

## Jacobsburg Bolton Historic Site WWII Weekend Jacobsburg, Pennsylvania

On 23-24 June 2019, AGFA participated in the Bolton Historic Site's WWII Weekend program. AGFA member John Uhler was the event organizer in direct support of the Bolton Historic Site (<http://www.jacobsburghistory.com/events/>). The members of AGFA who participated in the event were Donna Cusano, Paul Cusano, Anne Lutkenhouse, Jerry Still, Gary Weaver, John Uhler and Shawn Welch.

The educational objective was to provide an interpretation of the Coast Artillery and medical operations during World War II. The photo below shows the participating membership on Saturday, 22 June 2019. From left to right is TSG Weaver, CPT(Chaplain) Uhler (event organizer) and 2LT Still.



In the photo below, 2LT Still and TSG Weaver continue setup of the Coast Artillery display which included two EE-91 telephones and an M1910A1 Azimuth instrument.





The M1910A1 azimuth instrument got a lot of attention from the public. Below a young visitor experiences the sharpness of the optics as his father learns about Coast Artillery Fire control from 2LT Still.



TSG Weaver watches 2LT Still discuss fire control using a WWII era chart.





At 1100 in the morning a reenactment battle was staged for the public. Visitors gather along the protective rope fence in preparation for the battle.



Two young "GI' s" move towards the Germans in the reenactment battle.





The young visitor below watched the battle using the M1910A1 azimuth instrument.



A young “living historian” developed a “shoe shine” impression from the 1940s. Below 2LT Still receives a shine on his boots from the young historian.





At 1300 in the afternoon on Saturday, the Bolton Historic Site hosted a salute to Veterans program. The Nazareth Band provided music and the director was a Navy Vet!



Those of us who participated in the veterans recognition program were from left to right TSG Weaver (in Fort Hancock baseball uniform), LTC Welch (Colonel, USA, Retired), 2LT Still (Major General, USAF Retired), Pennsylvania State Senator Marsha Hahn and CPT(Chaplain) John Uhler.





There were many displays throughout the event. Below is a Soviet weapons display.



The gentleman attired as an Afrika Corps (German) soldier brought out a very substantial collection of small arms for display.





The display included two cases of very rare hand guns and flair pistols.



In addition were two tables with approximately fourteen rare WWII period rifles.





One enterprising group set up a Afrika Corps (German) encampment to include Arab tent and correct military equipment.



Below is the MG-42 machinegun station at the Afrika Corps encampment.





At the entrance to the encampment were many uniform, field equipment and weapons displays.



To the right of the entrance was a display that included the vast majority of all German land mines used in North Africa during WWII.





Next to our station John Dwyer (Colonel USA, Retired) provided a detailed display of WWII military medical equipment and his trusty medical jeep.



Below is a good look at John's displays.





The 30<sup>th</sup> Division MPs (reenacted) were critical to the conduct of the event. Below CPT(CH) Uhler speaks with one of the MP Sergeants who managed the event registration check in.



Even the event management registration table had a great display - in this case it was US Army combat shotguns.





A group of historians provided a very accurate encampment for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division in New Guinea along with an Australian Infantry unit.



At 1700 on Saturday all participants gathered for a group photograph.





The next morning at 0830, all the historians gathered for the flag raising ceremony.



Approximately 80 historians were in formation for the flag raising and paying respect to our Nation's colors.





Shortly after the flag raising, 2LT Cusano and 1LT Lutkenhouse began setup of their medical interpretation station.



15 minutes later, they were all set up and ready for the day's visitors!





At 1000 in the morning, LTC Welch worked with several of the historians to conduct the "weapons demonstration". Below, the Soviets provide demonstrations of their weapons.



After the Soviets, the Australians demonstrated their Enfield rifles.





At approximately 1245, the historians gathered for the battle reenactment. The German motorcycle with side car is moving into position below.



Below the historians get a quick briefing and confirm their actions during the scenario.

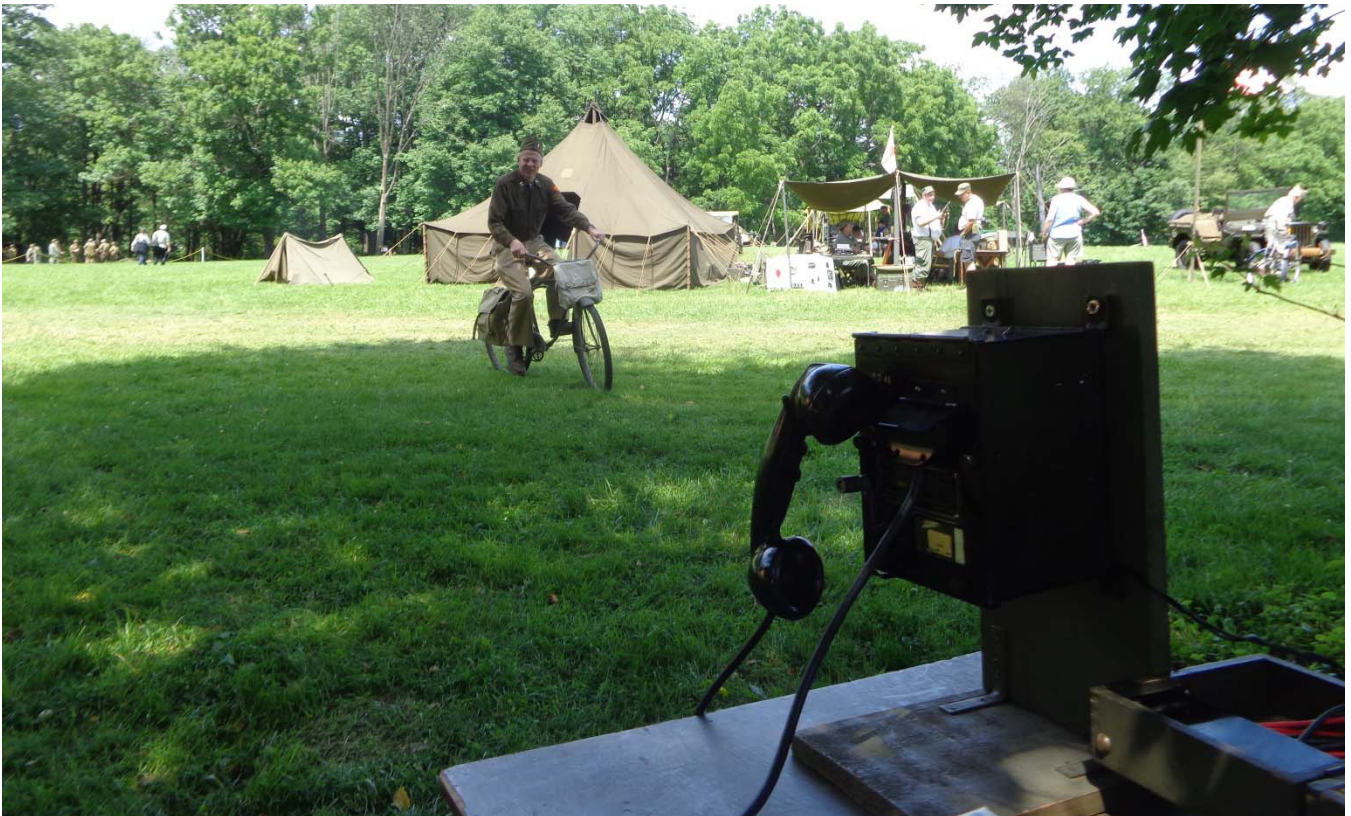




And then the historians all moved to their starting positions. The battle lasted about 15 minutes with another 15 minutes of question and answer with the public.



As the day continued, CPT(CH) Uhler checked on all the historians. Here we see him on his bicycle passing by the Coast Artillery display with a EE-91 fire control telephone to the right.





One of the most welcome parts of the event were all the vendors and community organizations that set up during the event for the public and historians.



In the photo below several large vendors are setting up as the historians descend upon them looking for this and that required item.



Jacobsburg WWII weekend is an outstanding event and we encourage you to attend in June 2020!