

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

April 5, 2006 **24 of 66 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.

Visitors were Rich Johnson of Rochelle and Bob Hall of Winfield were present(both of whom picked up membership applications after the meeting).

President - Don Pugh

Don presented some info packets for the Rolling Thunder DC run. This run takes place Memorial Day weekend. The packet included Rolling Thunder National scheduled activities and a listing of nearby lodging. Much of this same information can be found on the National website at <http://www.rollingthunder1.com/rt-2006-dc-run-xix/rt-run-dc-2006-info-index.htm>

Don also talked about the Rolling Thunder Mission Statement which can be found at <http://www.rollingthunder1.com/mission.htm>

Treasurer - Kriss Sedlacek- \$ in the bank. This includes bike raffle ticket sales to date. So far 310 of 2500 tickets have been sold.

Secretary - Bill Houghtaling

The sign in sheet was passed around. Names of members not renewing for 2006 were deleted. We are currently at 66 members strong.

The following members were awarded patches this month:

Dennie Murphy	Boot
Marvin Harkins	Rocker and eagle

Rolling Thunder National is supporting and endorsing Smith and Wesson in issuing a POW/MIA commemorative 1911 Model .45 ACP. Smith and Wesson one of the few corporate sponsors of Rolling Thunder Inc. \$ from each sale will be donated to RT. The cost of this commemorative firearm is a mere \$. Details can be found at <http://www.rsrgroup.com/rollingthunder/>

Our Chapter received a thank you note for our donation to the Peterson Family Fund.

Old Business

Don has a petition he is taking to DC about maintaining the POW/MIA designation. See Don for details.

Curley has Big Thunder Run bike raffle tickets available.

New Business

Popeye urged members to support the Illinois “Let Them Rest in Peace Act” which hopes to stop protestors at military funerals. This legislation is presently in the Illinois Senate under #HB 4532. For full information follow this link <http://www.operationhomefront.org/> Additional links are provided to contact your state legislators.

Don brought up the subject of the chapter purchasing a new enclosed trailer to be used to transport the raffle bike and our merchandise to sales events. The trailer will be considered an enabler for our fund raising activities. Don priced a new 6 x 10 trailer at \$ with ramp door, cycle wheel chock and D rings. LT suggested getting a larger trailer that could carry two bikes. Curley’s trailer is quite large and too big for most vehicles to tow. It also has electric brakes and a large 2 5/16” hitch ball. Seems that a 2 bike trailer was the consensus of the group. Don will investigate pricing for the next meeting. Rental trailers were

discussed with the downsides being availability at month ends (with month ends being popular moving times), rental reservations not guaranteed, trailer is not set up for bike hauling (wheel chock and D ring tie downs) and hard to find a ramp door trailer. RT logos or paint job and sponsorship of a purchased trailer were discussed. The trailer would be titled in the name of the chapter. Discussion will be continued at the May meeting.

Mario Giovannini and Manny Lopez have volunteered to sell bike raffle tickets and merchandise on April 23 at the Woodstock Walneck's Swap meet. Additional helpers are needed and especially someone who can tow Curley's trailer to and from the event. Contact Mario or Manny to volunteer. Email me if you need contact info.

Our chapter has been invited to do the Warrenville 4th of July parade and we have accepted. **This will be a chapter event.** The parade is scheduled for 6 pm on July 3 (yes, July 3). We will meet at the Warrenville VFW at 4:30 pm for assembly.

Illinois RT Chapter 2 is having a Blind Run on April 30. We will join Chapter 2 and support their event. **This again will be a chapter event.** A sign up sheet was passed around, 8 individuals signed up, more are wanted. We will meet 9 am at the Warrenville VFW and proceed to the run. More info at <http://rollingthunderilch2.org/>

Upcoming Events

Chapter Events

April 30 Blind Run, RT of IL Chap.2, kickstands up at 9 am, Warrenville VFW

July 3 Warrenville 4th of July Parade, line up at Warrenville VFW, 4:30pm

Other Events

May 7 Utica Ride in Motorcycle Show, info at www.utica-il.gov

Until May 13 Motorcycle Madness II, Tuscola, IL at the Douglas
County Museum,

217-253-2535

June 3 Ride4Life, Manteno Cancer Run,

www.ride4life.net

June 23, 24 Midwest Motorcycle AA, www.mmaac.org

June 24 National Vietnam Veterans Art Museum Awareness Run
leaves from

Windwalkers at noon, www.nvvam.org

Meeting adjourned.

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