

AMCA Summer Show Synopsis

Tom Bruce

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To: amcahq@comcast.net

So...it was HOT, HOT, HOT in HSV! In fact it was the 19th day with temperatures well into the mid 90's, accompanied by our typical humidity.

First we want to acknowledge and thank our Special Guests CPT Bob Hamsley, Tank Commander in Patton's 3rd Army from Lawrenceburg, TN and LTC Fred Lindsey, last living commander of MACV-SOG CCS from Carmel, IN for their service & sacrifices may for a grateful Nation! Both enjoyed their stay with us and indicated a desire to return in January. Each did well in book sales, had numerous discussions with members & the public and made many new friends!

With all things being equal; our lagging economy & the oppressive temperatures may have affected the gate numbers. The table count was 150+ rivaling a normal Summer Show, even with the OVMS date overlay. We estimated a loss of approximately 30 tables to OVMS. We did have 6 NEW participants and 2 returning members! They are John Trout -Roswell GA, Ed Lawrence- Huntsville, AL, Dennis Turner- New Market, AL, Rick Moody- New Hope, AL, James Synnott- Houston, TX, Bob Hickman - Harvest, AL, and a Welcome back to Herb Laansoo- Athens, AL and Gene Farmer - Knoxville, TN.

The data from our Summer Show gate numbers recorded for 2012 & 2013 were 710 and 894. Our gate this time was ~692. Friday we estimated approximately 208 and Saturday 484. This is our first "dip" in the summer gate statistics since 2007. We will discuss in detail other factors that may have contributed to the lower gate numbers, however a single marginal occurrence should be considered an anomaly IMO, but certainly something we will watch.. We have moved our 2016 Summer Show to the second weekend in June, the 10th & 11th so it will not conflict with OVMS.

We had 12 Members from TMCA attend and hope they enjoyed their stay in HSV and our Show and return home with positive reports! We are looking forward to their invitation to join them in Cool Springs this Fall!

Membership grew by 3 Life Members and 6 Registered Members. Life Members included Kaz Kikuchi of Atlanta, GA., Joel Knight of Athens, AL., and Tyler Kuykendall of Oakman, AL. Our Registered Members are Randy Sanderson of Manchester, TN., Phillip Drane of Huntsville, AL., Bob Hickman of Harvest, AL., Steven Toth of Harvest, AL., Becky Caudill of Northpoint, AL., and Alex Genkin of Citrus Springs, FL. We want to Welcome each of you to AMCA and hope that your time spent will be worthwhile and enjoyable. Looking forward to seeing you in January!

Display Judging went like this: First Place to Rick Moody for his U.S. M-1917 Bayonets, Second Place was awarded to Trey Stencil for his Nambu Pistols and Third Place went to David Rogers for his Japanese Military display. Thanks to everyone that had a display. They are time consuming to prepare, transport and set-up, but are an integral part of the AMCA Mission, "Preserving Military History for Future Generation". We can only do that with your help! Please Display.

The 93.3 FM Nash-Icon (C&W) Remote Broadcast Unit with local radio personality John Wolf was a "Hit"..and having him on Friday probably helped with the attendance on Saturday. John gave away a number of movies, T-shirts and had a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate to "Chips & Salas" a local restaurant & sports bar! I didn't win...Did you? LMK!

We will now set our sights on January 2016! Mark your calendars and get your table reservations in as early as possible. November through early January is a busy time for all.

Thank all of you for coming. We will continue to assess, compare/exchange and discuss meaningful comments that serve to improve to quality of your AMCA experience.

Tom