member, Ron has been instrumental in organizing the Run during the past several years. We are grateful to Ron for his service to the Run and to the POW-MIA cause.

George "Lone Wulf" Cheney has resigned as a member of the RFTW Board. In addition to serving on the Board, Lone Wulf has also served as Oregon State Coordinator, and has contributed enormously in the Run's outreach to Veterans and in spreading the word about our POW-MIAs.

Dan "Deekin" Coyne has been elected as a member of the RFTW Board. He has ridden with the Run since 1993, worked as a Road Guard in 1995 and 1996, and served as National Coordinator in 1997 and 1999. Deekin brings experience and enthusiasm to his position, and is a welcome asset to the Run.

"Iron Mike" East has been elected to the RFTW Board. Iron Mike has ridden with RFTW every year since 1993. He worked as a Road Guard in 1997 and 1999, and served as National Coordinator for RFTW 2000. Mike brings his excellent leadership skills to coordinating the business affairs of the Run.

Bill and Becky Reece have stepped down as the Kansas State Coordinators for RFTW. We thank Bill and Becky for their many years of dedication, hard work and support to the mission and participants of RFTW. Their efforts in Kansas

have ensured that this state is always one of the best organized and enthusiastic states that the Run visits. Bill and Becky will continue to support the POW-MIA cause, and we look forward to seeing them in coming years.

Phil and Linda Wright have resigned as New Mexico State Coordinators. Phil and Linda have done an outstanding job in supporting RFTW, not only as State Coordinators, but also as the team who coordinated and led the exploratory "shakedown" run of the new Southern Route last year.

Jim "Puma" Perry has resigned as California State Coordinator. Jim did a great job organizing the start of the Run in Ontario last year, and will be missed. He assures us that he still supports RFTW and the POW-MIA cause, and he will not be a stranger to the Run in coming years.

Jimmy Jones is the new Colorado State Coordinator. Jimmy replaces Joe "Dragon" Lozano, who has stepped down in order to devote his full energies to his duties as Chairman of the RFTW Board of Directors. Jimmy has plenty of experience, as he has assisted Dragon with organizing the Run's Colorado stops for several years, and has also served as a RFTW Road Guard many times.

Marla "Leg" Brundies has been appointed as the Iowa State Coordinator. Marla replaces Butcher Huntington, who moved to Missouri. Marla has ridden "all the way" with RFTW twice, and is an avid supporter of POW-MIA and Veteran's causes. She brings lots of great experience to her position, having recently organized the first-ever Stand Down, which was very successful in reaching Vets who are homeless or need help in the "Quad Cities" area.

Dave Erickson has returned to CONUS after his assignment in the Azores supporting the Air Force. He and his Bride, "Fyreckr" are now living in Oklahoma, and Dave has been reappointed as the OK Coordinator for RFTW. Welcome Back, Dave!

Denise "Krispy" Ferris has been appointed as West Virginia Coordinator. Krispy first joined the Run in 1996 and has ridden with us every year since. She is working hard with Benjy's Harley-Davidson and the folks in Rainelle to help both the Central and Southern Routes have an enjoyable time in West Virginia.

Laurie "Airborne" Zimmerman has been appointed as the Virginia/Washington, DC Coordinator. Airborne is a U.S. Army vet, who has ridden "all the way" with RFTW several times, and has served as a Road Guard during the past 2 Runs. Laurie's ongoing dedication will ensure that the Run's activities in DC continue to be well organized and well-supported.

Terry "Doorgunner" Clevenger is the new California State Coordinator. Doorgunner made his first "all the way" with RFTW in 1999, and served as a Road Guard on RFTW 2000. Doorgunner is dedicated to seeing that RFTW continues to enjoy a fantastic start and safe ride through the Golden State.

Bob Trimble has been appointed as RFTW's "Friends of Bill" Coordinator. Bob is already busy contacting AA groups in the areas of each night's stop during the Run, ensuring that there will be a meeting available every evening. Bob has graciously agreed to give up his anonymity in order to be available to support and encourage all RFTW participants who ride One Day At A Time.

Jackie McKinney is the new New Mexico State Coordinator. Jackie worked with local merchants and fellow motorcycle riders to arrange the fantastic dinner we had in Gallup last year, and has promised to continue with this sort of support. All we can say is, "Wow!"

The following new State Coordinators were appointed too close to deadline to include their bio's. Info on these new RFTW Coordinators will be in the next Newsletter.

Don "Poppa Bear" Stringer: Mississippi State Coordinator.
Gabe "Iceman" Holland: Alabama State Coordinator.

Donna Elliott: Arkansas State Coordinator.
Richard Harrison: Kansas State Coordinator.

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The Loss of a Friend

I was recently informed of the passing of a dear friend. Not just a friend of mine but to many of the family of Run For The Wall and the Wall.

On 17 September 2000, Ruth Ann Foster was taken from us, her long fight came to an end. Ruth has been for many years one that was always there in Washington, DC when RFTW arrived and when we would wait for Rolling Thunder to start. She was always ready to ride with us. Ruth was to many of us that warm hug of welcome that we might get from a Mom, Sister, or Auntie. She was a volunteer at the Wall who would help us find our buddies and friends. She was there to offer a shoulder, a place to find peace and someone to share our tears with. I will miss her. Ruth has joined the ranks with the 58,000 that she always cared for, and now they will care for her.

God Bless you Ruth Ann Forster, you will always be a part of my heart.

- Dragon & Silkie

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View From the Front

Central Route Coordinator's Message

Hi, I'm Nayber. The RFTW Board has appointed me HMFIC for the Central Route of RFTW 13. For those that need to schedule vacation, the dates will be: Leave Ontario, CA on Wednesday, May 16 and arrive at DC on Friday, May 25, 2001. We will complete the run when we join up with Rolling Thunder on Sunday, May 27, 2001. For those that plan to join enroute, the exact itinerary is not set yet. Look at the RFTW 2000 schedule to get an idea when and where we will be at any given time. None of the hotels or fuel stops are set at this time, therefore DO NOT use that information for your planning.

I'd like to give you a little background about my involvement with RFTW. Some of you know me but I know that most may recognize me from my yellow armband but not know much else. I first join RFTW in 1993 at Rainelle, WV. I questioned my sanity for getting involved with that number of motorcycles in one pack. My pucker factor definitely hit 4 digits that first time I rode with the pack. There was around 60 or 70 bikes with the Run. I think that about 20 people went all the way. In 1994, I joined RFTW in Wentzville, MO. I again felt the pride that I hadn't felt since I left the Army. I had felt it in 93 but was so overwhelmed by other emotions that I didn't recognize it. I did not ride RFTW in 95 or 96. In 97 I met up with the group at Angel Fire, NM. I couldn't believe the size; we had a two-bike formation the full length of the parking lot. That was the first year that I rode as a Road Guard. I rode in that same position in 98 and 99. The Run has gotten bigger and bigger each year. With growth come expansion problems. In 2000 I rode as your Road Guard Captain. I just couldn't believe that we had all them there motorsicles when we left Ontario last year. I expect that we will have that parking lot jam-packed this year. We will have to just wait and see.

Just a couple of comments about the RFTW formation. We ride in a side-by-side motorcycle formation. This run is a mission to raise awareness about the need to do something different about all POW/MIA's, past, current and future. We are making a statement to the public; we are a group of motorcyclist on a mission, not a bunch of bikers on a tour of the USA. We ride in a two second formation, which means that there is a 2 second space between each pair of motorcycles.

At our cruising speed, the easiest way to measure a 2 second space is to measure your position against the centerline dashes. Two seconds is about 2 spaces between you and the motorcycle in front of you. That gives you plenty of time to maneuver and brake in case of an emergency.

The most important factor in riding a smooth formation is individual throttle control. Each rider is responsible to learn to smoothly roll the throttle to adjust speed up and down in ¼ and ½ mph increments. Then if the rider focuses on staying in position, there will be minimal movement in the pack. This technique can be easily practiced on your own. While riding, pick your cruising speed and then slightly roll the throttle up and down to hold that speed. I have a throttle lock on my Wing, which greatly relieves some of the pressure of holding the throttle in position. I have it set so that it holds the throttle, but I can still move it to adjust speed. If you work on practicing that technique until we get together in May 2001, you should be pretty good at holding your position in the RFTW formation. Till we ride together again, keep your head up and your wheels down.

- Nayber

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NAF Sends Thanks

RFTW received the following message from the National Alliance of Families:

To the ladies and gentleman of Run For The Wall, we extend our appreciation and sincere thanks. Approximately, 300 men and women rode across county, some 3000 miles, to draw attention to the POW-MIA issue, and to join with the member of Rolling Thunder for the annual rally. This was Run For The Wall's 12th Run, and we Thank them for their continued efforts on behalf of our POW/MIAs.

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Road Guards for RFTW 2000

We are looking for a few good men and women for Road Guard duty. If you are a past Road Guard, or if you are an experienced RFTW participant and are willing to volunteer for duty during RFTW 2001, please contact the Route Coordinator for the RFTW Route that you plan to travel:

Central Route:

Milo Gordon
F2457 Blueberry Road
Colby, WI 54421
(715) 223-3462
email: nayber@pcpros.net

Southern Route:

Jim "Centerpunch" Doimas
660 S. Fir Street
Chandler, AZ 85226
(480) 705-8037
email: SouthrouteHQ@aol.com

ROAD GUARD CRITERIA:

1. Must have been on the Run for at least two (2) years, but need not have gone "all the way" either time.
2. Must have a current motorcycle endorsement on license for the state of licensure.
3. Must be a well-experienced motorcycle operator. Successful completion of the Motorcycle Safety Foundation Experienced Riders Course is desirable, but not required.
4. As servants to the Run and to the public, Road Guards must treat everyone with honor and respect. Their

- function is to provide safe travel to both the Run and the Public.
5. Must be riding alone. No passengers may ride with an on-duty Road Guard.

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Thanks For A Job Well Done *RFTW Board Chairman's Message*

I would like to take a moment to thank all of the Run For The Wall State Coordinators, the many volunteers, supporters and helpers for making this years RUN the best it has ever been. You folks did an outstanding job! You have set the standard for others to follow. As I have said before, RFTW does not work without you, you are the ones that make it happen. Without your hard work, dedication, and commitment, the Run would not know the successes it enjoys. Be it at a fuel stop, lunch, dinner, an overnight stay or breakfast, you make it happen, you are the backbone of the Run.

Your actions provide a Welcome Home for so many veterans that have never been welcomed home from their struggle. You offer them a sort of Band-Aid to help heal their wounds. RFTW has and will continue to grow, this mission does not get any easier, nor will yours. We ask for support each and every year from the same supporters and then ask for more. But let me tell you this, it does pay off. When a family has their loved ones remain come home they have closer to their pain. It is worth every effort and sacrifice you make. When that veteran is given his first Welcome Home, it is worth every hour of work you have put in. When another person learns why we make this pilgrimage each year and joins in our mission it is worth that sleepless night. And maybe one day we will bring a live POW/MIA home. And you will know that he is home because you never gave up the fight for his accountability, his freedom and his right to be with his loved ones.

Please pass on my heartfelt thanks to all the wonderful people that have worked so hard to make Run For The Wall 2000 the success that it was. God Bless you all.

Again, Thank You for your continued support and dedication to the mission of Run For The Wall. Until the next RUN or sooner, NEVER FORGET.

"Keep your head down, your powder dry, and your body armor near. Remembering our POW/MIA's."

- Joe "Dragon" Lozano
Chairman, RFTW Board of Directors

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Chase Vehicles Wanted

Run For The Wall helps pay the cost of gas for official Chase Vehicles when they have a bike on board.

You must have a large truck or van, and a trailer which can tow at least 4 bikes at once, and must be willing to help any riders who break down on the Run. Taking riders and their ailing scoots to the nearest repair facility may require significant detours from the Run route, as well as personal time, but you'll make lots of friends along the way.

For RFTW 2001, we will need Chase Vehicles to support two routes: the Central Route, and the Southern Route.

If you are interested in serving as a Chase Vehicle on the Central Route, please call Nayber at: (715) 223-3462.
If you are interested in serving as a Chase Vehicle on the Southern Route, please call Centerpunch at (480) 705-8037.

A Word From The Editor

RFTW 2000 - WOW, what an experience. I am now blessed with even more beloved Brothers and Sisters than ever, and got some great hugs along the way! I got to meet POW-MIA and Veterans' cause activist Nikki Mendicino and her family in Washington, and I am still marveling at the commitment and enthusiasm in this young lady.

It seems like we just got home, (I'm still not entirely unpacked,) and we're already planning for next year's Run. As the number of participants grows and RFTW prepares to run both the existing Central Route and the new Southern Route, good planning and preparation become even more important to a safe and fulfilling Run. There are many opportunities for volunteers. If you want to help, please contact your State Coordinator.

This issue of the Newsletter does not contain a Legislative Update for the 106th Congressional Session, as any legislation still pending in the House and Senate is not likely to be passed before the end of the year, and will expire. In January, a new House and Senate will begin submitting and considering new legislation. If you support or oppose any issue, get in touch with your legislators and ask that they introduce a bill regarding that subject as soon as the new Congress convenes. Even though the current session is about over, it's more important than ever to write those Congressmen!

I apologize for the delay in getting this newsletter out while I took care of some medical problems. I am grateful to all of you for your patience, and to all of my RFTW Family for your prayers and support during a difficult time.

My sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to this issue of the RFTW Newsletter. *Enjoy!*

- *SizzMo'*

The Meaning of Life

I asked God to grant me patience.

God said, "No. Patience is a by-product of tribulations; it isn't granted, it is earned."

I asked God to give me happiness.

God said, "No. I give you blessings. Happiness is up to you."

I asked God to spare me pain.

God said, "No. Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me."

I asked God to make my spirit grow.

God said, "No. You must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful."

I asked for all things that I might enjoy life.

God said, "No. I will give you life so that you may enjoy all things."

I ask God to help me LOVE others, as much as he loves me.

God said, "Ahhhh, finally you have the idea!"

- Contributed by Randy "Lone Wolf" Weir

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Reunion West

This report was submitted by Randy "Lone Wolf" Weir, our reporter on the scene at the RFTW Reunion West at Fox's house in Phoenix.

Friday October 6th

Left San Diego with Larry Michaels at 9:30 a.m. Rode to Palm Springs amidst intermittent showers. Cold. Figured it'd warm up by Banning. Not so lucky. Temp rose just before getting into Palm Springs. Arrived Palm Springs ~ 1:15 pm. Approx. 25 bikes at the Amer. Legion. Good feed and reunited w/many riders.

Rode to Needles via US (or maybe CA) 62. Desolate ride. Paid \$2.63/gal. for fuel. OUCH! Broke off from group taking "scenic route" w/Larry and rode into Needles. Got room and went to The Red Dog Saloon. Good feed of tri-tips and roast 'beast'. The Red Dog Saloon provided a courtesy van so no one would get a DUI. Chatted w/some W.W.II POWs. Felt like they were genuinely glad we were there. The owner said he's going to join us next year. Felt VERY welcome in Needles. The temp was even low: must have been one of their couple days of winter.

Sat. the 7th

Rode to Phoenix starting @ 8 am. Nice and cool at first. Pulled into Wittenburg for lunch and it was HOT! At the reunion in Phoenix. Felt saddened not to meet George & Bandit and Mountainman & Somme'r. Dick's Family Kitchen served a basic but delicious meal.

Rode back to SD w/Larry Michael and Preacher John leaving the morning of the 8th.

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Your Opinions Count!

Senators and Congressional Representatives are interested in constituent viewpoints - after all, they are called *representatives*. If you have an opinion on a political issue, don't sit back and wait for your reps in Washington, D.C. to figure things out - write to them, and let them know what's on your mind. Be polite and brief, and they will listen to you.

You may express your views by writing: The Honorable [name], U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510, or The Honorable [name], U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515. You may call the Senate at (202) 224-3121; the House at (202) 225-3121.

If you don't know who your elected officials are, contact your local Registrar of Voters for this information.

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Rainelle Sends Thanks

Rainelle Elementary School
701 Kanawha Avenue

Rainelle, WV 25962

June 7, 2000

Dear Run For The Wall:

I just wanted to tell you how much we appreciated the donations that you and the members of Run For The Wall gave to Rainelle School. We counted \$2111, some change, two washers, and a nut. The ceremony at our school on May 25 was very beneficial for our students, and, I believe, the riders also. As the riders came in at 11:30 on May 25, many of the riders waved and honked their horns, but as they circled the school on their way out Friday morning, I sensed a newly formed bond between the students and the riders. As the students cheered, every rider waved, honked, and smiled. It was truly an emotional experience.

I hope that each rider who stayed on the football field was able to say that he was treated well. I know that they were all really great to the students, staff, and myself. The men and women policed the field before they left, and when they were gone, all the evidence of their stay was gone, too.

I hope that you can share this information with all others and tell them how much we appreciate their help with our playground fund. Hopefully, by next year's Run we will have our new playground equipment in place. We will save you plenty of room to camp on the field and a special place in our hearts.

Sincerely yours,

John W. Lewis, Principal

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RFTW XIV (2001) Schedules

RFTW XIV will begin on May 16, 2001. Both the Central and Southern Routes will depart from Ontario, California at 8:00 a.m. sharp.

Overnight and lunch stops for the Central Route will remain largely the same as in 2000. Any changes will be very minor. (For the Central Route itinerary, see the RFTW 2000 Schedule, posted on the RFTW website at <http://www.rftw.org>.)

Stops on the Southern Route are still being arranged, but will be finalized within the next few weeks.

Comprehensive route schedules for both the Central and Southern Routes will be published in the next issue of the RFTW Newsletter, due out around the end of January. Schedules will be published on the RFTW website at that time, as well.

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Volunteers Needed

Run For The Wall is seeking volunteers to serve in the following positions:

- Assistant Central Route Coordinator

- Assistant Southern Route Coordinator
- Road Guard Captain (Central Route)
- Road Guard Captain (Southern Route)
- State Coordinators for Texas, Louisiana, and Tennessee.

If you are interested in serving the Run in any of these positions, please contact any member of the RFTW Board of Directors.

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Guidelines For State Coordinators

At the direction of the Route Coordinator, the State Coordinator shall coordinate all activities within the state to include but not be limited to:

1. Arranging for primary and alternate hotels and camping facilities. If appropriate, this should include the appropriate comp rooms in each establishment.
2. Arranging for required fuel stops as directed by the Route Coordinator. This includes contacting the management of each facility and coordinating the stop, ensuring there are adequate pumps and rest room facilities available (fuel stops should be planned for 30 minutes).
3. Contacting the Department of Transportation to ensure safe road conditions and to determine road construction schedule and detours as required.
4. Arranging for police escorts where and when applicable.
5. Arranging for all meal stops at the direction of the Route Coordinator. This involves contacting the management of establishments we will be using and informing them of our schedule (we try and limit meal stops to an hour to an hour and a half in length.)
6. Coordinating all media coverage as directed by the Route Coordinator before and during the Run. Coordinate the efforts of any local organization that wishes to lend support to the Run.
7. Reconnoiter the route of the Run as directed by the Route Coordinator.
8. Communicate with the State Coordinators of adjoining states to ensure a smooth transition for the Run from state to state.

This is not meant to be an all inclusive list but represents the minimum duties of a State Coordinator. The actual requirements will be assigned by the current Route Coordinator.

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Free Bumper Stickers!

Danny "Big Daddy" Calhoun has 20,000 bumper stickers (standard size) which have an American Flag and the words, "I WASN'T THERE, BUT I CARE - POW/MIA."

These stickers make a great little gift for us to give to folks who aren't Vietnam Vets, but support the RFTW and POW-MIA mission.

If you would like a few, send a SASE (self addressed, stamped envelope) and Big Daddy will mail them to you. The envelope must be legal size (10 1/2" x 4") and one 33¢ stamp will cover the postage for about 5 stickers. If you want a larger quantity, (still free,) Big Daddy will be glad to send them to you for the cost of postage.

Danny "Big Daddy" Calhoun
 1916 W.T.L.O. RD
 Somerset, KY 42503

For more information, you can email Big Daddy at: ckydan2@cs.com or call: (606) 679-1079.

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**RFTW Income & Expense Report
 01-01-2000 through 09/04/2000**

Income Categories	Total
Donations	5,805.14
Merchandise Sales	
Merchandise Sales - Unassigned	33,062.66
Total Merchandise Sales	33,062.66
Other Income	
Deposits Refunded	533.57
Total Other Income	533.57
Total Income Categories	39,401.37
Expense Categories	
Bank Charges	
Service Charge	8.00
Total Bank Charges	8.00
Charitable Donations	1,112.00 *
Chase Vehicles	240.00
Copies	158.85
Cost of Goods Sold	
Back Patches	6,878.50
Ball Caps	1,176.00
Bracelets	1,000.00
Flags	3,523.12
Patches	1,731.00
T-shirts	7,499.00
Total Cost of Goods Sold	21,807.62
Equipment	
Computer	2,109.84
Containers	107.64
Photography	249.00
Rental	640.26
Road Guard	444.00
Telecommunications	254.97
Total Equipment Costs	3,805.71
INSF Checks	89.00
Insurance	50.00
Internet Access	159.65

Leases & Rents	
Storage Space	437.00
Total Leases & Rents	437.00
Merchandise Vehicle	157.98
Newsletter	
Fax	35.74
Mailing	835.55
Printing	773.11
Software	86.99
Supplies	52.18
Total Newsletter Costs	1,783.57
Office Supplies	
Miscellaneous	33.56
Printer Cartridges	135.69
Software	94.47
Stationary	14.17
Total Office Supplies	277.89
Petty Cash	
Bank for the Central Route	500.00
Bank for the Southern Route	200.00
Total Petty Cash	700.00
Promotional	
Missing Man Pins	270.00
Service Recognition Awards	1,950.97
Wrist Bands	366.00
Total Promotional Costs	2,586.97
Radio Rental	1,316.00
Refunds	36.00
Reimbursed Expenses	378.71
Shipping	
Freight In	491.19
Freight Out	631.85
Relocate Equipment or Inventory	226.34
Supplies	71.83
Total Shipping Costs	1,421.21
Taxes	
Sales Tax	134.15
Total Tax Costs	134.15
Telephone	
Landline	1,080.81
Mobile Access	1,000.40
Total Telephone	2,081.21
Website	470.00
Total Expense Categories	39,211.52
Grand Total	189.85
<i>* Cash was donated for Road Guard Richard Harrison, who was injured during</i>	

the Run. This check was issued by Mike East to Richard for the amount collected.

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Viet Nam Vets' Wives Wanted

Researcher Lis Brown is seeking information from women who were married to American servicemen from all branches and rank of the military at the time of the men's tours of duty in Vietnam, from 1961-1973."

Ms. Brown is writing a American history doctoral disseration involving this group of women. Ms. Brown's late husband was a Marine air navigator in Vietnam.

Women interested in participating in the survey should write to:

Ms. Lis Brown
c/o the Vietnam Era Wives Project
University of Colorado at Boulder
1442 South University Boulevard
Denver, CO 80210
Telephone:(303) 744-8265
Email: elizabeth.brown@colorado.edu

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Memorial Day

Editor's note: This is the text of a speech given by General Erik Shinseki, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army on Memorial Day, 2000.

We live in a country that has set aside two days to honor its men and women in uniform. Veterans Day celebrates those who served our nation and returned home to their loved ones.

On Memorial Day, we honor those who served and gave their lives for us. In Lincoln's words, "It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this." These soldiers followed in the honored memory of tens of thousands who passed before them — young Americans all from every corner of the country, volunteers and draftees, who answered the call of duty.

Memorial Day is a day about our servicemen and women — about the sons and daughters of America, who served something greater than themselves — the ideals and people of this great nation. It is about soldiers who went before today's youngsters to fight in wars because their nation asked them to do so.

And most especially, it is about those who did not return home to enjoy the bounties of peace and freedom in the nation they had so honorably served.

On this Memorial Day, let us pause in earnest remembrance of all those who sacrificed themselves that we might enjoy the fruits of justice and freedom and peace.

- *The Washington Times, May 28, 2000*

Southern Route Coordination

Howdy,

There is little bit of this and a little bit of that to inform you about tonight. None of it is very earth shaking. So, in no particular order here is some information I wanted to pass on to you all. It will help if you get a map of some detail available to follow before reading further.

1. I met with Roger Herrick, the Arizona State coordinator, Sunday. He assured me that the State, County, City Police would be aware of RFTW traveling across the state of Arizona. The people of Williams, Arizona are very excited about our return to their town. Dick Darnell expects a lot to happen. It is anticipated that RFTW will travel through the entire town without stopping until they reach the KOA. The KOA in Williams will be at no cost to RFTW this year.
2. I personally, examined the exit for RFTW's first gas stop in Arizona. It is at exit #66 on I-40. That is about 10 miles east of Kingman, AZ I realize this info should come from the state coordinator. But somehow, I have it in my notes to ensure these three items were addressed.

OK, on to the Southern Route. I feel good about the structure of events. The SR will make it's first stop for fuel at Dillon exit in Cochella, CA. We will then travel another 98 miles to AZ exit #1 I-40 for lunch. This sack lunch will be provided by the Point Man Ministries of Yuma, AZ. Which is approximately 80 miles south of Ehrenburg, AZ (AZ exit #1 I-40) . SR will then travel another 93 miles on I-40 to Tonapha, AZ exit #94. Here, we will fuel and link up with our escort The Department of Public Safety Motor Officers (highway patrol). In less than an hour we will have traveled the 55 miles to down town Phoenix for a brief ceremony at The Armed Services Memorial Complex at the State Capital.

I am not sure of our exact location for our over night camp at this time in the Phoenix area. We have a meeting scheduled some time in mid December with the Commanding General of the Reserve unit at Papago Park. There are alternatives. But this looks very appealing at this time. The evening meal is laid on by a Veteran who was a POW in W.W.II. He, and his unit, will accommodate us were every we stop for the night.

Bobby "Deadline" Biers will conduct a dusk patrol for volunteers to go to the Phoenix, VA medical center and Veterans Home following evening chow.

The second day of travel for the SR will take us through Payson, AZ. Heber, AZ and Holbrook, AZ to link up with the NR at AZ exit 311 I-40 for lunch. The SR will leave Phoenix at 7:30 am instead of 8:00 am to ensure we link with the NR.

After lunch, the SR will be traveling behind the NR to Window Rock, AZ. and Gallup, NM. Where the NR and the SR will over night.

The next day, the 3rd day of travel for RFTW, the SR will follow the NR out of Gallup, NM under escort from the Gallup Police Department. After our escort departs, the SR will begin to fall back and gain distance between the two elements. SR will not stop for fuel until they are approximately 100 miles east of Gallup and within 35 miles of Albuquerque, NM. SR will take on fuel and link with their escort to Albuquerque.

Hopefully, SR will go to the VA Hospital in Albuquerque, NM. and then proceed to Chick's for lunch. (If we do this right it will be like having a second shift into Chick's with the NR already in and out of there before we arrive. This should cut down on the congestion.)

SR will travel another 185 miles east on I-40 to Tucumcari, NM for their third over night stop with a gas stop in Santa Rosa, NM. I anticipate receiving confirmation of our arrangements before 25 December 2000.

I have a big void here, in my planning. I know we will go from Tucumcari, NM to Wichita Falls, TX with two gas stops and a gas/meal stop. However, I need to contact Sky pilot and a couple of other people to zero in on our over night stop in Wichita Falls, TX. The total distance from Tucumcari to Wichita fall is 325 miles over very sparsely populated area. The route from Amarillo, TX to Wichita Falls, TX has been reconned by one of my most reliable scouts. It is better than some major freeways we already travel.

From Wichita Falls, TX to Shreveport, LA is again 325 miles. I will be clear about stops and where we will over night (either 25 miles west or east of Shreveport, La.) by 25 December 2000.

I have been talking to two gentlemen, one from Mississippi and one from Alabama. (Papa Bear and Iceman) I am going to recommend that they be assigned as state coordinators under a separate document.

As I have traveled across this part of the route and been able to confirm my observation with these two gentlemen, I am confident the three of us will work out a stop schedule that will get us from Shreveport + or - to Meridian, Mississippi for an over night stop, With lunch being provided by the HD dealer in Jackson Mississippi. Again this days travel will be approximately 325 miles.

When we leave Meridian, MS. We will stop for gas at Tusaloosa, Al., have our noon meal north east of Birmingham, AL, take on fuel around Chattanooga, TN and stop for the night in Sweet- water, TN., again, about 300 miles. I believe Hammerdown/Alabama Gunny will attend to the details but this has not been confirmed so I hesitate to endorse him as the TN State coordinator. In anticipation of the question "why is Alabama gunny working on details for TN?" Answer, He lives in New Hope, Al a border town of TN/AL. There is an over night stop and a curtesy call in TN. Alabama gunny has come very highly recommended by a very reliable individual.

The following morning we will visit the Knoxville, TN VA Hospital. The rest of the trip becomes a series of "what ifs" On to the "What Ifs"

If the NR takes the traditional route from the I-64 to the US-60 to Rainelle the SR will over night in Wytheville, VA. Then, on Thursday morning SR will Travel north on I-77 toward Bluefield, WV. and Beckley, WV eventually traveling on US-19 to a cross roads of US-60 and US-19. SR will have avoided the toll road and will wait here to follow the NR to Rainelle.

Second "what IF"

If the NR is going to travel the I-64 / I-77 thru Beckley, WV and proceed to Rainelle, from the East through the "new " middle school, the SR will NOT stop over night in Wytheville, VA. But will proceed to the area of Roanoke and Salem Va. and stop there for the night. At this particular stop we will visit the VA Hospital in the late afternoon.

The following day, the SR will travel the I-81 to I-64 and wait at the junction of the "60" and I-64 (Crawly, WV) to follow the NR into first the middle school and then into Rainelle.

IF there is another what if, let me know so we can plan for it.

If you are still with me take a break.

The SR is still very up on having a color guard. We have seen some flags 2'x3' which have made the round trip more than once. The flag staffs and all connections have, also, been over engineered for the job. It is anticipated our color guard will have an American flag, a POW/MIA flag, one flag for each branch of service (5) and we will fly the flag of the state we are currently traveling thru. Pricing questions have gone out.

THIS IS ONLY A DRAFT!! MORE PLANNING AND DISCUSSION IS ANTICIPATED BEFORE ALL IS LAID IN CONCRETE. I REMAIN VERY FLEXIBLE AT THIS POINT IN TIME. Any criticism, or observations will be considered and evaluated. The time to have a different opinion is now.

- Jim "Centerpunch" Doimas
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Run For The Wall: What it is... And what it isn't

In recent years, RFTW has grown enormously. What began as a couple of guys riding their motorcycles across the country to attend the Rolling Thunder Memorial Day protest rally has become a huge highly organized event, attracting hundreds of riders and the attention and support of thousands. Along with growth has come inevitable change.

Several misperceptions about the Run and the role of participants in it seem to have persisted over the past few years, so we thought it would be a good idea to clarify the facts about these issues.

Run For The Wall is an EVENT. Just like a toy run (only better,) all you have to do to participate is to show up and ride along. Because of the high level of camaraderie and close personal bonding that takes place between participants on the Run, some people mistakenly believe that Run For The Wall is a club or organization. This is not the case. RFTW is merely an event - a motorcycle pack ride which takes place each year between the third Wednesday of May and Memorial Day. The mission of the event is to educate the public about POW-MIAs, honor KIAs and help to bring spiritual healing to Vietnam Veterans and their families on the way from Los Angeles to the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. Of course everyone involved in organizing the Run hopes that participants will choose to be involved in the POW-MIA cause throughout the year, either on their own or as part of a POW-MIA activist group, such as Task Force Omega or the National Alliance of Families. However, RFTW does not organize or sponsor any activities during the year other than the Run.

There is no charge to participate in the Run, and no obligations or benefits are incurred by riding in the event. Participants in the Run are not members of the event's coordinating Board of Directors, and do not have a vote as to who serves on the Board, or in business affairs of the event. Those who organize the event are always happy to receive feedback, input and suggestions from participants, and will try to incorporate these ideas into the Run, if appropriate.

The Run is administered by a memberless, closely-held 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable corporation. Each member of the Board of Directors serves a 3-year term of office, and the existing Board nominates and confirms new members as existing members' terms of office expire. The Board oversees the financial and strategic operations of the Run, such as dealing with the IRS, and appoints volunteer Route and State Coordinators, who do the actual day-to-day organization of Run activities.

The Run does not have members. The decision to incorporate without members was made for serious reasons, after a great deal of thought and deliberation. The decision was not made with the intent on the part of the founding Board members to leave anyone "outside" of the organization, but rather to protect the Run from some very real problems. RFTW involves motorcycles, and the biker world has some protocols and unusual situations that may seem strange to those not familiar with this unique culture. Unfortunately, incorporating as a club or organization carries with it the possibility of conflict with other motorcycle clubs. RFTW is a neutral event, open to any and all riders, regardless of

whether they are affiliated with a club. Furthermore, Federal laws regarding tax-exempt organizations demand that any organization with members keep detailed membership records, which must be available for examination by the IRS at any time. In addition to being a huge job which would be hard to keep up with, the Board who incorporated RFTW believed that many RFTW participants would be leery of filing personal records, such as a DD-214, with the Run. The decision was made to simply forgo both of the above-mentioned problems by keeping the Run open to all participants, with none of them holding membership in the corporate organization.

Activities which take place during the Run are arranged by volunteer State Coordinators in each state that the Run passes through, supervised by a Route Coordinator, who is appointed by the Board of Directors. Many towns and cities who host the Run provide hospitality which often includes free meals and camping. However, they are under no obligation to do so, and each individual who chooses to ride with the Run is responsible to pay his or her own way.

During the past few years, the Run has been able to provide support for riders in the form of chase trucks. Chase trucks assist anyone in the pack whose motorcycle breaks down by taking them and their scooter to the nearest motorcycle repair shop. This "towing" service is provided as a support to riders who choose to participate directly in the Run. The Run does not, and cannot afford to provide chase truck services to all motorcyclists who may happen to be traveling the same route as the Run, and cannot place the Run's support trucks out of service to the Run in order to rescue individuals who choose to leave the pack and ride on their own route and time schedule. To do so would deny services to Run participants who are actually taking part in the Run.

The Run also provides Road Guards to assist in traffic control and riding discipline during the time that the Run is on the road. Road Guards are all experienced riders who have been evaluated and selected not only for their superior riding skills, but also for an even temperament and the ability to interact well with the public as representatives of the Run. Riders in the pack are asked to cooperate with Road Guards' directions, as they are being given with the safety of the whole pack in mind.

We hope that this answers some of the questions that participants have about the organization of RFTW. Please feel free to contact any Board member directly if you have any questions, comments or feedback to share.

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