

# Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Illinois Chapter 1

## Chapter Meeting Minutes

### April 2, 2025

Rolling Thunder® Inc. Illinois Chapter 1 Meeting was called to order by President Al Miller  
At 19:39 hours.

Attended	Name	Position
Yes	Al "Shadow" Miller	President
Yes	Kandice "PG" Jacobs	Vice-President
Yes	Knute Weick	Chairman of the Board
Yes	Rick "Cosmo" Herr	Treasurer
Yes	Keith "Stretch" Stengler	Secretary
Yes	Chris "Spyder" Graham	Director
Yes	Dave "Roadie Dave" Skinner	Director
Yes	Sue "Stumbler" Price	Director
Yes	Wendy "Dragonfly" Vach	Director

Pledge of Allegiance

Rolling Thunder Mission Statement

MIA Personnel list

Chappy, opening prayer

Cozmo:

- Treasurers report.

Shadow:

- Coined Pockets.



- Working with PG, Snype and BB, we have applied for a grant from Byline bank for \$3,500.
- Referrals from veterans has been down, but we are sure we will be receiving some soon.
- We helped a vet with his moving expenses by paying for the moving van cost.
- Popeye, LT, Cozmo, Stretch and I went to the Sandwich VFW to receive a donation of \$2,000 from proceeds from their bowling event.

Spyder:

- Passed around and discussed the list of side raffle guns for the gun bash.

Roadie Dave:

- Is working on a phone text capability for those members that prefer to have text messages over email notification.
- Is looking to get a vote on creating a new coin design. This would be for reparation next of kin to receive. There would be a maximum of 2 coins per repatriation. It would be a state coin, not chapter specific. The cost of the coins would be under \$200 per chapter for 50 coins. A motion was made by Pockets, seconded by Chappy. The vote passed with 3 votes opposed.
- Discussed the upcoming dignified transfer tomorrow from Midway Airport to Bloomington, IL. We will meet at the Thorntons gas station at 355 and 63<sup>rd</sup> St at 10:30.

Dragonfly:

- There are 74 gun bash tickets left that are unassigned.
- Sugar Grove American Legion has sold 30 tickets.

Tug:

- The road dedication for SFC Theodore Katsoolias is on Saturday, 03 May at 11:00 in the Menards parking lot at the corner of Rt 64 and Rt 59. The signs will be in place and uncovered so we can unveil them. We also have POW/MIA signs made that IDOT has agreed to attach to the sign posts, hopefully before the dedication.

Sen Villa has said she will be in attendance and will be making a presentation. Rep Kifowit will also be there.

We will be meeting at the St Charles American Legion at will go from there to the families house to escort them to the dedication.

Honor and Remember will also be there to present the family with a personalized Honor and Remember flag.

- I ask that if anyone had any contacts with any other riding groups they could reach out to and invite them, as well as getting the word out to chapters 2 and 3.
- The road dedication is set up for SFC Ogden Thompson in Aurora to be held on Saturday 26 July and the Cool Acres Park. They will also have family flying in from out of town for this. There will be more information put out at a later date after we get the SFC Katsoolias dedication finished.
- We also have the SSG Rober Herreid road dedication set for Saturday 20 September at Mooseheart. This will be at their homecoming and they will be helping out with a lot of putting theirs together.
- The road signs for all of them have been made and just waiting for the days to get closer so they can be put up.
- The signs are installed a couple days previous to the dedication dates.

Shadow:

- These road renaming ceremonies are chapter events.

Deneice Carson:

- Representing Honor & Remember group.
- She is on the board for the Marseilles Middle East Conflicts Wall Memorial.
- The groups mission is, To perpetually recognize the sacrifice of America's military fallen service members and their families. The organization pays tribute to all military lives lost, not only while serving on active duty but also as a result of serving. Military deaths in all wars or conflicts and all branches of service from our nation's inception are recognized.
- She described the symbolism of the parts of their flag.
  - The Red Field represents the blood spilled by brave men and women in America's military throughout our history, who willingly gave their lives so that we all would remain free.
  - The Blue Star represents active service in military conflict. This symbol originated with World War I, but on this flag it signifies service through all generations from the American Revolution to present day.
  - The White Border beneath and surrounding the gold star recognizes the purity of sacrifice. There is no greater price an American can pay than to give his or her life in service to our country.
  - The Gold Star signifies the ultimate sacrifice of a warrior in active service who will not return home. Gold reflects the value of the life that was given.
  - The Folded Flag signifies the final tribute to an individual life that a family sacrificed and gave to the nation.
  - The Flame is an eternal reminder of the spirit that has departed this life yet burns on in the memory of all who knew and loved the fallen hero.
- They have chapters in 28 states.
- Their web site is, <https://honorandremember.org/home>

Old Business:

- Pictures and meeting minutes on the web site are not up to date.
- Stretch commented, he had sent the meeting minutes that were missing to Jeff, the guy that posts them on our web site last week.
- For the pictures. Stretch needs to meet with BB to be trained how to post pictures on our web site.

Shadow motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by John. Passed

Meeting Close: 20:35

Respectfully – Stretch