

# THE EDGE



## OFFICIAL JOURNAL



## OF THE

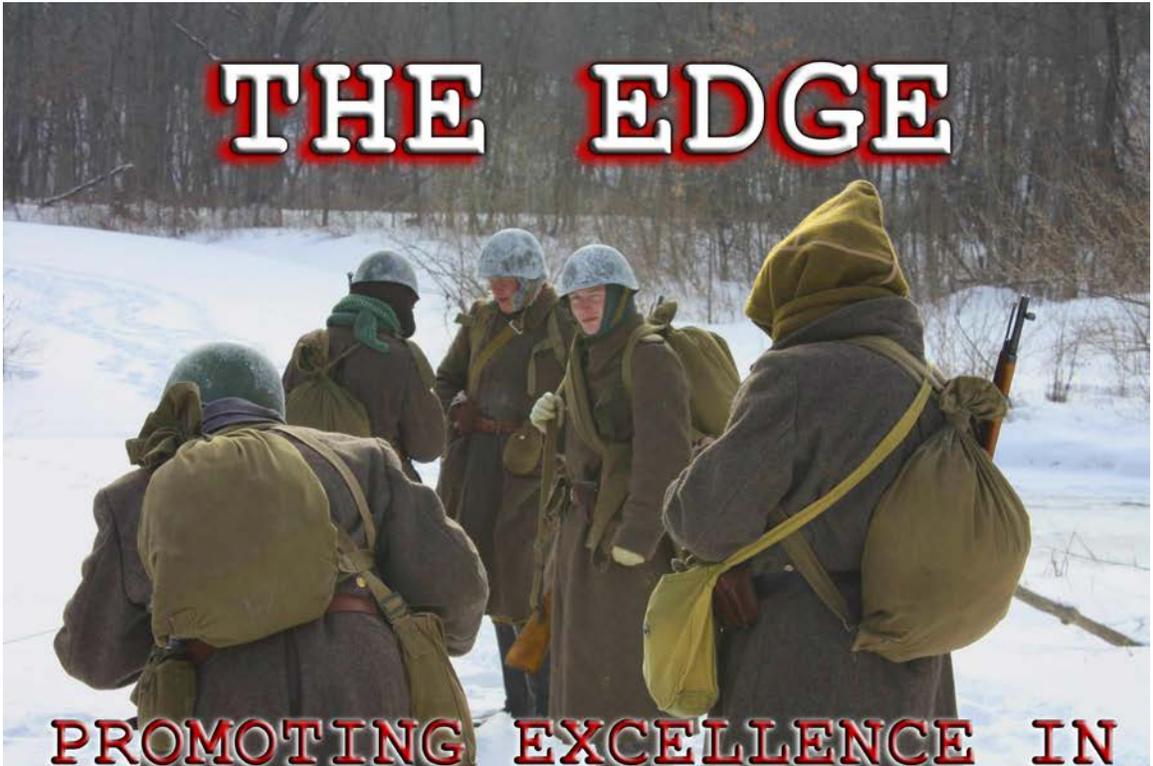
# WORLD WAR 2

## Historical Re-enactment Society

Photos by the WW2 HRS Press Corps: Lucas Ryan



# THE EDGE



PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN  
WWII REENACTING



Battle For Ukraine Tactical Photos from Franco Bartolov



Photo by the WW2 HRS Press Corps: Jim Meldrum

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# COMMUNICATIONS

## Rich Goes GI.

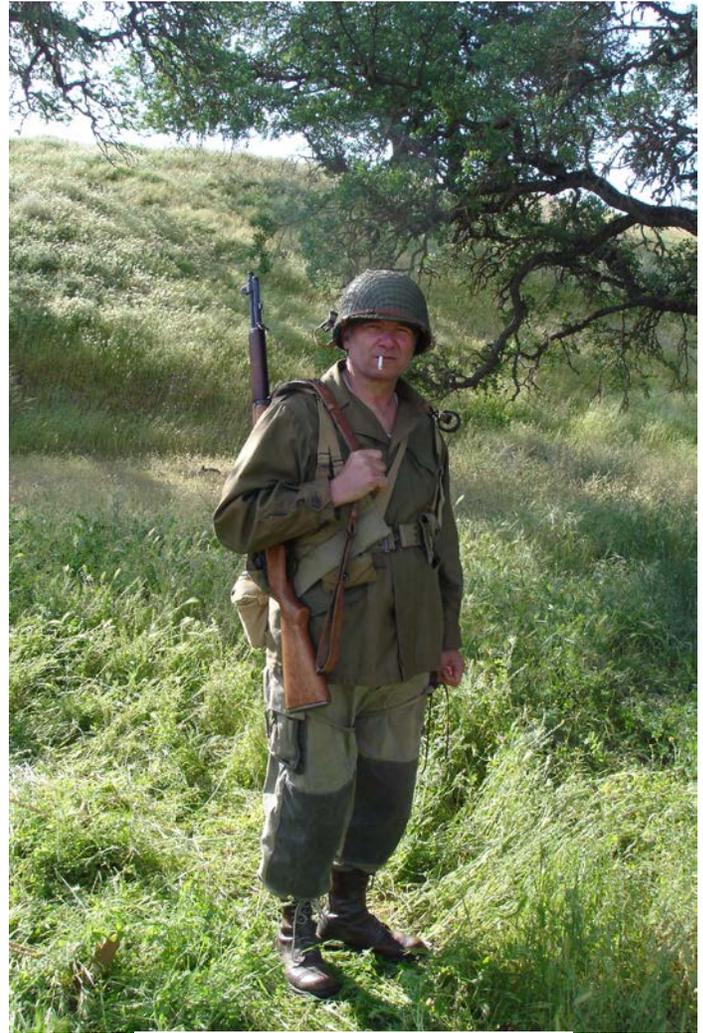


While out here on my trip to California I had the opportunity to fall in with the 101st Airborne 2nd Bn 506th Company F (Fox Company call sign Kidnap) and take part in a Tactical reenactment. The Fox company guys are a great bunch of guys they gave me the Jump boots and the original M44 jacket I was wearing. Since they fit so well. The Web gear and equipment and uniform is much more comfortable than our German stuff especially when you look at the terrain we were humping over.



I will never complain about going up hills in Illinois any longer.

The unit commander is a guy named Terry Poyser is a police detective and has written a book called "Fighting Fox C Company The Battling Flank of the Band of Brothers" which is excellent read.



In my 20 plus years of WWII Reenacting  
This was the first time I did a G.I. impression.  
Firing an M-1 is a real cool.



It looks like I just got my lead story for the next issue of The EDGE, Most people just post this kind of stuff on Facebook.

So who were you fighting against (Germans)?  
And how do California Tacticals compare to the ones in the mid-west?

Heinz

I guess you do!



Yea we were fighting the German they had two amour cars a 222 and 232 (both where very good metal reproductions similar to 2nd Panzer's) one of the German units was 12 SS besides the 101st A.B. one of the other American units I recognized was the 3rd I.D. I think that was the Unit Audie Murphy was in but I am not sure. This event was put on by members of California Historical Group (CHG) umbrella organization. They also have two other umbrella organizations in the area. Some reenactors came all the way from Utah a 12 hour drive. Apparently they do very few public events because of the political climate here in California.

Tactics were about the same but terrain made it much more interesting we fought on army base called Camp Roberts. One thing I noticed was that both sides were much better about taking their hits including the vehicles than I have experienced back in the Midwest. My first kill was the 222 commander when I shot him from behind from about 40 yards with my rifle allowing another G.I. to move up and take the remanding crew out with a rubber grenade. I did not see one instance of hit calling take place entire weekend. I had a real good time. Weapons used and tactics very similar to Midwest with exception that G.I. Airborne troops were not allowed to have folding stocks M1 carbines because of California Gun Laws.

Both sides both German and American were very hard core most reenactors slept out in open or in zelts or pup-tents. Group I was with ate only from reproduction "C" type rations throughout event. Temps were in low 70 during day and mid 40's at night. You could hear the coyotes howling all night long. You also had to be aware of rattle snakes, only one was saw all weekend, they also had Sunday a.m. battles as well as Saturday.

Having done only German my entire 20 plus year reenacting career it was an interesting change. I found the American Equipment and uniform much more comfortable to wear than its German counterpart. The M-1 Garand is really kick-ass and provides a major advantage which is clearly noticeable. The one thing that is difficult was that the airborne impression requires you to carry an awful lot of equipment which is a challenge.



Richard A. Russo  
aka: Feldwebel Ernst Humes  
Unit Commander  
5th Kompanie GrossDeutschland  
[vizsla25@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vizsla25@sbcglobal.net)



## World War 2 Historical Re-enactment Society

### WEAPONS SAFETY



Greetings fellow HRS Members,

One of the primary responsibilities of the Board is to maintain safety standards for our members and public. As many of you know, earlier this year a reenactor was shot with a live round during a public World War II reenactment battle in Texas. (See Page 33)

The circumstances that led to the accident are not fully known, but it did not involve the WW2 HRS. Fortunately the reenactor who was shot survived and will recover.

I did ask our Safety and Authenticity Committee for a prompt an immediate review of our safety procedures, this included a conference call with unit commanders in February as well.

The general consensus was that additional layers of safety precautions should be implemented (primarily at major events) to ensure that we are doing everything we can to avoid this sort of accident. An exploratory committee of Unit Commanders, Board Members and Safety and Authenticity Committee

members has been created to make recommendations to the HRS board in regard to enhancing safety procedures. Updates on their progress will be coming over the next several months.

The World War II Historical Reenactment Society has done an exceptional job of policing itself, enforcing its own safety regulations and continues today to be a leader in setting the standard for how our hobby manages its unique safety challenges.

I would please ask for your full cooperation in helping us initiate these additional safety standards over the coming months. Event safety starts with each of us individually. Thank you for your time.

See you in the field,  
Chuck Bolanis  
2/SS Pz. Pi. Bt. 5 "Wiking"  
WW2 HRS Vice President



## **WWII HRS Scholarship 2015**

In 2010 the membership approved the creation of an HRS scholarship. The effort behind the scholarship was twofold. 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. The preferred majors are history, museum studies, or archeology however all HRS member students are encouraged to apply. The award can be used towards tuition or books and will be paid to the student's college or university to be credited to their account. Note that any family or relations of any 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:**

1. Must be a current member of HRS in good standing in at least their second year of membership.
2. 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 from the student's college or university stating that the student's current major and GPA needs to be included along with a recent picture in WWII uniform of the student.

**Deadline:** July 1

**Notification:** August 1

An article highlighting the student will be in the Society publication, The Edge, after the scholarship is awarded.

### **Review:**

A committee consisting of an Allied, an Axis, and a Commonwealth member will review and give recommendation to the Society board of directors for awarding the scholarship based on the submitted applications.



From HRS Treasurer  
 Wayne McCulley  
 9th Infantry Division  
 WMcCulley45@Gmail.com



TREASURER'S REPORT  
 WORLD WAR II HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY  
 MARCH 2015

Account Balances as of February 28, 2015

PNC Bank Non-Profit Checking Account	\$ 8,723.59
PNC Bank Money Market Account	\$48,358.32
Wells Fargo Bank Account	\$ 302.20

Account Totals	\$57,384.11
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Income	
January Membership Income	\$ 5,026.20
Interest from Money Market Account	\$ 2.14

Total Income	\$ 5,028.34
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Expenditures	
Mad Mimi Marketing	\$ 12.80
Eventbrite Fees for the Month of January	\$ 676.20
Office Depot Membership Card Supplies	\$ 42.34
Illinois Secretary of State Certificate of Good Standing	\$ 16.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 747.34

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.  
 Wayne McCulley  
 HRS Treasurer

## Kennekuk WW2 Remembrance Days May 2 and 3rd 2015

By Wayne McCulley 9th US Infantry Div.

On May 1-3 we will kick off the summer WW2HRS reenacting season with the Kennekuk World War 2 Remembrance Days at Kennekuk County park near Danville Illinois. This will be the fifth year for this event. We are hoping public attendance will continue to grow this year. The 2014 attendance was much improved over previous years. It is our goal to make WW2 reenacting better known in an area where it is largely unknown.

Danville is in East Central Illinois, forty minutes from Champaign-Urbana and near the Indiana state line. Kennekuk Park is a 3000 acre park with plenty of open space for encampments and battles. It also features a town display of 10 vintage buildings. On Friday evening we will have a WW2 vehicle convoy that will start at Kennekuk, travel through Danville. We will be having one large field battle each day on Saturday and Sunday. The main field battle will feature Warbird flyovers courtesy of local Warbird owners weather permitting. We are also planning to have a few small unit skirmishes during the weekend. There will also be opportunities for small unit tactical battle in the wooded areas of the park. We will also have USO Shows featuring the USO Camp Show group. On Saturday evening we will have a 1940's Barn Dance at the Red barn at Kennekuk. The dance will be preceded by Swing Dance lessons offered by the ladies of USO Stateside Operations. This event is open to all World War 2 impressions. We would appreciate it if the WW2 reenacting community will add Kennekuk to the events they will be attending this year.



**Kennekuk WW2 Remembrance Days**  
May 2 and 3rd 2015



Sponsoring units: 33rd US Infantry Div. and Great Lakes Waves

Registration site: [www.kennekuk.eventbrite.com](http://www.kennekuk.eventbrite.com)

Event site: Kennekuk County Park 22296 Henning Road Danville, IL 61834

**Friday Schedule**

3:00pm- 9:00pm Registration at the Red Barn

5:00pm: Vehicle Convoy to Danville

10:00pm Quiet Time

**Saturday's Schedule:**

7:30am- 8:30am Registration

9:00am: Camp is open to public

9:30am: S & A

10:00am: Flag Ceremony (Located Near Barn)

2:30pm: Public Battle

5:00pm: Event closed to public

7:00pm – 11:00pm: Re-enactor Dance

10:00pm Quiet Time

**Sunday's Schedule:**

9:00 am Church Service at the Chapel Building.

10:00 am Camp open to the public

12:00 pm- 1:00 pm Event Vehicle Parade (All are Welcome)

1:30 pm Public Battle

3:00 pm Camp is closed to public/ Re-enactors Pack up Camp



# EVENTS

April	
<p><b>11-12</b></p> <p><b>Apr</b></p> 	<p><b>THE GREAT WAR WWI AT MIDWAY VILLAGE</b></p>
<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>Apr</b></p>	<p><b>OPERATION SPRING AWAKENING 1945 (WW2 TACTICAL BATTLE)</b></p>

Loc: Rockford, IL.  
 Dates: 4/11-12, 2015  
 Event Times: See websites for details.  
 Registration Times: See websites for details.  
 Pre-Registration: Required ([click here](#))  
 Fee: No fee for pre-registration.  
 Contact: Dave Fornell [wuidave@comcast.net](mailto:wuidave@comcast.net)  
 Website:  
<http://www.353id.org/ww1/ww1main.html> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/618282191528717>  
 Authenticity Notes: Listed on website  
 Prohibited Vehicles/Items: Original gas mask use.  
 Other restrictions: Additional safety measures for trench and town battles.  
 Sponsoring Unit(s): 353 German Infanterie

Event Name: OPERATION SPRING AWAKENING 1945(WW2 TACTICAL BATTLE)  
 Loc: TRAXLERS WILD LIFE PRESERVE 37699 HUNTING PRESERVE LANE Le CENTER MN. 56057  
 Dates: SAT. APRIL 25TH 2015  
 Event Times: SATURDAY 830AM  
 Registration Times: FRIDAY APRIL 24TH 5PM-9PM AND SAT. APRIL 25TH 730AM-830AM  
 Pre-Registration: FACEBOOK EVENT PAGE ([Click Here](#))  
 Fee: \$10 gate fee  
 Contact: Scott Steben 952-607-0856 or [badsteben666@hotmail.com](mailto:badsteben666@hotmail.com)  
 Website: <http://www.12sspanzermw.com>  
 Authenticity: HRS REGULATIONS- ALL WW2 EUROPEAN THEATRE REENACTORS WELCOME  
 Prohibited Vehicles/Items: WW2 VEHICLES ENCOURAGED  
 Restrictions on Minors: 18+  
 Other restrictions: NO LIVE AMMO  
 Sponsoring Unit(s): 12.SS PZ DIV 'HJ' MIDWEST(HRS)



May	
01-03	<p align="center"><b>KENNEKUK WWII REMEMBRANCE DAYS</b></p> <p><b>May</b>  <b>Loc:</b> Kennekuk County Park 22296 A Henning Road. Danville IL  <b>Dates:</b> May 1-3 2015  <b>Event Times:</b> Saturday May 3rd 9:00am till 5:00pm Sunday May 4th 10:00am till 3:00pm  <b>Registration Times:</b> Friday May 2nd 3:00pm till 10:00pm Saturday 7:30am till 8:30am  <b>Pre-Registration:</b> <a href="http://kennekuk.eventbrite.com">http://kennekuk.eventbrite.com</a>  <b>Fee:</b> none  <b>Contact:</b> Polly Norman-Blanton 217-621-9899 or <a href="mailto:wiikennekuk@yahoo.com">wiikennekuk@yahoo.com</a>  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://vccd.org/qikennekuk.html">http://vccd.org/qikennekuk.html</a>  <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> HRS Rules apply  <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> No vehicles over 15tons/All viewable items must be WWII era  <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> HRS Rules apply  <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> 33rd Infantry Division/Great Lake WAVES</p>
15-17	<p align="center"><b>6th ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY - WWII WEEKEND</b></p> <p><b>May</b>  <b>Loc:</b> Dakota City Heritage Village 4008 220th Street West, Farmington, MN 55024  <b>Dates:</b> May 15-17, 2015  <b>Event Times:</b> Open to the Public Saturday 10-6 &amp; Sunday 10-3 / Swing Dance at the Farmington VFW 8pm-Midnight Sat. May 16.  <b>Registration Times:</b> Friday noon-10pm &amp; Saturday 7am through the rest of the day  <b>Pre-Registration:</b> Email Jon Boorum <a href="mailto:ivanthecutthroat@Hotmail.com">ivanthecutthroat@Hotmail.com</a> to confirm a campsite for your unit.  <b>Fee:</b> Free for WWII Veterans &amp; Reenactors/Volunteers &amp; Kids under 7. Public admission is \$8 with a non-perishable food item. \$10 without.  <b>Contact:</b> Axis contact and overall event coordinator, Jon Boorum 612-432-2231 <a href="mailto:ivanthecutthroat@Hotmail.com">ivanthecutthroat@Hotmail.com</a>            American/commonwealth contact and battle/skits coordinator, Ben Lund 612-554-0302 <a href="mailto:lundgrillo@yahoo.com">lundgrillo@yahoo.com</a>            Soviet contact, Dave Pasbrig 319-350-3005 <a href="mailto:redkommissar@hotmail.com">redkommissar@hotmail.com</a>            Swap meet contact, Eric Andringa 612-269-6900 <a href="mailto:eric_andringa@hotmail.com">eric_andringa@hotmail.com</a>            Non reenactor contact, Ray Rygula 651-999-9187 <a href="mailto:rfr1921@hotmail.com">rfr1921@hotmail.com</a>  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.DakotaCityWWII.yolasite.com">http://www.DakotaCityWWII.yolasite.com</a>  <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> all HRS rules apply  <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> all HRS rules apply  <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> all HRS rules apply  <b>Other restrictions:</b> The public battles this year will be themed for Sicily 1943 and Stalingrad 1943.  <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> Fox Company, 502 PIR, 101 AB</p>
15-17	<p align="center"><b>SALUTE TO OUR VETERANS</b></p> <p><b>May</b>  <b>Loc:</b> Elkhart Municipal Airport 1211 County Road 6 West  <b>Dates:</b> May 15-17, 2015  <b>Event Times:</b> Saturday 9:00am to 5:00pm/Sunday 9:00am to 4:00pm  <b>Registration Times:</b> Friday 8:00am till 8:00pm/Sat. 7:00am till 10:00am  <b>Pre-Registration:</b> Sign up on Eventbrite, walk-ons will be welcomed, however, they will have to pass all S&amp;A rules.  <b>Fee:</b> None  <b>Contact:</b> Greg Champion <a href="mailto:gchampion@kirbyrisk.com">gchampion@kirbyrisk.com</a>            Matt Iverson <a href="mailto:miverson1228@gmail.com">miverson1228@gmail.com</a>            Craig Morehead <a href="mailto:cdmorehead@aol.com">cdmorehead@aol.com</a>            Christian Dvorak <a href="mailto:thecman.13@gmail.com">thecman.13@gmail.com</a>  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://salutetoourveterans.weebly.com">http://salutetoourveterans.weebly.com</a>  <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> Strict S&amp;A per event guidelines &amp; HRS rules  <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> No non-military vehicles unless they are from the period represented by the event, No Live ammo, No Political Flags or Impressions  <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> All HRS rules apply to minors  <b>Other restrictions:</b> No Inflammatory pictures or pamphlets, No firing weapons in Camp, No firing towards the Audience.  <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b>            L. Co, 16th Inf. Regt (WWII HRS)            Il. Btltn, Gren. Regt. 984, 275. Inf-Div (WWII HRS)</p>



<p><b>29-31</b></p> <p><b>May</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RAILS TO VICTORY</b></p> <p><b>Loc:</b> Fox River Trolley Museum, 361 South LaFox Street (IL 31), South Elgin, IL 60177  <b>Dates:</b> May 29-31,2015  <b>Event Times:</b>  - Friday, May 29: Reenactor check-in, 4pm to 10pm.;  - Saturday, May 30: Reenactor check-in, 8 am to 9:15am;  - Sunday, May 31: Reenactor check-in, 9am to 9:50am;  - Daily morning formations and S&amp;A check;  - Museum Opens at 10 am on Saturday and Sunday;  - Visit the Event Web Site for Additional event details (schedules, maps, and updates).  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.railstovictory.com">http://www.railstovictory.com</a>  <b>Pre-Registration:</b> <a href="http://railstovictory2015.eventbrite.com">http://railstovictory2015.eventbrite.com</a> (No Walk Ons accepted)  <b>Fee:</b> none  <b>Contact:</b> Rebecca Tulloch becky1861@sbcglobal.net  <b>Map:</b> <a href="http://foxtrolley.org/Default.aspx?pagelid=1146775">http://foxtrolley.org/Default.aspx?pagelid=1146775</a>  <b>Directions:</b> The Fox River Trolley Museum is located on Illinois Route 31, three blocks south of State Street in South Elgin, IL. at Fox River Trolley Museum, 365 South LaFox Street (Illinois Route 31),South Elgin, IL 60177  - From Chicago and the east: Take the Northwest Tollway (I-90) or US Route 20 west to Elgin. - - Exit on Illinois 31 southbound and follow posted detour at Spring Street (South Elgin).  - From the west and northwest: Take the Northwest Tollway (I-90) or US Route 20 east to Elgin. Exit on Illinois 31 southbound and follow posted detour at Spring Street (South Elgin).  - From the south: Take Illinois Route 59 north to Illinois Route 64. Turn west on 64 to Illinois Route 31 in St Charles. Take 31 north to the museum.  <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> HRS safety and authenticity rules apply.  <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> All WWII vehicles including tracked vehicles are welcome, weather conditions permitting; tracked vehicles may be limited to the gravel road and battle field. Smaller vehicles such as Jeeps, Motorcycles, Kubels &amp; Lightweight Trucks may drive on the grassy areas. A static vehicle honor display area has been established for all attending vehicles. Boats and other period water crafts such rafts are also welcome on the Fox River, but should contact us first prior to bringing out. River depth is only 2-3 feet in the vicinity of the museum.  <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> HRS Rules  <b>Other restrictions:</b> No alcoholic beverages permitted in the Museum and County Park. No digging, but camp fires are allowed in above pits and military stoves and grills. No firing of weapons in the encampment area in County Park by Forest Preserve Ordinance; but okay in the designated battlefield areas on museum property.</p> <p><b>Event Summary:</b> We are proud to invite you to our 5th annual Rails to Victory (RTV) WW2 reenactment at the Fox River Trolley Museum in South Elgin, Illinois, just West of Chicago. RTV offers something for all impressions, both military and civilians. RTV will once again be presenting the Occupied France Trolley Adventure with updated and new skits along our 3 miles of trolley track. This is an opportunity for reenactors to immerse the public into history by putting them on a trolley and leading them through various period skits and battles. Wooded picturesque and sloping terrain along the Fox River offer unique and interesting landscapes for both reenactors and spectators. Back by popular demand, a period WW2 BICYCLE RALLY &amp; PARADE is scheduled for Sunday morning at 10:30 AM for a leisurely ride through the museum and down the Fox River Bicycle path to the Duerr Forest Preserve and back (approximately 3 miles round trip). Period bicycles of all kinds; military &amp; civilian, and European &amp; Homefront, are all invited to participate in our 2nd annual rally. Sunday's Schedule shall include a LARGE SCALE FIELD BATTLE at 1pm in and around the Museum's bone yard with all the railroad obstacles for defensive positions. All vehicles including tracked vehicles and watercrafts are welcome to participate.  - A period WW2 Girls Baseball Home Front Game will once again be played on Sunday afternoon. Reenactors are encouraged to come over to watch the game and cheer on their favorite team; whether it be the Rockford Peaches, Kenosha Comets, Racine Bells, or South Bend Blue Sox.  - Opportunities for historical camp presentations are also welcome and can be presented both days of the event. Please contact us if you would like your presentation added to the printed schedule.</p> <p><b>Camp Amenities:</b> Flush Toilets on site. Shaded Camp sites can be reserved by early registrants on a first come first served bases.  <b>Motels:</b> Accommodations available in nearby Elgin and St. Charles Illinois: Hampton Inn, the Holiday Inn Hotel &amp; Suites and West Dundee's Marriott International-Courtyard &amp; Towne Place Suites; and in St. Charles: Best Western, Country Inn &amp; Suites, Fairfield Inn &amp; Suites, Geneva Motel, Hampton Inn &amp; Suites, Hilton Garden Inn, Holiday Inn Express, Hotel Baker, Pheasant Run Resort, and Super 8. Restaurants: There are eating establishments with in a very easy walk of the museum ranging in variety from hot dogs to pizza.  <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> US10th Mtn LHDG; WW2 Girls Baseball Living History League;</p>



June		June	
<b>06</b>		<b>13TH ANNUAL HEARTLAND MILITARY DAY</b>	
<b>Jun</b>		<p><b>Loc:</b> Museum of the Kansas National Guard 6700SW Topeka Blvd Topeka, Kansas 66619</p> <p><b>Dates:</b> June 6th, 2015</p> <p><b>Event Times:</b> 7:00 AM – 7:00PM</p> <p><b>Registration Times:</b> 7:00AM to 9:00AM</p> <p><b>Pre-Registration:</b> E-Mail <a href="mailto:office@kngmuseum.org">office@kngmuseum.org</a> &amp; <a href="mailto:nordland1@cox.net">nordland1@cox.net</a></p> <p><b>Fee:</b> none</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> John Colyer <a href="mailto:nordland1@cox.net">nordland1@cox.net</a> &amp; Ed Gerhardt, BG (Ret) <a href="mailto:office@kngmuseum.org">office@kngmuseum.org</a></p> <p><b>Authenticity Notes:</b> WWII HRS Authenticity &amp; Safety rules will apply</p> <p><b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> NO LIVE AMMUNITION OF ANY KIND on event site. No alcohol during the event and display times</p> <p><b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> Any person under the age of 16 may NOT carry any type of weapon or participate in public or tactical battles in any capacity. 16 &amp; 17 year olds must be accompanied by Parent or Guardian</p> <p><b>Other restrictions:</b> Camping is allowed Friday June 5 and the museum will have a rest room available. No modern tents in the display area</p> <p><b>Description:</b> Museum of the Kansas National Guard has decided to make a special effort to recognize the services of all Kansans, including the Kansas Army and Air National Guard, who have been deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kosovo, Bosnia, Africa, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia since 9-11. Special recognition will be given to those who have paid the supreme sacrifice in this war. Reenactors from all time periods are welcome.</p> <p>7-10 a.m. - Pancake Feed</p> <p>8 a.m.-5 p.m. - Exhibit of WW II Military Equipment and Re-enactors, Civil War Exhibits and Re-enactors, and exhibit of Global War on Terrorism exhibit by the KSARNG (MRAP, ASV, HEMMT, HET, Vietnam Veterans Exhibit, etc.)</p> <p>10 a.m. - WW II Battle Reenactment</p> <p>11 a.m. - Band Concert</p> <p>11 a.m. - 2 p.m. - Cookout Lunch</p> <p>2 p.m. or 2:30 p.m. - WW II Battle Reenactment</p> <p>Afternoon - Global War on Terrorism Panels</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Band Concert</p> <p>7:00 p.m. - Ceremony Commemorating the Global War on Terrorism, Reading of Names of GWOT KIA, Gold Star Wreath, etc.</p> <p>We again welcome all re-enactors, exhibitors, and bands. We would like a band for the 6:30 p.m. concert, if possible. Other band concert times in the day are flexible and we will schedule you as desired--whether at 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., etc.</p> <p>Contact during the event call the Museum 785-862-1020</p> <p><b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> 11th SS Nordland &amp; 250th Ski Co.</p>	
<b>19-21</b>		<b>WWII RECREATED, DIXON, ILLINOIS</b>	
<b>Jun</b>		<p><b>Loc:</b> Elks Page Park, 7883 Lowell Park Rd., Dixon, Illinois</p> <p><b>Dates:</b> June 19, 20, and 21</p> <p><b>Event Times:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Friday June 19: Arrival, setup, evening public event preview, and militaria flea market with indoor tables for HRS members and others \$5/table. Please RSVP for a table.</li> <li>-Saturday June 20: 10am to 5pm campsites open to the public, with two public battles, weapons demos, veteran recognition and interviews, militaria sale</li> <li>-Sunday June 21: 8-10am Tactical; 11am to 4:00pm open to the public with one public battle; militaria sale</li> </ul> <p><b>Registration Times:</b> Friday June 19 and Saturday June 20 7 to 9 am</p> <p><b>Pre-Registration:</b> <a href="https://wwiirecreated-dixon-2015.eventbrite.com">https://wwiirecreated-dixon-2015.eventbrite.com</a></p> <p><b>Fee:</b> None</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:Jonathan.Stevens@wwiirecreated-dixon.com">Jonathan Stevens</a></p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://wwii-recreated-dixon.weebly.com">http://wwii-recreated-dixon.weebly.com</a></p> <p><b>Map:</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a></p> <p><b>Authenticity Notes:</b> All HRS rules apply.</p> <p><b>Minors:</b> All HRS restrictions apply</p> <p><b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> All vehicles welcome.</p> <p><b>Sponsoring Unit (s):</b> 9th Infantry Division</p>	



<p>20</p> <p>Jun</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RAY FAGEN MEMORIAL AIRSHOW 2015</b></p> <p><b>Loc:</b> LENZEN ROE MEMORIAL FIELD - GRANITE FALLS MN 56241  <b>Dates:</b> SATURDAY JUNE 20TH 2015 - WW2 DISPLAY AND ENCAMPMENTS  <b>Event Times:</b> GATES OPEN AT NOON- WW2 PUBLIC BATTLE- AIRSHOW!!  <b>Registration Times:</b> FRIDAY EVE JUNE 19TH OR PRE-NOON SAT. JUNE 20TH- REENACTORS ENCOURAGED TO CAMP OVERNIGHT FRIDAY  <b>Pre-Registration:</b> SIGN UP ON FACEBOOK EVENT SITE <a href="https://www.facebook.com/events/451221201712388">https://www.facebook.com/events/451221201712388</a>  <b>Fee:</b> NO FEE FOR EVENT PARTICIPATING WW2 REENACTORS IN UNIFORM  <b>Contact:</b> SCOTT STEBEN 952-607-0856  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/events/451221201712388">https://www.facebook.com/events/451221201712388</a>  <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> HRS SAFETY AND AUTHENTICITY RULES APPLY  <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> WW2 VEHICLES AND PLANES AT EVENT!!  <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> UNDERAGE ACCOMPANIED BY ADULT  <b>Other restrictions:</b> NO LIVE AMMO  <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> 12.SS PZ DIV 'HJ' MIDWEST</p>
<p>September</p> <p>September</p>	
<p>25-27</p> <p>Sep</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>WALK BACK IN TIME 2015</b></p> <p><b>Loc:</b> Audrain County Historical Society, 501 South Muldrow Street, Mexico, MO 65265  <b>Dates:</b> 25-27 September, 2015  <b>Event Times:</b> Setup can occur from Thursday (Sept. 24) to Saturday (Sept. 26). Friday is the school education day. The event runs from 10-4pm Saturday and Sunday, with Candlelight Tours on Saturday from 6-9pm  <b>Pre-Registration:</b> No preregistration is required although coordination for camping space is required. Camp space must be reserved before the event to ensure adequate space is available.  <b>Fee:</b> There is no fee for the event, and the organizers provide a Saturday night meal to all participants. If your unit participates in the Friday education day, you get a free lunch! For the women reenactors, there will be a tea party on Saturday sponsored by the Helferin of the 29th PGR.  <b>Contact:</b> Chris Adams, 573-680-1244, <a href="mailto:cblackthorne@hotmail.com">cblackthorne@hotmail.com</a>  <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> WWII HRS safety and authenticity rules apply. All theaters are welcome, ETO, PTO, and MTO.  <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> No firing of weapons between 2200 and 0800 at night.  <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> WWII HRS rules apply  <b>Other restrictions:</b> None  <b>Description:</b> Walk Back in Time is the premier living history timeline event in the state of Missouri. It usually draws 300 participants in all time periods and 10-15,000 spectators. There is a WWII Battle on Saturday and Sunday. Reenactors from different timelines will have a great opportunity to talk and share their knowledge and experiences with each other. Thursday morning, a small military convoy is planned that will travel from Fulton to the site in Mexico. The convoy will stop and visit several schools along the way to show off the vehicles to students. The trip distance is about 25 miles. Contact us for more information!  <b>Registration Times:</b> All day Thursday, All day Friday and Saturday 0800-1000 in the 29th Panzergrenadiers Camp  <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> 84th Infantry Division Railsplitters and the 29th Panzergrenadier Regiment</p>
<p>October</p>	



~ Save The Date 2015 ~

# The Great War: World War I at Midway Village

Saturday, April 11 11 am-5 pm

Sunday, April 12 11 am-4 pm

*Enjoy two incredible days of military history showcasing World War I.*

**New in 2015**

- Learn how the ladies of the Salvation Army kept our boys overseas in good Spirits with a familiar treat, *the doughnut*.

**Featuring**

- Walk through a trench
- Learn about a Cavalry units
- View Medical units
- Enjoy the indoor displays of WWI weapons and artifacts
- Watch Battles and skirmishes in the Village
- Talk to re-enactors about what life was like for the soldiers

For Further Details, Contact 815-397-9112.

**Admission**

**\$10 Adults, \$5 Children**

**Members are Free**

**Sponsored In Part By**

**Special Thank You**



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*Rockford's*  
HISTORY MUSEUM

6799 Guilford Road . Rockford . IL 61107

Rain or Shine No Pets

[www.midwayvillage.com](http://www.midwayvillage.com)





# WWII Militaria Sale

<http://wwii-militaria-sale-wheaton.weebly.com/>



## April 25

**BRING YOUR GEAR!**

**Buy! Sell! Trade!**



Setup 7:30am Doors open 8am till 2pm  
Entrance Fee: \$5 with kids under 14 free  
WWII Veterans Free!  
Tables: \$10 (6 foot tables provided)  
Location: American Legion Post 76  
570 S Gary Ave.  
Carol Stream, IL 60188

**For more Information Contact:**

**Jonathan Stevens**

**Email: [jstevensww2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jstevensww2@sbcglobal.net)**

**Phone: 630-221-1171**

**M1 Garand field stripping Contest!**

**Free Seminars to Include:**

*WWII GI Squad Tactics*

*Putting History in Reenactment Battles*

*Obtaining an SBR in IL*

**This sale is open to the public! Any military items are most welcome! If you want to sell a jeep, kubelwagen, or even that Stuart tank taking space in your garage bring it along ready to accept best offers!! If your garage looks like this picture, you need to sell some WWII militaria!**





**World War 2  
Historical Re-enactment Society**

**A  
SALUTE  
TO  
VETERANS**

May 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>

City of Elkhart

**Elkhart Municipal Airport  
WWII Reenactments**

**USO**

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY:**

TRAVEL  
MANAGEMENT

**SMITH**  
GRAPHICS & DESIGN



# 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Armed Forces Day

WWII Weekend

**May 16 & 17, 2015**

**Saturday 10am-6pm & Sunday 10am-3pm**

**Dakota City Heritage Village**

Located next to the Dakota County Fairgrounds 4008 220th Street W. Farmington, MN



Sicily 1943 Themed Battles,  
Stalingrad 1943 Themed Battles,  
WWII Living History,  
Soldier Camps,  
Homefront Civilian Life,  
Civilian Fashion Show,  
Weapons Demonstrations,  
WWII Military Vehicles,  
Authentic Military Displays,  
Field Hospital Demos & Display,  
WWII Veterans Symposium,  
Educational Talks and Demos,  
Korean War Display,  
Vietnam War Living History Display

Authors, Veterans & Military Swap Meet, Food & Drinks Available

**\$8 with a Non-Perishable Food Item, \$10 Without  
Kids Under 7 & WWII Veterans Free**

**Fun for the Whole Family!**

<http://www.DakotaCityWWII.YolaSite.com>

For questions call Jon 612-432-2231





**EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT: Fallschirmjaeger-Lehrkompanie  
Battle of Crete Weekend at VA Beach Airshow 14-17 May (FJ-LK 2015)**

Hosted By: II./FJR6

We're hosting the next FJ-Lehrkompanie event in conjunction with the "Warbirds Over the Beach" WW2 Airshow in Virginia Beach, VA, on 15-18 May 2014. Our annual theme here is "Battle of Crete 1941", and like last year, we'll conduct our exclusive FK-Lehrkompanie immersion event on Friday, 16 May, and then conduct our interactive public display during the Airshow on Saturday and Sunday.  
**BILLETING IN AN ORIGINAL LUFTWAFFE HANGAR!**



**YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE WITH OUR BATTLE OF CRETE/FJ-LK 2014 GROUP !!**

1. Go to the official FJ-Lehrkompanie 2015 site by clicking on this link:

<http://www.fjr6.com/FJ-LEHR/fjlehrkompaniecom/index.htm>

2. Print out the pre-registration forms, fill out/sign them, return per instructions on the form, and PayPal your pre-registration fee ASAP! (The \$25 pre-registration fee covers Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner on Friday & Saturday (6 meals), and some special gear used by all of us during the event.

**WE CAN ONLY TAKE THE FIRST 45 PRE-REGISTRATONS:** Because of the museum's maximum occupancy restrictions for the German hangar, We will return all pre-registrations & fees received **AFTER** the 45-person cap or **AFTER** 30 April, whichever occurs first.

**DRIVING DIRECTIONS:** A link to the event site at the Military Aviation Museum is provided on our FJ-Lehrkompanie event site.

\*\*\*\*\*Be sure you make Thursday, 14 May, your travel day!\*\*\*\*\*

Please read the entire FJ-Lehrkompanie event web site to understand the event rules and to ensure you show up with the proper gear! This truly is a unique opportunity for any FJ reenactor with a proper early war kit – it will be the largest gathering of early-war FJ reenactors within the USA. Looking forward to seeing you there - Nach Kreta!





# World War 2 Historical Re-enactment Society

# OFFICIAL INFO

## HRS Board of Directors

Please send any correspondence to:  
WWII Historical Reenactment Society  
PO Box 861  
Champaign, IL 61824

### President

Jon Stevens  
9th Infantry Division  
630.221.1171  
[jstevensww2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jstevensww2@sbcglobal.net)

### Vice President

Charles Bolanis III  
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### Secretary

Doug Loge  
2/SS-Panzer Pionier Bataillon 5 "Wiking"  
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### Treasurer

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### Commonwealth Representative

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### Axis Representative

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### Webmaster

John Olsen  
9th Infantry Division  
[wiiHrsWebmaster@Gmail.com](mailto:wiiHrsWebmaster@Gmail.com)

### Membership Coordinator

Craig Dvorak  
2nd Marines Reenacted  
[hrrsmembers@yahoo.com](mailto:hrrsmembers@yahoo.com)

### Event Development Team

Rich Russo  
5<sup>th</sup> Company GrossDeutschland  
[vizsla25@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vizsla25@sbcglobal.net)

#### 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 six 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> for past meeting Minutes

**W W I I H R S Minutes**

Click to go to a PDF file of the minutes.

<p><b>2014 Minutes</b></p> <p><a href="#">January</a> <a href="#">February</a> <a href="#">March</a> <a href="#">April</a> May <a href="#">June</a> July <a href="#">August</a> <a href="#">September</a> October November December</p>	<p><b>2013 Minutes</b></p> <p>January February (canceled) <a href="#">March</a> <a href="#">April</a> <a href="#">May</a> <a href="#">June</a> <a href="#">July</a> <a href="#">August</a> September (canceled) <a href="#">October</a> November <a href="#">December</a></p>
<p><b>2012 Minutes</b></p> <p><a href="#">January</a> <a href="#">February</a> <a href="#">March</a> <a href="#">April</a> <a href="#">May</a> <a href="#">June</a> July <a href="#">August</a> September (canceled) <a href="#">October</a> <a href="#">November</a> December (No quorum)</p>	<p><b>2011 Minutes</b></p> <p><a href="#">January</a> <a href="#">February</a> <a href="#">March</a> <a href="#">April</a> <a href="#">May</a> <a href="#">June</a> <a href="#">July</a> <a href="#">August</a> <a href="#">September</a> <a href="#">October</a> <a href="#">November</a> <a href="#">December</a></p>
<p><b>2010 Minutes</b></p> <p><a href="#">January</a> <a href="#">February</a> <a href="#">March</a> <a href="#">April</a> <a href="#">May</a> <a href="#">June</a> <a href="#">July</a> <a href="#">August</a> <a href="#">September</a> <a href="#">October</a> <a href="#">November</a> <a href="#">December</a></p>	<p><b>2009 Minutes</b></p> <p><a href="#">January</a> <a href="#">February</a> <a href="#">March</a> <a href="#">April</a> <a href="#">May</a> <a href="#">June</a> <a href="#">July</a> <a href="#">August</a> <a href="#">September</a> <a href="#">October</a> <a href="#">November</a> <a href="#">December</a></p>



## 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.

[www.WorldWarTwoHRS.Org](http://www.WorldWarTwoHRS.Org)

WEB Site Is Hosted by Socket.NET

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# MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the WWII Historical Re-enactment Society Board Meeting  
17 February, 2015 7:30 pm

Welcome and Roll Call:

Position	Name	Present
President	Jonathan Stevens	YES
Vice President	Chuck Bolanis	No
Secretary	Doug Loge	YES
Treasurer	Wayne McCulley	YES
Allied Representative	Ron Kapustska	YES
Axis Representative	Tyler Stevens	YES
Commonwealth Rep.	Bryce Seyko	NO
EDGE Editor	Jeff Skender	NO
Business Manager	David Jameson	NO

HRS Members Present  
Anthony Noce, Andrew Rowden, Dave Goodwin, George Reinke, Chris Smead  
Brian Jones

Previous BOD meeting minutes  
DL - Motion to not read previous minutes at future BOD meeting - not seconded.  
January minutes read by DL  
January minutes - Approved by BOD vote.

President's Report -  
Vice President Report - Summary by JS

New Charters -  
34<sup>th</sup> Inf Div, 135<sup>th</sup> Inf Regt. - Still in S&A Committee

Probationary Charters -  
3<sup>rd</sup> SS Totenkopf- Motion to accept as fully chartered unit - Approved by BOD vote.  
10th Dragoons - Tabled to next month.

Defunct Charters -  
4th Armored Div, 704th Tank Destroyer Batt. - Tabled to next month.  
#10 Commando - Tabled to next month.

Charter Updates -  
7.SS-Gebirgs Rgt to SS-Gebirgsjäger Regiment 12 "Michael Gaißmair", 6.SS-Gebirgsdivision "Nord" - Tabled to next month.

## TREASURER'S REPORT WORLD WAR II HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY FEBRUARY 2015

Account Balances as of January 31, 2015

PNC Bank Non-Profit Checking Account	\$ 8,334.73
PNC Bank Money Market Account	\$44,356.18
Wells Fargo Bank Account	\$ <u>302.20</u>
Account Totals	\$52,993.11

Income	
Membership Income	\$20.00
Interest from Money Market Account	\$ <u>2.72</u>
Total Income	\$22.72

Expenditures	
Liability Insurance	\$6,205.75
Directors and Officer's Insurance	\$ 744.00
Post Office Box Rental 1 year	\$ 80.00
Postage	\$ 33.19
Office Supplies	\$ 29.09
Mad Mimi Email Marketing Service	\$ 12.80
Illinois Secretary of State Annual Report	\$ <u>10.00</u>
Total Expenditures	\$ 7,114.83

Secretary Report -  
Approved events-  
Chuck Roberts PTO 2<sup>nd</sup> Marines  
Salute to Veterans - Elkhart, IN.

Submitted for BOD approval -  
Teaser Tactical & Swap Meet - Camp Siman, MO  
The Great War: WWI - Rockford, IL.

Pending -  
Heartland Military Day - Topeka, KS.

Receiving some Event Request Forms that include signatures not signed by the actual person whose name appears on it. Hopefully this will stop, otherwise they may need to be notarized in the future.

436 Memberships - January  
181 Memberships February so far  
317 Memberships total  
Discount to decrease \$5 in March, then is \$15 +EB fees for Individual Membership.

Allied Report - RK sent email to Mac at Mid MI 82<sup>nd</sup> Abn Div Association.  
No reply as of yet.

Axis Report - TS sd 275th Inf may get new Unit Commander.  
5 Ko. GD looking to possibly add amendment for possible secondary DRK impression within unit.

Commonwealth Report - None.

Edge Report - None.



Business Manager Report – JS said business Manager David Jameson still waiting for insurance documents from insurance company. He will pass on to BOD when he receives them.

Event Development Committee Report – None.

S&A Committee Report – Have been working on 3<sup>rd</sup> SS and 34<sup>th</sup> Inf. charter recently.

Unit Commanders Group – Have discussed recent reenactor shooting in TX.

Vehicle Committee - JS sd Jim Schouten has nearly completed new jeep authenticity regs.

Civilian Committee – None.

Old Business:

HRS Umpires – Mid MI 82<sup>nd</sup> Abn Div Association – RK is working on this.  
CMP Club Information – JS said he sent them an email and is waiting for a response.

New Business -

Banners – JS asked DL about possible banners being made. JS will send DL additional info so he can get a range of estimates.

Safety inspection protocol – JS said there will be a Special HRS meeting next Tuesday to discuss. HRS members in attendance and BOD members briefly discussed some future options concerning safety, such as; no magazines in weapons, self-policing of units, pre-battle inspections, and a possible form to be signed by Unit Commanders at events.

Open Forum -

Andrew Rowden – said will have another member in his unit within a month. That will make 5 members for his unit.

Next BOD meeting tentatively Tuesday March 17<sup>th</sup>

Meeting adjourned 8:28pm



Rob Leinweber 9<sup>th</sup> Soviet Airborne

WW2 HRS Press Corps Photo: Davison T.G.

**CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM**  
**OR**  
**TEARING FOLKS DOWN**

In my previous article I stated there are a variety of reasons for what attracts each of us to re-enacting. I would like to add that it is not uncommon for re-enactors to change their reasons regarding why they re-enact but also how they re-enact and where they re-enact. This is why we have such a diversity of membership in the hobby. This diversity should not be viewed as a problem but as something to build upon and use as a tool to recruit more folks into our hobby.

We develop our kits and decide what events we attend based upon a variety of factors. Each of us has different levels of commitment to the hobby. Just like the other aspects our commitment is driven by a variety of factors. These factors involve all sorts of “real world” issues such as work schedules, financial limitations, family obligations, physical impairments, schooling, age, etc. So what am I getting at? Well, I am pointing out that as a result of all of these variables you will never have all of the re-enactors at the same level of commitment regarding their kits nor the events they attend. Accept your fellow re-enactor for who he or she is regarding their level of commitment to the hobby and be done with it. This is not the real military but a volunteer organization comprised of some very talented and passionate people.



With the varying levels of commitment our numbers of veteran re-enactors rise and fall. However, our hobby is always in need of new blood and without it our hobby dies. None of us want that so we need to be mindful of not doing silly things which chase away veteran as well as new re-enactors. Sometimes we lose veteran members and new recruits due to situations which are unavoidable and it hurts our hobby but we realize sometimes it is of our control. However, what I am writing about is the dark side to our hobby that if we don't get a handle on it we will witness our own demise. What is this dark side? It is our apparent innate ability to eat our own. Usually this is accomplished under the guise of authenticity, safety or some other mantra. Too often we lack tact!

How many times have you been witness to, victim of and or found yourself saying **“OMG! Look at that person's kit! Those are the wrong.....”** Now how many of you have been witness to, victim of or been the person who walks up to a fellow re-enactor with the intent to set that re-enactor straight about his or her kit and what needs to be corrected? When this act took place was it done in such a way as to be understood as constructive criticism? Or was it an uncomfortable exercise in overtly pointing out the incorrect item in a tacky or cheeky way (perceived or otherwise). Too often we are witness to the latter of the two approaches which then results in a mess of varying proportions. Worst case scenario is that it chases that person away from the hobby and we lose what may have been a great addition to the hobby. Sadly we may never know.

Just because one individual or unit has decided to accumulate every piece of equipment that could have been issued to the 150<sup>th</sup> regiment, Sandwich Island Sappers doesn't mean that another fellow has to do the same. Nor does it make one re-enactor superior or inferior to another based upon what vendor they obtained their kit from as long as they are making a decent attempt at it. Some fellows just want to come out and bust caps while others prefer living history and grand junk on the bunk displays to the public. If you see someone who is lacking gear or may be using what may be considered farby equipment there is a right way and a wrong way to approach that person. Be sure you know what you are talking about before you proceed down the path of correcting others. If you don't know the circumstances behind why a fellow re-enactor is uniformed and equipped then tread lightly and try to find out their story. Some proper and constructive comments could go a long way towards making an average re-enactor want to strive for higher levels.

Besides lack of tact we also suffer from the strange inability for us as re-enactors to realize our own limitations when it comes to knowing all things WWII. Then there are the preconceived notions and or “re-enactorisms” regarding the: who, what, where and when of the peoples and events of WWII which when blended together make a perfect recipe for social disaster. It is impossible to know everything about WWII. Yet we have members of our hobby who have the mistaken idea that they do indeed know everything and are not bashful about trying to prove it disbelievers. This can and does cause unnecessary issues in the hobby.

For the most part each of us specializes on a particular subject matter of the war relating to our chosen impression(s). Outside of our area of specialty most of us have a good working basic general knowledge of uniforms, arms, equipment, etc. of various nations. However, we all must realize that the learning never stops and we must never become complacent with our current level of knowledge. We may know a lot about our chosen specialty as well as other war time details but we are far from knowing everything. If you don't know for sure what you are talking about either educate yourself or keep your mouth shut. It could save you from a very embarrassing moment.

Ignorance is nothing to be ashamed of. Ignorance is a temporary state that can be cured thru research. I love walking up to fellow re-enactors and asking them about their kits and getting educated about new and different things. Take the time to seek out new information and sources. You may be surprised by what you find.

So in closing I ask that if you feel the uncontrollable urge to approach a fellow re-enactor with the intent to help correct a deficiency (perceived or otherwise) with someone's kit please do it in a civil and courteous manner. If you are unable to do this then perhaps it is best that you find some other way to get your jollies and leave folks to their own devices.

See you in the field!  
Sincerely,  
Dima - Aka Rob Leinweber 9th Soviet Airborne



Hey!  
Here's an article for the EDGE. I've attached one picture that really needs to be in there, and feel free to use any of the other ones on my Facebook from the fundraiser!



Although, the one with the cheerleaders may not be the best one..... ha-ha.  
Thank you so much!

Corey Vaughn  
George Company, 505 Parachute Infantry Regiment,  
82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division"

Hello once again everyone!  
I would like to introduce you to Louis Balika, who fought in Africa and at Anzio with the 752nd Tank Battalion.





At the Indianapolis Honor Flight fundraising auction a few weeks back, we were asked to set up a display. Mr. Balika came up to Darrell Van Tilburg and said “hey, that’s EXACTLY what I wore over there!” Mr. Van Tilburg proceeds to take off his helmet and jacket, and gives it to Mr. Balika to wear for a photograph. You can see his reaction in the photo below; he’s grinning ear to ear!



The experience for him actually brought a tear to his eye. And this brings up an important point: You know all that neat WWII stuff you have in your basement and garage and barn? You don't own ANY of that. Not the vehicles, not the equipment, not the underwear. The real owners of those items are those who depended their lives on that item, who ate, slept, fought with, and died with that item. Their real owners are the kind and gentle Greatest Generation, or those who lay beneath the shadow of the American Flag. We are simply the items' stewards, their preservers. Because their real owners are those that used them to change the world. We have been entrusted to tell the item’s story; to tell the story of World War Two and the people in it. That’s our job; our mission.



For those reenactors that are burned out of reenacting or worry about the little things in the Hobby, support your Honor Flight. You'll know WHY you reenact. And at Honor Flights, you can actually MEET the people who used the stuff you use, whose story you preserve and retell and teach. You can HONOR those whom you do this Hobby for.



So, will you step up to the plate and help? Alexandria Van Tilburg and myself are more than happy to help anyone get involved with the Indianapolis Honor Flight, or your local Honor Flight, weather its setting up a display, raising funds, or just setting up chairs. We all have a debt to pay to The Greatest Generation, so let's get busy!

Corey Vaughn  
George Company, 505 Parachute Infantry Regiment,  
82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division"

## WW2 Veteran Interviews

With over 1,600 views in 4 months this is our most viewed interview.



**WW2 Veteran Interview Battle of the Bulge**  
4 months ago • 1,654 views  
WW2 Historical Re-enactment Society Press Corps Interview of a WW2 Battle of the Bulge Veteran (Ed Walls) on Saturday 6 September 2014 at Dellwood Park in Lockport, IL.

WW2 Battle of the Bulge Veteran (Ed Walls)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4WqspyyROHY>

### WW2 Veterans - Live History of WAR



**82nd Airborne Division D-Day, Battle of the Bulge,...**  
by Heinz Thiel  
234 views • 3 weeks ago



**WW2 Veteran Interview Battle of the Bulge**  
by Heinz Thiel  
1,654 views • 4 months ago



**Honoring WW2 Veterans - Dixon ILL 2013**  
by Heinz Thiel  
643 views • 1 year ago



**WW2 Veteran Interview US Army**  
by Heinz Thiel  
66 views • 2 years ago



**WW2 Veteran Interview Phillippines**  
by Heinz Thiel  
81 views • 4 months ago

### Our WW2 Veteran Play List

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSDjplIyLVtGkAihWIAAhEJhOCUEfRkb5>



## BATTLE FOR UKRAINE TACTICAL 2015



Marseilles, Illinois Training Area  
28 February 2015







Marseilles, Illinois Training Area  
28 February 2015



**Heinz Thiel**  
**WW2 HRS Press Corps**  
[GD5.Heinz.Thiel@Gmail.Com](mailto:GD5.Heinz.Thiel@Gmail.Com)

If your unit has news that it would like to published in The EDGE, Or if a member would like to submit an article, Then simply e-mail it to me and I will put it in The EDGE.

Also I am willing to spend a day with your unit to get photos and video. The HRS Press Corps has 8 members so now we should be able to get wider coverage at events, you do need to contact me if you would like some special coverage of your unit or event.

The EDGE is the WW2 HRS's own publication. It is where we promote what we do. The EDGE promotes and features the works of WW2 HRS Members. I welcome HRS Units to advertise their Events and Accomplishments in The Edge.

**ANY WW2 HRS Member can submit an item to me for publication here in The EDGE.**

## **OUR WORST NIGHTMARE**

**A man was wounded during a WW2 reenactment  
7 February 2015**

A WW2 Re-enactment in Texas turned tragic when a reenactor was wounded with live ammunition.

The first battle of the day was underway when a cease fire was called. All reenactors were ordered to stop where they were and put their weapons on the ground with chambers open.

A German reenactor received an injury to the stomach from a live round. He was transported by ambulance to a Hospital. Scott Fullerton, a man in his forties from the Dallas area, had suffered from a bullet wound to the stomach area. Scott is in stable condition and can be seen on video talking about his injury.

Fort Richardson State Park Superintendent Robert Frie reported that park services had inspected all ammunition and weapons to be used in the reenactment that morning. Everything that was inspected at 9 a.m. was crimped, blank ammo.

Jacksboro, Texas Police Department, Jack County Sheriff's Office and park officials are investigating this incident.

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This tragic event did not occur at a WW2 HRS Event, but the WW2 HRS is talking about this incident and what can be done to better prevent this from happening at one of our events.

Consult your unit commander or a WW2 HRS Board member to find out more about this.



## *Photos from the Past*

Mr. Roberts has given his permission for The EDGE to re-print photos from his 2003 sold-out book. 12 Years ago he got \$25 per book because of the high quality color photos provides. The book is out of print but Mr. Roberts can make copies. There are over 500 pictures in this book, look for more photos from it in future issues of The EDGE

### **Photographic Archive of World War 2 Reenactments**

**November 2003**

By Charles C. Roberts  
70<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion

This book is a compilation of photographs taken from World War 2 reenactments that took place in the Midwest from 1990 to 2003. The photographs are a pictorial history of reenactors and their participation in an endeavor to keep the memory of World War 2 Veterans alive.



**Gentlemen, check your ammo,  
World War II Reenactment, Rockford IL, September 1996**

Photo Copyright 2003 by Charles C. Roberts, Jr.



**Airborne unit, elite troops,  
World War II Reenactment, Rockford IL, September 1996**

Photo Copyright 2003 by Charles C. Roberts, Jr.



**In position and ready for the reenactment to start,  
World War II Reenactment, Rockford IL, September 1996**

Photo Copyright 2003 by Charles C. Roberts, Jr.



**Infantry unit,  
World War II Reenactment, Westmont IL, September 1996**

Photo Copyright 2003 by Charles C. Roberts, Jr.

**From:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**To:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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