



## 2ND RANGER INFANTRY BATTALION OF ST. LOUIS, MO

### IN THIS ISSUE

---

- ★ Welcome
- ★ New Contact Information
- ★ RBA (Ranger Reunion)
- ★ WWII Weekend 2009
- ★ 2ndRangers.org
- ★ Upcoming Events
- ★ Roster (members edition only)
- ★ In the next issue...



### DID YOU KNOW

---

The first American serviceman killed was killed by the Russians (Finland 1940).

The youngest US serviceman was 12 year old Calvin Graham, USN. He was wounded in combat and given a Dishonorable Discharge for lying about his age. (His benefits were later restored by act of Congress).

Most members of the Waffen SS were not German.

The highest ranking American killed was Lt. Gen. Lesley McNair, killed by the US Army Air Corps.

### WELCOME!

---

Welcome to the first issue of the new U.S. 2nd Ranger Newsletter! In this issue you'll learn about: our new contact information, the 2009 Ranger Reunion, WWII Weekend 2009; WWII Weekend 2010; 2ndRangers.org and its many features; upcoming events; and find out what's coming in the next issue.

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter please e-mail us at [newsletter@2ndrangers.us](mailto:newsletter@2ndrangers.us) or visit our contact form at the website.



### NEW CONTACT INFORMATION

---

As of 2010 we will no longer be using members' addresses for official mail. Our new mailing address is:

U.S. 2nd Ranger Infantry Battalion of St. Louis, Inc.  
c/o Sgt. K. Owens  
PO Box 29516  
St. Louis, MO 63126

We also have a new phone number: (314) 467-0741

These contact solutions were chosen to ensure that the mailing address and phone number are independent of members, allowing for ease of transfer to a new board in the future.



## RBA (RANGER REUNION)

We arrived at the hotel at approximately 9 PM and immediately started unloading our display items into the conference room they assigned us to. Weary from almost 15 hours of travel, running on caffeine and the occasion stop for a rest room break at the grocery store. Unloading case after case, box after box, the thrill of the weekend to come gave us a new spark of energy. We were at Ft. Benning, GA – home of the Rangers and 82nd Airborne. We had everything mostly set up before we headed off to our rooms, we unpacked, some of us showered, and we settled in for a well deserved sleep – waiting to start the weekend.

We woke up to get dressed and go to our briefing, and then we separated and went to our assigned areas. Some of us went to help with interviews, some stayed in the display room, and some stood post greeting in the hospitality room. Then they came out of their rooms to start their weekend, The Rangers. It was good to see familiar faces from last year's event, and to meet some new people. From last year we learned that the majority of Rangers from



WWII at this event were from the first, third, and fourth battalions; the U.S. 2nd Ranger Infantry Battalion of St. Louis came prepared with men representing all six battalions in the appropriate uniforms for each battalion. That morning we conducted interviews<sup>1</sup> and many stories were exchanged. We had questions and they had answers.

After a long day of meeting and greeting and getting reacquainted with the soldiers and their families we went to our rooms, changed, and departed for a delicious dinner. CSM. Burns made an appearance to distribute Ranger training brigade challenge coins to those who didn't attend last year, and the challenge was on. From that moment forward, almost all weekend, we would pull out the challenge coin at random to challenge the men of our group. The low man that didn't have his coin in his possession was responsible for buying beer for the group. The beer was refreshing and the stories continued in the display room. Some observed the TO&E from WWII. Both young and old Rangers alike admired our display<sup>2</sup>.



Friday morning we headed out to Ft. Benning to give a presentation to the families of current Rangers while they waited in line to attend the graduation of the Ranger Training Brigade. We gave a brief history of each of the six Ranger battalions of WWII along with uniform and weapons demonstrations. We told them about how the WWII Rangers "Lead the Way" for the current generations of Rangers. It was impressive to see current day Rangers talking to the men who started it all – from the Dieppe Raid to North Africa, from Normandy to the conquest of Europe. Rangers lead the way. Now a new brigade was ready to graduate and we were invited to observe the Rangers in Action.

This demonstration showed friends and family what the Rangers learned in Ranger school. There were demonstrations on ropes and repelling, demolitions, helicopter maneuvers, hand-to-hand combat, and what a squad of Rangers is comprised of, from their weapons to their positions. After the demonstrations, we stood by for more demonstrations for Rangers, friends, and family<sup>3</sup>.



On the way back we decided to stop at the National Infantry Museum. We decided to show up in full gear including weapons. We were welcomed with open arms by the museum; they never had real re-enactors there to display. We posed for photo opportunities, spoke to people visiting the museums, and viewed the exhibits they had. Soon after, the museum asked us if we would like a private tour of the restored WWII barracks. We posed for pictures<sup>4</sup> and were amazed by how nicely the buildings were restored. It was like a time warp.

Saturday we assisted the Rangers onto busses to attend a prayer service for those Rangers who have passed away in the last year. It was a moving ceremony on hallowed grounds, a



large brick walkway with names of Rangers lead to a memorial site where granite walls displayed Ranger history. After the prayer service we assisted the Rangers back into the busses, and from there we were invited to the current Ranger headquarters, for yet another private tour. Dinner Saturday was formal with Class A uniforms and speeches by the General and Commander of the post.

Just before dinner, current and WWII Army Rangers went head-to-head in a giant video game shoot out; the WWII Rangers showed they still had it taking first place in the



competition. The rest of the night brought more visiting in the display room and listening to stories from the men. Unfortunately, eventually we had to say good night and after the last visitor left we started to pack all our belongings for Sunday's long ride home. Once we were finished packing the event organizer asked our event organizer, in a private meeting, if he would mind bringing us back next year to attend once more.

At 0 dark 30 we packed our trucks and headed home. Only six months until we go back.

1. See videos of some of our interviews at [2ndrangers.org](http://2ndrangers.org) > Community > Videos.
2. See photos of our display at [2ndrangers.org](http://2ndrangers.org) > Community > Photos > Ranger Reunion 2009.
3. See videos of the demonstrations at [2ndrangers.org](http://2ndrangers.org) > Community > Videos.
4. See photos of us in the barracks at [2ndrangers.org](http://2ndrangers.org) > Community > Photos > Ranger Reunion 2009.



---

## WWII WEEKEND 2009

---

We are pleased to announce that WWII Weekend 2009 was the most successful WWII Weekend the Parks Department has seen in the last 30 years! To give you an idea, here are some numbers:

- In 2008 we started with only 19 reenacting units in attendance. In 2009 There were representatives from **51 different reenacting units**. We ran out of places to put all the camp sites.



- After a count at the Safety and Authenticity meeting, we counted upwards of **450 reenactors**. More than there has ever been at this event.
- One more number that was the most impressive was the amount of public spectators in attendance. At the battle field, there were approximately **5,000 people per day** to witness the largest battle reenactment we have ever composed.

Over the course of the weekend approximately **15,000 people** had witnessed the amount of firepower that **450 reenactors** could put out during the course of the weekend.



One contributing factor to our success was amazing weather the entire weekend, sunny and in the 80s during the day, clear and in the upper 60s at night. In a perfect weekend there was one imperfection, once again the field caught on fire (you can even [see videos of the fire](#) at our site). Fortunately, nobody was hurt and swift actions by many reenactors put out the fire before the fire department arrived. In the heat of the day, wearing wool, and with no water

in their canteens the reenactors continued the battle for the delight of the audience – my hat’s off to their dedication and hard work. Thanks to everyone for making this event the biggest it has ever been.

After a meeting at the Jefferson Barracks Community Council, park employees stated that they have never seen that many people at the park for any event ever. Saturday had over 1,500 visitors in the Visitor’s Center, and Sunday had over 500. Park employees also told us that they had a very positive response from the public from them writing in, e-mailing, and calling in.

Some of the vendors in attendance were private vendors selling off their collections, others included: All Era Militaria, At the Front, R&R Militaria, T & E Militaria, Hessen Antique, and Trail’s End Concessions



Some of the units in attendance included:

- 1 SS LAH (National)
- 101st ABN
- 101st Airborne
- 112th Rifle Division, RKKA
- 115th Inf. Reg./29th Inf. Div
- 116th Pz Div Wolf Hound
- 12th AG WAC
- 12th Polish Lancers
- 12th SS
- 14th Armor
- 179th IR 45th Div.
- 1SSF HRS
- 1st Airborne Recce Squadron
- 1st Special Service Force TSG
- 1st Inf. ,G Company
- 22 IPC
- 22nd Independent Para Coy
- 29th ID 116th Reg.
- 2nd Battalion, 502nd, F Co.
- 2nd Infantry Division
- 2nd SAS
- 2nd SS
- 307 AEB
- 307th PIR
- 352. Infanterie Division
- 36TH Texas Div.
- 38th SS Grenadiers Division
- 3rd Company Grossdeutschland
- 3rd Infantry Division
- 3rd SS Totenkopf
- 416th Rifle Regiment
- 5. Fallschirm-Jager-Division
- 5.ss Wiking
- 501st 101 Airborne
- 5th Infantry Division
- 68 AIB
- 6th Airborne - Oxes and Bucks
- 82nd AIRBORNE 507TH P.I.R.
- 8th SS Cavalry "Florian Geyer"  
(Mounted)
- 9th British Para
- British 6th Airborne
- C co. 1st BN. 18th Inf. Reg.
- Canadian YMCA
- G CO, 84th Division "Railsplitters"
- HQ CO. 2nd Bn 501st PIR 101st AB
- Jagerregiment .38 (HRS)
- Monte Servino Italian
- Panzergruppe West
- SS Junkershule/38th Grenadier Dv.
- WWII USO - Stateside Operations




We're looking forward to an even larger turn-out in 2010, we already have nearly 100 preregistrations from the web site. If you'd like to register at the site go to [2ndrangers.org](http://2ndrangers.org) > [Events](#) > [Registration](#).

To learn more about [WWII Weekend 2010](#) view our special set of pages at the 2nd Rangers web site by clicking the large white WWII Weekend banner at the top on the front page.


[Home](#) » [Events](#) » [WWII Weekend](#)

**WWII Weekend 2010**


**Spectator, Reenactor, Vehicle Owner, Vendor, and Educator Pages**




**SPECTATORS**




**REENACTORS**



**VEHICLE OWNERS**



**VENDORS**



**EDUCATORS**

There's information for the public, for reenactors, vehicle owners, and vendors including: event times, directions, parking, toilet locations, vendors, event area maps, camp maps, dance information, restrictions, set-up instructions, registration information, safety and authenticity information, local accommodations, area restaurants, where to send photos, how to donate to the event, information about tax deductions, and more.

#### **DID YOU KNOW...**

If you bring a period correct vehicle to the event you'll get a tax deduction donation form that will cover the cost of transporting your vehicle to the event? That includes gas, trailer rental, and a driver if you had to hire one (for you half-track and tank owners!). This could amount to a large deduction on your taxes, resulting in a bigger refund next year.

In addition to tax donations for our period correct vehicle owners we will also be issuing tax donation receipts for any cash donations. The more you donate to the 2nd Rangers the more you get to take off at tax time!

And if you can't make it to the event, or if you don't have cash on hand you can always donate online at [our online donation page](#). We accept cash, check, money order, debit card, credit card, wire transfer, and much more. You can even set up a recurring donation to donate weekly, monthly, bi-monthly, whatever works for you!

In late 2008 the 2nd Rangers faced dramatic board member changes resulting in quite a few notable changes throughout the organization, including a new web site.

Honoring 2nd Ranger Pvt. Rubio, Robert - E Company - 07/12/44

★ WWII WEEKEND 2010 ★

2ND RANGER INFANTRY BATTALION OF ST. LOUIS, MO

Home | About Us | Standards | Events | Media | Links | Community | Contact Us

### Event Calendar

March 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Mar 25th, 2010 (Thu)  
Board Meeting

Mar 27th, 2010 (Sat) -- Mar 28th, 2010 (Sun)  
Building 72 work day

Holiday     Other Events     Special Event  
 Max Effort Event     Parade     Tactical  
 Meeting     Public Battle     Multiple Events

**W**elcome to the U.S. 2nd Ranger Infantry Battalion St. Louis, Inc. website. Here you'll learn, [what we do](#), [where we can be seen](#), [when we host events](#), and [why we do it](#).  
 ★ [Click for WWII Weekend 2010 Information](#) ★  
 Use the navigation above to find your way around - menus will show up when you hover over the links. If you get lost visit our [Site Map](#) for a list of all of the links at our site. If you have questions please don't hesitate to [contact us](#).

### The Briefing Room (Blog)

**WWIIWeekend 2010 at Jefferson Barracks**  
02/26/2010 11:17

Reenactors,  
Please preregister online for this event. It will make registration go by much faster. At registration all you will have to do is sign the waiver and collect your ID card. We will be expecting a neighborhood of 450 reenactors this year. All reenactors and display participants will have to register. Even [...]

### Ranger Intelligence Signup (Newsletter)

Email

Confirm Email

### Random Reconnaissance Photos

### Most Recent Forum Post

**2ndRangers** - Welcome to our new discussion boards! The discussion boards are for you to discuss any and everything you desire. This board is for general discussion that doesn't fit in the other areas of the site. Miscategorized threads will be moved to the correct forum... [\[more\]](#)

### Random WWII Glossary Term

**JAG:** The acronym for Judge Advocate General, the military legal service.

### Communications (Chat)

Join other Rangers in our [Communications Chat Room](#) - no software is required.

Designed and Developed by [Discretion Designs](#)  
For any website queries please e-mail [webmistress@2ndRangers.us](mailto:webmistress@2ndRangers.us)

© 2010 2nd Ranger Infantry Battalion of St. Louis, MO - All Rights Reserved  
Home | About Us | Standards | Events | Media | Links | Community | Contact Us | Site Map | Privacy Policy | Legal Terms

In January 2009 our new web site went live. [DISCRETION DESIGNS'](#) owner Danielle Favreau offered her services for tax-donation only. The new web site took over 500 hours, has dozens of interactive features, is almost completely manageable by the 2nd Rangers,



and would have cost over \$25,000 had we paid cash for the site. In addition to the work that has already been done to the site there are still several features in development. Read more about them in the next newsletter!

The new web site has dozens of information filled pages and new features including:

- **Event Calendar:** showing all up-coming Ranger and other reenactor related events. A mini version of the calendar is shown on the front page, but you can view the next three months on the [Events](#) > [Calendar](#) page.
- **Blog:** outlining all of the latest and greatest news in the reenacting world. You can see a selection of the most recent entry on the front page, or view the articles in their entirety on the [Community](#) > [Blog](#) page.
- **Newsletter Sign up:** if you're receiving this then you already know about this new feature!
- **Photo Gallery:** a special photo gallery that any approved uploader can upload to, comment on photos, of which there are nearly 7,000! This gallery is yours – sign up (make sure to enter your location as that is the flag that tells us you're a real person) contribute and see it grow! Access the photo gallery by going to [Community](#) > [Photos](#).

### Event Calendar

April 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

<<      ==      >>

Apr 10th, 2010 (Sat)

Training

Apr 23rd, 2010 (Fri) – Apr 25th, 2010 (Sun)

WWII Weekend Jefferson Barracks  
WWII Weekend is the biggest WWII reenacting event in the St. Louis area and is held rain or shine. It is also one of the oldest

Legend:  
Holiday (Blue), Max Effort Event (Red), Meeting (Green), Other Events (Light Blue), Parade (Light Green), Public Battle (Light Red), Special Event (Purple), Tactical (Yellow), Multiple Events (Pink)

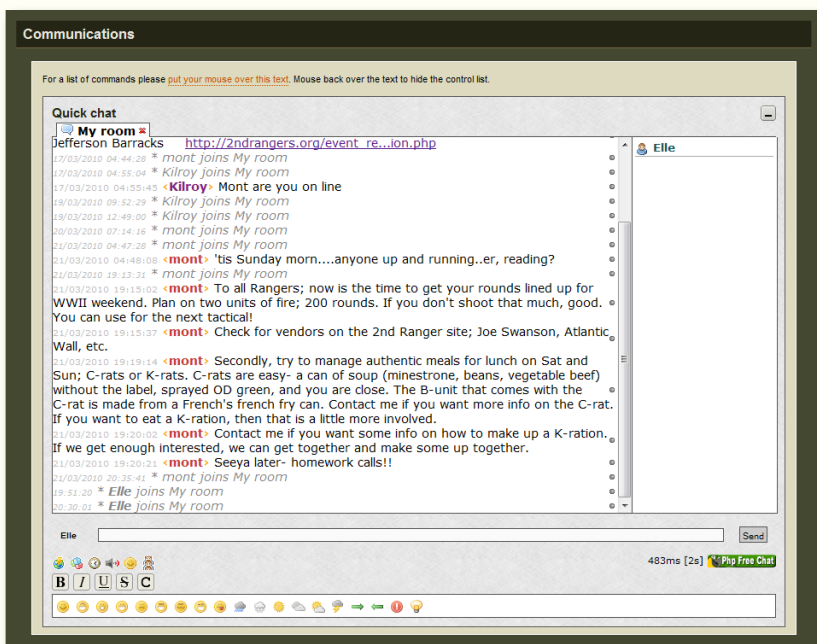
### WWII Weekend

8      2629

<b>WWII Weekend 2008</b>  358 files, last one added on Sep 21, 2009	<b>WWII Weekend 2008</b>  324 files, last one added on Apr 16, 2009	<b>WWII Weekend 2007</b>  352 files, last one added on Aug 02, 2009
<b>WWII Weekend 2006</b>  270 files, last one added on Aug 02, 2009	<b>WWII Weekend 2005</b>  194 files, last one added on Aug 01, 2009	<b>WWII Weekend 2004</b>  31 files, last one added on Jun 05, 2009



- **Videos:** a unique video gallery hosted at our site – no more YouTube links! Access the new gallery through [Community](#) > [Videos](#), access [the old gallery](#) by clicking the link to the old gallery at the top of the Videos page.
- **Forum:** if you're a reenactor you're likely familiar with 21st Century GI, well, we have a forum as well, talk with attendees of WWII Weekend 2010 to coordinate rides or hotel sharing for family members, see upcoming events around the US, and much more. [Register to participate](#).
- **Chat:** we have a special online chat program that requires no special software, just click on the chat link on the front page in the lower right corner – or use the top navigation [Community](#) > [Chat](#).
- **Forms:** we have several easy-to-complete forms at the web site including:



- **How to Enlist:** complete this form if you're interested in joining the 2nd Rangers. Find it under [About](#) > [How to Enlist](#).
- **Event Registration:** if you're attending an event complete this first to make your registration much faster. If you complete your registration online we can print your card and have it ready for you when you get to the event. Registration applies to all of our events. Find it under [Events](#) > [Registration](#).
- **Contact Us:** if you need to contact us you are always welcome to e-mail our President, Kevin Owens, at [k.owens@2ndRangers.org](mailto:k.owens@2ndRangers.org) or send a note to our corporate e-mail, [info@2ndRangers.us](mailto:info@2ndRangers.us). You'll notice that our corporate e-mail links have .us as the extension, we did that to avoid spam issues and to ensure that our members were part of the Organization (.org) and our company was a U.S. Corporation (.us). If you forget and use .org instead of .us, don't worry, everything will get where it needs to go.



- **Guestbook:** just in case you want to tell us how much you love the new site or a recent event we established a guestbook, we've even had comments from Singapore, the UK, Iraq, and of course several from Illinois and Missouri! You can find our guestbook under [About Us](#) > [Guestbook](#) or [Contact Us](#) > [Guestbook](#).

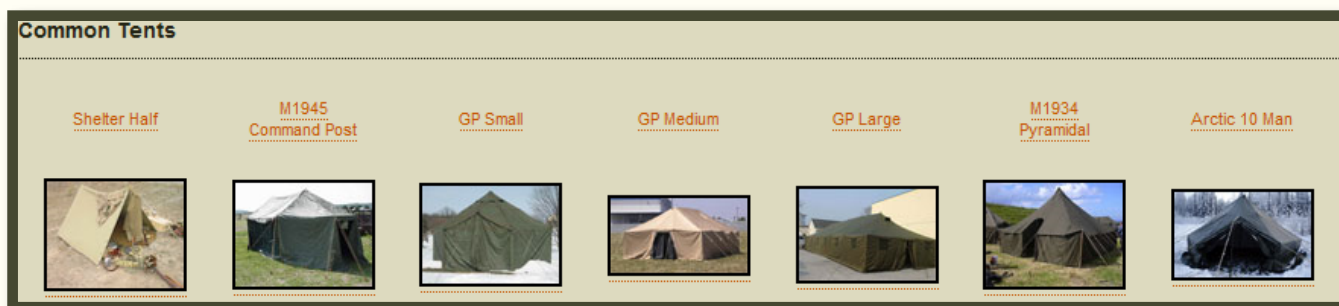
*Melody Cook – Boonville, Mo*

*March 08, 2010 - 18:04*

*Subject: Riverbattle March 5, 2010*

*My fiance and I attended the biannual event this weekend. I would just like to express how much fun we had. It is a great event, the Rangers are a great host unit and do a fantastic job. You know your having a good time when Allies and Axis are laughing together! The location is beautiful, the folks are friendly, and the event is just great. I can't say enough about how much fun we had. We look forward to attending WWII Weekend next month. (April 23-25) And attending the December Riverbattle at the end of 2010. Thank you for a wonderful event, we look forward to future events.*

- **Downloads:** we have many downloads coming in 2010 but to start we have over 13 hours worth of WWII music! You can either download the songs individually from the site – or – for a \$10 donation we'll send you a CD with all the music in MP3 format (we'll also have some available at WWII Weekend for purchase). Find our music at [Media](#) > [Downloads](#).
- **Tent Manuals:** do you have an original WWII tent? Not quite sure why it never looks like the WWII photos you've seen? We have the official - and original - U.S. Military tent manuals so you can erect it properly. You can find these manuals under [Media](#) > [Downloads](#) > [Tent Manuals](#). Though you can download the entire manual (from 1945, 1964, and 1970) we have already pulled out the most popular manuals and made them easy to print. They also include packing instructions so you can turn that 634 lbs GP Medium into a nice compact bundle ... we're not saying it's going to weigh any less but at least it will be easier to carry and store!





- **Donations:** prior to the new web site we only accepted donations at events. But now, well, we've launched ourselves into the 21st Century and offer online donations using PayPal. Later this year we'll be incorporating an independent credit card donation area accepting all credit cards, not just those that PayPal accepts.

In addition to accepting debit and credit cards we also outline how you can donate including: cash, check, and money order; in-kind donations (non cash); monthly donations (either through PayPal or coming soon with your credit card without PayPal); tribute and memorial gifts in the name of someone you love; stocks or bonds; corporate matching gifts; planned giving through your will or trust including: donating all of your militaria to the unit upon your death so your family will receive a large tax-donation receipt, which will reduce the estate taxes they have to pay, donate appreciated stock or other assets (including real estate), donating unneeded life insurance (just add us as a beneficiary for all or part of your death benefit), IRAs or other Retirement Assets, or through a Charitable Trust.

Never before has donating to the 2nd Rangers been so easy! Find our donation page on [Home](#) > [Donations](#).

In addition to the many features above the site is also full of information including:

- [Ranger History](#)
- [Mission Statement](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Rank Details](#)
- [Bylaws](#)
- [Appearance Standards](#)
- [Equipment Standards](#)
- [Weapons Standards](#)
- [Safety](#) and [Authenticity](#) Standards
- [River Battle Information](#)
- [Media Occurences](#)
- [Links](#) to [Vendors](#), [Other Units](#), [Memorial Websites](#), and [Other Related Websites](#)
- and more...

So go explore the site and let us know what you think. And look in the next issue for a few great new - and very unique - features that will be coming to the site to enhance your reenacting experience! Many thanks to [DISCRETION DESIGNS](#) for all the hard work!





## UPCOMING EVENTS

Holiday	Other Events	Special Event
Max Effort Event	Parade	Tactical
Meeting	Public Battle	Multiple Events

March 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

April 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

May 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

**Fri, 5. Mar.:** Lindburgh School talk

**Sat, 6. Mar.:** [River Battle](#) : We have had at least 15 battles at this site along the Missouri river and it is known as a good one day battle. This will be a general ETO battle. There are a lot of forest like areas, a creek, some ravines, and several abandoned buildings and old bridges to fight over. THIS BATTLE IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.

**Thu, 25. Mar.:** Board Meeting

**Sat, 27. Mar. - Sun, 28. Mar.:** Building 72 work day

**Sat, 10. Apr.:** Training

**Fri, 23. Apr. - Sun, 25. Apr.:** [WWII Weekend Jefferson Barracks](#) : WWII Weekend is the biggest WWII reenacting event in the St. Louis area and is held rain or shine. It is also one of the oldest WWII reenacting events having been held at historic Jefferson Barracks Park for over 25 years. It is hosted by the U.S. 2nd Ranger Infantry Battalion of St. Louis, Inc. a unit that is over 32 years old, to honor all those who have served in the US Armed Forces

**Thu, 20. May:** Board meeting

**Sat, 29. May:** Mike Lavin's Birthday, he's getting old!

**Sat, 29. May:** Neoga Ill tactical





---

## IN THE NEXT ISSUE

---

In our next issue look forward to learning about:

- Riverbattle December 2009 and March 2010 Action Reports
- Building 72 Progress
- Recruitment
- WWII Weekend 2010 Action Report
- Web Site Upgrades



---

## CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEWSLETTER

---

If you'd like to contribute to our newsletter please contact us via e-mail at [newsletter@2ndrangers.us](mailto:newsletter@2ndrangers.us). We're looking for things like the great article from our last newsletter about [M1 Garand Care and Feeding](#) (which is at our web site if you missed it). Articles about any reenactor related items: uniform upkeep, ration recreation, tent care, weapon care, appearance standards, etc.

We're looking for local event action reports, even if they're not Ranger events, great finds online or offline at known or new vendors and basically anything you'd like to know about!

But please keep in mind that if you use a web site, book, article, or anything else other than your mind as a reference, please note it in your footnotes so we are in compliance with copyright laws.

Expect our next newsletter around July 1!

