

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

July 2, 2008

26 of 66 members were in attendance

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was made. George Wright, IL Chapter 1’s newest applicant as well as brother in law of Harley Steve, was present at the meeting as a guest.

President - Doug “Skippy” Mahar

Doug announced a the meeting would be brief to allow time for a Big Thunder Run planning session immediately following the meeting.

Vice-President - John “Cupcake” Sedlacek

John was not at the meeting.

Treasurer - Kriss Sedlacek Treasury Report: \$ on hand in the treasury which includes \$ deposited to date from bike raffle ticket sales.

Secretary - Bill Houghtaling

Carol McKenzie received her rocker and eagle. Congratulations to Carol.

Chairman of the Board - Steve Pletzke

Steve thanked all those who helped out at our booth and ticket sales during the Illinois Freedom Run in Marseilles. Over 300 tickets were sold.

Old Business and New Business

Snipe reminded all of us that we have opportunities to sell bike raffle tickets every weekend at our local Harley dealers such as Wildfire, City Limits, Heritage and Zylstras. These dealers have events happening every weekend and will allow us to set up a table for Rolling Thunder. The bike is at Wildfire and can be brought out for display. Heritage has offered to pull the same model and color bike out of their inventory for display next to the table. These are easy opportunities for even one or two people to sell tickets for an hour or two.

Doug reminded us of our friends at the Midwest Homeless Shelter event at the Batavia VFW on August 3rd.

<http://www.helpaveteran.org/> The plans for a potential pig roast were tabled for numerous reasons. We will be there and volunteering for support roles such as parking, set up or help in any other way. Potential for a bike and/or car show during next years event was discussed.

Doug also has “Junior” Rolling Thunder member patches available for \$3 each. There are no age, participation or attendance requirements associated with these patches.

On Thursday July 3 we will be lining up for the Warrenville Fourth of July Parade. Kick stands up at 4:30 at Warrenville VFW. We need to be at the staging area, slot # 11, by 5:15, the parade begins at 6:00 pm. See email from Kriss for full details. If you are arriving late just ask where slot #11 is lined up. About 15 members indicated they would be riding.

Snipe and Harley Steve spoke about Operation Support Our Troops on July 19th at Cantigny. Rolling Thunder will have a POW/MIA publicity and awareness booth set up on site. The entry fee is \$25 each plus a probable \$10 parking fee (even if you are working the booth). Ticket sales are not allowed. This is a long event.... from 11

am to 10 pm. A sign up sheet was passed around. Harley Steve is leading the volunteer staffing. Watch your email for the sign up sheet. Since all proceeds for this event go to assist veterans and active military a motion was made to reimburse members for their ticket and parking expense if they work the Rolling Thunder booth. It is like making a donation to OSOT. The motion passed.

Doug received a letter from National soliciting changes to the Rolling Thunder National Constitution. These changes will be considered at the National Conference in November. Contact Doug with any changes to be considered.

Popeye spoke about the Ride for Kids on July 20th. The ride this year begins at Elgin Community College. This led to discussion regarding having one person take ownership or the lead on each Chapter event in order to gather our members together at the chosen time and ride to the event as a group. This concept was well received. Doug volunteered to take ownership of this event. So kickstands up at 0730 on July 20th at the Warrenville VFW. We will then proceed to Zylstra's in St. Charles for KSU at 0800 when we will proceed to the Ride for Kids.

Bill Houghtaling spoke about two groups Illinois Chapter One has a history of supporting through an annual donation. A motion to donate to the Ride for Kids Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation was made and passed (66 members times \$3 equals \$198). A motion to support the Middle East Conflicts Wall in Marseilles with a veterans donation was made and passed (66 members times \$5 equals \$330).

Doug talked about the nominations to be made prior to our September election. Positions open this year are Vice-President, Treasurer and two board positions. Nominations can be made during the August and September meeting. The incumbent VP and Treasurer will not be running.

LT has volunteered to lead the Remembrance Table Ceremony committee in efforts to refine and polish our efforts. We are looking for a core group of ten members who would be willing to train and be available for ceremonies as needed. It only takes five members to

carry the covers and one member to do the reading. Flag bearers would be additional. Training and uniform appearance will be part of the efforts to polish our look. A rehearsal will be held at the August meeting. The next scheduled Remembrance Table Ceremony is at the Glendale Heights VFW on August 10th.

Snipe mentioned Bob Kolling from OSOT has extended an invitation for Rolling Thunder to ride in the Woodridge Memorial Day parade next year. We would need to field at least 10 bikes.

Harley Steve reminded us of a standing invitation from Lisle to join their Memorial Day Parade.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was passed. Weebles held a Big Thunder Run planning session right after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Houghtaling, Secretary
Rolling Thunder Illinois Chapter 1
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Upcoming Events: (Chapter events in **Bold**)

- July 19** **Operations Support Our Troops at Cantigny, Wheaton, IL**
Rolling Thunder POW/MIA publicity and information booth
<http://www.osotil.org/rockin2008.html>
- July 20** **Ride for Kids, Elgin, IL**
<http://www.pbtfus.org/rideforkids/> KSU up
Warrenville VFW at
0730, Zylstra in St.Charles at 0800.
- Aug. 3** **Midwest Homeless Shelter at Batavia VFW,**
<http://www.helpaveteran.org/>
- Aug. 10** **Remembrance Table at the Glendale Heights VFW**
Aug. 24 **Ride for Kurtie, West Chicago,**
www.rideforkurtie.org

Sept. 14

Ride to Remember 9-11, Springfield, IL

www.ridetoremember911.com

Oct. 4

Saturday morning set up for Big Thunder Run

Oct. 5

Big Thunder Run