

## Meeting Minutes - Rolling Thunder – Florida Chapter 7 - October 13, 2007

Minutes of the Rolling Thunder – Florida Chapter 7 meeting held October 13, 2007. Meeting was called to order at 10:05am by President Thompson. All were present except Director Dumont. A quorum was present and declared an official meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance recited, a moment of silence of our POW/MIAs was held, mission statement was read, members and guests were welcomed.

**Motion** to accept the minutes of the September 08, 2007 meeting as presented by COB Parker and seconded by Will Harris. **Passed.**

Treasurer Harris reported the treasurer's report.

**Motion** to accept the treasurer's report as presented and file for audit by Director Ealey and seconded by Director Garnett. **Passed.**

The chapter presently has 86 members.

Andersonville will be added to the member sign-in sheet. There were 61 former POWs in attendance at Andersonville and the event went very well.

Members set up a RT booth at the Nature Coast Bike Fest in Williston where visitors were able to view the new POW tiger cage built by the Garnett's. The cage will be available at future chapter events.

About 25 members showed up for the VFW District picnic. This event will be added to the member sign-in sheet.

One Floridian was killed in Iraq during the last month.

Liz Bryant reported that HR 111 presently has 165 co-sponsors. Legislation has been introduced to allow the VA to advertise in the media. Florida has a new "Support Our Troops" license plate. WWII Filipino veterans are looking compensation but there is no VA funding for them. Legislators are talking about taking some benefits from compensated veterans to make funds available.

Bill Ealey reported that the Sunshine Committee had nothing to report.

There was no Education Committee report and there will be no Education Committee meeting after the chapter meeting.

Quartermaster sales are going well.

The Lecanto post office will be re-dedicated on November 5, 2007 to honor Dennis Flanagan, who was killed in Iraq. Kickstands up/doors closed at the VFW Post 10087 at 9:15am.

The Brooksville post office will be re-dedicated on November 09, 2007. Kickstands up/doors closed at the VFW Post 10087 at 8:45am.

POW/MIA flag raising in White Springs on November 10, 2007 at 9:30am. Meet at the Jamison Hotel in Lake City at 8:00am. Members can meet at VFW Post 10087 on November 09 with kickstands up/doors closed at 3:00pm.

A show of hands showed that most members will be going to White Springs and there won't be many members around to do the Inverness parade. It was suggested that the chapter combine with the Legion Riders for the parade.

Fort Cooper will have a POW/MIA flag raising on November 11, 2007 as part of every Florida State Park that has a flag pole to fly the POW/MIA flag. Members will meet at the Inverness McDonald's on SR41 and SR44 at 8:30am.

The Citrus Springs Holiday Parade will be held on December 09, 2007. Meet at the fountains in SR41 at 1:00pm.

The Clearwater Veterans Appreciation Day will be held November 04, 2007 at the Clearwater High School 2:00pm – 6:00pm.

The Citrus Springs VFW will be holding a blood drive on October 17, 2007

**Don and Denise will be getting married on October 27, 2007 at Willard's.**

The Veterans Fair at the Crystal River Mall will be held on November 03, 2007 from 10:00am to 3:00pm. Chapter booth volunteers are Melyncks, Hound Dog, Pat, Garnett's, Stepanek, Parker.

The chapter Christmas party will be held on December 08, 2007. The Best Western on 486 is booked. Vicki Gooding was to check Margaritagrille but wasn't present to report. Email and/or telephone calls will be made for RSVPs after a location has been selected.

Chapter 4 will hold a Scott Speicher Memorial Run on January 19, 2008 in Jacksonville. More info later.

Two (2) or three (3) local families will be selected as Christmas Basket recipients. The DAV is willing and able to provide names of needy families.

**Motion** to support a maximum of three (3) families not to exceed \$600.00 in total by Trish Kallenbach and seconded by Chris King. **Passed.**

**Motion** to approve a \$400.00 donation to the Nixon family for expenses related to travel to Texas to visit their severely wounded son by Bob Bruno and seconded by Will Harris. **Passed.**

At the present time, the chapter has to borrow a tent and tables when attending different events.

**Motion** to purchase a 10' x 10' pop-up tent and two (2) light weight 8' tables for use at chapter functions by Chris King and seconded by Director Gooding. **Passed.** Treasurer Harris will investigate.

John and Donna Steer drove from Arkansas to Georgia out of their own pocket to perform at Andersonville.

**Motion** to donate \$200.00 to the Steer's through their church – Living Word Christian Ministries to help defray expenses by Kit Bruno and seconded by Phil Fuchs. **Passed.**

Trish Kallenbach is researching names to send personalized cards to the troops.

**NEXT MEETING WILL BE DECEMBER 08, 2007 AT THE BEVERLY HILLS VFW POST 10087  
AND WILL START AT 10:00am.**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:55am.

Submitted by

Jim Stepanek