

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

December 7, 2005 *40 of 92 members were in attendance*

President Don Pugh called the meeting to order at 1900 hours. A quorum was present and an official meeting was declared.

The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

A brief meeting was planned as the Christmas Party followed the meeting.

President - Don Pugh asked that all members be more outgoing and friendly to new members and guests.

Treasurer - **Kriss Sedlacek**- \$xxx in the bank.

Secretary - Bill Houghtaling asked that all members double check their contact information on the sign up sheet, especially email addresses.

The annual dues renewal season is here now. The annual dues \$30. Members are encouraged to renew now or at the January 2006 meeting.

Boot patches were awarded to:

Dominic Ruggerio
Toni LaBuhn
Raye Lynn Hart

Rockers and Eagles were awarded to :

Frank Battaglia
Irit Battaglia
Bill Houghtaling

Two new members joined Illinois Rolling Thunder Chapter 1 at this meeting. John Strunewitz and Mario Giovannini were welcomed to the Chapter.

We need help in recovering patches of former members. Artie Mueller of Rolling Thunder National sent a list of 12 names of former and/or inactive members who have boot, rocker and eagle patches outstanding. Rolling Thunder National wants these patches returned or these members to be active dues paying members. It could eventually cost Illinois Chapter 1 \$150 per set of un-returned patches. We as a Chapter would much rather spend the money directly on veterans than send it to National. Bill Houghtaling will send a separate email with the 12 names and any assistance in finding or contacting these former members is appreciated.

Old Business

Plans are proceeding on the BTR bike raffle. Don asked that we all think about which bike we might want to raffle 1.) a 35th Anniversary Super Glide or 2.) a Street Bob. It is our goal to have a bike to show and raffle tickets to sell at the winter rallies. Don may be buying an enclosed trailer to transport the raffle bike.

New Business

A letter from National, signed by Artie, was received outlining National's project to provide a motorized RV (cost estimated to be \$125,000) to accomplish veteran's assistance, outreach, counseling, and emergency services. National is asking that each Chapter provide a donation of \$1000 to achieve this effort. (editor's note: with our webmaster Irit's help I will try to get a copy of Artie's letter posted on our website).

A motion to pledge \$1000 to National's effort was made by Wayne Stevens. The motion was passed by the membership.

Tom Dertz has Gold/Blue Star Mom's Escort participant patches from Rolling Thunder 18 in Washington, DC, May 28-29 2005. See Tom directly for patches.

Hines Hospital Party

Our annual visit to Hines Hospital is this Sunday, December 11. We will meet at 0800 at the Volunteer Center (far west side of the complex, along the fence), at Hines VA Hospital, in Maywood, IL. Many members will be meeting 0600 for breakfast at the Omega Restaurant on Rt.59 just north of I-88 prior to the event. Brad and John do not need any help packing the goody bags.

Please be sure sign-in on the volunteer sign up sheet at the event.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Houghtaling, Secretary
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