

The TMCA News

Volume 40, Issue I

March 2016

Editor: David Hoagey



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2016 Spring Summer Show

Where: Franklin Marriott Conference Center / Hotel Cool Springs
700 Cool Springs Blvd., Franklin, TN 37067 (I65 exit 68A)

When: Friday, **March 25th** - Dealer Set up & Members Only 8 am - 12pm
Public Admitted 12pm - 6 pm
Saturday, **March 26th**- 8 am - 3 pm

Admission: \$5. for Non-Members. **TMCA Members get in free - Wear badge**, Children under 12 free. Also admitted free, if in uniform: Members of US Military, Fire and Police, R.O.T.C. and military re-enactors.

What Will Be There: Uniforms, Medals, Insignia, Badges, Helmets, Weapons, Veterans, re-enactors. Buy-Sell-Trade-Display

Table Reservations '320' 6 FT. Tables ~ **Members only ~ Sale and Display Tables - \$45 each. SOLD OUT, call for waiting list**
Contact Ronnie Townes @ 615-661-9379 to reserve.

Room Reservations at Hotel: Call 615-261-6100 or 1-888-403-6772, and ask to receive the **TMCA discount rate of \$99**, plus tax (normal rate is \$209). **Deadline for this special rate is March 3, 2016**

Club News

Membership Dues Increase as of January 1, 2016

We hated to do it, but the cost of postage, badges, lanyards, printing, etc. all keeps going up. We have no choice but to make a small increase in our membership dues.

This is the first increase we have had in many years.

The Tennessee Military Collectors Association is still one of the cheapest clubs around. Since we are a non-profit organization, we try our best to simply cover our administrative cost with the dues. This is a hobby for most members and so we try our best to keep things affordable for everyone, particularly for the younger collectors who do not have disposable income.



1 Year was	\$15	-	new rate	\$20
5 Year was	\$50	-	new rate	\$75
LIFE was	\$150	-	new rate	\$200

1911 DWM Luger

Estimated Production 15,000

Story by Ronnie Townes



I have collected German Luger Pistols for many years and have tried to collect special dates that coincided with events in my life. My Father having been born in 1911, I had looked for a pistol that would fill that date and complement my collection. As fate would have it, I attended the Ohio Gun Collectors Spring Show in March 2011 and found a very nice 1911 Luger. It had all matching numbers and was a full rig that included the holster and extra magazine. The collector/dealer who had the rig for sale had just acquired it from an estate sale in his home town of Lima, Ohio. It was the estate of a man who was a life time Tavern owner in Lima. As the story goes, he had acquired the Luger during hard times back in the depression. A customer had used the Luger to settled his account with the Tavern owner. The customer, a veteran, had picked up the Luger during his service in the First World War. The Tavern owner must have liked the gun to have keep it so nice all these years.



I inspected the Luger and found that it is marked on the grip strap "RS2-256". The holster is marked inside the flap "F. BIERENBRIER KEHL VAN 1911" plus an ink mark "E.A.R.66".



The Medic (Sanitater) has turned toward the camera in this photograph to reveal that he is armed with a leather-holstered Luger.

This photograph is one of a set of three WWI photos taken at the same location in Strassburg, Germany or somewhere in German-occupied Belgium. The photographer's stamp on the back reads, "Photogr. Dober, Strassburg, Dornengasse 4." However, the person who sold me this photograph believes that a German photographer took the picture in Belgium and later developed it in his studio in Strassburg.

1911 DWM Luger

I contacted a good friend of mine, George Anderson, who is an expert and collector of WW1 Lugers. He has for years researched regimental markings. He was a major contributor for the "Central Powers Pistols" a reference book by Jan C. Still. This book is about the World War weapons of Germany



Austria-Hungary, Turkey and Bulgaria. George informed me that the Luger grip markings indicated the weapon was marked "Reserve-Sanitäets-Kompanie 2 Waffe #256 or Reserve Ambulance Company 2 Weapon #256.

The holster marking were from the Company F. Bierenbrier in the town of Kehl am Rhien River across the Rhine river from Strassburg

in France. The ink marking designated the holster to the 66th Field Artillery Unit in the State of Baden. This Medic Unit was assigned to the artillery unit designated on the holster. George stated that the serial number of the gun was in a cluster of about 20 DWM Lugers that had been issued to the Medic Units.



I did a little more study after I had purchased the gun and found that the 66th Artillery Regiment was a part of the 7th Army. This unit took part in the left side movement during the Schlieffen Plan. The unit fought on the Western Front stationed near Lorraine, France until 1918. In 1918 the 66th Artillery Regiment was transferred to the 19th Army and participated in the Ludendorff Spring Offensive. At the end of the war, the unit took part in the Battle of the Argonne Forrest.

**Is this
where the
Luger was
captured by
an
American
Soldier?**

**We will
never know!**



No Movie Star – But Does Deserve Credit

By: Terry Palmer

One of the most overlooked (perhaps THE most) area of military collecting is the POCKET KNIFE. I suppose it does not have the allure and romance as does the Fighting Knife, but never the less was just as important as the fixed blade for a variety of reasons.

Most were multi-tasking tools. Opening cans, cutting wire, driving a screw and opening bottles were only some of the tasks made easy by the soldier's trusty pocket knife.

Those of us that grew up on the farm (not many of us left now), remember well that one of our most prized possessions was a pocket knife and I suppose this is one factor that leads some of us to collecting the military variety. Some knives are easier to find such as the TL 29 but even sub categories of this knife can be a bit challenging to locate.

If you have tried to find a Mountain Knife (the one issued to the First Special Service), you know that one of these in really great condition isn't so easy to find. Or how about the famous M2 snap blade of paratrooper fame. Even finding one can be an arduous task, let alone locating the hawk bill version.

During the First World War there was a two bladed pocket knife that even included a file blade for personal nail

grooming. This is said to have been issued to all the military. There were at least two versions of the US Signal Corps pocket knife and at least one specific for the Navy's needs.

Sometime between WW1 and WW2, the Army decided a "Scout" knife was needed. Millions of these were produced during the war for the Army. The Navy, Air Corp, Post Exchanges and Ship Stores had their own versions as well. In about 1944, this knife received a makeover using metal scales instead of bone, and had a different blade arrangement.

Space will not permit us to mention but only a small bit of the vast array of possibilities for the Military Pocket knife collector. There are a few books that discuss the subject. I hope you will be inclined to explore this avenue, if you haven't already.

A Collector could spend a life time learning about and arranging a collection of US Military folding knives... and if you were to include pocket knives of the World's military, the goal would be nebulous.

The UNITED STATES MILITARY...to use the words of a once famous Philosopher "LONG LIVE HER FAME AND LONG LIVE HER GLORY AND LONG MAY HER STORY BE TOLD".

Happy collecting!



Top Row – Left to Right

WWII TL29 - WWII USMC Utility (late war) - WWI Red Cross

Bottom Row – Left to Right

WWI Signal Corps - WWI Knife for all Military - WWII Early War Utility Knife

Identified Luftwaffe Pilot's Badge

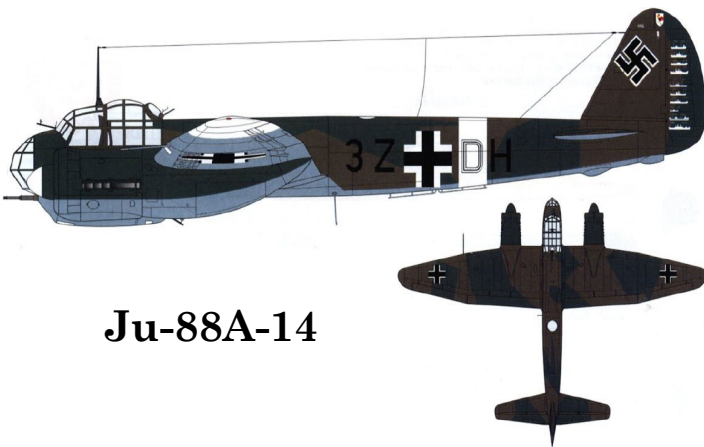
About twenty years ago, I took my wife to Crossville, TN to shop. Knowing she would take her time looking, I let her out at the shopping mall and I went across the interstate to check out an antique mall. Going past a couple of booths, I spotted a Luftwaffe Pilot's badge pinned to a piece of red felt along with it was an animated sterling pin. Having doubts about its authenticity, I asked to look at it anyway. Everything seemed correct, correct pin, C.E. Junkers marked and engraved to the pilot. I purchased the badge, took it home where it was housed in a desk drawer.

Several years later, while attending a Military Show in Alabama, I met a gentleman and told him the story about finding the badge. He wrote down the pilot's name. Knowing that Ft. Crossville was a German prisoner of war camp, I speculated that it may have come from there.

Several more years passed. One Friday night, I came home late to find a message on my answering machine. It was the gentleman I had met in Alabama. He had found information on the Luftwaffe Pilot. It was late, so I waited until Saturday morning to return his call.

All the following information can be found on the Kracker Luftwaffe Archive Sight.

<http://www.aircrewremembered.com/homepage.html>



Ju-88A-14

The Luftwaffe Pilot badge was engraved "Siegfried Hossfeld 1941" Feldwebel Siegfried Hossfeld flew a Ju-88A-14, (an improved version of the Ju-88A-4 with more armor for the crew, Kuto-Nase balloon cable cutters, 20mm forward firing Cannon in a ventral gondola, bomb site removed and (5) 7.92 MG 81 MG's) werk #144447 aircraft marking 3E+CL assigned to 3/GK-6. #E+CL was reported MIA with crew on 17 July 1943. Cause unknown, location not reported. Loss may have occurred near Mitiletto or Neapel where other 3/KG-6 losses occurred while bombing and torpedoing shipping lanes within the same week.

3/KG-6 (known as a "Fire Brigade" unit), moving from front to front, was based at Foggia Italy from 15.6.43 to 8.43 to attack Allied shipping in the area. Since no wreckage of 3E+CL was found on land, it's assumed the aircraft went down in the Sea.. Fw Siegfried Hossfeld, Pilot, Ogfr Wesely, Walter, Bombardier, Uffz, Rudolph, Radio Operator/Air Gunner, Ogfr Thorsch, Flight Engineer/Air Gunner.

All credit and my sincere thanks, goes to Kracker Luftwaffe Archives for identifying this missing pilot and Matti Salonen, of Tempere, Finland for identifying the crew.

Gene T. Farmer
TMCA Member



Display Award Winners

Fall 2015



1st Place

Terry & Foster Palmer
U.S. Military Pocket Knives



2nd Place

John & Nikki Walsh
Civil War Artillery from the Battle of Fort Donelson



3rd Place


Garnett Stancil
U.S. Edged Weapons 1855-1955




Member of the Year
Jon Jaques



Dealer of the Year
Jerry May



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Kenneth Martin Sawyer

We are once again saddened by the loss of another fine TMCA club member.

Long time militaria collector and TMCA Life Member Ken Sawyer passed away unexpectedly, at his home on December 26, 2015. Ken was an avid hobbyist who faithfully attended most of the major collector shows for many years. He was a veteran of both the U.S. Navy and Army. Ken's other interests included British mysteries (Sherlock Holmes and Agatha Christie) and the entertainment industry where he had worked for many years prior to his retirement. He will be missed!

CLASSIFIED ADS

Ad's are **FREE** for all TMCA members – email: dhoagey@comcast.net

For sale

- ◆ Enfield Tower musket bayonet w/scabbard - **\$275**
- ◆ Ames 1840 Artillery Sabre dated 1862 marked Conn on ricasso. Ames filled a state contract with these - **\$795**
- ◆ Dug U.S. belt and box plates, **\$275-325** (most are maker marked).
- ◆ U.S. 1861 Springfield bayonet, no scabbard - **\$150**

Bruce Hohler 615-585-0115

For Sale

Original 8" x 10" color and black and white space photographs for \$2 each or 6/\$10. Your choice. Will be at next TMCA Show.

Bob Jaques

For Sale:

US M1 Carbine Cal. 30 IBM receiver and IBM barrel dated 12-43. \$xx.xxx. - *SOLD, pending payment* -

US M1 Carbine Cal. 30 Saginaw receiver, Underwood barrel dated 6-43. **\$1,099.**

US 1903 Springfield S/N 7351xx, barrel date 7-42. **\$899.**

Remington 1903 S/N 32057xx, RA barrel date 7-42, Muzzle reading 0+, Throat reading 0+, Rifle grade Rem S CMP gun with hang tag and Cert. **\$950.**

Springfield M1 Garand S/N 1449696xx. **\$975.**

Springfield M1 Garand S/N 19677xx, Cal.7.62 NATO, Glass bedded barrel. **\$1,199.**

M1 Garand S/N 32305xx. **\$1,199.**

M1 rifle leather scabbard, Milwaukee Saddlery Co. 1942, Good condition, missing straps. **\$275.**

Mosin-Nagant M91/30 rifles priced from. **\$199-\$299.**

M1903 8mm Turkish Mausers **\$199 - \$299.**

William Price, TMCA Life Member.

Buying: Colt Pistols/Boxes -Confederate Images – Tennessee Historical Items- Art Deco - Photos & Bronzes—German Hunting Association Items

**Ronnie & Emily Townes
P.O. BOX 41772
Nashville, TN 37204**

(615) 300-8120 rtownes@comcast.net



Culver's Military Antiques

<http://www.culversmilitaryantiques.com/>

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Contact: Emily Townes
estownes@Comcast.net

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EST. 1836



TENNESSEE MILITARY COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

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www.tmcaonline.org**

President: Jimmy Howell
Vice President: Rick Moody
Secretary: Emily Townes
Treasurer: David Hoagey
Sgt. at Arms: Ricky Taylor
Show Director: Ronnie Townes

*It's showtime again !!!
March 25-26th*



TMCA TURNS 40 THIS YEAR ! Founded 1976

Announcing the
SUMMER SHOW

TENNESSEE MILITARY COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

300 8 Foot Tables \$10.00/weekend

<p>Sat June 11 8 A.M. - 5 P.M.</p> <p>Sun June 12 9 A.M. - 4 P.M.</p> <p>Agriculture Building</p> <p>Tenn. State Fairgrounds Nashville, Tenn. (I-65 take Wedgewood Exit)</p> <p>Prepaid Reservations Only</p> <p>Call Barry Brown (615) 292-8956 Bob Lee (615) 790-1420</p>		<p>Militaria Only All Nations All Periods Numerous Motels</p> <p>Free Parking</p> <p>Food on Premises Armed Guards 24 Hours Air Conditioned Building Admission \$1.00</p> <p>For Further Information write: TMCA Box 40875 Nashville, Tenn. 37204</p>
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Founded in 1976, the TMCA's first show was the summer of 1977.

Located at the TN State Fairgrounds.

Admission was just \$1.00.

Tables were \$10 each.

Gas was .59 cents a gallon.

Average new car was \$4,100

Average medium income was \$12,686.

95% all matching Luger was \$225-250.

A2 jackets with patches were \$100-200.

WW2 veterans were 51-56 years old.

WW1 veterans were 76-82 years old.

Span Am veterans were still alive and pushing 95-100 years old.

Many Vietnam veterans were still on active duty in 1976 and still in their 20's.

Original flyer from the first TMCA Show. Summer 1977