



The Big Red One Living History Organization, Inc. Is a Non-profit, Educational unit.

Dedicated to preserving history, and providing educational events for the public.

Robin Markey
President

Mike Brown
Vice-President

Roger Hipple
Secretary
Newsletter Editor

Dennis Riva
Treasurer

Jeff Hain-Matson
Webmaster

Board of Officers Elected for 2009-2010 Term

The membership has elected the following members to serve as the Board of Officers for the term 2009-2010. Twenty-six members voted either in person at the special meeting, or by e-ballot. Votes were counted on December 15th, 2008, which allowed for mailed ballots postmarked December 10th, 2008, to arrive. No mailed ballots were received as of December 31, 2008.

President	Robin Markey
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Treasurer	Dennis Riva

Battle of the Bulge Event 2009

Fort Indiantown Gap, Penna.

Fort Mifflin Follow-up

If you attended the recent event at Fort Mifflin, check your gear. After the event a 30cal ammo can with belted inert ammo was left in the 1st Division's Barracks room. Contact Bill Jeffers if it's your gear, he will bring the items to the GAP Event. If unclaimed Bill will have inert "dummy" rounds for his M1 to use with displays.

Registrations are in and now posted on The WWII Federations' web site. Point person for this event will be Robin Markey. Please let Robin know when you plan to arrive. Event runs January 27th thru February 1st, 2009. Be sure to double check your equipment and make sure you have the proper stuff for cold weather survival during the tactical. Remember this is a hobby, everyone goes home at the end of the event. If you have any questions, check the event web site or contact Robin. There is a new casino near the post. If you plan to visit it some evening, be sure to bring along civilian modern attire. No one in military uniform is admitted. This rule includes active duty military and current uniforms. Wear a uniform to the casino you will not be allowed to enter, period.

Meals will be prepared by Combat Caterers and served at Breakfast and Evening Dinner in the Company K Mess Hall, you should have prepaid for your meals when you registered. Lunch is available at either the CAP Mess or 28th Division Mess on a cash basis.

The unit will be part of Company K ID, again this year. The barracks will be open to spectators during the regular daily hours of the event. If you are bringing a display, please let Robin know.

Events for 2009

Harrisburg Militaria Show

March 20-21-22, 2009

**Aka Mid Atlantic Arms Collectors “Big Gun and Knife” Show
Harrisburg, PA**

The Unit will be having an indoor WWII Display at this show again this Spring. Charlie Kern will be the Point Person for the event. Set up will be Friday evening—Saturday morning. Admission to the show is FREE, if in military uniform. This is a good way to make sure your equipment survived the Battle of the Bulge Event shake down. Sleeping is indoors and there are food vendors at the show to keep you from being hungry, be sure to pack a few dollars. The event in the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex is one of the most attended Militaria shows in the area, a great opportunity for us to do some recruiting and public relations. If you are planning on attending please give Charlie Kern a call at 717-865-5978.

Mini-Bulge 2009 Tactical

Fort Indiantown Gap

March 19, 20, 21 and 22, 2009

This is mainly a 2 day tactical event by invite only. They are trying to limit the number of reenactors for this event so there may be a limit on the number of people from each unit able to attend. The Point Person for this event is Mark Genowitz (e-mail mark.gen@verizon.net or phone (908-859-4397). If there is a unit limit on participation for this event, we will go by date of reply to the point person.

Odessa NY Tactical Event 2009

September 11, 12 & 13, 2009

The Point Person for this event is Mark Genowitz (e-mail mark.gen@verizon.net or phone (908-859-4397). For more information you can go to www.OdessaEvent.com

WWII Weekend at Reading

Mid-Atlantic Air Museum

June 4,5,6,& 7, 2009

Mike Brown will be this year’s Point Person for the annual event. More information to be sent when available. If you attended last year you will be registered for this year’s event. There will also be a unit meeting scheduled the Saturday before the event after well put the tents up, and have the area ready for the event.

After Action Report on Heritage Day The Endless Mountains War Memorial Museum, Sonestown, PA

Submitted by Jack Budnick

Mike Brown, Ben Thomas, and I attended this event for the first time on September 13 and 14, 2008. We planned to pack light, basically to scout the event in case we plan to attend in the future. Jack Craft, owner of the museum, has many different displays in the museum and we didn't want to duplicate something he had. Jack had a mess tent set up for us to hang out and store our gear. Included in the encampment were Rev War, Civil War, and WWI re-enactors. We did the usual routine of talking to people and answering questions. We also helped keep an eye on the museum for Jack since he's had some items stolen in the past. The museum is worth the trip. It's amazing how much Jack has collected throughout the years. You can spend hours looking and reading all the items on display. He had expanded the museum a few years ago and needs to do it again. When people see what he's done, they donate groupings of their relatives because they know they're going to a good home and will be seen by many people. One woman donated a concentration camp uniform with the star of David sewn on front. (see photo below left).

We met a few veterans that Mr Craft had arranged to come in to sit at a table to talk to people. Robert Pidcoe is a 1st Division, 26th Regt. Vet. He joined them in Sicily and was with them to the end. He also donated his grouping. We also met Andy Simpler, 981st FA Bat., Marvin Wolfe, 101st Div., Leonard Kratoski, Howard Kerr, and Ray Secules, all of the 4th Marine Div. We also met quite a few veterans that were visiting the museum, listening to them explain their experiences to their family and friends.

We plan to attend next year's event and will bring more items for a display, similar to the small events we normally attend. There are some nice local restaurants where we ate. We can camp out on the museum grounds, or stay at my Dad's cabin, which is about 4 miles up the mountain. Jack Craft's family farm is nearby and he'd like to have a small tactical there someday. I'll check to see if Jack would like to set something up for this spring and will keep all of you posted.



Jack Budnick, with Robert Pidcoe 91st Division, 26th Infantry Regt. Veteran, Mike Brown, and Ben Thomas at the Endless Mountain War Memorial Museum.

Looking Ahead

Editorial By Roger Hipple, CWC

As we enter the new year, I would like to take this opportunity to give some insight as to where I see the Big Red One Living History Organization going.

Plans for revisions to the Unit's Constitution:

The Constitution and By-Laws are in need of some changes, many of which were discussed at the Emergency Winter Meeting 2008.

You have all heard the saying that a camel was a horse designed by a committee and the famous work place quote, meetings are a way to avoid work. Well we will have to have a committee that will work together and get it done. Therefore, I would like to propose a method of putting ideas before the membership for discussion so that the committee appointed to the task has a general idea of where the unit membership wishes to go regarding changes to the way the unit is conducted.

Between the first of the year and the June Meeting, if a member have a suggestion on how something should be changed, just e-mail it to me, and I will use the unit's bulk e-mail list to see that everyone gets a copy of it. That way everyone is in the loop and knows what to possibly expect. I plan on forwarding only suggestions, not holding a open forum to debate what should and should not be done. That will be the job of the committee. What I am proposing would be helpful to the committee in letting them get input from all the members before they start rewriting and making changes. It will avoid starting from scratch, we keep the good parts and change what needs to be changed, so when the membership finally votes on the changes to the constitution, it can be adopted in a very orderly manner.

Let me start the process by submitting the proposed change to the leadership I spoke about at the last meeting.

In addition to the four Board Members, there would be the addition of three Directors (Trustees). Each one would serve a six year term, with a new Director being elected every two years. Sort of like the way the House and Senate work, with Representatives being elected for two year terms, and Senators being elected to six year terms. To get this started we would elect three Directors, one for a two year term, one for a four year term and one for a six year term, and then when they come up for reelection the rotation would already be established. The purpose of the Directors would be to replace all standing committees, elections, promotion, demotion, by-laws, authenticity standards, and standard operation procedures, recruitment and retention. The Directors would report to the Board of Officers and be responsible for the long lasting stability required as the unit gets bigger. To be eligible to be elected Director, a person would have to be willing to make a six year commitment to the unit, have a good working knowledge of the unit, and have been a member for a minimum of five years. I could name several members who would fit these requirements.

We also, must address, Board of Officer vacancies, due to resigning or death, so to avoid some of the issues of having a diminished Board of Officers. I would propose that the President appoint a member to the Board of the Directors in the event of a vacancy. With the Vice-President, becoming the President in the event of the President's resignation or death. The Secretary and Treasurer would retain their positions, but would be eligible to assume other positions on the Board at the request of the President, who would then appoint a member to fill the vacated position.

Roger Hipple, Civilian War Correspondent
Secretary, Big Red One Living History Organization, Inc.