

**Rolling Thunder® Illinois Chapter 1
Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of Rolling Thunder, Inc. Illinois Chapter One General Membership Meeting

December 2nd, 2009

38 of 84

members were in attendance

President Bill Sharpness called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

Secretary Tony "Clutch" Leone

Mission Statement was read. Four Viet Nam POW/MIA that went missing in the Month of December were recognized and a moment of silence was offered.

Rocker and Patch were awarded to Jessica "Kiddo" Jarosz and Bryan Provis.

Chairman of the Board - Rick "Popeye" Montgomery

Popeye attended the National Rides for Kids Meeting and announced that they had a total of 39 rides and raised a total of 4.6 million dollars. A big round of applause was offered by all.

Popeye also described the Veteran Day Events at Abraham Lincoln Veterans Cemetery, specifically the Flowers for Heroes program and the respectful way it was done. This was unanimously agreed on by the members who attended and will be a yearly chapter event.

Janet Ross brought up her interest in attending the Wreaths for Heroes program and Popeye committed to get information on the program.

Treasurer - Jim "Snipe" Murray

No current activity change in our Bank account. We still have \$37,000 plus dollars in our account.

Manteno- we presented our grant check of \$53,000 Dollars to the home on Veterans Day.

A donation was made to the Manteno VFW post that William J. Burtner belonged to. Bill Burtner as you remember was the Veteran that was depositing VFW and Honor Flight money in the bank when he was mugged and beaten, and later died of complications as a result.

President - Bill "Hawk" Sharpness

Hawk described the recognition that we got at the National Convention as being second to none and gave a heartfelt thanks to the chapter for the work that we are doing and what we have accomplished. Hawk presented the chapter with the awards that we received.

Dennis "LT" Reiter

LT revisited the POW/MIA issue and reiterated that there are 73 missing Illinoisans still in South East Asia. LT reminded everyone that we do the remembrance table for these missing heroes and their families. LT passed around a list to get signatures to participate in the remembrance table and give the respect to the missing heroes and families that they deserve.

Ozzie Giglio

Ozzie sits on the board of the 100 year old W.S. Darling Company. The company supports the Wounded Warriors Foundation. The company generously donated to Rolling Thunder. This donation was met with a heartfelt thanks and round of applause. Thank You Ozzie and the W.S. Darling Company for this generous contribution.

Manuel "Manny" Lopez

Manny's church is supplying dinners for the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans. Manny asked the members to bring in their business suits. They will be donated to the shelter to aid and assist veterans in their quest for employment. We will have the suits tailored to fit each individual.

Treasurer - Jim "Snipe" Murray

Snipe recognized our special guests from the Midwest Homeless shelter. Their introductions were met with a large round of applause and a heartfelt welcome home.

President - Bill "Hawk" Sharpness

We are revisiting the idea of getting involved in the program to feed the veterans. It is every Sunday in Villa Park. Details and a plan will follow after we contact the organization.

Tony "Clutch" Leone

I introduced our Special guests and co chairs Kathy Tobusch and Sara Giachino from the non-profit Fox Valley Troop Support. Kathy and Sara make care packages for deployed troops. They gave a very nice presentation and we have decided to help them monetarily with their endeavors.

President - Bill "Hawk" Sharpness

Again gave a welcome home to the veterans of the Midwest Homeless Shelter.

Meeting was then adjourned
Respectfully submitted,

Tony Leone, Secretary
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