

Rolling Thunder[®], Inc. Illinois Chapter 1

General Membership Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2016

Rolling Thunder[®] Inc. Illinois Chapter 1 General Membership Meeting was called to order by President Bill Sharpness at 1940 hours on May 4, 2016 at the VFW in Warrenville, IL. The membership pledged allegiance to the American flag. Vice President Dominic Ruggerio read Rolling Thunder's mission statement

Board Attendance:

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

2016 Events

- Apr 20 DuPage Homeless Veterans Taskforce Seminar.
- Apr 21 Veterans Job Fair at Soldier Field
- Apr 30 Giving Back Poker Run
- May 7 Gun Bash
- May 28 Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom
- Jun 18 Illinois Motorcycle Freedom Run
- Jul 02 Military Appreciation Night at Kane County Cougars
- Jul 09 Remembering Our Heroes Ride
- Jul 13 Homeless Veteran Stand Down
- Jul 23 Forest Park Vet Fest
- Jul 30 Welcome Home Vets (contact Cage for additional information)
- Aug 27 Warrior Brotherhood Vet Fest
- Sep 11 Patriot Run - Rolling Thunder IL1

See calendar at www.rollingthunderil1.com for additional information.

Big Thunder Run/Patriot Run:

There has been some confusion on the fate of the BTR. At the March meeting, the membership voted in favor of the 2016 BTR. Committee chairpersons have the responsibility of recruiting members for their areas. When members complete their obligation with one committee they should report to another committee chairperson until the event ends and all areas are cleaned and vacated. Shadow has a list of assignments. All members are expected to participate.

Tear-off tickets with serial numbers will be used for the 50/50 raffle. Tickets will be sold for \$5 each. Winner is not required to be present to win. Name and phone number need to be on ticket.

Committee Chairs are:

- Parking – LT
- Stops – Shadow
- 50/50 Raffle – Popeye
- Registration – Rhonda
- Bike Show – Fr. Guido and Manny
- Side Raffles –
- Remembrance Table – LT
- Vendors – Kandice

Gun Bash:

Gun Bash tickets are sold out. BB distributed lists of the 28 guns at the previous meeting. We receive 10% discount from Gander Mountain. If the cost increases prior to receipt of the guns we are responsible for paying the additional cost.

Members should arrive at 1000 hours, drawing begins at 1100 hours. Final drawing estimated at approximately 1500 hours.

Veterans in Crisis:

Currently, we have a Veterans in Crisis billboard up at Rt. 57, approximately 3 miles south of Rt. 80, facing east. No additional information was presented at the board meeting in May.

Veteran Assistance:

No additional information was presented at the board meeting in May.

Grants:

We should find out in August whether our application for a grant in the amount of \$275,000 has been approved. Funds from the grant would be used for 3 bathing systems with chair transports, 2 commercial washers and a 5 wheelchair van for Hines. Manteno would receive a 12 passenger van, window treatments and folding tables.

The \$5,000 grant from Inland Bank was discussed and and it was agreed further discussion is needed.

Financials:

Funds on April 1 were \$59,337 and increased to \$68,252 by May 1 due to gun raffle ticket sales. Currently, we received \$109 profit for every \$1 spent on the gun raffle.

Chair of Honor:

BB and Names are working on securing a Chair of Honor for the LaSalle Veterans Home.

Other Chapter Communication:

Chapter event to present the the POW/MIA plaque to the town of Paris. Logistics remain to be determined in delivering the 375-pound base and the manpower to set it in place. A discussion pursued to determine the optimal date of the presentation. The tentative date is the weekend of September 25-27 coinciding with Paris, Illinois' Honeybee Festival.

Members departing on May 24 for Rainelle and DC will meet at McDonalds in Elburn on RT 47 at 0830 hours.

Hardcore discussed Rolling Thunders mission with the Kiwanis Club. \$\$??

RT Exec and RT member email discussion

Popeye thanked those who attended the Give Back event benefiting a paramedic/firefighter diagnosed with Leukemia. Even though it rained all day and only a few bikes endured the weather the raffles and breakfast sales saved the day with the bulk of the \$11,000 raised.

Cages nephew is hosting an art and music festival at Lucky Strike in Elmhurst on May 21. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to Rolling Thunder.

Freedom ride, June 18, meeting for breakfast at Our Place truck stop, time to be determined.

Knute needs five members to assist with Vet Fest on July 23 from 1200-2200 hrs.

Meeting was adjourned at 2047 hours.

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