

Rolling Thunder® , Inc. Illinois Chapter 1

Membership Meeting Minutes

September 04, 2019

Rolling Thunder® Inc. Illinois Chapter 1 Membership Meeting was called to order by President, Jim Murray at 1943 hours on September 04, 2019 at the Warrenville VFW.

Board Attendance:

Attended	Name	Position
Yes	Jim Murray (Snipe)	President
Yes	Gary Vandebos (Names)	Vice-President
Yes	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
Yes	Kandice Jacobs (PG)	Board Member
No	Knute Weick	Board Member
No	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 August during the Viet Nam War.

Two guest were present at the membership meeting:

Taylor Hawley, who is joining our chapter.

Steve Wazniak, who is joining our chapter.

Richard "Popeye" Montgomery:

- Elections we held and the following people were elected: Vice President: Gary "Names" Vandebos, Secretary: Wendy "Dragonfly" Vach, Boards Members: Kandice "Playground" Jacobs and Bill "BB" Houghtaling.
- Dan Salazar was presented with his boot patch. Congratulations Dan.

Rick "Cosmo" Herr:

- Cosmo reported on the results of BTR. Thanks to Fox River Harley Davidson, our chapter made more money than last year. We had 174 riders and 36 passengers. We also made money off of the 50/50 raffle, the raffle table, the silent auction, the MIA bracelets and vendor donations.

Gary "Names" Vandebos:

- Names thanked everyone that showed up and worked the BTR.
- There are three rides coming up:
 - On Saturday, Sept. 14th our chapter riders will meet at 47th and 34 at the Shell Station, KSU 800 hours for the Annual Armed Forces Run at the VFW in Sandwich IL -

Registration and breakfast 9 to 10:30 am, KSU 10:30 am, 165 mile ride will take you to several Legions/VFWs in the area (Dixon VFW, Mendota VFW, Ottawa Legion, Yorkville Legion), food and raffles after the ride.

- On Sunday, Sept. 15th our chapter riders will meet at Rt. 64 & 59 at the Dunkin Donuts, KSU 800 hours for Chapter 2's 17th Annual Never Forget Thunder Run Ride. Registration starts at 9:00 am and KSU at 11:00am from Green Bay Road in North Chicago to Harley Davidson in Woodstock, IL. Lunch and raffles will follow.
- On Saturday, Sept 21st the Annual Barbed Wire Harley Davidson Toy Run in Dekalb. Contact Names for more information.

Kandice “Playground” Jacobs:

- Playground asked that the membership consider approving the annual allowance for the Thanksgiving Day Baskets that are passed out to Vets in need. The membership approved with a unanimous vote.

Al “Shadow” Miller:

- Shadow requested the membership vote on spending money on the lighting that needs to be reconfigured at Fox River Harley Davidson for the Honor Chair display. After discussion the membership approved the expenditure.

Jim “Snipe” Murray:

- The Demonstration Ride that is normally held on Memorial Day in Washington D.C. will be held in 2020 by the American Veterans (AMVETS), but will not be supported by Rolling Thunder. The national office wants runs throughout the country to be organized by Rolling Thunder local chapters. An Ohio Chapter is hosting a run and has asked chapters in neighboring states to participate. The event will be held in Columbus Ohio and our chapter is interested in participating.

Old Business:

LT thanked all the members who participated in the Table Ceremony at BTR. He said it was well done and appreciated everyone's participation.

New Business:

BTR – A suggestion was made that we present Fox River Harley Davidson with a plaque of appreciation for hosting BTR. Snipe will talk to Knute about getting a plaque.

Snipe asked for people to give suggestions for next year's BTR. How can we improve or change it up to make it better. The following are suggestions made by our membership:

- Shorten the time to from 5:00 to 3:00 or 3:30 like Chapter 2's event.
- We do the Remembrance Table at the beginning, before the ride begins.
- The raffle table and 50/50 raffle are put near the registration table, so riders see them before instead of after the ride.
- Suggestion of a gun raffle to keep riders interested in staying after the ride.
- A cash door prize or gun prize.
- Ride start later instead of 10 am.
- Raise the price by \$5.00 and include lunch.
- Hold it on a Saturday instead of Sunday.

- Improve access to beer and food. Line was too long and people left.
- Better advertising, possible newspaper coverage.

Upcoming Rides and Events:

- Sept. 14th – Annual Armed Forces Run in Sandwich IL
- Sept. 15th – Never Forget Thunder Run – Rolling Thunder Chapter 2
- Sept. 21st – Barbed Wire Toy Run

See the Chapter Website Calendar for more information and more events.

Meeting was adjourned at 2044 hours.

Respectfully submitted by,

Wendy Vach, Recording Secretary

Rolling Thunder Illinois Chapter 1



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As of 07/2019

ROLLING THUNDER ILLINOIS CHAPTER ONE

Where does the money go?

(95 cents of every dollar collected goes to help Veterans and Veteran facilities –

100 cents of every dollar of “Donated” and “Grant” Money collected goes to Veteran Assistance)

Because of donations from the supporters of Rolling Thunder IL1, we have been able to help the following Veteran facilities and Veteran Programs:

Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans	\$64,300
LaSalle Veteran's Home	\$147,000
Manteno Veteran's Home	\$64,000
Hines VA	\$51,000
Concord Place for Homeless Veterans	\$36,600
POW/MIA Issue	\$76,900
Honor Flight	\$6,600
Various VFWs, ALs and Troop Support Orgs.	\$15,000
Veteran Programs	\$18,000
Veteran's Assistance Program	\$123,500
Crisis Hotline Program	\$17,200

\$620,100

We hold two fundraisers a year.

- Gun Bash every May
- Big Thunder Run (Last Sunday in August)

Until They All Come Home