

Rolling Thunder[®], Inc. Illinois Chapter 1

Membership Meeting Minutes

July 5, 2023

Attended	Name	Position
Yes	Gary Vandebos (Names)	President
Yes	Al Miller (Shadow)	Vice-President
Yes	Rick Herr (Cosmo)	Treasurer
Yes	Jim Murray (Snipe)	Secretary
Yes	Richard Montgomery (Popeye)	Chairman of the Board
Yes	Kandice Jacobs (PG)	Director
No	Knute Weick (Knute)	Director
Yes	Don Gaylord (Stone Cold)	Director
No	Greg Messler (Rooster)	Director
Yes	Wendy Vach (Dragonfly)	Director

The meeting was called to order at 1945. President Vandebos began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mission statement was read by Director Gaylord. A moment of silence was observed for the Illinois MIAs lost during the month of June from the Viet Nam and Korean Wars. Chappy gave an opening prayer.

Reports from the Board

President Gary “Names” Vandebos thanked those members that attended the Marseilles Freedom Run. He also thanked those that went to the Northlake Memorial Dedication with special acknowledgement to Shadow and Pockets.



Names and Stone Cold accepted a check for \$1,200 from Sue Price. This was money raised from a Memorial ride for her husband Craig. Sue had mentioned that she and her friends would like to continue to work in support of our chapter.

Vice-President Al “Shadow” Miller informed the chapter as to the successful completion of the 2023-2024 grant request from the state for our Veteran’s Assistance Program. We were granted \$20,000.

Treasurer Rick “Cosmo” Herr presented our account balance for the beginning of July. Contact Cos if you need more info. Also to date, we have 204 tickets for the GunBash turned in at the beginning of tonight’s meeting. A review of outstanding tickets at the end of the meeting showed that 90 tickets are still outstanding. Cos has sent out a list of the holders of these tickets. All members are asked to contact Cosmo, Names, Snipe or any board member if help is needed in getting these tickets back to the chapter, sold or unsold. This needs to happen before the GunBash on July 29th.

COB Rick “Popeye” Montgomery had mentioned that the chapter memorial ride has not yet been setup. If a member would like to volunteer to run it, let the board know. At the end of the meeting no member took on the event. The board then set a date for the run to be September 2, 2023. Details to follow. If you have a suggestion on the destination of this ride please contact Popeye.

Director Wendy “Dragonfly” Vach reminded the chapter of the August 5th Veteran’s Appreciation ride. It will start off at Barbed Wire Harley with a visit to Veterans Homes and on to Genoa. This is an all-day event and do to tight scheduling, - the chapter will not be presenting the Remembrance Table Ceremony. Info – 815.739.9760

Director Kandice “PG” Jacobs shared with the chapter that we have been invited to be part of the ceremonies at the Chicagoland Roy Hobbs Baseball game on August 11th at 1815 in honor of Veterans. They would like us to be part of their opening program which would include riding up to the stadium in formation, escorting Veterans to the infield for the first pitch and the singing of the National Anthem, escorting the Veterans to right field and join them in watching the game. PG asked the membership if they were interested and received ten or so votes of yes. Director Jacobs will make the arrangements and let the chapter know.

Director Don “Stone Cold” Gaylord reminded the chapter of two upcoming rides. Toys for Tots Motorcycle Run on July 23 (see attachment) and the Chris Patterson Memorial Motorcycle Ride on August 12.

Chaplain Philip “Chappy” Ferrer invited all members to a talk on Post Traumatic Stress to be held at the Evangel Auditorium on August 5th at 1100. See attached for more details.

Reports from the Floor

Member Bill “Hawk” Sharpness gave the latest details on the upcoming GunBash on July 29th. This event will be held at the American Legion Post 1271 in Sugar Grove. This is the first of two major fund raisers fund raisers that the chapter has during the year. While we have volunteers to handle sound, tracking winners, selling side raffles, more hands would be helpful. This is a chapter event.

July and August events:

See Chapter Calendar for more information

July 29 – Annual Chapter GunBash

August 2 – Monthly Meeting

August 5 – Veterans Weekend out of Barbed Wire Harley

August 11 – Chicagoland Roy Hobbs Baseball League

August 12 – Chris Patterson Memorial Ride

August 26- PIG-GIG Chapter Fundraiser

September 2 – Chapter Fallen Member Memorial Ride

Jim “Snipe” Murray – Secretary

“Don’t just join. Be involved.”