

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

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

February 3rd, 2010

22 of 76 in attendance

President **Bill Sharpness** called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

**Acting Vice President - Dominic "Hardcore" Ruggiero**

Mission Statement was read. 3 Viet Nam POW/MIA that went missing in the Month of February were recognized and a moment of silence was offered.

**President - Bill "Hawk" Sharpness**

Albert "Al" Miller was recognized as a new member. Al is a veteran and served 3 years in the Army. Al has done the Big Thunder Run for many years.

**Secretary - Tony "Clutch" Leone**

Two Boot Patches were awarded. Recipients were Charles Kimber and Eugene Labelle. Joe Melendez also is a recipient, but was not in attendance to receive. Rocker and Eagle were also presented to George Wright, who again, for 3 meetings, has not attended. Patches will be returned to national after confirmation that George is not interested in being an active member.

Reviewed the donation to Fox Valley Troop Support and made a suggestion that we present it on Armed Forces day, May 15th, when FVTS will be putting their care packages together. I will follow-up with FVTS to confirm that date. I have asked Mary Beth "Law Girl" Pletzke to use her knowledge and connections to help get us some publicity for the presentation of the donation.

Recovering patch sets from on-going members is still presenting a challenge. I encouraged the membership that if they know any of the ex- members on the list, to please encourage them to do the right thing and send or bring their patches in.

### **President - Bill "Hawk" Sharpness**

Hawk encouraged everyone to lock in the dates on any events and to attend. Hawk stated that we need to continue to solicit recognition by the media for our cause. This includes Cantigny, FVTS and MSHV.

Hawk stated that we have got a motorcycle for the Big Thunder Run Ticket Raffle. Hawk turned the floor over to Snipe to describe the Bike and costs associated with it also stating since Howard "Weebles" Bushnell is no longer a member because of work and family responsibilities. We need to have a new committee formed to take care of the BTR Booklet that Richard "Father Guido" Zayat and Weebles put together.

### **Treasurer - Jim "Snipe" Murray**

We have decided to print and sell 4000 tickets, instead of 3000 as in previous years. Snipe, with the help of members Andy 'Spitz" Gorski and Don "Spoiled" Pugh will assist in soliciting bids for the printing of the tickets. February 10th is the final date for a decision on the printing. The bike will be a Street Glide with an upgraded paint scheme.

Reviewed finances and provided donations for Care Packages for Vets in Joliet and FVTS. We will also donate to MSHV and try to set up a presentation on Feb 27th.

### **Acting Vice President - Dominic "Hardcore" Ruggiero**

Hardcore reviewed the revised Grant to Hines and the remaining funds and the Grant Foundation agreed that we can use those additional monies for Chicago Honor Flight.

### **Chairman of the Board - Rick "Popeye" Montgomery**

Solicited members to buy raffle tickets for the bike Rolling Thunder® National is raffling off for donations. See Popeye if interested in buying tickets. Popeye is taking a consensus of members that would like to participate in the Lisle parade if not going to Washington D.C.

### **Board Member - Dennis "LT" Reiter**

LT requested help from the members to find venues that we will be able to sell raffle tickets for the BTR. This includes village and suburb celebrations as well as bike runs, car shows and bars that have events.

**Board Member - Father Guido" Zayat**

Father Guido wanted to bring to the members attention of a website called The Virtual Wall®. You can find out information on anyone that is on the Wall. The website is [www.virtualwall.org](http://www.virtualwall.org).

**President - Bill "Hawk" Sharpness**

Hawk, volunteered to be in charge of the Washington trip. Please let Hawk know if you will be taking the trip.

**Chairman of the Board - Rick "Popeye" Montgomery**

Move to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Leone, Secretary  
Rolling Thunder Illinois Chapter 1  
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