

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

## Membership Meeting Minutes

### November 1, 2017

Rolling Thunder<sup>®</sup> Inc. Illinois Chapter 1 Board Meeting was called to order by President Jim Murray at 1830 hours on October 4, 2017 at the Warrenville VFW.

**Board Attendance:**

Attended	Name	Position
Yes	Jim Murray (Snipe)	President
Yes	Gary Vandenbos (Names)	Vice-President
No	Tom Woosley (Fester)	Treasurer
No	Gary Stengler	Assistant Treasurer
Yes	Wendy Vach (Dragonfly)	Recording Secretary
Yes	Richard Montgomery (Popeye)	Chairman of the Board
Yes	Rick Herr (Cosmo)	Board Member
No	Bill Houghtaling (B.B.)	Board Member
Yes	Richard Zayat (Fr. Guido)	Board Member
Yes	Al Miller(Shadow)	Board Member
No	Kandice Jacobs (PG)	Board Member
Yes	Knute Weick	Board Member
Yes	Howard “Weebles” Bushnell	Assist. Secretary/Communications

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Murray. A moment of silence was observed for the Illinois MIA’s lost during the month of November during the Viet Nam War.

**Board Member Knute Weick**

Knute took time to share is experience of being a Veteran honoree at the Blackhawks game last month. Pictures have been posted to the website for all to see. Also, new shirts were ordered for anyone who wishes to participate in upcoming Remembrance Table Ceremonies.

**Board Member Howard “Weebles” Bushnell**

Weebles reminded everyone that Saturday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> our chapter will do the Remembrance Table Ceremony at the West Chicago VFW Post 300. Participants and members who want to come should arrive at 1000 hours.

**Board Member Rick “Cosmo” Herr**

The Carol Stream Memorial committee will be voting during their upcoming meeting as to whether they will accept our chapters offer to install a memorial at their new memorial park in the spring.

**Board Member Kandice “Playground” Jacobs**

Wendy filled in for Kandice who was sick. The Thanksgiving boxes will be filled on Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> at the Warrenville VFW. Members should show up at 1000 hours to help fill boxes and make deliveries.

The annual Christmas party will after the December Membership Meeting. Everyone should bring a new unwrapped toy for Father Guido's Toy for Tots toy drive, no stuffed animals please. Also bring a dish to share as we celebrate Christmas with our chapter.

**Board Member Gary "Names" Vandebos**

Names and Fester will be attending the Rolling Thunder National Conference in Washington DC.

**Board Member Al "Shadow" Miller**

To date, the Veteran's Assistance Program has helped 26 veterans and they have been invited to join our chapter at the annual Christmas party.

**Treasurer Tom "Fester" Woosley**

There was no treasurer report this month.

**Richard "Popeye" Montgomery**

Popeye made a motion to donate money to the Manteno Run which was seconded by Scarecrow.

**Open Discussion**

Hardcore has completed the grant paperwork and it will be submitted. Hardcore has been working with the Pritzker War Museum in Chicago to get our chapter a private tour. The decision was made to ask for weekend dates, hopefully a Sunday, so more of our members can participate.

Guest Mike Kavalle from Healing Hands & Hooves. Mike, a Navy Veteran, has joined with this organization by expanding their program to include C.H.A.D, Courage, Heart and Determination. The C.H.A.D program's goal is to serve and make aware the need to alleviate ongoing effects of PTSD and those affected while serving our country, which is open to combat Veterans and Veterans of the U.S. Military. The benefits of the program include decreased anxiety and alleviation of depression symptoms, lowered heart rate and reduced blood pressure. This program increases self-esteem and communication skills and participants also enjoy the benefits of exercise, relaxation and acceptance through the human-animal bond.

LT explained the Remembrance ceremony step by step for all members who wish to participate in upcoming ceremonies. Thanks LT!

**Recap of upcoming events:**

**11/11** – Remembrance Table at West Chicago American Legion

**11/19** – Thanksgiving Baskets at the Warrenville VFW

**12/16** – Christmas Party

Meeting was adjourned at 2026 hours.

Respectfully submitted by,

Wendy Vach

Recording Secretary

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