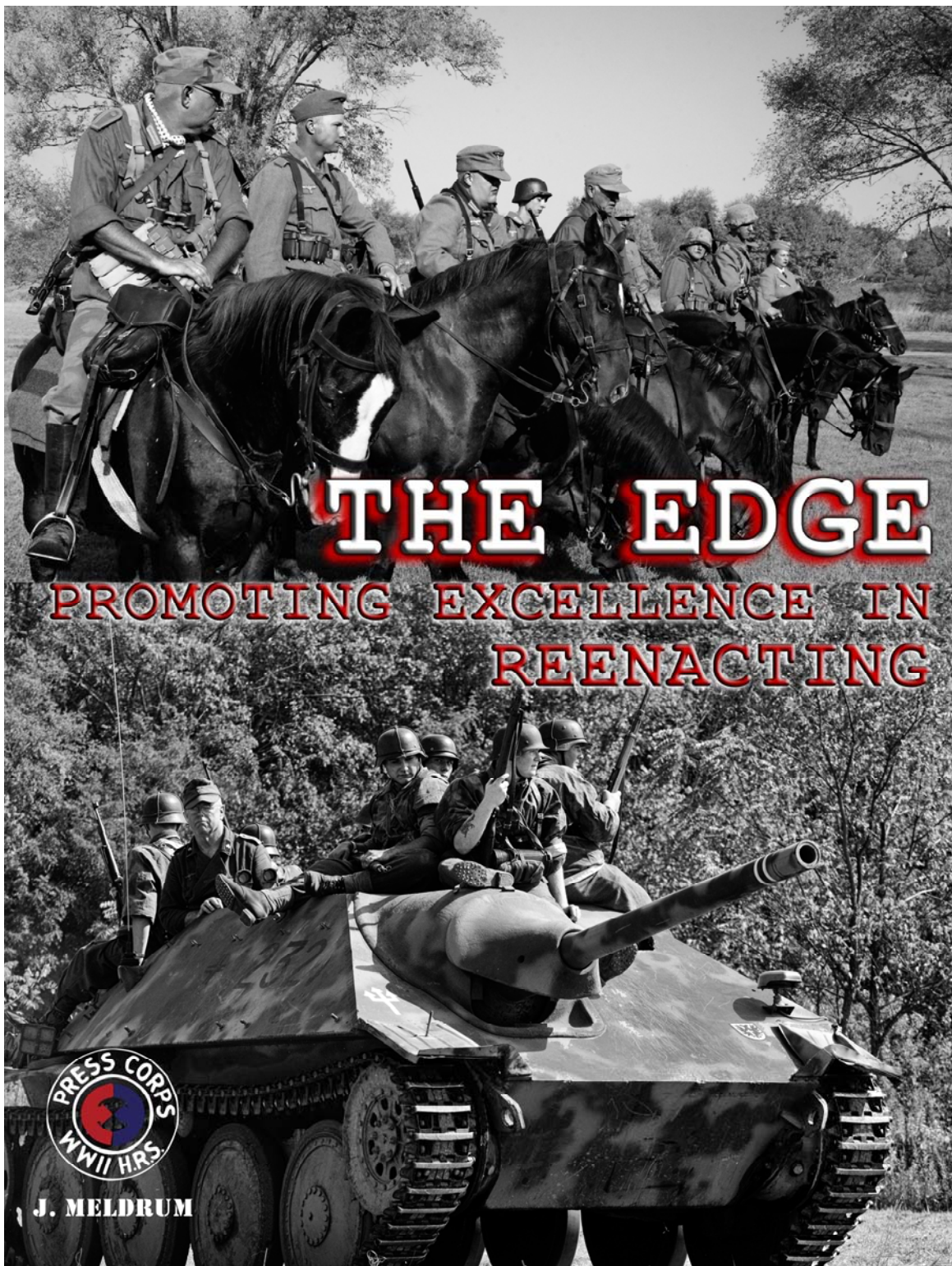




Rockford, Illinois September 2017 by James Meldrum





Rockford, Illinois September 2017 by James Meldrum





Rockford, Illinois September 2017 Photo by Heinz Thiel





# THE Boat that Won THE War

An Illustrated History of the Higgins LCPV



Charles C Roberts, Jr



## **Chuck Roberts**

The book on the LCVP Higgins boat is now available through the U.S. Naval Institute and Amazon.

Below are the opinions of 2 reviewers and an interview with Robert Reeners, a WWII coxswain on the LCVP:

### **Review by Robin Buckland**

Title: The Boat that Won the War

Author: Charles C. Roberts Jr

Publisher: Seaforth Publishing

ISBN: 978-1-5267-0691-1

I have long had an interest in the varied landing craft of WW2 so was pleased to see this new book by Charles C Roberts Jr from Pen and Sword Books. Apparently, it was Eisenhower who once described the Higgins Boat as 'the boat that won the war'. While I think that might be a question for debate it was certainly one of the contributing factors. Thinking of WW2 there is a tendency to think of equipment being metal, whether they be aircraft, tanks, trucks, guns or naval vessels yet what we have with the LCVP, the Higgins Boat, it was made of wood. Part of the story is about taking traditional wooden boat building methods and adapting them to a production line style of mass production.

The book starts off with the background of the Higgins boat building company, who built shallow draught vessels for the civilian market, also fitted with a 'tunnel' for the propeller shaft that was designed to protect the vessels when it was beached and used by the likes of oil companies working in the shallows of Louisiana. It was therefore ideal for adaptation to Military use though in the early days did not have a bow ramp. Britain was an early customer for these, the LCPL. A significant problem was that troops had to disembark by jumping up and over the sides, exposing themselves to enemy fire. The first ramps at the front were narrow, to allow for troops to disembark but not large enough for a vehicle. It was after seeing the Japanese Daihatsu landing craft in the Pacific which prompted them to try the wider ramp that became standard on the LCVP.

The book details the design and construction of these wooden boats, even including detail of how wood needed to be seasoned/dried to be suitable for boat building, and how the Higgins Company solved the problem of a wooden hull drying out when the boat is out of the water (such as held on the davits of a larger vessel). It needed to be immediately operational when put back in the water, without having to wait for the wood to absorb moisture and close any gaps. Chapter 3 details how they were built and chapter 4 providing more detail on the power plant. In chapter 5 there are more fascinating notes on Performance and Handling, and the training needed for the cox. The final chapter deals with Wartime Service and this even

includes the diagrams for various formations used when undertaking a beach assault.

Throughout the book there are lots of illustrations including archive photos, color artwork, diagrams from manuals and company sales literature and detailed builder's drawings. The appendices feature annotated drawings and even the extensive list of parts relating to each drawing. The author was apparently involved in the modern-day restoration of an original Higgins Boat LCVP and this is testament to the level of detail that went into it. It is a book that will interest the historian, be a fine modelers reference while being invaluable to anyone considering their own restoration project while at the same time I believe interest wooden boat builders and other woodworkers with the techniques employed in the design and construction of these boats.

Finally, another factor to think about is that while the allies-built thousands of various types of Landing Craft, and that while the Japanese did employ their own, Germany did not develop any such specialized vessels. Whatever your interest, I heartily recommend this one to add to your bookshelf if you have any interest in WW2 Landing Craft.

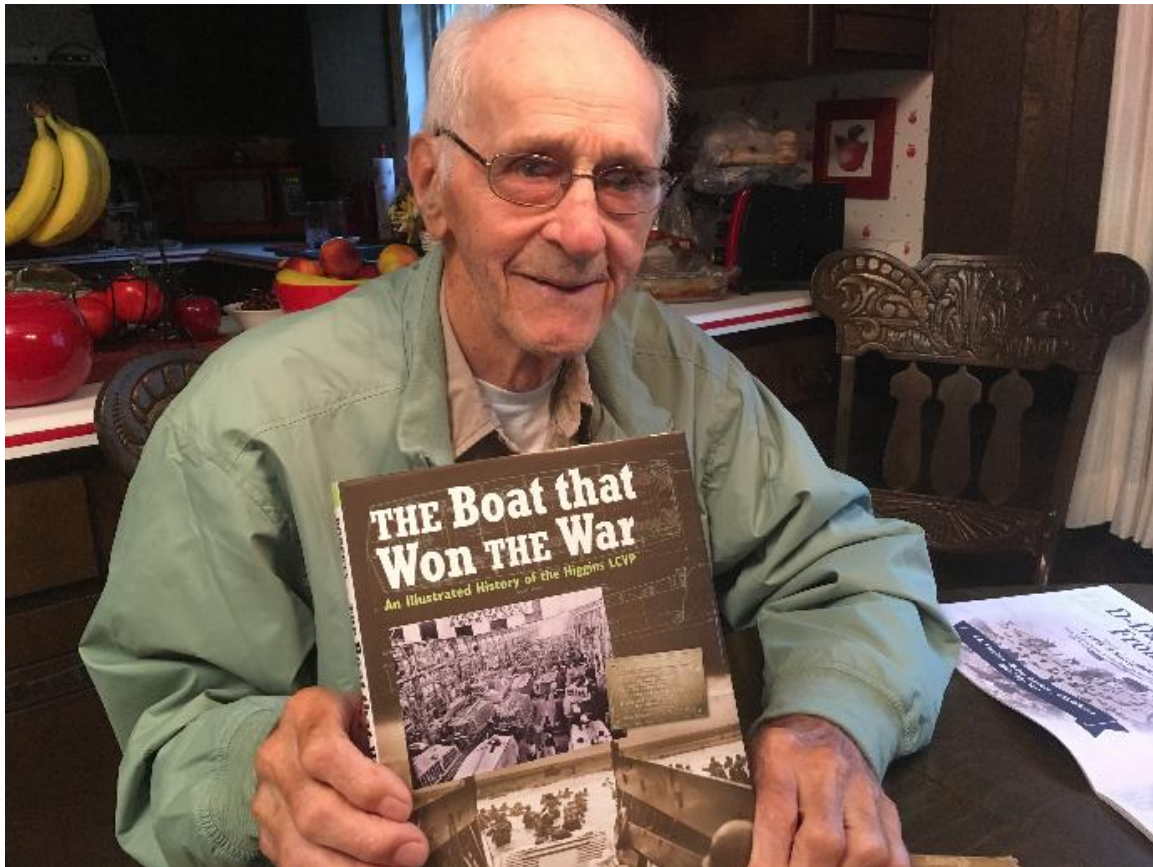
Robin Buckland

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

### **Review by Chris C (on Amazon)**

My Dad was a Coxswain on LCVP's in the Pacific during WWII. Until this book, I have only been able to find tidbits and big picture content on this amazing craft. Chuck Roberts has filled this fantastic book with absolutely every technical detail imaginable. His engineering background, combined with his love of watercraft and extensive experience in restoring WWII era military vehicles, has given Mr. Roberts the ability to write a very unique book. The LCVP is pictured in countless books and I have always wondered why they often look so different regarding construction variations. This book explains the evolution and techniques that led to these variations. It has a special place on my bookshelf next to "Andrew Jackson Higgins and the Boats that Won WWII", "Combat Loaded", "Attack Transport: USS Charles Carroll" and "D Days in the Pacific with the US Coast Guard: The Story of Lucky Thirteen" and other books about my Dad's Amphibious Navy. Many thanks to Chuck for producing such a volume.





## **Robert Reeners, WWII Coxswain**

**By Jeff Alexander**

Hobart, Wisconsin veteran Robert Reeners is acknowledged for his contribution to a new book about World War II, titled "The Boat that Won the War."

Bob Reeners knows all about the Higgins LCVP.

"The amount of training and the amount of time I spent on a Higgins boat, I estimate that I have traveled at least around the world once," recalls Reeners.

In 2015, 70 years after he transported troops to shore during the D-Day Invasion at Normandy, Reeners traveled to the Roberts Armory in Illinois to pilot a restored Higgins boat.

"For me to go down there and see this boat and actually operate it, you know it's just a flood of memories," says Reeners.

It was that day Reeners met Chuck Roberts, who was writing a book about the landing craft for vehicles and personnel that General Eisenhower credited for winning World War II.

"It was good recounting all the things he did, what he had to do as far as steering the boat, what power range he used. He told me that when they got ready to land they did full power all the way in," says Roberts.

After reviewing Roberts rough draft and making suggestions about a year ago, Reeners just received one of the first copies of the new book, with an acknowledgement for his assistance.

"I think this book should be in every library and every school in the country," says Reeners.

Not for personal accolades, says Reeners, but to preserve our country's military history which he fears is being lost.

"How we came from Minutemen to the Navy SEALs, it didn't just happen overnight. There's a lot of history involved, and a lot of people paid the supreme sacrifice, and that's important, that should be preserved, and this book does that," says Reeners.

**See Master Chief Reeners talk about WW2 at Roberts Armory**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j4PXYPKLNok>



## **The EDGE is the WW2 HRS's own publication.**

This is where we promote what we do.

The EDGE promotes and features the work of WW2 HRS Members.

WW2 HRS Units are welcome to advertise their Events and Accomplishments in The Edge.

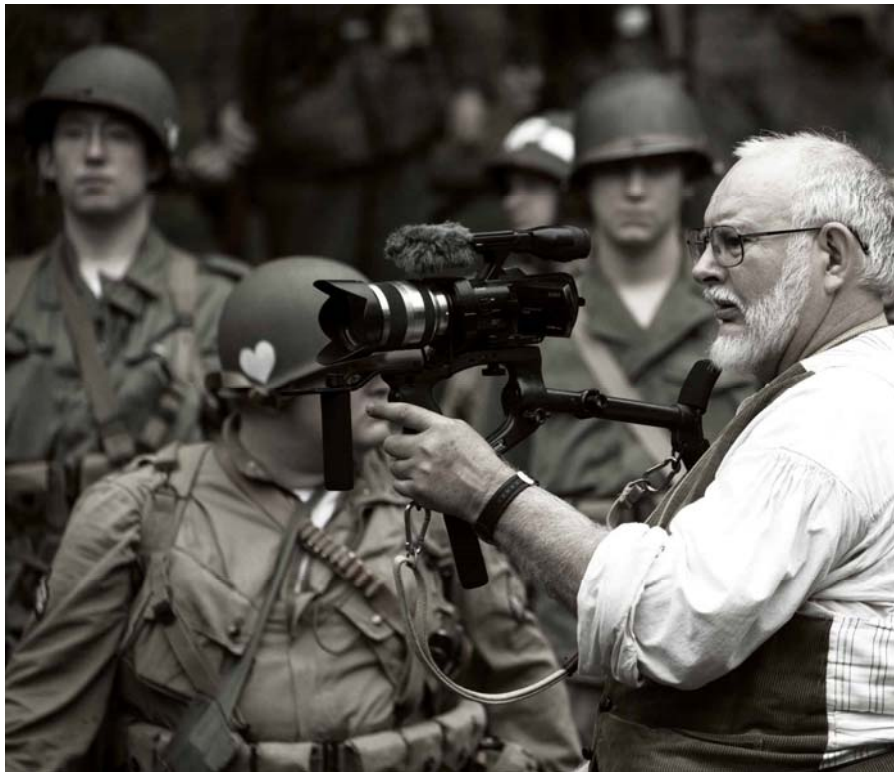
**ANY WW2 HRS Member can submit an item for publication here in the EDGE.**

### **HOW TO SUBMIT an item for Publication within The EDGE**

If your WW2 HRS unit has news it would like to publish in The EDGE,  
Or if are a WW2 HRS member and would like to submit an article or photo,  
Then simply e-mail it to me and I will put it in The EDGE.

Heinz Thiel - WW2 HRS Press Corps

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



I am willing to spend a day with your unit to get photos and video.  
Please contact me if you would like some special coverage of your unit or event.



**TREASURER'S REPORT 2ND QUARTER 2017  
WORLD WAR II HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY  
NOVEMBER 2ND 2017**

**BEGINNING BALANCES 2ND QUARTER 2017**

PNC Bank Non-Profit Checking Account	\$8,817.76
PNC Bank Money Market Account	\$49,463.45

<b>ACCOUNT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$58,281.21</b>
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**2ND QUARTER INCOME**

Membership Income	\$3,630.00
PNC Bank Money Market Account Interest Income	\$12.33
Insurance Reimbursement for Midway Village World War 1 Weekend	\$300.00

<b>TOTAL 2ND QUARTER INCOME</b>	<b>\$3,942.33</b>
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**2ND QUARTER EXPENDITURES**

Eventbrite Service Fees	\$489.78
Email Marketing Service	\$38.40
Postage	\$342.81
Membership Card Supplies	\$290.31
Event Support Delay the Inevitable	\$1,250.00
Event Support Weldonkrieg	\$1,250.00
Event Support Kennekuk WW2 Days	\$355.00
Refund of Double Paid Memberships	\$45.53
Refund of 2016 Family Membership Overpay	\$5.00

<b>TOTAL 2ND QUARTER EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$4,066.83</b>
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**ENDING BALANCES 2ND QUARTER 2017**

PNC Bank Non-Profit Checking Account	\$8,680.93
PNC Bank Money Market Account	\$49,475.78

<b>TOTAL ENDING BALANCES</b>	<b>\$58,156.71</b>
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<b>2017 MEMBERSHIP INCOME</b>	<b>\$10,130.00</b>
<b>2017 INTEREST INCOME</b>	<b>\$20.08</b>
<b>2017 MISCELLANEOUS IN</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>
<b>2017 TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$10,450.08</b>
<b>2017 EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$12,347.35</b>
<b>2017 INCOME LESS 2017 EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>(\$1,897.27)</b>





**TREASURER'S REPORT 3RD QUARTER 2017  
WORLD WAR II HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY  
NOVEMBER 2ND 2017**

**BEGINNING BALANCES 3RD QUARTER 2017**

PNC Bank Non-Profit Checking Account	\$8,680.93
PNC Bank Money Market Account	\$49,475.78

<b>ACCOUNT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$58,156.71</b>
-----------------------	--------------------

**3RD QUARTER INCOME**

Membership Income	\$550.00
PNC Bank Money Market Account Interest Income	\$12.34

<b>TOTAL 3RD QUARTER INCOME</b>	<b>\$562.34</b>
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**3RD QUARTER EXPENDITURES**

Eventbrite Service Fees	\$65.12
Email Marketing Service	\$38.40
Event Support for Dundas MN WW2 Weekend	\$300.00
Domain Renewal	\$191.93
Food for Rockford Thursday night meal	\$1,102.75
Refund of Double Paid Memberships	\$15.00

<b>TOTAL 3RD QUARTER EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$1,713.20</b>
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**ENDING BALANCES 3RD QUARTER 2017**

PNC Bank Non-Profit Checking Account	\$7,517.73
PNC Bank Money Market Account	\$49,488.12

<b>TOTAL ENDING BALANCES</b>	<b>\$57,005.85</b>
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<b>2017 MEMBERSHIP INCOME</b>	<b>\$10,680.00</b>
<b>2017 INTEREST INCOME</b>	<b>\$32.42</b>
<b>2017 MISCELLANEOUS IN</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>
<b>2017 TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$11,012.42</b>
<b>2017 EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$14,060.55</b>
<b>2017 INCOME LESS 2017 EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>(\$3,048.13)</b>



Treasurer Wayne McCulley



**TREASURER'S REPORT  
WORLD WAR II HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY  
NOVEMBER 2017**

**ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF OCTOBER 31ST 2017**

PNC Bank Non-Profit Checking Account	\$8,367.59
PNC Bank Money Market Account	\$49,492.46

<b>Account Totals</b>	<b>\$57,860.05</b>
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**INCOME FOR OCTOBER 2017**

Membership Income	\$1,435.00
Reimbursement from Rockford Midway Village for Thursday Night meal	\$551.38
Interest from Money Market Account	\$4.34
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,990.72</b>

**EXPENDITURES FOR OCTOBER 2017**

Eventbrite Service Fees	\$171.74
Vehicle Inspection Supplies	\$48.63
Postage	\$3.35
Email Marketing Service	\$12.80
Reenactor Breakfast at Midway Village WW2 Weekend	\$900.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1,136.52</b>

<b>2017 Membership Income</b>	<b>\$12,115.00</b>
<b>2017 Interest Income</b>	<b>\$36.76</b>
<b>2017 Miscellaneous Income</b>	<b>\$851.38</b>
<b>2017 Total Income</b>	<b>\$13,003.14</b>
<b>2017 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$15,197.07</b>
<b>2017 Income less 2017 Expenditures</b>	<b>(\$2,193.93)</b>





**TREASURER'S REPORT  
WORLD WAR II HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY  
DECEMBER 2017**

**ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF NOVEMBER 30TH 2017**

PNC Bank Non-Profit Checking Account	\$7,691.37
PNC Bank Money Market Account	\$49,496.52
<b>Account Totals</b>	<b>\$57,187.89</b>

**INCOME FOR NOVEMBER 2017**

Interest from Money Market Account	\$4.06
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$4.06</b>

**EXPENDITURES FOR NOVEMBER 2017**

Payment of 2017 HRS Scholarship	\$500.00
Event Support for Big Lake MN Eastern Front Event	\$163.42
Email Marketing Service	\$12.80
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$676.22</b>

<b>2017 Membership Income</b>	<b>\$12,115.00</b>
<b>2017 Interest Income</b>	<b>\$40.82</b>
<b>2017 Miscellaneous Income</b>	<b>\$851.38</b>
<b>2017 Total Income</b>	<b>\$13,007.20</b>
<b>2017 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$15,873.29</b>
<b>2017 Income less 2017 Expenditures</b>	<b>(\$2,866.09)</b>

## **WW2 HRS 2018 Membership Report**

As of 30 January 2018 we have 388 Members.

Unit commanders may request a report of member who have signed-up with their unit by contacting the WW2 HRS Membership Coordinator  
Jeff Skender at [GD5.Heinz.Thiel@Gmail.Com](mailto:GD5.Heinz.Thiel@Gmail.Com)



# EVENTS

January	
<b>26-28</b>  <b>Jan</b>  	<b>BATTLE OF THE BULGE</b> <b>DATE CHANGE</b>  <b>Loc:</b> Camp Clark, Nevada, MO <b>Dates:</b> 1/26/18 – 1/28/18 <b>Event Times:</b> 1400 hrs on 1/26/18 to 0830 hrs on 1/28/18 <b>Registration Times:</b> 1/26/18: 1400 – 2300; 1/27/18: 0600 - 0800 <b>Pre-Registration:</b> <a href="http://www.137thininfantry.us/registration">http://www.137thininfantry.us/registration</a> <b>Fee:</b> \$25 <b>Contact:</b> Dave Hruska <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.137thininfantry.us">http://www.137thininfantry.us</a> <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> WW II HRS authenticity and safety rules apply <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> No tracked vehicles; wheeled vehicles permitted <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> WW II HRS rules apply <b>Other restrictions:</b> No illegal drugs or alcohol on Camp Clark <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> 137th Inf. Regt., 35th Inf. Div. 29th Panzergrenadier Regiment 38th Jaeger Regiment
February	
<b>23-25</b>  <b>Feb</b>  	<b>BATTLE FOR THE RHINELAND</b>  <b>Loc:</b> Marseilles Training Center, 1700 Army Road, Marseilles IL <b>Dates:</b> February 23-25, 2018 <b>Event Times:</b> Friday 1pm to Sunday 6pm <b>Registration Times:</b> Friday 1pm to 10pm, Saturday 6:30 am to 7:30 am <b>Pre-Registration:</b> ( <a href="#">click here</a> ) <b>Fee:</b> \$30.00 per person <b>Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:29thininfantryreenacted@gmail.com">29thininfantryreenacted@gmail.com</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/BFU2015/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/BFU2015/</a> <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> No Early War Impressions. Strictly mid-late war. <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> No armor or tracked vehicles <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> HRS By-Laws apply <b>Other restrictions:</b> NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. No un-approved pyro. <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> 29th Infantry Division, 115th Infantry Regiment, 360. Kosaken Grenadier Regiment.
<b>24</b>  <b>Feb</b>  	<b>OST FRONT 44EAST MEETS WEST TACTICAL</b>  <b>Loc:</b> 22251 HAMILTON STREET ACKWORTH, IOWA 50001-5711 <b>Dates:</b> 24 FEBRUARY 2018 <b>Event Times:</b> S&A 8:30AM, EVENT START 9AM <b>Registration Times:</b> REGISTRATION OPENS 23 FEBRUARY 5-8PM, 24 FEBRUARY 7:30-8:30AM <b>Fee:</b> \$10 <b>Contact:</b> SCOTT STEBEN / 952-607-0856, <a href="mailto:badsteben666@hotmail.com">badsteben666@hotmail.com</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/events/511772102540547/">https://www.facebook.com/events/511772102540547/</a> <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> HISTORICALLY ACCURATE <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> NO LIVE AMMO ALLOWED ON SITE <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> MUST HAVE A PARENT OR GUARDIAN PRESENT, ALL HRS RULES APPLY <b>Other restrictions:</b> NONE <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> 12 SS PANZER DIVISION





March	
<b>09-11</b>	<b>OST FRONT 44</b>
<b>Mar</b>	<p><b>Loc:</b> Camp siman Events, 10135 Oakland Tiff, MO 63674 <b>Dates:</b> 9-11 March 2018 <b>Event Times:</b> Gates open 5 pm 9 March, tactical 9 am - 4 pm 10 March, gates close 12 noon 11 March <b>Registration Times:</b> 5-8 pm 9 March, 6-8 am 10 March <b>Pre-Registration:</b> (<a href="#">click here</a>) <b>Fee:</b> \$15 at the gate <b>Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:papaioadfssf@sbcglobal.net">papaioadfssf@sbcglobal.net</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/events/1898084883843748/">https://www.facebook.com/events/1898084883843748/</a> <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> Per HRS guidelines. <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> NO live ammo <b>Restrictions on Minors:</b> Per HRS guidelines <b>Other restrictions:</b> NA <b>Sponsoring Unit(s):</b> First Special Service Force 6th Co 3rd REG HRS</p>
<b>23-25</b>	<b>WELDONKRIEG 2018 (WESTERN FRONT EVENT)</b>
<b>Mar</b>	<p><b>Loc:</b> Weldon Spring Training Area (WSTA), 7301 Hwy 94 South, St. Charles, MO 63376, 636-329-1200 X 2401 <b>Event Date:</b> March 23-25, 2018 <b>Event Fee:</b> \$25.00 Includes Saturday Night Dinner <b>Event Registration:</b> (<a href="#">click here</a>) <b>Contact:</b> Dave Goodwin: <a href="mailto:dpty635g@aol.com">dpty635g@aol.com</a>, Dave (Earl) Overschmidt: <a href="mailto:38jager1@gmail.com">38jager1@gmail.com</a> Tim Scherrer: <a href="mailto:soldierboy440@yahoo.com">soldierboy440@yahoo.com</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://soldierboy440.wixsite.com/weldonkriegofficial">http://soldierboy440.wixsite.com/weldonkriegofficial</a> <b>Authenticity Notes:</b> All German, American and other Western Front Impressions are Welcome. WW II HRS safety and authenticity rules apply &amp; strictly enforced. All reenactors participating will have proper period hairstyles for their respective nationality. <b>Prohibited Vehicles/Items:</b> Authentic or Period vehicles only. Host unit(s) will be using several administrative vehicles to facilitate the event <b>Other restrictions:</b> No alcoholic beverages permitted on Weldon Spring Training Site. No smoking inside of buildings. Smoking in designated areas only. Non-period camping is not allowed. No live ammo of any kind, NO ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES, Pyro &amp; smoke must be pre-approved, no exceptions. <b>Minors:</b> HRS Rules Apply. Minors not accompanied by their parents must have signed/notarized permission slip identifying adult supervision. <b>Limited Billeting (Barracks) available:</b> There is a 60 bed barracks (open bay.. no bunks) available for use. Those wishing to use the barracks must bring their own cot and bedding. Priority of housing will go to Host Unit and then first come first serve. <b>Sponsoring unit(s):</b> 38 Jager (Axis) and 84th Railsplitters (Allied)</p>



# Join the "Show Me" Missouri Convoy #2

**September 28 - October 7, 2018**

**This 10-day convoy starts from and returns to  
the Auto World Museum in Fulton, MO!**



## Convoy Highlights:

Let us **Show You**

Missouri Wine Country & scenic Ozark hills  
National Churchill Museum  
Museum of Missouri Military History  
Historic Daniel Boone Home & Route 66  
Fort Leonard Wood's 3 U.S. Army Museums  
Montauk State Park & Resort  
Missouri's Capitol & much more!

## Point of Contact:

**Trooper Tyree \* [halftrackjohns@att.net](mailto:halftrackjohns@att.net)**

**Convoy is limited to 25 vehicles**



**"Show Me" Convoy Sponsors: Visit Fulton, Auto World Museum, Visit Hermann and Montauk Resort**

"First and foremost, the event kicks off with a tour of the National Churchill Museum. For those who arrive for our preliminary, we will depart from Auto World Museum at 10:30 AM, this allows time for people to arrive on Friday morning of Sept. 28, 2018. It is a short drive from Auto World down Westminster Avenue to the Churchill Memorial located at Westminster College in Fulton in central Missouri. We will begin with a luncheon at the college's Backer Dining Hall and what a place it is, it reminds me of St. George's Chapel at Windsor Castle, minus the regalia. During my recon of the museum last October, I was walked through our projected tour that begin at the Church of Saint Mary, the Virgin, Aldermanbury. This 16<sup>th</sup>-century church, which is now a functioning place of worship, was destroyed during the London Blitz of 1940. Designed by renowned architect, Christopher Wren, it was moved to Fulton, in honor of Winston Churchill's visit to Westminster College in 1946. We entered the church as the organist was delivering a recital just as those who participate in this convoy will experience. Next, we descended into Winston's Inner-Sanctum, where you will be immersed into the life and times of Sir Winston Churchill after a reception of tea and "bickies" (cookies to you non-Anglophiles). To conclude, we will have a group photo-op at the staircase overlooked by a statue of Winston beside a section of the Berlin Wall. Remounting, we will return to our host hotel to freshen up before our evening meal. Tiffany Genaro of Baymont Inn has reserved a block of twenty rooms for us that vary from basic rooms to jacuzzi rooms, all at a discounted rate. For those looking for posher accommodations, the Loganberry Inn B&B is where Margaret Thatcher and Nobel Peace Prize winner, Les Walesa have stayed. The B&B is located a short two-minute walk from the Churchill Museum. Joe Kalal is planning on attending as Winston Churchill and will be arriving in my Canadian LaSalle Staff Car.





The convoy officially begins at 10:30 AM the following morning, Saturday, which is when the *Walk Back In Time* event will occur in Mexico, Missouri, while the convoy stops at the Museum of Missouri Military History and makes its way to Hermann in the heart of Missouri's Wine Country. Any HRS personnel who attend *WBIT* event might consider taking part in our tour of the National Churchill Museum. If this is the case, please contact me at the email given and let me know you wish to partake in our tour of the Churchill Memorial. If you can only make the Churchill Tour there will be a small charge and advance registration is a requirement. If you do attend the Churchill Memorial Tour, please do so in Allied uniform, if possible. We will try and get you into a military vehicle, if not you may follow us in your car. Additionally, the convoy will make an appearance at the *WBIT* event on Sunday. Convoy participants are welcome to take part in all or any portion of the 10 adventures."

Thank You  
Terry Johns



Ted O'Sullivan

## **2018 BATAVIA VFW GARAGE SALE**

(Saturday, March 10, 2018)

Anything militaries related bought/sold/trade at the annual Batavia VFW Garage Sale.

If you want to reserve a table or more or have any questions,  
please contact Ted O'Sullivan

at [\(312\) 505-4616](tel:3125054616) or [tlosullivan1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tlosullivan1@sbcglobal.net)

- WHERE: Batavia VFW  
[645 South River Street \(Rte. 25\)](#)  
Batavia, Illinois 60510
- WHEN: Saturday, March 10, 2018  
Open to the public from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm  
Vendor setup at 8:00 am
- COST: \$15 for first table and each additional table is \$10 (free admission for vendors)  
\$5 general admission  
Free admission for kids 10 years old and under





## WWII HRS Board of Directors and Staff

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

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[Vizsla25@SBCglobal.Net](mailto:Vizsla25@SBCglobal.Net)

### Vehicle Coordinator

Jim Schouten, 90th Infantry Division

### 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.



## About Us



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

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

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

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

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

**www.WorldWarTwoHRS.Org**

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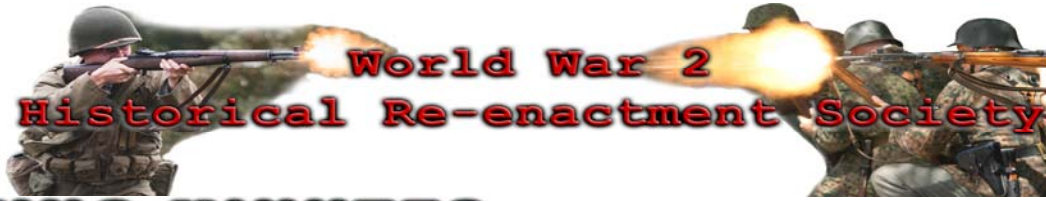


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# MEETING MINUTES

**WWII Historical Reenactment Society**  
**Board Meeting 17 October 2017, 7:30 pm**  
Time: 7:30pm Central

**Call to Order** – Board Members Attending Jon Stevens, Chuck Bolanis, Corey Vaughn, Wayne McCulley, Brian Jones.  
Members Attending Jon Boorum, Sue Schemmer, Matt Rademacher, Mike Saltgaver, Zachary Williams, Rey Ramirez, George Reinke, Jim Schouten.

## **Approval of Agenda**

Chuck Bolanis motioned to approve agenda. Corey Vaughan seconded.  
Agenda was approved by BOD vote.

## **Reading of August Meeting Minutes**

Minutes were read by Jon. Chuck motioned minutes be approved. Corey seconded. Minutes approved by BOD vote.

## **Officer Reports:**

### **Vice President:**

### **New Charters:**

**29<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, 115<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment-** This charter was delayed as there was a change in the second in command. The revised charter was sent to S&A. S&A voting has begun recently. Chuck motioned the vote be delayed. Voting on this charter was tabled.

**4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division-** This charter has been reviewed and voted on by the S&A Committee. Vote was 6 Yes, 2 No and 5 abstentions. Chuck recommended board vote on the charter. Jon asked why 5 members abstained. Chuck explained it was usually lack of knowledge of this nationality. Jon asked if the charter still contained civilian group. Chuck said Email had been received from unit commander stating the civilian group would be removed from charter. Corey motioned for vote. Wayne seconded. Charter was passed by BOD vote.

**Soviet 50<sup>th</sup> Rifle Division-** Charter was given to the S&A committee on August 15<sup>th</sup>. S&A voting was 10 Yes and 5 abstentions. Chuck if there were any questions for Unit Commander Zachary Williams. There were no questions. CB recommended a vote be taken. Corey motioned. Brian seconded. Charter was approved by BOD vote. Zachary thanked board for positive vote and explained goals of unit.

## **Probationary Charter**

**FeldLazarette Grosdeutschland** – First year report has not been received from Unit Commander. Unit review has been tabled.

## **Charter Change**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Division, 36<sup>th</sup> Armored Infantry Regiment-** Regarding name change. Consensus of S&A is that changes in the unit structure make revision of charter necessary. Chuck recommended revision.

## **Treasurer Report By Wayne McCulley**

SEE the Treasures Report Section in this EDGE.

## **Secretary-**

Wayne reported. We have 1107 members.

## **Commonwealth Rep.-**

Brian report he was unsure of the current status of #10 Commando unit. Nothing to report

## **Allied Rep-**

Corey reported things were quiet and there was nothing to report.

## **Axis Rep-**

Not present. Report tabled.

## **Staff Reports**

**Membership Coordinator –**  
Not present. Report tabled.

## **Committee Reports:**

**S&A Committee-** Chuck stated nothing to report. Chuck stated there would be openings for Soviet members to replace two departures. Corey about guidelines for inspecting female reenactors who are reenacting as men with hair under helmet. Chuck stated that was prohibited and standards are the same as male reenactors.

**Unit Commanders Committee-** Jon reported there was nothing to report  
**Vehicle Committee –** Jim Schouten had nothing to report.

**Civilian Committee –** Nicole Fornell Not in attendance tabled

## **Old Business:**

### **Rockford Event Support Payment**

Payment of \$900 for Rockford HRS Sunday Breakfast has been made to 353<sup>rd</sup> Field Kitchen. Immediate payment was requested. Payment was approved by BOD email vote.

**2018 HRS National Event** – There is no news from the committee. Jon stated we would keep working on finding a sponsoring unit and event funding.

## **2017 HRS Scholarship**

There were 3 submissions Chris Seitz of 401<sup>st</sup> GIR, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne, Justin Kephart of 90<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, and Mitch Antolik of 353<sup>rd</sup> Infanterie Division. Judges were Dave Jeglinski, Tim Scherrer, Melissa Lenczewski, and Mike Hoffmann. Chris Seitz and Justin Kephart were tied for first place. Chuck recommended Chris Seitz due to completeness of submission. Chuck motioned to award to Chris Seitz. Corey seconded. Motion was approved by BOD vote. Chuck will notify Chris. Jeff Skender will be notified for publishing of results in the next issue of The Edge.

## **New Business:**

**New Event- Wade House-** Jon stated we need to keep on top of new event submissions.

2017 HRS Board Elections are coming up. Offices up for election are President, Secretary, Axis Representative, and Commonwealth Representative. Applications have been received from candidates for Commonwealth Rep., Secretary, and we have two possible candidates for Axis Rep. Jon recommended we give one more week for information to be received.

## **Open Comments:**

Jon asked for open comments. Mike Saltgaver asked if someone is designated to act on S&A issues at Rockford. Mike also mentioned lack of turnout for Rockford vehicle inspections. Chuck stated major issues should be brought to board member who will bring issue to site host. This is the short-term answer. In the long term the issue needs to be brought to unit commander, faction rep, and brought to S&A for potential disciplinary action and potential probation. George Reinke mentioned contacting museum rep who can contact Dave Fornell. Suggested one board member have radio. Corey expressed concern about recent bomb threat at a Civil War event and concern and need for PR campaign and a HRS press statement. Jon mentioned statement already exists on HRS website. George Reinke suggested posting statement at events. George suggested having a group in place to deal with issues. Jon stated these issues are dealt with by park police. Jon suggested this would be needed for smaller events. At Rockford the BOD are present to deal with issues.

**Announcements:** Next meeting November 21.

## **Adjourn**

Brian motioned to adjourn, Wayne seconded. Approved by BOD vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:29PM.



**WWII Historical Reenactment Society**  
**Board Meeting 21 December 2017, 7:30 pm**  
Time: 7:30pm Central

Call to Order at 7:34 pm– Board Members Attending: Jon Stevens, Chuck Bolanis, Ron Kapustka, Corey Vaughn, Wayne McCulley, Brian Jones

Members Attending: Jeff Skender, Rey Ramirez, Kirk Gustafson, Matt Rademacher and Doug Strong, Jim Schouten

**Approval of Agenda**

RK motioned to approve the agenda as sent out. Doug Strong seconded. Agenda was approved by BOD vote.

**Reading of October Meeting Minutes**

The October Minutes were read by WM. RK motioned that the October Minutes be approved as read. That was seconded by CV. The October Minutes, as read, were approved by BOD vote.

**Officer Reports:**

Vice President:

New Charters:

29th Infantry Division, 115th Infantry Regiment- This "revised" charter has been pending with the Committee since October, 2017. Chuck motioned that the Unit be approved as a Probationary Unit. RK and CV seconded it. A vote was taken and the motion was passed. as tabled.

Probationary charters: End of Probation Period Report:

FeldLazarette Grosdeutschland – They still have not submitted their Probationary Report. .

2nd Jaeger Battalion (Finnish) and Matt Iverson's 3rd Division, 2nd Company (Finnish) have not submitted their end of year reports either.

First Co, 1st Battalion, Jaeger Div 28. Their Probationary report is due in December. CB has asked them to submit it.

Treasurer Report by Wayne McCulley  
SEE the Treasures Report Section in this EDGE.

Secretary - Ron K reported. We have 1117 members.

Commonwealth Rep.- Brian had nothing new to report.

Allied Rep - Corey working with a possible new MP Unit. They asked for an example of another Unit's Charter to review and model theirs from. Corey also had previously e-mailed Units which did not have a UC registered for 2017. JS suggested that it be tabled until the beginning of next year.

Axis Rep - Not present. Report tabled. Doug Strong was introduced as the incoming Axis Rep starting January 1, 2018.

**Staff Reports**

Membership Coordinator – Jeff Skender reported that the database of members is coming along and has been sent to JS. Jeff also has 4-5 years of member data which has been inputted into his computer. Jeff can supply info in any way the Board needs. Jeff will send the Board the past 4 years history of Units whose UC's have not registered. CV asked if the info sent can be sent in excel so it can be manipulated and utilized by the BOD. JS asked about the next issue of The Edge, which will be February, 2018.

**Committee Reports:**

S&A Committee- Chuck stated nothing to report. JS asked about the Safety Guidelines. CB will check on that. He suggested that Jim submit their final version of their Safety Guidelines to the BOD for a vote on them.

Unit Commanders Committee- Jon reported there was nothing to report. He did receive some e-mail changes and they will be updated in the Yahoo group.

Vehicle Committee – Jim Schouten reported that at Rockford, the committee was only able to inspect 30 vehicles with three people. Most vehicles reported for inspection only after Dave Fornell made the announcement at S&A. Jim will send up some signage for the inspection area, will send out early notifications about inspections and will ask that the 2018 Rockford registration form be amended to include to ask WHO is bringing a vehicle and what type of vehicle. Jim will also appoint some "enlisted men" to assist with inspections. Several options were discussed for Vehicle Inspections for 2018 and Jim will review and decide what different steps will be taken for 2018. Another idea was to issue yearly inspection certificates to vehicles once they have been inspected. Jim mentioned the Safety Guidelines which were sent to the BOD for review and discussion. JS reported that they were still with the S&A Committee.

Civilian Committee – Nicole Fornell Not in attendance tabled

**Old Business:**

2018 HRS National Event – The HRS wants a National Event in 2018, preferably in the Fall. There is no news from the committee. Jon stated he would keep working on finding a sponsoring unit and event funding. Any suggestions are welcome to the Board. Brian Jones suggested that Alan Jones/Dave Weakley be possibly contacted about Atterbury. CB also suggested Frank Bartolo and the Marseilles Training Center as a possible area, and Alan Militch could also be contacted about Ft. Custer as an event location. CB mentioned that the two sites that have been used are Ft Custer and Weldonkreig in Missouri.

2017 HRS Board Elections - 2017 HRS Board Elections have been held and the offices of President, Secretary, Axis Representative, and Commonwealth Representative were filled. The newly elected Board members will take office on 1/1/2018.

**New Business:**

JS has received the Secretary of State Annual Report for 2018 and he will handle that.

JS asked about the Dues for 2018 and whether there should be a discount? RK suggested the same program be used as for 2017. JS suggested the discount period be shortened. A discussion was held and it was decided that the discount would be shortened to two months by a consensus of the BOD. JS mentioned that we would continue to use EventBrite for 2018.

**Open Comments:**

Jon asked for open comments. Rey Rameriz suggested that the membership info be included in The Edge asap. RK stated that the 2018 dues info would be sent out to Unit Commanders on the group.

Brian Jones said "Good Bye" to the Board but reminded that he is still on the S&A Committee.

Announcements: The first meeting of 2018 will be January 16, 2018.

**Adjourn**

Brian motioned to adjourn, Wayne seconded. Approved by BOD vote. Meeting adjourned





## The US Army WWII Chaplain: Part 2 By LTC (ret) Tim. A. Scherrer

### The US Army Chaplain in the T,O & E

An infantry regiment was authorized one chaplain, the rank of Major with 2 additional chaplains, First Lieutenant or Captain. This structure allowed the three chaplains to serve the different units of the regiment. The major was also part of the regimental commander's special staff. Most likely, the senior chaplain covered the regimental HQs, HQs organic units (Cannon Company, AT Company, Service Company) while the other two chaplains covered the infantry battalions. The two junior chaplains were on the regimental T,O & E and could be assigned as the senior chaplain saw fit. Depending upon the mix of denominations and local situation of the chaplains, they may do denomination specific services for Catholic, Protestant and Jewish soldiers throughout the regiment.

Chaplains' Outfit (Christian-Faith, Stock No. 36-O-800 and Jewish-Faith, Stock No. 36-O-810) consisted of following items:

Chests, Container, Hymnal, Music-Edition – Stock No. 36-C-1287 (later replaced by Chest, Steel Container, Hymnal, Music-Edition, Stock No. 36-C-1295)

Desks, Field (Empty), Fiber, Headquarters – Stock No. 26-D-140 (later replaced by Desk, Field, M-1945, Stock No. 26-D-158)

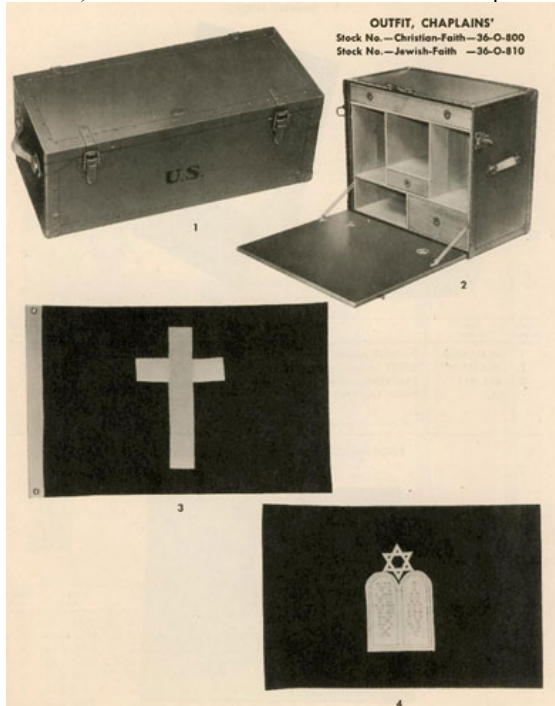
Flags, Chaplains', Christian-Faith – Stock No. 5-F-980

Flags, Chaplains', Jewish-Faith – Stock No. 5-F-985

Music Books, Hymnal, Chaplains' Outfit, Song-and-Service – Stock No. 36-M-657 (150 copies)

Organs, Folding, Chaplains' – Stock No. 36-O-580

The T,O & E authorized these items for each chaplain:





### WWII Chaplain Jeeps

Chaplains were not authorized any vehicles per the T, O & E. Despite that many Chaplains had jeeps. The jeeps were probably reassigned from the regimental or battalion headquarters vehicles. That assignment may have been full time, depending upon the commander's goodwill and availability of extra vehicles. Jeep hoods were often used as altars for field services.





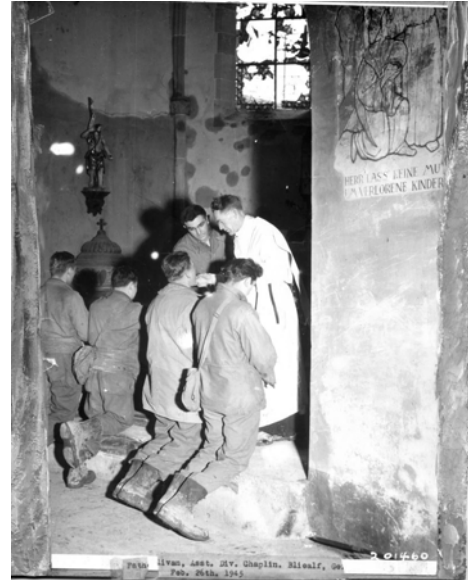


The chaplain could also be authorized an assembly tent, a folding table with chairs and the supplies necessary for an office. Those supplies would include a typewriter, stationary, waste baskets etc. If a building or church was available then the chaplain would use it versus the tent.



#### The Chaplain's Assistant

Nearly all chaplains also had an enlisted assistant, a Tech 5. The chaplain's assistant aided with the set up/tear down of the chaplain's property, did administrative work, and assisted with religious and morale programs of the chaplain. In many cases, the chaplain's assistant was also the player of the field organ or another instrument. If assigned a vehicle, the assistant was also the vehicle driver for the chaplain.



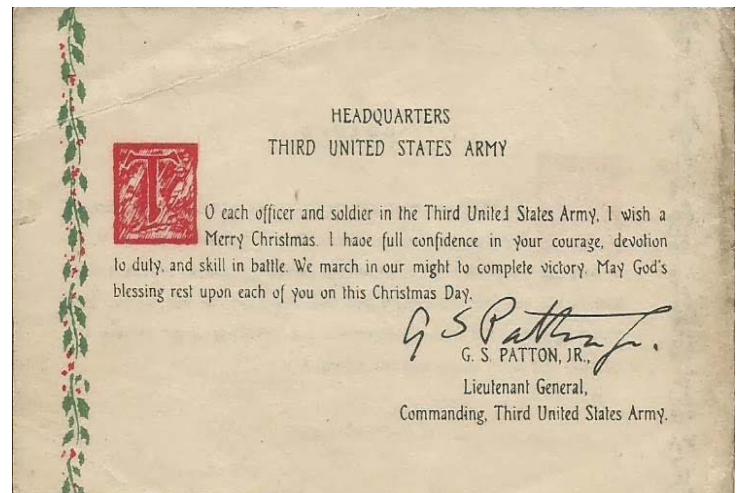


The position was a desirable one to hold, although it offered little opportunity for advancement. After the war, the problem of chaplain's assistants moving to other jobs for promotion opportunities was addressed by having a broader rank structure, but for WWII it was a Tech 5.



The Chaplain role as a special staff member for the commander:

While most are familiar with the role of the chaplain in the field, it overshadows the role of the chaplain as a member of the commander's special staff. The chaplain's unique role as a pastor and function outside the chain of command permits a good chaplain to provide the commander with advice on the state of his unit and personnel. The chaplain is expected to report to the commander on the moral, ethical and spiritual health of the unit, as well as provide spiritual advice to the commander. The chaplain also assists the staff when facing questions of the Geneva Convention, handling of prisoners and civilians and humanitarian efforts in the area of operations. The chaplain is also the lead staff officer for moral and ethical instruction to the unit. The chaplain usually has direct access to the commander. Effective chaplains use this role when warranted. The special staff role is usually split with time ministering soldiers on the staff and subordinate units, either as individuals or in religious services. As a chaplain once said, "I'm in sales, not management!" The most famous use of a chaplain in the special staff role was Chaplain James Hugh O'Neill's weather prayer during the Battle of the Bulge.





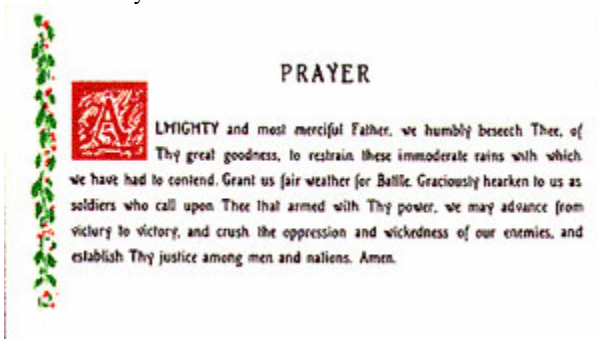


#### The Patton Prayer

<https://thechaplainkit.com/?s=patton>

On the morning of December 8, 1944, General George S. Patton called his Third Army Chaplain, Msgr. James H. O'Neill. "This is General Patton; do you have a good prayer for weather? We must do something about those rains if we are to win the war." Third Army had been fighting in terrible rain since September and Patton had become desperate.

The prayer Chaplain O'Neill wrote became famously known as the "Weather Prayer."



Almighty and most merciful Father, we humbly beseech Thee, of Thy great goodness, to restrain these immoderate rains with which we have had to contend. Grant us fair weather for Battle. Graciously hearken to us as soldiers who call upon Thee that, armed with Thy power, we may advance from victory to victory, and crush the oppression and wickedness of our enemies and establish Thy justice among men and nations.

On the back was a Christmas Greeting from Patton to his troops – 250,000 copies were dispersed.

To each officer and soldier in the Third United States Army, I Wish a Merry Christmas. I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty, and skill in battle. We march in our might to complete victory. May God's blessings rest upon each of you on this Christmas Day. G.S. Patton, Jr, Lieutenant General, Commanding, Third United States Army.

The Weather Prayer didn't work right away, but no doubt gave the troops, including Monuments Man Robert Posey, some hope.



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