

Rolling Thunder[®], Inc. Illinois Chapter 1 General Membership Meeting Minutes August 3, 2016

Rolling Thunder[®] Inc. Illinois Chapter 1 General Membership Meeting was called to order by President Bill Sharpness at 1930 hours on August 3, 2016 at the VFW in Warrenville, IL. Membership pledged allegiance to the American flag. Board member Dan Thomas read Rolling Thunder's mission statement and a moment of silence was observed for MIA's.

Board Attendance:

Attended	Name	Position
Yes	Bill Sharpness (Hawk)	President
No	Dominic Ruggerio (Hard Core)	Vice-President
No	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
Yes	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 (Popeye)
 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 13 Honor Flight
 Jul 23 Forest Park Vet Fest
 Jul 30 Welcome Home Vets (Cage)
 Jul 30-31 Turning Back Time Car and Bike Show
 Aug 10 Honor Flight
 Aug 13 Goodstock Music Festival
 Aug 20 LaSalle Chair of Honor dedication
 Aug 21 Hines VA Hospital
 Aug 27 Warrior Brotherhood Vet Fest
 Sep 11 Patriot Run - Rolling Thunder IL1
 Sep 24 Plaque Dedication, Paris, IL
 Oct 1 Villa Park Vet Fest (Cage)

Big Thunder Run- 9/11 Patriot Run:

BB has set-up a link on the chapter web-site allowing vendor applications to be downloaded. Vendors will continue to send the form and deposit to the chapter by mail.

Books for BTR's 9/11 Patriot Run will not be printed in 2016. We will be distributing the tri-fold pamphlets.

Veterans in Crisis:

Our next Veterans in Crisis billboard will be located on the northbound side of the tri-state (I-294) north of LaGrange Road. This location has an expected 350,000 views per week. The billboard will be up for 4 weeks beginning on August 8.

Veteran Assistance:

A Downers Grove female veteran, 60% disabled, lost her job causing her financial hardship. She was behind in rent and was vetted through DuPage Veterans Assistance Program. The chapter made a 1 time rent payment of \$1,400. Her landlord said she began a new job, her rent was on automatic payments from her bank account and was up to date on rent. The landlord will hold onto the check until BB can verify the situation with the veteran.

Members are needed to expand the Veterans Assistance Program to other counties. Contact BB.

Grants:

The chapter is expecting a \$17,000 grant around August 1, earmarked for washing machines for the LaSalle Veterans Home.

Memorials and Dedications:

Hawk and Fallout will pick-up the monument for Paris, IL and deliver it next week. The chapter will meet on Saturday, September 24. Meeting time and location to be determined. LT will coordinate the table ceremony and Weebles will MC the event. Hawk reserved 12 rooms with 2 beds each for this chapter event. A sign-up sheet was passed around for those needing a room. Cage received a message on the chapters Face Book page from Dorry and Steve requesting the number of attendees for cookout.

Chair of Honor for LaSalle Veterans Home is ready. Ms. Jefferies, VA Director, will be speaking at the dedication on August 20 at 1200 hours. This chapter event should take approximately one hour. We will meet at the Warrenville VFW, KSU at 1000 hours.

A vote is pending from the membership regarding a Chair of Honor at Glenbard West High School. It would be placed near the football field.

Other Chapter Communication:

The next Honor Flight is Wednesday, August 10. Meeting at Bass Pro Shop in Bolingbrook, KSU at 1845 hours.

Chapter event to Hines will be Sunday August 21. We will be meeting at the Warrenville VFW, KSU at 1200 hours. Otherwise, we will meet at 1300 hours at Hines, building #217, extended care. Fallout will send out email with additional details. The membership vote was unanimous in favor of \$1,000 expenditure for products for 120 patients. The membership also voted unanimously to purchase 200 hats with the chapter's emblem to pass out at Hines and to sell at the 9/11 Patriot Run.

Phil visits Hines RCF unit every second Saturday of each month. See Phil to be put on a list required for RCF visitors.

ICA Native American Indian veteran's ceremony at Cantigny on Sunday, August 21 from 100-1300 hours. See Phil for additional details.

Elections for president, treasurer, chairman of the board and 3 directors will be held at the September membership meeting by paper ballot. Hawk nominated Popeye for president and Cage for COB.

Hawk and other members received commemorative coins from the mayor at the Forest Park Vet Fest on July 23. Hawk was impressed as the mayor stayed throughout the event. A discussion pursued regarding the possibility of a chapter coin.

The board also discussed dog tags engraved with the names of MIA's to be passed out at events. Popeye will check into the details.

Saturday, August 13 is the Goodstock Music Festival in Goodland, Indiana. Jimmy No Legs is coordinating the event. Meeting in Elburn at route 64 and 47, KSU at 1100 hours.

Weebles requested leads in charge of events take pictures and send them to him to post on the chapter web site. Anyone not receiving email messages should contact Weebles

Meeting was adjourned at 2015 hours.

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