



THE EDGE

**THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE WWII HRS, INC.**

**MARCH, 2011
VOLUME 20**



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Editor's Note:

Welcome to the March edition of The Edge! My name is Matt Andres, and I am fortunate in having the opportunity to be the new edge editor. Jonathan Stevens and I have talked about a new direction for The Edge, in which The Edge will be more than a newsletter. We are envisioning a product that is more "magazine" than "newsletter," and which covers the wider world of WWII reenacting.

Now a quick caveat...My background is in History and Political Studies, with my research emphasis on guerrilla warfare and political violence movements. While I can yap on endlessly about that, I have no experience in graphic arts or publishing (you know, skills that could land me a job). So, The Edge is—quite literally—a work in progress. If this first issue seems bare bones, I promise it will get better!

Some of the best, most current research on the social history of WWII is being done by reenactors in the HRS. So if you want an article published, or have a book review, or even just photos from your last event—send them my way!

Best Regards;

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Cover Photograph: A German motorcycle courier speeds by, Rockford 2009.
Photograph courtesy of Shawn Rundblade Photography

To All HRS Members:

Craig Dvorak, currently holding the position of Secretary, resigned via the following statement:

“Board of Directors, WWII HRS,

As of February 15th, 2011, I tender my resignation as secretary of the World War Two Historical Reenactment Society.

Regards,

Craig M. Dvorak”

Per HRS By-Laws, when a board member resigns with more than one (1) year left on his/her term, a new election needs to be held to fill that Position.

If you are interested in running for the position of Secretary, please contact the HRS President at the following address:

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dmjameson@cox.net
(402)896-1345**



Lest We Forget—The Confederate Cemetery at Rock Island Arsenal

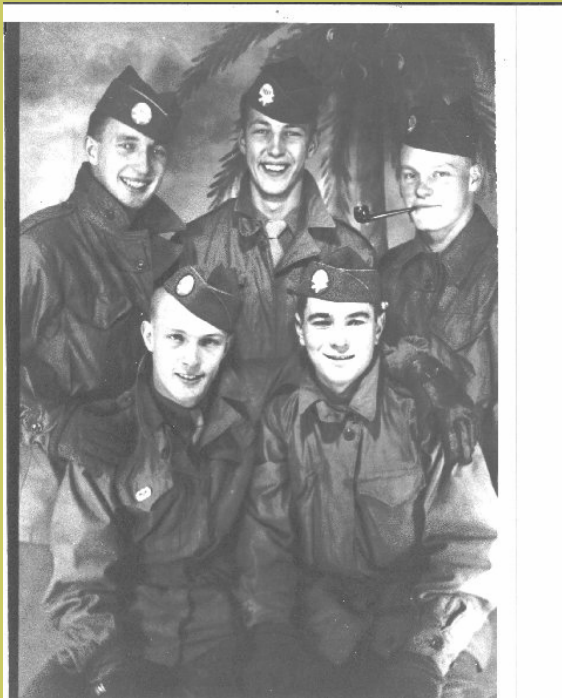
IN MEMORIAM

Some of you may not have heard, but the HRS lost a good friend—Doc Bolinger. Doc was the real deal, a medic in the 504th PIR/82nd Airborne Division during World War Two. I have been trying to type this page for three days, but nothing I write properly expresses how much we all miss Doc. So please find the enclosed obituary, courtesy of the Springfield *State Journal-Register*.

SPRINGFIELD - Donald L. Bolinger, 83, of Springfield, passed away on Thursday, February 10, 2011 at his residence. Donald was born on January 27, 1928 in Springfield the son of Corresta G. and Talena Satorius Bolinger. He married Thelma Hanson on March 10, 1948 in Springfield; she preceded him in death on November 2, 2008.

Donald was a U.S. [Army](#) veteran having served during [WWII](#) with the Medical Company 504th Airborne Infantry Regiment 82nd Airborne Division. He received his Parachutist badge and the WWII Victory Medal. After his enlistment he worked as a union carpenter for 40 years retiring in 1988.

He is survived by three daughters, Terri Springer of Springfield, Bobye Bolinger of Auburn and Vicki Bolinger of Springfield; one son, Donald L. Bolinger Jr., of Springfield; six grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren. Cremation was accorded by Springfield Crematory.



Doc Bolinger in Germany, 1945 (Back Row/Center)



Tim Cook (Left) and Doc (Right) hoisting a few at a 504th PIR Christmas Party.

AIRBORNE, ALL THE WAY!

Hey Joe, Whattaya Know?

Congratulations to the following units, who have chartered in the last few months:

D Company, 2nd Ranger Battalion

THE CHINDITS (THE CAMERONIANS)

R3CON PLATOON, 9TH AIRBORNE BRIGADE - USSR

326TH MEDICAL BATTALION (AIRBORNE)

1ST POLISH INFANTRY DIVISION "TADEUSZ KOSCIUSZKO"

The 2011 HRS membership applications are available from your unit commander. If you have not received one from said commander, you better get on him! Re-enacting season is upon us, and you do not want to wait 'til the last moment before re-upping!

DID YOU KNOW????

THE HRS BOARD OF DIRECTORS HOLDS A MONTHLY MEETING, VIA TELECONFERENCE. THE MEETING IS HELD THE THIRD (3RD) THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH, AND IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. THE MONTHLY BOD MEETING IS A GREAT WAY TO STAY ABREAST OF THE GOINGS ON IN THE WWII HRS.

INTERESTED YET???

CONTACT HRS VICE PRESIDENT JONATHAN STEVENS FOR THE PASS CODE TO THE TELECONFERENCE.

...Just got back from a vaudeville show!

WWII HRS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 16, 2010

Attending: Jonathan Stevens, Craig Dvorak, Bill Sheets, Matt Andres, Rich Russo, Ed Godi, Tim Scherer, Scott Koelling, Ron Kapustka.

Minutes from the August meeting were read. A proposal was made to accept the minutes, seconded, and voted unanimously to accept.

Old Business

Website Upgrades: A suggestion was made that Go Daddy was a good value with significant web space.

New Business

Unit Charters: The 12th Quartermaster Rgt. was interested in changing the unit to the 81st Infantry Division quartermaster Co. The last living member of the unit was opposed to having the unit reenacted. The unit commander, Matt Andres, was a member of the 81st Infantry Division and belongs to the 81st Inf Div historical society. His unit would remain a quartermaster unit.

Highlanders: Jason Spriggs spoke about his proposed unit. One reaction was that the proposed unit was too broad and that a certain regiment should be chosen.

Secretary Report: 956 members.

Treasurer Report: The treasurer was unable to attend due to a family emergency.

Allied Report: no new information

Axis Report: no report

Commonwealth Report: no report

Rockford: Discussion on support for the event ensued and how to adequately report the expenses. The decision was to support the Saturday night dinner at the USO dance. The estimated cost was \$600.

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

WWII HRS BOARD MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 21, 2010

The meeting opened at 7:03pm with roll call. Attending the meeting were: Craig Dvorak, Jonathan Stevens, Sheri Tabor, Bill Sheets, Ron Kapustka, Tim Scherer, Rey Ramirez, Carlos Ramirez, Eric Percy, Jason Sprigs, Ed Godi, Matt Andres, and Dean Byrne.

The September minutes were read.

New Business:

Charters: 81st Division was the new designation for the Philippine unit. A vote was proposed, seconded, and was taken for approval of the unit change. Four voted in favor of the change. The proposed unit commander Jason Sprigs discussed the Chindit charter which was mainly a CBI impression of the 3rd Indian Infantry The Cameronians." The 2nd Rangers charter was also discussed.

Treasurer Report: \$1.93 in interest with \$23,632.01 in savings. In checking \$5995.01 with one check for \$50.61 for Secretary expenses..

Secretary Report: 946 paid members

Western National Event: Rey Ramirez's unit in cooperation with The Regiment would put on an event at Ft. Carson in Colorado tentatively on Oct 7-9. Vehicles would be approved and also possibly the Mout facility. A suggestion was made to send in a request for an event budget.

Open Comment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

A Patch Too Far...



This is the original shoulder sleeve insignia of the US Army's 45th Infantry Division. You can no doubt guess why they changed it during the 1930's! The 45th ID went on to be one of the Army's best infantry divisions, fighting in Sicily, Italy, France and Germany during WWII.

In the HRS, the 45th ID is represented by the I&R Platoon, 180th Infantry Regiment.

NOVEMBER 18 2010 WWII HRS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Attending the meeting were David Jameson, Jonathan Stevens, Craig Dvorak, Sheri Tabor, Scott Atchison, Bill Sheets, Bill Riesa, Wayne McCully, Eric Percy, Carlos Ramirez, Rey Ramirez, Matt Andreas, Rob Lienweber, and Deane Byrne.

Old Business: The minutes were not completed from October. The reading and approval of the minutes were tabled. No further old business was discussed.

New Business:

Charters:

The Chindit charter was passed by the S&A Committee and ready for a vote. A vote was called, seconded, and the vote was 6 in favor. The charter was accepted.

The 2nd Rangers charter was passed by the S&A Committee and ready for a vote. A vote was called, seconded, and the vote was 6 in favor. The charter was accepted. Eric Percy. The unit commander expressed his thanks for the opportunity.

The 326th Airborne Medical Co charter was tabled until the proposed unit commander Stephen Richey could attend the board meeting.

The 9th Airborne Brigade, Recon Platoon was introduced by Rob Lienweber the proposed unit commander.

Two units were deemed defunct, the 11th Panzer, 110th Panzer Grenadiers, and the .

Treasurer Report: \$1.87 in interest, \$23,633.88 in Savings, Checking \$7,039.29, and one check for \$110.08 was issued for Secretary expenses.

Secretary Report: 956 paid members. A change of command with the 39th Guards from John Rotatori to Dan Howell.

Allied Report: No news

Axis Report: No news

Commonwealth Report: No news

Committee Reports: S&A was considering several charters, the 2011 Membership Form and instructions was to be disseminated to the Unit Commanders shortly through the Unit Commanders Committee.

Board Elections: Ballots have been sent out to the Unit Commanders and the Edge was sent out via email with about 40 or so bounced email addresses.

Electronic Payment for Membership: The use of Paypal was discussed. A little less than 2% would be charged for each transaction. The only problem would be the unit commander's approval for each member.

Edge Membership Directory: Sheri Tabor was working on this and much time was involved in the preparation.

Open Comment: Rey Ramirez discussed in detail a proposed event at Ft. Carson CO on Oct 7-9. Dean Byrne discussed the event details such as a fee for the use of the facility, located about 20 miles from Ft. Carson, and a \$25 gate fee. Carlos Ramirez discussed some more details of the event. Bill Riesa mentioned that his unit was asked to put away weapons at an air show they attended. He also asked if wearing military uniforms was illegal according to 10USC772F. It was likely that it was not illegal.

At 8:14 pm the meeting was adjourned.

WWII HRS BOARD MEETING 16 DECEMBER 2010

Attending the meeting were: David Jameson, Jonathan Stevens, Craig Dvorak, Scott Atchison, Sheri Tabor, John Newton, Ed Godi, Polly Blanton-Norman, Matt Andres, Bill Sheets

Old Business

November Minutes were read a motion was made to accept the minutes and seconded. The minutes were accepted.

Edge Directory: The directory was tabled until 2011.

Election: Ballots are to be accepted until December 15 and were to be counted on December 26. The votes will then be sent for verification to the 2629 WAC Battalion for verification. The announcement will be made January 8.

New Business

Unit Charters: 326th Airborne Medical Co was tabled until the proposed unit commander could attend the meeting.

The First Polish Div LWP was approved by the S&A Committee. Further discussion was tabled until the proposed unit commander could attend the meeting. Soviet Air landing Forces, 9th Airborne Brigade, Recon Plt had passed the S&A Committee. Some discussion ensued about the proper use and awarding of WWII valor awards. A vote was called on the unit and seconded. The vote 6 for chartering the unit. The unit passed.

Defunct units: Great Lakes Waves were briefly discussed. The unit commander may disband the unit. The subject was tabled until the next meeting.

Treasurer Report: \$2.06 interest with \$23,635.94 in the savings. The checking account contained \$7269.42.

Secretary Report: 2010 had 955 paid members. For 2011 there were 24 paid members.

Commonwealth Report: none

Allied Report: No news.

Axis Report: No news.

Committee Reports: The 2011 application would be emailed out to the unit commanders via the Unit Commander's Committee. The application has been placed in the files section of the Unit Commander's group. There were 80 unit commanders in the group.

Open Comment: John Newton suggested that camp check needed to be done at events to ensure all would attend S&A formations.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02

EVENTS BULLETIN

March – APRIL 2011

www.20thcenturygi.com

<http://www.worldwartwohrs.org/Events.org>

MARCH:

5 March 2011, Reenactor Garage Sale, St. Charles, IL

18-20 March 2011, WW II RETO Tactical, Fort Custer, MI

25-26 March 2011, "Armor Battle for France", Greenville, KY

APRIL:

1-3 April 2011, Across the Rhine, Denison, TX

15-17 April 2011, WW II Weekend, Jefferson Barracks, St Louis, MO

22-23 April 2011, WW II Training Weekend, Rochester Hills, MI

29 April - 1 May 2011, WW II Tribute, Lowell, IN

SHAWN
SR UNDBLADE
PHOTOGRAPHY

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