

FEATURES:

- Military History Fest 2012 AAR
- FG42 for the 21st Century Masses.
- A look at the Vanquished Miniseries
- HRS 2012 Scholarship

<u>CONTENT</u>

FROM THE EDITOR

- 2 Letter from the Editor
- 3 2012 Board of Directors contact
- 4 Unit updates
- 5 Introduction the new Edge staff
- 7 After Action Report: Military History Fest 2012
- 12 FG42 for the 21st Century Masses
- 14 HRS Scholarship 2012
- 15 A look at the new miniseries: The Vanquished
- 18 Safety First! The most dangerous part of a WWII reenactment
- 20 The Edge Needs You!
- 21 Advertising in the Edge
- 20 Events bulletin
- 24 Meeting minutes

On the cover: "2nd Panzer PAK40 Gun at a Rockford" Courtesy of: Jeff Skender

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purpose of preserving and remembering the sacrifice of the men and women in WWII.



(Photo by Alexia Thoms)

Another year of reenacting has began. All of us are beginning to take out the gear from our storage units, closets, garages. It is to be an exciting year for us, there are so many great public events and tacticals to look forward to such as Lowell, St. Joe, Rockford to name a few (*Please see full list on pg. 20*).

Right now is the time when you can see other reenactors walking around a grocery store and buying diapers in their brand new repro boots to break them in, or you keep being asked by your significant other why you already smell so musty all of the time, unknown to them that there is no better thing that the smell of your old kit in the Spring.

t is going to be a very exciting and busy year for the Society, with over 1000 members, great old and new events and the elections coming up this year, there is much to do. You can already notice the changes in the design of The Edge.

Wishing you an exciting and safe year,

Michael Kaczorowski Editor in Chief

2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONTACT

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UNIT UPDATES

New Units

January 2012

The 1st Polish Infantry Unit "Tadeusz Kosciuszki" was also recommended by the S&A Committee for full charter. A vote was taken and the unit approved.

February 2012

36th Armored Inf, 3rd Arm Div: Approval of this Charter was motioned by Bryce Seyko and seconded by Bill Sheets. The Charter was approved by the Board.

February 2012

5th Rangers were approved as a probationary unit.

Congratulations to the new units!



NEW EDGE STAFF



(Photo by Tom George Davidson)

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I feel like it is a great honor and pleasure to be able to introduce myself to our Society in such widely read publication as the Edge. I must have to say that I was a little bit nervous at first to write about myself, after all we now have over a thousand members and I do not believe I had any other opportunities to speak or write to others about myself. I was nervous that if I can walk alongside a huge, clunking, smelly and yet beautiful piece of metal like a Sherman or stare at the entire German defense line at Rockford pointing their barrel at me, well I think I can do this.

My reenacting began a few years ago, propelled by, an until then, need to find out everything about anything that is old. Living in Poland only added fuel to the fire, where evidence of WWII can be seen in so many places. After taking English lessons as a child from a Polish veteran of the armed forces in the West, my fascination and passion for the WWII era began. Once I arrived in the United States some years back I graduated high school and then attended college for a degree in political science and German. Around that time I began reenacting, feeling the need of a hands on approach to history.

Today I am the commanding officer of the 1st Independent Polish Parachute Brigade, I try to limit myself to a few impressions, but as many of you might know, can be rather hard. You can see me running around at events as the Polish Para chaplain, Padre of the Royal Army Chaplain Department, or medical officer of the Royal Army Medical Corps, just to name a few.

I hope that you will like what I will bring to the Edge and I would love to hear back from you, your comments, suggestions, concerns, will help the Edge to become better each day. I also invite you to submit your articles as we have plenty of space to post them .

I wish you a successful and safe 2012 reenacting season !

God Bless,

Michael Kaczorowski Editor in chief

NEW EDGE STAFF



Hi Everyone,

I am a dedicated field reporter / photojournalist. I go into battle (a reenactment) un-armed. Normally I only carry a camera and note pad. For the past two years I have been photographing reenactments and writing reports about them.

I am amazed at what I see. The men and women in the HRS put on an outstanding show. The effort and dedication of HRS members is very impressive. My goal is to cover entire events and complement (show-off) your work.

This year I am happy to help out with the HRS Edge Publication. I am able to report on events in Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana. I do wear a German Army Uniform and occasionally venture out on to the battlefield, but most of the time you will find/see me on the sideline photographing the action.

I hope to interview many of you and tell your stories. I go with the flow of the event and try to get to each camp/unit. If you spot me and have something to say, or show me, then please stop me. I am there to report on your activities (and to have a little fun in the process).

Thanks,

Heinz Thiel 5th Company GrossDeutschland The Edge Field Correspondent

Military History Fest is one of those events that many of us literally cannot afford to miss. It signals the unofficial beginning of the year for the reenactors and brings together crowds which each year keep getting bigger and bigger. From Roman legionnaires to renaissance bards, World War II airborne to NVA soldiers. All of these intermixed with a large crowd of civilians, spectators, collectors. This first chance of the year to look at reproduction uniforms, equipment, or original bits and pieces of kit, has not disappointed this year either. For the first time at the Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, Illinois, a much larger venue, allowed more tables, vehicle displays and best of all public displays, best of all for the reenactors, the displays also involved a prize! Which is always a nice way to get the most out of reenactors.



Since HRS S&A do not apply, strange things happen. (Photo by Tom George Davidson)



HRS table, manned by Ron Kapustka, HRS secretary. (Photo by Jeff Skender)

Pheasant Run Resort in St.Charles, Illinois, is a great place to have an event such as Military History Fest. It gave the reenactors an opportunity to sleep for the last time this year in a comfortable bed at an event, before switching to foxholes, sleeping bags, and the as comfy as it can get, cots. The "fake" New Orleans Bourbon street the resort has also allowed for some interesting photos and added to the general atmosphere.

The resort is much larger than the locations at which Military History Fest was staged before. This waschanged by the amount of vendors that came to the event, the amount of vendors at least doubled in size since last year, from larger internet stores well known to reenactors such as Hessen Antiques showing up in person, to smaller businesses and individual collectors and reenactors themselves. It is always great to see the larger businesses come out and check the quality in person, congratulate the owner on a good reproduction, or make a return. This large variety of vendors also gave much space for bargain hunting and best of all finding items that tend to be scarce, one of a kind, and sometimes valued much by collectors and reenactors alike.

But once one was done going through all the tables, spending their hard earned money on things they so much need, or simply was done drooling over the tables, one could easily rest and refit. Those hungry could get a bite at the resorts restaurant, those who wanted a drink, could go to the bar that was next to it. After taking a break there was plenty to do. There were presentations staged through all three days of the event, ranging from how to make your impression better, to how to shave with a straight razor. What also attracted reenacotrs were book signings and the guests that came to Military History Fest, book authors, veterans. If one had enough of everything, there was still a ball to go to Saturday night a social event, letting old friends spend some quality time together, or dance with a pirate. Those who wanted more, still had another whole day on Sunday to go through of vendors selling their items.

Overall it was a very well planned and organized event, there was always something to do. A good place to stage the event with easy access off the high way and not too far from the airport. Plenty of room for everyone, many vendors and activities to fill your time. I definitely recommend Military History Fest as a chance to look at equipment, catching up with friends or learning about 18h century dress making.

(MK)



As a special treat to reenactors, on satirday night an all era dance was staged, there was Civil War ballroom dancing and swing. (Photo by Tom George Davidson)



(Photo by Jeff Skender)



(Photo by Tom George Davidson)



(Photo by Jeff Skender)



(Photo by Jeff Skender)



(Photo by Jeff Skender)



FG42 Semi Auto by SMG Review



(SMG's semiautomatic FG 42, photo by SMG)

One almost completely untouchable and rare weapon for WWII reenacting has been bubbling to the surface in the last few years. Rumors and websites with teasing pictures of various parts and ever escalating price-tags have plagued Fallschirmjäger reenactors and collectors alike but now a semi-auto FG42 is tantalizingly close to the reach of some modern day Greendevils.

The first semi-auto FG42 to be available to the civilian market in 2010 is of course the BD42 made by the German firm Sport-Systeme Dittrich and sold by HZA Kulmbach GmbH. In 2011 they also developed a second model, the BD42/II, a semi-automatic reproduction of the FG42/II. Both of these models do fire from a closed bolt which would seem that an enterprising person could have a possibility to import into the US. Of course they are not available in the US at the moment but curiously enough they are available to Canadian reenactors. Several Canadian reports on the BD42 can be found on the internets that are very favorable to this weapon which of course could be helpful to our Canadian members. I have found no reports on the SSD BD42/II yet. The attention to detail by SSD is not lost on these weapons are not a reality for any US based HRS German paratroops although a couple of them would think about selling all their personal possessions up to and including a vital organ to buy one. So that is not the focus of this article either.





(An SKS rifle comapred with the FG42, photo by SMG)

The tantalizing FG42 effect is coming from Smith Manufacturing Group in Wise County, Texas who have developed a reproduction semi automatic FG42 built in the US and available to the civilian market. The two most important details are the price tag at \$4,995 and that it met with BATF approval as of April 2011 Smith Manufacturing Groups seems to be well entrenched in the reproduction WWII firearms market with semi-automatic Bren gun, Soviet machine guns, and several models of the Czech ZB weapons in their product lineup. The FG42 seems like a great addition to the market. Rick Smith the owner writes that his interest in this rifle goes back to the 1980s when he began collecting German machine guns. The FG42 is of course one of the more difficult German weapons to acquire so the creation of this weapon was the result. He writes, "First and foremost I wanted to build a rifle that most of the people who wanted to own it could actually afford it. That influenced many things and the way it is made is one of the basics." The rifle is not made from stampings as the original weapon and the SSD BD42 but it is machined from a solid steel receiver.

FG42 Semi Auto by SMG Review

There are several other differences from an original FG42 with very few original parts compatible with the new semi-automatic weapon. It also uses ZB magazines. For more information on the differences see the SMG website. That is the down side to this weapon. While it is not an exact replica it is about as close as possible to stay within a reasonable cost and to conform to the BATF specifications for a semi-automatic weapon. The website refers to the weapon as, "...95% outward appearance and a 110% fun factor." Some ever uncompromising reenactors would cringe at that statement however the weapon looks much better, at least in the pictures, than the HK93 conversion MP44 for example.



(Production rifles at Smith Manufacturing Group, photo by SMG)

As of this writing the semi-automatic FG42 is being delivered to customers. It was approved by the BATF during April 2011 apparently on the first submission.

At \$4,995.00 the affordability is up for debate but definitely less than the \$100,000 and up price tag of a pre-1945 German made FG42. SMG Guns does not offer blank adapting but newly made blank adaptors are available as well as reproduction accessories like a sling. One more thing, a .308 version is being developed as well. This one will take an M1A magazine.

If SMG Guns would send a weapon for review I would be more than glad to put it through the paces. In the meantime any Fallschirmjäger types with experience with this weapon please report in. There are already some Youtube videos of the SMG FG42 in action. Lastly I would highly commend Rick Smith for his efforts to bring a close replica of this weapon to the civilian and more importantly the reenactor marketplace. I look forward to seeing this weapon at future WWII events.

Article by Jonathan Stevens, 9th Infantry Division

2012 HRS SCHOLARSHIP

WWII HRS Scholarship 2012

In 2010 the membership approved the creation of an HRS scholarship. The effort behind the scholarship was two fold. The primary goal is to assist the younger members of our organization in their pursuit of higher education. Obviously historical reenacting is an expensive hobby that can be a near impossibility for some students. Secondly we will help grow interest in historical reenacting as an educational endeavor which is part of the mission of our Society. The scholarship will be awarded to a full time undergraduate or graduate student majoring in areas such as history, museum studies, or archeology however all students are encouraged to apply. The award can be used towards tuition or books. Note that any family or relations to any of the board of directors or staff of the WWII HRS will be ineligible for this award. Please send the applications to the WWII HRS Vice President. The amount of the award is \$500.

Eligibility:

 Must be a current member of HRS in good standing in at least their second year of membership.
Must be registered as a full-time student, undergraduate or graduate, at an accredited college or university.

3. Must demonstrate a minimum GPA of 2.75.

4. Must currently be a history or associated major, however if there is not any history or associated major that apply then all majors are eligible.

5. Must not have received a previous HRS scholarship.

Requirements:

The student should write a 500-word essay describing their qualifications and justification for receiving the HRS scholarship. It should also include the student's future plans in reenacting. A letter of recommendation from their unit commander should also be included. If the student is the unit commander for their unit, then another commander can supply the letter. Unofficial transcripts or a letter for the college or university stating that the student's current major and GPA needs to be included.

Deadline: June 1

Notification: August 1

An article highlighting the student will be in the Society publication, The Edge. Review: A committee consisting of an Allied, an Axis, and a Commonwealth member will review all candidates and give recommendation to the President who will be awarded the scholarship.



A LOOK AT THE MINISERIES: THE VANQUISHED

An Exciting New Miniseries Tackles the Eastern Front The Vanquished. When Conflict & Conscience Collide

Article by Adam Bednar, 5th Kompanie GD

As a reenacting community, how many countless hours have we collectively spent re-watching old episodes of Combat? Or how many of us can recite entire scenes from Band of Brothers or The Pacific? I think it would be safe to say that our war movies scarcely have enough time to collect dust on the shelf.

The collective knowledge we gain from films, books, and each other is invaluable to educating the public. From Soviet Rifleman, to American G.I., we are all committed to our impressions and strive to be as authentic as possible. To these ends, the leadership of 5th KP GD has always been on the lookout for projects that help us better delve into the mindset of the German soldier. We believe that we have become involved with just such a project.

The Vanquished is an original miniseries created by reenactors, for reenactors. With an original story created by Richard Russo, Joe Tutkowski, and myself, we have come up with what we consider a truly engaging and original story. It is something of which we are very proud, for we have dedicated untold hours to this series. We are pleased to have this opportunity to share our project with the HRS.



Partisans check the papers of a German dispatch rider.

A LOOK AT THE MINISERIES: THE VANQUISHED

The Vanquished follows the crisis of conscience between two people caught in the crucible of war on the Eastern Front. One survives it, while the other is consumed by it. Our story is reflective of the experiences of millions that were directly affected by one of the most destructive fronts of the war.

In the second year of the war against Russia, the German Army is facing insurmountable odds as their Russian foe gains strength each day. Captain Erich Bodo von Moritz, a dedicated follower of Hitler's New Order, finds his morality put to the test amid an increasingly savage struggle of attrition. His command of an elite German motorized unit is unquestioned by his men, but the values he cherished are slowly eroded as the war spirals out of control. Through one brief encounter, the humanity that he previously discarded is reawakened, lead-ing him to grapple with the downfall of the ideals which guided his life.



Fleeing to the East to escape Nazi persecution, German refugee Anna Muller finds herself doing whatever she must to survive. As a Jew, she is forced to navigate a precarious landscape of suspicion, betrayal, and death. Unable to trust anyone, Anna struggles to retain what faith in humanity she can. One by one, those she considered friends fall victim to vindictiveness and wide scale atrocities. As the tide turns in favor of the Red Army, the increasingly barbaric actions she witnesses forces Anna to choose between saving her life or morality.

A LOOK AT THE MINISERIES: THE VANQUISHED



If you have any questions or comments regarding this exciting new endeavor, drop by The Vanquished website at www.vanquishedseries.com. All comments and inquiries will be forwarded directly to our production team. Be sure to also "like" us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TheVanquished and follow us on Twitter at https://twitter.com/#!/Vanquished01.

SAFETY FIRST!

The Most Dangerous Part of a WWII Reenactment

Article by Tim Scherrer, H Coy, 334th IR, 84 ID

n my 29 years of being in the hobby, I have seen a lot of things happen in the hobby. With the internet's ability to deliver news of the hobby from around the country view email and webboards, a pretty good sense of what is going on in the hobby can be ascertained. Bad news travels pretty quickly, far outpacing good news.

Due to another safety discussion last fall, I thought about what was the most dangerous thing we do at a WWII reenactment. I asked myself this question: What has caused the most consistent and serious injury? What has caused death of reenactors. There are lots of dangerous things in reenacting. We have real firearms hopefully loaded with blanks, homemade pyro techniques, tanks treads that would make a person go crunch under them, airplanes, landing craft, lions, tigers and bears, oh my. So what is the most dangerous thing out there?

It is automobiles. Not the WWII jeeps or even vintage cars, but our own daily driver modern vehicles. My conclusion was this: The most dangerous thing you do at a reenactment is drive to and from it, and out to dinner at night. I have yet to hear about a reenactor who died because of reenacting that did not involve an automobile.



The evidence backs this up. Last fall some reenactors died driving back from Ft Indiantown Gap. The very last Camp Gruber WWII reenactment in 2003 there was a fatal car accident that involved some British reenactors who went out on a Saturday night. There is some hazy memory of some reenactors in the 90s also dying traveling back from a reenactment.

It also appears the most common time for accidents seem to happen on a Saturday night, or Sunday when traveling back home. Driving to the event is a much rarer problem because most people are excited about attended, and focused on getting there. The trip home is many times an afterthought.

SAFETY FIRST!

Once into an event, it can sometimes take on a life of its own. Many of my closest friends are reenactors, and getting together is always a time of joy. We talk too loud, tell too many jokes, stay up too late, and some people drink too much. That makes people distracted and can lead to the Saturday night "going to dinner" accidents.

The drive home is most likely a fatigue issue. Reenactors have been living outside their normal routine. They have slept outside, ate different food, exerted themselves physically more than they usually do, spent too much money, and spent time in the heat or cold. The pressure is off driving home and people relax more. Getting back into civilization is a pleasure of soft seats and climate control of hot and cold. The hum of the highway and real food in your belly puts you asleep. I know coming back from a reenactment with my cadets on a bus, it takes all of ten seconds for them all to be sound asleep.

The second biggest issue is medical emergencies. People overexert themselves or have preexisting medical issues that are exacerbated by being out in the elements and overexertion.



If you are 60, you probably can't hang like you did back in the day when you were in the 82nd. It just doesn't work that way. All medium to large sized reenactment units should have some sort of a medical bag and an evacuation plan in case this happens to someone. It might not be someone in your unit that goes down but someone else might need your help. Having a plan in advance is important so you don't have to get creative under stress. My unit carries a medical bag and a poleless litter wherever we go.

I am not saying all of the safety inspections we do aren't valuable. In fact I would argue they are highly effective because there are so few firearms issues at events. We have a lot of close calls of firing too close, blanks exploding etc, but for the most part, the reenactment injuries are usually twisted ankles, falls, blown knees, etc. These are pretty normal in the course of events.

So, before you drive to and from a reenactment, keep this in mind. Get a good night's sleep before you go to the event, and the last night of the event. If you get tried, pull over and rest. I always tell my guys "nothing we do here is worth any kind of an injury." That being true, it is certainly not worth death or a serious injury. We regularly risk those things in the real military, but this is a hobby. Let's keep the physical cost at the hobby level.

THE EDGE NEEDS YOU!

NOW ACCEPTING ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS!



- You want to share your passion of reenacting?
- Want to tell us about unknown facts of WWII history?
- Perhaps you would like to tell us about your unit?
- Want to share a story of a veteran that changed your life?

What better way than the Edge!!!?

We are now accepting articles that are about WWII history or the hobby or reenacting. Please follow the guideline for article submission:

- 1. Articles must be up to 2,000 words. Longer articles are accepted upon review of the editor.
- 2. Must be WWII history content, or about the hobby of reenacting.
- 3. Must have good grammar and spelling, we double check everything but articles written like text messages will be automatically rejected.
- 4. Must be respectful of others in the hobby.
- 5. **Deadline:** Monday of the third week of each month.

Don't want to write but want to tell your story?

Email us, let us know, we can talk with you or send out a reporter out to you in the field at an event!!

Please send all inquiries to mike.kaczorowski@gmail.com

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HALF PAGE: \$50

QUARTER PAGE: \$37.50

FOR SUBMISSIONS EMAIL

MIKE.KACZOROWSKI@GMAIL.COM

EVENTS BULLETIN



<u>May 2012</u>

May 4, 5, and 6, 2012 WWII TRIBUTE, BUCKLEY HOMESTEAD

Buckly Homestead, Lowell, IN. http://www.lakecountyparks.com/WWII.htm

May 11,12 2012 DRIVEN TO VICTORY "AIRBORNE ALL THE WAY"

Van Hoosen Museum Rochester Hills, Mi 25 mile and Rochester Rds http://www.driventovictory.com

May 12, 2012 RED DAY (Keller Williams Realty sponsors a Renew, Energize, Donate to the community day)

Veterans Hospital, Wichita, KS - I anticipate the reenactment taking place on the south lawn of the facility

Contact: Mike Dillmon mike@mikedillmon.com - or - John Colyer nordland1@cox.net



May 18-20, 2012 ANZIO EXPRESS - NORTH PLATTE CANTEEN Illinois Railway Museum, 7000 Olson Road, Union, IL 60180-9628 http://www.anzio2012.eventbrite.com

May 18, 19 & 20, 2012 ARMED FORCES DAY WWII WEEKEND Dakota City Heritage Village, Farmington, MN http://www.12thssmn.com/dakotacityww2

May 18th-20th 2012, LANSING REMEMBERS WW2 EVENT Lan-Oak Park District 2550 178th street http://lansingilww2event.weebly.com/

19 May, 2012 PAUSE FOR PATRIOTISM

The Perry Farm, Bourbonnais Township Park District 459 North Kennedy Drive, Bourbonnais, Illinois 60914 Pre-Registration: Ron Kapustka at fourboys@ix.netcom.com

June 2012

June 8-10, 2012 RAILS TO VICTORY

Fox River Trolley Museum, 361 South LaFox Street (IL 31), South Elgin, IL 60177 http://railstovictory.eventbrite.com



Saturday, June 9, 2012 10TH ANNUAL HEARTLAND MILITARY DAY

Museum of the Kansas National Guard, 6700 Southwest Topeka Blv, Topeka, Kansas 66619 Pre-Registration:Not required but can contact John Colyer at nordland1@cox.net

June 9 & 10 2012 WWII IN KNOX

Knox, Indiana, Wychogan Park Contact:Terence Morgan, 822 S. 24th St. South Bend IN 46615 (574)232-5804 Keith Diakow, 105 Cherry Dr. Walkerton, IN 46574 (219)369-1474

EVENTS BULLETIN



June 22, 23, and 24 WWII RECREATED, DIXON, ILLINOIS

Elks Page Park, 7883 Lowell Park Rd., Dixon, Illinois http://dixonevent2012.eventbrite.com



(2012 Mountain States Regional) Longmont, Colorado http://worldwartwohrscolorado.com

June 29, 30 & July 1, 2012 LEST WE FORGET - PUBLIC DISPLAY AND BATTLE

Military Encampment, Battle Recreation and Beach Landing St. Joseph and Benton Harbor, Michigan Southwest Michigan Airport, 1123 Territorial Road, Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022 https://stjoe.eventbrite.com



Saturday, June 30 and Sunday, July 1, 2012 WORLD WAR II ENCAMPMENT Trimborn Farm, 8881 W. Grange Ave., Greendale, WI 53129

http://www.milwaukeehistory.net/historic-sites-2/trimborn-farm/world-war-ii-encampment

August 2012

Fri 08/17 (setup) - Sat 08/18 VERNON DAYS "BATTLE FOR NUREMBURG 1945"

Vernon, Colorado http://www.worldwartwohrscolorado.com

MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 2012

Attending the meeting were: David Jameson, Jonathan Stevens, Charlie Gallagher, John Newton, Anthony Noce, Alan Jones, Carlos Ramirez, Ed Godi, Yuri Soroka, and John Lind

The meeting was opened at 7:07 pm. The December minutes were read and accepted by vote.

Due to time conflicts, the 307th AEB, 82nd Abn, was considered for probationary charter. The S&A Committee had recommended to the board that the unit be accepted. A vote was proposed and seconded. The vote was three to accept the unit as a probationary HRS unit.

Old Business

Regional Event Funds: A check had been sent out to Scott Koelling for \$264.00 **Scholarship Funds:** A \$500 check was sent to Western IL University for Jacob Feldhaus. Discussion on online membership dues payments was tabled as the board member who had research was unable for the meeting.

PAHA: The attorney was contacted who had no reply from the PAHA attorney.

New Business

Unit Charters: Two more new unit charters were considered: 3rd Armored Div, 36th Armored Infantry was waiting for the S&A Committee to complete a vote. The unit would be considered between meetings for approval and ratified at the next meeting. SS Gebirgs Rgt. 12 charter was tabled since the proposed unit commander was unable to attend the meeting.

Two units were considered defunct: the 722 Feldkomandantur and IR 104. No members or unit commander in the 722 for two years and IR104 was disbanded by the unit commander. A vote was called and seconded to disband the units. Full charter approval for Great Lakes Waves 9th Naval District was recommended by the S&A Committee. A vote was taken and approved the unit. The 1st Polish Infantry Unit "Tadeusz Kosciuszki" was also recommended by the S&A Committee for full charter. A vote was taken and the unit approved.

Treasurer Report: \$29,858.49 was recorded in the savings and \$13,674.12 was recorded in the checking for a total of \$43,432.61.

Secretary Report: Tabled. Charlie Gallagher reported 64 applications received.

Commonwealth Rep Report: Tabled

Allied Rep Report: Tabled.

Axis Rep Report: Tabled.

Edge Report: Tabled.

Committee Reports: Unit Commanders were discussing minors use of weapons. One point was made that units may have more stringent restrictions such as no minors but events and units need to make sure all restrictions are well advertised and made known if an event has restrictions on minors. A suggestion was made to include any age requirements in the event forms.

Event Request Form: A comment was made to be sure to send in event requests approximately 8 weeks before an event.

Insurance: David Jameson reported the renewal forms from the carrier, Northlund, were very recently received. This includes Directors and Operators Insurance. The cost for 2011 was \$4743 and the cost for 2012 increased somewhat to \$4813. A vote was called to pay the insurance premium after a short discussion. A second was made and the vote was to approve the insurance payment.

Open Comments: Carlos Ramirez explained about their June 23-24 tactical battle in Longmont, CO. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15

MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 2012

Attending the meeting were: Jonathan Stevens, Ronald J Kapustka, Bill Sheets, Bryce Seyko, Alan Jones, Carlos Ramirez, Sherry Atchinson, Scott Atchinson, Rey Ramirez

The Meeting was called to Order at 7:45 pm.

The minutes for January, 2012 were not ready and the reading of same was tabled.

Old Business:

Regional Event Requested Funds: Rockford reimbursement. Tabled as to whether the funds were sent out.

Scholarship Funds: Payout issue tabled.

Online membership Process: Membership Form is ready and will be sent out tonight. Pay Pal option tabled until the e-mail address and the bank accounts are able to be connected to a Pay Pal account. The issue as to whether PayPal was anti-Second Amendment was brought up.

RJK to look into Bid Pay as a possible alternative if Pay Pal does not work.

PAHA: There may be new information on this, but the issue will be tabled at this time.

New Business:

Unit Charters: New charters, SS Gebirgsjaeger Rgt. 12: This Charter is at the S&A Committee for discussion. 3rd Inf Div, 15th Regiment, Company B: Carlos and Rey Ramirez spoke about the history of the Unit, the vehicles they have, parades. Battles, displays, etc, that have been attended by the Unit. Audie Murphy was also part of this Unit and the Unit still exists today. They have several Jeeps, 3 CCKW's, 2 ambulances, 2 half-tracks, a mortar. They have ten members in the Unit. This Charter will be forwarded to the S&A Committee for discussion. Defunct Units: 1st Airborne Recce Squadron: They have not answered any e-mails and had one member in 2011, none for 2012 yet. Bryce motioned to disband which was seconded by Bill Sheets. A vote was taken and the Unit was disbanded. Final Charter Approval: 326th Airborne Medical Company: There has been no communication back from the Unit Commander on a few questions so this vote will be tabled. 36th Armored Inf, 3rd Arm Div: Approval of this Charter was motioned by Bryce and seconded by Bill Sheets. The Charter was approved by the Board

Bill Sheets. The Charter was approved by the Board.

Treasurer Report: Tabled

Secretary Report: 1059 members for 2011. 2012 Application Forms are out. We have 79 Applications in as of today for 2012.

Commonwealth Rep Report: No Report.

Allied Rep Report: Bill Sheets spoke with a 5th Rangers group (Andy Burgess) who

are with the old TSG and are looking to join the HRS. Bill will stay in touch with them.

Axis Rep Report: Tabled

Edge Report: Two people have responded that they are interested in working on The Edge. It is believed that this position will be filled by the next board meeting, possibly by the two of them working together.

Committee Reports: S&A: Committee working on several Charters.Unit Commanders: We need to make sure that all CO's are on the E-mail distribution group.

Event Support Form Update: This form is on the website and was sent out to all CO's. We have received two requests so far, but both need more information provided.

One was a tactical in June in Colorado and an event in Lansing, Illinois. Lowell is also rumored to be sending one in as well as the Yorkville event.

Insurance Update: The insurance premium went up a bit from 2011, but it was renewed for 2012. **Open Comments:** No comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

YOUR NEW HRS NEWSLETTER IS HERE!





US Sherman and Infantry at Rockford (photo courtesy Jeff Skender)