

Rolling Thunder® , Inc. Illinois Chapter 1

Membership Meeting Minutes

October 03, 2018

Rolling Thunder® Inc. Illinois Chapter 1 Membership Meeting was called to order by President, Jim Murray at 1940 hours on October 03, 2018 at the Warrenville VFW.

Board Attendance:

Attended	Name	Position
Yes	Jim Murray (Snipe)	President
Yes	Gary Vandenbos (Names)	Vice-President
No	Rick Herr (Cosmo)	Treasurer
Yes	Wendy Vach (Dragonfly)	Recording Secretary
Yes	Richard Montgomery (Popeye)	Chairman of the Board
Yes	Bill Houghtaling (B.B.)	Board Member
Yes	Al Miller (Shadow)	Board Member
No	Kandice Jacobs (PG)	Board Member
Yes	Knute Weick	Board Member
Yes	Tim Kearney	Board Member
Yes	Dan Thomas (Cage)	Board Member

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance led by President, Jim Murray. A moment of silence was observed for the Illinois MIA’s lost during the month of September during the Viet Nam War.

There was one guest present, Frank, who came to the meeting to see what we are all about.

Jim “Snipe” Murray:

- Snipe asked if members, once again, would like to donate to the Manteno Veteran’s Home. A motion was made, seconded and a was approved by a vote of the membership for \$1,500.00.
- Patches – Snipe had tried to contact ex-members who still had patches and offered to pay them \$100.00 per patch to return them so we could resolve this issue. No one responded. The suggestion was made by National that we just pay the money per patch to National and this would resolve all outstanding patch problems. A motion was made and seconded. A membership vote approved sending the money to National. It was also noted that if a patch is returned to the chapter and the sent to National, National will refund the money sent for that patch.
- BTR – There were 138 bikes at BTR this year and an approximate profit of \$2,000.00. Brian at Fox Valley HD contacted our chapter and has made an offer to host the BTR at their place in St. Charles. The board will meet with Brian, iron out details and see if this would benefit our chapter, then present the finding to the membership for a possible vote to move to their location next year. To thank the Montgomery VFW for hosting us the last couple of years, a donation of \$500.00 will be made as a way of saying thank you.
- St. Charles will be hosting their Electric Christmas Parade on the 24th of November at 6pm. Since there are members who are interested in participating, Snipe will send in the \$25.00 entry fee for our chapter to participate.

Richard “Popeye” Montgomery:

- Once again, our chapter will be filling boxes for needy families for Thanksgiving. A vote was taken and approved to spend no more than \$3,000.00 on food and gift cards.
- Our chapter also voted to have our annual Christmas Party. Stay tuned for details after next month's meeting.

Gary "Names" Vandebos:

- The Abate run is coming up October 14th and Gary will send out an email to let members know where to meet, when and what time.

Al "Shadow" Miller:

- To date, our chapter has helped 33 Vets through our Veteran's Assistance Program.
- The Sandwich monument should be ready to be dedicated and the tentative date will be: Veteran's Day, November 11th. Details will be provided at the next meeting if it gets arranged by then. If not, the dedication may have to wait until spring.

Dan "Cage" Thomas:

- Cage reported that there was a good attendance at the Carol Stream Groundbreaking Ceremony for the memorial park they are constructing. A couple of our members attended and as a thank you, the chapter was given 4 complimentary tickets for their upcoming fundraiser.

Open Discussion:

Lt brought up the fact that although our chapter is doing a fantastic job helping Vets in need, our chapter is losing sight of our primary mission, which is POW/MIA's. His concern is that we are not promoting the mission strong enough when we hold our events and raise money. In response, Dominick brought up that he is still working on POW/MIA Chair and is working with College of DuPage to get one installed. Chappy informed the group that he is talking about our mission when he holds his Stand by Me events, and Ralph suggested we do more on our social pages, such as our Website and Facebook to promote the cause. Snipe would like more suggestions as to how we can rejuvenate our core mission and asked anyone with suggestions to let us know.

Chappy asked for volunteers to go to the Moving Wall when it comes back around next year so we show our presence as a chapter.

Upcoming Rides and Events:

10/14 Abate Toys for Tots Ride

For more information go to our event calendar - <https://goo.gl/DA8GcZ>

Meeting was adjourned at 2043 hours.

Respectfully submitted by,
Wendy Vach, Recording Secretary
Rolling Thunder Illinois Chapter 1