

My name is Rheinhardt. For my young age I am a reenacting veteran, having been reenacting WWII for two years and Civil War for seven.

Like many of us reenactors I have had a long love of history in general and military history in particular. Ironically, I first became really interested in history when I was nine years old after watching my first Civil War reenactment as a spectator. Since then my passion for the subject has grown through reading many books, watching shows and movies, playing army, and engaging in all sorts of strategic boardgames and video games.

Finally, in 2002 I took my interest to a new level. While searching for something online I found information about a Civil War reenacting unit based in Indianapolis. I had been going to reenactments for years as a spectator and had always wanted to participate in one. I sent an email, was invited to come try out an event, and began a hobby that I would quickly come to love.

After reenacting Civil War for several years I began to have an ever growing interest in reenacting WWII. For a couple years I went to some events as a spectator and talked to many WWII reenactors before deciding to officially join a unit in 2007.

I searched online for a quality unit, Axis or Allied, that went to events around my area. One of the first sites I went to was this one about Wiking. I was immediately intrigued but continued looking for many more days before I realized that this unit seemed to have something special. Though I had never wanted to reenact the Waffen SS, this unit seemed to have the structure, authenticity, and comradeship that many other units, Axis and Allied, were lacking. I emailed a couple unit members to get more information and within a few weeks, I had officially joined up.

Reenacting WWII with Wiking has been a fantastic experience. Having reenacted Civil War for years and interacted with many units in both timeframes, I can safely say that Wiking is among the very best reenacting units of any period out there. The unit members are great guys and very helpful. We all love to have a great time but know how to work hard as well. Wiking has a great reputation among friends and foes and has the members, equipment, and leadership necessary to give anyone a top notch experience in the great hobby of reenacting.