

Minutes of the Rolling Thunder®, Inc. - Illinois Chapter 1 general membership meeting.

January 4, 2006 **29 of 92 members were in attendance**

President Don Pugh called the meeting to order at 1900 hours. A quorum was present and an official meeting was declared.

The Pledge of Allegiance was made.
Jim Kazinski was present as a guest.

President - Don Pugh

Don reported on the most recent letter from Artie regarding the veterans outreach RV. The RV is a done deal. National bought it and has added some custom electronics to it. This mobile assistance center will be used to provide veterans service when local facilities are down and out. Don suggested that we fulfill our pledge of \$ soon.

Treasurer - Kriss Sedlacek- \$ in the bank.

Secretary - Bill Houghtaling

The annual dues renewal season continues. The annual dues are \$30. Members are encouraged to renew now or at the February 2006 meeting. The February meeting is the last opportunity to renew before we submit our Chapter dues to National.

Boot patches, rockers and eagles were available for several members but they were not present at the meeting to receive them.

The chapter received a thank you/Christmas card from Ed Bonds, one of the vets we visited with at Hines.

Old Business

BTR bike raffle... Don stated we will be raffling a 2006 Street Bob and is in the process of procuring the bike from Wildfire HD. The bike will be available for the Super Cycle Show at McCormick Place where we will sell tickets February 4 and 5. The bike will be Black Denim in color. Tickets will be limited to a quantity of 2500 at \$10 each. Member John Strumewitz may transport the bike to and from shows in his cargo van. It was suggested that "Winner responsible for taxes" be printed on the tickets.

Popeye found a camera in the Hines Auditorium at the end of our visit. Contact Popeye for further information.

Don was looking for a motion to fund our pledge of \$ to National's outreach RV. A motion was made, seconded and passed.

Weebles asked we start thinking about corporate sponsorships for our upcoming Big Thunder Run. A certificate of appreciation for past sponsors was displayed. The BTR printed program which contained many sponsorships was very successful and well read.

New Business

Snipe reviewed the recent news story regarding the house fire in Elmhurst. It was a home rented by a purple heart Viet Nam veteran whose son was recently killed in Iraq. This family is now "out on the street" and in need of everything. Snipe made a motion for our Chapter to do a Veterans Donation (\$5 per member) for a total donation of \$460 to the Jesse Alcozer Family Fund at the Community Bank of Elmhurst. The motion was seconded and passed overwhelmingly. Here is a link to the story in the Trib: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chicago/chi-0601030253jan03,1,3971164.story> The secretary will provide a letter to accompany the donation.

Gary and Jen Huizenga will be spearheading our effort to sell Big Thunder Run bike raffle tickers at the Super Cycle Show at McCormick Place. The show is February 4 and 5. **Volunteers are needed** to sell tickets as this is one of our major fund raisers of

the year. Shifts are four hours long. A sign up sheet was circulated. Shifts will be assigned. A schedule and contact list with phone numbers will be emailed to volunteers prior to the event. Volunteers are reminded to bring a cell phone to contact those working in the show. We hope to swap exhibitor passes between incoming and outgoing volunteers so members do not have to pay the \$15 admission fee to work our booth. Members were reminded that the show is on Super Bowl Sunday. Contact numbers are:

Jen and Gary	Home	708 301-1951
Jen	Cell	708 373-2186
Gary	Cell	708 362-2800

LT is looking for interested persons to assist a national group known as the Patriot Guard Riders. A sign up sheet was passed around and 13 members volunteered. Their main mission is to attend the funeral services of fallen American heroes as invited guests of the family. Each mission has two basic objectives: 1. Show sincere respect for our fallen heroes, their families, and their communities. 2. Shield the mourning family and friends from interruptions created by any protestor or group of protestors. More information can be found at <http://www.patriotguard.org/> IL Chapter 1 members were reminded that this is not a sanctioned National or Chapter activity and Rolling Thunder rockers and eagles should not be worn.

Dennie Murphy joined our chapter at the end of the meeting. Welcome Dennie. Additionally, two membership applications were requested.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Houghtaling, Secretary
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