

Rolling Thunder® , Inc. Illinois Chapter 1

Membership Meeting Minutes March 06, 2024

Rolling Thunder® Inc. Illinois Chapter 1 Membership Meeting was called to order by President, Al “Shadow” Miller at 1940 hours at the Warrenville VFW.

Chapter Board

Attended	Name	Position
Yes	Al “Shadow” Miller	President
Yes	Kandice “PG” Jacobs	Vice-President
Yes	Rick “Cosmo” Herr	Treasurer
Yes	Jim “Snipe” Murray	Secretary
Yes	Knut Weick	Chairman of the Board
Yes	Wendy “Dragonfly” Vach	Director
No	Don “Stone Cold” Gaylord	Director
Yes	Greg “Rooster” Messler	Director
Yes	Keith “Stretch” Stengler	Director
Yes	Dave “Roadie Dave” Skinner	Director
Yes	Sue “Stumbler” Price	Director

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Miller. A moment of silence was observed for the Illinois MIAs lost during the month of March. Opening prayer by Chappy

Guests: Gus Apostolopoulos, a friend of Stumbler, visited to see what we were all about. Working with Stumbler, he was able to sell 65 tickets for the GunBash and wanted to meet us in person. Welcome Gus and thank you for the support.

Shadow:

- Shadow and PG met with Chapter 2 for a discussion on the annual Memorial Day Demonstration Ride on the 26 of May. The ride will begin at 1000, starting out at the Lovell Health Care Center and is expected to be about 54 miles, although the route is still being worked on. Chapter 3 is not involved this year, so we are doing the registration at Lovell hospital and the parking. We would need to be there at 0730. More information to follow
- Shadow, Cos and Snipe went to the Sandwich American Legion Riders meeting to pick up a donation. The Riders have an annual Bowlathon to raise money to support Veterans. This money is given to our chapter to use in our Veterans Assistance Program. This year they were able to donate \$2,000. Thank you Legion Riders!



- Byline (Byline is the bank that the chapter uses) grant has been submitted. Might not hear about it until June.

Cos:

- Informed the chapter of our bank account status as of the end of February. As always, any member looking for specific chapter financial information should contact Cos.
- Received \$420 in donations through the mail for the month.
- Chapter tax returns have been filed.
- Status of ticket sales for the GunBash are:
 - ✚ 0 still available
 - ✚ 310 assigned
 - ✚ 190 have been sold (turned in
- Remember that the GunBash event is May 18th. Please bring sold tickets to the April meeting.

Dragonfly:

- Posted the GunBash flyer on her Facebook page and it was taken down. If you plan on posting the flyer on your page, you will need to be creative.
- POW/MIA 12 hour vigil to be held in Genoa. Your POW/MIA committee has been very busy. Please see the attached committee meeting minutes.

Stumbler:

- Thank you Gus for ticket sales. Received permission to post the GunBash flyer on the private Iron Gate web site. Hopefully ticket sales will be a result of that.

Knute:

- Save-A-Joe bowling event was held on March 3rd. We had six members attend. This year the money from the event was donated to Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans.

Rooster:

- Contacted National and let them know that he would be the chapter representative in the areas of POW/MIA Speakers, Flags, Street Signs, Chairs of Honor, Missing Man Ceremonies, Benefit Rides, Community, Hospitals, Fundraisers and Schools.

Roadie Dave:

- Discussed the possibility of have a Poker Run at the Batavia VFW. They were receptive to the idea. Currently discussing a September date however nothing has been decided to date. Your board is still discussing possibilities.

Lone Wolf

- Representing abate – helmet law being discussed in Springfield. Witness statement needs to be filled out. Follow the below link.
<https://my.ilga.gov/Hearing/WitnessSlipInfo/154014?hearingId=20700&LegislationDocumentId=192198&HCommittees4%2F8%2F2024-page=1&committeeid=0&chamber=H&nodays=30&=1710005721238&GridCurrentCommittees-page=2>

HB5620 VEH CD-MOTORCYCLE HELMETS (REP. DANIEL DIDECH) Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Requires the operator of a motorcycle, motor driven cycle, or moped and all passengers to wear a motorcycle helmet. Defines "motorcycle helmet".

Current Status: 3/13/2024 - House Transportation: Vehicles & Safety

Recent Status: 3/7/2024 - Added Chief Co-Sponsor Rep. Margaret Croke
3/6/2024 - House Transportation: Vehicles & Safety

Comments: ABATE of Illinois supports the freedom of individuals to choose their safety gear and opposes government mandates on equipment worn. Additionally this bill clashes with established IL Supreme Court Precedent

Report Position: Oppose

State Bill Page: [HB5620](#)

Chappy:

- Gave a presentation regarding the “Stand-by-me Heroes Veterans Community Center Vision Project”. Brochures were handed out to all members present. This project mission is to “provide a facility for Veterans seeking recovery and restoration to mind, body, and soul. The program will include VA Support, Business Training and Counseling by an experienced staff in a non-judgmental atmosphere where hope converts into opportunity, health and peace.” Contact for more info – 877-734-4244.

Jim “Snipe” Murray - Secretary

“Don't just join. Be involved.”