2011 Fall / Winter Show

Where: Franklin Marriott Conference Center / Hotel
Cool Springs  700 Cool Springs Blvd., Franklin, TN  37067

When: Friday, November 25th - Dealer Set up & Members Only 9 am - 1 pm
       Public Admitted 1 pm - 7 pm
Saturday, November 26th - 8 am - 4 pm

Admission: $5. for Non-Members
TMCA Members get in free - Wear badge
Children under 12 free. Also admitted free, if in uniform: Members of US Military, Fire and Police, R.O.T.C. and military re-enactors.


Table Reservations: 6 FT. Tables ~ Member Prices:
Display Tables - $35 each  Sale Tables - $45 each.
Contact Ronnie Townes @ 615-661-9379 to reserve.

Room Reservations at Hotel: Call 615-261-6100 or 1-888-403-6772, and ask to receive the TMCA discount rate of $95, plus tax (normal rate is $209).
Deadline for this special rate is November 1st!

Club News

A message from your show host, Ronnie Townes;

As members of the Tennessee Military Collectors Association we have the opportunity to experience some of the finest military collections in the United States. Our members have a variety of interest running the historical gauntlet from the early Revolutionary War to the recently liberated items of the Middle Eastern conflicts. At the present time, our country is celebrating the American Civil War Sesquicentennial. With lectures, displays and reenactments taking place over the next four years. Many of us will reflect back to this period with memories of our families and local history. In my opinion, there is no better way to observe this period of time than to look at the photos being generated/produced by the photographic artist working at that time. The medium of capturing ones own reflection on a portable and relative inexpensive image was something that thousands of Civil War Soldiers both North and South took advantage of. The old adage “a picture tells a thousand words” cannot be expressed better than these photos. It has been my passion for several years to collect Confederate photographs with special interest in images from Tennessee.

I will have a display at the upcoming Fall/Winter Show. I look forward to sharing my interest with those members and visitors in attendance.
**REPRODUCTIONS FROM THE 1970’S**

Nazi Reproductions actually started before the war even ended. Germans citizens as well as fellow GI’s were making items such as sand casted lead badges to trade to fellows GI’s for money, cigarettes and chocolate. Today, reproductions have become so good that it’s nearly impossible to tell some from the originals. In the 1970’s, most reproductions were so-so and fairly easy to distinguish from the originals.

Delta International was one of the first companies to start selling very high quality reproductions. Today, with 40+ years of age added to these pieces, they are pretty scary and many are floating around at shows and are unknowingly in private collections.

Shown here are two flags from Delta’s 1975 catalog. As you can see, they are well marked, well made, and now they are aged with time. Yes, they can still be easily passed off by a person with limited morals to a collector who has limited knowledge about them, a practice that unfortunately happens all the time. Just because he tells you, "I’ve had it in my collection for 40 years", does not make it original.

The easiest way to tell on these two flags is the fact that under a Black Light, the white stitching glows from the brighter that is added to the dyes. This is something that rarely happened on originals.
The DC (Deutsche Christen) Organization

By Bob Lee

During the 1920s the German Communist party was a powerful and highly visible presence in Germany. By 1933, communists in the Soviet Union had executed 200,000 Christian clergy. German Christians were understandably afraid of communism and many of them viewed the NSDAP as a bulwark against communism.

The DC (Deutsche Christen) organization was founded in 1933 by National Socialist Evangelical Christians. Their purpose was to gain dominance over the German Evangelical churches and therefore bring protestant churches into a harmonious relationship with the NSDAP. They proudly wore a membership pin that featured the Christian cross adorned with a swastika.

In a public directive, published in December 1933, the DC declared: “The way to fulfill the German law is the faithful German congregation. In it, Jesus, the Lord, reigns in grace and forgiveness. In it burns the fire of holy sacrifice. In it alone the Savior confronts the German people, and gives it the strength of faith. From this community of German Christians there shall grow a “German Christian National Church,” embracing the entire people in the National Socialist state of Adolf Hitler.”

In 1934 and 1935, Hitler made a series of speeches emphasizing that German Christians and the National Socialists had much in common and could work together for the good of Germany. In a speech made on May 21st, 1935, Hitler distanced himself from the neo-pagans in the party and condemned the godlessness of the communists. He pointed out that churches were used for secular amusement in the Soviet Union but under the National Socialists churches remained open.

Hitler demanded that the NSDAP remain aloof from the churches. This may explain to some extent why he would appoint a naturalist like Martin Bormann to be the Reichsleiter of the party chancellery. Bormann rejected the idea of supernatural influence in the affairs of mankind.

Anyone who carefully studies the NSDAP will realize that the party was a political group composed of many different factions. There were Christian party members (Roman Catholics and Evangelicals), neo-pagans and naturalists.

Point 24 in the Programm der NSDAP affirmed that the party stands for “Positive Christianity.” In 1937 National Socialist Evangelical Christian and Professor of Theology, D. Cajus Fabricius published a book, Positive Christianity in the Third Reich, that explained the concept of “Positive Christianity” in such a light as to present National Socialism under the leadership of Hitler as being harmonious with Christianity. His booklet was no doubt welcomed by conservative National Socialist Christians who were offended by the unorthodox views of Christianity expressed by Alfred Rosenberg (author of The Myth of the Twentieth Century).

In National Socialist Germany, most Evangelical Christian churches and their clergymen were tolerated as long as they did not criticize or oppose the regime although there was much ongoing friction between the Catholic Church and the NSDAP. On July 30, 1941, Hitler had to issue a Führerbefehl to stop the confiscation of (Catholic) church properties by party officials. On August 23, 1941, Hanns Kerrl, Third Reich Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs complained that his remaining in that position was becoming “increasingly unbearable.”

In 1943, out of a growing concern over conflicts between the leaders of the German state and the Christian religion, protestant Bishop Joachim Hossenfelder wrote a letter to Heinrich Himmler and Joseph Goebbels. The Bishop reminded them that he and other National Socialist protestants were responsible for a reformation of the Christian religion in Germany that freed the Evangelical Churches from “...Oriental, dogmatic, and hierarchical influences.” Hossenfelder had served as advisor to the leadership of the NSDAP.

The Deutsche Christen are remembered as a group of right wing German Evangelical Christians who were openly and enthusiastically supportive of Adolf Hitler and the NSDAP.
— The Patch King —

Reproductions of World War II insignia had been created ever since the end hostilities. Manufacturers had created a tremendous capacity during the war to produce patches and the quartermaster corps abruptly canceled most existing contracts at war’s end. At the same time many persons had begun to collect the colorful shoulder sleeve insignia (patches) worn by the returning troops. A number of firms got the idea of marketing patches to collectors in the same way stamps and coins were collected. They even offered albums for the storage of a collection.

The best known of these firms was "The Patch King." Their stock was mostly surplus patches but they also supplemented their inventory by producing new insignia. In some cases, the new insignia they produced were unlike originals. The actual name of "The Patch King" was Sol Marks. He is widely given credit for developing the idea of marketing patches to collectors and advertised introductory offers of a small group of inexpensive patches to beginning collectors in national magazines. The Patch King was not the only firm in the business. These firms were not attempting to trick or deceive anyone. Their prices were modest and most collectors were not that particular regarding the issue of originally.

Most of these firms disappeared during the 1960s, perhaps as a result of anti-military feelings generated during the Vietnam era. A number of older collectors, dealt with them during their heyday. Some of these distinctive older reproductions are becoming collectible in their own right.

Ad from Popular Science magazine, July 1946
“The Patch King” was located in New York City, and was primarily a mail-order business. They bought up most of the left-over stock at the end of WW2 as well as many of the rejects during the war from companies like N.S. Meyer. All this stuff was original and is very collectable today. As they begun running out of items, they began to make their own, to include German and other items of popular demand. During the war, they produced so called pseudo WW1 patches for WW1 veterans and collectors, most of these WW1 patches were machine embroidered on felt. They were not trying to deceive anyone with fakes, all they were doing, was filling the demand for a patriotic group of collectors and veterans who just wanted a patch to represent each unit.

As the years went on, they begun expanding their marketing to other areas such as cereal boxes and gum ball machines. I personally remember being able to put a quarter in a machine back in the early 1970's and I would get a clear plastic “egg” with a patch inside. Most of these patches were chevrons and service strips, but every now and then you’d get a good Army, Corps or Divisional patch.

Shown in the photos is a beautiful patch collection assembled at the end of WW2 with hundred’s of patches. It contains many original and rare patches of all types, and most are named to the person who donated them to the collection. As you can also see, a lot of “Patch King” patches have worked their way into this collection. At first glance, you would think that these all must be real war-time patches since the collection was assembled from 1943 until about 1947 and everything in it is over 65 years old and they also do not glow under black light. However, almost all of the WW1 patches and misc. foreign patches in this book are copies made up by Patch King, during and shortly after the war. Even some of the US WW2 patches are early reproductions, such as the Ranger tabs and Ghost Divisions.
Display Award Winners

1st Place
Doss & Ruth White
Japanese 50mm Mortars

2nd Place
David Rogers
Iraqi War

3rd Place
Trey Stancil
Japanese Calvary

Upcoming Events of Interest

Civil War Show, Franklin, TN. December 3-4

Model 1928 Thompson $1,000 (firm)

Hume Parks is selling his Dummy 1928 Thompson that is built up with original parts on a dummy receiver. This gun has a Kahr Arms, 35 round drum, (same size as the original 50 rd.), original Lyman site, ribbed barrel etc., all built up on a new aluminum receiver. Obviously it will not fire, but it looks great and is 100% legal to own.

Call Hume at: (615) 292-3020

Hume is also trying to sell off what is left in his house before he moves to his new apartment at his sons place. He has machinery such as drill presses, lathes, model aircraft, desk, chairs, lots of misc garage stuff, wood stock etc. Basically, 98 1/2 years of accumulation.

Feel free to give Hume a call before he has that final big garage sale.

Model 1928 Thompson $1,000 (firm)

Hume Parks is selling his Dummy 1928 Thompson that is built up with original parts on a dummy receiver. This gun has a Kahr Arms, 35 round drum, (same size as the original 50 rd.), original Lyman site, ribbed barrel etc., all built up on a new aluminum receiver. Obviously it will not fire, but it looks great and is 100% legal to own.

Call Hume at: (615) 292-3020

Hume is also trying to sell off what is left in his house before he moves to his new apartment at his sons place. He has machinery such as drill presses, lathes, model aircraft, desk, chairs, lots of misc garage stuff, wood stock etc. Basically, 98 1/2 years of accumulation.

Feel free to give Hume a call before he has that final big garage sale.
**FOR SALE:** 1840’S -1860’S Southern Militia Belt Plate $195.00. - Vintage Brass Carbide lantern (as used by USMC to blacken front sights on M1’s) $25.00. - C-96 Mauser 10 rd. mag. extension $175.00. - WWII US Mackinaw Field Jacket, fits size 42, no belt, some moth nips, $75.00. - US Musette Bag, 1942 date, $50.00. - US WWII Garand Belt with M36 suspenders and first-aid kit, $100.00. - US 1942 date canteen with Bakelite flat top cap, 1942 date cover, and cup $40.00. - WWII USN deck cap with neck cover, $15.00. - 1945 date pick-mattock, no cover, $20.00. - WWII British Bren barrel carrier, also works as Sten gun transport bag, mint $85.00. - Russian SKS, 1954r, mint $400.00. - Japanese T99, ground mum, non-matching bolt, nice wood, $300.00. - M1895 Chilean Mauser, mint, 7mm $499.00. - K98, DOT 45, nice bore, good wood, $375.00. - K98 Erma .22 cal. conversion unit in non-original box $695.00. - 1884 date trapdoor Springfield converted to carbine, nice bore, metal, $695.00. - Bulgarian Makarov with military grips, holster, lanyard, two mags, good shooter, $350.00. - 1873 Colt SAA, US property, 5” Barrel, factory letter, $4,700.00. Bill Price, TMCA Lifetime member #006, (615) 371-8027

P-38 with original shoulder holster. 98% correct and matching gun. $950.

1934 Beretta .32 auto. $350

Bruce  (615) 585-0115

WW1 German 10cm $25,000

US WW2 Pack 75mm $35,000

57mm anti-tank $40,000

Cannons / Artillery

For Sale

These are being stored in the Southern, California Mojave desert area and have been used for movie rentals over the past 15 years. (Wind Talkers, Flags of our Fathers etc.)

Some are complete with breaches and ATF registration, while some are deactivated or modified for blank firing only.

Contact:

Dave Hoagey

TMCA #5

(615) 479-4569
dhoagey@comcast.net

WW2 Japanese 105, No breach, de-activated, on US wheels $10,000

1918 US M1906 4.7 Field Gun $35,000
Ten year old Neil Lawrence was whiling away the warm morning, playing in the pineapple fields. The Lawrence family, originally from Nashville, had moved to Hawaii as missionaries. Neil was running down the rows of pineapple when he began to hear a sound getting louder as it approached—a relentless droning sound. Looking up into the sky, he saw hundreds of planes. They were so close to the ground he could see some of the pilots. “One even wagged his wings at me as he flew across the field. I remember the color of the planes and the large red circles under the wings.” As the formation passed from view, Neil stood there wondering what just happened. Suddenly, his mother appeared in the road, screaming for him to run to the house. His father was there and the three of them hid in the root cellar for “what seemed like hours”. That morning, December 7th, 1941, Neil Lawrence became one of the first Nashvillians to witness the beginning of the war with Imperial Japan.

Nashville in 1941 was a fairly average mid-size Southern city. From the public square, the city measured a diameter of five miles and contained 167,000 people. The city was bounded by 64th Avenue on the West, Thompson Lane on the East, Glendale Lane on the South, and Ben Allen Road on the North. Telephones serviced 46,000 homes and businesses. One place of note was the rail yard at Union Station. It serviced some of the largest railroad systems in the United States; almost all North/South railroad traffic came through Nashville. Nashville had the heavy iron needed for the coming war.

The news of the attack hit Nashville late that morning. Soon, the town was alive with news, rumors, gossip, and speculation. Events were unfolding rapidly. President Roosevelt’s radio address alerted the nation and emphasized our resolve to fight to absolute victory.

Monday, December 8th, Congress declared war on Nazi Germany. America was now at war with two strong successful world powers. Imperial Japan had drawn first blood and there would be a river of it to follow, but the victor would be propelled into the exclusive club of a Superpower.

The Metro Nashville Archives is pleased to present at the TMCA Fall/Winter Show an exhibit entitled: “Home Front Nashville” for the 70th anniversary of the Second World War. On exhibit will be period newspapers, photographs of Nashville in the 1940s, factory newsletters, V-mail, casualty lists, other artifacts, and documents that chronicle Nashville’s home front experience during the most destructive war in history.