

Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Illinois Chapter One General Membership Meeting Minutes August 7, 2013

The Rolling Thunder® Inc. Illinois Chapter Meeting of August 7th, 2013 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 the Five Illinois POW/MIA's that went missing during the Vietnam War, and are still missing in the month of **August, 2013**. Mission Statement was read by **Vice President Dominic Ruggerio**.

The Board attendance is listed below:

Attending	Name	Position
Yes	Bill Sharpness (Hawk)	President
Yes	Dominic Ruggerio (Hard Core)	Vice-President
Excused	Jim Murray (Snipe)	Treasurer
Yes	Robert Leskovar	Secretary
Yes	Richard Montgomery (Popeye)	Chairman of the Board
Yes	Kristina Sedlacek (Kriss)	Board Member
Yes	Knute Weick	Board Member
Yes	Chuck Kimber (Boat Sides)	Board Member
Excused	Bill Atkinson (Fall Out)	Board Member
Yes	John Mikuski	Board Member
Yes	Bill Houghtaling (B.B.)	Board Member
Excused	Gary Stengler	Assistant Treasurer

30 of **75** adult members were in attendance. **4** Guests

President- Bill Sharpness (Hawk)

- We have guests Alan & Daniel. Guests of Knute.
- Marco Post Commander Schaumburg. Guest of RTO
- Gary Larson - Food vendor/mobile café.

- We really need to push Bike Raffle tickets. We can't back off. Currently, we have recovered less than 1/3 of the raffle bike cost through ticket sales. We should not lose initiative.
- We have one gun left from Gun Bash. We will have anyone who buys five bike raffle gets entered for gun raffle.
- Lori (Hawks Wife) won a grill at last weekend's event in Glendale Heights. She is donating this to BTR as a side raffle.
- BTR Weekend October 5th and 6th Mandatory Chapter Event
- Remembrance Table at the end of the event. Need to see LT to sign up.
- Gerald (POW in CAGE) going to be at event again this year.
- Greasy friends coming this year.
- Knute can get some active duty guys if we need them.
- If anyone knows of any X-POW's please see if we can get them involved.

Vice President-Dominic Ruggerio (Hard Core)

- Inland bank event at Soldier field. Kind of like a job Fair for veterans.
- Need to really get moving on Bike Raffle Tickets. See Popeye to get some if you do not have any. Bike is our big fund raiser related to BTR.

Treasurer's Report - Jim Murray (Snipe) - Excused

Chairman of the Board- Richard Montgomery (Popeye)

- Ride for Kids raised \$196,000 for the event.
- Thank you for the people who turned out for the Glendale Heights event last weekend.

- Next event, Wildfire 8/24
- Elections next month: VP, Secretary, & 3 Board Members.
- Dominic accepted nomination for VP.
- Secretary - no nominations.
- BB, Boatsides, Fallout, nominated. Boatsides declined and Dan Thomas nominated in his place. Shadow nominated for Board Member - declined. Steve T. nominated and accepted. Moe Knows nominated for secretary - he turned it down. Gene nominated for Secretary and accepted. Nominated Fall Out and BB for their current positions. Elections will be next month.

Board Member-Kristina Sedlacek (Kriss)

- Big Thunder - VFW does not want to do the food anymore so we have been trying to outsource our food. Met Gary and his Café. Gary is here tonight to talk about what he can offer.
- Gary Larson - New business started in April - Tailgater Toby. All BBQ based foods. Has an 18 foot mobile trailer to cook on with a big screen TV. Might be Bears game that day. Food is very reasonably priced. Five Dollars for most entrees. Do have some signature dishes that cost slightly more. Have other fund raising opportunities we may be interested in down the road. Names put in data base and based on where ticket was sold from any future purchases on line can be used for 20% discount down the road at some point. He is committed to doing the Big Thunder Run. Need Electric Supply (50 amp) for the trailer. He is from Batavia and has done some large events in the area.
- Daniel - Vendor for the BTR - Military & Patriotic Street Ware. Started this business when he got out of the service. 23 employees and four job openings. They will be at the Soldier Field event next week.
- Looking for Vendor commitments ahead of time so we can get parking passes made for the event. Too many people sneaking in by saying they are with a vendor such as the Band. Plan is to mail it to the Vendors ahead of time.

- We will have the same stops as last year. Need to make sure people return to the Batavia VFW.
- Please bring raffle items to the next meeting so we have an idea ahead of time what we have.
- Would like to upgrade the Ad Booklets - need info by the end of August so we can go to print in time for the event.
- We need people to sign up for stops. Please email Kriss if you are interested.
- We need a couple extra people for the first couple of stops. They usually get back up.
- Honda Dealership asking to participate in the event. Do we have arrangement with Ozzie that we should not do this? Membership approved participation.

Board Member- Knute Weick

- Ceiling Tile project - have designs and pictures that could be purchased for \$50 to place in the ceiling at the Glendale Heights VFW. Membership approved spending the \$50 dollars.

Board Member- John Mikuski - nothing to add.

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

Board Member - Bill Atkinson (Fall Out) - Excused

Board Member-Bill Houghtaling (B.B.)

- Spoke about new Bowe Billboard located at I355 and North Avenue. Great job done by Fall Out.

Secretary - Rob Leskovar

- National Conference is set for November 1st 2013 and we need to select two people to attend. This will happen after elections next month.
- Chapter Report has been completed containing feedback from the Memorial Day Weekend ride to Washington.
- National Constitution proposed changes due by 8/14/2013. As of now we have had none to submit.

Other Concerns:

- We have not done as many events this summer which means we have had less raffle ticket selling opportunities.
- Local Car Show - VA had booth set up Illinois Lost Veterans program. VA gets \$3,000 for every veteran that registers in Illinois on an annual basis. LT has all the information.
- Steve T. - (RTO) -
 1. Address on blank piece of paper. Address is for his son on envelope --- please send to his son - Please put a stamp on it and mail it to his son.
 2. Illinois Soldier Summit at Soldier field on Monday - He needs RT members to call in and trying to sell BTR Bike Raffle Tickets. Herman Cain on Radio Show. Really wants us to call in. President of Priceline called in today. All they talk about is how to get Bowe home. Sunday night Governor Quinn. Go onto Web Site.

Motion was made to adjourn. The motion was seconded.

Meeting was adjourned at 2050 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,
Rob Leskovar, Secretary
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