



**Mexico Restaurant, Waldorf MD
December 13, 2007, 7:27 p.m.**

1. Call to Order/ Roll Call of Officers

a. Quorum: Yes

Number of Attendees: 28

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Moment of Silence and Remembrance

4. Mission Statement: Read by Les

5. Introduction of Guests/First Time Attendees: None

6. Previous Meeting Minutes

a. Discussion

b. Approval: Motion to accept by Mike Luftman, seconded by Robin

7. Reports

a. President: Save report for new business.

b. Treasurer: Report read, including patch deposit fund balance. Dave provided an explanation of this fund and that it is a non-interest bearing account.

c. Chairman of the Board: Family Services POC could not provide the name of a suitable military family in need of assistance. Joe reminded Dave to speak about RT MD Chapter 1 coordinating efforts with Sam's Club to help the McDermott House.

d. Quartermaster Report: Chapter pins are available at ###each. Three T-shirt proposals will be going before the Board on Saturday.

8. Old Business

a. Chapter By-Laws: Dave sent a copy of our By-Laws to Art Foss, who then forwarded them to National. Many of our By-Laws have been disapproved by National and the Board will have to amend them. In particular, National is prohibiting our chapter from having alternating Thursday and Saturday meetings and also two different meeting places. Dave explained National's reason for the prohibition is due to the tendency for chapter members to form two separate groups according to preferred meeting times/places, therefore splitting the chapter. We need to choose one date/place for our general membership meetings. The VFW in Waldorf is willing to work with us if necessary. Dave opened the issue for discussion.

- Dave: If there is a valid conflict with the meeting time, a member can contact the President and receive meeting credit for doing some veterans related activity on another date in the alternative to attending the meeting.
- Don Dick: Motion to make the general membership meeting on the 2nd Saturday of each month at the Fort Washington Harley-Davidson Dealership, with prior permission of HDW and Ft. Washington H.O.G. Dale Williams seconded the motion. The motion has been approved by majority vote of the membership. COB will coordinate with HDW and Ft. Washington H.O.G.
- National questioned the copyright of our chapter logo. A copy of the submitted request and returned certified letter, stating our logo was properly registered, was provided as proof. We can keep the copyright statement in our By-Laws.
- Any dress code must include "high visibility events only" language.
- Only the President has the power to appoint, hire, fire, etc.

Rolling Thunder® Maryland Chapter 1

General Membership Meeting

- We don't have to reread the By-Laws three more times after making changes.

b. Administrative Stuff

- Dave: Please check the log to see if you have received your copy of the RT Constitution.

c. Andrews AFB Maryland Room

- Ten members participated as volunteers on Sunday at AAFB Maryland Room. Mike Luftman even brought his bike. We only need a maximum of four volunteers. Dave is being told that volunteering chapter members must be Red Cross certified and HIPPA trained, but the hospital limits the number of Red Cross volunteers and they are at their limit. Dave will contact the tasker concerning this conflict—do we really need to be Red Cross certified? Dave opened the matter for discussion.
- Questions were posed by Don Dick, Les, Mike Luftman and Quezryth Chunn.
- Dave: Some soldiers are bringing back organisms, mites, etc. which pose health risks to any volunteers. We may end up volunteering more than once per month to make it possible for more members to participate. The soldiers want us there. Dave will contact Colonel Hunt with our ideas. Dave will schedule with another POC for further coordinating.
- Joe Bears: I suggest you form a committee to handle the coordination.
- Dave: Good idea. I'll appoint those people in January and handle the executive oversight.
- Mike Luftman: Could volunteers work in shifts?
- Dave: No. Not workable.
- Dave: I'll handle the list for access to the Base. The Committee Chair will be responsible for providing me names of all without I.D. cards. One I.D. card can sponsor up to 10.

9. New Business

a. USO Stuffing Party Dates

- Dave received one member response about possible USO Stuffing Party dates at Ft. Belvoir. Members must be on a list in order to participate because the warehouse can't exceed capacity. Dave opened the matter to discussion from the floor concerning possible dates of 2/23/07, 3/08/07, and 3/29/07. March 8th is the same day as our meeting, so we would be arriving later.
- Dan: How about choosing other Saturdays than our meeting date?
- Feb. 23, 2007 and March 29, 2007 were chosen. Dave passed around the sign-up sheet.

b. Chapter Business Cards

- Content is the requirement, arrangement is flexible. Standard Avery white card stock (Dave has examples). Dave offered to help members with cards if necessary.

c. Merchandise

- Dave will get more information out about chapter merchandise. The Board chose some possible items for consideration from a larger list (read list). We need to limit how many items we purchase because of our limited treasury. We don't want to hold excess stock.
- Debbie Devine: Aren't we going to sell merchandise from our website?
- Dave: Our website is not ready for that yet. We would have to complete extensive work including Pay Pal, etc. first.
- Les: There are some good deals on the bracelets right now.
- Dave: I will revisit it with the Board.

d. McDermott House

- Dave: McDermott House works in coordination with HUD and the VA to provide 30 transitional apartments for homeless veterans. RT MD Chapter 1 is coordinating with Sam's Club to provide them with some assistance, possibly 30 food baskets. The Sam's Club manager is requiring an official letter of request from our chapter to help with the McDermott House. The manager is willing to help us request help from 8 facilities since the Waldorf Sam's club has already met their quarter quota.

e. Members Receiving Boot Patches

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- Dave: Two of our chapter members have earned their boot patches: Cathy and Rick Davis. Please join me in congratulating them.
- Dave: Question has been brought up about members who do not wish to pay the patch deposit. The constitution has provisions for members to be a part of a chapter but they will be non-patch wearing members.

f. Happy Birthday to Us

- Our Chapter is now officially one year old.

10. Comments for Good of the Chapter

- Robin: On Saturday there will be a wreath laying at Arlington National Cemetery at 8:30 a.m. Last year 5,000 wreaths were laid by volunteers; this year there are 10,000 wreaths to be laid. The Patriot Guard is leading a ride to Arlington National Cemetery. Cheltenham will only have 7 wreaths to lay so they don't need any volunteers, but our chapter can attend the ceremony at noon.
- Dave: The Board has a meeting on Saturday so the Board will not be able to participate in the wreath laying. This will not be a chapter event—for information only.
- Mikey: I'm working on the website. The calendar needs to be changed. I've found one that is suitable and rich in features and will be working on further updates.
- Mel: Merry Christmas to everyone (from the floor, "Happy Hanukkah"). The Christmas Party for the Kids with Cancer was a great event. Encouraged participation next year.
- Dave: Karen Beck is leaving for California with FEMA.
- Ron Harris: There's an article in the Washington Post about the financial records of different veterans' organizations and how they scored using money to actually help veterans. I encourage members to read it.
- Mike Luftman: Check out freedomwatch.org for RT MD Chapter 1's salute to the troops.
- Dave passed around two cards for members to sign for deployed chapter member Leo Contreras. Donations for a care package to be sent to him were also collected.
- Dave has calendars, posters, and RT XXI bike raffle tickets.
- Ron Harris won the 50/50.

11. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Lam, seconded by Q. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.
Next meeting is Saturday January 12, 2008, 10:30am, FTW Harley Dealership, Ft Wash, MD.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Bearns
Secretary, Rolling Thunder Maryland Chapter 1