

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

April 4, 2007

27 of 66 members were in attendance

Chapter President Howard “Weebles” Bushnell called the meeting to order at 1930 hours. A quorum was present and an official meeting was declared.

Howard led the group with the Rolling Thunder Prayer from IL Ch 2.

The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

Gene Davis of Batavia was present as a visitor.

President - Howard “Weebles” Bushnell

Howard has a couple medallions available from the Toys for Tots.

Howard announced we have raffle tickets available for the RT National Bike Raffle. Tickets are \$ each with 3 chances to win one of two bikes on each ticket. We have only 50 tickets left. Bike pictures can be seen at this link <http://www.rollingthunder1.com/>

People know who Rolling Thunder is when we are leaving due to our rocker and eagle. Now we have a 5 inch Rolling Thunder patch for the front of the vest. These patches are optional and available for purchase from Howard. It is recommended that these patches be displayed on the right front of the vest above the IL Chap 1 patch.

Our visit to Hines Hospital on April 29 will begin with kickstands up at 8:30 am from the Warrenville VFW. This visit will emphasize spending time with visiting and talking with individual veterans. We will have some items to pass out to the vets.

Howard passed around sign up sheets for the following upcoming activities:

1. The Memorial Day Remembrance Table at the Darien VFW
2. The IL Chap 2 Challenge Run
3. Rolling Thunder XX in Washington, DC
4. Rolling Thunder visit to Washington, DC veterans hospital

Next month a sign up sheet for the Illinois Freedom Run will be available. If you missed any of these sign up sheets please drop an email note to Howard at fanfold@hotmail.com

Howard received a package of info from Peter Roskam's office regarding sightseeing in Washington, DC. Also Peter Roskam's office is facilitating the opportunity for IL Chap 1 members to tour some of the "closed" tourist sights such as the White House and Capital Hill. Names and social security numbers must be submitted in advance. Contact Howard with your info if you desire to be part of this select group.

Howard had several thank you letters our Chapter recently received:

1. From Julie Duquette, mom of Matt, a marine recently deployed to Iraq.
2. A thank you from the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans.
3. Viet Now/Proffit Family effort to provide meals to homeless veterans and other homeless persons.

And also a request from WI Chap 1 for their Guard the Wall effort on 9/29/07. More details to follow.

Vice-President - John "Cupcake" Sedlacek
nothing to report.

John had

Treasurer - Kriss Sedlacek We have \$ in the bank.

Secretary - Bill Houghtaling.

Chapter membership now stands at 66 members who have renewed for 2007. Three other members have indicated their intent to renew for 2007.

The Lisle VFW is hosting a visit from the Viet Nam Moving Wall. Our chapter has been asked to escort the Wall to into Lisle and to perform the Remembrance Table ceremony at a later time during the visit. The Wall comes to Lisle from Sept. 5 to 9th. Our board has decided to participate and make this a Chapter Event. Our schedule regarding the visit has not been finalized. Details will follow as they develop. The escort has been tentatively scheduled for 8:30 am on September 5th. “Harley Steve” Pletzke is our contact at the Lisle VFW.

A booth has been obtained at the Illinois Freedom Run, June 16, in Marseilles, IL. This event has become our primary sales opportunity for Big Thunder Run bike raffle tickets in 2007. Attendance last year was 44,000 people. We need and expect strong membership turn out to sell raffle tickets. We will have a 10 x 10 booth with 110v power. Crew shifts will probably be needed as we expect a busy day from 10 am until late evening. This one day event has to potential to be a lot of fun as well as a great opportunity for us. The booth must be set up by 8 am and may be kept open until midnight. We are required to maintain our booth space from 10 am until 6 pm. The bulk of motorcycle traffic is expected to begin at 11 am. There will be no vehicle access to the booth between 8am and midnight, ie, re-supply or closing will require hand carrying back to our transport vehicle. A sign up sheet and more details will be forthcoming. Laurie Velasquez is leading this effort for our chapter.

RT National provided one copy of the National Convention minutes of last November. They are available for membership perusal.

Dennie Murray was awarded his rocket and eagle.
Congratulations Denie!!

Chairman of the Board - Doug “Skippy” Mahar

Doug announced a BTR planning session will follow this meeting.

Old Business

LT announced BTR bike raffle tickets are available. Members picked up tickets after the meeting.

Howard read and presented Ozzie with a Certificate of Appreciation to Wild Fire Harley Davidson. Illinois Chapter One sincerely appreciates the support and assistance of Ozzie to our chapter's efforts to publicize POW/MIA issues and to assist veterans.

Cutter announced kickstands up at 9:30 am for the Memorial Day Remembrance Table ceremony at the Darien VFW. Participants will leave from the Warrenville VFW.

The item of service flags for the Remembrance Table and BTR was tabled until next month.

New Business

Harold Houston announced the Paul Salley Memorial Ride. Details can be found at www.rubriders.com

Motion for adjournment was made and passed.

A BTR planning session, hosted by Doug, followed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Houghtaling, Secretary
billhotaling@gmail.com

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

April 14 POW/MIA Matt Maupin Foundation Run,
<http://www.rollingthunderoh9.org/mattsrn.html>

April 22 Woodstock Swap Meet,

April 28 Kyle Price Memorial Ride,
<http://www.kylepricememorialride.org/frameset1.htm>

- April 29** Chapter visit to Hines Hospital, kickstands up, Warrenville VFW 8:30 am
- May 5 Run for the Son, CMA Christian Eagles, 815 351-5631
- May 12 Sarge Run, Batavia,
<http://batavia.mooserider.com/sargerun/sarge%20run%20final.pdf>
- May 13 Challenge Run by IL Ch. 2
 (Yes, they know it's Mother's Day)
<http://rollingthunderilch2.org/>
- May 27 Rolling Thunder XX, Washington, DC
<http://www.rollingthunder1.com>
- May 28 **Memorial Day Remembrance Table at Darien VFW,**
 kickstands up 9:30 am, leave from the Warrenville VFW
- May 31 Illinois State Hog Rally, <http://www.ilstatehogrally.com/>
- June 3 Sandwich Swap Meet
- June 10 Flag Day Run,
<http://www.medinahmotorcorps.org/FDR.html>
- June 14-17 Hog Rock River Rally, Cave in the Rock, IL
<http://www.hogrock.com>.
- June 16 **Illinois Motorcycle Freedom Run**
<http://ilfreedomrun.org/index1.html>
- June 24 Grayslake Swap Meet
- July 3 Warrenville Fourth of July Parade
- July 7 Paul Salley Memorial Ride, www.rubriders.com
- Sept.5-9 Moving Wall, Lisle VFW, RT Escort and Remembrance Table
- Oct. 7 **Big Thunder Run**
<http://www.rollingthunderil1.com>
- Oct. 14 Never Forget Thunder Run,
<http://rollingthunderilch2.org>