

DANVILLE ILLINOIS WW2 Re-enactment

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WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



DANVILLE ILLINOIS WW2 Re-enactment

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



DANVILLE ILLINOIS WW2 Re-enactment

## CONTENT

- \* Page 4: Communications
- \* Page 8: WWII HRS Event Listings
- \* Page 13: World War Two Recreated Event
- \* Page 18: Lest We Forget Event
- \* Page 19: Vietnam Moving Wall Event
- \* Page 21: D-Day Conneaut Ohio Event
- \* Page 22: WW2 Days Rockford, ILL Event
- \* Page 23: Operation Arcadia Event
- \* Page 26: WWII HRS Board Member List

- \* Page 29: WWII HRS Board Meeting Minutes
- \* Page 31: Vermillion County Illinois
- \* Page 34: War II Remembrance Days
- \* Page 36: Story behind Airborne Beer
- \* Page 38: Photos from the Past
- \* Page 42: Words from Our Founder
- \* Page 47: **S&A and Civilians**
- \* Page 48: YouTube Video Recommendations

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### WWII HRS Scholarship 2014

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 majoring in areas such as history, museum studies, or archeology however all students are encouraged to apply. The award can be used towards tuition or books. Note that any family or relations to any of the board of directors or staff of the WWII HRS will be ineligible for this award.

Please send the applications to the WWII HRS Vice President. The amount of the award is \$500.

#### Eligibility:

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 for the college or university stating that the student's current major and GPA needs to be included. Lastly, a picture in WWII uniform should be included.

Deadline: July 1

Notification: August 1

An article highlighting the student will be in the Society publication, The Edge.

#### Review:

A committee consisting of an Allied, an Axis, and a Commonwealth member will review all candidates and give recommendation to the President who will be awarded the scholarship.

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## From HRS Treasurer

Wayne McCulley  
9th Infantry Division  
[WMcCulley45@Gmail.com](mailto:WMcCulley45@Gmail.com)



This is the report of financial balances deposits and expenditures for April 2014.

Balances as of 4/30/2014

PNC checking account \$8,629.24  
PNC Money Market Account \$48,327.50  
Wells Fargo Account: We have approximately \$300 in this account

PNC Checking Deposits

04/07/14 Mailed Membership Deposit \$120.00  
04/09/14 Eventbrite Deposit of March Memberships \$1,375.26  
04/15/14 Deposit of check from Midway Village for insurance for WW1 event \$300.00

PNC Checking Withdrawals

04/04/14 Illinois Secretary of State for Certificate of Good Standing	\$16.00
04/07/14 Mad Mimi Marketing	\$12.80
04/21/14 Transfer of money to PNC Money Market account	\$5,000.00
04/21/14 US Postal Service for Stamps for mailing ID cards	\$99.85
04/24/14 Office Max for supplies for Membership cards	\$32.56

PNC Money Market Deposits

04/21/14 Deposit of Money Transferred from PNC Checking account \$5,000.00  
04/30/14 Interest \$2.96

2014 Eventbrite Memberships

April- 95 memberships Net Sales \$1,181.30

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Wayne McCulley  
HRS Treasure

## From The Editor

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



The EDGE is a WW2 HRS publication which 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.**

Jon (the HRS President) does review this publication and asks that submissions reflect the POSITIVE aspect of our Society.

You may occasionally notice articles from around the World in The Edge. The Internet makes it possible for anybody to see our Society's work, and submit items to me. We do have a large international following and I do receive world-wide e-mail from people.

Upon request I will also come out and visit with HRS Members and Units. I am happy to take some pictures or video and do a write up about your WW2 Living History efforts.

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## NOTICE FROM The Vehicle S&A Committee

The HRS currently has 206 WW2 vehicles, armor & misc. artillery and equipment registered. Event coordinators can get contact info for this equipment by contacting the HRS vehicle coordinator at [hiawathajim@yahoo.com](mailto:hiawathajim@yahoo.com).

The Vehicle S&A Committee would also like to announce that S&A inspections of vehicles will be done at all HRS events starting with the 2014 season.

Vehicle Safety regulations can be found on the HRS WEB Site. Authenticity regulations for vehicles are currently in the works and will be posted soon. This is being done to further concrete the excellent safety record of the HRS.

The vehicle committee is also seeking applicants for doing vehicle inspections at events, the more inspectors we have the less time it will take for everyone involved. Those interested should send their info to [hiawathajim@yahoo.com](mailto:hiawathajim@yahoo.com).

The vehicle committee is also seeking heavy weapons, machine gun crews, mortar teams & field artillery. These items will be added to the list so that event coordinators' know what is available for events. If you have any of these please send info to [hiawathajim@yahoo.com](mailto:hiawathajim@yahoo.com).

## VEHICLE SAFETY

1. All motor vehicles must be driven by a licensed driver, regardless of off or on road use. The driver must be knowledgeable of the type of vehicle he is driving. PROPER LIABILITY INSURANCE IS MANDATORY. Any vehicle driven off road MUST HAVE A GROUND GUIDE, to avoid personnel hiding in foliage.
2. Service brakes shall function on all wheeled vehicles.
3. Emergency brakes (parking brakes) should be functional, if a vehicle was originally equipped with such brakes.
4. Tires shall have a minimum tread depth of 2/32 inches.
5. Tracks shall be properly adjusted.
6. Steering system shall be functional.
7. Lighting shall be operational if used for night operation.
8. Each vehicle shall be equipped with a current UL listed class BC fire extinguisher, rated for vehicular fires.
- 9: Batteries must be properly secured to the vehicle.
- 10: Maximum vehicle speed on the battlefield is 10 m.p.h.



# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



## Insurance Frequently Asked Questions

### ***What kind of insurance does the WWII HRS carry?***

The HRS carries Liability Insurance. It is good in the lower 48 states.

### ***Who is the insurance carrier?***

Essex Insurance Company.

### ***What is the term of the insurance?***

2/1/2014 to 2/1/2015

### ***Is the HRS insurance personal accident insurance or medical insurance?***

No.

### ***Are those under age 18 covered under our policy?***

Yes, those under age 18 are covered although some restrictions still apply to minors.

### ***What are the limits?***

\$1,000,000; \$5000 medical expense limit for any one person.

### ***Are vehicles, landing craft, and aircraft covered by the HRS insurance?***

No they are not.

### ***Does the insurance bar Canadian members?***

No.

### ***What if my equipment or vehicle is lost, stolen, or damaged?***

There is no coverage for personal property loss of any kind.

### ***Can my event get insurance coverage?***

Yes, if an HRS chartered unit sponsors the event and it is approved by the HRS board however some restrictions apply.

### ***The event site says they need to be added as an additional named insured to a certificate of insurance for my event.***

Our insurance for 2014 has a blanket additional named insured so this does not incur an additional cost as in previous years however you still need to apply for this with enough time to process the request. At least 60 days should be allowed for the request.

### ***Can I see proof of insurance for the HRS?***

Yes, please contact a board member for more information.

### ***Do non-members attending a WWII HRS event need to provide their own insurance for the event?***

No. They are covered under the HRS insurance as part of the event.

### ***Are HRS members covered at non-HRS sanctioned events?***


No. The HRS insurance only applies at HRS sanctioned events.

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## EVENTS



June	June
06-08	<b>4TH ANNUAL RAILS TO VICTORY</b>
<b>Jun</b> 	<p><b>Loc:</b> Fox River Trolley Museum, 361 South LaFox Street (IL 31), South Elgin, IL 60177</p> <p><b>Dates:</b> June 6-8, 2014</p> <p><b>Event Summary:</b> Rails to Victory is a great event for all impressions: Military and Civilians. This year's event will focus on remembering D-Day and the sacrifices made by the Allies during the invasion of France in June and July 1944.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New for 2014: 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 this first of its kind WW2 Era Bicycle Rally.</li> <li>- Saturday's Schedule will focus on BATTLES &amp; LIVING HISTORY scenarios along the Trolley Line; offering several bridge skirmishes throughout the day. New in 2014, we are planning evening runs of the Occupied France Trolley Tours offering both reenactors and the public a chance to see the bridge skirmishes and living history skits under sunset lighting with long shadows.</li> <li>- 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; and includes the expanded open grassy area incorporated into last year's larger battlefield. All vehicles including tracked vehicles and watercrafts are welcome to participate.</li> <li>- A period WW2 Girls Baseball Home Front Game will once again be played on Sunday afternoon this year at 3pm. 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.</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- Camp Amenities: Shaded Encampments and Flush Toilets on site.</li> </ul> <p><b>Event Times:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Friday, June 6: Reenactor check-in, 4pm to 10pm.;</li> <li>- Saturday, June 7 : Reenactor check-in, 8 am to 9:15am;</li> <li>- Sunday, June 8: Reenactor check-in, 9am to 9:50am;</li> <li>- Daily morning formations and S&amp;A check;</li> <li>- Museum Opens at 10 am on Saturday and Sunday;</li> <li>- Visit the Event Web Site for Additional event details (schedules, maps, and updates).</li> </ul> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.railstovictory.com">http://www.railstovictory.com</a></p> <p><b>Pre-Registration:</b> <a href="http://railstovictory2014.eventbrite.com">http://railstovictory2014.eventbrite.com</a> (No Walk Ons)</p> <p><b>Fee:</b> none</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Rebecca Tulloch <a href="mailto:becky1861@sbcglobal.net">becky1861@sbcglobal.net</a></p> <p><b>Map:</b> <a href="http://foxtrolley.org/Default.aspx?pagelid=1146775">http://foxtrolley.org/Default.aspx?pagelid=1146775</a></p> <p><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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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).</li> <li>- 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).</li> <li>- 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.</li> </ul> <p><b>Authenticity Notes:</b> HRS safety and authenticity rules apply.</p> <p><b>Invited 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 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.</p> <p><b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> HRS Rules</p> <p><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>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.</p> <p><b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> Members of the US10th Mtn LHDG, and members of Vintage Rockford Peaches Softball Team of the</p>

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



	WW2 Girls Baseball Living History League.
<b>13-15</b>  <b>Jun</b>  	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GENERAL JIMMY DOOLITTLE VICTORY DAYS, DOOLITTLE, MO</b></p> <p><b>Loc:</b> Burns Army Surplus, I-44 Exit 179, Doolittle, MO 65550  <b>Dates:</b> 13-15 June 2014  <b>Event Times:</b> Camp setup starts 12 noon 13 June, event 9am - 5pm 14 June, all camps cleared by 12 noon 15 June 2014  <b>Registration Times:</b> 3-7pm 13 June, 7-9am 14 June  <b>Pre-Registration:</b> Re-enactors will receive a FREE lunch if pre-registered by 7 June 2014, all others will register on site:  <a href="http://www.eventbrite.com/e/general-jimmy-doolittle-victory-days-doolittle-mo-tickets-6777907905?aff=eac2">http://www.eventbrite.com/e/general-jimmy-doolittle-victory-days-doolittle-mo-tickets-6777907905?aff=eac2</a>  <b>Fee:</b> None  <b>Contact:</b> 6th Corps Living History Group (Select 'Contact Us' on the following page:  <a href="http://www.6thcorpslhq.com">http://www.6thcorpslhq.com</a>)  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://doolittlevictorydays.webs.com">http://doolittlevictorydays.webs.com</a>  <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> All WW II impressions, all theatres, all nationalities  <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> All Military Vehicles are welcome, static display mostly, small convoy Friday night or Saturday morning, possible small skirmish using small vehicles.  <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> Per HRS Rules  <b>Other restrictions:</b> NO live ammunition.  <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> FIRST SPECIAL SERVICE FORCE, 6TH CO, 3RD REG, SECOND 25TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION, 25TH BRIGADE 7TH DIVISION, 116th INFANTRY REGIMENT, 29th INFANTRY DIVISION, 29th PANZERGRENADIER REGIMENT, 3rd PANZERGRENADIER DIVISION</p>
<b>14</b>  <b>Jun</b>  	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ANNUAL HEARTLAND MILITARY DAY</b></p> <p><b>Loc:</b> Museum of the Kansas National Guard, 6700 Southwest Topeka Boulevard, Topeka, Kansas 66619  <b>Dates:</b> Saturday, June 14, 2014  <b>Event Times:</b> 0800 – 1600  <b>Registration Times:</b> 0800 – 1000  <b>Pre-Registration:</b> not required  <b>Fee:</b> no fee  <b>Contact:</b> Ed Gerhardt 7850 862-1020 e-mail <a href="mailto:office@kngmuseum.org">office@kngmuseum.org</a> for display and general information John Colyer at <a href="mailto:nordland1@cox.net">nordland1@cox.net</a> for information on WWII and Public Battles  <b>Website:</b> Annual Heartland Military Day on Facebook  <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> WWII HRS Authenticity and Safety rules will be enforced  <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> Vehicles Welcome no alcoholic beverages during event on event site  <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> As/per HRS guidelines  <b>Other restrictions:</b> No Live Ammo in event area. Modern camping cannot be in the display area or battle field. Camping will be allowed on Friday night June 14, 2-014 and there will be access to the Museum restroom.  <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> 11th SS Nordland &amp; 250th Ski Company</p>

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.




20-22	<p align="center"><b>LEST WE FORGET - PUBLIC DISPLAY AND BATTLE MILITARY ENCAMPMENT, BATTLE RECREATION AND BEACH LANDING</b></p>
<p><b>Jun</b></p> 	<p><b>Loc:</b> Southwest Michigan Airport, 1123 Territorial Road, Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022  <b>Date:</b> June 20 – 22, 2014  <b>Event Times:</b>            Friday June 20, Open for setup 1pm            Saturday June 21, Gates open 8am – 5pm, free breakfast, displays, PTO &amp; D-Day beach landings, Airborne drop, hangar dance            Sunday June 22, Gates open 8am – 3pm, free breakfast, ground battle 2pm            Airport - wooded encampment, displays, vintage planes, veteran's presentations, public battles and hangar dance with swing band. Breakfast provided.            Beach – PTO and D-Day landings, Iwo Jima Medal of Honor recipient and Korean Inchon Remembered S&amp;A Saturday 7am. Attendance required by all participants            Unit Commanders Briefing Friday 9pm - Overview of event schedule and updates            Registration Check-in Times Friday 5pm – 9pm  <b>Pre-Registration:</b> Individual registration required <a href="https://lwf2014.eventbrite.com">https://lwf2014.eventbrite.com</a>  <b>Fee:</b> None if pre-registered  <b>Contact:</b> Jan &amp; Bill Sheets Email <a href="mailto:jsheets1812@gmail.com">jsheets1812@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> <a href="http://www.lestweforgetusa.org">http://www.lestweforgetusa.org</a>  <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> 82nd AB 505th G Co.</p>
<p><b>20-22</b></p> <p><b>Jun</b></p> 	<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 20, 21, and 22  <b>Event Times:</b>            - Friday June 20: 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 21: 10am to 5pm campsites open to the public, with two public battles, weapons demos, veteran recognition and interviews, militaria sale            -Sunday June 22: 8-10am Tactical; 11am to 4:00pm open to the public with one public battle; militaria sale  <b>Registration Times:</b> Friday June 20 and Saturday June 21 7 to 9 am  <b>Pre-Registration:</b> <a href="https://wwii-remembered-dixon-2014.eventbrite.com">https://wwii-remembered-dixon-2014.eventbrite.com</a>  <b>Fee:</b> None  <b>Contact:</b> <a href="#">Jonathan Stevens</a>  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://wwii-recreated-dixon.weebly.com">http://wwii-recreated-dixon.weebly.com</a>  <b>Map:</b> Click Here  <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>
July	July
<b>Jul</b>	No events listed.

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

August	
29-31	<b>SALUTE TO VETERANS OF WWII PUBLIC DISPLAY AND BATTLE MILITARY ENCAMPMENT AND BATTLE RECREATION</b>
Aug	
	<p><b>Loc:</b> Indiana Military Museum, 715 S. 6th Street, Vincennes, Indiana 47591 <b>Date:</b> August 29-31, 2014 <b>Event Times:</b> Friday August 29, Open for setup 1pm Saturday August 30, Gates open 9am – 5pm, displays, ground battle, evening museum open house, sandwiches &amp; social Sunday August 31, Gates open 9am – 4m, displays, ground battle S&amp;A Saturday 9am. Attendance required by all participants Unit Commanders Briefing Saturday at S&amp;A - Overview of event schedule and updates Registration Check-in Times: Friday 4pm – 9pm <b>Pre-Registration:</b> Registration required <a href="https://indianamilitarymuseum.eventbrite.com">https://indianamilitarymuseum.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.vincennescvb.org">http://www.vincennescvb.org</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.indymilitary.com">http://www.indymilitary.com</a> <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> All HRS rules apply. <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> All viewable items must be from WWII era. <b>Motels:</b> <a href="http://www.vincennescvb.org">http://www.vincennescvb.org</a> <b>Sponsoring Unit:</b> 82nd AB 505th G Co.</p>
October	
11	<b>5TH ANNUAL WWII MISSOURI CONVOY</b>
Oct	
	<p><b>Loc:</b> Arcadia Academy B&amp;B, Arcadia, Missouri (Southeast Missouri) <b>Dates:</b> 11 October 2014 (1 DAY) <b>Distance:</b> 74 miles <b>Event Times:</b> Convoy Departs 09:00 Hrs. Returns to the Academy at 4:00 pm <b>Registration Times:</b> Advanced registration required (Limit 15 vehicles) <b>Pre-Registration:</b> REQUIRED (Limit 15 vehicles) WWII Vehicles and period costumes required! <b>Sign In:</b> Thursday-Friday noon-10:00 pm, Saturday until 08:00 am <b>Fee:</b> \$15@ vehicle w/2 people, \$5@ additional rider, \$50@ vehicle (after 1 July space permitting) Saturday evening entertainment and dinner: \$20@ person (optional) <b>Contact:</b> Terry Johns at <a href="mailto:halftrackjohns@att.net">halftrackjohns@att.net</a> <b>Camping:</b> \$10 per site (No open flames) <b>Accommodations:</b> \$35-\$189 (Barracks space also available) <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.20thcenturyqi.com/index.php?topic=2011.msg3352:topicseen#new">http://www.20thcenturyqi.com/index.php?topic=2011.msg3352:topicseen#new</a> Promo Video can be viewed on the MVPA web at <a href="http://www.mvpa.org/other-convoy-news">http://www.mvpa.org/other-convoy-news</a> <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> As per WWIIHRS guidelines <b>Prohibited Items:</b> No alcohol &amp; no discharging of firearms or carrying of same (This is not a battle reenactment!) <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> With parental presence, persons 16-17 allowed. <b>Note:</b> While not a battle reenactment this event will provide the vehicle owner with an opportunity to drive his vehicle within Missouri's beautiful St. Francois Mountains during the most colorful season of the year. The historic Academy offers a venue that lends itself perfectly for a living history HQ Assembly Area. <b>Route:</b> East to Millstream Gardens, Fredericktown, Castor River Shut-Ins. West to the Olympic Steak House for lunch, Mark Twain Natl. Forest, Marble Creek, return to the academy. <b>Additional:</b> This event is part of the larger MVPA "Show Me" Convoy (October 11-17) in which the WWII convoy will lead. <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> 6th Corps &amp; 22 IPC</p>

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

16-19

Oct



## WELCOME HOME STARS & STRIPES REMEMBERS WORLD WAR II & KOREA

**Loc:** Stars & Stripes National Museum & Library, 17377 Stars & Stripes Way, Bloomfield, MO 63825

**Dates:** 16-19 October 2014

### Event Times:

- 16 Oct, camp set up can begin @ 12 noon
- 17 Oct, open to schools: 10am-2pm, set-up continues all day
- 18 Oct open to the public, 8:30am, Memorial convoy
- 18 Oct open to the public, All camps and displays @ 9am - 5pm
- 19 Oct camp sites cleared by 12 noon

### Registration Times:

- 3pm – 9pm 17 October
- 7am – 9am 18 October

**Pre-Registration:** ([click here](#))

**Fee:** N/A

**Contact:** 6th Corps Living History Group, St Louis, MO at the contact me button on this web-site:

<http://welcomehomestarsstripesrememberswwii.webs.com/contact-us>

**Website:** <http://welcomehomestarsstripesrememberswwii.webs.com/>

**Authenticity Notes:** All HRS Safety and authenticity rules apply.

**Prohibited Vehicles/Items:** No live ammo

**Restrictions on Minors:** per HRS rules

**Other restrictions:** Per local and state laws

### Sponsoring Unit(s):

- FIRST SPECIAL SERVICE FORCE, 6TH CO, 3RD REG HRS
- SECOND 25TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION, 25TH BRIGADE 7TH DIVISION HRS
- 116th INFANTRY REGIMENT, 29th INFANTRY DIVISION
- 29th PANZERGRENADIER REGIMENT, 3rd PANZERGRENADIER DIVISION

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**WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.**

# WWII Recreated

A Remembrance of our Greatest Generation

June 20, 21, and 22, 2014

Elks Page Park  
7883 S Lowell Park Rd.  
Dixon, IL

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

*Friday evening Sneak Peak*

Saturday- 9:30 am to 5 pm

Sunday 10:30 to 3:30 pm

**Featuring**

Battle Simulations including US and German troops, Armored  
Vehicle Displays, Weapons and Uniform Demonstrations,  
Authentic WWII Camps, Tribute to WWII Veterans

**Militaria Sale**

Starting Friday 5pm till Sunday afternoon.

Bring your military collectables to buy, sell, or trade.

Open to Public with indoor tables available for \$10.

**ADMISSION: \$5 per individual or \$10.00 per car load**

**WWII Veterans free admission**

Refreshments available all day supporting the Boy Scouts

*Sponsored in part by:*

Dixon Elks Page Park  
Dixon Veterans Memorial Park Commission  
Roberts Armory WWII Museum, Rochelle IL  
WW II Historical Reenactment Society



Publicity Coordinator  
Charlie Thomas  
815-973-4933  
cethomas@grics.net

Site Coordinator  
Dale Grobe  
815-284-9881  
dalebob65@hotmail.com

Reenactor Coordinator  
Jonathan Stevens  
630-221-1171  
jstevensww2@sbcglobal.net



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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



## World War Two Recreated

A Living History Presentation  
Sponsored by the 9th Infantry Division, WWIIHRS

June 21 to 22, 2014  
Elks Page Park  
7883 S Lowell Park Rd.  
Dixon, IL  
[wwii-recreated-dixon.weebly.com](http://wwii-recreated-dixon.weebly.com)

A remembrance of our greatest generation

Here is the Video of the 22 June 2013 WW2 HRS World War Two Recreated  
Living History Battle Re-enactment at Elks Page Park in Dixon, Illinois.

This Video is broken up into FOUR parts.

Part 1 - The Patrol

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yw3F4vv5okA>

Part 2 - The German Attack

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MYFv-ng6cTg>

Part 3 - The Allied Attack

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

Part 4 - German Surrender

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RzH3\\_lbeOmw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RzH3_lbeOmw)

Heinz Thiel - WW2 HRS Press Corps.

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



Living History Battle Re-enactment at Elks Page Park in Dixon, Illinois.



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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



Living History Battle Re-enactment at Elks Page Park in Dixon, Illinois.



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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



Living History Battle Re-enactment at Elks Page Park in Dixon, Illinois.



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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



**Special Event  
NOT TO BE MISSED!**



## LEST WE FORGET

**JUNE 20-22, 2014**

**SAT: Tiscornia Beach, St. Joseph**

Normandy Landing - 10 am

Inchon Ride - 11 am

(Tribute to Korean Veterans)

Okinawa Landing - noon

Iwo Jima Flag Raising - 1 pm

**SAT AFTERNOON & SUN:**

**SW Michigan Regional Airport,  
Benton Harbor**

WWII, Korea & Viet Nam Re-Enactments



- Chow Hall meals • Hangar Show & Dance
- Military Vehicle & Aircraft Displays • War Museum
- Notable Speakers & Medal of Honor Recipients
- C-47 Rides • Parachute Jump

[www.lestweforgetusa.org](http://www.lestweforgetusa.org) • 269-921-7176

Photos by Lest We Forget

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## VIETNAM MOVING WALL ½ SIZE REPLICA BERWYN, IL

The following is a brief outline of the 4 main events surrounding the MOVING VIETNAM WALL that will be visiting Berwyn, Il from Tuesday, August 7 thru Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>.

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 7<sup>TH</sup>

OPENING CEREMONY @1800 Hrs  
PROKSA PARK, BERWYN, IL

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 8<sup>TH</sup>

USO STYLE SHOW AND B-B-QUE  
1600 Hrs - 2100 Hrs  
MEGA PLEX, Mc COOK, IL

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 9<sup>TH</sup>

ECUMENICAL CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE  
PROKSA PARK, BERWYN, IL

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 10<sup>TH</sup>

CLOSING CEREMONY 1500 Hrs

VETERAN VOLUNTEERS WILL BE NEEDED AT VARIOUS TIMES THROUGH OUT THE ENTIRE TIME THE WALL IS IN BERWYN. THE WALL WILL BE ACCESSIBLE 24 Hrs EACH DAY. ANY VETERANS GROUP THAT HAS A COLOR GUARD IS ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OPENING CEREMONY. ALL VETERAN VOLUNTEERS ARE ASKED TO WEAR AN APPROPRIATE SHIRT, JACKET, CAP, ETC THAT REPRESENTS THEIR GROUP

CONTACT - WAYNE E. PARTHUN

(708) 749-3864

[parthun@prodigy.net](mailto:parthun@prodigy.net)

\* \*



WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



**HONOR 2014**

**August 7-11, 2014**

**Proksa Park**

**3001 S. Wisconsin Ave. Berwyn, IL 60402**

**WEBSITE: [MOVINGWALL.BERWYNPARKS.ORG](http://MOVINGWALL.BERWYNPARKS.ORG)**

**FACEBOOK: [HONOR2014BERWYN](https://www.facebook.com/HONOR2014BERWYN)**

**708.788.1701**







# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

1944 ★ 70th Anniversary of D-Day ★ 2014

## D-DAY 2014 CONNEAUT AUG. 22-23



WWW.DDAYOHIO.US

1944 ★ 70th Anniversary of D-Day ★ 2014

## D-DAY CONNEAUT

### Experience the Largest D-DAY Living History Event in the U.S.

Join us for 2 full days and once again help us commemorate and honor this historic World War II event and those who paid the price for our freedom.

- ★ **Visit** with WWII French Resistance, Commonwealth and U.S. Infantry, U.S. Navy, American Airborne and German forces.
- ★ **Explore** pre-invasion encampments of Allied and Axis forces and their tactical support elements, plus historical exhibits.
- ★ **See** training exercises, weapons, vehicles, and living history demonstrations by over 750 reenactors.
- ★ **Experience** 3 unique battle recreations.
- ★ **Watch** Higgins Boats, DUKW, and LVT make amphibious landings with Allied troops to assault Axis defenses on the bluffs overlooking "Normandy" beach as military aircraft patrol overhead during the climactic battle of the event.
- ★ **Meet WWII veterans** and be amazed as they share their personal experiences.

#### Free Admission with Free Parking & Shuttle to Event.

Just off Interstate 90 (Exit 241), 5 miles west of the Pennsylvania border, in Conneaut, Ohio. Follow the signs to free shuttle parking areas. Donations of any size are greatly appreciated.

Visit [www.ddayohio.us](http://www.ddayohio.us) for event information and to learn more about D-Day or how you can become a part of this great event.



August  
22<sup>nd</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>  
2014



Conneaut  
OHIO

WWW.DDAYOHIO.US

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



## USO Style Dance

Moonlight Jazz Orchestra  
7 pm, Saturday Night  
SportsCore Two  
8800 E. Riverside Blvd., Loves Park, IL  
\$5 Cover Charge • Registered Re-enactors Free!

# WWII

DAYS

AT MIDWAY VILLAGE MUSEUM ★ ROCKFORD, IL

Located near I-90 on Rockford's east side

## Saturday

September 20th  
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Sunday

September 21st  
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- ★ Midwest's Largest Reenactment
- ★ Over 1,000 Reenactors
- ★ Battles with Pyrotechnics
- ★ Skirmishes in the Village
- ★ Demos & Displays in Buildings
- ★ Affordable Food from Burrill's Meat Products



### "Behind the Lines" tour

Fri., Sept. 19th, \$15 space is limited. call for details.



**Midway Village Museum**  
*Rockford's*  
HISTORY MUSEUM



ROCKFORD  
PARK DISTRICT

#### Admission:

- ★ Advance Tickets Online or Museum Store  
\$12 Adults | \$6 Children
- ★ After Tuesday, September 16  
\$14 Adults | \$7 Children
- ★ Museum Members are Free



Save The Date

TICKETS: ONLINE [WWW.MIDWAYVILLAGE.COM](http://WWW.MIDWAYVILLAGE.COM), MUSEUM STORE & AT THE GATES | INFO: 815-397-9112

\* Registered card carrying re-enactors are the ONLY guests admitted into the event in vintage military uniform.  
Visitors to the event may ONLY dress in 1940s civilian costume and must make sure the Visitor sticker is worn prominently.

\* \*





## 'Operation Arcadia'

**Where the "Show Me" Missouri Convoy  
Meets the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual WWII MO Convoy!**

**2 Convoys in 1 \* 3 Events in 1  
A Week Long Journey Through Time  
October 11 – 17, 2014**



### **6th Corps Living History Group Event**

*"Visit a land where the hills and rivers  
meet where you are welcome to stay a  
day or for a lifetime of memories"*

### **KEY POINTS**

- Open to MVPA members & all eras of historic vehicles (Limit 30)
- Tour one or more days, the choice is yours
- Stage from the historic Arcadia Academy and Thee Abbey Kitchen
- Tour Mark Twain Nat'l Forest and the Ozark Scenic River ways
- Choose between camping, upscale B&B or cabin accommodations
- Avoid the summer heat and enjoy the fall colors
- Appropriate uniforms are encouraged, but not required
- Convoy returns to Arcadia in 7 days after 547 miles traveled
- Centrally located between Jefferson City, St. Louis & Cape Girardeau
- Travel thorough the St. Francois Mountains of Southeast Missouri
- Convoy climaxes at the Star & Stripes Museum, October 18
- Come with us and celebrate the MVPA's birth State



**To enlist contact or visit:**

**Terry Johns: [halftrackjohns@att.net](mailto:halftrackjohns@att.net)**

**[www.mvpa.org](http://www.mvpa.org)**

**[www.6thcorpslhg.com](http://www.6thcorpslhg.com)**

***"I shall Return!"***





WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

# TIMELESS TAILORING CUSTOM CLOTHING

TIMELESS TAILORING  
IS PROUD TO OFFER  
FINE TAILORING SERVICES  
AND A FULL LINE OF CUSTOM  
GENTLEMAN'S AND LADIES  
CLOTHING FROM THE  
1930'S THROUGH 1941.

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LOOK UP THEIR WEBSITE AT  
[TIMELESSTAILORING.COM](http://TIMELESSTAILORING.COM)

OR LOOK THEM UP ON FACEBOOK.COM  
AT TIMELESS TAILORING



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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## World War II Items For Sale

Contact Ed Fahrner, WW II HRS, 34<sup>th</sup> ID

630-858-4597

[fahrnerlsa@aol.com](mailto:fahrnerlsa@aol.com)

- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| • Winchester M1 Carbine - Interior Barrel Blank Adapted<br>1945 Issue, Magazine, Oiler and Sling Included | \$650.00     |
| • M1 Carbine Soft Carry Case  | \$25.00      |
| • M1 Carbine Magazine Pouch - Rear Stock  | \$25.00      |
| • M1 Carbine Magazine Pouches (3) - Belt  | \$25.00 Each |
| • M1 Carbine Blank Ammunition, 80 rounds  | \$30.00      |
| • M1 Carbine Magazines - 8 Available  | \$15.00 Each |
| • Officer's Service Coat - Size 42R, 1944 Green Issue   | \$250.00     |
| • Officer's Custom Tans - 1944 Issue, Shirt Size 16<br>Pants Size 40 x 30                                 | \$125.00     |
| • Officer's Wool Shirt - Size 16, Repro   | \$50.00      |
| • Officer's Service Trousers - Size 38x36, Repro Pinks  | \$50.00      |
| • Officer's Service Trousers - Size 40x28, Repro Pinks  | \$50.00      |
| • Officer's Service Trousers - Size 42x30, Repro Pinks  | \$50.00      |
| • M1943 Field Jacket - Size 48, 1944 Issue  | \$200.00     |
| • Shoe Pacs - Size 12W 1944 Issue   | \$100.00     |
| • Tanker Jacket - Size 46 Reproduction  | \$100.00     |
| • Double Buckle Boots - Size 10D, Repro   | \$75.00      |
| • M1928 Haversack   | \$90.00      |
| • Roughout Service Shoes - Size 10D, Repro  | \$65.00      |
| • M1938 Leggings - Size 3R  | \$25.00      |

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WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

# OFFICIAL INFO

## HRS Board Members MAY 2014

### HRS President

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

### HRS Vice President

Mike Kaczorowski  
1st Polish Independent  
Parachute Brigade  
630.888.9067  
[mike.kaczorowski@gmail.com](mailto:mike.kaczorowski@gmail.com)

### HRS Secretary

Darryl "Eddie" Mayton  
105 Daisy Ave., Apt #2  
Jackson, MO 63755  
[wwiispartan@aol.com](mailto:wwiispartan@aol.com)

### HRS Treasurer

Wayne McCulley, 9th Infantry Division  
PO Box 861  
Champaign, IL 61824  
217.778.0885  
[WMcCulley45@Gmail.com](mailto:WMcCulley45@Gmail.com)

### Allied Representative

Ronald J Kapustka  
C Company, 502nd PIR, 101st Airborne  
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### Commonwealth Representative

Bryce Seyko  
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### Axis Representative

Doug Loge  
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### Business Manager

David Jameson  
[dmjameson@cox.net](mailto:dmjameson@cox.net)

### THE EDGE Newsletter Editor

Jeff "Heinz Thiel" Skender  
WW2 HRS Press Corps  
[GD5.Heinz.Thiel@GMail.Com](mailto:GD5.Heinz.Thiel@GMail.Com)

### Webmaster

John Olsen  
9th Infantry Division  
[john.olsen@wheaton.edu](mailto:john.olsen@wheaton.edu)

#### 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.

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# 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

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

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## About Us



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

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

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

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

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

The WWII Historical Reenactment Society Inc. has never hosted, supported, or financed any events, or dinners at the Minneapolis based Gasthof Zur Gemutlichkeit Restaurant.

The only officially sponsored WWII HRS events are listed on our website: <http://worldwartwohrs.org/Events.htm>.

Information about our non for profit organization can be found here: <http://worldwartwohrs.org/AboutUs.htm>

Any activities by our members and member units that violate the stated bylaws and regulations of the Society are reviewed for disciplinary action up to dismissal and banning from future participation.

On behalf of the WWII HRS Inc. Board of Directors,  
Michael Kaczorowski  
WWII HRS Inc. Vice President  
WWII HRS Inc. Head of Safety and Authenticity

The **www.WorldWarTwoHRS.Org**  
WEB Site Is Hosted by Socket.NET

www.socket.net  
1-800-SOCKET-3

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2703 Clark Ln, Columbia, MO.  
(800) 762-5383

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## MEETING MINUTES

**Board Meeting** 17 April 2014, 8:00 pm

### Welcome and ROLL CALL:

Position	Name	Present
President:	Jonathan Stevens	YES
Vice President:	Mike Kaczorowski	NO
Treasurer:	Wayne McCulley	YES
Secretary:	Eddie Mayton	NO
Allied Representative:	Ron Kapustka	YES
Commonwealth Rep:	Bryce Seyko	NO
Axis Representative:	Doug Loge	YES
Newsletter Editors:	Jeff Skender	YES
Business Manager:	David Jameson	NO

### HRS Members Present

Craig Dvorack, Membership Coordinator, Chris Adams, Jim Schouten  
Kurt Gustafson, Carlos Ramirez, Rey Ramirez

### Reading of the March, 2014 Minutes:

The March, 2014 meeting minutes were read by. A motion was made by Ron Kapustka to approve the minutes as read, which was seconded by Jon Stevens. A vote was taken and the Minutes were approved as read and Amended.

### Old Business

2014 Membership Process: The 2014 procedure was discussed by Jon Stevens. All is going smoothly.

Event Listing Procedure: The Event Request Form will be revised and amended and will be ready for Board review before the next BOD Meeting.

Report on Executive Meeting regarding 2013 Treasurer: At an executive meeting of the BOD, it was discussed that all of the checks and Eventbrite checks had been recovered, but some were not able to be checked due to age. The question of possible sanctions was discussed, but there is no procedure in the By-Laws to sanction him. The issue is considered "closed" by the BOD.

### New Business

#### Unit Charters:

New Charters: No new Unit Charters ready for a vote.

#### Probationary Charters:

40th Guards Rifle Division: Tabled at this time.

3rd Infantry Division, 15th Regt.: This is the only Unit that has passed the S&A Committee. Carlos Rameriz discussed the M1943 boot issue. Doug suggested that the issue be deferred until Mike K can attend the BOD meeting. Jon Stevens suggested that the BOD revisit the issue and possibly vote on the issue. A discussion was held and it was decided that the issue be tabled until the May meeting.

E Co, 505th PIR, 82nd Abn: Tabled at this time.

517 PCRT: Tabled at this time.

53. Aufklarungs-Abteilung, 3rd Infanterie Div (mot): Tabled at this time.

United Press: Tabled at this time.

Doug Loge suggested that the Probationary Units be discussed at the end of each Units' probation year, such that the Probationary Period be extended from a time period of "No less than one year, but no more than two years". A short discussion was held by the BOD and the issue will be reviewed at some point in the future.

### Defunct Charters:

4th Infantry Div, 22nd Regiment: Jon tried to contact the Unit CO but was unable to contact him. Jon suggested this Unit be tabled for now. If there is no contact with the Unit CO by the next meeting, the Unit can be decommissioned at that time.

Company A, 29th Infantry Div., 116th Regiment: Wayne contacted Pete Williams and they have four members for 2014. This Unit will be removed from the list as possible Units to decommission.

HG Flak Rgt. 1.: This Unit has been discussed several times and the Unit CO has signed up as the Unit CO for the 709th, although no change of command form was sent in by the prior 709th Unit CO. Doug reported on a discussion he had with them and suggested the Unit be decommissioned. Doug made a motion to decommission the Unit, which was seconded by Wayne. A vote was taken and the Unit will be removed from the rolls.

9th SS: Doug reported on the 9th which had two members in 2013, but haven't had any contact with Doug since December, 2013. There are no members for 2014 and there has been no contact with them for 2014. Doug made a motion to decommission which was seconded by Wayne. A vote was taken and the motion passed. The Unit will be removed from the Unit rolls.

H Co., 506th PIR, 101st ABN: They have not replied to Mike K after several attempts. A short discussion was held and it was reported by Carlos that they may have contacted Mike K and Doug reported that they may have already signed up with another parent organization. Jon suggested that the Unit be tabled until the next BOD meeting.

Doug also discussed the 21st Panzer Division and made a motion to decommission the Unit. It was seconded by Ron Kapustka. A vote was taken and the Unit will be decommissioned.

A funding request for the Dakota City event - was approved, in the sum of \$300, to be applied to the rental of a tent for the veterans.

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## Treasurer Report:

This is the report of financial balances deposits and expenditures for March, 2014.

Balances as of 3/31/2014:

PNC checking account \$11,995.19  
PNC Money Market Account \$43,324.54  
Wells Fargo Account: I have not been given this information from David Jameson

### Deposits

03/03/14 Mailed Membership Deposit \$25.00 refunded \$5 overpayment.  
03/07/14 Eventbrite Deposit of February Memberships \$2,358.06  
03/10/14 Mailed Membership Deposit \$20.00  
03/17/14 Mailed Membership Deposit \$40.00  
03.19.14 Mailed Membership Deposit \$240.00  
03/24/14 Deposit of Eventbrite Checks Recovered from 2013 \$1150.56

### Expenditures:

03/03/14 US Postal Service Stamps for use of Treasurer \$9.80  
03/04/14 US Postal Service Stamps for mailing of ID Cards \$80.25  
03/03/14 PNC Service Charge from February \$27.00  
03/07/14 Mad Mimi Marketing \$12.80  
03/10/14 Reimbursement of Eddie Mayton for 2013 expenses \$89.32  
03/12/14 Office Depot supplies for Membership cards \$32.76  
03/24/14 Reimbursement of Jon Stevens for 2013 expenses \$299.00

### 2014 Eventbrite Memberships

March 135 memberships with Net Sales \$1,855.06.

The Treasurer will issue a Quarterly Report and will try to have it completed for inclusion in The Edge.

**Secretary Report:** Eddie Mayton was unable to attend, No Report.

**Membership Coordinator:** Craig Dvorack: 2014 Eventbrite Memberships were as follows: 714 memberships as of today's date. Craig Dvorack is working on the membership cards from mid-April, all prior card requests have been sent out.

**Commonwealth Report:** Nothing to Report.

**Allied Report:** Nothing to Report

**Axis Report:** Nothing, other than the 12th SS issue, which will be discussed at the end of the BOD meeting.

**Edge Report:** Jeff Skender is looking for someone to report on the civilian issues in The Edge.

**Business Manager Report:** Tabled.

## Committee Reports:

**S&A -** Nothing to Report.

**Unit Commanders -** Nothing new happening, except the monthly password which is sent out.

**Vehicle -** Jim reported that the Committee is working on S&A Rules for Vehicles. The Vehicle Listing is listed on the website, but needs to be highlighted a little better.

**Facebook HRS Page-** Doug and Mike K are monitoring the Facebook Page. It lists the numbers of members, refers members to the event listings on the website and reminds members to contact their Unit CO for the password info. Jon suggested that the BOD vote on accepting the HRS Facebook page. Doug made a motion which was seconded by Wayne. A vote was taken and the BOD decided to continue with the HRS Facebook page.

## **Open Comments:**

Doug Loge mentioned the 12th SS and their "MN Dinner Issue". Doug made a motion that the 12th SS and Scott Steben be put on Probation for one year, with a stipulation that they do not fly, display, or hang any flag, banner, pennant, or standard with a swastika, SS runes, or totenkopf on it. Doug discussed the information that he has provided to the BOD. Jon mentioned that he thought Scott Steben needs to be advised that this vote was going to be taken and that he be given notice to attend the next meeting. A motion was made by Ron Kapustka, which was seconded by Wayne. A vote was taken and the motion was passed. Scott Steben will be advised that this discussion and vote will take place at the next BOD meeting and that he has the opportunity to attend the BOD meeting.

A motion to adjourn the Meeting was made by Ron Kapustka and seconded by Jon Stevens. A vote was taken and the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 pm.

\* \*





## Some interesting places to visit in Vermillion County Illinois

May 3-4 2014

By Josef Kleffman - United Press

Photos By Heinz Thiel

I arrived at the event about 0745 and walked across the re-enactors parking lot to the old saw and grist mill that was being used for the registration area for the event. As I walked through the park I looked at the different buildings that had been moved to the park from various locations within Vermillion County.



Those buildings included a school house built in the late 1800's and a church built about the same time; both were occupied by the German forces for the weekend.



A ca. 1916 grocery store and gas station, in use until 1993, was located across the street.



Neighboring businesses included a print shop for a newspaper, with letter type presses and a circulation desk.



A barber shop complete with tile floor, barber chairs, large mirror and shaving mugs.



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Walking off of Main Street and heading towards the mill is a train depot from Bismarck, Illinois dating from the early 1900's. Parked on a set of tracks in front of the depot is a dining car from the 1940's that is very well kept inside and out.



Walking around I surveyed the site and enjoyed the beautiful weather, as the high for the day was to be in the upper range of the 60's. The Axis was camped in and around the grocery store, school house and church. The area is set up with slit trenches and zeltbond shelters. The Allies were set up next to the depot and the grist mill.



The DAK (German Red Cross) was set up in the church, which had been turned into a field hospital for the weekend. The display was quite impressive. One of the German infantry units was set up in the grocery store across the street, with a quite impressive display of weapons, radios, and rations. Another German infantry unit was set up in the school house; I didn't get a chance to look inside the school but the display outside was well thought out with a trench, MG-42 and several panzerfaust ready for instant use.



The USO girls have a display in one of the homes which was really tops. Next time you are at an event please check them out as they have a great home front display of the US. Across the street from the USO was the Russian display; I wish I would have had more time as I would have liked to see them.



Walking over to the Allies, a field hospital of one of the armored divisions of the US Army was set up in front of the Bismarck depot. I talked with the Lieutenant in charge of the display, who was quite knowledgeable on the state of medicine during the war and the medical procedures used by the United States Army at the time.

Behind the hospital the men of the US Airborne Unit had taken over the depot, complete with sandbags in the window and a 30 cal air-cooled machine gun sticking out to defend the depot if needed.

\* \*





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



Several WW2 willies jeeps were parked in front of the depot and were being used by the MP detachment for the event.



Across the road and next to the grist mill were the rest of the Allied forces. A detachment of the Polish army was close to the road, and next to them was a display of the Australian forces in WW2.



The Australians had a nice weapons display of Axis and Australian rifles used during WW2. They also had a lay out of equipment, and were ready to answer any questions you might have about the Australian's in WW2. I talked to these men for some time and they were well versed on their subject.



Saying good-bye to them I walked up the RAF display. It was complete with a lady from the Observers Corp, a RAF crew man complete with helmet, oxygen mask, goggles, life jacket, a parachute seat of a type used by pilots and a chest harness used by bomber command with the chute clipped on the front of the harness.

Standing next to the RAF display was a gentleman in complete Luftwaffe flight gear. It was one of the most complete displays I had seen outside of a museum, such as the Air Force Museum in Dayton Ohio.

Further on down was the detachment of American paratroopers. I sat and chatted with them for around two hours about their impression and how they got started in the hobby. Many interesting stories from different members of the HRS were swapped as were veteran's stories that had been handed down.

Handing down stories of veterans is important as these men and women of the greatest generation are in their late 80's and early 90's and will not be with us for ever, so it is important to gather these stories and memories now while they are still around.

Not only does it help us in our hobby by learning more about the men and women that we choose to portray in this hobby of ours, but it keeps their memories alive for generations to come.

I wish that I could have stayed the weekend as it was a great event on many levels. I would love to see more members of the HRS attend the event, as it has so many possibilities for the future. I, for one, am looking forward to attending the event next year for the entire weekend, and I sincerely hope to see more of you there.

\* \*



## Kennekuk World War II Remembrance Days

Danville, Illinois May 2014

Submitted By Jon Stevens

Photos By Heinz Thiel

This free annual event included battle re-enactments featuring about 200 American, German, British and Soviet armed forces re-enactors, as well as displays of the American home-front and military vehicles. There was a USO-style barn dance featuring music from the 1940s.



All the World War II-era males in Dave Fornell's family served their country, so holiday gatherings always included some discussion about that time in history. Dave Fornell: "I was always intrigued by the war stories. That interest in World War II never really went away." At 18, Dave saw a newspaper story about World War II re-enactors and realized there were others who shared his intense interest. He soon attended his first event, joined the group and has been a member of the World War II Historical Re-enactment Society ever since. Dave attends eight to 10 events a year. His wife, Nicole, is also a re-enactor. Both take part in the two-day WW2 Re-enactment in Danville, IL. Dave Fornell's 353rd Infantry portrays a German unit.



Local re-enactor Jim Blanton (33rd Infantry Division) of Westville, IL is one of the Event Hosts.

Jim Blanton heard family war stories growing up. His grandfather was a World War II veteran; his father, a Korean War vet. Jim saw his first WWII re-enactment in 1982 at the age of 21 while at Kentucky's Fort Knox. He joined the group that day.

A year later, he bought a 1942 Willys Jeep to restore. That led to his dad sharing more of his war stories while his son worked. Jim said; "He would sit there, and he would just open up."





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



Jim Blanton also bought a 1942 military Harley Davidson. It didn't require nearly as much work as the jeep, because he bought it from a WWII veteran, who'd purchased it in 1945 as a surplus item following his discharge from the military. The veteran drove it home to Ashton, Ill., and never altered it until Blanton came along. "It was in real good condition for 60 years old," said Blanton, who has uniforms that correspond to both his jeep and Harley.



Local re-enactor Wayne McCulley (9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division) of Champaign, IL has been instrumental in growing the event.

Wayne McCulley has been a WWII re-enactor for about 10 years. He grew up with a general interest in history and enjoys hearing veteran stories. Wayne portrays American and British infantrymen at the eight to 10 events he does each year.

A third to half of the re-enactors have never served in the military. They're a diverse group, ranging from attorneys to garbage haulers to janitors, but they share a passion for the history, the uniforms, the vehicles or the guns of the era. Most of all: WW2 Re-enactments are about honoring veterans and preserving history.

In the past, it wasn't unusual for between 20 to 100 World War II veterans to turn out for a re-enactment. But as that generation fades away, it's rare when five come to an event like this weekend's.

Not everyone supports these re-enactments, especially the portrayal of German forces. Some events in previous years weren't open to the public for that very reason. That has changed. It's important to tell the history. We try to tell well-rounded stories.

\* \*



## The Story behind Airborne Beer From Belgium

By Kerwin Law ([KcLaws@Consolidated.Net](mailto:KcLaws@Consolidated.Net))

I came across a You-Tube video posted on the Civilian Marksmanship Program's forum last December about a WWII veterans story of an event that inspired a Belgium brewer to market Airborne Beer. The veteran in the videos name is Vincent Speranza, (H Co/ 501st PIR/ 101st AB). The story is set during the Battle of the Bulge in Bastogne. I enjoyed the video so much that I had to e-mail it out to friends and post it on a few internet forums. In doing this, I was able to find out that he lives only about 40 miles from me.

Previously, I had learned that the leader of the Filthy Thirteen, whose unit supposedly inspired the Dirty Dozen movie, lived in Chatham Illinois. Another short drive as well. It truly is a small world as the saying goes. Unfortunately I found out about this man too late to meet him. This motivated me to get in touch with Vincent. Oddly enough, a friend who I shoot with in NRA Service Rifle competition said he lived in the same town as Vincent and knew him. He helped me get in touch with him. I contacted Vincent and set up a time to go visit him.

His story goes like this: Vincent was stationed in the defensive perimeter on the edge of Bastogne. He was sent into the town to get batteries for the radio. His friend Joe Willis had been wounded and had been brought into the town earlier. He wanted to check on his friend Joe while he was there. After the Germans had encircled Bastogne, the wounded were not able to be evacuated so they were put in a church. There was little in the way of proper supplies, so the soldiers foraged for what they could to help keep the wounded comfortable and to treat them as best they could. He found his friend there and before he had to get back to his foxhole, he asked him how he was and if he could do anything for him. Joe said he was going to be fine, but he would like to have something to "drink". Upon hearing this, he asked Joe "Where in the hell am I going to find you something to drink, we're surrounded"? Joe told him to "Go look in one of the taverns or something". So Vincent set off to try to fulfill his wounded friend's request. As luck would have it, he was able to find beer on tap in one of the taverns. He took his helmet off, the same one he used as a foxhole bedpan and filled it with beer. He went back to his friend and helped him get a drink, as well as several other wounded soldiers. Soon he was out and had to go back for a refill. Upon his return, he was greeted by the Regimental Surgeon standing in the doorway. He was asked what he was doing. He replied "Giving aid and comfort to the wounded sir" He was given a good dressing down about how there were chest and stomach wound cases in there and that he shouldn't be giving them drinks because it could kill them. He was also told to get out before he had him shot. Vincent took the "hint" and quickly got back to his foxhole. End of story right? Not quite.

Fast forward to 2009. Vincent had gone back to Belgium for the 65th anniversary of the battle. There he met Marco Killian and Johnny Bona, two younger European soldiers who were pleased to get to meet an actual Bulge veteran. They were very familiar with the battlefield and were able to locate the positions occupied by Vincent's company during the battle. After some checking he found out that sure enough, they were right. This brought him back to the first day of the battle and his first taste of combat. When the German's started attacking this position, on their approach they had to go through deep snow at the bottom of a slope. Unbeknownst to them, there was a fence concealed by the snow about 400 yards out from their goal. A first wave came out and got entangled in the fence. The "hold your fire" order was given. Then a second and finally a third wave came out and became hung up as well. At this point, his Lieutenant gave the command to fire. The Germans paid dearly for their misfortune. Vincent became very emotional when this came back so vividly. Seeing this, his daughter who had accompanied him on the trip, insisted it was time to head back to town. Afterwards, they decided to have lunch together. During lunch, Vincent got around to telling the Europeans the beer in the helmet story. They were astounded at what they heard. They of course had known about Airborne Beer, but thought the story behind it to be a myth. They told him that he was famous in Europe. Vincent had no idea what they were talking about, so they had the waiter bring out four bottles of Airborne Beer. Each bottle was served with an accompanying ceramic "helmet". The label depicts a GI carrying a helmet full of beer. Later, Vincent went to meet the brewer's grandson. He was shocked as well, to get to meet the man behind the story. Now you know the story of who the soldier on the label of Airborne Beer is.

### Other References

Airborne Beer

Video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IZe2H8nvUAM>

Airborne Beer: <http://beeradvocate.com/beer/profile/4501/61402>

Filthy Thirteen: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Filthy\\_Thirteen](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Filthy_Thirteen)

Filthy Thirteen leader: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jake\\_McNiece](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jake_McNiece)

Vince said it was OK to re-print his poem A KID WITH A MACHINE GUN in The EDGE.

It is copyrighted and is not to be reproduced without written consent.

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## A KID WITH A MACHINE GUN

IT WAS DECEMBER OF NINETEEN AND FORTY FOUR  
THE SEVENTEENTH TO BE EXACT.  
WHEN THE HUNGRY, TIRED SOLDIERS DID POUR  
FROM OFF THE TRUCKS WITH THEIR PACKS  
AND TOLD TO DIG A HOLE IN THE FROZEN GROUND.

AND IT WAS COLD COLD COLD.

THE WIND BLEW THROUGH THEIR SUMMER CLOTHES  
AND FEET FROZE THROUGH AND THROUGH.  
BUT THESE WERE PARATROOPERS ALL  
AND GIVEN A JOB TO DO.  
NO WEATHER WAS GOING TO STOP THESE BOYS.

AND WE WAITED WAITED WAITED

WE CHECKED AND CHECKED AND CHECKED OUR GUNS  
OUR FINGERS STIFF AND SORE.  
THE ENEMY WAS NEAR WE KNEW,  
GET READY, SIGHT THAT BORE.  
PUT A ROUND IN THE CHAMBER, AND CLICK IT HOME.  
AND WE STAMPED AND STAMPED AND STAMPED OUR FEET.

THE EXPERIENCED CALMLY LIT A BUTT  
AND CUPPED IT IN THEIR HAND,  
THE YOUNG KID WITH THE MACHINE GUN  
JUST HOPED THAT HE COULD STAND.  
THEY ALL GAVE HIM THE "THUMBS" UP, "YOU'LL  
MAKE IT LITTLE MAN".

AND YOU FORCE A SMILE WHILE YOUR MOUTH RUNS DRY.

THE FOG AND MIST BEGIN TO RISE  
DAYLIGHT COMES AT LAST.  
STIRRINGS FROM THE OTHER SIDE  
ARTILLERY COMES WHIZZING PAST.  
NOT YET, SAYS THE LIEUTENANT, NOT YET, NOT YET.

WE HAD NO GLOVES AND OUR FINGERS WERE  
STICKING TO THE TRIGGERS.

AND THEN THE SOUND WE DREADED MOST  
THE CLANK OF TREADS AND WHEEL.  
THE EIGHTY-EIGHT GRINDS TO A HALT  
AND THE TANKS BELCH RED-HOT STEEL.  
FEAR BEGINS TO CLUTCH THE HEART.

AND YOU SHIVER A LITTLE AND BLAME THE COLD.

THE ENEMY STARTS ACROSS THE FIELD  
WHITE SNOW CAPES FRUSTRATE OUR AIM.  
"LIEUTENANT, GODDAMIT, THEY'RE COMING ON"  
ARE WE JUST PLAYING A GAME?  
NOT YET, NOT YET, NOT YET, SAYS HE.  
AND THE WIND BLOWS BLINDING SWIRLS OF SNOW.

THE MACHINEGUN KID HEARS NOT THE DIN  
WAITING ONLY FOR WORD OR PLAN,  
HIS THOUGHTS EXPLODING AGAIN AND AGAIN  
WOULD THE KID BECOME A MAN ?  
HE SETS HIS SIGHTS AT 400 YARDS AND SQUINTS  
THROUGH THE PEEP HOLE.

AND THE FIGURES GET LARGER AS THEY COME ON AND ON.

NOW! NOW! NOW! THE COMMAND.  
HOARSELY THRU THE NOISE,  
MY GUN ERUPTS, I GRIN AND SHOUT, AND CURSE  
TRAVERSE AND CURSE.  
MY FEAR IS GONE REPLACED BY JOY,  
AS I WATCH THE FIGURES FALL.  
THEY CRUMBLE INTO LIFELESS CRUD.  
AND SNOW TURNS RED WITH BLOOD.

NOW THE ENEMY FALTERS, STOPS, AND TURNS BACK.

NO VICTORY CRIES OR SHOUTS OF GLEE AS WE ALL TURN AROUND,  
AND VIEW THE BODIES OF OUR BOYS LYING ON THE GROUND.  
OH THE COST THE COST, OF THAT DAYS' WORK,  
LIES HEAVILY ON THE BROW,  
THE MIGHTY AIRBORNE ONE O ONE IS LESS IN NUMBERS NOW.  
BUT WE STOPPED THEM COLD : THOUGH ODDS OF 7TO1, NO NAZI  
BOOT EVER ENTERED BASTOGNE !

AND THE MACHINE GUN KID HAD INDEED BECOME A MAN.

WE SEEK NO PRAISE FOR WHAT WE DID,  
ONLY REALIZATION OF OUR LOSSES,  
WE ASK FOR HONOR, RESPECT AND PRAYERS  
FOR THE BRAVE MEN 'NEATH ROWS OF CROSSES,



VINCENT J SPERANZA  
"H" Co. 501 PIR  
101ST AIRBORNE DIV.  
BASTOGNE 1944-45

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## *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.



### **Allied force, Effingham IL, August 1994**

Photo Copyright 2003 by Charles C. Roberts, Jr.

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**Japanese solders prepare for defense in Pacific Theater reenactment,  
Danville Airport, Danville IL, July 1994**

Photo Copyright 2003 by Charles C. Roberts, Jr.

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**WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.**



## **Tank crew and Chi-Ha type 97, Danville Airport, Danville IL, July 1994**

Photo Copyright 2003 by Charles C. Roberts, Jr.

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**WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.**



## **Japanese infantry and tank crew, Danville Airport, Danville IL, July 1994**

Photo Copyright 2003 by Charles C. Roberts, Jr.

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

## Words from our Founder

By: Terry L. Johns  
(All rights reserved)



April 2014, the author at Jefferson Barracks,  
The longest running annual WWII event in the world! (Steve L. Smith)

Mike Wolf of the American Pickers TV show said, “The best way to learn about something is by doing it.”

Throughout my life I found this axiom true. I’ve gained many insights into the past by doing this very thing. The most remarkable experience that a reenactor can gain from his adventures is that rare moment when he finds himself slipped back in time. Awakened he realizes that he was there albeit for an instant. So kiddies, push that butt of yours away from that video screen, come out and join us in the fields of imaginary honor, and push some real buttons for a change!

In March of 2014, I was interviewed by a film crew from 88 mm Productions who were making a documentary about the beginnings of WWII reenacting. 39 years had passed since I produced that first-ever event. Thus prompted, I wish to share with you the ending of my book, The Hitler Channel Presents.

According to author Betty Burnett’s book, St. Louis at War, the first ever WWII simulation held in St. Louis was on April 21st 1943 when khaki clad troops from Jefferson Barracks attacked a mock Axis held Sicilian Village during the Battle of Art Hill in Forest Park. That was, however, a training exercise and not a reenactment. So when did WWII reenacting start? Did it begin in the alleys where my friends and I played army during my grade- school days? Perhaps it began when my father gave me that souvenir German belt buckle? Maybe it began when I first saw Audie Murphy playing himself in the war movie, To Hell and Back?

\* \*





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

Before the WWII Historical Reenactment Society came into existence in 1976 I had on occasions gathered a handful of local collectors. Off into the woods we'd go to make pretend war documentary 8 mm home-movies. To think, Stephen Spielberg also started this way. Steve, I got a screenplay for you.

In 1974 I began reenacting the American Civil War with Marvin Hildegoss out of frustration at my inability to gather sufficient forces to conduct a proper WWII skirmish. That November I found myself on a snowy windswept farm in Wisconsin clad as a Union soldier. It was my very first official reenactment and I was surprised, not by Jeb Stuart's Confederate Cavalry but, by a squad of Second World War German infantry!

I asked these Wehrmacht soldiers, "If I could find a place to do a WWII reenactment in St. Louis would they come?"

In unison they replied, "Yes."

That was the spark that ignited a slow fuse. From that trip I returned determined to give WWII reenacting a jump-start. I began asking if there was a place that could serve as a suitable battlefield. A co-worker suggested the Weldon Spring Army Reserve Training Center, site of the government's WWII TNT factory, Weldon Spring Ordnance Works. I had never heard of the place.

"Go and ask Colonel Williams of the 138th Infantry," he suggested.

Soon I found myself walking into the Colonel's office at Jefferson Barracks. The rest became reenacting history.

The first post-war WWII reenactment took place there. It was held on Memorial Day weekend in May of 1975. Jerry Hale of St. Louis helped me organize that event. I also had help from Marvin who is best remembered for reenacting the French Colonial period. That Saturday was terribly hot and humid, and within those heavily wooded surroundings the ticks and mosquitoes were bloodthirsty and merciless. Later, a thunder storm rolled in cooling things off a bit. Lesson learned.

That event, having been so physically uncomfortable, naturally meant that another attempt had to be made but in cooler October. In five months the participation doubled. We now had folks coming from Texas and Florida. Convinced that I was onto something I gathered the local supporters and announced that what we needed was an organization and a title. Thus the World War Two Historical Reenactment Society was born. Soon, its nickname also raised its head, "The WWII Hysterical Reactionary Society". Leading a group of unpaid volunteers can be fraught with many pit-falls.

The annual WWII Weekend event at Jefferson Barracks Park began soon after. Weldon quickly evolved into the place for member only war-games and Jefferson Barracks became the location for the public show-battles. Carol Venable was the moving force behind J.B. at the beginning. The very first J.B. event involved about 8 Americans taking on 3 Germans; Art Obermeyer, my ten- year-old son, who sat in the back of my Kubelwagen, and I. The spectator numbers ran well into the upper dozen! Time marches on!

\* \*



## WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

Just days ago I drove my Carlyle Beige 1936 LaSalle staff car to the J.B. battlefield. Ahead of me was a convoy of a dozen German vehicles that included a self-propelled assault gun, 3 halftracks, trucks, Kubelwagens and motorcycles. We passed the rows of German tents on the way to the new larger battlefield where I sat among the throngs of spectators. Together, with the spectators, I watched the panorama of a scripted show-battle from behind the safety barrier.

Nearby was a tent under which sat veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. In the shaded preferred seating area elderly survivors of that war were seated. Among the dignitaries was one survivor of The Holocaust and a young Frenchman who had brought to our city a special commemorative documentary film. The film, D-Day Normandy 1944, was being shown at the Omnimax Theater inside the St. Louis Science Center at Forest Park.

The organization that I brought into life has made great strides since those stumbling beginnings! The numbers of WWII reenactors across the nation must now be in the thousands. Today there are hundreds of different but like named WWII reenactment organizations throughout this country not to mention across the world! The level of required authenticity has improved by leaps and bounds. Even Hollywood has been influenced indirectly. Uniforms and equipment deemed state-of-the-art decades ago no longer cut the mustard. Scores of firms are engaged in reproducing the paraphernalia needed to outfit the armies of yesteryear.

The varieties of reenactors have cubed. Not only are women taking an active part but an ever growing list of the real war's nationalities keeps expanding. There are now Russians, Canadians, Brits, Finns, Hungarians, Italians, Rumanians, Ukrainians, Frenchmen, Chinese and yes even the few, the proud, the Marines and an even fewer Japanese! During the 50th Anniversary of D-Day, in Normandy, I saw a group of Germans reenacting as US Artillerymen! No doubt, we will see more in the future.

Fortified with glowing words; homage, tribute, and of remembrance the forces of "living history" march on. Behind this façade, I must admit, that I think it's just me reliving my youth of that beloved alley of Wilborn Avenue. As Archie and Edith Bunker sang, "Those were the days."

Much of my life has revolved about one central theme, to learn from history. It is often been said that the reward of studying the past is that it enables us to learn its lessons. For failing to heed this - well we all know the answer to that.

Almost without exception I find myself uplifted by history and the museums I have attended. Many have I visited, from Europe to the Little Big Horn River of Montana. Much later I confronted the elephant in the room that I had been ignoring, The Holocaust. Like the Pacific Theater I had to steel myself to this. I did not want to confront it as I knew it would not be pleasant. Recently I visited the Holocaust Learning Center Museum in St. Louis. Here was the abyss of human behavior I had so long feared. War is a microcosm of humanity. Within its chapters one finds the human spirit, both good and evil. I cannot help but reflect after a life of studying war, Hitler, and Nazism that; if only Hitler's father had encouraged his young son's interest in the arts? Perhaps then that tragedy of human history may never have occurred.

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

Unseen at this point an assistant director within the audio editing room of 88 mm Productions, cues the sound editor. With a flip of a switch and the quick turn of a knob the stirring exit music of the pipes and drums from the Argyll and Sutherland Highland Regimental Band bursts forth from our TV set's speakers as the sunset of my big parade nears its completion. I raise my voice to you in order to be heard over the Scottish bagpipes of the obligatory Scotland the Brave. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ThnHG4Smkg> <- Click Here

Long ago and far away I once quipped, "Someday, in my old age, I will promote myself and drive a shiny, comfortable, old sedan, a General's car, from out of the past, to a WWII reenactment somewhere – sometime well into the future."

Suddenly, from behind I hear a familiar voice. Is it the voice of my genie, Adolf Hitler? No. The accent is from Lambeth. I turn about quickly and find myself face to face with silent film star Sir Charles Chaplin in the dress uniform of the Dictator of Tomania who utters these last words.

"You should be more careful what you wish for."

Charlie raises an arm, snaps his fingers, and points over my shoulder. I turn my attention. Magically, spread out before me is large parade field. The pipes and drums play; the cast, all save five, and crew of my tale are passing in review as well as all the reenactors and units from my past. In the vanguard is the 54th Massachusetts Regiment. The parade includes marching units, tanks, armored cars, halftracks, trucks, jeeps and motorcycles; even a 100 strong company of mounted cavalry with sabers glinting in the sunlight, led by a major atop a white Arabian steed. A bay Missouri Fox-Trotter is prancing rider less beside the major. The bay dons a McClellan saddle that has my brass spurred old black riding boots strapped securely to the stirrups facing backwards. They all; man, beast, or vehicle march proudly over the field pennants and guidons flying.

Bringing up the rear in the place of honor is my father with other members from the Greek clan from the City of our Savior, all in Class A uniform followed by battle-scarred children from the Wilborn Avenue Alley Wars.

They are being watched from the grandstand by our past and our future. Beside me stand the color bearers, school mates of old, Dennis Hoff and Ralph Jorens. Without pausing the pipes and drums, now playing The Black Bear, join the end of the column.

If you're standing near them and you ever hear them

You will want to cheer them as you feel the glory there Because the rhythm fills you and the drum beat wills you And the music thrills you of the old Black Bear

Brave are the orders we carry before us

Brave are the hearts that will lift in the chorus

Hear them playing, hear them saying

That's the story in the tunes of glory

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# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.

From behind me a feminine voice not heard for well over a half century comes softly to my ears as the last man disappears into the mist beyond the bridge. That voice taught 3rd Grade at Fairview Elementary.

“You may come with us in now,” Miss Descher announces.

Suddenly, a boisterous voice of a mustached Sergeant-Major with the distinctive uniform denoting his membership in the Governor General’s Foot Guards shouts an order.

“HONOR GUARD! RIGHT WHEEL, QUICK STEP, MARCH!”

Without hesitation Dennis and Ralph step out astride me. I lag momentarily but quickly get into step. My limited marching experience from the Civil Air Patrol is of some help. The sergeant wearing his broad red shoulder sash is watching my feeble attempts to keep stride with my well-practiced companions. As we step onto the wooden bridge to cross over the river below, the music comes to an end except for the cadence of the bass drummer who is still beating the tempo that is in perfect time with the sergeant’s right foot.

The sergeant’s footsteps pause at the top arc of the bridge as my two school-mates and I disappear into the mist beyond. He looks up into the heavens. Still shaking his head disapprovingly he avows, “Well, I never!”





# WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY Inc.



## S&A and Civilians

By Cindy Pittsford

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DRK in the 353rd Infantry /Civilian for WWII

Hi everyone! I thought this would be worth posting now that the re-enacting season is in full swing!

A few weeks ago, I did an event in Danville, Illinois. It was a great event and was hosted by the HRS. The event did have several civilian women and a few men too! It was nice to see this as hopefully this is a trend that will be on the rise at future events. I myself, even though I belong to a unit, and my impression is Red Cross Nurse am still a "Civilian" at times. I also belong to a unit that is "civilian based" the USO. This unit is being chartered by the HRS and it seems to show hopefully a turnaround in attitude about civilian units.

I would hope to think that, but as the Danville event proceeded, I felt a little disillusioned perhaps and I thought if I wrote about it, surely I would hopefully receive more responses about the subject.

The first ever experience I had with S&A would have been Rockford of 2013. The "Civilians" for the event were all paraded at the meeting. I had been told that this had never really happened before as the civilian passing S&A was overlooked. To me that sound like if you go on having this attitude about this; it defeats the purpose of having it at all. It should apply to everyone. I know the main reasons for it is because of units and their weapons and battlefield safety. There is no doubt that has to be passed and safety rules in place but units also get checked for their authenticity. Commanders walk up and down checking on their members for the wrong belts or shoes or even the wrong haircuts!

Then a representative from The HRS comes along and passes the member with signing off on their HRS card which we all get, even civilians at registration!

Well, when everyone lined up in Danville. Myself and the other DRK members in our unit lined up with the other members of our unit and we saw the civilian group off to the side. All the checking began and I saw what I have always seen, the commanders checking on their members and then the HRS representative whipping around signing cards. So I and my partner in crime stood there feeling pretty good about ourselves but as the procedure went on and then came to a close, we looked at each other in shock with unsigned HRS cards in our hands and with much confusion as to what just happened. I said to my partner in jest, "well, it's a good thing we know what we are doing and what we are supposed to look like?" We laughed but I also noticed that even the civilians were also over looked.



Civilians at Danville 2014 S&A

This really puzzles me. Then a weird thought came into my mind. So much emphasis is on the units with soldiers and even though my partner and I are in a unit of soldiers, we still were over looked. It seemed very easy for someone who could have the potential of hurting or being disruptive could easily get into an event as a civilian unnoticed because no one cares to check this side of reenacting. It kind of frightened me a little.

If you are a civilian and wish to comment on this or if you are a representative of the HRS and would also like to comment on this, please do!

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Video Recommendations By: Heinz Thiel - WW2 HRS Press Corps  
E-Mail: [GD5.Heinz.Thiel@GMail.Com](mailto:GD5.Heinz.Thiel@GMail.Com)

Watch WW2 History as told by the Men who were there!



Mr. Vincent Speranza – Airborne Beer Story  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lZe2H8nvUAM>

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Remembering D-Day: Sergio Moirano 90<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XGBAt4egoKo>



The True Meaning of Memorial Day  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VnZ6OZrdTic>



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British D-Day veteran Peter returns to Normandy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vkqi5UFCKu8>



Interview with D-Day Veteran Paul Winters - Survivor of Dog Red Sector of Omaha Beach

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EsBwQWvrA7I>

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Four Iowa veterans, who were on the front lines on D-Day, June 6, 1944, tell their stories of war.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bzmtRTD9mJA>



WWII Army 101st Airborne veteran tells the amazing story of his D-Day jump over Normandy.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJ3F5FeF35Q>

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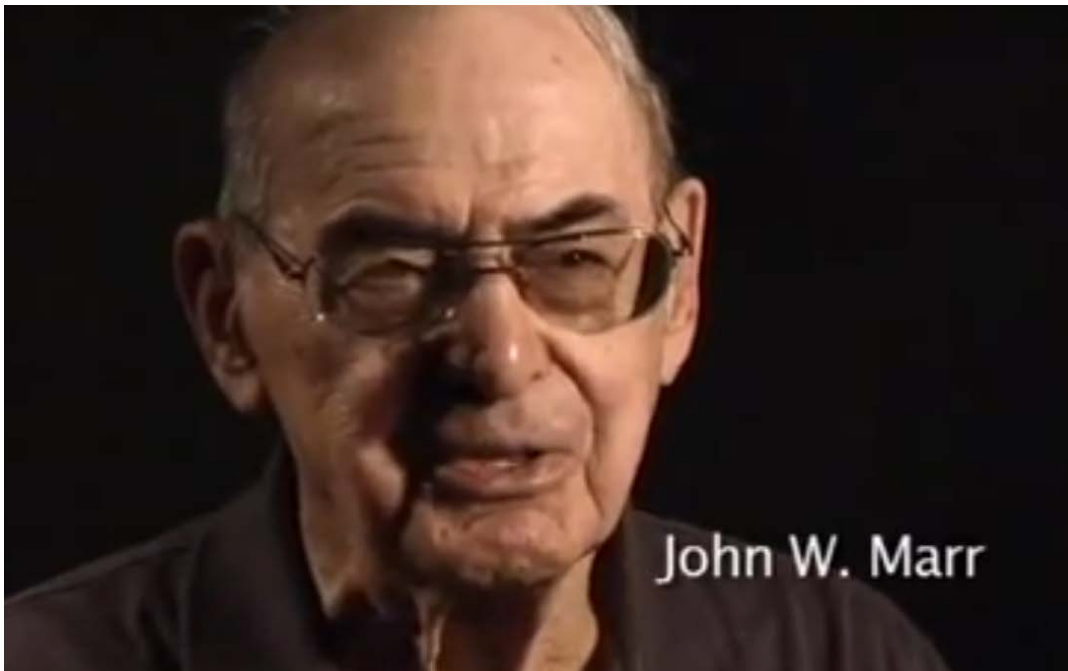
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US ARMY 101st Airborne PARATROOPER PFC RUSSELL SNELL

Interview about jumping on D-Day, 6 June 1944

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TOqv2BGoJDA>



Colonel John Marr: Company G of the 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment. On June 6th, 1944 he was dropped behind the enemy lines with the 82nd Airborne Division. Marr saw action almost immediately after landing near Ste.-Mère-Église where he was involved in what is seen as the costliest small-unit action in United States

Army history, at the Battle of the La Fièvre Causeway.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V0OWBbjL6Jc>

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