

**Rolling Thunder® Inc. Illinois Chapter One  
General Membership Meeting Minutes  
April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

The Rolling Thunder® Inc. Illinois Chapter Meeting of April 4th, 2012 was called to order by 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 Vietnam War, and are still missing in the month of April, 2012. Mission Statement was read by Dominic Ruggerio.

The Board attendance is listed below:

Attending	Name	Position
Yes	Bill Sharpness (Hawk)	President
Yes	Dominic Ruggerio (Hard Core)	Acting Vice-President
Yes	Jim Murray (Snipe)	Treasurer
Excused	Tony Leone (Clutch)	Secretary #1
Yes	Robert Leskovar	Secretary #2
Excused	Richard Montgomery (Popeye)	Chairman of the Board
Yes	Kristina Sedlacek (Kriss)	Board Member
Excused	Richy Zayat (Father Guido)	Board Member
Yes	Chuck Kimber (Boat Sides)	Board Member
Yes	Bill Atkinson (Fall Out)	Board Member
Yes	Dennis Reiter (LT)	Board Member
Yes	Bill Houghtaling (B.B.)	Board Member

40 of 74 adult members were in attendance. Additionally there were 4 guests.

**President- Bill Sharpness (Hawk)**

- Request was made for any new visitors or guests. There were no new ones.
- We are responsible for the Gold Star Mothers at the Memorial Day Washington DC. Whoever takes on the Leadership Role for the ride will have to coordinate with the POC in Washington. There are many items on the list that we have to check off before being able to have the Gold Star Mothers ride with our members.
- Popeye has the flyers for the event and is out sick tonight, but will make sure he brings them to the next meeting.

### Vice President-Dominic Ruggerio (Hard Core)

- Informed the members that the paperwork was ready and the check approved by the Board and the next step is submitting a PO for the new Self-contained Bathing System for the LaSalle Veterans Home. Dom went on to explain the veterans only get 1 or 2 baths a week and that this bathing system will improve their quality of life a lot. He described how the system works as well as that we hope to have it installed and working by the time we make our June 2<sup>nd</sup> Run to the LaSalle Home. The turnaround time from idea to completion was very short ( 3 months). Dom also went on to say they he hopes to get as many members to make the June 2<sup>nd</sup> run as possible to the LaSalle home.
- The “Bowe” Billboards have been so successful that we have been contacted by his grandmother thanking us for keeping such a strong focus on bringing him home.
- Do we want to create a new Version of our Chapter T-shirts to sell for this year. Last year’s Shirts are all sold? Membership was in favor of doing this and the Board will discuss at their next meeting.
- Memorial Day Weekend Washington trip - There is a small contingency from our Chapter going. We need a POC and a leader for coordinating the group. We need to finalize this at our next General Membership Meeting.

### Treasurer’s Report - Jim Murray (Snipe)

- The Quarterly Financial Report was covered with the members present. The larger dollar amounts on the Expense and Income items were covered. The big Fundraisers were the Bike Raffle and Gun Raffle. Big Expense for the first quarter was donations to nonprofit organizations that support the POW/MIA mission and Veterans on going issues. We are currently at a 50/50 mix between the two. Anyone who would like to see more details was asked to call Snipe directly.

### Secretary’s Report - Tony Leone (Clutch) - Excused

### Chairman of the Board- Richard Montgomery (Popeye) - Excused

### Board Member-Kristina Sedlacek (Kriss)

- Communicated to Membership the June 2<sup>nd</sup> LaSalle Veterans Home Run starting and ending at Fox River Harley Davidson. This will be a Fund Raiser and the plan for the event will be solidified at our next Board Meeting. Please reserve the date we are looking for good participation on behalf of the Chapter.

**Board Member-Richy Zayat (Father Guido) - Excused**

**Board Member - Chuck Kimber (Boat Sides) - Nothing to add.**

**Board Member - Bill Atkinson (Fall Out) - Nothing to add.**

**Board Member-Dennis Reiter (LT) - Nothing to add.**

**Board Member-Bill Houghtaling (B.B.)**

- Thanked everyone for doing such a great job selling Gun Raffle tickets. He was initially very concerned about the \$50 cost per ticket, however they sold very quickly and the money raised allowed for us to purchase the Self Contained Bathing system sooner than expected. We are very excited that the unit will be installed prior to our Run there on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Hopes to see many of the members on this run.
- Communicated that on 4/28 the wounded warrior project is sponsoring an event at the Batavia VFW from noon to 6pm for anyone who would like to attend. It is not a Chapter Event, however it would be nice if we were represented.

**Secretary - Rob Leskovar**

- All annual Chapter Forms were sent to National.
- Read to the Membership the Thank You letters received from Manteno Veterans Home, Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans and Task force Omega for the Donations the Chapter made to their organizations.
- Received Patches for new Member Robert Shuttleworth. He is not in attendance so they will be issued at the next General Meeting.

- Reviewed the Certified Letter sent to National to buy out very old Patches for members that nobody knows and we have no chance of recovering. Patches we bought out for:

David Schiedler  
Steve Auer

William Terrell  
Bonnie Bradlee

- Request was also made from National for patch Cost forgiveness for Dennis Shabel who died and was buried with his patches in March of 2010. Copy of letter has been filed with certified mail receipt.
- We currently have 7 sets of patches outstanding. Their names are listed below and we will continue to try to locate them and collect patches or dues. Asked for current members who may have any information on these people to pass along so that we can get these patches back as soon as possible.

Theodore Sorenson  
Dean Welch  
Shane Massey  
Michael Morias  
Albert Augello  
Julie Augello  
Laurie Valasquez

**Other Concerns: None**

Meeting was adjourned at \_2015hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Leskovar, Secretary  
Rolling Thunder Illinois Chapter 1  
Rleskovar@aol.com

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Rtmembers mailing list  
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