

Rolling Thunder[®], Inc. Illinois Chapter 1

Membership Meeting Minutes

January 04, 2023

Attended	Name	Position
No	Gary Vandebos (Names)	President
Yes	Al Miller (Shadow)	Vice-President
Yes	Rick Herr (Cosmo)	Treasurer
Yes	Jim “Snipe” Murray	Secretary
Yes	Richard Montgomery (Popeye)	Chairman of the Board
Yes	Kandice Jacobs (PG)	Director
Yes	Knute Weick	Director
Yes	Don Gaylord (Stone Cold)	Director
No	Greg Messler	Director
No	Wendy “Dragonfly” Vach	Director

The meeting was called to order at 1940. Vice President Miller began with the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed for the Illinois MIAs lost during the month of January from the Viet Nam and Korean Wars. Chappy gave an opening prayer.

Reports from the Board

Vice President Al “Shadow” Miller thanked everyone for coming. The Remembrance Table Ceremony presentations need to be brought to a more professional level. LT had tried to run practice RTCs at the end of our meetings, however the outcome has not shown improvement. LT requested that we move the practice session to the front of the meeting. The board agreed to the request and starting with the January meeting, after the President’s opening we will initiate that procedure. This practice at the beginning of our membership meetings will continue until we all learn to perform it with precision.

COB Rick “Popeye” Montgomery reported on mail received. We received a donation from Compass Surveying LTD. They had a good year and wanted to support a Veteran’s organization. (Tut)

Treasurer Rick “Cosmo” Herr presented our account balance at the beginning of the 2023 fiscal year. We have sufficient funds to support both our POW/MIA and our VAP programs and still support any fundraisers we have during the year.

Director Knute Weick reminded the chapter of the upcoming bowling tournament hosted by the American Legion Riders of Sandwich Post 181. This event will be held on January 28, 2023 at Idle Hour Lanes, 927 E. Railroad in Sandwich between 1600 and 2100. The profits from this event will be given to our chapter. If you didn’t form a team, show up and cheer our team to victory.

Also there is a contest being held by National to draw a T-shirt design for the 35 annual demonstration run. Of the many drawings that we submitted National chose three of them. They were passed out earlier in a separate email. If you didn’t see it, let me know and I will send you a copy (Secretary Snipe – murmano3@gmail.com). You should know that of the

three shirts chosen, number three belongs to our very own “Father Guido Sarducci” aka Rich Zayat. National was asked how the votes would be tallied, either by individual or by chapter. They have yet to respond.

Chaplain Philip “Chappy” Ferrer discussed with the membership the growing problem of our Veterans regarding suicides. He is available for guidance and counseling and his organization “Stand-By-Me-Heroes” has councilors available as well. His contact information is cnocferrer@gmail.com or (224) 434-9207.

Reports from the Floor

Members Bill “Hawk” Sharpness and Dennis “LT” Reiter gave a report on the current actions of the POW/MIA committee. They are currently working with the City of Kankakee for a memorial regarding Air Force officer Dean Paul St Pierre – his details were in the last package you received from Kandice. There is now a discussion regarding all those that were lost from the County of Kankakee be remembered. Hawk and LT along with committee chair Kandice will continue conversation and work toward this memorial being the first project of the newly formed committee.

Hawk and LT have also agreed to be the GunBash committee for this year. Given recent events, this fundraiser will be a challenge. If anyone wants to contribute to this committee please contact Hawk or LT.

Jim “Snipe” Murray – Secretary

“Don’t just join, Be involved”