

**Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Illinois Chapter One
General Membership Meeting Minutes
December 5th, 2012**

The Rolling Thunder® Inc. Illinois Chapter Meeting of December 7th, 2012 was called to order by President Bill Sharpness at 19:30 at the VFW in Warrenville, IL. The membership pledged allegiance to the American Flag and had a moment of silence for the POW/MIA's from Illinois that went missing during the Vietnam War, and are still missing in the month of November, 2012. The Rolling Thunder Mission Statement was read by Vice President Dominic Ruggerio.

The Board attendance is listed below:

Attending	Name	Position
Yes	Bill Sharpness (Hawk)	President
Yes	Dominic Ruggerio (Hard Core)	Vice-President
Yes	Jim Murray (Snipe)	Treasurer
Yes	Robert Leskovar	Secretary
Yes	Richard Montgomery (Popeye)	Chairman of the Board
Yes	Kristina Sedlacek (Kriss)	Board Member
Yes	Knute Weick	Board Member
Yes	Chuck Kimber (Boat Sides)	Board Member
Yes	Bill Atkinson (Fall Out)	Board Member
Yes	James Slenk	Board Member
Yes	Bill Houghtaling (B.B.)	Board Member

31 of _76_ adult members were in attendance. Additionally there were _38_ guests due to the Chapter XMAS party taking place right after the General Meeting.

President- Bill Sharpness (Hawk)

- Welcomed everyone to the meeting including Vets from the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans and other special guests.
- Talked about the Chapter's overall focus on POW/MIA issues and specifically Bowe still being held hostage. Hawk is dedicating tonight's meeting to Bowe.

Vice President-Dominic Ruggerio (Hard Core)

- Let all members know about the coming meeting with the State Director of Veterans Affairs. He will let everyone know when some dates have been set.

- Hopefully this meeting will lead to helping us work through some of the red tape we have been experiencing when trying to donate to State Run Veterans homes.
- Introduced guests from Inland Bank & Trust: Dina Derman and Lori Murray.
- Guests discussed how passionate they were towards military families. They are collecting donations through the middle of January and giving 100% of them to Rolling Thunder Chapter 1.
- Over the last year Inland Bank has assisted in the building of 15 homes for veterans.
- Inland reviewed their Home Town hero checking program for vets. It is a free checking account for veterans.
- Thanked RTO (Radio Steve) for helping them get connected with Rolling Thunder.

Treasurer's Report - Jim Murray (Snipe)

- Will hold off on detailed report until the next meeting.
- Reminded everyone of the Wreath Across America ceremony taking place on December 15th at the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery.

Chairman of the Board- Richard Montgomery (Popeye)

- Reminded all members of our commitment to support the Bike Swap meet at the Pheasant Run Resort Jan 18th thru 20th. Our Chapter commitment is to have at least 25 people able to work the event on January 20th. Anyone who wants to volunteer please see Popeye after the meeting tonight.

Board Member-Kristina Sedlacek (Kriss) - Nothing to add.

Board Member- Knute Weick - Nothing to add.

Board Member- James Slenk - Nothing to add.

Board Member - Chuck Kimber (Boat Sides) - Nothing to add.

Board Member - Bill Atkinson (Fall Out)

- Let the Chapter know about the delay in the Bowe Billboard going up in Springfield. It was delayed from 11/1 to 11/19 but is up now.

Board Member-Bill Houghtaling (B.B.)

- Reminded everyone about the gun raffle tonight of the gun that was donated back to us from the winner at this summer's Gun Bash. Tickets are \$10 per ticket and drawing will be at 8:30pm.
- Let everyone know about change in chapter policy to pay for XMAS party from proceeds from 50/50 raffles throughout the year.

- Introduced guest Wally and Melody Herreid who have a family member missing since 1968. Wally's brother, Sgt Robert Dale Herreid, became an MIA in 1968.
- Introduced Daniel Ryner who wrote an article on the BTR for Thunder Roads Magazine.
- BB read through a list of accomplishments the Chapter had achieved during 2012. It was a very good year.

Secretary - Rob Leskovar

- Let all members know I am collecting dues tonight.

Other Concerns:

- Andrew Gorski made some comments related to what an active chapter we are compared to many others in the country and that he wishes there was more participation from other members who we don't see at many of the events. Hawk felt like it was not the right time for this type of discussion with so many guests there for the XMAS party so asked Andy to bring it up at the next meeting.
- Ron Tuttle introduced his guest Paula Sexton from the Neptune Society - They work with Veterans to explain their burial benefits.

Motion was made to adjourn. The motion was seconded.

Meeting was adjourned at 2000 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,
Rob Leskovar, Secretary
Rolling Thunder Illinois Chapter 1
Rleskovar@aol.com

Rtmembers mailing list
Rtmembers@rollingthunderil1.com
http://rollingthunderil1.com/mailman/listinfo/rtmembers_rollingthunderil1.com