

Rolling Thunder[®], Inc. Illinois Chapter 1

Membership Meeting Minutes

October 06, 2021

Rolling Thunder[®] Inc. Illinois Chapter 1 Membership Meeting was called to order by President, Gary Vandembos at 1949 hours on October 06, 2021, at Warrenville VFW.

Board Attendance:

| Attended | Name | Position |
|----------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Yes | Gary Vandembos (Names) | President |
| Yes | Al Miller (Shadow) | 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 | Kandice Jacobs (PG) | Board Member |
| Yes | Knute Weick | Board Member |
| Yes | Don Gaylord (Stone Cold) | Board Member |
| Yes | Joe Peterburs (Dog House) | Board Member |
| | | |

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance led by President, Gary Vandembos. A moment of silence was Observed for the Illinois MIA's lost during the month of March from the Viet Nam and, Korean Wars.

Gary "Names" Vandembos:

- We had two visitors at our meeting, Andrew and Chrissy.
- Names announced that the Board of Directors appointed Shadow to the position of Vice President. When asked if Shadows position would be filled, it was the decision of the Board not to fill his position at this time.
- Names announced that he asked Snipe to be the chapter communication coordinator and Snipe accepted.

Kandice "Playground" Jacobs:

- Thanksgiving is just around the corner and Playground asked that the membership vote on up to \$3,500.00 to buy food and turkey gift cards for approximately 30 families. The vote passed and Shadow will get he names of the recipients for Playground.
- Every chapter meeting Playground will provide the monthly calendar showing the rides for the month and a brief description of those rides. October's rides are attached below.
- Playground talked about Mark Frerichs a hostage in Afghanistan since January of 2020. He was working in Afghanistan when he was taken as a hostage. He is a Lombard resident and since our mission statement is to leave to soldier or veteran behind, she has suggested we do something to support his family in trying to bring him home. The original suggestion of a billboard was revisited and both Fallout and Hardcore are going to research and bring suggestions to the next meeting. Mo knows the family and will assist with this effort. Membership agreed this is a cause we should support.
- Our membership Christmas party is coming up in December and some members would like to see changes to what we do. Suggestions included doing a service project or bringing in Stretch to DJ. If anyone has suggestions to change things up, contact Playground. We will be collecting Toys for Tots at that event.
- Remembrance Table – a suggestion was made by a couple of members to change the song played during the table ceremony, so it encompasses all wars, not just Viet Nam. Anyone can submit a suggestion for a song. Send your suggestion to Playground. She will need the name of the song and the artist. Then we can play the songs at our meetings and vote on one to use.

- Playground gave a health update on Hardcore, and everyone at the meeting is sending prayers, good thoughts and well wishes his way.

Al “Shadow” Miller:

- Shadow announced that since the pandemic slowed the use of grant funds from the state being used, he applied for an extension and the state granted it to us. Requests are starting to come in from vets in need.

Rick “Cosmo” Herr:

- Rick gave the budget report.

Knute Weick:

- Knute asked for membership to make a motion to contribute \$500.00 to Military Outreach USA. A motion was made, and the vote passed.

Don “Stone Cold” Gaylord:

- Stone Cold recapped the rides coming up in October (see attached list) and stressed the importance of our chapter showing support for these rides, especially when we are the recipient of donations that result from them. The more rides we can support by attending, the more support we get for our events.

Rick “Popeye” Montgomery:

- On November 10th, the Moving Wall will be in New Lenox. Our chapter has been asked to be part of the escort. Members who show up should be at the New Lenox Commons, 1 Veteran’s Parkway in New Lenox at 700 hours. From there the escort will travel through Abraham Lincoln Cemetery and then on to the American Legion Post in New Lenox. The board is asking all members available to consider doing this event. There will be more information at the November meeting.

Open Discussion:

Gun Bash – Rob Leskovar will be the coordinator for the Gun Bash this year with the help of Pockets. There was a discussion about where it will be held, with our members leaning towards Fox River Harley Davidson. Rob will see if he can work with Brian to reestablish communication and coordinate the event possibly holding it on FRHD birthday party as in prior years.

Chappy gave a report on the Great Lakes Conference and presented attendees of the conference with certificates. He also asked that members read the newsletter that is accessed via a link on our chapter website.

Meeting was adjourned at 2055 hours.

Respectfully submitted by,

Wendy Vach, Recording Secretary

ALR Post 181 Armed Forces Ride

When Sat, October 9, 7:30am — 4:00pm

Where Veterans of Foreign Wars, 713 S Main St, Sandwich, IL 60548, USA ([map](#)) Description ALR of Sandwich Post 181 is hosting the Armed Forces Ride

Registration: 0730-0900

KSU: 0915

NOTE ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT ROLLING THUNDER. LETS HAVE A GOOD TURNOUT.

DuKane A.B.A.T.E Toy & Food Run

When Sun, October 10, 10am — 6pm

Where Knuckleheads Tavern, 108 E North St, Elburn, IL 60119, USA ([map](#)) Description This is a Police Escorted and blocked ride.

0 Sunday, October 10, 2021, 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM

● Start: Knuckleheads Tavern, 108 E North St, Elburn, Illinois 60119

● End: Sycamore Speedway, 50W086 IL-64, Maple Park, IL 60151

● \$20 per person, plus an unwrapped new toy and nonperishable food donation.

Save-a-Joe Pub Crawl

When Sat, October 16, 12pm — 6pm

Where St. Charles, IL, USA ([map](#))

Description Come out to support our Vets.

<https://saveajoe.org/pubcrawl/> Starts at 12pm check in at the Office.

Pub Crawl begins at 1pm.

Join us for our 2nd Annual Save-A-Joe Pub Crawl! This event will be held on Saturday, Oct. 16th, and the purpose is to raise money to help our Veterans in need. 100% of the money raised will help with Veteran Suicide, Homelessness, and Financial Aid.

Tickets \$50 each

Participants Must Be 21 or Older

Ticket Purchase include:

■ Save-A-Joe Long Sleeve Pub Crawl T-Shirt

_ Appetizers at the Office and at Alley 64 (first and last bars)

■ 3 drink tickets to be used at the Pub Crawl Bar of your choice (Well Drinks, House Wine or Domestic Beer - Brands and availability will vary by bar)

_ Poker Hand Entry

5th Anniversary Hero's Ride

When Sun, October 17, 10:30am — 4:00pm

Where Woodstock Harley-Davidson, 2235 S Eastwood Dr, Woodstock, IL 60098, USA ([map](#))

Description ORIGINAL DATE 10/3; THIS IS THE RAIN DATE. 5th Anniversary Hero's Ride with War Dog Charity Riders Registration at Woodstock H-D: 10:30am KSU at 11am \$30 donation per bike Take a scenic Ride to Sledgehammers in Orgeon, IL with live music, food specials, and prizes
