

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

October 4, 2006 30 of 76 members were in attendance

President Howard “Weebles” Bushnell called the meeting to order at 1930 hours. A quorum was present and an official meeting was declared.

The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

Guest present were Mike Douglas, Rick Besnard and Rick Phelan

President - Howard Bushnell

Howard welcomed the new members of the chapter along with members who have been in the chapter less than a year. Each new member stood up and introduced themselves.

Also each board member and each officer introduced themselves to the Chapter. The new board members this year are Rik Carlson, Dominick Ruggiero, Peabody and Doug Mahar. Doug was elected Chairman of the Board by his fellow board members.

Also introduced to all was our new webmaster Fred Folkerts. Fred has revised and updated our website making it more attractive and easy to use. The new website has discussion boards for various topics and their use is encouraged. Our site address has changed and can now be found at <http://www.rollingthunderil1.com/>

Weebles shared with the members present the circumstances around Don Pugh’s resignation.

All the members were thanked by Weebles for their efforts in the very successful Big Thunder Run V.

Howard talked about the recent Table Ceremony performed at the Tioga VFW in Woodale. Although the run was a bust due to weather the Table Ceremony went on and was well received by all present. Connie, from the TiogaVFW, heard our conversations regarding the wear and tear on our Table Ceremony place settings. She was so moved by our presentation that she presented a \$100 personal check for setting replacements.

Vice-President - John Sedlacek

John reported on the BTR run stops, stops backed up with long lines, help was sent and the help was refused.

Treasurer - Kriss Sedlacek-

Kriss was unable to attend the meeting and the Treasurers Report was presented by John Sedlacek. We have \$xxx in the bank. The BTR V netted \$xxx after expenses of \$xxx. The bike raffle profited \$xxx.

Questions were asked and Snipe related the figures he collected on Sunday:

Number of registrations	902	
Total merchandise sold	\$	
Chapter share of 50/50 raffle		\$
Bike raffle ticket sales	\$	
Bike raffle pre-sales	\$	
Door prize raffle	\$	
Donations	\$	
Extra poker hands purchased		\$
TOTAL	\$xxx	

Secretary - Bill Houghtaling

I passed around a thank you letter we had received from, George Russell, one of the vets we visited at Hines Hospital. He was very appreciative of the time we spent with him.

Kevin Piper received his rocker and eagle patches. We did have two members resign their membership this week. They are Bill Sanderson and Dave Brown.

Al Preseren of Oswego joined our Chapter. Al, welcome to IL Ch 1.

Old Business

Doug “Skippy” Mahar thanked Ozzie for “pulling us” into the Windy City Motorcycle Festival. Our Chapter benefited from Ozzie’s referral and recommendations.

New Business

John “Cupcake” Sedlacek made a motion to do a Veteran’s Donation to the Evanovich Family Fund. Curly is a Bronze Star recipient, a founding member and a long time member of our chapter. Much discussion followed and the motion passed. A Veteran’s Donation is based on \$5 per current member.

LT provided us with a Curly report. They are looking for fundraiser ideas. See LT, Mo or Snipe with your ideas. They are also looking at a pledge program where amount of \$25 or \$50 or more could be donated from individuals on a recurring monthly basis. Curly has essentially lost his job, is in Marion Joy Rehabilitation Center, wears a neck “scaffolding” and late October is the earliest he could get out. He has no income and mounting bills. He is awake, alert, eyes open and can walk with great difficulty. Curly is a former smoker and visitors are asked by the family to not bring any cigarettes.

Weebles thanked Ozzie for his donations of over \$xxx to the BTR.

RT Illinois Chapter 2 is having a run this Sunday morning. More info can be found at <http://rollingthunderilch2.org/> Rich "Cutter" Wayne will be leading a group to the run, weather permitting. Contact Rich at 226-5633 (home).

Weebles talked about goals for our Chapter in the coming months. One of the goals is increasing our membership so we can better promote our POW/MIA mission. Another goal is more interaction with other Rolling Thunder chapters.

LT reported on the National POW/MIA Recognition Day at Rock Island Arsenal. Five of our members attended. The American Legion did a Five Star Ceremony and there was not dry eye to be found. Next year attendance should be a chapter event.

Howard is looking for a member to procure a replacement set for the Remembrance Table.

Rhonda asked how do new potential members find out about Illinois Chapter One. Our website is a good start. Peabody offered to do a brochure. National does not allow applications on the website. National requires potential new members to attend a meeting to pick up an application.

A letter of condolence will be sent to Illinois Chapter 2 regarding the September 23 loss of their member, Al Rioux.

The meeting was adjourned to allow time for a post Big Thunder Run V review session and talk about successes.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Houghtaling, Secretary
bill_hoteling@hotmail.com

Upcoming Events -- Chapter Events in bold

October 8 Illinois Chapter 2 Never Forget Thunder Run, info
at

<http://rollingthunderilch2.org/>

October 8

ABATE Run, West Chicago,
<http://www.abate-il.org/dukane/>