

Rolling Thunder[®], Inc. Illinois Chapter 1

Membership Meeting Minutes May 1, 2024

Rolling Thunder[®] Inc. Illinois Chapter 1 Membership Meeting was called to order by President, Al “Shadow” Miller at 1955 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
Yes	Don “Stone Cold” Gaylord	Director
No	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 May.

Guests: Gus and Nik Apostolopoulos
 Troy Albuck – a friend of Chappy
 Dan Hengle of the Batavia Moose Riders

Shadow:

- Shadow asked the chapter for their support of Chappy’s SBMH Veterans Community Center. PG seconded the proposal. The chapter agreed to support the VCC with a donation of \$100/mo. for 24 months.
- Shadow reminded the chapter of the upcoming Demonstration Ride to be held on May 26th. The chapter will be responsible for registration and parking at the Lovell Federal Health Care Center. A team of at least 10 will be required at 0730 with the rest of the chapter due in by 0900. The volunteers for the early shift are Shadow, Rooster, Spitfire, Knute, Pockets, Stretch, Lone Wolf, Beau, Chappy, Chris and Stumbler.

Cos:

- Informed the chapter of our bank account status as of the end of April. As always, any member looking for specific chapter financial information should contact Cos.
- The chapter’s end of year reports have been sent to National as well as to the IRS and the State.
- Status of ticket sales for the GunBash as of May 5th, all but 16 are sold.

Dragonfly:

- There will be a “Meat” raffle held at the Sugar Grove American Legion on June 8th at 1530 hours. The chapter board has discussed the possibility of a Meat Raffle as a fundraiser sometime in the future. This will be an opportunity to see if they are viable. Members of the chapter who would like to stop in are asked to arrive at the Sugar Grove location around 1400-1430 hours.

Stumbler:

- There will be a car show at the Iron Gate Car Club on May 11th. If you would like to attend, contact Stumbler for info.
- Chapter was reminded of the Craig and Dan Price Memorial Ride on Saturday, June 29th. This ride will go from Iron Gate Motor Condos in Naperville to Starved Rock State Park. Please go to www.eventbrite.com to register. All proceeds from this run will be donated to our Chapter. Cages and bikes welcome.

Knute:**Repeat reminders...**

- Knute reminded us all of the Memorial Day events which are to include the **Candle Light Vigil** on SATURDAY, 25 MAY. 7:30PM. CANDLELIGHT VIGIL. FT SHERIDAN NATIONALCEMETERY, VATTMAN ROAD, LAKE FOREST, IL 60035
- The Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery will be **placing flags by the Veteran graves** on Friday May 24th at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, 20953 W Hoff Rd, Elwood, IL 60421, USA. The Chapter will be helping place flags on the Head Stones of our Veterans. Come dressed for the weather. The request is to be there by 8:30am

Roadie Dave:

- Roadie Dave will set up a coordinated run to Lovell on May 26th. Watch your email for time and place.
- Possible Repatriation Ride on June 10.

PG:

- Asked for a motion to donate \$250 to the Chris Patterson Memorial Foundation. Motion seconded and approved by the chapter.

Members Comments:**Tug: 630-337-3734**

I have finally heard from Springfield and it looks like we finally have a schedule. Ride scheduled for 5/8/2024

First, weather forecast for Springfield is 40% chance of thunderstorms and we are forecasted for wet weather up here as well, so it may be a caged transit rather than bikes. Would like some feedback if anyone is still interested in riding verse driving down, I will be driving, and for those starting farther west, so you want to meet at 47 and 55 or 39 and 55?

They have asked us to be down there parking our cars/bikes by 9:30 and with it being towards the end of the season may have to park on the street somewhere so planning on meeting at the VFW 5:30 leaving at 5:45. With 3 hour and change drive time that should get us there in plenty of time.

We are scheduled to meet with Michael Martin, the Legislative Coordinator, as well as Rep Stephanie Kifowit at 11:00 or maybe just a little sooner. Session, right now, is scheduled to start at 12:00 so that will give us time to get there, meet with folks, and get in our seats in plenty of time.

Last thing for now, they said they may need a list of names so please let me know who is planning on attending so I can put the list together.

Thank you everyone for your support and looking forward to seeing everyone on Wednesday.

LT:

There are two Remembrance Table Ceremonies currently on the schedule. August 3 and September 20th. We will review the ceremony program and process at upcoming meetings.

Radio Steve:

Has a Memorial Police Ride on June 2. Expecting more info.

Guests Comments:**Troy Albuck** (CPT retired / Army Airborne)

Attended representing Chappy and the SBMH Veterans Community Center. He wanted the chapter to know of the "above and beyond" efforts of *Roadie Dave* in helping to move and store furniture for the future use of the VCC. His efforts in the coordination of this event was extremely helpful to Chappy and he was very grateful.

Dan Hengle

President of the Batavia Moose Riders stopped in to let us know of the upcoming Moosic' Fest and Pork BBQ to be held on Saturday, May 18th. We appreciated Dan's message of his event and his desire to work with us in the future, however that is the date of our GunBash in Sugar Grove and the chapter would not be able to attend.

Secretary's Note - Snipe

During open discussion the topic of BTR came up. Our BTR events, in the last several years, have not been financially productive and to go down the same rabbit hole again did not seem to make much sense. The board had spent time reviewing what was needed to preserve our second and last fundraiser of the year. This discussion included changing venues, run date, modifying the poker run, adding attractions of sorts to the venue and staying open to any idea that might ensure a more profitable event.

I have gone through past notes and although there has been discussions with membership regarding a new, albeit different BTR, there was never a recorded vote by membership to eliminate the fund raiser, only a discussion on not repeating the sins of the past. The discussion at this month's membership meeting was intended to let the chapter know where the board was relative to redefining the BTR with an expectation of a possible profitable outcome. The board has no intention of going ahead without complete buy in from the membership.

The board apologizes for the way the discussion went sideways.

Jim "Snipe" Murray - Secretary

"Don't just join. Be involved."