

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

**September 7, 2006            42 of 75 members were in attendance**

Vice-President Larry “Roadkill” Smith called the meeting to order at 1930 hours. A quorum was present and an official meeting was declared.

The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

**Vice-President - Larry Smith**

Larry initiated the meeting by stating the desire to have an “shortened” meeting due to the extra time needed for the annual elections and planning for the Big Thunder Run which takes place in just three weeks.

Our President Don Pugh notified all of us by email this week that he was resigning his position as President because “his life has taken a different direction.” The Executive Board of Illinois Chapter One met prior to the meeting (per the RT National constitution) and unanimously selected Howard “Weebles” Bushnell as our new President. Howard graciously accepted the job and will fulfill the presidential duties remaining in Don’s term.

**Treasurer - Kriss Sedlacek-**

\$xxx in the bank. Additionally BTR ticket sale proceeds in the amount of \$2660 were turned in.

**Secretary - Bill Houghtaling**

I passed around a couple thank you letters we received. One was from Hines VA Hospital and the other was from the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation.

We have a **chapter event** coming up this Sunday morning September 10. We will be performing an 11 am Remembrance Table Ceremony at the Tioga VFW Post 2149 at 510 Georgetown Square in Wooddale, IL. They are hosting a bike run for Juvenile Diabetes and we committed to a Remembrance Table Ceremony. Don Ross, 630 776-3659, is heading up our effort. Volunteers so far are: Don Ross, Peabody, Popeye, Bo, Julie, Weebles (will bring table stuff), Cutter(tentative), Roy Yeager, and John Bradenburg. <http://www.vfw2149.org/Mission.html>  
Members will travel individually to the event.

Our friends and hosts at Warrenville VFW Post 8081 are hosting a September 11 Memorial Service at 6:30 pm. Attendance is encouraged.

We welcome back two recent dues paying members: Peter Josefchak and Paul Pleticha. Artie from National keeps a close eye on membership, dues and patches. National expects our Chapter to pay \$150 for each un-recovered rocker and eagle patch set from inactive or former members. This month we recovered two rocker/eagle/boot patch sets, one boot patch and had two member renewals. Artie's current list has 16 names remaining. All 16 have received letters from me.

Fred Folkerts, our webmaster, received his boot patch this month. Fred has been improving our website and we hope to have time at the next meeting to talk about the new IL Chap 1 discussion boards on the website.

## **Old Business**

Snipe reported on last weekends 4 day group effort at the Windy City Motorcycle Rally. In general it was not a very good event, attendance was poor (dismal on Thursday and Friday), and was not advertised enough. Despite these handicaps our Chapter performed very well and had the following successes.

BTR ticket sales	\$	
Merchandise sales	\$	
Donation Jar	\$	
Donated time	\$	167 hours x \$5/hr
Total gross	\$xxx	

Illinois Chapter One made a good impression and was well received. Additionally several members mentioned they had partially sold ticket books totaling another \$300 or so. Members applauded Snipe for a job well done.

Weebles spoke about the upcoming POW/MIA Recognition Day to be observed at the Rock Island Arsenal on Saturday September 16<sup>th</sup>. Members were encouraged to participate and a sign up sheet was passed around. Weebles is arranging lodging reservations. This event is sponsored by IA Chap 4 and will include a Remembrance Table Ceremony. Several other groups, the Legion Riders and honor guards will be there. Rock Island is only 120 miles from Warrenville.... a 2 hour ride. Helmets are required for entry into the arsenal grounds.

Popeye announced the previous nominations for election. Due to the recent resignation nominations were held open until ballots were distributed. The elections were held and the results are:

Vice President	John Sedlacek
Treasurer	Kriss Sedlacek
Board Members	Dominic Ruggerio, Rik Carlson, Doug Mahar.

## New Business

A dry run for the Big Thunder Run will be held 11 am Sunday September 24<sup>th</sup> starting and ending at the Batavia VFW. The run route is all new and will make all the run stops. Contact Kriss if there are any questions.

Meeting adjourned to allow a Big Thunder Run planning session.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Houghtaling, Secretary  
[bill\\_hoteling@hotmail.com](mailto: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 the run. Snipe has volunteered to collect and store door prizes for the run.

**Upcoming Events -- Chapter Events in bold**

- Sept. 10 **TIOGA VFW 2149, Wooddale, Run for Juvenile Diabetes, 630 766-0334 <http://www.vfw2149.org/Mission.html>**
- Sept. 10 Chicago Freedom Wall, 8 am, north lawn of Soldier Field
- Sept. 11 **Warrenville VFW September 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial Service, 6:30 pm**
- Sept.16 **POW/MIA Recognition Day, Rock Island Arsenal, IL**
- Sept. 18 **White Sox Bike Rally Night, 7:05pm, free parking, half price tickets**
- Oct. 1 **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Big Thunder Run, Rolling Thunder Illinois Chapter One**