

# THE EDGE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

THE WWII

HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY

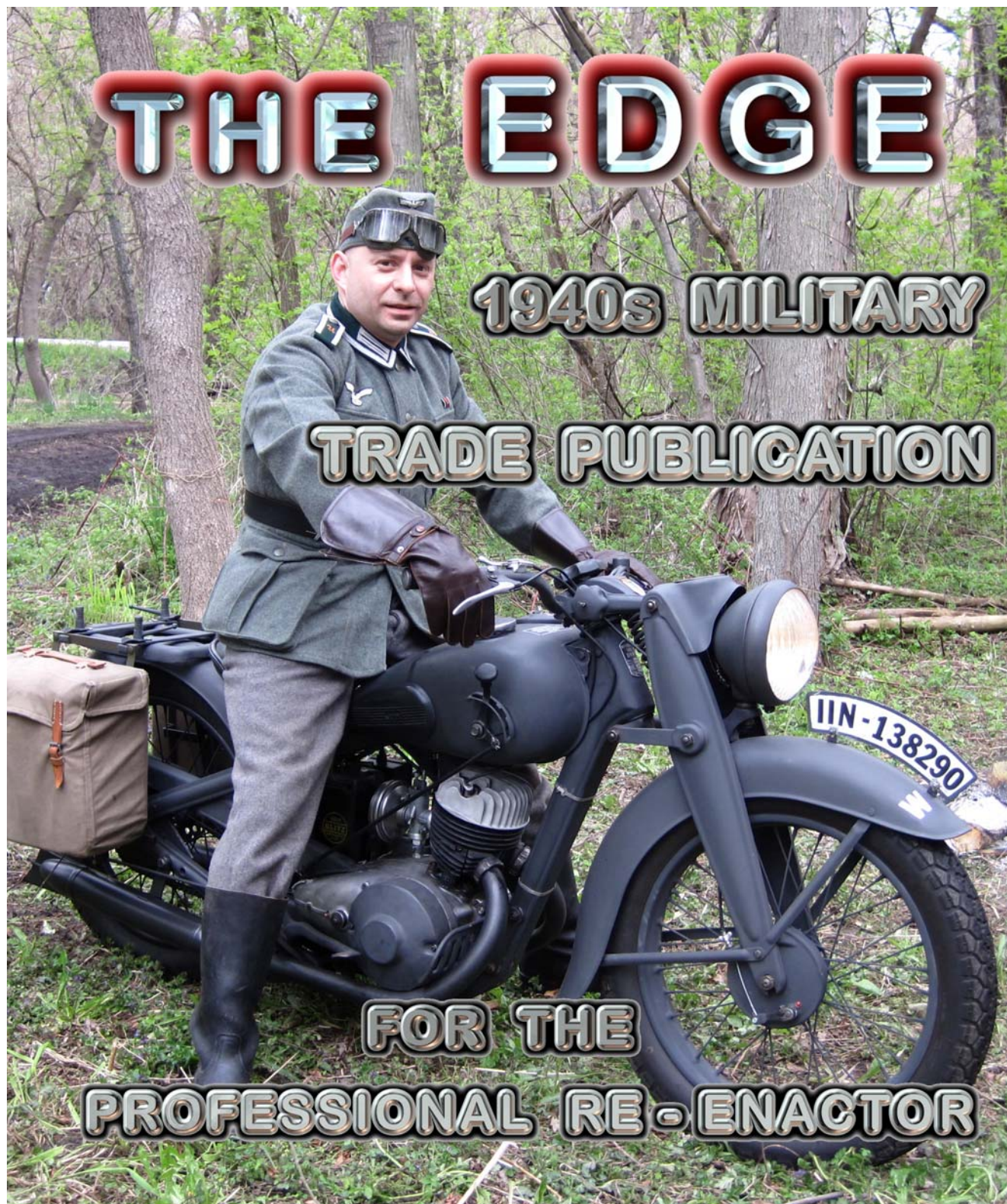
Photos from May Lowell Indiana Event (See Letters to the Editor)

THE EDGE \* VOLUME 22 \* ISSUE 4 \* MAY 2013





WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



Photos from May Lowell Indiana Event (See Letters to the Editor)





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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### Axis Representative

Unfortunately, a prospective Axis unit charter failed to get approved by the S&A Committee and therefore it was not submitted or voted on by the BOD. This charter can always be resubmitted with corrections and clarifications in the future.

6 Fallschirmjager Rgt. 6 is now a defunct unit.

The 2nd Ranger Bn. of St. Louis & the Colorado Military Historical Group (CMHG) have now, in addition to the LAH Living History association (LAH National), been recognized by the HRS. Several other organizations have been contacted, but have not yet submitted the required paperwork.

Just a reminder, every combat unit must have at least (5) members in it or it faces the possibility of losing its charter.

There have been a few small changes to some S&A regulations recently. It's always good to be familiar with the S&A regulations. Check out the HRS website for more details.

Below is a proposal for the HRS non-profit grant/donation program. I am presently seeking HRS membership opinions on it. It will be submitted for approval by the BOD at next months BOD meeting.

If you have any concerns or suggestions, please let me know.

Thanks, Doug. [dbloge@yahoo.com](mailto:dbloge@yahoo.com)

#### HRS grants to other non-profit organizations (proposed)

There will be 3 grants made of \$1,000.00 each, to 3 non-profits of the HRS members choosing.

The application submissions must be for a specific WWII non-profit and must be able to be allocated to a specific WWII purpose, exhibit, or area.

The HRS Board of Directors will choose a total of 10 non-profits, from all the non-profit application submissions by dues paid HRS members. The 10 non-profits names and information will be sent to all dues paid members via an email ballot. Members will pick (1). BOD members may not submit non-profit applications.

If there is a tie in membership voting, the BOD shall select the non-profit from the tied votes.

Any application that is incomplete or needs more detailed information will be returned to its submitter.

### **2013 WWII HRS Grant Application (proposed)**

Full name.

What unit do you belong to.

Full legal name of non-profit organization.

What is the non-profits mission? What do they do?

The HRS' motto is "More Majorim" in Latin meaning "In the tradition of those before us."

The HRS' credo is

"The SOCIETY is a non-profit society composed of historians and hobbyists whose purpose is to preserve the history of the Second World War by re-enacting battles, living historical campsites, displays, and collecting and preserving memorabilia of the era. The corporation provides for its members a means to do this, thereby keeping alive the history of all nations that participated in the Second World War. We shall endeavor to seek greater authenticity in the presentation of all activities of this corporation. We shall strive to foster the growing interest in the Second World War and educate the general public of this corporation's purpose through active public relations."

With the HRS' motto and credo in mind, why should the HRS membership make a grant to this non-profit?

Who is the point of contact with the non-profit? How can they be contacted?

What is the non-profits website address, if any?

Is there any additional information that you would like to add, to help the HRS BOD and HRS membership make their selection?

Please submit proof of organizations legal status as a non-profit organization ie....link to government website, or certificate. A statement on a website of an organizations status is not proof.


Please complete the following form and email it to the Axis Representative Doug Loge, at [dbloge@yahoo.com](mailto:dbloge@yahoo.com)

\*Note - if the organization is chosen to be included in the final ballot, information entered on this form, including your name and unit, may be used.



# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



## EVENTS

May	May 2013
<b>04-05</b>  <b>May</b> 	<p align="center"><b>KENNEKUK WWII REMEMBRANCE DAYS</b></p> <p><b>Loc:</b> Kennekuk County Park 22296 A Henning Rd. Danville IL  <b>Dates:</b> May 4th and 5th, 2013  <b>Event Times:</b> Saturday May 4th 9:00am till 5:00pm Sunday May 5th 10:00am till 3:00pm  <b>Registration Times:</b> Friday May 3rd 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:wwiikennekuk@yahoo.com">wwiikennekuk@yahoo.com</a>  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://vccd.org/gikennekuk.html">http://vccd.org/gikennekuk.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>Motels:</b> Best Western Riverside Inn 217-431-0020/Day's Hotel 217-703-4505  <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> 33rd Infantry Division/Great Lake WAVES</p>
<b>14-16</b>  <b>May</b>	<p align="center"><b>DRIVEN TO VICTORY MILITARY SHOW</b></p> <p><b>Loc:</b> Van Hoosen Farm Rochester Hills Mi  <b>Dates:</b> May 10,11 2013  <b>Event Times:</b> 9am – 4pm  <b>Registration Times:</b> 7am  <b>Pre-Registration:</b> required  <b>Fee:</b> FREE  <b>Contact:</b> John Lind  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.driventovictory.com">http://www.driventovictory.com</a>  <b>Map:</b> (<a href="#">click here</a>)  <b>Directions:</b> East of Rochester rd south off Tieken Rd (25 mile)  <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> HRS rules apply  <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> NONE  <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> HRS rules  <b>Other restrictions:</b> NONE  <b>Motels:</b> Camping on site  <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> 704TDB Arsenal of Democracy Museum</p>
<b>18-19</b> <b>May</b> 	<p align="center"><b>4TH ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY WWII WEEKEND</b></p> <p><b>Loc:</b> Dakota City Heritage Village 4008 220th Street W. Farmington, MN 55024  <b>Dates:</b> May 18 &amp; 19, 2013  <b>Event Times:</b> Open to the Public 10am-6pm Sat. &amp; 10am-3pm Sun.  <b>Registration Times:</b> Noon-10pm Fri. 7am Sat. 9am Sun.  <b>Pre-Registration:</b> email Jon at <a href="mailto:ivanthecutthroat@hotmail.com">ivanthecutthroat@hotmail.com</a> Let him know what unit and about how many are planning to attend.  <b>Fee:</b> meals are \$5 each to reenactors, please let us know if you are interested.  <b>Contact:</b> Jon Boorum <a href="mailto:ivanthecutthroat@hotmail.com">ivanthecutthroat@hotmail.com</a> 612-432-2231  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://dakotacitywwii.yolasite.com">http://dakotacitywwii.yolasite.com</a>  <b>Map:</b> (<a href="#">Click Here</a>)  <b>Directions:</b> Contact <a href="mailto:ivanthecutthroat@hotmail.com">ivanthecutthroat@hotmail.com</a> for details.  <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> All HRS Rules Apply  <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> All WWII vehicles are welcome, even tracked vehicles.  <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> All HRS Rules Apply  <b>Other restrictions:</b> None  <b>Motels:</b>  Motel 6 Minneapolis South - Lakeville 11274 210th Street, Lakeville, MN 7.2 mi W (952) 469-1900 () • <a href="http://motel6.com">motel6.com</a></p>





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

	<p>Holiday Inn Hotel &amp; Suites Minneapolis - Lakeville 20800 Kenrick Ave, Lakeville, MN 7.3 mi W (952) 469-1134 () • holidayinn.com  AmericInn Hotel &amp; Suites Apple Valley 15000 Glazier Ave, Apple Valley, MN 7.9 mi NW (952) 431-3800 () • americinn.com  Comfort Inn 17605 Kenrick Ave, Lakeville, MN 8.2 mi NW (952) 898-3700 () • comfortinn.com  Grand Stay - Apple Valley 7083 153rd St W, Apple Valley, MN 7.4 mi NW (952) 953-6111 () • grandstayapplevalley.com  Upd AmericInn Lodge &amp; Suites of Lakeville 17145 Kenyon Ave, Lakeville, MN 8.5 mi NW (952) 892-5422 () • americinn.com  Hampton Inn Minneapolis/Burnsville 14400 Nicollet Ct, Burnsville, MN 10 mi NW (952) 435-6366 () • hamptoninn.hilton.com  <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> 12. SS Pz. Div. &amp; Fox Co/2nd BN/502nd P.I.R./101st ABN</p>
<b>18-19</b>  <b>May</b>  	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LEST WE FORGET - PUBLIC DISPLAY AND BATTLE</b>  <b>Military Encampment and Battle Recreation</b>  <b>Benton Harbor, Michigan</b></p> <p><b>Loc:</b> Southwest Michigan Airport, 1123 Territorial Road, Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022  <b>Date:</b> May 18 - 19, 2013  <b>Event Times:</b>  Friday May 17, Open for setup 1pm, vehicle parade 4:30pm  Saturday May 18, Gates open 8am – 5pm, displays, ground battles 11am/3pm, dance 8pm  Sunday May 19, Gates open 8am – 3pm, ground battle 1pm  Airport-wooded encampment, displays, vintage planes, veteran's presentations, mock battles and hangar dance with swing band  S&amp;A Saturday 9am. Attendance required by all participants  Unit Commanders Briefing Saturday at S&amp;A - Overview of event schedule and updates  <b>Registration Check-in Times:</b> Friday June 29, 4pm –10pm  <b>Pre-Registration:</b> Individual registration required <a href="https://lwf2013.eventbrite.com">https://lwf2013.eventbrite.com</a>  <b>Fee:</b> None  <b>Contact:</b> Jan &amp; Bill Sheets Email <a href="mailto:jsheets@1812@gmail.com">jsheets@1812@gmail.com</a> Phone (317) 788-1836  <b>Map:</b> See <a href="http://www.swmiairport.com/1336.html">http://www.swmiairport.com/1336.html</a>  <b>Website:</b> none  <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> All HRS rules apply.  <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> All viewable items must be from WWII era.  <b>Motels:</b>  Saint Joseph Travel Site <a href="http://www.michigan.org/City/Default.aspx?city=G3516">http://www.michigan.org/City/Default.aspx?city=G3516</a>  Benton Harbor Travel Site <a href="http://www.michigan.org/City/Default.aspx?city=G2817">http://www.michigan.org/City/Default.aspx?city=G2817</a>  <a href="http://www.swmichigan.org/lodging.html">http://www.swmichigan.org/lodging.html</a>  <a href="http://www.michigan.org">http://www.michigan.org</a>  <b>Sponsoring Unit:</b> 82ndAB 505th G Co.</p>
<b>18-19</b>  <b>May</b>  	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SAVING OUR HERITAGE EVENT</b></p> <p><b>Loc:</b> 2550 178th St, Lansing, IL 60438-1804  <b>Dates:</b> May 18th and 19th  <b>Event Times:</b> May 18th starts at 10AM runs through May 19th till Noon.  <b>Registration Times:</b> 9 to 930AM on May 18th  <b>Pre-Registration:</b> <a href="http://www.eventbrite.com/event/2216395298">http://www.eventbrite.com/event/2216395298</a>  <b>Fee:</b> FREE  <b>Contact:</b> Ray Krueger  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://lansingilww2event.weebly.com/index.html">http://lansingilww2event.weebly.com/index.html</a>  <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> Political Flags are not permitted. HRS Rules are enforced. Tracked vehicles are allowed in the park but will be limited to driving unless you have rubber pads on tracks.. Other vehicles jeeps Motorcycles are permitted  <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> Tracked Vehicles due to being a Park..  <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> Minors are allowed but are limited on weapons Demos....  <b>Other restrictions:</b> Fires Allowed but must be Above Ground.. Will Provide Firewood.  <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> 1st Division 16th Infantry Love Company HRS.</p>



# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

18-19

May



## ANZIO EXPRESS - NORTH PLATTE CANTEEN WWII Living History Days at the Illinois Railway Museum

**Loc:** Illinois Railway Museum, 7000 Olson Road, Union, IL 60180-9628

**Dates:** May 18-20

**Event Times:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

**Registration Times:** Starting at 3 p.m. Friday

**Pre-Registration:** <http://illinoisrailwaymuseumwwii-es2005.eventbrite.com>

**Contact:** Dave Fornell (847) 347-7470

**Website:** <http://IRM.org>

**Authenticity Notes:** Italian theater event, so uniforms appropriate for that theater are welcome.

**Prohibited Vehicles/Items:** No tracked vehicles. Hobnail boots are not allowed on trollies, but are OK everywhere else on site.

**Other restrictions:** No digging - too many underground high voltage cables

**Sponsoring Unit (s):** 353rd Infanterie

June

June 2013

07-09

Jun



## 3RD ANNUAL RAILS TO VICTORY

**Loc:** Fox River Trolley Museum, 361 South LaFox Street (IL 31), South Elgin, IL 60177

**Dates:** June 7-9, 2013

**Event Summary:** Rails to Victory is a great event for all impressions: Military and Civilians.

- Daily Large Scale Field Battles on newly enlarged battlefield. This year's battle field will be twice as large at last year's field including last year bone yard with all the obstacles and a new wide open area that essentially doubles the size of last year's battlefield. All vehicles including tracked vehicles and watercrafts are welcome to participate;

- Additional smaller daily Skirmishes on the unique river battlefield under the Stearns Rd. Bridge during the Occupied France Trolley Tours. This was a huge success with the public last year, a lot of fun for the reenactors, and sure to get the crowd again this year.

- Saturday evening period WW2 Girls Baseball Home Front Game and Social Event.

- Shaded Encampments and Flush Toilets on site.

**Event Times:**

- Friday, June 7: Reenactor check-in, 4pm to 10pm.;

- Saturday, June 8: Reenactor check-in, 8 am to 9:15am;

- Sunday, June 9: Reenactor check-in, 9am to 9:50am;

- Daily morning formations and S&A check;

- Museum Opens at 10 am on Saturday and Sunday;

- Visit the Event Web Site for Additional event details (schedules, maps, and updates).

**Website:** <http://www.railstovictory.com>

**Pre-Registration:** <http://railstovictory2013.eventbrite.com> (No Walk Ons)

**Fee:** none

**Contact:** Rebecca Tulloch [becky1861@sbcglobal.net](mailto:becky1861@sbcglobal.net)

**Map:** <http://foxtrolley.org/Default.aspx?pagelid=1146775>

**Directions:** The Fox River Trolley Museum is located on Illinois Route 31, three blocks south of State Street in South Elgin, IL.

- 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.

**Authenticity Notes:** HRS safety and authenticity rules apply.

**Prohibited Vehicles/Items:** 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 & 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 as 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.

**Restrictions on Minors:** HRS Rules



**Other restrictions:** 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.

**Motels:** Accommodations available in nearby Elgin and St. Charles Illinois: Hampton Inn, the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites and West Dundee's Marriott International-Courtyard & Towne Place Suites; and in St. Charles: Best Western, Country Inn & Suites, Fairfield Inn & Suites, Geneva Motel, Hampton Inn & 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.

**Sponsoring Unit(s):** Member of the US10th Mtn LHDG, 709th German Infantry, the 509th PIB and the Vintage Rockford Peaches Softball Team of the WW2 Girls Baseball Living History League.



# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

<b>15-16 Jun</b> 	<p align="center"><b>TRIMBORN FARMS WWII ENCAMPMENT</b></p> <p><b>Loc:</b> 8881 W. Grange Ave Greendale WI 53219  <b>Dates:</b> June 15-16  <b>Event Times:</b> Set up Friday June 14th Event hours 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Sat. and Sun.  <b>Registration Times:</b> Friday starting at noon and Sat. and Sun starting at 8:00 AM  <b>Pre-Registration:</b> N/A  <b>Fee:</b> N/A  <b>Contact:</b> Unit contact: TJ Wendel <a href="mailto:nigelwick1776@yahoo.com">nigelwick1776@yahoo.com</a>  <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> HRS Authenticity Standards apply  <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> None  <b>Other restrictions:</b> No political units or paraphernalia  <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> 32nd Division 128th Infantry Regiment</p>
<b>21-23 Jun</b> 	<p align="center"><b>WWII RECREATED, DIXON, ILLINOIS</b></p> <p><b>Loc:</b> Elks Page Park, 7883 Lowell Park Rd., Dixon, Illinois  <b>Dates:</b> June 21, 22, and 23  <b>Event Times:</b>          - Friday June 21: 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.          -Saturday June 22: 10am to 5pm campsites open to the public, with two public battles, weapons demos, veteran recognition and interviews, militaria sale          -Sunday June 23: 11am to 4:00pm open to the public with one public battle; militaria sale  <b>Registration Times:</b> Friday June 22 and Saturday June 23 7 to 9 am  <b>Pre-Registration:</b> (Coming soon...)  <b>Fee:</b> None  <b>Contact:</b> <a href="#">Jonathan Stevens</a>  <b>Map:</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a>  <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> All HRS rules apply.  <b>Minors:</b> All HRS restrictions apply  <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> All vehicles welcome.  <b>Sponsoring Unit (s):</b> 9th Infantry Division</p>
<b>July</b>	<p align="center"><b>July 2013</b></p>
<b>Jul</b>	<p align="center">No events listed.</p>
<b>August</b>	<p align="center"><b>August 2013</b></p>
<b>Aug</b>	<p align="center">No events listed.</p>





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

September	September 2013
<b>19-22</b>  <b>Sep</b> 	<b>WWII DAYS MIDWAY VILLAGE, ROCKFORD IL.</b>  <b>Loc:</b> Midway Village, 6799 Guilford Road, Rockford, IL <b>Dates:</b> September 19, 20, 21, and 22 <b>Event Times:</b> -Thursday Sept. 19: 12:00pm Gates open for setup -Friday Sept. 20: 9:45-2:15pm School tours No personal vehicles allowed in Living History Campsite -Saturday Sept. 21: 11:00am-5:00pm Museum is open to the public -Sunday Sept. 22: 11:00am-4:00pm Museum is open to the public - 7:00pm Park closes to everyone <b>Registration Times:</b> Registration will be located at the hospital, we will have signs pointing you in the right direction. -Thursday Sept 19, 2pm-9pm Please do not arrive before 12:00pm Thursday! -Friday Sept 20, 8am-9:30am then will reopen 2:15pm until 10pm -Saturday Sept 21, 7am-10am <b>Pre-Registration:</b> Unit CO's: Please e-mail Scott Koelling or <a href="mailto:davewwwii@comcast.net">Dave Fornell</a> (davewwwii@comcast.net) to pre-register your unit beginning April 1. Individuals with approved unit may not preregister until June 1. <b>Fee:</b> none <b>Contact:</b> Scott Koelling, 2.Panzer Division - Overall coordinator <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.ww2rockfordevent.com">http://www.ww2rockfordevent.com</a> <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> Any WWII impressions may set up authentic camps. Partisans welcome and will be subject to S&A Inspection. <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> No overnight vehicles permitted in campsite area. <b>Other restrictions:</b> No weapon discharges after 10pm. <b>Motels:</b> <a href="http://skoelling.homestead.com/page4rockford.html">http://skoelling.homestead.com/page4rockford.html</a> <b>Sponsoring Unit (s):</b> 2nd Panzer Division, 353rd Infantrie
October	October 2013
<b>18-20</b>  <b>Oct</b> 	<b>WELCOME HOME, STARS AND STRIPES REMEMBERS WW II</b>  <b>Loc:</b> Stars & Stripes National Military Museum & Library, 17377 Stars and Stripes Way, Bloomfield, MO 63825 <b>Dates:</b> 18-20 October 2013 <b>Event Times:</b> Open to the public: 9am - 5pm 19 October 2013 <b>Registration Times:</b> 3-7pm 18 October 2013 & 7-9am 19 October 2013 <b>Pre-Registration:</b> Eventbrite Link: <a href="http://ssrwwii.eventbrite.com">http://ssrwwii.eventbrite.com</a> <b>Fee:</b> Free to re-enactors, nominal fee for the public <b>Contact:</b> Gary Adkins: <a href="mailto:papajoad@20thcenturyqi.com">papajoad@20thcenturyqi.com</a> or Sean Burton: <a href="mailto:ALEX6357@aol.com">ALEX6357@aol.com</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://welcomehomestarsstripesrememberswwii.webs.com">http://welcomehomestarsstripesrememberswwii.webs.com</a> <b>Map:</b> <a href="http://welcomehomestarsstripesrememberswwii.webs.com/map">http://welcomehomestarsstripesrememberswwii.webs.com/map</a> <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> All HRS Safety and authenticity Rules apply <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> NO live ammo of any kind. <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> HRS rules apply <b>Other restrictions:</b> N/A <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> First Special Service Force, 6th CO 3rd REG HRS and Second 25th Australian Infantry Battalion, 25th Brigade, 7th Division HRS, Members: 6th Corps Living History Group, St Louis, MO
November	November 2013



# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## KENNEKUK WWII REMEMBRANCE DAYS May 4th and 5th 2013

By Wayne McCulley 9th US Infantry Div.

On May 3-5 we will kickoff the summer WW2 HRS reenacting season with the Kennekuk World War 2 Remembrance Days at Kennekuk County Park near Danville Illinois. This will be the third year for this event. The last event was held in August 2011. 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 to Danville and conclude at the Vermillion County war museum. 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. We are also planning to have a few small unit skirmishes during the weekend. On Saturday evening we will have a 1940's Barn Dance at the Red barn at Kennekuk. This event is open to all World War 2 impressions. This is a newer event with a new date, and it is our desire for this event to grow. We would appreciate it if the WW2 reenacting community will add Kennekuk to the events they will be attending this year.

Sponsoring units: 33rd US Infantry Div. and Great Lakes Waves  
Registration site: <http://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 and the Vermillion County War Museum  
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)  
11:30am: USO Show  
12:30pm: Messenger Bid Demonstration  
2:30pm: Public Battle  
5:00pm: Event closed to public  
7:00pm – 11:00pm: Re-enactor USO show & Dance  
10:00pm Quiet Time

### Sunday's Schedule:

9:00am: Church service (Chaplain Bob Starr)  
10:00am: Camp open to public  
11:00am: Radio Demonstration  
12:00pm-1:00pm: Event Vehicle Parade (All are Welcome)  
1:30pm: Public Battle  
3:00pm: Camp is closed to public/ Re-enactors Pack up camp



Photographs By: Gary Adkins





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## KENNEKUK WWII REMEMBRANCE DAYS May 4th and 5th 2013

Photographs By: Gary Adkins







# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



## 4th Annual Armed Forces Day WWII Weekend

May 18 & 19, 2013 10am-6pm Saturday & Sunday 10am-3pm

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

WWII Living History,  
Soldier Camps,  
Homefront Civilian Life,  
Weapons Demonstrations,  
WWII Military Vehicles,  
War Time Tractors,  
European Theater Battle,  
Authentic Military Displays,  
Authors, Veterans & Vendors, Food & Drinks Available

\$5 with a Non-Perishable Food Item, \$7 Without  
Kids 5 & Under Free

Fun for the Whole Family!

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Reenactor Website <http://www.DakotaCityWWII.YolaSite.com>  
For questions call Jon 612-432-2231





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## **“Rails To Victory” Powers up for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Year!**

June 8 & 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at the Fox River Trolley Museum in South Elgin Illinois

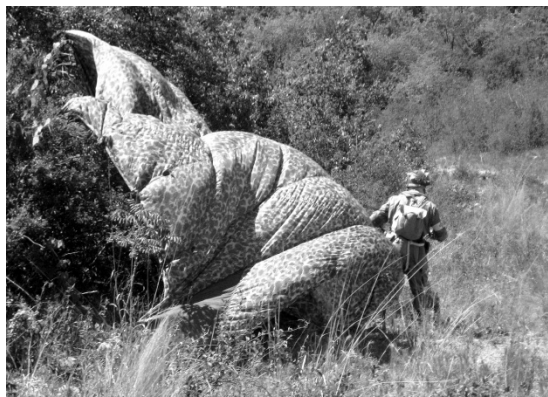
By Rebecca Tulloch, US 10<sup>th</sup> Mtn Unit Member and Reenactment Coordinator

Event Registration and Details at: [www.railstovictory.com](http://www.railstovictory.com)

All ETO and American Home Front Impressions are invited to participate in the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual “Rails to Victory” WW2 Reenactment on D-Day weekend, June 8 & 9, 2013. Field battles, weapon demos, vehicles displays, a period Rockford Peaches baseball game, and the unique “Occupied France” Trolley Adventure skirmishes and skits are all once again on the schedule for this year’s event.

We have implemented event enhancements based on the feedback offered from reenactors after the last event. The changes include doubling the size of the main battlefield, building into the schedule more down time for relaxing in camp, running additional equipment and supply trolleys during the Occupied France Trolley Adventure, and offering a weapons demo on the battlefield for the public to view and learn about the weapons and military attire worn. There will also be a civilian fashion show and medical demonstration each day which are also new this year.

**“Field Battle”** Each day there will be a large scale battle on the museum’s enlarged battle field. Roughly twice as big as last year’s battlefield, this year’s terrain includes the museum’s bone yard field and the entire open grassy area used for public parking last year. There is room for artillery and small to medium sized vehicles to participate in the battles.



**“PAPERS PLEASE!”** The “Rails to Victory” event offers a unique opportunity for both civilian and military reenactors to have exciting roles showing off their impressions to the public in a fun and interactive fashion. The “Occupied France Trolley Adventure” invites both civilian and military impressions to work together to create an immersive experience for the public riding on period trolleys into occupied France.



The public is issued period looking French ID cards and are boarded on to the trolleys by the German Reichsbahn. The three mile long Fox River Trolley Museum trolley line stands in for a French Inter urban line that still runs along the Seine River from Paris to Rouen in France today stopping at some of the same villages along the way. On the journey, the museum passengers are immersed into the world of occupied France in the summer of 1944 where retreating Germans are being pushed backed by the Allied advance after D-Day. Passengers experience local French citizenry, partisans actions, captured POWs, German questioning, and a full German/Allied patrol Skirmish; all on the banks of the scenic Fox River. To make this activity successful, we are in need of civilian reenactors to portray travelling French Citizens with parcels and baggage, French Partisans, Allied Airmen, Allied and German Soldiers to participate in the Allied/German Patrol Skirmish and the German/Partisan encounter skirmish, German Reichsbahn, and German Guards and Officers. A full list of the cast members needed and a copy of this year’s script can be emailed to you through the event web site, [www.railstovictory.com](http://www.railstovictory.com). Video footage of last year’s trolley adventure can also be viewed on the website.



# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

**"There's no Crying in Baseball!"** The Rockford Peaches will once again be hosting a period ball game on Saturday evening at 7pm. All reenactors are invited to participate as a period spectators home on leave and enjoying an evening at the ball park. Wear you Class 'A's or your latest Civilian outfit and come on out to the ball park and root for your favorite team.



For more information on the event, please visit the event website at [www.railstovictory.com](http://www.railstovictory.com) .  
Event registration is available through Eventbrite.

## **RE-ENACTOR SCHEDULE**

### **FRIDAY June 7**

4 pm - 10:00 pm Re-enactor Check In and Set Up.

7:30 pm Occupied France Trolley Adventure : **Trolley Cast Meeting** / St. Lazare Station

8:00pm Occupied France Trolley Adventure : **Walk Thru Dress Rehearsal** / St. Lazare Station

11:00 pm Camp Quiet time! **No Alcohol Permitted on Site at Anytime!**

### **SATURDAY June 8**

8:00 - 9:15 am Re-enactor Check In and Set Up

9:15 - 9:45 am **Safety and Authenticity Inspection** / Battle Field

9:45 am Officer's Call

9:50 - 10:00 am All POVs must be moved out of the Camps.

10:00 am Museum and Camps Opens to the Public

10:30 \_Trolley Adventure - **Reenactor Set Up Trolley Departs**

11:00, 11:30, 12:00 **Morning Trolley Adventure and Rail Bridge Battles (3 Trolley Runs)** / St. Lazare Station

12:15 \_Trolley Adventure - **Reenactor Shift Change Trolley Departs for Pick ups**

12:30-1:15 **Weapons and Uniform Demo** - Battlefield

12:45 \_Trolley Adventure - **Reenactor Shift Change Trolley Departs for Drop Offs and Set up.**

1:00, 1:30 **Afternoon Trolley Adventure and Rail Bridge Battles (2 Trolley Runs)** / St. Lazare Station

2:00 \_Trolley Adventure - **Reenactor Clean Up Trolley Departs for Pick ups.**

2:00 - 2:30 **Signal Pigeon Presentation** - St. Lazare Station

2:45 \_Trolley Adventure - **Reenactor Clean Up Trolley Returns to Museum.**

3:15 - 3:45 **Ladies Fashions Presentation** - St. Lazare Station

4:00 - 4:30 **The Battle of the Rhine at Remagen** / Battle Field

4:30 **Army Medical Demonstration** - US 10th Mtn Field Camp in Allied Camps

5:00 pm Museum and Camps Close to Public

7:00 - 9:00 pm **Home Front Rockford Peaches Period Ball Game** / Baseball Field

11:00 pm Camp Quiet time! **No Alcohol Permitted on Site at Anytime!**

### **SUNDAY June 9**

9:00 - 9:50 am Re-enactor Check In and Set Up

9:15 am Officer's Call

9:30 am **Safety and Authenticity Inspection for those not in attendance on Saturday** / Battle Field

9:50 - 10:00 am All POVs must be moved out of the Camps.

10:00 am - 3:30pm SAME SCHEDULE AS SATURDAY

4:00 - 4:30 **Battle of the Po River Valley, Italy** / Battle Field

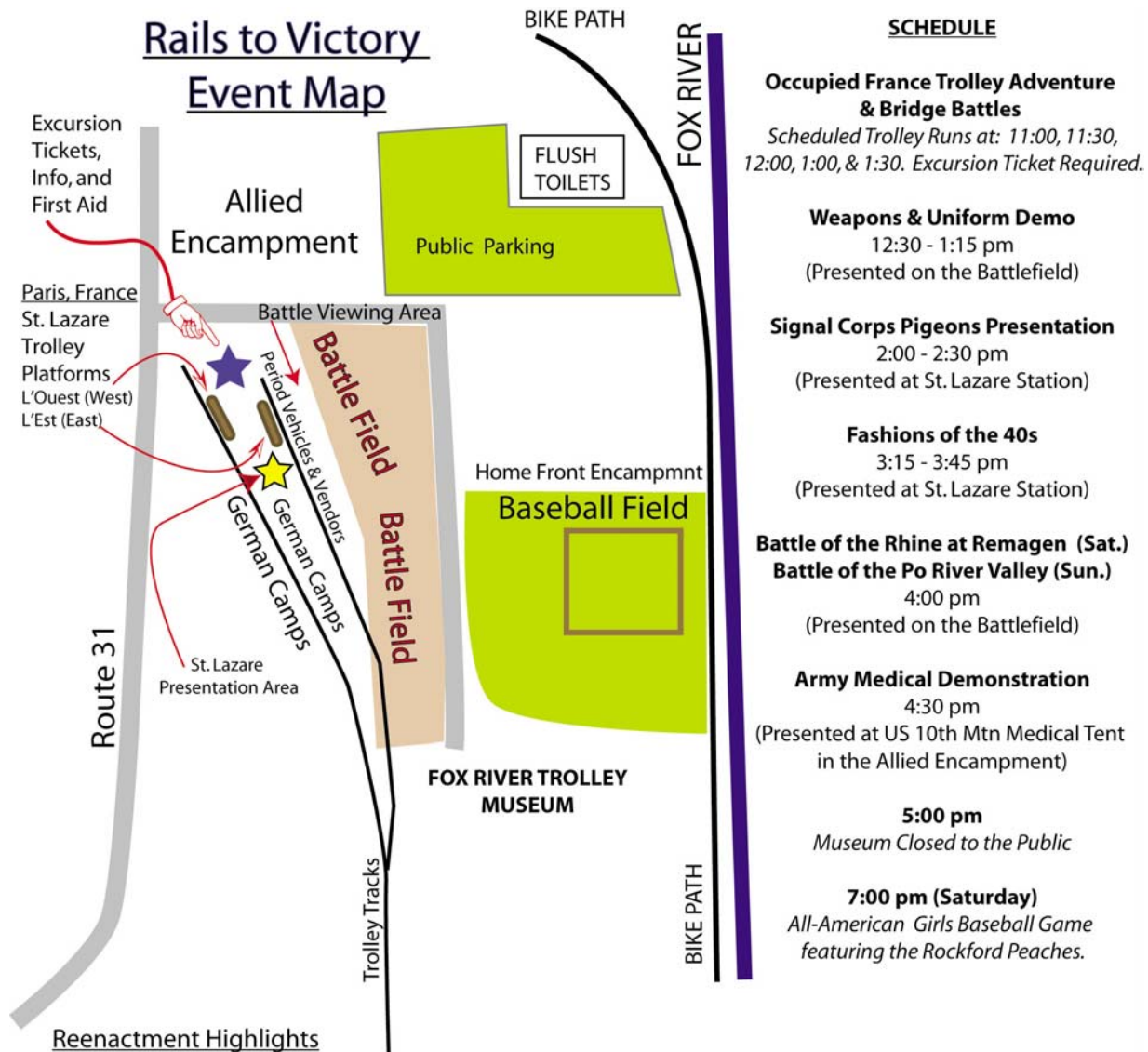
4:30 **Army Medical Demonstration** - US 10th Mtn Field Camp in Allied Camps

5:00 pm Museum and Camps Close to Public





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



**Occupied France Trolley Adventure and Bridge Battle:** Go back in time to the Summer of 1944 and become a passenger on a French Interurban Trolley en route from Paris to Rouen travelling along the famed Seine River. Five Trolleys will depart from Paris St. Lazare Station from the East and West Platforms. Passengers will ride along with French Citizens experiencing interactive encounters with German Railway Conductors, French Resistance Partisans, German and Allied patrols, and a small bridge battle. Excursion Tickets available at Museum Ticket Booth.

**Battle for the Rhine at Remagen** at the Battle Field: The Allies broke out of the Remagen bridgehead on March 25th, 1945. View an attack on a German position outside Ramegan during this famous battle led by General Patton.

**Rockford Peaches Baseball:** Made famous in the 1992 film, "A League of Their Own", starring Tom Hanks, Geena Davis, and Madonna; the Peaches will play a vintage 1943 baseball game on Sunday. Join Home Front Fans cheering for the Peaches.

**Battle of the Po River Valley, Italy** at the Battle Field: Out of the Apennines and into the Po Valley of Italy, the Allies launched a high-speed advance towards the Po River crossings a crumbling Axis army.

**Military Encampment and Historical Presentations:** Stroll through a period WW2 encampment visiting the troops of the Allies and Axis. See the Weapons and Uniform Demo, the Signal Corps. Pigeons presentation, the Fashions Show of the 40s, and the Army Medical Demonstration as scheduled through out the day.



# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## OFFICIAL INFO

### HRS Board Members

April 2013

#### HRS President

#### HRS Vice President

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Joshua Olsen  
167th Signal Photo Company  
And 9th I.D.  
[wolfiejo@yahoo.com](mailto:wolfiejo@yahoo.com)

#### HOW TO ATTEND a Board Meeting:

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/date will most likely be changed to accommodate the board members time schedules. Information on that will be forthcoming in the next couple weeks.

#### Upcoming HRS BOD meetings

"Monthly teleconference Board meetings are open to all members. Please contact your unit commander for more information regarding date, time, and log on information."





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

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> for past meeting Minutes

WWII HRS Minutes	
Click to go to a PDF file of the minutes.	
<b>2012 Minutes</b> <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> (canceled) <a href="#">October</a> <a href="#">November</a> <a href="#">December</a> (No quorum)	<b>2011 Minutes</b> <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>
<b>2010 Minutes</b> <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>	<b>2009 Minutes</b> <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>
<b>2008 Minutes</b> <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>	

The

**www.WorldWarTwoHRS.Org**

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## MEETING MINUTES

### Board Meeting 22 March 2013

#### ROLL CALL:

Position	Name	Present
President:	Carlos Rameriz	YES
Vice President:	Jonathan Stevens	YES
Treasurer:	Charles Gallagher	YES
Secretary:	Eddie Mayton	YES
Allied Representative:	Ron Kapustka	YES
Commonwealth Rep:	Bryce Seyko	YES
Axis Representative:	Doug Loge	YES
Newsletter Editor:	Jeff Skender	YES

#### HRS Members Present

Wayne McCulley  
Mike Alexander  
Scott & Sheri Atchison  
Russell Gordon  
Dave Weakley  
Jim Skowilton  
Jesse Webb  
David Jameson

Reading of the January, 2013 minutes: The January, 2013 meeting minutes were read by Eddie Mayton. A motion was made by Jon Stevens to amend the January Minutes to provide that between meetings, the HRS insurance issue for 2013 was handled and the Board approved an expenditure to purchase and pay for the 2013 insurance. A motion was made by Ron Kapustka to approve the minutes as read and as amended, which was seconded by Charlie Gallagher. A vote was taken and the Minutes were approved as read and amended.

Reading of the February, 2013 minutes.  
There was no meeting in February, 2013

#### Old Business

Regional Event Funding – final wording

#### New Business

##### Unit Charters

##### New Charters:

3<sup>rd</sup> Motorized, 53 Aufklarung Abteilung: Passed by S&A Committee. A motion was made by Eddie Mayton, seconded by many and a vote was taken. The Charter was approved as a Probationary Charter.

United Press: The Charter was passed by the S&A Committee. A motion was made by Ron Kapustka and was seconded by Charlie. A vote was taken and passed. The Charter was approved as a Probationary Charter.

6<sup>th</sup> SS Women's Auxillary: This Charter will be considered by the S&A Committee and will be tabled until the next Meeting.

7th Infantry Division: They are working on their Charter to be resubmitted. This will be tabled for now.

#### Probationary Charters

82nd Airborne Division, 307th Airborne Engineer Battalion: Jon has not been able to get in touch with Anthony Noce and the S&A Committee was waiting for their end of the year report. Doug Loge mentioned they had 4 members to start and only two members last year. This will be tabled until next meeting.

3d Armored Division, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, Co. F: An end of the year report was submitted by Alan Jones. This is in the S&A Committee now. This will be tabled until next meeting.

#### Defunct Charters:

21<sup>st</sup> Panzer Artillery Regt: NO members for two years and no CO.

1<sup>st</sup> kp GD: NO members for 2012. Unit CO dropped out of the HRS.

Chicago's Homefront Helpers: Sheri Atchison has indicated she will be with a different Unit and wanted the Unit shown as defunct.

101st Airborne Div., 502 PIR, 1st Batt., A Co: This is a Texas Unit, had no members for 2012 and is dropping out of the HRS.

303rd Bomb Group: This CO was unsure if their Unit wanted to be dropped. This will be tabled for now.

6 Fallschirmjager Rgt. 6: This Unit has no members the last two years. The Unit will be disbanded if there is no interest. This will be tabled for now.

101st Airborne Div., 327th GIR, 2nd Battalion, F Co: This Unit has not had members for a few years. Ron Kapustka will speak to Bill Shoemaker and report back. This will be tabled.

81st Division Quartermaster Rgt: This Unit will be contacted by Ron Kapustka and tabled for now.

#### Treasurer Report

Account totals are \$46,400.44. There was a purchase of a scanner in order to assist with memberships and the purchase of a laminator for the same reason. All incoming membership dues will be deposited starting next week and will be handled under the "mobile banking" availability of our bank. Jon has a reimbursement request to be submitted and Charlie has one pending for another member. There is also a reimbursement request from Eddie Mayton about membership materials which is being processed. Carlos mentioned that there was a payment for the insurance made out of the Wells Fargo account.

#### Secretary Report

Eddie Mayton has processed all membership cards through February, 2013. Eddie will process March in a few days. Total cards mailed out so far is 350. Jon has recently sent in 200 paper forms which need to be processed. Eddie wants the primary form of membership applications to be through EventBrite as that makes processing very quick. A guesstimate of members so far is about 600.





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## **Commonwealth Report**

No Report.

## **Allied Report**

Ron Kapustka has been working with John Westphall of the 7th Infantry on their Revised Charter. Nothing further to report.

## **Axis Report**

Doug Loge has worked with a few Axis Units and wants to start working on Rockford as that is our largest event of the year. Doug also mentioned possibly starting to make donations to charitable organizations. How and who will be discussed further. Jon mentioned possibly museums or restorations. Another suggestion was to increase the scholarship awards. Doug will put together a proposal for the next meeting. Doug is also still working on the "protecting your Charter" issue as well. A suggestion was made by Mike Alexander regarding donations, possibly to an army base, or something like that.

## **Edge Report**

Jeff Skender is waiting for the January Meeting Minutes to be sent to him for the Edge from Eddie Mayton. He is also waiting on a report from Jon regarding grants. The April edition should be out next week.

Jeff spoke about the video ideas he is working on. He made a video version of "The Point" which is in the experimental phase right now. He has heard very positive comments about it. Jeff will attend as many events as he can to photograph and video the events. The video version will be called "The Point".

Jeff also submitted a Charter Application for a Press Corps Unit that would be dedicated to producing The Edge and The Point. This would be a working Unit and not a reenacting Unit, producing the "propaganda" of The HRS. This would be the staff for the Edge.

## **Business Manager Report**

No Report.

## **Committee Reports**

### **S&A:**

Two Units were reviewed, which were passed at the January meeting. They are also working on one safety rule and one authenticity rule.

### **Unit Commanders:**

Nothing much going on.

### **Vehicle:**

HRS vehicle listing is being worked on.

### **Legislative Committee:**

Steve Zahareas volunteered for the Legislative Committee.

### **Finance Committee:**

Was a new Committee proposed in the last edition of The Edge.

## **Donation from Lansing Event:**

Ray Krueger, who was heading up the Lansing event had a person offer a donation for the event. Ray proposed that the donation be made to the HRS and than that amount would be reimbursed to Ray for event expenses. That issue will be looked into and an answer will be provided at the next meeting. The amount offered was \$400.00.

## **Open Comments:**

Russ Gordon thanked the S&A Committee for their work on his Unit. Mike Alexander asked about the 5 versus 10 members issue. A discussion was had regarding some of the ideas which lead to this issue.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:35.**



# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## Allies or Axis?

Su Miller – Sr. Correspondent

Josef Kleffman – Lead Photographer

UP Civilian War Correspondents

My photographer and I have walked through many camps today. As we strolled through a bit of dense forest we come across a small band of soldiers whose uniforms we did not recognize, nor could we recognize their insignia (a small bit of silver with what looks like upturned wings). Their speech seems almost Russian, so perhaps they are Allied forces. We are approached by a tall slender spectacled young man. "Are you Axis or Allies?" we ask. A half smile crosses his face as he answers "Well, that all depends. Do you have about 3 hours?" He introduces himself as Yuriy, the commander of Greywolves company of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army.

Yuriy offers us a seat at his small camp fire. As the other soldiers busy themselves cleaning their weapons, he tries to fill us in on just who they are. "You see, we are a very patriotic people. You may say we are allies, because we fight the Germans; but you may also call us Axis because we fight the Russians. If they invade our country, we fight them. That is most simple explanation."



There are several reasons that the Insurgent Army was able to form in the first place. The area of the Ukraine where they from has large tracts of impenetrable forest that an army could hide in for months and not be found. Another reason was the strong national identity that had developed over the years which made it easier to get recruits. Nazi German ideology the Ukrainians were classed as *Untermensch* (sub-humans) and that Hitler wanted their land Ukraine, the "Breadbasket of Europe," to colonize with German population. Germany in fact had in mind a war of total annihilation against the Ukrainians because they occupied one of the richest most fertile lands in the world. On December 16, 1942 Hitler ordered that the "most brutal means" be used by the German Army against guerillas in Ukraine "even against women and children." The Ukrainians would suffer three years under Nazi German occupation.

The UPA, wanting National Identity of their own, organized a conference of nations that were oppressed in Asia and Eastern Europe from November 21-22 1943. The conference was attended by delegates from 13 nations that resolved to support the struggle of each country.



Su Miller Interviewing

The 1<sup>st</sup> units of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (Ukrainska Povstanska Armiia UPA) showed up in the spring of 1942. The army was originally comprised of three different factions in the western Volhynia of the Ukraine. In the winter of the 1942-43 the Army increased in size because of the 3,000 policemen that were in the German service that defected to the UPA. Separated small partisan and insurgency groups started forming in Ukraine as soon as Germans invaded the country. Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists - OUN managed to organize them together in to one Army using its wide underground network of dedicated members and supporters. There were two factions of OUN - Bandera and Melnyk fractions. Melnyk was more on the pro-German side, and Bandera was supporting position of full national independence. The conflict appeared, and OUN - B took over OUN - M. Then, after negotiations with Taras Borovets who was first who used name UPA, his units were unified with other insurgency groups all around Northern and Western Ukraine and under talented commander - the one and only general on Ukrainian Insurgent Army - Roman Sukhevych. Total number of soldiers that served in UPA is about 200,000 but it never really exceeded 60-70,000 at any given time. However, the Army itself was supported by literally millions of local Ukrainians, who fed, sheltered, treated, and supplied the soldiers.

The Germans have also recruited around 15,000 Ukrainians into the 14<sup>th</sup> waffen grenadier division of the SS. In the fall of 1943 the UPA had established a secret armistice with the Hungarian units of the German army stationed in the Volhynia that were guarding the communication area.

At this time the UPA is fighting on three fronts. Not only are they fighting the German occupation forces on the eastern area of their country, they are fighting the Soviet partisan and NKVD units, and on the western front the UPA is fighting the Polish underground that considered that area of the Ukraine part of Poland.

The recruitment process in the Ukrainian army was quite ridged; you had to be mentally and physically fit. You have to come from a decent family with good morals. If you were too skinny or under weight the army wouldn't take you. This changed when the Soviets invaded the country in 1944 as the Germans were retreating back to their homeland; the Soviets took anyone and everyone.





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

A typical unit is the squad just like the American Army of this time. The squads consist of 12 men with a light machine gun being the base of fire. The squad leader and the fire team leader were armed with submachine guns such as the PPSH 41, 43 or captured weapon MP 38, MP 40. The rest of the squad member would be using rifles such as Mossiant Nagant or captured German Mausers; as the war progressed, weapons such as the MP 44 were acquired and used. The UPA used the traditional structure of rank and organization.



UPA member cleaning weapons

One of the best tactics the UPA used is the raid. Small and large groups of men would hit the enemy in the rear or on lines of communication. After the raid the men of the UPA was melt back into the land. Because the UPA was on the move and changing their station of operations regularly, the enemy was not able to strike back at them. This tactic allowed the UPA to use guerrilla tactics and surprise and harass the enemy. They also engaged in what might be called propaganda raids, in which they not only engaged in armed actions but also handed out leaflets and talked with the locals about what was going on in an effort to gain support.

The UPA is not a regular army of the Ukraine but it has outfitted its members in military uniforms that are cut in distinguishing style of the Ukraine country. Many of the members of this unit have to use captured military uniforms of the German army or home-made uniforms. Because of the very rural area the army really didn't have the capability to produce a large amount of uniforms for their troops. Many of the UPA members are using a mixture of uniforms, taking parts of German and part Soviet and even interspersing with a combination of civilian garments.

The particular unit we meet today is Sotnia Siromantsi, Greywolves Company of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army. They are a combat unit of the UPA, founded in October of 1943 in Carpathian Mountains. Shortly after their inception, in November of that same year, they fought against the invading force of Polish Home Army in the Rava-Ruska region. They fought almost constantly in that region until August of the following year. In September of 1944 they played a key role in a battle with a motorized NKVD battalion near Univ, Peremyshliany county. For the remainder of that year, they were almost constantly embroiled in armed combat. The combat culminated in December of 1944 with a successful attack on Novi Strilyshcha. This is one of the few units in the UPA to have been comprised of members from various areas of the Ukraine.



One of member wearing a civilian shirt

In May of 2011 the current unit was founded in the HRS. All of the current members of Greywolves company are from the Ukrainian and most of them have lived in the USA for just a hand full of years. All of them are ardent Ukrainian's but very patriotic Americans also. Yuriy and Igor, the founding members of the unit had come to a few HRS events in the past as spectators but they noticed their country was not represented. At first they worked with other units until they gathered the required 5 members needed to form a combat unit in the HRS. Igor and Yuriy have done the largest part of the research for the unit history. I had a moment to speak with several members of the unit. Yuriy, as commander, had to see to some battle plans. I motioned to another young man, from the look of him he must be the youngest of the group. He is very well spoken and tells me his name is Bohdan Havrylyshn: Has been in the US for 9 years. He will only tell me that his rank is a low one, but he has been with the unit since its inception. He has taken 2<sup>nd</sup> place in several shooting competitions with his Mozen Negant 9130. It is a strong feeling of patriotism for his homeland that drives him to reenact with this unit. Also, his mother AND his uncle are in this unit. (Ulyna and Igor).

Off to one side I see bright eyed red haired woman. She is smiling as speak this young man. Bohdan motions for her to come over and he introduces her as his mother. Her name is Ulyna Kovalchuk: She has been in the US for 9 years, and has been a citizen for 5! When asked how she came to join the unit, she said that Yuri frequently kidnapped her son to teach him soldiering. Anytime he came home he was very hungry and dirty. She became curious and went along with them one time and has been an active member of the unit ever since. This is good, since she is now a soldier, medic and unit cook and can make sure her son no longer goes hungry at these events. (yes, it seems Mamma is the same the world over)



# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

Next I am introduced to Igor Kovaltchouk, one of the founding members of the unit and is 2<sup>nd</sup> in command. He has been in the US for 11 years. It is his job to ensure that everyone is properly equipped, but he must also be ready to step into command boots at a moment's notice. Normally, someone handling the equipment for the unit would not be on the front lines, but because the unit is so small this is simply not an option. Historically, someone holding his position would have had the task of working with local civilian contacts to help with equipping the unit with anything they may be short on.

Our time is being cut short, as Yuriy is waving his arms around and shouting. It seems a battle is brewing and all must hurry. They are very quick to respond to his commands; all of them lead by natural sense of loyalty and patriotism.



To learn more about this unit, visit their webpage:  
[www.greywolvesupa.com](http://www.greywolvesupa.com)





## My First Re-enactment

By Douglas Fry

This is my story of going into combat with men who re-enact World War II - from the German side - for the first time.



The MG42 machinegun during a battle.  
Photo: Douglas Fry

The formation stands at ease, rifles slung over shoulders, sweating in the shade and waiting for directives.

A bespectacled NCO (non-commissioned officer) stands before them, his pressed and polished uniform immaculate, save for the dust that has crept onto his boots.

"Kompanie - stillgestanden!" he barks, and the formation snaps to attention. The NCO pauses, approving, before ordering the soldiers to present their weapons for inspection. Bolts are drawn back, rifles held forward, and the NCO makes his way along the rank, peering into the chamber of each weapon to ensure it is clear.

"Klar - ease springs," he commands.  
"Have you all got your firearms licence?"  
The formation nods and mumbles its assent.

"When you reply to me,  
I expect you to say, 'Jawohl, Herr Unteroffizier'.  
Is that clear?"

"Jawohl, Herr Unteroffizier!" the formation replies in chorus.

Satisfied, the NCO puts the men back at ease and commences the morning's briefing.

"Today, we will refresh our knowledge," he explains. We will practice drill, learn about fieldcraft and tactics, and develop our understanding of what the German soldier went through.

The venue for this Schule des Soldat - school of the soldier - is a sprawling, heavily wooded farm. The farmer who has provided this Bauernhof would traditionally be joining his comrades in the day's activities, but there is much clearing work to be done around the property today, so the buzz of a nearby chainsaw intermittently stifles the cicadas



Assisting a Waffen-SS re-enactor.  
Photo: Douglas Fry



German soldiers in 1942.  
Photo: Getty Images





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



WW2 re-enactors conducting static drill.  
Photo: Douglas Fry

Members of this World War II Re-enactment Unit adopt a German name to fit their impression, and have asked to be identified only by this pseudonym for fear of being seen as "Nazis", although the group actively distances itself from Nazi ideology.

Hitler-worship aside, holistic authenticity is the name of the game ... from uniforms to haircuts to the correct way to hold a cigarette.

"It's about history," the NCO says. "We're passing along knowledge." The goal is commemoration, not to glorify war.

"We aim to simply offer a glimpse of the past," the NCO says. "An artificial one, of course, but one which is not sanitized to the extent that it denies realities."

War re-enactment is not a new phenomenon around here. It has long been a staple at local ceremonies - conflicts like World War II are very popular.

In a fitting parallel of mass mobilization, re-enacting brings together men and women - from a disparate range of trades and backgrounds. An assistant principal. A hydraulic operations manager. An automotive engineer. Even a twice-over Vietnam War veteran.



Period equipment and Kar98k rifles  
As used by the German military  
Photo: Douglas Fry



Loading up with blank ammunition.  
Photo: Douglas Fry





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

Most wear the iconic grey-green uniform of the Wehrmacht - the German army - or the elaborate camouflage donned by the Waffen SS, the armed branch of Hitler's notorious secret service agency. Some dressed haphazardly in civilian clothing to reflect old men in Germany during the war's desperate closing act. An impression, some feel, is a more authentic fit with older age.

You need to be as realistic with yourself as possible. The core of any good impression is an authentic uniform, of course, and the quest for authentic items can be long and expensive - a complete head-to-toe kit and rifle costs up to \$2000. Veterans make sure to tell this to any prospective new members.

One of the things stressed is that you can't go into it unprepared. It takes time, research and money. New members are encouraged to speak with the old hands to get assistance with correctness and locating appropriate vendors. The internet is the greatest source of uniforms and equipment. While some period German items such as bread bags and gas mask canisters can be located easily enough.

Authentic uniforms and equipment are generally very rare - so paying the steep asking price is an investment saddled with responsibility. Many re-enactors see themselves as a guardian of this particular thing for a period of time.

Most re-enactors depend on highly detailed replica items produced in Europe, the US and Japan, which are expensive in their own right. Cheaper replicas manufactured in India and China offer a tempting - though poor quality - alternative that the NCO warns its members against using for a lack of authenticity.

One of the group's newer recruits, known only as "Hoffman", says work commitments prohibited him from pursuing re-enactment until two years ago. "Here I am, several thousand dollars later," he says. He has always had an interest in the time period, and became curious about the hobby after seeing some re-enactors at a local event.

We are just big kids with expensive toys. Vendors send out email lists of items for sale, we just read through them and go, Oh cool!

One re-enactor says his deep interest in the German military stems from a childhood fascination with World War II, which was propelled along by model kits and war movies. An idle purchase of a German army belt buckle on eBay led him to investigate the world of re-enactment.

It's been financial misery from then on. It's more than a hobby, it's an obsession. Some guys have hot rod cars - we have this.

With the NCO briefing completed, the troops rise to attention again to conduct Appel - morning inspection - where the NCO walks down the rank, examining the Soldaten one by one.

The helmet must sit just above the eyebrow, and sit tight and square on the head, the NCO reminds one of the Waffen SS impersonators, who removes his helmet to make the according adjustments.

Ammo pouches should be evenly spaced, the NCO continues, making his way down the formation. Use a matchbox to ensure the spacing is correct. And normally you'll have your collar done up. Such imitated discipline is not only part of the impression; it's a point of pride for the Unit's general bearing.

If people see us goofing around, that is the impression they'll take away the NCO warns his Kameraden. Walk with a purpose. It looks more elegant, more soldierly. Stand tall and be proud of your unit.

This is important not only for the way our unit presents itself in front of other re-enactment groups; it is also a selling point when the group puts on public displays. Many of their potential recruits come from these events where the group sets up an encampment full of authentic German knick-knacks and equipment, from BMW motorcycles to copies of Signal magazine. People are amazed. It looks good and we act the part.

Of the membership inquiries received, most come to nothing - the idle curiosity fades, the expense seems too daunting, or the lack of gunplay too dull.

It is about your expectations. People expect we'll be here blowing things up, but this is not Saving Private Ryan.

Sometimes people [at public events] want to engage us in conversations with a political agenda. If they ever contact us through the website, we do not reply. Units of the SS aided and abetted genocide. The portrayal of any of these specific units is not permitted. Accordingly, members are prohibited from portraying SS personnel who actively carried out genocide, but the elite Waffen SS combat soldiers are acceptable. These were frontline troops who fought alongside German army units against allied troops. We do accept that a clear and consistent delineation is of course not possible; the line was sometimes a very porous one and exceptions would on occasion be the rule.

Come late morning, the NCO commands the troops in a period of drill, instructing them in saluting, turns on the spot, and marching to the cadence of links, rechts, links. The formation sweats heavily under their heavy wool tunics, and gladly sprawls out under some trees when dismissed for lunch.

A re-enactor sits down to peel open a can of sardines - "period food", he calls it - while another enjoys some canned peaches. The labels are removed to erase any link to the present, although it's possible to go one better by printing off period labels from the internet and affixing those. We try to push the envelope as much as possible.

Larger re-enactment events sometimes stretch for three or four days, and require attendants to remain in character for the duration - a tough ask in the middle of winter, when temperatures reach below zero. It is not the same conditions that they endured in Eastern Europe. But it does bring home just a little bit of what those men endured for years.

We do stop to think, and at every public display we think even more, knowing that there may be people there who were directly affected by war, either as civilians or as servicemen and women. The unit has been approached several times at public events by old men who fought against Axis troops in Europe, North Africa and the Pacific. Germans - fine. They were good soldiers, they tell us. The Japanese, though - that's a different story.

"Aufstehen!" the NCO barks, rousing the troops out of their midday doze. Cigarettes are stubbed out, tunics buttoned, rifles collected. The troops amble back to the training area and sit on their helmets for a lecture on fieldcraft, camouflage and tactics.

Stick to the shadows the NCO instructs. You're harder to spot that way. If there's any charcoal around, rub that on your face so you're harder to see. And remember to hold your rifle in an aggressive position, so you're ready to shoot at any targets of opportunity.



# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

With the lesson over, the war commences. Bags of blank ammunition are passed around, and the men fill it pouches and clips. Let's have a bit of fun and make a bit of noise. The noisiest weapon on hand is certain to be the MG42 machinegun. While the others carry genuine, fully-functional Kar98k rifles, the MG42 is built mostly of replica part has a custom system whereby oxygen and propane are fed into the receiver and ignited by a 12-volt battery, mimicking the rapid-fire sound of a machinegun. It makes a loud bang. That's all we need.

Some people just come here to shoot - but for the NCO, it is part of his personal history. He throws the MG42 over his shoulder and leads his Waffen SS Squad up a dirt track, where they pause to confer about the best place to set an ambush. The troops are spaced out at generous intervals, setting one a little further out for early warning, and positioning the machinegun on the high ground. The squad settles into the grass and waits.

A few minutes later: Bang! A single shot, then the rustle of bushes as the early warning man hustles back. Crouched over and panting he reports: They are flanking around behind us! The squad spins to prepare for the attack.

The shots start ringing out. More and more. Dark movement only 50 feet away. The MG-Gunner nestles into the stock of his MG42 and unleashes a series of long bursts.

Not far away, the NCO alternates between making hand signals, shouting commands, and firing at the ever-nearing targets. Suddenly he is dead, giving a final cry of pain before he lies down, motionless.

Despite their superior firepower, the squad starts creeping backwards, trying to relocate to a better position as the advancing troops start closing in from the sides. In desperation, a man pulls the pin from a smoke grenade and tosses it onto the ground to cover the squad's retreat.

And then: "Ende!" The skirmish is declared over as suddenly as it began. The group convenes to drink water and trade perspectives on the battle.

One of the Wehrmacht soldiers smokes a soothing cigarette and peels off his boots to inspect his ragged feet.

You'd have to be a bit mad to want to do this.

## **Editors Note:**

Douglas is from Sydney Australia, his story above is about Ausreenact His story could be mine. I found his words matched perfectly with my experience here in the United States. I guess re-enacting is very much the same world wide.

<http://www.ausreenact.org/>

Ausreenact is a non-political World War 2 Living History organization based in NSW, Australia. It is comprised of individuals who share a common interest in history and militaria, with particular focus on the uniforms, equipment and vehicles of the Allied and Axis forces, 1939-1945.

Ausreenact WW2 Reenactment - Holland 1944 - YouTube Video  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tuG6lHid1Kw>

## **World War II group seeking 'Rosies'**

April 08, 2013

The American Rosie Riveter Association is trying to locate women in South Bend and the surrounding area who worked on the home front during World War II.

Thousands of women worked to support the war effort as riveters, welders, electricians and many other jobs. The American Rosie the Riveter Association is in the process of collecting those women's stories to be placed in its archives.

The association is a patriotic/nonprofit organization whose purpose is to recognize and preserve the history and legacy of working women during World War II.

Any woman or her descendant who worked during World War II is asked to call 888-557-6743, e-mail [americanrosietheriveter2@yahoo.com](mailto:americanrosietheriveter2@yahoo.com) or mail American Rosie the Riveter, P.O. Box 188, Kimberly, AL 354091.





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## Iwo Jima Veterans reunite for 68th anniversary

At Camp Pendleton Pacific Views Event Center on March 25, 2013



More than 50 Iwo Jima veteran's gather for a group photo during the 68th annual Battle of Iwo Jima Commemoration.  
(Photo by Lance Cpl. Matthew Howe)

Hundreds gathered to honor those who served in World War II during the 68th annual Battle of Iwo Jima Commemoration ceremony.

Brig. Gen. Vincent A. Coglianese gave a speech during the ceremony. Coglianese is the base commanding general and regional authority for five Marine Corps installations in the southwestern United States.



(Photo by Cpl. Trevon S. Peracca)

A memorial service was held that featured 21-Gun Salute, and the playing of "Echo Taps".

Cpl. Justin Gorham played taps during the ceremony. Gorham is a trumpet player for the 1st Marine Division Band.

A commemorative wreath is laid for the 68th annual Battle of Iwo Jima Commemoration ceremony.

Cannons roared and trumpets blared as the sun set on Camp Pendleton to honor those who served in World War II.

After the memorial service the ceremony continued with a reenactment of the historic flag-raising conducted by the United States Marine Corps Historical Company.

"Every Marine ties their heritage to the Battle of Iwo Jima," said Brig. Gen. Vincent A. Coglianese. "Regardless of how old or young, we stand on their shoulders. It is humbling to be in there presence."

The Battle of Iwo Jima was a significant conflict where the American armed forces battled and captured the island from the Japanese Empire. The American forces mission was to seize the entire island, because its three airfields presented a tactical advantage for orchestrating attacks on the Japanese mainland. This 36-day battle included some of the fiercest fighting in the Pacific during WWII.

"During the battle every Marine to the left and to the right had a look of determination in their face," said Bill Behana, a former Master Sergeant and Iwo Jima veteran. "We all knew that no matter what happened we were not going to give up until we had captured that island and raised our flag."

Bill Call, an Iwo Jima veteran from Portland, Ore., said he was thrilled to this prestigious event, surrounded by fellow brethren, and he is excited to return for next year's commemoration.



# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## FROM THE EDITOR

Heinz Thiel [GD5.Heinz.Thiel@GMail.Com](mailto:GD5.Heinz.Thiel@GMail.Com)

### 1940's WW2 Army Training Films and HRS Event Video Can be seen on YouTube



For a long time I was skeptical of video on-line on the internet. Most of what I saw was junk that did not interest me. Now I find on-line video to be a great tool for research, especially for World War 2. On YouTube you can find original 1940's Army Training Films and Newsreels.

Anything from how to fly a B-17 Bomber,  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fdc8MJHB0Cc>

The care and maintenance of the M1-Grand Rife,  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GJJeBXZeVZU>

To my favorite: How to be a good Army Photographer.  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kDIyL1qJyWU>

You can even find original German, Russian, and Japanese Army and Navy film from World War 2.

And Funny Stuff Like "Camera Warfare":  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYZmFo3\\_F1g](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYZmFo3_F1g)

YouTube is a video-sharing website, created in February 2005, on which users can upload, view and share videos. Most of the content on YouTube has been uploaded by individuals, although media corporations including CBS, the BBC offer some of their material via the site, as part of a YouTube partnership program.

Any HRS Member can submit an Article for publication in the Edge. You can e-mail me an article at ANY Time.

Submission should be a Text File, or Microsoft Word File, or JPG Photo.

Observe copy-right laws and credit information you submit from copy-righted sources.

Your article/submission maybe edited.  
It will be re-formatted to fit into the EDGE.

YouTube now has more than 1 billion people visiting its online video site each month to watch everything from Cat clips of to sobering scenes of current social unrest around the world. The vast audience has given YouTube's owner, Google Inc., another channel for selling online ads beyond its dominant Internet search engine. Google bought YouTube in November 2006. YouTube is based in San Bruno, California, and uses Adobe technology to display a wide variety of user-generated video content, including movie clips, TV clips, and music videos, as well as amateur content such as video blogging, short original videos, and educational videos.

Unregistered users (anybody) can watch videos, while only registered users can upload an unlimited number of videos.

Last year (2012) I posted 18 WW2 HRS Videos on YouTube, Like these:

Issue 16 Rockford 2012 Inspect and Show  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iyPsWYIRqHE>

Issue 13 Rockford 2012 Battle  
Part 1  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6axP2CtGcLM>  
Part 2  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xbj39HJNA14>

Issue 12 WW2 Veteran Interviews  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M2pl2uu2e5U>

This year "The Point" a WW2 HRS Press Corps Video publication will be posted on YouTube.

The POINT Issue 1  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7dJROFZ2OMo>

The POINT Promo  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mptLRF4zqrQ>





## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

One thing I forgot in the hub-bub is that the picture of the tent on the front (May Cover) is not the right WWII tent. You might want to use a different picture for that part. Someone will probably not like it although I like the picture.

**Jonathan**

This is a good point to bring up in The Edge.  
It is a real picture from the event... and what the public saw.

I did not know the tent was wrong ... it looked good to me.  
Lets keep the cover picture as is, and I will add your words about it to The Edge.

**Heinz**

Why do you have the smiling guy with modern sunglasses on the (April) cover? Maybe you are making a statement on what you should not look like at events.

**Wayne**

As for the guy on the cover with the Sun Glasses... this issue comes up a lot with my stuff. Or to put it another way I always seem to capture (photo or video) things that may not be correct.

The truth is I do not know what is correct... all I do is point the camera and click at events. I have no idea what the correct eye-ware is.

I have no say as to what is allowed at events and on the field.  
It the responsibility of those running (or the experts at) the event make corrections and adjustments.

The general consensus is if you guys do not like what you see then fix it the next time out.

I am okay with anyone pointing out that something may be out of place in a picture. I actually welcome pictures by others who may know more then me.

That is how we learn.

**Heinz**

The Edge is not a "Trade Publication for the Professional Reenactor." It is a newsletter. I doubt that there are any members of the HRS who make their living by reenacting.

**Larry**

We are not "pros" but we desire to go about this activity in a professional manner as if it were almost a trade. Every trade has a publication so why not reenacting? How about these "The Edge: The official journal of the WWII HRS" along with "Promoting Excellence in WWII Reenacting".

**Jonathan**

About the words on the cover pages.

The Cover Page words can be changed.

It is just bit too late to make the change now ... as the issues is going to release today.

FYI: The Cover is a Photo-Shop composite of many layers and is not something I can quickly edit.

**Heinz**

### NOTE:

This year each (2013) Issue of The Edge has been reviewed before its release. I welcome and ask-for this review and your comments.

I also welcome your stories and photos. The EDGE is our HRS Publication and ALL HRS Members can contribute to it.

**Heinz Thiel** [GD5.Heinz.Thiel@GMail.Com](mailto:GD5.Heinz.Thiel@GMail.Com)



# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

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](mailto:GD5.Heinz.Thiel@GMail.Com)

It does not matter when or where it is from. Good Pictures are Timeless.

=====



## Look ... What have they done to my Battlefield?

These pictures are for the over 1,300 re-enactors who make the trip Rockford, ILLINOIS each year.

This is the Main-Battlefield at Midway Village Museum.

They have dug out a World War 1 trench that will be a permanent exhibit at the Museum.

See the Video

WW1 Battle Rockford April 2013 - The Great War - Battlefield View

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WXJFotskdck>

(Depending upon your computer set up you may be able to just click on this link above to view it.)





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



This is the Main-Battlefield at Midway Village Museum.  
They have dug out a World War 1 trench that will be a permanent exhibit at the Museum.





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



World War 1 Re-enactors at Midway Village Museum for there first "Great War" Event April 2013

From: \_\_\_\_\_

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To: \_\_\_\_\_

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