

# Rolling Thunder<sup>®</sup>, Inc. Illinois Chapter One General Membership Meeting Minutes November 4, 2015

Rolling Thunder<sup>®</sup> Inc. Illinois Chapter 1 Membership Meeting was called to order by President, Bill Sharpness at 1945 hours on November 4, 2015 at the VFW in Warrenville, IL. The membership pledged allegiance to the American flag. The mission statement was read by Bill Sharpness.

## **Board Attendance:**

Attendee	Name	Position
Yes	Bill Sharpness (Hawk)	President
No	Dominic Ruggerio (Hard Core)	Vice-President
Yes	Jim Murray (Snipe)	Treasurer
Yes	Richard Montgomery (Popeye)	Chairman of the Board
No	Knute Weick	Board Member
Yes	Gary Vandebos (Names)	Activities Chairperson
Yes	Bill Atkinson (Fall Out)	Board Member
Yes	Kandice Jacobs	Assistant Secretary/Membership
No	John Mikuski (Raffles)	Board Member
No	Howard "Weebles" Bushnell	Assist. Secretary/Communications
Yes	Bill Houghtaling (B.B.)	Board Member
Yes	Dan Thomas (Cage)	Board Member
No	Don Pugh (Spoiled)	Board Member
No	Gary Stengler	Assistant Treasurer
Yes	Tom Woosley	Secretary

## **Guest Speaker – Jane Tyschenko**

Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans:

- Jane discussed Midwest Shelter's history and mission.
- Midwest Shelter is looking for assistance with donations, mentoring, carpentry, etc.
- Currently they are seeking assistance with Thanksgiving meal donations and distribution.
- Cage will lead the Chapter's assistance with supplying the Midwest Shelter veterans with Thanksgiving day meals.
- Raffles questioned delivering ready made meals vs. groceries.
- The Chapter decided to deliver 10 meals as a Chapter event.

### **President – Bill Sharpness (Hawk)**

Funds:

- Hawk is requesting ideas on how best to allocate the Chapter's funds.

### **Chairman of the Board - Richard Montgomery (Popeye)**

Pheasant Run:

- The Chapter will be providing security January 8-10.
- Terry has designated our Chapter as "charity of choice".
- Good location to sell tickets for BTR.

Big Thunder Run:

- Chapter voted unanimously to sell 50/50 tickets in lieu of bike raffle.
- Tentatively scheduled for 9/11/16 at Montgomery VFW.
- Beer \$3, breakfast \$7, lunch may be purchased at South Moon barbeque if renovations are complete.

### **Assistant Secretary/Membership- Kandice Jacobs**

Christmas Party:

- Kandice will coordinate the Chapter Christmas party on December 2.
- Reminder to bring in unwrapped toys. Father Guido will pick-up the toys for Toys for Tots.

Big Thunder Run:

- Kandice suggested having a gun bash at the BTR.

### **Treasurer - Jim Murray (Snipe)**

Financials:

- Snipe gave the group financials through October, 2015.

### **Board Member - Bill Houghtaling (B.B.)**

Veterans Assistance:

- A discussion determined that DuPage and Kane counties would be the first counties to target for veteran's assistance.
- 3-4 members are needed to lead the Veteran's Assistance Program. A vote from the membership is needed to give 3-4 members authority to make decisions on their own for time sensitive issues.

Gun Bash:

- Gun suppliers remain to be determined.
- Tickets are expected to be printed by December 2 meeting.

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

College Football:

- Northern Illinois University Huskies football tickets are free for veterans and their families on November 18.

Great Lakes Navel Recruits:

- Volunteers are needed to greet and serve meals to navel recruits at the Villa Park VFW on Thanksgiving Day. Ten bus loads of recruits are expected.

**Activities Chairperson - Gary Vandenbos (Names)**

Big Thunder Run:

- The BTR will be held on 9/11/16. Flyers need to be printed and distributed.

**General Member – Manny Lopez**

Veterans in Crisis

- Display stands for Veterans in Crisis literature are available.
- For those who volunteer to deliver the literature to VFW's, a list, by zip code, is available. Notify Manny of the VFW's you choose.

St. Charles Art Festival:

- The town of St. Charles is hosting an Art Festival containing pieces by veterans on November 12.
- Father Guido has two pieces on display at the festival.

**Guest – Sam Cordoba**

Recruitment:

- Sam suggested utilizing the USO and social media to recruit new members.

Meeting was adjourned at 2045 hours.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Woosley, Secretary  
Rolling Thunder Illinois Chapter 1