

Rolling Thunder[®], Inc. Illinois Chapter 1

Membership Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2017

Rolling Thunder[®] Inc. Illinois Chapter 1 Board Meeting was called to order by President Jim Murray at 1840 hours on December 6, 2017 at the Warrenville VFW.

Board Attendance:

| Attended | Name | Position |
|----------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Yes | Jim Murray (Snipe) | President |
| No | Gary Vandenbos (Names) | Vice-President |
| No | Tom Woosley (Fester) | Treasurer |
| No | Gary Stengler | Assistant Treasurer |
| No | Wendy Vach (Dragonfly) | Recording Secretary |
| Yes | Richard Montgomery (Popeye) | Chairman of the Board |
| Yes | Rick Herr (Cosmo) | Board Member |
| Yes | Bill Houghtaling (B.B.) | Board Member |
| Yes | Richard Zayat (Fr. Guido) | Board Member |
| Yes | Al Miller(Shadow) | Board Member |
| Yes | 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 three Illinois MIA’s lost during the month of December during the Viet Nam War years.

Our Mission Statement was read by Knute.

Guests this month included 6 guests from the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans plus three veterans who had were assisted by the Chapter’s Veteran Assistance Program during 2017.

A condensed meeting was held prior to the chapter Christmas Party.

Board Member Kandice Jacobs

The Chapter provided and delivered 29 complete Thanksgiving dinner baskets to needy veterans on a list provided by the MSHV. The chapter budgeted \$3000 for this very worthwhile endeavor. The endeavor went well with plenty of help from the membership. (special thanks to Cage and Kandice for doing all the shopping, ed.)

The MIA Legends of the Unaccounted may become a monthly article. Your feedback is welcome. The Legends may also be incorporated onto our website.

Chairman of the Board Rick “Popeye”Montgomery

We will be selling Gun Bash tickets at the Pheasant Run Bike Show and Swap meet on Jan. 27 and 28. Terri will be providing us with a free table. Watch for a flyer attached to our website calendar listing.

Board Member Bill “BB” Houghtaling

The 2018 Gun Bash is being finalized. The potential dates are May 5 or May 12 dependent upon the Fox River Harley Birthday Bash date. We will be selling 600 tickets and raffling 28 guns.

Chapter President James “Snipe” Murray

This is annual dues renewal time. The 2018 dues are unchanged at \$30 for the year. Renewing members can mail a check to Rolling Thunder IL Chapter 1, PO Box 1042, Warrenville, IL 60555.

Snipe reviewed some of the Chapter accomplishments for 2018 which included:

1. We posted 4 Veteran is Crisis billboards throughout the Chicago area.
2. The Daily Herald published an article on our Veterans in Crisis work.
3. We conducted 4 Remembrance Table Ceremonies; Military Appreciation Night, Villa Park Veteran Stand Down, West Chicago American Legion and at the Big Thunder Run
4. We hosted the Big Thunder Run
5. Our Gun Bash provided funding for our chapter projects
6. We continued our Veteran Assistance Program, considered 49 applications so far this year, assisted 31 veterans directly and have spent over \$29,000 to date.
7. Funded, packed and delivered 29 Thanksgiving dinner baskets to needy veteran families
8. We escorted the Traveling Viet Nam Wall as well as the Moving Viet Nam Wall
9. Represented RTIL1 at the Ride for Freedom in Washington, DC
10. We placed POW/MIA Chairs of Honor at the Cook County Council Chamber and the LaSalle Veterans Home.
11. Participated in the 50 state POW/MIA Flag Tour
12. Received donations, a grant from Inland Bank and have applied for the Illinois Lotto Veterans Cash Grant.

Board Member Richy “Fr. Guido” Zayat

Fr. Guido’s Toys for Tots resulted in an overflowing banquet table of toy for the tots

Meeting was adjourned and the Christmas Party followed.

Respectfully submitted by,
Bill Houghtaling
for
Wendy Vach
Recording Secretary
Rolling Thunder Illinois Chapter 1