

AMCA June 2013 Show Synopsis

All - To begin we wish to sincerely thank our very special guests; Mr. Ed Harrell and Mr. Forrest Bruner for their support and participation in our 14th AMCA Military Collectors Show. We have great respect and admiration for those who serve our country, both past and present, and those who have given the ultimate sacrifice to preserve those freedoms we hold so dear....Thank You for your Service!

We also want to recognize Boy Scout Troop 361 and Scout Leader Mr. Michael Piggott who came to our rescue, arranging to have Scouts and Leaders their both days of the Show in the midst of many competing priorities and Scout commitments. Thank You Troop 361!!!

To everyone who had tables, thank you for abiding by our new policy on facility access and keeping the fire doors secured and adhering the restricted / prohibited items list.

The decision to switch to a Friday & Saturday Show was not without risk. We had tried this in 2008 and the results were less than stellar, giving us cause for reconsideration, we resumed our weekend planning approach for future Shows. This time we are delighted to report that we had record table sales and attendance, rivaling our Winter Shows and far surpassing any Summer Show thus far!!!! Frankly....Amazing. For the two-day Show our adult attendance was 878. Approximately 351 on Friday, much better than our typical Sunday gate and 527 on Saturday, which is above our average for a typical Summer Saturday. This does not include children under 12, Uniformed Service Personnel, Police, Fire, EMS or Re-enactor, but does include Members. Not Bad! It's all about YOU! Thanks...

The Pre-Registration process is catching on! We had 18 pre-register for January 2014 or 32% of those that had tables. Because we are confident that table sales will increase for the January Show, a couple activities are in-work, (1) development of a modified floor plan preserving our present methodology but increasing the pod-size and slightly reducing the aisle width. This should permit an estimated 180 Tables to be assembled and (2) Establishment of cut-off date for the receipt of Table Reservations and a Stand-By List. Given the volume of calls and request 2-3 weeks prior to the Show date makes it challenging to finalize table assignments, registration paperwork and to prepare of documentation we are required to be provided the City of Huntsville. Emails received and verbal commitments given must be followed up within 5 business days with a table reservation form with appropriate fees before table assignments will be made & confirmed. More to follow on this....

Membership renewals were up and although our processing of several forms was incomplete and may require individual contact with some members to correct & update the information for our database. Should be painless! Nineteen renewals were accepted during the Show. Two NEW Members joined our "LIFE-MEMBER" Fraternity... Spencer Victory of Chattanooga, TN and Doug Yates of Maylene, AL. Mike Kelso, originally Registered Member 82 upgrade his membership to Life Member status...All will receive their distinctive Life Membership Badges as soon as they are produced. Thank you for your confidence in the organization and your support.

Four Displays were judged...Third Place went to Mike Elrod for his US Navy & US Army WWI Uniforms; Second Place was awarded to David Rogers for his Japanese Military display and First Place went to Garnett Stancil for his German Pistols 1902 – 1938. A special Thanks to all who displayed. I know of at least one and possibly more displays expected for our January Show...I'll have one – How about You?

We did have a couple of operational situations, not realized on weekends, that occurred by having our Show on Friday and Saturday. As we now know the parking area on the North side of the building must remain clear, free of vehicles, as it is a workday for the city employees and as such trucks and other vehicles need that access. We will discuss with the city supervisor our proposal for temporary parking for off/on-loading purposes

and advise everyone of that outcome. We also ran-out of rest room supplies on Saturday. This situation occurred because the city contracted cleaning team who was to attend to the rest rooms and trash cans during normal Show hours, arrived after the building was secured and our Security, per AMCA direction, did not permit them access to the facility. Once brought to our attention the problem was corrected. Thanks for your patients. Finally, an internal city scheduling miscommunication occurred affecting the detailed facility attendant who was instructed to close the facility at 5PM. Our advertised and agreed to closing time was 6PM. Although a bit stressful on all those who remained, we were able to vacate the building on time!! Thank you for your cooperation. For the record, this is the first time in thirteen Shows that this has happened and we will strive to ensure it does not occur again. I apologize for any inconvenience it may have caused.

Tom