

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

December 6, 2006

43 of 79 members were in attendance

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

Pledge of Allegiance was made.

Connie Hardy-Ralls of the Tioga VFW was present as a guest. Also present was a potential new member, Tom Potts of Geneva. Tom has been interested in Rolling Thunder for some time and found us during the BTR. Tom served with the 4th Infantry Division in Viet Nam in 1970 and 1971. Tom picked up an application after the meeting

President - Howard “Weebles” Bushnell

Howard thanked Connie Hardy-Ralls of the Tioga VFW for her donation of \$100 towards the second set of Remembrance Table settings. This is a personal donation from Connie who was impressed with our Remembrance Table ceremony performed at the Tioga VFW earlier this year.

Additionally, we also received a \$100 donation check from the Tioga VFW’s Men’s Auxiliary for the Remembrance Table settings.

Howard and Carol attended the National Convention last month in Washington, DC. In the interest of abbreviating the meeting duration before the Christmas Party, Howard left a written report on each table.

Matt Maupin posters are available to aid in communicating our POW/MIA mission.

Weebles presented a “mini” Rolling Thunder rocker, shown at National, which would be worn on the front of the vest along with our IL Chap 1 patch. The idea is that the patch would communicate the Rolling Thunder name while we are conversing with someone instead of them waiting until we walk away to see the Rolling Thunder name on the back of our vests. We are looking for someone who can procure these patches for our chapter. Contact Weebles if you have any insight. Howard also left BTR program booklets on the tables and asked that we start selling adds for next year.

We are looking for members to perform a wreath laying at the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, just south of Joliet in Elwood, IL, on Thursday December 14th. Assemble at 11 am, ceremony at 12 noon and should be over by 12:15 or so. Lt. Governor Pat Quinn will be in attendance. Contact and information from Skip Hermann 773-759-4777 (formerly of IL CH 3).

<http://www.cem.va.gov/CEM/cems/nchp/abrahamlincoln.asp>

Complements were extended to Fred Folkerts, our Webmaster, regarding the continuous improvements to our Chapter website. Weebles has received unsolicited complements from chapters in Iowa and Pennsylvania.

Vice-President - John “Cupcake” Sedlacek John had nothing to report.

Treasurer - Kriss Sedlacek Kriss announced that we have \$xxx in the treasury.

Secretary - Bill Houghtaling. We received a \$100 donation check from the Batavia VFW Post 1197 Women’s Auxiliary. Their thank you note stated “The October Run was just great.”

Dominic Ruggerio was awarded his rocker and eagle.

Peabody brought a package for everyone that included calendars, note pads, notes and a pen.

The dues renewal season for 2007 has begun. Dues are \$30 of which \$10 stays with the chapter and \$20 goes on to National. Dues will be accepted again in January and February. I would really like everyone to renew early. Last year we had some members who delayed their renewal. Some were even as late as September. These 20+ late renewals required four update letters and checks to National.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Curly, our past president and one of our founding members, showed us all he is recuperating by attending the meeting and Christmas party. We were very glad to see him.

The brief meeting was adjourned and the Christmas Party began.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Houghtaling, Secretary
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