

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

## Membership Meeting Minutes

### April 5, 2017

Rolling Thunder<sup>®</sup> Inc. Illinois Chapter 1 Board Meeting was called to order by President Jim Murray at 1940 hours on April 5 , 2017 at the Warrenville VFW.

**Board Attendance:**

Attended	Name	Position
Yes	Jim Murray (Snipe)	President
No	Dominic Ruggerio (Hard Core)	Vice-President
Yes	Tom Woosley (Fester)	Treasurer
No	Gary Stengler	Assistant Treasurer
No	Dan Thomas (Cage)	Recording Secretary
No	Richard Montgomery (Popeye)	Chairman of the Board
Yes	Bill Atkinson (Fall Out)	Board Member
Yes	Bill Houghtaling (B.B.)	Board Member
Yes	Richard Zayat (Fr. Guido)	Board Member
Yes	Al Miller(Shadow)	Board Member
Yes	Gary Vandenbos (Names)	Board Member
Yes	Knute Weick	Board Member
Yes	Howard “Weebles” Bushnell	Assist. Secretary/Communications
No	Kandice Jacobs (PG)	Assistant Secretary/Membership

**2017 Events:**

See website calendar.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Murray.

Our Mission Statement was read by Weebles.

A moment of silence was observed for 3 Illinois MIA soldiers lost during the month of April from the Viet Nam War.

**Guests**

Chappy brought along Ivan Pascal, USN retired, to the meeting.

Brand new member Carl Bruno was also in attendance. Carl is looking forward to joining us on some of our rides.

**President Jim “Snipe” Murray**

There are two groups headed east for Rolling Thunder Memorial Day commemorations.

- Rainelle, WV: this group does not go to Washington, DC. Rainelle has been very pleased to provide Memorial Day activities for Rolling Thunder IL1 and Task Force Omega. Contact Hawk for reservations if you want to go.
- Washington, DC Wolfie will be leading this group to the Ride for Freedom <http://www.rollingthunder1.com/> Contact Wolfie if you are going.

Bowling Thunder is this month. Register your team now. A flyer and registration form are attached to the website calendar listing.

A Chair of Honor will be installed in the Cook County Council Chambers on April 11<sup>th</sup>. You are welcome to attend. Let Fallout know if you are coming as we have to provide a number of attendees. Watch for an updated email from Fallout with train transportation details.

### **Board Member Bill “BB” Houghtaling**

Gun Bash plans are proceeding. We will have the May meeting the Wednesday before the Gun Bash. We don't know where we stand with ticket sales. Many tickets and money were turned in tonight. BB expects to provide a ticket update this weekend. Fox River HD is on board and will be celebrating their birthday bash as well as offering free food and beer. A small stage and canopy are rented for the event. Snipe and BB are meeting with Gander Mountain on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Gander has been having some issues and closing some stores. Our Geneva store is unaffected and will remain open. Rolling Thunder IL1 will stand behind the winners of our Gun Bash.

### **Treasurer Tom “Fester” Woosley**

Fester provided a Treasurers Report. We have received donations from Inland Bank, Exelon and others totaling \$7850 year to date.

### **Board Member Al “Shadow” Miller**

Shadow provide a report of Veterans Assistance for the last month:

- \$830 to a Vet for a security deposit on a new apartment. The Vet was instructed that we would like the security deposit money back at the end of the lease so we can recycle it to help another Vet in need.
- \$900 in utility bills to help a lady Vet in the Reserves. When applying for a job, the interviews seem to end when she mentions she is going back on active duty in July. Her income will be fine when she is on active duty. Dina provided a referral for employment until she returns to active duty.
- \$2250 to help a homeless Vet with housing issues. The vet developed cancer and has been through Hines VA, Catholic Charities, also has partial custody of dependent child. Legion Temporary Financial Assistance could only help in full custody cases. Vet was at the end of the line with no help in sight. RTIL1 stepped in to assist. Vet is now working and self-supporting.
- \$450 rent assistance to a Vet with upcoming VA surgery and no money for April rent. We paid one month of rent.

Shadow says these vets had used all other assistance available and had nowhere else to turn. He does not know what would have happened if our Rolling Thunder Chapter was not there to help.

### **Board Member Gary “Names” Vandebos**

BTR plans are proceeding. The Montgomery VFW will be offering breakfast for \$7 and lunch for \$6. Names has accepted Boz's offer to run Registration this year. We need volunteers for all areas including registration. See Names.

The Villa Park VFW, St. Charles Rd, will be hold a Blessing of the Bikes on May 23 at 10am.

Names will be procuring tickets for the Kane County Cougars for Military Appreciation Night. Tickets are only \$2 per person for a fun night. See Names to reserve some tickets. This is a very social event, family and friends are welcome to attend with us.

We will be receiving a \$1000 donation from UTXL towards the cost of the stage at the BTR.

**Corresponding Secretary Howard “Weebles” Bushnell**

Weebles gave a shout out and applauded Hardcore’s work on the Cook County Chair of Honor.

**Open Business:**

**Moe** The DesPlaines VFW will be hosting a traveling Viet Nam Wall on Sept 28 through Oct 1. They would like us to provide an escort from McHenry to Des Plaines and then help set up the wall. A critical mass of participants will be sought at a future meeting.

**Chappy** Chappy is now the VFW District Chaplain and affiliated with the Des Plaines VFW. Contact Chappy if you are interested in assisting veterans at the Viet Nam Traveling Wall.

Meeting was adjourned at 2015 hours.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill “BB” Houghtaling  
for  
Dan Thomas  
Recording Secretary  
Rolling Thunder Illinois Chapter 1