

Minutes of the Rolling Thunder – Florida Chapter 7 meeting held February 9, 2008. Meeting was called to order at 10:05am by President Thompson. All were present except Directors Gilchriese and Melnyk. 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 January 12, 2008 meeting as presented by COB Parker and seconded by Director Ealey. **Passed.**

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

Ray Dumont passed away on February 7, 2008 at 9:40am. A memorial service will be held on February 16, 2008 at Davis Funeral Home in Inverness from noon to 2:00pm. Chapter members are requested to meet at the Blue Iguana restaurant CR 41 East with kickstands up/doors closed at 11:45am. The family would like any donations be given to Hernando/Pasco Hospice or the Haley House.

Ray was also a director with the Vietnam Veterans Gathering (VVG). This is the small group that brings the Vietnam Veterans Traveling Wall to the area. There are 58,253 names on The Wall. The VVG made a donation of \$582.53 to Connie.

VP Perrino announced that the chapter took second place in the Beverly Hills Christmas parade and showed the ribbon we won.

Four chapter members played in the Flanagan Golf Tournament – and brought back a \$700.00 donation from the Sgt. Dennis Flanagan Foundation. A certificate of appreciation was sent to the Foundation.

The Iron Horse poker run fundraiser will bring \$250.00 to the chapter. Although the event was well attended (about 500 bikes total), there were expenses – band, deputies, trophies, etc. Iron Horse would like to hold the event next year with more time for planning.

Al Mumford made the Scott Spiecher Run and reported there were only about 100 people in attendance. That weekend was cold and rainy.

The chapter presently has 85 members.

There were three (3) Florida KIAs in Iraq over the past month and the remains of one (1) Korean War veteran were identified.

The Sunshine Committee report that Kit Bruno-Minard and Jim Gilchriese had knee replacement surgery, Jerry Brousseau is in rehab and doing better, Nancy Ealey fell last week and hurt her leg, Allen Courser's Mom had a stroke.

The quartermaster reported that the chapter sold \$192.00 worth of product at the Iron Horse poker run.

The Board has approved the chapter Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG). Copies were available and will be every month. The guidelines call for having members sign for their boot

patch, National Constitution, and SOGs. The SOGs were emailed to members on record and will be reviewed on an annual basis.

The chapter has completed the necessary documents to remain a viable chapter. This includes the financial audit, annual activities report, and filing a form 990.

The Military Order of the Purple Heart ceremony will take place at the Veterans Memorial in Crystal River on February 23, 2008 at 11:00am. Chapter members are requested to meet at the Beverly Hills VFW Post 10087 with kickstands up/doors closed at 10:15am. Secretary Stepanek will order a wreath that Archie/Vicki Gooding will pick up that morning.

The Military Warriors Support Foundation will be in town on March 4, 2008. The chapter will support these wounded heroes by meeting at the McDonald's in Inverness at CR 41 & CR 44. Kickstands up/doors closed at 2:30pm.

Fort Cooper Days will be held March 15 & 16, 2008 from 11:00am to 4:00pm.

Ft. McCoy will host their 8th annual country BBQ picnic on March 29, 2008 from 10:00am to 5:00pm. Tickets are \$10.00.

Ft. McCoy will also host the 3rd annual Inter-Tribal POW-WOW and Gathering on April 11 – 13, 2008.

The Sgt. John Borders fundraiser takes place on April 12, 2008 at the Ocala Harley-Davidson dealer between 9:00am and 4:00pm. Additional details will be coming.

The Special Operations Warriors Foundation will be holding a fundraiser on April 19, 2008 at the Tampa VFW Post 424.

Fort Cooper will host a Flag Day ceremony on June 14, 2008. More details later.

The second annual Chapter 7 Golf Outing will be held June 28, 2008 at the Citrus Springs Golf Club.

Lots of activities going on and discussion ensued over the potential of changing the date of the April 2008 meeting.

Motion to hold the chapter meeting on April 5, 2008 at 10:00am by Director Gooding and seconded by Director Ealey. Motion was rescinded after further discussion.

Motion to order 200 bike raffle tickets Director Gooding and seconded by Vicki Gooding. **Passed.** President Thompson will order the tickets.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE MARCH 8, 2008 AT THE BEVERLY HILLS VFW POST 10087 AND WILL START AT 10:00am.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:16pm.

Submitted by

Jim Stepanek