

# Rolling Thunder<sup>®</sup>, Inc. Illinois Chapter 1

## Membership Meeting Minutes

### June 1, 2016

Rolling Thunder<sup>®</sup> Inc. Illinois Chapter 1, General Membership Meeting was called to order by Chapter President Bill Sharpness at 1930 hours on June 1, 2016 at the Warrenville VFW. Membership pledged allegiance to the American Flag. Vice President Dominic Ruggerio recited Rolling Thunder's mission statement and a moment of silence was observed for those who remain MIA along with the loss of Indiana Chapter1's Craig Vanbrunt on May 29.

**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
No	Bill Houghtaling (B.B.)	Board Member
No	John Mikuski (Raffles)	Board Member
Yes	Dan Thomas (Cage)	Board Member
Yes	Gary Vandebos (Names)	Board Member
No	Knute Weick	Board Member
Yes	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
- May 30 Essence of Freedom Run (contact Popeye for additional information)
- 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
- Sep 24 Monument Dedication, Paris, IL

See calendar at [www.rollingthunderill.com](http://www.rollingthunderill.com) for additional information.

Big Thunder Run/Patriot Run:

Kandice has sent a template and information for the 50/50 tickets to the printer. We should receive a proof by June 10. 4,000 tickets will be printed and donated by the printer.

We will have a booth at the Freedom Run on June 18 to sell 50/50 tickets and hand out chapter brochures.

Veterans in Crisis:

No information was presented.

Veteran Assistance:

No information was presented.

Grants and Donations:

Cages nephew donated \$100 from the proceeds of his art and music show to the chapter. He is also considering joining.

Hard Core was invited by his friends in Venice, Florida to speak at a Kiwanis meeting. He talked about Rolling Thunders origin, mission and accomplishments. Last year Kiwanis donated \$50 to the chapter and this year increased their donation to \$1,000.

Dina Derman along with Wendy Bock, Linda Boyer and Kandice Jacobs of Inland Bank presented the chapter with a \$2,500 grant check.

The chapter was notified from a benefactor that we should be receiving a \$17,000 grant around August 1.

The chapter is very grateful for all donations and grants and thanks all benefactors.

Financials:

Gun Bash sold all 600 tickets. Great job by that participated. See Snipe for detailed financial information.

Other Chapter Communication:

Military appreciation day at Kane County Cougars is July 2. We will not be selling 50/50 tickets as this would conflict with KCC's 50/50 raffle. Members will be riding bikes around the outfield preferably with flags, see Names for details. LT is in charge

of the Table Ceremony. Participants must wear black pants, long sleeve white shirts with the names of MIA's on the sleeves and black boots.

Chairs of Honor will be installed at the Joliet Slammers Stadium and LaSalle Veterans Home. Dates to be determined.

An email was sent out to members with a picture of Rolling Thunders patches painted on a vest by the guy who paints the Black Hawks Helmets. The vest will be displayed on the 15<sup>th</sup> floor at Concord. Dedication ceremony date is to be determined.

Dedication of the monument for unaccounted soldier in Paris, IL is September 24. It is a 3 ½ hour ride. This is a chapter event and maximum membership participation is requested. Hawk stated the chapter will pay for lodging and he will reserve a block of rooms. We also received an invitation to a BBQ from a guy who resides in Paris, IL.

Weebles has requested anyone with pictures from the DC/Rainelle trip to send them to BB.

Names introduced Steve who rode to Rainelle with the group. Kandice introduced Wendy Bock from Inland Bank. Both Steve and Wendy are considering becoming members.

Popeye thanked those who assisted in the Essence of Freedom Run on May 30. Proceeds benefit veteran assistance programs in Illinois. He also announced the Ride for Kids on July 17. See Popeye for details.

Meeting was adjourned at 2010 hours.

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