

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

October 3, 2007

34 of 78 members were in attendance

Chapter President Doug “Skippy” Mahar called the meeting to order at 1930 hours. A quorum was present and an official meeting was declared.

The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

Visitors present were Ralph Ledbetter from Batavia, Paul Meetens of Aurora, Philip Ferrer of Elk Grove Village and Dave Masters of Warrenville.

### President - Doug “Skippy” Mahar

Skippy expressed the hope for an abbreviated meeting to allow more time for a Big Thunder Run planning session. The BTR is our biggest fund raiser and a very important day for the Chapter.

Skippy stated his appreciation and the Chapter’s appreciation to Howard Bushnell for a job well done during his tenure as Chapter President. Our chapter has grown exponentially and under Howard’s leadership we have accomplished more with fewer members.

A welcome was given to the new and returning Board members. During the board meeting prior to the general meeting, an additional board member, Mike Morias, was added to bring the number of board members up to six. Mike had received the next highest number of votes during the September election. Our current board members are:

Mike “Blue Leader” Morias

Rik “Petro” Carlson

Dennis “LT” Reiter

Tom Dertz

Dominic Ruggerio

Robert “Boz” Hall

Our National Rolling Thunder HQ secretary Margie Solomon passed away. The funeral is on October 4 in New Jersey. Doug will send a sympathy card on behalf of the Chapter.

On October 20 Doug will attend a Posse Run meeting. This is a new organization of motorcycle groups in our area whose purpose is to create a schedule of run dates, other activities, network and to provide mutual support of our organizations.

**Vice-President - John "Cupcake" Sedlacek** John reported the BTR route has been adjusted for road construction.

**Treasurer - Kriss Sedlacek** Kriss was unable to attend but John relayed the following figures: \$ on hand, balance of \$ due on the BTR bike leaving a balance of \$.

**Secretary - Bill Houghtaling.** No report this month.

**Old Business** None

**New Business** Delayed until the November meeting.

The meeting was adjourned and a BTR planning session commenced

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Houghtaling, Secretary  
[billhoteling@gmail.com](mailto:billhoteling@gmail.com)

**Some highlights from the BTR Planning Session**

Big Thunder Run set up is at 9 am on Saturday.

Members are asked to arrive at 7 am Sunday for the BTR.

Howard has arranged with Hines VA Hospital to have 14 wheel chair bound vets attend the BTR. They will arrive by bus at 3 pm with a lady named Becky. These vets are not permitted to have any alcoholic beverages. We want to arrange a place of honor for them. Julie has agreed to be their hostess. Additional members are needed to assist. We especially want them up front for the Remembrance Table.

Howard has also arranged to have the First Infantry Division re-enactors from Cantigny to attend with some of their military vehicles.

Howard also had some sample BTR program booklets on hand. These impressive booklets were created by Howard and funded completely by the ads within.

Registration will be different this year. The entry way is different and there will be two full registration lines inside the VFW. All available members are asked to assist in the registration rush hour from 7:30 am to about 9:30 am

Snipe collected BTR raffle books and money. An early estimate of the receipts shows we have covered the cost of the bike and we are now working in the profit zone to raise money for the veterans.

White Brothers trucking is again providing two flat beds for our use as a stage.

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

**Oct. 6**                    **Big Thunder Run** set up at Batavia VFW, 9 am

**Oct. 7**                    **Big Thunder Run**, members on site at 7 am

<http://www.rollingthunderil1.com>

Oct. 14                  Never Forget Thunder Run,

<http://rollingthunderilch2.org>

**Oct. 20**                  **Possible chapter ride, weather permitting**