

# ON THE WIRE

NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT WAR ASSOCIATION

Fall 2004



## GWA Fall Event Schedule

November 5–7, 2004

### Friday, November 5

- 12 noon–6pm** Registration shed open
- 5pm** Modern vehicles must be moved from the battlefield (which includes roads, rear areas, camps, and all GWA property beyond the gate at the registration shed) before 5pm and parked in one of the parking lots.
- 5:30pm** Central Powers Commanders meeting at the 8. Kürassier lager
- 6:30pm** Safety meeting on road between trenches
- 6:45pm** Units deploy to trenches. Combat begins immediately.
- 10pm** Formation for second combat scenario on road between trenches
- 10:10pm** Units redeploy. Second combat scenario begins
- 12 midnight** Stand down from combat

### Saturday, November 6

- 8am–8:55am** Registration shed open
- 9am** Safety meeting formation for all units
- 10am** Combat begins
- 10pm** Stand down from combat

### Sunday, November 7

- 7am** Gate at registration shed opened. Modern vehicles may access roads to battlefield.
- 7am–8:30am** Battlefield cleanup
- 8:30am** Executive Committee meeting at the 8. Kürassier lager

## From the GWA President

Dear Members,

Following is a report to the membership on our activities.

### Site Issues:

- The G-8 voted that any site rental would not include automatic approval for bunker use. This is to be negotiated between anyone wishing to use the site and individual units. Each unit can set their own rate.
- A reminder that we have asked that Steve Wiser be provided a copy of a key or combination to the lock on your bunker. This is for emergencies only. If you have not provided this, please bring it to the fall event and give it to him.
- A well is being put in on the Central Powers side. Last year, we put a well in on the Allied side. This project should be completed by the fall event.
- If you are at the site on a work weekend, please make sure the gate is closed when you leave. We have had members leave the site without closing the gate. This is not a good thing.
- If you have not looked at the newest version of our site regulations, please do so. The site committee put in some long hours to revise them. (See pages 4-6. –Editor)
- I have asked our site committee to propose a prioritized list of site projects for the coming year. This list will be

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submitted to the G-8 at the fall meeting and funding will be allocated for as many projects as financially possible. The recommendations made by the site committee will help give us some long-term and short-term goals for development.

- The G-8 has also affirmed that it is a unit's responsibility to maintain their assigned position in the trench line. This means construction, maintenance and repair. If a unit fails to care for their trench section, it could result in reassignment and losing that section of trench. This may seem a bit tough, however, we have to deal with the issue of continuing to re-dig sections of trench that have filled in because of neglect. This takes money away from other site projects.
- We continue to deal with the noxious weed. We have a barrel of weed killer that can be used to spray your area; particularly around the barbed wire areas where we can't brush hog. Then chemical spray is available from Steve Wiser.

## Safety/Pyro Issues:

- The pyro regs have not changed. We will still continue under our existing policy. We have been trying to deal with a company to provide manufactured squibs for our pyro, but the outlook isn't good. Therefore, we will work under our existing regs.
- I have asked Jim Kidd to form a safety committee to review our safety regs and make any recommendations for changes. The safety committee will look at site and combat issues. There has been some concern about collapsing earthworks, trenches and bunker construction. The site committee addressed these issues in our revised site regs.
- Concern for safety of our members has led the G-8 to ban vehicles driving on the property on Saturday night after the event. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause anyone, but we have had some near misses between vehicles and pedestrians. Therefore, for the safety of our members, vehicles will not be allowed on the battlefield until the morning. We will need everyone's help on this. I'm sure that no one would want to see one of our members injured by another. Let's use some good sense.

## Event Registration:

- We are trying something new with our event registration. We are using PayPal online payment for event registration. We felt that this might be easier for the members as an alternative.
- Thanks to all of you who have volunteered to help with registration. We really appreciate the help that units and individuals provide. It is important and with everyone pitching in, it helps lessen the burden. Also, thanks to Bruce and the guys from the Leib Regt. for helping for a number of years to man the gate and help with registration. Can't say enough good things about 'em.

## Administration:

- It has been suggested, and I have agreed, that we will set a 30-day blackout period prior to our events for site rental to allow our units to work at the site without distraction.
- Our thanks to Max of JR459 for working on our Web site. If you haven't visited the site, please do. We have received some compliments and new members as a result of it. In fact, several reporters from the media who have gone to the site and were impressed by it have contacted me. Max has done a great job.
- We had hoped to have a major pyro demonstration at the fall event, but unfortunately, the member organizing this is on location doing pyro for a movie. I hope that we may be able to include this at the spring event. This included ground charges with debris and other "cool" stuff.
- We need a committee to step forward to help with the summer event. This past summer was small, but fun. We had about 50 visitors to the site. However, we need to begin to get it organized and publicized. Please let me know if you are interested in taking this on.
- We will have a vote at the fall event as to whether or not we should seek nonprofit status. We feel that this would be beneficial to the organization and provide many benefits to the organization and our members. We have spent a great deal of time looking at the issue and have not found any real "down" side. This is a major decision for our organization and requires your vote to make it happen. Ballots will be available at the registration shed.
- I want to urge anyone that has a concern or issue about what we are doing, or not doing, please contact me. Sometimes assumptions are made and they are wrong. We are all working for the same thing—a great site for our hobby. I appreciate those of you who have contacted me with some great suggestions and ideas. I also understand

## COMING EVENTS

*at the Caesar Krauss Great War  
Memorial Site near Newville, PA*

**Nov. 5 - 7, 2004**

GWA Fall Tactical and Living History event

**— 2005 —**

**April 15-17, 2005**

GWA Spring Tactical and Living History event

**June 17-19, 2005**

GWA Summer Open House — Great War  
Time-Line Living History and Skirmish weekend

**November 4-6, 2005**

GWA Fall Tactical and Living History event



that from time to time some may become frustrated. But know, I am always open for suggestions or discussion. This is how we can build a better organization.

- We have a great group of G-8 members who want to get things done. To help facilitate this process iwe have identified the following areas of responsibility: to deal with combat/tactical/scenario issues or suggestions, contact your appropriate Combat Commander (Mike LoCicero—Allied; Lou Brown—Central Powers). For unit/organizational/site issues or suggestions, contact your appropriate Representative (David Hughes—Allied; Merlin Hanson—CP). For safety concerns/issues/suggestions, contact Jim Kidd, GWA VP. For any financial questions or concerns, contact, Randall Chapman. I will also respond to any of your concerns or issues. I ask that if you have a concern or issue that is not being addressed, please do the courtesy of contacting the appropriate G-8 member, before blasting away on the lists. Let's fix problems, not cause more.
- Unit Commanders, please make sure that we have accurate contact information for you on file. If you have changed unit commanders, please notify Randall Chapman. We need this information to keep you updated on information between events. You are an important link in our communication chain.

*Rob Zienta*  
GWA President

## GWA Executive Committee

### 2004–2005 term

#### President

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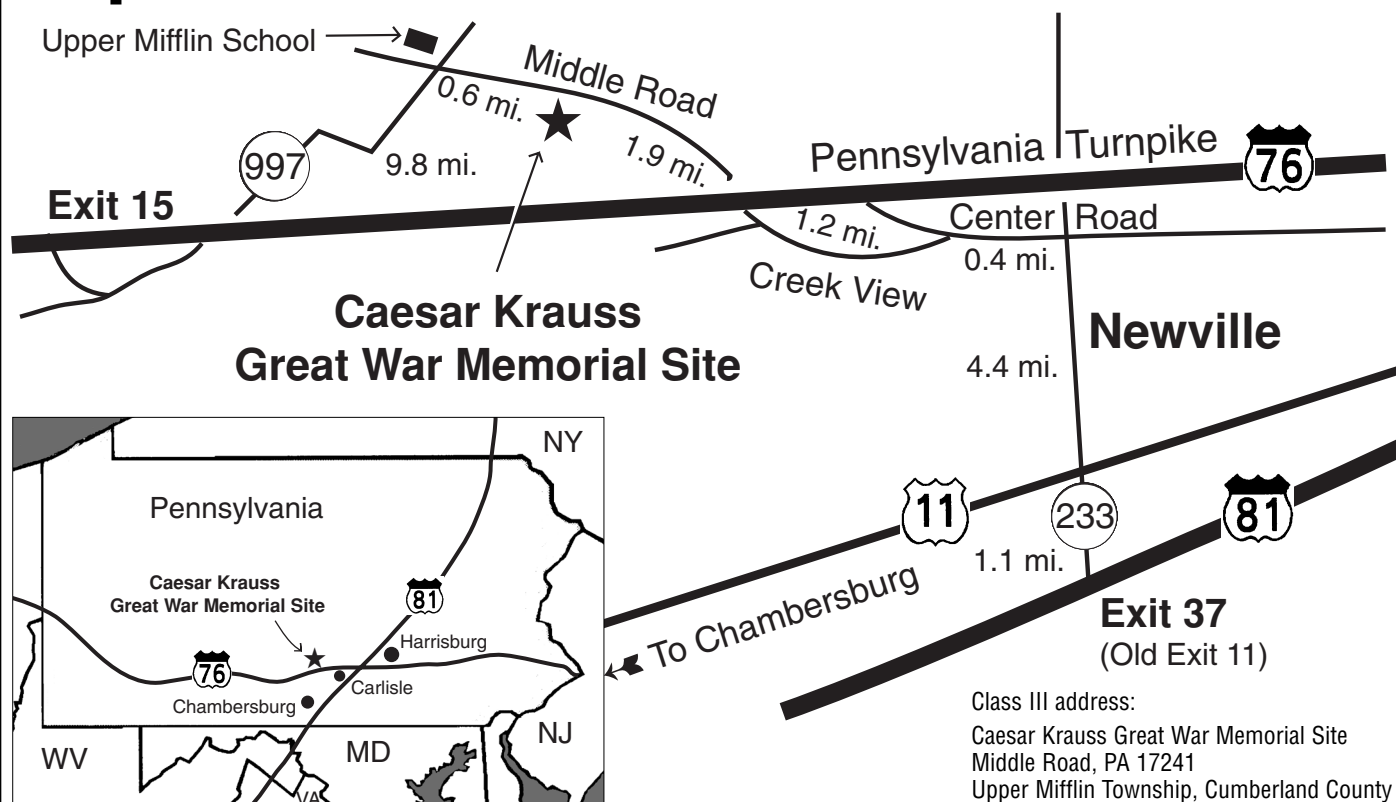
#### Central Powers Combat Commander

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#### Central Powers Representative

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## Map to Event Site





# GWA Battlefield Site Regulations and Guidelines

Approved 18 February, 1997. Revised 22 March 2004

## Objective

The objective of this document is to provide a means of managing the GWA replica battlefield and to maintain a safe and historically accurate battlefield as a memorial to those millions who fought and gave their lives in the Great War. Its objective is also to ensure a safe and accurate battlefield replica is developed to encourage a fuller understanding of WWI combat for GWA re-enactors as well as to foster a pride in our hobby.

## Purpose

The purpose of this document is to define the makeup of the site committee, its basic procedures, its powers, and duties. Also to layout and inform membership of basic site development regulations, approval procedures, and enforcement guidelines necessary to meet the above objective.

## Implementation

All units or individuals are required to obtain approval for construction from the Central Powers or Allied Trench Master. This includes: new trenches, trench revetting, new bunkers, or bunker additions. In the absence of the Trench Master, an Assistant Trench Master or Representative may grant approval. The approval process will be guided by the basic regulations, guidelines and procedures contained herein.

## I. Site Committee

### A. Structure and Procedural Functions

1. The site committee is a standing committee of the GWA. Its responsibilities include regulating the authenticity of all GWA construction as prescribed in section 33 of the Bylaws of the Great War Association. It is also charged with making recommendations for the development and maintenance of the Caesar Krauss Great War Memorial Site to the President and Administrative Committee.
2. The Committee shall work with the President and Administrative Committee to design and layout an authentic recreation of a typical section of the Western Front, to develop construction guidelines of this battlefield and to make recommendations for the oversight and management for the site's continuing improvement and upkeep.
3. The Site Committee shall consist of the Central Powers and Allied Representative as Co-Chairmen, the Central Powers and Allied Combat Commanders, The Trench Masters, and other members either voluntary, or may be appointed by the President or Chairmen of the Site Committee.
4. The Site Committee as a body will vote on changes to the Site Regulations as needed in a special meeting called by the two Co-chairmen. Each member of the Site Committee holds one vote. The changes will be forwarded to the President and Administrative Committee for approval.
5. The Site Committees will meet semi-annually, or on an as needed basis as determined by the Co-chairman or GWA President, to review and revise the Site, Site Maps, and periodically review and update these regulations.
6. All references to Trench Master will also mean an Assistant Trench Master who will work with the Trench Master or in his place if the former is not available for any reason.

7. The Trench Master will make day-to-day decisions, such as application approval, and enforcement the Site Regulations contained herein.

### B. Duties of the Committee

1. Make every effort through research and analysis to create and maintain a realistic replica of a Western Front battlefield and field works through regulation, management, and enforcement.
2. Direct the amount and layout of any trenches dug in the battlefield tactical area of the Caesar Krauss Great War Memorial Site, and to advise the leadership of the GWA concerning any maintenance or needed improvements to the site.
3. Coordinate planning and construction activities.
4. Discuss and resolve problems and issues concerning disputes that may arise through enforcement of this policy by the respective Trench Masters.
5. The Site Committee is responsible for developing a set of sample building and revetment guidelines that reflect wartime styles. The Trench Master may provide historical plans or guides to period construction techniques. These documents should be available upon the request of units planning a site improvement project.

## II. Site Regulations

### A. General Site Regulations

1. Trench and bunker locations will conform to practices on the Western Front as established through documents such as trench maps, tactical documents and field manuals of the period.
2. All materials used in trench and bunker construction must be similar at least in outward appearance to materials used during the Great War. All markings or modern letters/symbols must be covered over or hidden from view. Any plywood or other materials not used in the Great War must be covered over by facing boards, sandbags, earth etc.
3. "Skids" or "pallets" may not be used as duckboards or revetting unless they are altered to have uniform spacing of boards and they no longer resemble skids.
4. Wire may only be of barbed configuration. Pigtails and "Knife Rests" will be of authentic design, construction methods, and materials.
5. All roofed trenches and structures must be strong enough to support the weight of a large man (approximately 200 lbs).
6. Temporary cover or roofing may only consist of period looking canvas.
7. Removal of trees will require the permission of the respective Trench Master or Co-Chairman, but brush may be removed without prior approval.
8. Additions and/or changes to roads, saps, shell-holes, and mine craters in no-man's-land must be jointly agreed upon by the Trench Masters, Representatives, and Combat Commanders of both sides.
9. Stone foundations may be reproduced, with the approval of the site committee. Building stones must be brought onto the site. The existing barn foundation may not be disturbed or pillaged for materials.



10. Cinder block will not be used for any exterior exposed construction.
11. The existing farmhouse must be maintained by its assigned users to be structurally safe, as well as to appear battle worn and rustic. Plans for any physical changes to the farmhouse must be approved by the Site Committee.
12. Any structure in the rear area of either line that will be visible to the enemy's trenches must be approved by the Site Committee (e.g. observation tower).
13. Construction and engineering standards of the time always used timbers and materials that were twice as strong as the minimum required for their purpose. All construction should be planned with this thought in mind.

## B. Trenches

1. In addition to General Site Regulations in section II.A, the follow guidelines must be observed for trenches and revetments.
2. Individual units will be assigned specific sectors of front trench line, in which they will be expected to maintain and/or revet these sections. The trench masters will supervise this construction for historical accuracy and strength.
3. All trenches will be constructed with a minimum depth of 6 feet (before top edge sand bagging). In those areas where digging to 6 feet cannot be achieved due to rocky soil content, where practical, the front lip of the trench will be built up to the required depth using sand bags. Fill dirt or shale will then be placed in front of the sand bag parapet so as to present no visible target to enemy gunners.
4. The width of trenches should have a minimum passageway distance of 3.5 feet at knee level (approximately 20 inches or the height of the firing step.) Trenches should not exceed 5 feet in width at this level.
5. Sand bags placed in visible locations should be made of (undyed) burlap or authentic material that can be documented. Authentic looking substitutes such as U.S. milspec burlap bags, which come in a leaf green color and quickly fade to a raw burlap, are acceptable.
6. There is a maximum limitation of 3 visible sandbags above the lip of the trench.
7. Revetting will be constructed with bracing or wire anchoring systems to prevent their walls from caving in. Fire steps will also be provided in all frontline trenches.
8. Every unit is to provide at least one trench ladder for each trench bay or 15 feet of assigned trench.

## C. General Bunker and Structure Guidelines

1. In addition to General Site Regulations in section II.A, the following guidelines must be observed for Bunkers and Other Structures.
2. Only Living/Shell Proof and Funk Holes will be built within the trench system. In rear areas other less survivable structures can be built based on documentable designs as long as they meet these General Guidelines.
3. All structures must be buried with earth on at least 3 sides unless an exception is granted by the appropriate Trench Master.
4. The frames of all structures must be designed so that they are reinforced in every direction with butted or lapped braces of

sufficient strength to resist the pressure of back-fill and constructed to support the weight of several men on top. (For additional guidelines, see sample building and revetment plans available from your respective trench master.)

5. All structures will be waterproofed and will provide adequate drainage. Modern drainpipes under the structure are highly recommended.
6. All buried structures will have venting at the far end of the bunker from the door to provide air circulation. A minimum of one 6-inch pipe for every 200 square feet of floor space is required.
7. Fireproof materials such as corrugated tin should be placed between stoves and any wooden walls or beams. All stove piping will be of double wall flue type where the pipe passes through walls or ceilings. Stovepipes should not exit into the trench system.
8. Since most "Treated Lumber" is treated with chemicals that are carcinogenic, it cannot be used for living structures unless the manufacture certifies it to be safe for the health of habitants of the structure.

## D. Living/Shell Proof type structures:

1. In addition to the above General Bunkers & Structures Guidelines, Living/shell proof bunkers will be situated and constructed so that there will be at least one foot of earth back-fill or earth filled sandbags covering the structure's roof. In addition, the entire bunker with covering will not project above the surface of the surrounding terrain.
2. All living/shell proof bunkers will be so constructed as to provide the appearance of shell proof cover of at least three feet total of earth, and/or sandbags, and heavy timbers.

## E. Funk Holes:

1. In addition to General Site Regulations in section II.A, the follow guidelines must be observed for Funk Holes.
2. Funk holes are small crude living structures in the trench lines. Funk holes shall not exceed 6 feet in width or depth and a maximum ceiling height of 5'5"
3. The entrance typically has a large canvas cover, as opposed to a wooden door, and the open end may not face the enemy.

## F. Machine Gun Emplacements:

1. In addition to General Site Regulations in section II.A, the follow guidelines must be observed for machine gun emplacements.
2. All machine gun emplacements (or nests) in the front line are to be constructed so as to blend in with the surroundings
3. A machine gun emplacement (not a bunker) should not protrude above the trench line or if not part of the trench line should not be easily identifiable from the opposing enemy side.

## G. Machinegun Fighting Bunkers:

1. In addition to General Site Regulations in section II.A, the follow guidelines must be observed for machinegun fighting bunkers.
2. A machinegun fighting bunker is defined as any permanent structure from which a machine gun can be fired through an embrasure with front, side and overhead protection for the entire crew.



3. Machinegun fighting bunkers, as opposed to cave shell/proof bunkers for MG personnel, due to authenticity reasons will be limited in number and carefully sited to serve both survival and tactical needs.
  - a. **Allied Trenches:** Machine gun fighting bunkers will only be constructed in the second line of the trench system.
  - b. **Central Powers:** A limited number of machine gun fighting bunkers may be located in the frontline. Authentic locations and numbers of location should be determined by the Combat Commander and approved by the Trench Master of that side.
4. Embrasure openings for machine guns and other small arms weapons will not be more than 12 inches from top to bottom and should conform to methods of concealment and protection used in the Great War. (For more details see sample building and revetment plans available from your respective trench master.)
5. Machine gun fighting bunkers will not protrude more than four feet above the surrounding terrain and will, within this total, provide the appearance of at least three feet of earth and sandbags and/or timbers for shell protection on top (i.e., maximum one foot embrasure + three feet of shell protection = 4 feet total height). The walls including the embrasure will also give the appearance of at least three feet of shell proofing.

#### H. Entrenched Artillery Positions:

1. In addition to General Site Regulations in section II.A, the follow guidelines must be observed for Entrenched Artillery Positions.
2. The Combat Commander will determine the location of entrenched artillery positions.
3. Revetments to the position need to be approved by the trench master.

### III. Approval for Bunker or Trench Construction by Units.

1. All GWA units or individuals are required to obtain prior approval for any modifications or additions to the battlefield tactical area from their respective Trench Master. This includes new trenches, revetting, new bunkers, and bunker additions. The approval process will be governed by the regulations, guidelines and procedures contained herein.
2. Units will submit their plans to the appropriate Trench Master by US mail, other carrier, or e-mail if available. An Application for Trench System Change form should be attached to drawings which clearly show proposed location, construction methods, and materials which complies with the rules laid down in Section II of this document.
3. The Trench Master will make his determination and recommendations first and foremost based on the Site Regulations in Section II of this document, and secondly, by the Guides for Accurate Trench Works contained in the site plan. The unit leader should keep a copy of the approved plans on hand. The Trench Master will keep a file copy of the completed form for GWA records.
4. The Trench Master has the power and authority to approve or disapprove applications. All disapproved applications will be immediately returned to the person submitting it with a request to seek additional information and/or recommendations for changes to the application. Approved applications

will be file copied and immediately returned to the person submitting it. (Expected turnaround for U.S. mail is 2-4 weeks, while turn around for e-mail will be less)

5. For best results, start plans early.

### IV. Regulation Enforcement and Appeals

1. If the construction does not comply with that which has been approved, it will either be changed to conform to authenticity standards or removed and filled in. The unit will be given a reasonable amount of time to make the necessary corrections. (6 months or to the next Event for small changes, and 1 year for major changes) If not altered or removed by the unit in this time period, it will become the property of GWA and disposed of as determined by the President and appropriate Co-Chair of the Site Committee.
2. Applications for Trench System Change are only valid for one year from date of approval. Extensions must be requested on an Application for Trench System Change form before the date of validity expires. After the expiration date a new form with attached drawings must be resubmitted for approval using the procedure in section III.
3. The Trench Master (or his designate) will perform a safety inspection for structural damage of all bunkers and trench lines, prior to, or at each event. Structures found to have major structural damage must be condemned and that structure may not be used for any purpose until repairs are made and passing a re-inspection. Structures found to have minor structural damage must be repaired by the following event. (All major repairs need to be approve by submitting an Application for Trench System Change) If the changes are not made, then the structure will be become the property of GWA and disposed of as determined by the President and appropriate Co-Chair.
4. Abandoned (unused for 2 years or more) structures or structures of units that have been dissolved or permanently banned from GWA property, will become the property of the GWA and will be destroyed, scrapped or redistributed to other units as deemed appropriate by the President and the appropriate Co-Chair.
5. Persons or Units digging or constructing structures without approval by the Trench Master will be notified of their violation in writing by the Trench Master and reported to the President and the appropriate Co-Chair for Action.
6. General failure to comply with regulations in this document or with decisions made by the GWA Administrative Committee, Site Committee or Trench Masters will be grounds for the structure or revetment to be removed or filled-in by the GWA and/or the unit and/or its leaders may be bared from participation in events at the memorial site until repairs or changes are made to the satisfaction of the GWA Administrative Committee (G-8) and Site Committee.
7. All disagreements over enforcement issues, unjust disproved applications or applications that go beyond four weeks without action should be first brought to the attention of the respective Representative. Disputes will be heard and ruled on by the Site Committee. Additional appeals may be taken to the GWA President if the respective Representative cannot resolve the situation within an additional two weeks. The President's decision will be final.

(Note: an Application for Trench System Change may obtained from your GWA Representative, Trench Master, or the GWA Web site) ■



# The Assembly and Wearing of P 08 Webbing

It has become apparent over the last few events that many members of the BEF are not wearing their P 08 webbing in the way it was intended. When worn, and fitted correctly, it was probably the most comfortable, durable, and efficient personal equipment of its time.

It's my belief that most members of the BEF have never had formal instruction in the assembly and wearing of P 08. As RSM, it is my responsibility to provide that instruction. Therefore, all necessary information is provided below. Please study it thoroughly. I urge all BEF members to take their webbing apart, and re-assemble it according to the instructions. To insure that this is done, ALL BEF members **WILL** attend the Saturday morning Safety Meeting in **MARCHING ORDER** (with large packs). ALL large packs will **AUTHENTICALLY** contain the following:

- Greatcoat/blanket
- Cap comforter
- Holdall (with spare leather laces, tooth brush, razor, shaving brush, soap, comb)
- Housewife
- Mess tin
- Spare socks
- Towel
- Haversack should contain fork, spoon, cup, and personal items.

## Marching Order

All equipment is worn with large pack on back, haversack on LEFT hip, and entrenching tool head carrier on RIGHT hip (under the water bottle)

## To Assemble the Equipment

1. Adjust the waist belt until it is comfortably tight, taking care that when fastened, the large buckle is centred in front, and that the two smaller buckles are perfectly centred at the back. When the belt is fastened, there should be about three inches of the running end clear of the buckle.
  2. When the belt has been satisfactorily adjusted, lay it on the ground, inside downwards, and the large buckle to the RIGHT. Slip the bayonet frog over the tongue of the belt, and bring it around to a position on the LEFT hand side so that it will hang, when the belt is put on, upon the left hip (you may want to make a small mark on the belt to indicate the frog's position).
  3. Attach the cartridge carriers on the outside of the belt by passing the double hooks over, and under the edges of the belt. Their position on the belt may vary with each man, but generally, the rear hooks should be set close to the rear buckles on the belt. The LEFT carrier will thus lie over the bayonet frog. When the position of the carriers has been determined, pass the small securing straps around the inside of the belt, and snap them onto their studs. On many men the bayonet will be found to ride more comfortably if the frog is worn on the belt BETWEEN the two rear pockets of the lower row on the LEFT cartridge carrier. In this case the rear small securing strap cannot be passed around the belt, but this is not essential.
  4. Make sure that both braces have a sliding buckle attached, with the open ends towards the cartridge carriers. Take one of the braces and secure one end to one of the rear buckles of the belt, pulling it through the buckle until, in the case of an average height man, it coincides with the fixed end piece on the rear of the belt. Pass the other end of the brace (taking care not to twist it) through the cartridge carrier buckle on the OPPOSITE SIDE, and pull it through until it coincides likewise with the fixed end piece. Repeat this operation with the other brace. The sliding buckles should be on the rear part of the braces.
  5. Try the equipment on in its present state over your tunic, and ON the belt hooks. If it has been properly fitted, the belt should rest in its natural position all around the waist, while the braces should show no slack in them. Make any necessary adjustments, then remove the equipment and lay it on the ground as before.
  6. Attach the carrier for the wooden helve by slipping the rear loops of the carrier over the bayonet scabbard, and slide the carrier up until the edge of the buckle abuts against the bottom edge of the frog. The strap connecting the two loops should be nearest to the hip. Buckle the carrier to the frog, taking care that the buckle is just below the frog, and NOT between it and the thigh. Insert the helve and close the snap fastening around it.
  7. Attach the haversack by its large buckles to the two outer end pieces on the LEFT hand side. Adjust it so that it hangs in a convenient position on the LEFT hip without interfering with the drawing or returning of the bayonet (usually the best position is for the top of the haversack to sit just below the cross guard of the bayonet).
  8. In a similar way attach the carrier for the entrenching tool head to the INNER end pieces on the RIGHT hand side, adjusting it until it rests comfortably on the RIGHT hip.
  9. Then similarly attach the water bottle carrier (with water bottle in it) to the OUTER end pieces on the same side, and adjust both carriers until they ride comfortably.
- The equipment as it now stands represents the portion of the essential to fighting efficiency. It **WILL** be known as "**MARCHING ORDER WITHOUT PACKS.**" When the



COMPLETE equipment is to be worn, as in this case, proceed as follows:

**10.** ALL items previously mentioned to be stored in the LARGE PACK, call for careful packing if a neat and compact result is to be obtained. The MESS TIN should be the last article placed in the pack. It should NOT hang outside the pack.

**11.** Lay the assembled webbing FACE DOWN on the floor, and place the large pack with the opening upwards, upon it. Attach the buckle of one of the supporting straps (these are the one inch wide straps that cross each other on the front of the large pack) to one of the cartridge carrier diagonal straps, taking care that the buckle is as close up to the corner of the belt as possible. Pass the end of the supporting strap through the web loop on the bottom of the pack and lead it diagonally across the front of the pack up to the small buckle on the opposite suspension tab. Pass it through the buckle, pull it as tight as it will go and secure it. Repeat the operation with the other supporting strap.

As the correct balance of the equipment depends almost entirely upon these supporting straps, it's very important that they should be as taught as possible, as they then bind the pack tightly to the main body of the equipment and prevent it shifting.

**12.** Adjust the large sliding buckles on the braces so that they come naturally to the point of attachment of the two inch securing tabs on the pack. Pass the tabs through the sliding buckles on the braces; if properly fitted, the braces should now lie flat against the back of the pack, being neither slack, or in a state of strain. The bottom of the pack should be on a level with the LOWER edge of the waist belt.

The essential point to remember is that the weight of the pack is carried by the diagonal straps, attached to the carriers, and NOT by the securing tabs at the top of the pack. The function of the latter is to keep the pack from falling away from the body. After a short time, the weight of the pack slightly stretches the narrow end straps of the cartridge carriers, the weight then becoming partly transferred to the securing tabs. If the whole or even the greater portion of the weight were allowed to transfer to the securing tabs, the essential merit of the design will be sacrificed. This equipment is now set up and will be known as "MARCHING ORDER".

## Battle Order

**13.** Lay the equipment on the ground and remove the large pack by casting off the lower ends of the cartridge carrier diagonal straps, and free the securing tabs from the brace buckles. The large pack can then be removed, the one inch supporting straps remaining attached to it. Remove the haversack/small pack from the LEFT side. Secure the one inch cartridge carrier diagonal straps to the small buckles at the lower corners of the haversack. Draw the two-inch

sliding buckles down the braces until they come into a convenient position opposite the fixed ends of the two inch tabs at the top of the haversack. Secure these tabs to the sliding buckles. The weight of the haversack should not be taken by these tabs, but by the lower corner buckles mentioned above. The entrenching tool head carrier should be removed from the RIGHT hip, and attached to the INNER end pieces both LEFT and RIGHT to the rear of the belt, and adjusted for a comfortable fit. This configuration will be known as **BATTLE ORDER**. Mess tins MAY be hung from haversacks at this order, and certain essentials transferred from the large packs.

**14.** When the equipment has once been properly fitted to each man, it should be kept assembled as far as possible, although the pack need not always remain attached. It will be found convenient if, when a correct fit has been obtained, a light mark is made to show where each adjustment should always come. This saves trouble in case the equipment has to be taken apart and re-assembled.

Once again, **ALL BEF Personnel WILL ATTEND THE SATURDAY MORNING SAFETY MEETING IN MARCHING ORDER WEARING HELMETS (NO HATS OR CAPS)**. Spot checks will be conducted on contents of large packs.

Submitted by:

*R.S.M. R. Turfitt  
2/ D of W B.E.F.*

## Register online through PayPal

The GWA is now offering the option of registering and paying dues and event fees using PayPal, the online payment service. Some of you may find this method more convenient than the usual paper-form-and-check through the mail. However, the fees PayPal charges must be included with any payment: add \$1 to each amount—dues would be \$26 and event fees would be \$26.

Online payments should be sent to **randall@cavtel.net**. Please answer the questions found on the top of the registration form and include all information normally entered in Part I & II in the "Notes" box of the PayPal form. Below is a sample of a registration in text form:

Address change: NO      First event: NO  
Unit commander: NO      I download newsletter

Schmidt, Hans  
12345 Main Street  
Newville, PA 17241      USA  
(717) 555-1212      h.schmidt@aol.com

Unit Commander: Peter Geyer

Emergency Contact: Mary Schmidt (717) 555-1212

I certify that I am older than 18 years of age

Unit: 63JR

Dues: Paid at Spring Event      Event fee: \$26

(If you don't already have a PayPal account, you can set one up at [www.paypal.com](http://www.paypal.com))  
— Mark Graef, Editor



☐ Check this box if you have changed your address since the last event or this is your first event

Print first letter of your last name in this box

☐ Check this box if you are a unit commander

☐ Check here if you want to stop receiving a paper copy of *On the Wire* via regular mail and instead download the newsletter and registration forms from the Web site ([www.great-war-assoc.org](http://www.great-war-assoc.org))

***GWA Membership Update and Registration Form for the Fall Combat Event at the Caesar Krauss Great War Memorial Site, Newville, PA, November 5–7, 2004  
Pre-Register and save \$15 — see below!***

**Part I — Member Information — Please Print Legibly**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Commander: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that I am 18 years of age or older \_\_\_\_\_  
(sign here)

**Part II — Unit Affiliation**

This box must be filled out, using the units and abbreviations on the back of this form. If you do not belong to one of these units, you are an independent.

**Part III — Dues and Event Fees**

A. 2004 dues if not already paid  
(Annual dues are due at the Spring Event each year)

**\$25.00**

B. Fall 2004 Event fee if pre-registered

**\$25.00**

C. Optional site development donation

\$

D. Pre-registration subtotal (A+B+C as applicable)

\$

E. Gate registration fee

**\$15.00**

F. Gate registration total (D+E)

\$

*Pre-registration: Members are encouraged to pre-register to save the gate fee. If you pre-register but are unable to attend, your event fee (only) will be returned within two weeks. All pre-registrations must be received by the Treasurer on or before **November 1, 2004**. If your pre-registration is not received by this date, you must pay at the event — including the \$15 gate fee. Your original mail pre-registration will be returned unopened.*

*Make checks out to “Great War Association”*

*Send form and check to:* **Randall Chapman, GWA Treasurer  
7925 Jahnke Road  
Richmond, VA 23235  
(804) 323-7159 [randall@cavtel.net](mailto:randall@cavtel.net)**

**Register Online with PayPal**

You can now register and pay online by using PayPal ([www.paypal.com](http://www.paypal.com)). Dues and the event fee are \$26 each (\$52 if paying both) to cover the costs of this service. Payments should be sent to the GWA Treasurer at **[randall@cavtel.net](mailto:randall@cavtel.net)** Please include all information normally entered in Part I & II of this form in the notes box of the PayPal form. Registration payments without this information included will not be accepted.

# GWA Unit List (use abbreviations only when filling out registration form)

## American Units

1AEF 1st Div., 28th Inf. Co. E., AEF  
26AEF 26th Div. (Yankee Div.), AEF  
27AEF 27th Div., AEF  
L109AEF 28 Div., 109th Inf. Co. L., AEF  
M109AEF 28th Div., 109th Inf. Co. M., AEF  
BTTYC 28th Div., 107th Field Arty. Btty. C (*probationary*)  
116AEF 29th Div., 116th Inf., Hdqtrs. Co., AEF  
30AEF 30th Div., AEF  
33AEF 33rd Div. (Prairie Div.), AEF  
80AEF 80th ID, AEF  
372AEF 93rd Div., 372nd Inf, AEF  
49CO 5th Marines, 49th Co., AEF  
67CO 5th Marines, 67th Co., AEF

## British Units

6BWBEF 6th Btn., Black Watch, BEF  
7RIR 7th Royal Irish Rifles, BEF  
BRBEF The Border Regiment, BEF  
BUFF 6th Buffs Rgt., BEF  
IRISHGD Irish Guards No. 3 Co., 1st Btn.  
MGCBEF Machine Gun Corps, BEF  
ROYENG Royal Engineers  
RWF Royal Welsh Fusiliers

## Commonwealth Units

5AIF 5th Btn. Australia/New Zealand Army Corps  
27CEF 27th Btn., CEF  
PPCLI Princess Pat's Canadian Light Infantry

## French Units

8BCP 8 Btn. Chasseurs a Pied  
151RL 151er Regiment d'Infanterie

## Russian Units

RL Legion Russe

## Austrian Units

63KUK 63rd KuK

## German Units

1LR Königliche Bayerische Leib Regiment  
5SB 5. Sturm Battalion (Rohr)  
8KUR 3. Feldesk., Kürassier Regt. Nr 8  
12MWK 12. Minenwerfer Komp. 12 Division  
20MG 20. MG Scharfschutzen Komp.  
23JR J.R. 23 (2. Oberschlesisches)  
63JR J.R. 63 (4. Oberschlesisches)  
73FR F.R. 73 (*probationary*)  
90FR F.R. 90 (*probationary*)  
92JR J.R. 92 ( 1. Braunschweigisches)  
111JR J.R. 111 (3. Badisches)  
120JR J.R. 120 (2. Württembergisches)  
124JR J.R. 124 (Württembergisches)  
459JR J.R. 459 (Rhein. Westf.)

## Non-Military

DRK Deutsches Rotes Kreuz  
INDP Independent (non-combat only)  
SA Salvation Army

Great War Association  
7925 Jahnke Road  
Richmond, VA 23235

