

May 2, 2021

AMCA Spring Show Synopsis (April 23rd & 24th)

Rating ★★★★★

I have rated our Spring Show, as I did our Fall Show in September 2020, but for different reasons! If you recall we cancelled the Spring Show in 2020 due to the pandemic and for the first time used the old Grissom High School gymnasiums! This year due to the Jaycees Building being used as a COVID-19 vaccination center, we returned to Grissom for the second time.

Show prep was complicated by the decision of our mayor to require masks in all city facilities...another story for another time. So, we complied and gave you basically the same floorplan and mandated protocols as before. Everyone, including the public complied with only low grumbling sounds, but without incident.

Your support and that of the public was amazing, even with competing shows in Atlanta, and Marietta, Ga and closer to home in Scottsboro and Cullman, AL. Our gate was the best it has been in 3 Years, approximately 800+ over the day and a half! That is nearly twice the number of attendees we had in September 2020. We hope the commerce was equally as good!

What has changed? IMO it is the Location! Bailey Cove Rd is the 3rd heaviest travelled road in Huntsville and connects with Airport Rd / Memorial Parkway and sees lots of local, NASA & Redstone Arsenal Traffic daily. The addition to our New Sign on Bailey Cove, which went out on Thursday we believe makes the combination a winner!

One other Change! The remainder of the Sandra Moon Community Complex, e.g., the Gymnasiums will CLOSE in June for renovation. Currently, we have no information other than the closing date. More to follow.

We held an in-prompt-to board meeting Saturday morning and decided for our 30th Show in our 15-year history as a leading Militaria Collector event in Alabama, we would show our appreciation to you for your support over all these years by lowering our overall table rates for both members & non-members!

“ALL TABLE ARE \$30.00 EACH FOR THIS SPECIAL OCCASION”

All that said, we will be back in the Jaycee's Bldg. for our Fall Show on September 24th & 25th, 2021, Don't miss it

The AMCA website www.almilitarecollectors.org should be updated soon with a New Flyer and Reservation Form. A word to the wise...we expect an increase in table sales, if for no other reason than the price per table. Please make your reservations early. Don't find yourself on the "Waiting List".

Please Note: Email inquiries & Phone messages promising to attend, while showing good faith & intent will not garner you a reservation. You will be placed on the waiting list until your Table Reservation is received! Thank you for being understanding.

Once again, we had three organizations represented at the show, speaking with interested individuals, and providing them information and handouts. They were the Alabama Service Corps, headed by MAJ. Art Helms, the Sons of Union Veterans lead by Mr. Mark Hubbs and the Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table.

Our "Official" Special Guest was Dr. Elizabeth Taylor who joined us rather unexpectedly, in September 2020 and we felt it necessary to have her back for a return engagement. Dr. Tylor is a best-selling nonfiction author and has spent decades researching World War II, developing her passion to pursue writing, and research about Camp Forrest. She brought with her two (2) of her recent works on Camp Forest. Her forthcoming book "Camp Forrest and its Legacy" is due out in the Fall of 2022.

We drew for four (4) free table for the Fall Show. Two (2) drawings were made in each Hall. The winners were Dan Lee, Ron Travis, Randy Jones, and Richard Neely. Richard's second consecutive win. Congratulation to All!

We had six displays which were judged. The results were 1st Place and \$150.00 was captured by Garnett Stancil with his "German 1896-1918". 2nd Place and \$100.00 went to David Rogers for his amazing & unique "Medal of Honor/Uncommon Valor display and 3rd. Place and \$50.00 was secured by Clark Doherty for "Wired Comms". Congratulation to the winners and all who participated.

Our Membership added nine (9) New Members, which included three (4) LIFE members, Our Life Member are Mr. Herb Rosenbaum of Birmingham, AL, focusing on WWI, WWII & Korea. Special areas of interest include Edged Weapons, Medals & Ribbons, Pistols/Rifles and Ammunition. Mr. Mike Campbell of Pinson, AL who is interested in everything militaria. Mr. Van Hedger of Nashville, TN carving out WWI & WWII and his interests in Pistols & Rifles. Mr. Russ Lee of Murfreesboro, TN with an eye for WWI Aviation. Russ is an upgraded membership. Thank you for choosing AMCA!

Our other New Members included Mr. Tim Alexander of Seymour, TN who is interested in all things WWII. Mr. John Homa of Hixson, TN collecting memorabilia from the Viet Nam era, in particular patches, medals, and insignia. Mr. Cody Jones of Huntsville, AL with an interest in Eastern Block Militaria, in particular Uniforms, Headgear, Field Gear, Patches/Insignia, and Rifles. Mr. Rick Taylor of Lewisburg, TN with a liking toward all items of militaria. Mr. David Pratt of Mountain Brook, AL with an interest in WWI, WWII, and the Civil War. His collecting efforts include Edged Weapons, Rifles & Pistols. AMCA sincerely hopes that you find your time with us to be rewarding, making new friends, and sharing their knowledge with others with similar interests.

We want to also thank Sabine & Fred for sharing with us their fine German Cuisine served by Hildegard's German Wurst Wagon on Friday and the incredible combination served by Sydney, his wife & daughter manning the Dawg-O-Licious food truck. Both indicated that they received excellent support from the public & members of AMCA and our guests from TN.

In closing we were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Mr. Bob Jaques on Wednesday April 28th. His funeral was Saturday May 1st. Our prayers and condolences go out to Bob's family and all those grieving. Please keep them in your prayers.

Tom