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Rolling Thunder WI Chapter 4's "Rollin' for Tomah" run/walk event nets cash & much needed supplies for Tomah VA Hospital Veterans

By Mark "Wizard" Tilkens (10/9/09)

Sunday August 23rd was a perfect day with perfect weather for a nice 125 mile ride through the countryside. And what better way to spend it than a ride supporting the Veterans and helping to raise money for those Vets that are confined to a hospital. This was the first year of the "Rollin' For Tomah" event and the turnout was a little lighter than expected, despite the publicity, but the organizers and sponsor of the event, Rolling Thunder Chapter 4 of Central WI, hope it will become an annual event.



Chapter 4 WI President, Guy 'Pepper' Hartl states, "Events like this support part of Rolling Thunder's Mission which is to 'Help Veterans from all Wars'. The other part of the Mission is to 'Help Promote the Awareness of POW/MIA

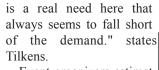


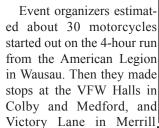
Issues'. This is also why we are thankful when we can partner with organizations that share our interests, like the American Legion, which helped us host this event"

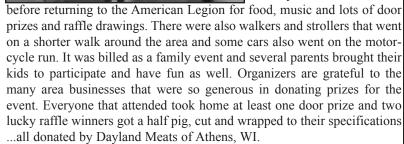
Mark "Wizard" Tilkens, Past President of Rolling Thunder Chapter 3 of WI and current member of Chapter 4 explains the reasoning behind the event. "Many people do not realize that

Veterans confined to VA hospitals get no extras with their care. That means they have

to buy or get their own toiletries and personal items from the outside. Any snacks, coffee or other food items outside of their normal meals, or any recreation items such as movies, videos, music, games, books, magazines, etc. All of these things are their responsibility to get for themselves. There







The "Rollin' For Tomah" event raised about \$2000 for the Vets which went to buy \$750 worth of food and personal supplies, with the remaining \$1,250 presented as check to help Vets with other personal and recreation needs. Boxes of books, tapes and clothing collected during the event were also donated. Tomah VA Officials were very grateful and hope this can

continue each year. "Our Vets really deserve this support and they just never seem to get enough to fill the need," stated one Tomah VA Volunteer. "A big Thank You to Rolling Thunder Chapter 4 of WI, and all the businesses that help to make this generous donation possible."



A couple of pictures from a Hog Heavan ride this summer. I was not able to attend the ride, but I do recommend their Chicken tenders. Stop in and say hi the next time your in Appleton.







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