

**Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Illinois Chapter One
General Membership Meeting Minutes**

July 6th, 2011

The Rolling Thunder® Inc. Illinois Chapter Meeting of July 6th 2011 was called to order by President Bill Sharpness at 19:30 at the VFW in Warrenville, IL. The membership pledged allegiance to the American Flag and had a moment of silence for Illinois POW/MIA's that went missing during the Viet Nam War, and are still missing in the month of June, 2011. Bowe Bergdahl was also mentioned as going MIA on June 30th 2009. The Rolling Thunder® Mission Statement was read. The Board attendance is listed below:

| Attending | Name | Position |
|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Yes | Bill " Hawk" Sharpness | President |
| Yes | Dominic "Hard Core" Ruggerio | Acting Vice-President |
| Yes | Jim "Snipe" Murray | Treasurer |
| Yes | Tony "Clutch" Leone | Secretary |
| Yes | Richard "Popeye" Montgomery | Chairman of the Board |
| Yes | Kristina "Kriss" Sedlacek | Board Member |
| Yes | Richy "Fr. Guido" Zayat | Board Member |
| No | Doug "Skippy" Mahar | Board Member |
| Yes | Dennis "LT" Reiter | Board Member |
| Yes | Bill "B.B." Houghtaling | Board Member |

30 of 75 adult members were in attendance.

President- Bill "Hawk" Sharpness

Hawk stated the hard work B.B and Hard Core put into the grant application process was acknowledged by the membership.

Hawk reinforced all the statements made by B.B with regards to the POW/MIA issues and added that the reason he joined Rolling Thunder was primarily for the POW/MIA issue.

Vice President-Dominic "Hard Core" Ruggerio

Hard Core informed the chapter that we were not selected for a grant from the Morton Foundation. We will try again next year.

Treasurer's Report - Jim "Snipe" Murray

Snipe informed the chapter that there was \$ sold in bike raffle tickets at the Freedom Run and the current chapter balance is \$. There are 8 weeks left to sell raffle tickets.

Snipe mentioned to Tony that his daughter Jessica told him he needed a hearing aid and Tony should listen to him as well and get one.

Snipe stated that if you know of an organization (village, school, fire department, etc.) that is in need of a POW/MIA flag the chapter would donate them.

Secretary's Report - Tony "Clutch" Leone

Rocker and back patch were awarded to Al "Shadow" Miller.

I acknowledged and thanked Tom Dertz for helping with the Freedom Run and moving us up to the front of the line.

Chairman of the Board- Richard “Popeye” Montgomery

Popeye requested the membership donate to Don Pugh’s a recovering member of the chapter after an unfortunate motorcycle accident.

Ride for kicks will take place the following Sunday, Hawk will lead them out of Zylstra’s Harley Davidson.

Board Member-Kristina “Kriss” Sedlacek

Kriss discussed procuring the band and sound system for the BTR. The agreement was that *Kashmir* would play at BTR.

Kriss instructed Dominic that new flyers would need to be made to also include *Kashmir*.

Any suggestions for the BTR email Kriss.

Board Member-Richy “Father Guido” Zayat

Father Guido passed out a short stack of business cards advertising Bowe Bergdahl to the members.

Board Member-Doug “Skippy Mahar

Excused

Board Member-Dennis “LT” Reiter

LT discussed several options for granite plaques.

Board Member-Bill “B.B.” Houghtaling

B.B brought up POW/MIA awareness with regards to our mission statement. B.B stated that we go to Washington D.C to demonstrate the lack of the governments POW/MIA accountability. B.B was disappointed by the answers given by Rolling Thunder members at the demonstration with regards to

POW/MIA issues; most remarks were concerning veteran’s issues. Let’s not forget that what we go to Washington for is POW/MIA accountability. Please call your representative to ask them what they are doing in regards to POW/MIA accountability.

B.B will pass out Bowe Bergdahl bumper stickers free of charge to advertise POW/MIA issues and currently have cards that advertise the issue as well as explain what Rolling Thunder is.

Other Concerns

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Leone, Secretary
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