

Ladies and Gentlemen Of Rolling Thunder© Inc.

Preparation for your ROLLING THUNDER© Chapters event, **The RIDE HOME**, has begun!

We have set our Goals; 200 + Former American Prisoners of War, 50 + families of our current MIA's.

We have set our 2 Main Services -

Your MIA Service -- KEEPING THE PROMISE..... We Will NEVER FORGET – Will be held on Friday, 16 September

Your POW Service – Recognition Service - - Will be held on Saturday, 17 September

We've also set up the Hero's Dinner and have made plans for an afternoon Social-Picnic all catered by last year's dinner caterer Leon Holloway.

The event website – [www.theridehome.com](http://www.theridehome.com) - is up and running with all the information updated weekly to keep you, and all you invite to join us, up to date with latest news. Check it out and let us know what you think.

This year's event is tracking to be the "Largest gathering of Former POW's from all conflicts" in the country. In the past, we have had members from Oklahoma to New York & Indiana to the Carolina's step up and help with not only the set-up of our functions but with the actual execution, also. For 2011, we have created a website for Rolling Thunder members only – <http://theridehome.com/members.htm>

It is here that we are breaking down the responsibilities and volunteer opportunities a little differently. We're asking that chapters take on the responsibilities of organizing some of our major events and functions, such as (but not limited to) the Ceremonies -- from start to finish -- and manage all the details within that realm. All the support you need will be available to you. The breakdown is as follows:

#### **Major Events/Functions:**

##### **Ceremonies:**

**MIA Ceremony**

**Candlelight Ceremony**

**Dinner Banquet**

**Recognition**

Within each area are a variety of activities that need to be assigned, organized, coordinated, and more - so don't worry, everyone can play a key role in the Ride Home 2011.

The idea is to have a chapter chairperson (point of contact) take on a responsibility and then work with their members to pull it all together!

There are also numerous other standalone type activities that members/teams may also take on as their own:

**Welcome bags**

**Name tags**

**Water**

**Ushers/Waiters**

**Photographers**

**Recognition presentation gift**

**Possible Wall setup**

**Escorts**

**Meet/greet at buses**

**Presenters**

**Early morning assistance at events (prep before guests arrive)**

So, you see, there are countless opportunities -- and the time is NOW to explore these opportunities and sign-up. [http://theridehome.com/members\\_volunteer.htm](http://theridehome.com/members_volunteer.htm)

Check out the website and if you have questions, pick up the phone and call either, Patty Christo the Event coordinator, at 352 729 4195 or Moe at 863 324 7268 for more detailed information. We look forward to speaking with you.

Please be sure to pass this on to all your members.

**Until they all come home.....**

moe

