

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

August 2, 2006 27 of 73 members were in attendance

President Don “Spoiled” Pugh called the meeting to order at 1930 hours. A quorum was present and an official meeting was declared.

The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

Al Preseren, a ‘67 to ‘69 Viet Nam vet, Marines, attended our meeting tonight as a guest.

Nominations were discussed early tonight as Popeye had a work commitment and could not attend the full meeting. Big John, Brad and Moe declined their board nominations from last month. So the slate of nominees are:

Vice-President	Howard “Weebles” Bushnell
	Dennis “Peabody” Shabel
	John “Cupcake” Sedlacek
Treasurer	Kriss Sedlacek
Board Members	John “Cupcake” Sedlacek
	Doug “Skippy” Mahar
	Dominic Ruggerio
	Steve Hughes
	Rik Carlson

Nominations were closed and elections will be held at the September meeting.

Popeye thanked the chapter for our support of the Ride for Kids. \$366,000 was raised and is the second highest amount ever in the history of Ride for Kids.

President - Don “Spoiled” Pugh

Don who was heading the effort to sell BTR ride tickets at Walneck's Swap meet has a work conflict and will not be available for the event August 13 at Woodstock. This opportunity is available for whoever wants to take it.

Our chapter also has made a commitment to perform the Remembrance Table at the Glendale Heights VFW during the Ride for Veterans on August 13. **This is a Chapter event.** For those doing the run we will meet at the Warrenville VFW and have kickstands up at 8:30am. We will then proceed to the Glendale Heights VFW for the run. For those doing the Remembrance Table only, please be at the Glendale Heights VFW at 12:30pm for the Remembrance Table ceremony. Ride info available at 630 894-1358. Additionally, we have been invited to set up a table to publicize POW/MIA issues and sell BTR bike raffle tickets.

Treasurer - Kriss Sedlacek-

\$xxx in the bank

Secretary - Bill Houghtaling

We received a card from the Brad Smith family regarding our condolences expressed last month. We also received a nice thank you letter for our donation of \$350 to the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans. (Note: this great organization is still in need of assistance as evidenced by this recent story in the Daily Herald.

<http://www.dailyherald.com/search/searchstory.asp?id=213688>

).

Those of us who have had the opportunity to do the Rolling Thunder Ride in Washington, DC have all seen the Marine, SSgt. Chambers, who stands at attention for hours saluting hundreds of thousands of riders who have come to DC to protest for POW/MIA issues, accountability and veteran's benefits. We received a letter from his mother requesting that we inform his superiors of how SSgt. Chambers has "touched our lives." A copy of this request will be sent as a separate email.

We had a new member join our chapter this month. He is Fred Folkerts. Fred has already been working on and improving our website. Also, we had two more members re-new for 2006 bringing our chapter membership to 73.

Old Business

Kriss spoke on behalf of Ray Lynn regarding the upcoming Windy City Motorcycle Rally <http://www.windycitymotorcyclefestival.com/> and the need for members to work the booth as it is a four day event. Much discussion followed. We will have a free 10 x 10 booth which we will need to staff at least from 3 to 11 pm daily for the four day event. The event hours are 3 to 11 Thursday and Friday, and 9am to 11 pm Saturday and Sunday.

Since we agreed to have a booth at this event we are **obligated** to also staff a beverage tent for the full four day event. Our Chapter will be paid \$5 per hour per volunteer to staff the beverage tent.

Staffing two booths, (a Rolling Thunder booth and a beverage tent) full time for four days is a major project for our Chapter. We will need far more than the all of the 27 members who attended this meeting. We need at least 4 members in the beverage tent and 2 to 4 members at the Rolling Thunder booth at all times during the 4 day event.

A sign up sheet was passed around. Some signed up to work but many slots and times remain open. Contact Ray Lynn or Brad to sign up.

We will promote our POW/MIA issues at the Rolling Thunder booth as well as sell our merchandise and BTR bike raffle tickets. Ozzie has graciously agreed to transport our raffle bike to and from the event. Snipe has done an inventory of our merchandise and will be ordering more merchandise as he sees fit. A motion to spend \$1500 on additional merchandise was passed. We need to be able to lock and secure the raffle bike and our merchandise when the

show is closed for the night. We should use this event as an opportunity to sell most of our BTR raffle tickets. We are missing one tub of merchandise after a recent event. Does anyone know where it is? Please contact Snipe if you have it.

The trailer procurement was put on hold until after the Big Thunder Run when we expect to be in a better cash position.

Sunday August 6th is our summer visit to Hines VA Hospital. Big John and Brad have procured and assembled bags of toiletries to distribute to the vets. We will meet at the Hines Auditorium (west side of the complex, along the fence) at 8 am prior to visiting with the vets.

Chapter members will be gathering for breakfast at 6 am at Granny's Restaurant in Lisle before riding to Hines. Granny's is in Lisle on Rt. 53 just south of Maple Avenue.

There will be no pizza party for the vets as outside food brought in has been banned. A general lack of co-operation to our visit was noted. No tables or chairs will be provided in the auditorium.

Despite our donation of \$xxx to furnish a paralyzed veteran room at the hospital there will be no room dedication, no ceremony and no plaque.

This lack of co-operation might be attributed to the Chief of Volunteer Services, Bonnie Guntner. Dominic and Peabody volunteered to speak to Bonnie regarding these issues.

Andy thanked the membership for their condolences expressed last April.

New Business

None.

Meeting adjourned to allow a Big Thunder Run planning session.

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

Repeat Addendum:

Door prizes are needed for the Big Thunder Run. Please round up whatever you can get and bring it to any meeting. Snipe has volunteered to collect and store door prizes for the run.

Upcoming Events -- Chapter Events in bold

- Aug. 6 **IL Chap 1 Christmas in August visit to Hines Hospital**
- Aug 13 **IL Chap 1 at Walneck's Swap, Woodstock, IL to sell BTR raffle tickets and merchandise**
- Aug 13 **Remembrance Table at the VFW, Glendale Heights, 630 894-1358**
- Aug 13 **Run for Vets, Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans, www.helpaveteran.org**
- Aug. 26 **Plainfield Hog Night**
- Aug. 27 **Hogs for Dogs Poker Run, 708 636-8586, x227**
- Aug. 31 to Sept.3 **Windy City Motorcycle Rally**
<http://www.windycitymotorcyclefestival.com/>
- Sept. 10 **TIOGA VFW 2149, Wooddale, Run for Juvenile Diabetes, 630 766-0334**
- Oct. 1 **5th Annual Big Thunder Run, Rolling Thunder Illinois Chapter One**