

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

**Big Thunder Run Setup, Saturday 9 am, Batavia VFW
Big Thunder Run, Sunday, Oct. 5, please be there by 7am**

October 1, 2008 40 of 74 members were in attendance

President Doug Mahar called the meeting to order. A quorum was present and an official meeting was declared.

The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

Doug announced an abbreviated meeting to allow time for Big Thunder Run meeting following the monthly meeting.

No guest or visitors were present this month.

President - Doug “Skippy” Mahar

Doug announced the new board members and congratulated them. Doug also thanked the retiring board members for the 2 years of service.

Chairman of the Board - Rick “Popeye” Montgomery

Popeye spoke about Ed Freeman, a chopper pilot and Viet Nam Congressional Medal of Honor recipient. Popeye spoke about heroism and the need for all of us to know of their deeds. Ed, of Boise, Idaho passed away August 20 this year. (ed. here are couple links to read more on Ed “Too Tall” Freeman:

<http://www.bizzyblog.com/2008/09/02/positivity-medal-of-honor-recipient-ed-freeman-dies/> ;

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ed_Freeman ;

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2001/07/20010716-1.html>

).

Vice-President - “Harley” Steve Pletzke

Harley deferred his report in the interest of brevity.

Treasurer - Jim “Snipe” Murray

Treasury Report: \$ on hand in the treasury. The expenses for the bike raffle and the BTR will be provided from this fund.

On Saturday we need the return of all bike raffle tickets and money. All unsold tickets will be offered for sale during the BTR on Sunday.

Secretary - Bill Houghtaling

Boot patches were awarded to Jessica Jarosz, Tony Leone, Jason Ledbetter and Bryan Provis. Congratulations to all and welcome to Illinois Chapter 1.

Our efforts to recover rockers and eagles from past members continues. Through this date we have had 2 renewals of membership and 5 sets of rockers and eagles returned. Thanks to all who have helped. I will publish an updated copy of Artie’s “hit list” next week.

We received an application and check from Joe Feze. Jim “Snickers” Slenk is currently updating his application and membership. Welcome to Illinois Chapter One.

Old Business and New Business

Your Secretary, Bill Houghtaling, is hosting a group ride to Oregon, IL on Saturday October 11th. This is the Saturday after the BTR. We will meet at the Warrenville VFW; kick stands up at 9 am. We will take a ride to the scenic Rock River in Oregon and along the Blackhawk Trail. We will stop at my place on the Rock River where the Chapter is providing pizzas and refreshments. Folks are welcome

to enjoy the day relaxing, fishing, enjoying a pontoon boat ride, riding to some of the local sights or just sitting around a campfire. I will have maps to nearby destinations or if the group prefers we can ride up to Byron (8 miles) for the Turkey Testicle Festival after lunch.

Dennie Murphy informed us about the Manteno Vets Home Run on Nov. 2nd.

http://www.oaklawnhog.com/calendar/view_entry.php?id=57&date=20081102

Doug spoke about the Illinois Chapter 2 Never Forget Thunder Run on Sunday Oct. 12th. Chapter 2 has always been a strong supporter of IL Ch.1 events and efforts. A good turn out , 2 wheels or 4 wheels, rain or shine, will show our support. This is a toy run.

We had a visit from Larry Parker, one of the founding members of Illinois Chapter 1. Also present was Andy “Spillz” Gorski, a current member as well as one of the founding members of our chapter.

Jessica “Kiddo” Jarosz thanked the chapter for our donation to her Campus Troop and Veteran Support Coalition. See www.CTVSC.com for details.

Economy Iron of Melrose Park fabricated and donated a nine flag holder to fit a trailer hitch receiver on a truck. This is very handy for parades and escorts. They refused payment and said “this is what we do.” We salute them and are sending a certificate of appreciation.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Houghtaling, Secretary
Rolling Thunder Illinois Chapter 1
billhotelings@gmail.com

Upcoming Events: (Chapter events in **Bold**)

Oct. 4 Saturday morning set up for Big Thunder Run,
9am

Oct. 5 **Big Thunder Run**, be there at 7 am

Oct. 11 **Group Ride to Oregon, IL.** Kick stands up 9am at the
Warrenville VFW, info at billhoteling@gmail.com

Oct. 12 **Never Forget Thunder Run, Rolling Thunder IL Ch. 2,**
<http://rollingthunderilch2.org> (a toy run).

Nov. 2 Manteno Vets Home Run, begins at Oak Lawn HD,
[http://www.oaklawnhog.com/calendar/view_entry.p
hp?id=57&date=20081102](http://www.oaklawnhog.com/calendar/view_entry.php?id=57&date=20081102) , a 40 mile escorted run to
the Manteno Veterans Home

Nov.7 Chicago Stand Down for Homeless Veterans
National Guard Armory, 1551 N. Kedzie

Set up on Nov. 6

Info at: stephanie.lind@pepsi.com