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

December 5, 2007 37 of 79 members were in attendance

Chapter President Doug "Skippy" Mahar called the meeting to order at 1930 hours. A quorum was present and an official meeting was declared.

The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

President - Doug "Skippy" Mahar

Doug welcomed everyone attending and forecasted a very brief meeting prior to our annual Christmas.

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

Treasurer - Kriss Sedlacek The treasury currently is at \$

Secretary - **Bill Houghtaling**. Our planned January welcome home for Purple Heart Iraq veteran Tina Foulkes of Lisle has been put on hold and will be re-scheduled. Tina has reenlisted will be going to Ft. Hood in Texas.

Boot patches were awarded to Ralph Ledbetter, Janet Ross and Philip Ferrer. Congratulations to our newest members.

Chairman of the Board Mike "Slappy" Morias

Mike will be starting a new campaign in January to encourage member participation in our Rolling Thunder activities. We now have 79 members but the core of regular participants is a much smaller number. Our national constitution states members must attend at least three meetings a years and participate in at least three activities a year.

Bring your ideas for member participation to the January meeting.

Old Business and New Business

Big John said he and Brad really missed going to Hines this Christmas. Many other members concurred.

Kriss volunteered to take the initiative and set up a March 2008 Illinois Chapter One visit to Hines Hospital. Much discussion and enthusiasm evolved:

- 1. We should go with much simpler goody bags containing a T-shirt, a note and a sweatshirt.
- 2. March would be an excellent time to go.
- 3. Howard said we previously avoided December because of many other groups visiting Hines and scheduling conflicts.
- 4. Get school kids involved in writing notes or letters to the veterans.
- 5. We could alternately visit the Manteno Veterans Home or the Marion, IL VA Hospital.
- 6. Spend time sitting and visiting the veterans giving them the dignity and gratitude they deserve.
- 7. Ralph will look into visiting Marion.
- 8. Kriss will co-ordinate a date with Hines and notify us by email.
- 9. The first time IL Chap 1 went to Hines we only had \$ in the treasury.

Rolling Thunder National has not provided any further news regarding the display of Patriot Guard Rider patches. Members are making their own decisions.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Houghtaling, Secretary billhoteling@gmail.com

Upcoming Events: (Chapter events in Bold)
March 2008 Visit to Hines VA Hospital