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Fellow WWII HRS members,

The deadline for declaring candidacy for the position of WWII HRS Vice President was extended to August 7.

The election will commence August 8 lasting two weeks ending on August 22. Only those who are current 2013 members as of Aug 7 will be eligible to vote.

The vote will be conducted on Ballotbin.com as have the last several elections. You will receive an electronic ballot via your email address included on your HRS membership. Several notifications will be sent during the vote as a reminder to vote. No paper ballots will be issued or accepted. The results will be announced August 23. One warning if you click on "opt out of elections" you will be permanently removed any voting on Ballotbin.com with no easy way to add back your voting ability.

Lastly, if anyone has any questions on membership please contact myself, Ron Kapustka, or Eddie Mayton.

Thanks and see you in the field!
Jonathan Stevens
WWII HRS President, acting
Candidate for HRS Vice President

My name is Michael Kaczorowski and I would like to announce my candidacy for the WWII HRS Vice President position.

I began my adventure with history already as a small child, having my interest in WWII sparked by learning English in Poland from a veteran of the Polish Free Army in the West. I have seen much evidence of WWII growing up in Poland and Germany and heard firsthand accounts from many German and Polish veterans. After arriving in the United States and completing high school I enrolled at North Central College in Naperville Illinois and completed a degree in Political Science and German. During my sophomore year I was exposed to WWII reenacting for the very first time and instantly became heavily involved in it.

Over the past few years I have collected various and numerous militaria, completed a variety of impressions and was able to reenact with many outstanding units portraying the Polish, German, American and British soldier. Two years ago I became a member of the Safety and Authenticity Committee and I also was an interim Edge editor and experienced what it means to work behind its publishing.

I always found that the key to a successful and well completed impression was research. This is why so many units within the HRS have been of high quality compared to units in other domestic and foreign reenacting organizations. As years progress the quality of equipment and resources improves and I would like to see this to continue happening in our organization. I would like to not only preserve our already high quality standards but to also see a successful enforcement of them and improvement, in order to keep our organization as the largest, most prosperous and quality in the United States.

I would like to keep an open line of communication between our membership and our Safety and Authenticity Committee and our Board of Directors. Many Society members that know me know that I am a non-confrontational person, and I would like to keep the discussions civil and engaging where at the end of the day everyone can shake their hands and go on back to their normal lives without worries about their hobby. I believe that business in the society should be conducted in a timely manner. HRS membership processing, the review of new charters should all be completed in a time frame that does not involve months at a time. I would like to make a personal promise that I will make sure that especially HRS memberships and cards will be processed in weeks not months.

Lastly I would like to see the HRS as an organization to be more involved in positive promotion of WWII reenacting. As well as an allocation of Society funds that can benefit the Society and the membership base. Protection of our rights as reenactors that concern firearms, since the second amendment is vital to WWII reenacting. Most important of all I would like to see the Society to be more involved in veteran affairs, volunteering or sponsoring veteran organizations, helping those who fought for our freedom, so that today we even have the freedom to reenact.

I see our Society growing not only in numbers but also as an entity. Just like so many of us grow as reenactors, from snotty kids asking a million questions old veterans and other reenactors, to someone who is highly knowledgeable and helpful. So I would like to see our Society be helpful and provide assistance to its membership as well as others outside of the hobby.

Sincerely,
Michael Kaczorowski
(Mike.Kaczorowski@Gmail.Com)
Candidate for HRS Vice President

I am Dan Nichols.
I am taking this opportunity to announce that I am entering my name for the position of Vice President of the Historical Re-enactors Society (HRS). I have been re-enacting for approximately 4 years and in that time I have seen a lot of good things that have and are being done with some things that I feel need to be changed. The HRS is a good organization with great intentions. I feel we need to get back to the purpose of an organization and look out for members and potential members. We as an organization should be supporting all events that are there whether they are HRS events or not. The best way to get membership up is to show all re-enactors we are there for the hobby not selfishness for ourselves. Attending other functions and putting on a professional demeanor is the best way to show who we are and what we are doing. As a member of the HRS at times I have been embarrassed by what some others say and do at events. Just because you set on a board you are not the know all and be all of re-enacting. When you go to events and act this way it reflects on the individual but more importantly it reflects on the HRS.

My goal is to insure that every member of the HRS is treated with respect and all re-enactors no matter what organization they belong to is also treated this way. Every person in this hobby, and it is a hobby, should have the right to attend an event and not be criticized or put down for what they have or have not to wear, eat, play or fire. Some of the hobbyists are in a place in life where money may be tight or have family issues that doesn’t allow them to get the most expensive kits out there.

Safety is very important is this hobby. Most of the weapons are real and someone can get hurt badly if they are not careful. We as the HRS must take safety as our number one priority at events. This is also true with individuals who violate the HRS, Event and State rules and laws. One goal is to put together a committee of HRS members from the Law Enforcement community to look at any complaints that might arise at events from undesirables who have made their way into the hobby and continues to violate rules and laws, and recommend actions to the board. This way we can govern ourselves before someone comes in and governs us.

Authenticity is also important to the hobby. Authenticity should also be put in moderation though. As I stated earlier we need to be authentic but within the constraints of economics. Most people in re-enacting stay to the authenticity of their impression. When we do this we must remember what the impression is and the time period they are portraying. Not every soldier during the war was a cookie cutter and if we are going to be authentic we need to realize this. Do we want to teach the people that come out to events the truth about war or glorify it? We need to look at each impression individually and what the event is and see if they meet the authentic standards of the time. Also the impression should be looked at by the event staff if there are any questions about standards. We need to bring more people into the hobby not run them off at events. We need to govern but not dictate what an impression is. The one thing that will kill or hobby for getting new units and members is us being “stitch Nazi’s”.

This is my intent and main goals for being on the board of the HRS. My number one goal is to foster a sense of ownership among the members and give back to the hobby. We need to help smaller events as well as big events flourish. Support for all events should be unilateral and location or size should not be a factor. Every event in the HRS region should be treated equally and supported the same. It is about the hobby, the members, and the organization in that order. We should be here to give back to the hobby with whatever is needed to insure success at events.

Thank you for the time.
Dan Nichols (DNicholsBSA@Yahoo.COM)
Greetings,

My name is Kirk Gustafson, and I would like the opportunity to serve you and the WWII Historical Re-enactment Society (HRS) in the position of Vice President. A little background information about me. I am 50 years old, married and have four grown children. My youngest, Logan, is currently in Basic Combat Training with the US Army Reserve. My wife and I moved recently from Nebraska where we both grew up, to Illinois. The move also precipitated me finding a new re-enacting unit that I could fall in with.

I have been re-enacting since about 2002. Shortly after getting started with the 134th Infantry, 35th Division (Nebraska Soldiers), I became one of the charter members of the 23rd Infantry, 2nd Division. I held several leadership positions while a member of the 23rd Regiment.

One of the biggest changes I’ve had to adjust to since moving to Illinois and joining the 90th Division is the different nature of most events in the area. In the Great Plains (we called it the Midwest), most battles were private tactical events. Here in Illinois, most events I have been to, or heard about are public events, and tend to scripted. The events seem to be more numerous here, and the venues are typically very good, with varied terrain and road networks.

Over the years, I have seen a lot of changes in the HRS, and I think we are headed in a good direction. I know that it takes a lot of time and personal commitment to volunteer for a leadership position in this or any organization. I feel I am at a point in my life where I have the time and perspective to make that commitment. I would like to help the HRS continue to improve, and help direct the organization moving forward. Thank you, and best regards,

Kirk Gustafson
90 Infantry Division, US Army (re-enacted)
(Kirk.Gustfson@Comcast.Net)
### August 2013

**17 Aug**

**10TH ANNUAL VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY**

**Loc:** 2808 Old Hunning Rd, High Ridge, MO 63049  
**Dates:** 17 August 2013  
**Event Times:** 12 noon till 6pm  
**Registration Times:** 10am 17 Aug  
**Pre-Registration:** [http://10thannualveteransappreciationday.eventbrite.com](http://10thannualveteransappreciationday.eventbrite.com)  
**Fee:** N/A  
**Contact:** Gary Adkins, FSSF 6-3 papajoad@20thcenturygi.com or Ken DeClue - Event Chairman at 314-723-0117  
**Website:** [http://veteransappreciationdayhighridgemo.webs.com](http://veteransappreciationdayhighridgemo.webs.com)  
**Authenticity Notes:** HRS rules apply  
**Prohibited Vehicles/Items:** NO live munitions  
**Restrictions on Minors:** NO underage drinking  
**Other restrictions:** N/A  
**Sponsoring Unit(s):** First Special Service Force, 6th CO 3rd REG, HRS / Second 25th Australian Infantry Battalion, 25th Brigade, 7th Division

### September 2013

**06-08 Sep**

**WORLD WAR TWO DAYS**

**Loc:** Dellwood Park, Lockport, IL  
**Dates:** September 6-8, 2013  
**Event Times:** 9:00 am Friday to 5:00 pm Saturday  
**Registration Times:** 12:00 pm Friday  
**Pre-Registration:** Yes  
**Fee:** None  
**Contact:** Rich Russo vizsla25@sbcglobal.net  
**Website:** [http://www.lockportwwii.com/](http://www.lockportwwii.com/)  
**Authenticity Notes:** HRS Rules Apply  
**Prohibited Vehicles/Items:** None  
**Restrictions on Minors:** HRS Rules Apply  
**Other restrictions:** None  
**Sponsoring Unit(s):** 5.Kp GrossDeutschland

**07-08 Sep**

**SALUTE TO VETERANS OF WWII**  
**MILITARY ENCAMPMENT AND BATTLE RECREATION**  
**VINCENNES, INDIANA**

**Loc:** Indiana Military Museum, 715 S. 6th Street, Vincennes, Indiana 47591  
**Date:** September 7-8, 2013  
**Event Times:**  
- Friday September 6, Open for setup 1pm  
- Saturday September 7, Gates open 9am – 5pm, displays, ground battle, museum tour, evening movie social  
- Sunday September 8, Gates open 9am – 4m, displays, ground battle  
- S&A Saturday 9am. Attendance required by all participants  
- Unit Commanders Briefing Saturday at S&A - Overview of event schedule and updates  
**Registration Check-in Times:** Friday September 6, 4pm – 9pm  
**Pre-Registration:** Registration required [https://indianamilitarymuseum.eventbrite.com](https://indianamilitarymuseum.eventbrite.com)  
**Fee:** None  
**Contact:** Jan & Bill Sheets Email jsheets1812@gmail.com Phone (317) 788-1836  
**Map:** See [http://www.vincennescvb.org/](http://www.vincennescvb.org/)  
**Website:** [http://www.indymilitary.com/](http://www.indymilitary.com/)  
**Authenticity Notes:** All HRS rules apply.
<table>
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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>WWII DAYS MIDWAY VILLAGE, ROCKFORD IL.</td>
<td>19-22 Sep</td>
<td>Midway Village, 6799 Guilford Road, Rockford, IL</td>
<td>September 19, 20, 21, and 22</td>
<td>-Thursday Sept. 19: 12:00pm Gates open for setup</td>
<td>-Saturday Sept. 21: 11:00am-5:00pm Museum is open to the public</td>
<td>-7:00pm Park closes to everyone</td>
<td>Registration will be located at the hospital, we will have signs pointing you in the right direction.</td>
<td>Thursday Sept 19, 2pm-9pm Please do not arrive before 12:00pm Thursday!</td>
<td>Pre-Registration: Unit CO's: Please e-mail Scott Koelling or Dave Fornell (<a href="mailto:davewwii@comcast.net">davewwii@comcast.net</a>) to pre-register your unit beginning April 1. Individuals with approved unit may not preregister until June 1.</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Scott Koelling, 2.Panzer Division - Overall coordinator</td>
<td><a href="http://ww2rockfordevent.com">http://ww2rockfordevent.com</a></td>
<td>No overnight vehicles permitted in campsite area.</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td><a href="http://hotelguides.com/missouri/mexico-mo-hotels.html">http://hotelguides.com/missouri/mexico-mo-hotels.html</a> or <a href="http://www.mexico-chamber.org/BusinessDirectoryII.aspx?lngBusinessCategoryID=16">http://www.mexico-chamber.org/BusinessDirectoryII.aspx?lngBusinessCategoryID=16</a></td>
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<td>WALK BACK IN TIME</td>
<td>27-29 Sep</td>
<td>Audrain County Historical Society, 501 South Muldrow Street, Mexico, MO 65265</td>
<td>27-29 September 2013</td>
<td>The event runs all weekend, with a school day on Friday, and camps open from 10am-4pm, with Candlelight tours on Saturday evening</td>
<td>8-9pm Friday and 730-9am Saturday</td>
<td>The event is free for participants, and they provide a Saturday night dinner.</td>
<td>Tim Scherrer 573-489-4891 or <a href="mailto:soldierboy440@yahoo.com">soldierboy440@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.audrain.org">http://www.audrain.org</a> and <a href="http://www.railsplitterslivinghistory.org">http://www.railsplitterslivinghistory.org</a></td>
<td>Entering Mexico from the south on Highway 54, take Business 54 near Walmart and follow it into town. Where Business 54 intersects Boulevard Street, turn left (Bus 54 goes right)), go two blocks and turn right on to Muldrow Street. Drive 4 blocks and the historical society is on the left. Entering Mexico from the East on Highway 54-take Business 54, including the left turn at agricultural street. Follow agricultural street around the long turn becoming Boulevard Street. Where Business 54 turns left on to Clark street, go straight another two blocks and turn right on Muldrow street. The site is on the left 4 blocks on Muldrow Street.</td>
<td>WWII HRS S&amp;A rules apply</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mexico-chamber.org/BusinessDirectoryII.aspx?lngBusinessCategoryID=16">http://www.mexico-chamber.org/BusinessDirectoryII.aspx?lngBusinessCategoryID=16</a></td>
<td>84th Infantry Division Railsplitters</td>
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<td>18-20 Oct</td>
<td>WELCOME HOME, STARS AND STRIPES REMEMBERS WW II</td>
<td>Stars &amp; Stripes National Military Museum &amp; Library, 17377 Stars and Stripes Way, Bloomfield, MO 63825</td>
<td>18-20 October 2013</td>
<td>Open to the public: 9am - 5pm 19 October 2013</td>
<td>3-7pm 18 October 2013 &amp; 7-9am 19 October 2013</td>
<td>Eventbrite Link: <a href="http://ssrwwii.eventbrite.com">http://ssrwwii.eventbrite.com</a></td>
<td>Free to re-enactors, nominal fee for the public</td>
<td>Gary Adkins: <a href="mailto:papajoad@20thcenturygi.com">papajoad@20thcenturygi.com</a> or Sean Burton: <a href="mailto:ALEX6357@aol.com">ALEX6357@aol.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://welcomehomestarsstripesrememberswwii.webs.com/map">http://welcomehomestarsstripesrememberswwii.webs.com/map</a></td>
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<td>19 Oct</td>
<td>BATTLE OF ARDEN</td>
<td>Arden Hill Army Training Site: Arden Hills, MN</td>
<td>October 19, 2013</td>
<td>9 am until 5 pm</td>
<td>6 am until 8 am</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>Darren Byrnes - <a href="mailto:ww2repro@comcast.net">ww2repro@comcast.net</a></td>
<td><a href="http://home.comcast.net/~30thhrs/arden1.html">http://home.comcast.net/~30thhrs/arden1.html</a></td>
<td>See website</td>
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**Authenticity Notes:**
- All HRS Safety and authenticity Rules apply
- East meets West event - 1945
- Vehicle friendly area.
- No camping, digging, alcohol - NO MINORS.
- Several within 5 miles of the site.

**Sponsoring Unit(s):**
- 117th Infantry Regiment / 30th Infantry Division
World War 2 days in Lockport is returning for its third year after a great 2012 event. This year we will be even larger than last with the addition of many more activities and events both for the re-enactors and the public.

All ETO impressions are welcome, although this year will return our focus to the Western Front for the main field battles, with some smaller scale Eastern Front and Early War battles to take place as well.

Due to the huge popularity of this event in the local community, the Park District and the Event hosts have had the opportunity to add some new activities to the schedule.

New for 2013
The Park District has worked with the Experimental Aircraft Association to change the date of their annual fly in to Lewis University Airport to coincide with the WW2 Days event.

What does this mean? This means that the EAA’s B-17 Aluminum Overcast will be doing fly overs, along with many other WW2 vintage aircraft. As part of the event the Park District will be offering a FREE shuttle service between the event at Dellwood Park and the airport, so you will be able to see both events! The EAA will be selling rides in the B-17, see the event website or video below for details.

Watch this Video of a flight in the EAA’s B-17 Aluminum Overcast
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dhLYMrqFHi

Friday Evening the local Moose Lodge will be hosting a Spaghetti dinner for ALL re-enactors.

More activities are still being added, check the event website and Facebook page for further details.

Returning for 2013
Just as in the last 2 years the event will feature 2 main battles a day on a large battlefield with pre-constructed fortifications, foxholes, and buildings. We will also do a twilight battle on Saturday which will be a different theme than the main field battles. All battles will again include armor and heavy weaponry, this year 2nd Panzers Hetzer will be making its debut at this event. The Military Veterans Museum has been invited to bring their T-34-85 Tank.

We will be having a battlefield work day on August 29th to build buildings, emplacements, and fortifications, any help is appreciated.

The Park district is once again bussing in WW2 veterans and hopes for similar attendance as last year, with around 40 vets attending. It is a truly unique experience to visit the VIP tent with these veterans.
Dellwood Park, Lockport IL

WW2 Days 2013

Event Schedule

Saturday, September 7th

9:00 a.m. – Park Opens
9:15 a.m. – Flag Raising by VFW Post 5788
10:15 a.m. – WWII Weapons Demo
11:30 a.m. – Battle
1:00 p.m. – Andrews Sisters Performance
2:00 p.m. – Homefront Presentation
2:30 p.m. – WWII Vet Procession to Battlefield
3:00 p.m. – Battle with Pyrotechnics
4:00 p.m. – Tribute to WW2 Vets
4:30 p.m. – Music and Dance Lessons, Live Band
6:30 p.m. – Dusk Battle (Eastern Front or 1939)
7:15 p.m. – USO Show, Live Band

Sunday, September 8th

9:00 a.m. – Park Opens
9:15 a.m. – Flag Raising by VFW Post 5788
10:15 a.m. – WWII Weapons Demo
11:30 a.m. – Battle
12:30 p.m. – WW2 Girls Baseball Demo
1:00 p.m. – Andrews Sisters Performance
3:00 p.m. – Battle with Pyrotechnics
4:00 p.m. – Tribute to Veterans and Servicemen

For more event information, re-enactor registration, and directions please visit the event website. [http://www.lockportwwii.com](http://www.lockportwwii.com)
Or contact Rich Russo: vizsla25@sbcglobal.net

2012 Events Videos

WW2 Battle Introduction
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vHPUPCa vzg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vHPUPCa vzg)

Invasion of Poland
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WROFX8daimM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WROFX8daimM)

Invasion of Russia
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zRiSw6p7Qr8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zRiSw6p7Qr8)

WW2 Battle France
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TwH3FLfYy2U](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TwH3FLfYy2U)

WW2 Allied Army Weapons Demonstration
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sbwVqJnajqk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sbwVqJnajqk)

WW2 German Army Weapons Demonstration
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bz7KBbhXIk8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bz7KBbhXIk8)

Public WW2 Displays
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EB_BBOXDxv4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EB_BBOXDxv4)
Experience the World War II Era at

Midway Village Museum
Rockford's History Museum

Ever wonder what life was like during the 1940s both on the home front and overseas? Find out! Attend the World War II Days at Midway Village Museum on Saturday, September 21 and Sunday, 22. More than 1,000 uniformed re-enactors from across the Midwest will participate in the events bringing elaborate displays and showcasing realistic battles complete with tanks, artillery, armored vehicles, and exciting pyrotechnic displays. Re-enactors represent soldiers of World War II from the United States, Great Britain, France, Poland, Ukraine, Russia, Japan, Italy and Germany along with 70 to 80 vintage tanks, halftracks and other 1940s era military vehicles!

Saturday the narrated battle shows are featured at 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Sunday the battle show time is 2:30 p.m. Maps of the event site will be available when visitors arrive showcasing the battlefield and the various encampments and attractions.

Admission tickets can be purchased at the Event Gates on Saturday and Sunday. Online ticket registration deadline is 5 p.m. Thursday, September 19, 2013. See below for admission pricing.
Visitors will also experience:

- Elaborate 1940s displays in historical buildings on the museum property acting as the backdrop of a European village during World War II
- Encampments of Allied and Axis troops in the Midway Village woods and realistic skirmishes integrated in the historic village
- Pacific Theater battles in the woods with soldiers dressed as U.S. Marines and Japanese infantry
- German cavalry scenes
- Soldiers’ base camps filled with period vehicles, tents and artifacts
- Shop for World War II memorabilia from numerous vendors
- Expanded food service including Burritt’s Meat Products of Rockford
- A 1940s era USO-style swing dance Saturday at Veterans Memorial Hall in Rockford

Event Transportation
Shuttles run from the parking lots and within the event to accommodate visitors needing assistance. Shuttles are available for visitors to use as a transport system during the event at the event site, if needed. Please, do not bring personal golf carts. Event shuttles include a wagon ride to and from the parking lots and battlefield and several passenger golf carts in the historical village.

One-Day Admission
$12 adults; $6 for children (3 to 17); and free for World War II veterans and Museum Members

Two-Day Admission Pass
Two day event passes are $18 for adults; $9 for children (there is too much to see it all in just one day).

Parking
Parking is free and located off of Perryville Road and also off of Guilford Road. Plenty of handicap parking is available. For those with limited mobility, roving multi-person golf carts dedicated to shuttling visitors who need assistance. There are no ATMs available on the museum campus. No pets are allowed.

The event is rain or shine and the hours are:
Saturday, September 21, 2013  11 a.m. until 5 p.m.
Sunday, September 22, 2013  11 a.m. until 4 p.m.
Midway Village Museum is located at 6799 Guilford Road, approximately 1/4 mile east from Guilford and Perryville Roads.

For additional details on the event, check the museum website for regular updates as the event approaches at www.midwayvillage.com.

Schedule of Events
Thursday Sept. 19:
8am  Gates open for setup

-Friday Sept. 20:
9:00am  Camp setup stops for school tours
8am MP and FG briefing at the Police Station in the village, building 24
2:15pm  Camp setup continues
11:00pm  Quiet Time

Saturday Sept 21:
7a-9a Free breakfast to HRS members MUST have HRS membership card.
8am MP and FG briefing at the Police Station in the village, building 24
10am  Safety and Authenticity starts, S&A will be held at West end of village where the public parks.
10:30am  Field Battle CO meeting-All unit CO's and/or NCO's required to attend if your unit would like to participate in battles at main battlefield, meet at main battlefield
10:45am  All personal vehicles must be out of Historic Living Camp areas
11am  Museum opens to the public
11:30am  Vignettes/skits start and will run throughout the day
11:30am  1st Woods Battle
1:30pm  Field Battle starts
2:30pm  2nd Woods Battle
3:30pm  Field Battle starts
4:30pm  3rd Woods Battle
5:00pm  Museum closes to the public
7:00pm  USO Dance at Memorial Hall, there will be buses running to and from the museum and Memorial Hall, reenacters must be in uniform.
12:00am  Quiet Time, this will be strictly enforced!
Sunday Sept 22:
8am MP and FG briefing at the Police Station in the village, building 24
10am Safety and Authenticity-Held in front of Hospital for those who did not
attend Saturday
9:30am Church Services, located in the Church, Building 15 in the village
Services by Bob Starr and Del Miller
10:30am Field Battle CO meeting-All unit CO's and/or NCO's required to
attend if your unit would like to participate in battles at main battle field, meet at
main battlefield.
10:45am All personal vehicles must be out of Historic Living Camp area
11am Museum opens to the public
11:30am Vignettes/skits start will run throughout the day
11:30am 1st Woods Battle
1:00pm 2nd Woods Battle
2:30pm Field battle starts
4pm Museum closes to the public
4pm Personal vehicles allowed on camp area IF all public are out of Living
History camp area, all clear will be given by Military Police!
7pm Park closes to everyone

House Rules

House rules were made up by event staff on request from Midway Village, these
rules will be followed!

• All re-enactors will go through HRS Safety and Authenticity inspections along
with spot checks in Living History Campsite by Event Staff and Military Police
Units. Any discrepancies will be addressed and corrected immediately. Any Unit
who cannot correct their FARB will be camping in the Modern Camping Area in
re-enactor parking lot.

• All camps are assigned. Camps are pre-arranged prior to the event by
contacting event staff. Returning units need to check in with event staff by Aug.
1 or risk losing their site. New units will be placed on a waiting list and assigned
a camp as space is available. Units that leave prior to the end of the event on
Sunday afternoon might have their camps reassigned the following year.

• Site-wide speed limit is 5 mph

• Please unload quickly and then move POVs out of the camp and village areas,
otherwise the roads quickly jam up with parked cars.

• NO live ammo allowed, only blanks should be carried or in your possession.

• All NFA laws and rules, as well as Illinois State Firearm laws will be enforced.
If you live in the state of Illinois, you will have on you a FOID card, PERIOD!

• All class 3/NFA weapons will be checked for proper papers, ATF Form 3 and
4, and approved ATF Form 5320.20

Event Coordinaters
Scott Koelling (SKoelling@AOL.Com) 1-847-309-3389
Dave Fornell (wwiidave@Comcast.Net) 1-847-347-7470
• 2300 (11:00pm) Quiet Time will be in effect, QUIET socializing will be permitted around campfires.

• No overnight vehicles permitted in campsite area.

• Haircuts will be to Military Standards. NO beards or hiding long hair under helmets or hats. Just come to the event with the proper haircut and facial hair.

• Your equipment, uniform, weapon, and vehicle should have been issued in WWII. Any item converted to look like WWII equipment will be judged by event staff, if it is not accepted then it must be removed.

• All tents should be WWII, reproduction or converted to very close resemblance of WWII tents. No 10-man arctic or post-war hexagonal tents allowed. WWII style GP small, mediums and larges are allowed, but space may limit where they can be placed.

• No Nazi Party/Political items will be worn, this also includes any other counties political items. No flying of German or Nazi Party/Political flags PERIOD.

• The public battles will be European Theater of Operations (ETO) from the 1944-45 period. However, any other WWII impressions are allowed, but will not be allowed in the main field battles, woods or village skirmishes unless prearranged (example – Soviet vs. Germans town battle).

• Re-enactors of the age of 16 & 17 years MUST HAVE a parent or guardian signed WWII HRS Minor's Waiver to participate as non-combatants. This waiver should be filled out before the event, contact the WWII HRS for information. Ages 16-17 can wear uniforms, but are not allowed to participate in any battles for in the firing of weapons. Only participants ages 18 and older can participate in the battles and fire live firearms.

• Semi-auto versions of full-auto versions, must look exactly alike and will not have longer barrels.

• Gas operated weapons should only be used in vehicles.

• M-1 carbines will not have the bayonet lug.

• During battles, no throwing of any pyro in/around any vehicles, armored vehicles or field guns (German PAK-40 AT-Gun or IG-18 Infantry Gun — These guns fire black powder charges, and may ignite fuel. Some vehicles have poorly sealed gas caps because they are 70 years old – others use propane gun systems)

• Fire pits in the village are allowed, but must be kept small and the grass replaced on Sunday.

• Digging positions in the woods camps will be allowed on a case by case basis by event staff – but ask first. As a rule, holes must be dug at least 5 feet from the edge of the road and cannot present a walking or driving hazard — positions that do not meet this rule will be filled in.

This page features images and videos related to the WWII Historical Re-enactment Society (HRS) events. Here are the links to some videos:

Rockford, ILL
Midway Village Museum
YouTube Videos
By Heinz Thiel

HRS 13 Rockford 2012 Battle Part 1
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6axP2CtGcLM

HRS 13 Rockford 2012 Battle Part 2
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xbj39HJNA14

HRS 15 Rockford ALL Before Breakfast
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1CEffgcu1Og

HRS 16 Rockford 2012 Inspect Then Show
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jyPsWYIRqHE

HRS 17 Rockford 2012 Camps and Woods Battle
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vUquVoA77Z4

HRS 18 Rockford 2012 Town Battle
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=toTCegpWKe4
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9th Infantry Division
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jstevensww2@sbcglobal.net

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wwiispartan@aol.com

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Kenosha WI 53140
charliegallagher@sbcglobal.net

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fourboys@ix.netcom.com

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WW2 HRS Press Corps
GD5.Heinz.Thiel@GMail.Com

Webmasters
John Olsen
john.olsen@wheaton.edu
Joshua Olsen
wolfiejo@yahoo.com

HOW TO ATTEND a Board Meeting:
Monthly teleconference Board meetings are open to all members. Members do not need to register for the meetings nor do they need to contact the president or any board members.

They need to contact their unit commander for the call information to include phone number and password. This creates less of a choke point and gets the information out to more with less hassle.

The monthly board meeting time/dates will change to accommodate the board members time schedules. Please contact your unit commander for more information regarding date, time, and log on information.
All of the HRS Board Meeting Minutes from the past five years are posted on the HRS WEB Site. Current HRS By-Law call for these official business reports to be re-published here in The Edge. See the BOD Minutes Page at [http://WorldWarTwoHrs.org/Business.htm](http://WorldWarTwoHrs.org/Business.htm) for past meeting Minutes.

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<tr>
<th>2013 Minutes</th>
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About Us

The World War Two Historical Re-enactment Society is an organization of over 1200 men and women members from coast to coast, as well as Canada and Europe. Our mission is to bring the history of World War Two to life with public displays, simulated battles, participation in parades, and a variety of other community activities.

The society strives to honor and preserve the memory of those who served in World War Two, as well as preserve the artifacts of that period.

Our members carry out a wide range of historical impressions, including those of The United States, the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union, Poland, and Germany.

Our focus is entirely on the military history of World War Two. We have no sympathy for the ideology of Nazism or fascism. Such beliefs are not welcome here.

If this exciting and rewarding hobby appeals to you, please consider joining us. Our hobby is dependent upon the talents and enthusiasm of its members and there is always room for new interest! Please contact any of our board members today for more information.

The

WEB Site Is Hosted by Socket.NET
Board Meeting 27 JUNE 2013

ROLL CALL:
Position    Name       Present
President:  Jonathan Stevens  YES
Vice President:  Open
Treasurer:  Charles Gallagher  NO
Secretary:  Eddie Mayton  NO
Allied Representative: Ron Kapustka  YES
Commonwealth Rep:  Bryce Seyko  YES
Axis Representative: Doug Loge  YES
Newsletter Editors:  Jeff Skender  YES
Business Manager:  David Jameson  YES

HRS Members Present: Pollie Blanton, Dave Weakley, Alan Jones, Jim Schouten, Carlos Ramirez

Reading of the May, 2013 Minutes:
The May, 2013 meeting minutes were read by Jon Stevens. A motion was made by Ron Kapustka to approve the minutes as read, which was seconded by Doug Loge. A vote was taken and the Minutes were approved as read.

Old Business
Regional Event Funding Guidelines. This will be taken off the Agenda and revisited as needed.

New Business - Unit Charters
New Charters:
7th Infantry Division: Still working on their Charter. Should be done next month. Tabled until they are finished.
USO Camp Shows: Charter in the S&A Committee now. An Amendment was recently submitted and will be discussed.
Midwest Women’s Historical Baseball League: Waiting for some information on their insurance issue. Once received, it will be forwarded to the S&A Committee.
3rd Panzergrenadiers Division: Chris Adams’ Unit has five current HRS members. They are located in Central Missouri and believe that the US Unit, the Railsplitters in Mexico, MO, will be their “sister” Unit. Kansas City and St. Louis have more Units, but this Unit will be a centrally located Heer Unit. They expect to concentrate on the Italian front. Currently have a WW2 truck and a motorcycle. Have 4-5 additional potential members. Want to come up with an environment for new people who want to “try out” reenacting. Their Charter will be sent to the S&A Committee for consideration. Tabled for now.

Probationary Charters:
SS Gebirgsjaeger Rgt. 7: This Unit was considered by the S&A Committee which approved the Unit for consideration. Bryce Seyko made a motion to bring the Charter to a vote, which was seconded by Ron Kapustka. A vote was taken and the Charter was approved and accepted as a fully chartered Unit.

Defunct Charters:
American Red Cross Welfare Unit: Jon Stevens spoke with this Unit who advised they would be merging with another Unit and they asked that the Unit be removed from the website and the Unit Rolls which will be taken care of.

Treasurer Report: PNC Bank shows $47,924.05 in savings account and $3,896.72 in checking. The Wells Fargo account has $1,754.20 for a total of $53,574.97.

Secretary Report: Eddie Mayton was unable to attend, however, he provided information that the HRS currently has 725 members.

Commonwealth Report: Bryce reported on a large group of Commonwealth going to the Conneaut, OH event. Approximately 30 troops.


Axis Report: Doug Loge reported on contact with some German Units which had lesser numbers of members about growing their Units to meet the minimum numbers of troops. He will continue to check on Units and their member numbers. Doug also brought up the Grant Proposal issue from last month and is withdrawing the Proposal at this time. He also reported on the four recognized “parent” groups and will provide that information in the next issue of The Edge.

Edge Report: The July Edge is nearly complete. Jeff needs a Treasurers Report to include and Jon suggested Jeff call Charlie direct. Jeff also needs the May Minutes and Jon will send them out to him. Doug will send Jeff some information for the July issue tonight.

Business Manager Report: David Jameson had submitted an Invoice for insurance to Jon for $206.00 for Additional Insured statements for two events. A discussion was held with regard to insurance for the baseball games and whether the HRS insurance will cover the baseball game and players. David reported that IF the members of the teams were HRS members, they would be covered, just like a member of any other HRS Unit at an HRS event.

Committee Reports:
S&A - The SS Unit was considered and they are working on the USO Charter and soon, the other Charters discussed above.

Unit Commanders -Membership forms sent out monthly.

Vehicle – HRS vehicle listing is being worked on. Jim discussed putting together an article for The Edge on etiquette while being around armor. Doug reported on three new revisions to the HRS Vehicle Rules.

Legislative Committee- Still working on forming the Committee.

Finance Committee -This Committee was proposed but there was no interest in forming it.

Vice President Special Election: Doug reported on the Special Election. It will be submitted in the July edition of The Edge.

New Issue (not on the Agenda) Jon brought up the issue of advertising (in The Edge) such as upcoming events and things, like is done in the Military Trader. Bryce asked if that would be up to the event organizer, whether the event should be added to The Edge. Pollie liked the idea about getting the word about events out to more people. A discussion was held regarding event advertising. HRS Scholarship. Jon reported that Two applications were received and the deadline is July 1st.

Open Comments:
Carlos Rameriz asked about funding for the porta-johns at the last year’s event. It was discussed that it was not clear that the funding request had been approved by the Board. Carlos will do some research on the issue.

A motion to adjourn the Meeting was made by Bryce Seyko and seconded by Doug Loge. A vote was taken and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Commander</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dale Taylor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lahfuhrer@frontier.com">lahfuhrer@frontier.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wayne Schemmer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:majorschemmer@aol.com">majorschemmer@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Saxton</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rssaxton42@gmail.com">rssaxton42@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Scott Hayes</td>
<td><a href="mailto:obfwhayes@hotmail.com">obfwhayes@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>David Serikaku</td>
<td><a href="mailto:serikaku-d49@msn.com">serikaku-d49@msn.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rey Ramirez</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wikingfreiwillingen@hotmail.com">wikingfreiwillingen@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Todd Morris</td>
<td><a href="mailto:coffthovii@msn.com">coffthovii@msn.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Comer,</td>
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<tr>
<td>John O'Ddonnell</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fortyandeights@yahoo.com">fortyandeights@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dennis Sullivan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Darren Byrnes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scott Steben</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Colyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Michalski</td>
<td>(contact-Lawrence Thomas)<a href="mailto:breachplug@hotmail.com">breachplug@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jonathan Stevens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Kaczorowski</td>
<td>Mike.Kaczorowski Gmail.Com</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dave Fornell</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wwiidave@comcast.net">wwiidave@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chuck Roberts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alan Miltich</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gary Fox</td>
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<td>Maxwell Roth</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Tobin</td>
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<td>Philip Owens</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bg105ecb@comcast.net">bg105ecb@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dave Hruska</td>
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<td>Jon Grossardt</td>
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<td>Tim Scherrrer</td>
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<td>Carl Bogar</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cbor@hmikenosha.com">cbor@hmikenosha.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Blecke</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cqm964@comcast.net">cqm964@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ronald Kapustka</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fourboys@ix.netcom.com">fourboys@ix.netcom.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Daryl Slusher</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dslusher14@earthlink.net">dslusher14@earthlink.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>David Jameson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dmjameson@cox.net">dmjameson@cox.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Anderson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mike@alliedworkshops.com">mike@alliedworkshops.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dan Howell</td>
<td><a href="mailto:the39thguards@aol.com">the39thguards@aol.com</a></td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>416th Rifles, 112th Div</td>
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<td>34</td>
<td>90th Infantry Div., 359th Inf Rgt., 1st Batt, B Co.</td>
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<td>35</td>
<td>9th SS Panzer Division Hohenstaufen</td>
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<td>2629th WAC Battalion</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>82nd Airborne Div., 505th PIR, G Co.</td>
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<td>2nd Armored Division, 82nd Recon Battalion</td>
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<td>BTG IX Settembre, GNR</td>
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<td>216th MP Co.</td>
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<td>4th Armored Div., 704th Tank Destroyer Batt.</td>
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<td>4th Infantry Div, 8th Inf Rgt., 1st Bn, D Co.</td>
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<td>Battaglione Alpini Sciatori Monte Cervino, 1st Compagnia</td>
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<td>61</td>
<td>Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>709th Infanterie Division</td>
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<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>1st Infantry Div, 26th Reg, Co. C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>45th Infantry Div, 180th Rgt., I&amp;R Platoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>7 Fallschirmjager Rgt. 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>32nd Infantry Div, 128th Inf Rgt., HQ Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>33rd Infantry Div, 130th Rgt, 1st Batt, B Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>E/2/2 USMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>30th Infantry Div, 117th Inf., 1st Batt., B Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Unit Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>1st Canadian Parachute Battalion</td>
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<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>2nd SS Panzer Division, Aufklärungs Battalion, 3rd kp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td>No. 41 Commando, British Royal Marines</td>
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<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td>6th Airborne Division, 9th Battalion, A Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>74</td>
<td>62nd Soviet, 8th Guards Army</td>
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<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>101st Airborne Div., 502 PIR, F Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>COMNAVAIRPAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>77</td>
<td>7th Panzer Division</td>
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<td>78</td>
<td>Hampshire Regt.</td>
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<td>79</td>
<td>360th Cossack Regt.</td>
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<td>80</td>
<td>2/25 Australian</td>
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<td>81</td>
<td>250th Infantrie Div, Azul; Ski Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>82</td>
<td>3rd Indian Infantry Division Chindits</td>
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<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>Co. L, 16th Inf Regt., 1st Infantry Division</td>
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<tr>
<td>84</td>
<td>Soviet Airlanding Forces, 9th Airborne Brigade, Recon Platoon</td>
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<tr>
<td>85</td>
<td>Great Lakes Waves 9th Naval District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86</td>
<td>1st Polish Infantry Division</td>
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<tr>
<td>87</td>
<td>USO Stateside Operations</td>
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<tr>
<td>88</td>
<td>24th Shidan Division (Japanese)</td>
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<td>89</td>
<td>Ukrainian Insurgent Army UPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>17th Airborne Division, 513 PIR, 2nd Battalion, G Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91</td>
<td>Brandenburg, Jager Regiment 1, 1 Battalion, 1 Kompanie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92</td>
<td>3d Armored Division, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, Co. F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93</td>
<td>5th Rangers, E Co., 2nd Platoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94</td>
<td>SS Gebirgsjäger Rgt. 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>5th Rangers, E Co., 2nd Platoon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This list does not include units in probationary period as of 27 July 2013. The units are listed in order of charter date.

The following units have no chartered date listed in their unit charter file.

- 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion
- 2nd SS Panzer Division, Aufklärungs Battalion, 3rd kp
- No. 41 Commando, British Royal Marines
- 6th Airborne Division, 9th Battalion, A Company
- 62nd Soviet, 8th Guards Army
The following units are in probation status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unit Description</th>
<th>Leader Name</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>101st Airborne Div., 321st Glider Artillery Battalion, A Co.</td>
<td>James Steele</td>
<td><a href="mailto:armytruckbuilder@gmail.com">armytruckbuilder@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>5th Infantry Division, 11 Regiment, 3rd Battalion, K Co., 2nd Platoon</td>
<td>Steve Charles</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gunner@jamadots.com">gunner@jamadots.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>82nd Airborne Division, 307th Airborne Engineer Battalion</td>
<td>Anthony Noce</td>
<td><a href="mailto:anthonyandbonnie@boycomonline.com">anthonyandbonnie@boycomonline.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>K Co., 506th PIR, 101st ABN</td>
<td>Dan Davidson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wearehappycampers@yahoo.com">wearehappycampers@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>40th Guards Rifle Division</td>
<td>Rey Ramirez</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wikingfreiwilligen@hotmail.com">wikingfreiwilligen@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>3rd Infantry Division, 15th Regt.</td>
<td>Carlos Ramirez</td>
<td><a href="mailto:carlos@worldwartwohscolorado.com">carlos@worldwartwohscolorado.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>10th Mountain Division, 87th Regt.</td>
<td>Kyle Burson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:k.burson27@gmail.com">k.burson27@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>E Co., 505th PIR, 82nd Abn</td>
<td>Dave Weakley</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dwweakley@yahoo.com">dwweakley@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>517 PCRT</td>
<td>Russ Gordon</td>
<td><a href="mailto:russmargigordon@mindspring.com">russmargigordon@mindspring.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>53. Aufklärungs-Abteilung, 3rd Infanterie Div (mot)</td>
<td>Mike Alexander</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alexamirtc@tcc.coop">alexamirtc@tcc.coop</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>United Press</td>
<td>Josef Kleffman</td>
<td><a href="mailto:customvestments@hotmail.com">customvestments@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>USO Camp shows Unit 209</td>
<td>Pamela Rowden</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vampstar1@hotmail.com">vampstar1@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>29th Rgt., 3rd Infanterie</td>
<td>Chris Adams</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cblackthorne@hotmail.com">cblackthorne@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From the Vehicle Committee:
Jim Schouten (HiawathaJim@Yahoo.Com)
90th Infantry Division

The following questions were developed and submitted by the WWII HRS S&A Vehicle Subcommittee to the S&A Committee for review and a vote. The vote lasted for two weeks beginning May 25.

Should vehicle safety rule 8 be changed
From: “8. An onboard fire extinguisher is required.”
To: “8. Each vehicle shall be equipped with a current, UL listed class BC fire extinguisher, rated for vehicular fires.”
Result: Pass

New proposed Vehicle Safety Rule:
9. "Any vehicle on the battlefield may not back up without a spotter-ground guide behind the vehicle. It is recommended that this practice be implemented in camp also.”
Result: Failed

New proposed vehicle safety rule:
10. "Batteries must be properly secured to the vehicle.”
Result: Pass

New vehicle safety rule proposal:
11. “Maximum vehicle speed on the battlefield is 10 m.p.h.”
Result: Pass

EVENT CANCELED

Please be informed that due to lack of interest in the Event at Kuipers Family Farm in Maple Park slated for August 31st and September 1st it has been cancelled.

Regretfully,

Kim Kuipers
Kuipers Family Farm
1N318 Watson Road
Maple Park, IL 60151
(815)827-5200 X107
www.kuipersfamilyfarm.com

Remember you must belong to a unit to be a member and attend WWII HRS events.”

New HRS Unit Charters (July 2013):
USO Campshows Unit 209
29th Rgt., 3rd Infanterie
Jon Stevens

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Re-enactors verses Historians

Recently the Internet has featured a back and forth conversation between Historians, Re-enactors and the general public over battle re-enactments. This is an old discussion that has taken place many times. Here is a summary of many conversations that are currently posted on the Internet.

The conversation stems from the question, “Should BATTLE Re-enactments Be Abandoned?”

A few folks are questioning the role of Re-enactors. Some believe that battle re-enactments are unethical, turning war into a spectator sport, which is an improper mode of commemoration. Others question the historical interpretation Re-enactors provide. They claim the battles do not broaden the education of the public, and miss opportunities to teach a deeper understanding of the war as a whole. Of course these types of thoughts also seem to create a rift in the academic community. Historians who focus on military operations and politics see the viability in such education. Then question; Where does the public and their education fit into all of this? It is all rather confusing.

There are a couple of things to concentrate on: the relationship Re-enactors have with history and the public, and on the rift in Academic History. This is not an argument over who are the “gatekeepers of history.” Those words are thrown around often, claiming that the internet took the proverbial key of history out of the hands of historians. Before the internet humans used these data repositories called books, which one might find in libraries. Before that there were scrolls, so on and so on.

Historians have examined Re-enactors and their place in interpreting history. For the most part, there questions center primarily on how Re-enactors interpret the role of social issues in battles. One of the problems historians can’t seem to get around is the clear limitations that a battle reenactment has in these specific cases. It is one thing to be able to simulate some of the violent acts involved, but it seems the crucial component of understanding of why it happened and how it fits into a broader interpretation of the war as a whole is missing. Historians do not trust reenactors to be able to do this. Of course, there are exceptions, but there are too many examples of reenactors who have skirted the tough questions when raised.

Re-enactors can be a valuable resource for a couple of reasons. For starters, they wear period attire, carry period weapons, and simulate movements of a soldier. The touch, smell, and looks of those materials and actions are real. This kinetic stimulation is not something that can be accomplished in a book, historical document or picture/video.

Secondly, there are a lot of Re-enactors who read an awful lot of battle history and they can be a valuable resource to the public for information regarding the battles. That being said, Re-enactors also have a dark side. There is a bit of disagreement among Re-enactors about the portrayals of the past and how “period correct” one should be. This diverse group is split into three: Mainstreamers; Progressives; and Hardcore’s.

Mainstreamers are easy to spot by their jumbo tents. Usually their wives and children accompany them in camp. If you look inside their tents, you will find a plethora of “farby” equipment (cooler, cot, etc.) They see the Re-enactments as more of a hobby.

Progressives tend to be more authentic. Camping equipment, food, and other items are authentic. Usually they sleep on the ground. However, they usually have some modern equipment. You might find a cell phone hidden in the pockets, or Gold Bond Powder in the Knap sack. The goal is to present the outer appearance of authenticity, and to assume to role including the discomfort resorting to modern leisure on rare occasions.

Lastly there are the Hardcore’s. From the outer appearance down to the underwear, these guys are as authentic as they come.

The common ground between these groups, discounting the “FARB,” is on the battlefield.

So the question is what is the role of a Re-enactor?

Plainly stated, the role of a Re-enactor is to re-enact the past. They are re-enacting battles of the past. That is all. Historians seem to think that interpretation falls short, but the fact is that Re-enactors are not there to interpret. They are not there to discuss the social tensions of the War, or broaden the understanding of the War beyond that of visual simulations of appearance and battle. They provide, primarily, a military visual narrative of the war. That’s it. The role and function of a Re-enactor is limited to a narrow scope. In that respect historians are right when pointing out the clear limitations that a battle reenactment has in presenting the social issues of the period.

However, the limited function of a re-enactment is appropriate and by design.

Some Re-enactors fancy themselves historians, on par with those that spend their lives studying and training in the field. Some Re-enactors tell the public that the war was not over xxxx. Re-enactors who engage in those discussions could harm the public and Re-enactors alike. In bulk, Re-enactors can provide precise simulations. As individuals, there are discrepancies in approach and narrative. Some events do counter this by providing guest speakers on certain topics.

One reason re-enactments are limited in scope by design has primarily to do with public education, especially in military operations, as pandering to a public appetite for gore. The public preference is important. Re-enactments are designed for the public interest. Battles are more than just entertainment though.

Most “armchair” historians do not read about the social relationships of the war. Their passions draw them to re-enact or to visit re-enactments.

It is a public interest situation. Re-enactors present visual stimulation of the past, as best they can and the public enjoys it. The reason this is so effective, and the reason battle re-enactments can reach tens of thousands of people a day, is because the public finds those things more exciting.

If you sit in a Chemistry class, you would find throwing sulfur in water extremely interesting because of the explosion. However, if the teacher began to describe the molecular make-up of sulfur and how it reacts to water you are going to get pretty bored. We can also say the same thing about Math. Most really do not care about any sort of Math other than what helps balance a checkbook.

Passions, or interests, draw people. This is the reason that battle re-enactments have more spectators than the number of students at many major universities. As far as limitations go, it’s an issue of perspective. Limited to what exactly and to whom? Maybe Re-enactors are pandering to the public, but at least they’re making contact rather than alienating.

Civilian reenactors have been left out. Not the ones who live in military camp, but those who camp apart to depict civilian life. Civilian reenactors spend a lot of time studying the culture of the day. The public can learn a lot from a period Civilian; who engage many visitors in discussions on race, politics, religion, economics, and life at home during the war. Leaving out Civilian Re-enactors was intentional. The criticism here is levied at Battle Re-enactments, so that is the one addressed.
Bringing WWII life to the 21st century
Submitted by Carlos Ramirez
Carlos@WorldWarTwoHrsColorado.Com

Taken From a report by James Garcia (1-970-635-3630)

"Betty Jane," a P-51 Mustang, escorts "Witchcraft," a B-24 bomber, to the Fort Collins-Loveland Municipal Airport during a previous Wings of Freedom tour.

Experience World War II with authentic airplanes, vehicles and re-enactments at the third annual 40s Forever: A Weekend To Remember event in Loveland, Colorado July 6th and 7th.

"I think it's a great thing. I flew in the Navy during World War II, and I've never flown in a military aircraft this large, so I'm looking forward to it," said Bob Brunson of Estes Park.

At the Fort Collins-Loveland Municipal Airport, 4824 Earhart Road, Loveland, visitors will tour WWII camps and see authentic warplanes. For a donation, visitors can enter the planes.

The weekend includes re-enacted battles of the invasion of Italy, a 1940s-style historical presentation and dance, and an honorary veteran’s breakfast.

"On Friday in the morning, we'll be setting up the World War II camps. Around noon, the B-24 'Witchcraft' bomber, the B-17 'Nine O Nine' bomber and the P-51 Mustang 'Betty Lou' will be arriving," said Carlos Ramirez, who is in charge of the re-enactments and is a veteran himself.

The B-24 "Witchcraft" that will be on display first dropped bombs in France in 1944. And along with the P-51 Mustang, they are the only planes of their type still capable of flight, and for a donation, anyone can fly in them.

"Everything that is done at the show, including the food, is all done by donations," Ramirez said. He is commander of his unit that represents Audie Murphy's company, who was one of the most famous and highly decorated soldiers of World War II.

The camps and battles will have authentic and reproduced gear, weapons, radios, uniforms and supplies.
He and his unit are members of the Colorado chapter of the World War II Historical Reenactment Society as well as the western chapter of the Living History Reenactment Association. He said there are quite a few different reenactment groups that have come together to pull this show off for the veterans.

"We have a lot of members in our organization. Some of them live in Bailey, Fort Collins, Loveland, Milliken, Johnstown. They come from all over the whole state for this event," Ramirez said.

There will be a USO-style historical presentation and dance with live music at 6 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are $25 for adults, $20 for children and $10 for the dance only.

On Saturday morning, Honor Flight of Northern Colorado will present a reunion breakfast for veterans. Honor flight is a non-profit organization that was set up to transport veterans to Washington, D.C., to see their WWII memorial. "This 40s Forever event is an opportunity for us to have a reunion breakfast for any Honor Flight veteran. That is, any veteran that has flown with us to Washington, D.C., is invited to join us for breakfast and meet some of their buddies," said Lee Seward, vice president on the Northern Colorado Honor Flight board of officers.

He expects to serve 600 to 700 veterans with their guests for the breakfast. "The veterans enjoy it. It's a great opportunity for people to see some of the veterans from the era as well as some of the equipment and of course the reenactments," Seward said. "It's a chance to reconnect and for us to again say thank you to them."
Do you have a good re-enactment picture? ..... Then Send it in to me for publication The Edge.

Heinz Thiel  GD5.Heinz.Thiel@GMail.Com
It does not matter when or where it is from.   Good Pictures are Timeless.

The Honor Detail

On 29 June 2013, several members of the HRS participated in an Honor Detail for Concordia University's POPS Concert, on their River Forest, IL, Campus. The detail, in turn, saluted veterans of all eras, for all (5) branches of the service during the Concordia University Band's performance of "Armed Forces Salute".

The Honor Detail consisted of:
•  Andrew Geisert, representing the US Army
•  Chip Buerger, USCG
•  Craig Dvorak, USMC
•  Sean Loughran, USAAF
•  George Harbinson, USN

Chip Buerger
skypedog@compuserve.com

Photographer: Peter Pohlhammer
Concordia University Chicago
Office of Communications and Marketing Services
7400 Augusta Street
River Forest, IL 60305

Tel (708) 209-3110
peter.pohlhammer@cuchicago.edu

Chip Buerger, USCG
"Used by permission of Concordia University Chicago,"
Peter E Pohlhammer, photographer.
The Honor Detail:
Andrew Geisert, representing the US Army - Chip Buerger, USCG - Craig Dvorak, USMC - Sean Loughran, USAF - George Harbinson, USN

"Used by permission of Concordia University Chicago,"  Peter E Pohlhammer, photographer.