

# Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Illinois Chapter One

## General Membership Meeting Minutes

October 1, 2014

The Rolling Thunder® Inc. Illinois Chapter One Meeting of October 1, 2014 was called to order by Vice-President Dominic Ruggerio at 19:30 at the VFW in Warrenville, IL. The membership pledged allegiance to the American Flag and had a moment of silence for our MIA's

The Board attendance is listed below:

Attendance	Member	Position
No	Bill Sharpness (Hawk)	President
Yes	Dominic Ruggerio (Hard Core)	Vice-President
No	Jim Murray (Snipe)	Treasurer
No	Alen Zdralic	Secretary
Yes	Richard Montgomery (Popeye)	Chairman of the Board
Yes	Knute Weick	Board Member
Excused	Bill Atkinson (Fall Out)	Board Member
Yes	Kristina Sedlacek (Kriss)	Board Member
Yes	Bill Houghtaling (BB)	Board Member
Yes	Dan Thomas (Cage)	Board Member
Yes	John Mikuski (Raffles)	Board Member
Yes	Don Pugh (Spoiled)	Board Member
Yes	Kandice Jacobs	Assistant Secretary/Membership
Yes	Howard Bushnell (Weebles)	Assistant Secretary/Communications
Yes	Gary Vandenbos (Names)	Activities Chairperson

### Vice-President Dominic Ruggerio (Hardcore)

Dominic thanked all those who turned out for the cook out at Concord Place. A check for \$25,000 for furnishing of 10 more rooms to "move in ready" condition for veterans. To date, our Chapter has now funded 14 rooms for homeless veterans. Photos are on the website. Members purchased personal care items to be used by the resident veterans. The Chapter received donation checks from Larry Smith's widow Hilde and Larry Smith's niece. These checks are earmarked for additional Concord veteran personal care items.

BTR and the Bike Raffle are coming up this weekend. These are major fundraisers for the Chapter and everyone's help is needed. Set up is 9 am on Saturday and on Sunday be there at 7 am.

### Chairman of the Board-Rick Montgomery (Popeye)

- Please turn in all if the raffle tickets at Saturday set up

### **Board Member John Mikuski (Raffles)**

- Bring raffle prizes for BTR to the set-up on Saturday Oct 4. Sunday is too late.

### **Board Member Bill Houghtaling (BB)**

Connie Payton of the Walter and Connie Payton Foundation (WCPF) will be at the Big Thunder Run on Sunday morning at 10 am for a check presentation and photo op. The WCPF founded and direct the Veterans Program at Concord Place. Our donation goes to the Foundation to be used for Veteran rooms at Concord Place. The 10 am time on Sunday morning will be very busy for us at the BTR but we will make it work. Remember, we wanted the donation to be a surprise so no one had much time to plan ahead.

### **Board Member Dan Thomas (Cage)**

Thank you to all those who participated in the Welcome Home Veterans and Remembrance Table last Saturday at the Villa Park VFW. A motion was made and passed to donate \$250 to the Welcome Home Veterans.

### **Activities Chairperson Gary Vandebos (Names)**

Gary will be collecting personal care items for the Concord vets. He will pick them up from you and deliver them to Concord Place. Gary will send out a wish list for items wanted. Gary will purchase additional items with the money from Larry Smith's niece.

Sign up for Bowling Thunder with Rolling Thunder on Nov. 1. Flyers and sign up sheet are attached to the website calendar listing. Reservations are due by October 25. Bring your own snacks.

### **Board Member and BTR Chairperson Kriss Sedlacek**

Kriss reviewed the event including set up on Saturday starting at 9 am, on Sunday be there at 7 am, food will be available from the Veterans Food Truck. Guido is doing the Bike Show. The format this year is a Fun Run (no poker run). Riders will pick up a colored ticket at each run stop. The three winners, \$250 each, will be drawn from each stop back at the Batavia VFW. Drawing times are 2:30 pm, 3:00 pm and 3:30 pm. Registration note: give only 1 copy of the registration form to a rider or passenger. Keep all the other copies. Parking Crew: make sure all the bikes park in back when they return. Wear black jeans and long sleeve white t-shirts for the Remembrance Table. Popeye needs all the raffle tickets turned in on Saturday.

### **Other Business**

LT - Jimmy Profit passed away. Jimmy operated a long running lunch program for homeless veterans with Viet Now. Every Sunday for years he would make up many many lunches, put them in his van and transport the lunches into the city.

<http://www.vietnow.com/homeless-veterans-on-the-food-run-with-jimmy-proffitt/>

Jimmy's wake will be on Monday and funeral on Tuesday. Interment will be at Abraham Lincoln Cemetery, Elwood, IL. (As of this writing there is no obit listing on Leagacy.com Chicago).

**Phil Ferrer** - Phil heads up a group to visit the veterans at Hines VA Hospital on the second Sunday of every month and invites members to come along. This outing has been posted on the Chapter calendar since it's inception.

**Hardcore** - Thank you to Weebles and Father Guido for work on the super BTR program book. We are at 96 pages this year.

Janet - Thanks for the donations to the ALS Walk.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Houghtaling, for  
Alen Zdralic, Secretary  
Rolling Thunder Illinois Chapter 1