

ON THE WIRE

NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT WAR ASSOCIATION



FALL 2000

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 27-Nov.3	"The Truce" filming, Newville, PA
Nov. 3-5	GWA Fall Event Newville, PA
Mar. 2-3	Great War Reenactment Newport News, VA
Mar. 17-18	Military Through the Ages Jamestown, VA
Apr. 20-22	GWA Spring Event Newville, PA
May 25-27	International WWI Event, Zillebeke, Belgium

Contact your editor for more information on any of these events. (317)328-7851 or Loerchen2@aol.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear GWA members,

A number of changes have taken place. First of all, Mark Dubno, GWA Secretary, and Mike Moss, Central Powers Representative, submitted their resignations. Mark had health problems that interfered with the performance of his duties. While the success of Mike's business required more time and travel.

I am happy to announce that these positions have been filled. John Novicki, 8th Kuer., has been named as GWA Secretary. Bill White, IR92, has been named as Central Powers Representative. Both of these individuals are solid reenactors and enthusiastic about our organization and the

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hobby. My appreciation to these two gentlemen for filling these vacancies! I know they will do a terrific job.

The land purchase has been delayed. We have attempted to resolve many of the issues during the summer in order to finalize the deal. We have been working through our respective attorneys, which has slowed the process.

At this point, there appears to be only one issue preventing us from closing on the property. Mark Anderson has asked for an amendment to our bylaws that would require a 2/3 majority vote to sell the property. This means drafting an amendment and getting 50 signatures supporting it in order to place it on a November ballot. To speed up the process, we have asked Mark if we could simply include this requirement in the purchase agreement. We are awaiting his reply. If he agrees, we are prepared to move forward. However, if he insists on the bylaws change, then we will be sending you the proposed amendment asking for 50 signatures to be returned to Randy so we can vote on this issue at the November event. We are proceeding in good faith with the land purchase.

There have been concerns expressed regarding the growth of vegetation on the site. By the time you read this, the G-8 will have already circulated a draft of its defoliation policy to the unit commanders for their input. Also, Randy Gaulke, John Torkos, Jon Kulaga and others are putting together a work day for Saturday, September 30 to address the issue prior to the Fall 2000 event. The early timing of this event will allow for a second day or burn session, if needed.

There has been some concern about the number of Allies versus the number of Germans. While it can be argued that the cost of German uniform and equipment is an important factor in recruiting members, the fact is the Allies have done a better job. I am looking forward to Bill White, as Central Powers Representative, to encourage the German units to be more active in recruiting. Any help from the Allies would be greatly appreciated!

Rob Zienta
GWA President



FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

SAFETY AND ADMINISTRATION

John Torkos, 107th Infantry, 27th Division NYNG, AEF

To: All Members of the Great War Association

I must say that the Spring Event was definitely the best event I have been to on the site to date. Although our numbers were off due to the event date change those that made it put forth tremendous effort and everyone had a great time. Even though the German forces were outnumbered at the event almost two to one the combat commanders did an excellent job of keeping the action lively and interesting.

Thank you to all participants for respecting the role of the Military Police. They had a much better time doing what they volunteered to do. Please continue with the same respect to their time and efforts.

Also, I must thank the men and units of the AEF that I had the honor to command at this event. The two attacks on Saturday were both successful. The last attack originally planned as a relief was the first totally successful attack on the "Ant Hill" that I am aware of. Special thanks to Bret Johnson's and Eugene Popvlasky's men for leading in the AEF and supporting us on this attack.

I would also like to recognize the following AEF NCO's for their outstanding work during the weekend: Scott Farb, 27th Div.; Al Crane, 26th Div., Bret Werner & Jim Kidd, 28th Div.; Bill Mundy, 33rd Div.; and Kurt Johnson, 67th Co. US Marines. I apologize now for any AEF unit leaders that I may have missed. All the unit leaders and men should

be proud of the excellent showing that the AEF made at the Spring Event.

NOW ONTO NEW BUSINESS FOR THE FALL EVENT:

I will not be present due to my wife being pregnant and a due date of November 17th.

I have selected two excellent men to handle the safety meetings and administrative duties I normally handle: Bill Baldwin, 27th Division AEF & Stephen Krentler, 5th Sturm Pioneers. These men are now my eyes and ears for this event. They will have the final word on all safety issues for the fall event.

PARACHUTE FLARES ARE BANNED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Way too many fires have occurred in the adjoining woods and in an effort to ascertain if indeed the parachute flares are the cause we will be banning them until further notice. I too will miss the effect they give to the night combat scenarios, but I will not miss the interruption to our night combat as we become a fire brigade time after time.

This leads me to my next safety concern. Drinking in the bunkers and then coming out to participate in the event later in the evening. This is just plain stupid. I have good reason to suspect that the fire caused late on Saturday night may have been a result of this type of activity occurring. Flares should only be fired under the direction of unit commanders! (I know someone is reading this and saying how did he know?)

If I or one of my safety officers finds people returning to combat in a drunken state we will make an example of you! Please take this warning to heart and drink after you are done soldiering.

This leads me to my only major change on the administration side of my job. The G-8 will no longer function as your garbage men. At the last event I found out that the VP of the GWA was responsible by tradition to pick up the beer bottles from each bunker!

I did that and filled Stephan Krentler's truck to the roof with beer bottles. Now that the site will be owned by all of us, I see no reason why anyone needs to be a garbage man.

To facilitate this the Dumpster will be located to the right of the latrines at the combat site gate. Garbage bags will be available at the registration desk for your use. We cannot make it any easier than this.

The membership by the time of publishing should own the site and the least we can do is clean up after ourselves. Enough said on that.

Please have a fun safe event this fall and I look forward to seeing you all in the spring.

G-8 MEETING MINUTES

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 02, 2000

In New Jersey

President, Rob Zienta, via telephone
Vice President, John Torkos
Treasurer, Randy Gaulke

Inspecting at Newville (Report Supplied Later)

Allied Combat Commander, Mike LoCicero
Allied Representative, Phil Schreier

Absent

German Combat Commander, Lou Brown

Resigned (See below)

Secretary, Mark Dubno
German Representative, Mike Moss

A. Great War Discussion List and Recent Concerns

The first portion of the meeting was spent reviewing recent emails published on the Great War discussion list.

The G-8 hears the concerns of the contributors, and it recognizes that communication from the G-8 has fallen below the expectations of some list members. Nevertheless, the G-8 believes that recent concerns have been overblown, and that the G-8 has plenty of time to make the Fall 2000 event a success: More on this theme throughout the minutes.

The G-8 does not view the discussion list as an "official" communication tool of the GWA—in part because fewer than 100 individuals subscribe and only a handful of individuals contribute on a regular basis. The GWA does not feel bound to comment/reply to any messages placed on the discussion list. The GWA does have its own website, and individual emails may be posted there. Furthermore, the emails of all G-8 officers are listed on the website, and any member with complaints/concerns should email the officers directly.

B. Resignations and Efforts to Strengthen the G-8

As many have heard, changes in individual personal lives have made it difficult for the President, Vice President, and Treasurer to devote much time to the hobby over the summer. However, all three of these key officers remain committed to serving as officers and to preparing for the fall event—together with the other members of the G-8.

President Rob Zienta accepted Mark Dubno's resignation for health reasons and Mike Moss' resignation for personal reasons. Under the bylaws, the President has the authority to appoint another individual to serve out the rest of the term. Rob will approach John Novicki (8. Kuer.) to serve as Secretary and will contact German unit commanders

regarding possible candidates to serve as Central Powers Representative.

Vice President John Torkos will be unable to attend the Fall 2000 event due to his wife's pregnancy. However, Bill Baldwin and Steve Krentler have agreed to share the Vice President tasks for the weekend. John will continue to help with event preparation.

C. Land Purchase Update and Party

The G-8 continues to believe that negotiations are on track, and that we will have a signed purchase agreement (at least) prior to the November 2000 event.

Rob Zienta and Randy Gaulke will hold a conference call with Steve Volpicelli, our lawyer, the week after Labor Day. We believe that all major issues have been worked out, and that only minor modifications remain.

Assuming that the purchase agreement is signed prior to the November event, the G-8 will host a land purchase party at the end of combat Saturday night. Exact time will be listed in On the Wire, and the location will be made public at the event. Location suggestions may be made to the members of the G-8.

Assuming successful completion, the GWA will be the only WWI reenactment organization to own its own site!!!!

D. Defoliation, Game Plan, Unit Responsibility

Randy Gaulke is investigating defoliation / burn / site clean alternatives. At the time of this writing, it is too early to outline a specific plan.

Randy has held a phone interview with a member of Penn State's Agricultural Extension Service and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Notes from those meetings will be attached to the GWA's plan.

Given the environmental issues involved, it makes sense for the G-8 to develop and implement a defoliation plan for the trench lines and No Man's Land. NEVERTHELESS, THE INDIVIDUAL UNITS ARE ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING THEIR PORTION OF TRENCH LINES AND THAT PORTION OF NO MAN'S LAND DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF THEIR TRENCH LINE.

E. Property Update and Other Site Issues

Mike LoCicero and Phil Schreier visited the site to report on the issues below so that corrective steps could be taken prior to the fall event.

Height of grass, amount of vegetation, etc: Mike and Phil reported that the weeds are 3-4' high in places,

and there are numerous Sumac and other large bushes. The areas hardest hit appear to be No Man's Land in the center of the lines and the right flank of the German trenches. Mike and Phil especially praised the condition of the "Ant Hill." However, they noted that the condition of individual trench-line sectors varied widely by unit. (See D. above.)

- Garbage in the barrels around the site: They did not report a garbage problem on site. Nevertheless, Randy Gaulke will contact Steve Wiser and ask him to dump the barrels in the dumpster.

- Condition of parking lots and roadsides: The parking lot had some weeds and brush, but was not terrible. Steve Wiser will be asked to mow the roadsides and parking lot edges before the fall event.

- Road condition: Steve Wiser has made numerous repairs to the road, however some recent heavy rains have made it necessary to re-visit this area closer to the fall event.

Phil and Mike met with the Allied Trench Master and worked out numerous issues related to the Allied site development.

Two Australians (Greg Peck and Lee Wright) were present who cleared their lines of brush as well as a huge section of No-mans-land, some of the German lines, a large portion of the camping area and another section of the BEF front. (THANKS!)

Gypsy moths are epidemic at the site.

Jon Kulaga suggested that a significant portion of the period campground be cleared of trees and be mowed. This will make life easier for the campers, and the area could also be used as a parade ground, drill area by the units that camp there. During the fall event, the G-8 will review the area with the units affected, and certain trees will be marked for removal.

In his comments in *On The Wire* John Torkos will emphasize the need for units to police their own areas and to clean up after themselves. The dumpster will be moved next to the port-a-johns so that trash can be easily placed there on the way out. AS A COURTESY TO THE G-8 AND THE MEMBERS, UNITS ARE ASKED TO ACCEPT THIS RESPONSIBILITY.

F. 2001 Event Dates

Event dates for the spring and Fall 2001 events are as follows:

- Spring Event: 20-22 April 2001
- Fall Event: 2-4 November 2001

As currently required under the lease, a letter will be sent to the leaseholder informing the owner of these dates.

G. Third Event

A third event, open to the public, was planned for 2000. It was cancelled for numerous reasons. The G-8 is contemplating a third event in 2001. However, feedback from the membership will be sought regarding the support for, and timing and structure of a third event. John Torkos will design a survey that will be included in *On The Wire* and will be available at the registration tent.

If we go forward with a third event, we will communicate the date of the event prior to 12/31/00.

H. Off-Site Events

The G-8 will support off-site living history and reenactment events by: 1) the provision of local individual / unit contacts; 2) by the provision of address labels and mailing lists; and 3) by the publishing of information about the events on the website and in *On the Wire*.

However, due to the lack of manpower, the G-8 does not intend to directly sponsor or manage off-site events. Individual units or members can call upon the resources outlined in the above paragraph.

Members should consider the rationale behind this decision: 1) While elected, the G-8 is made up of volunteers, and each of these volunteers also has commitments to his / her individual unit. 2) By its very nature, WWI reenacting is much more site-specific than any other reenactment period. Hence, our first priority should be to the site. 3) We do not have the luxury of a professional staff, such as those who organize the large-scale civil war events.

I. Vice President Concerns

John's OTW comments will address his concerns that individuals who drink in their bunkers return to the battlefield for combat. This is not only a violation of the safety rules. It is just plain stupid! Anyone caught doing this will be removed from the site.

Parachute flares are banned until further notice, given the number of fires that they have started over the years.

J. On the Wire

Sue has requested that G-8 members get articles to her prior to Friday, September 8. This will give her time to work on the issue.

As Rob's email is still not functioning 100%, he has appointed Randy Gaulke and John Torkos to proofread the issue.

Key items in OTW include:

President's Remarks	RZ
Vice President's Remarks	JT
Property Purchase Update	RZ and RG
Events Schedule	ML and LB

Enrollment Form / Unit List ML and LB	RG with help of
Third Event Poll	JT
Virginia Event Info.	Todd Ballance
Zillebeck Event Info	RG and JT
Meeting Minutes	RG

K. Memorial Service for Fallen Members

A potential memorial ceremony at the Fall 2000 event for Jeff Fontana and another deceased GWA reenactor was brought to the G-8's attention. Apparently, IR23 was also contemplating the placing of crosses in the GWF's memorial garden. If anybody has plans in this regard, they should contact Randy Gaulke or John Torkos.

Respectfully Submitted,

Randal S. Gaulke
GWA Treasurer
9/8/00



GWA PROMOTIONAL FILM AND THE MOVIE "THE TRUCE"

Most of you who attended the April event will remember that we had a film crew on site with some sophisticated equipment. The crew was a student enterprise from New York University, an institution noted for its film curriculum. Their purpose was to shoot and produce a promotional film entirely for and concerning the Great War Association. This project was negotiated in exchange for GWA commitment to make a short film produced by the same students covering the 1914 Christmas truce. Some details about both projects....

The promotional film went very well. The concept of this piece was to interview various GWA members and get their candid thoughts concerning the hobby. Those selected for interviews ranged from combat/unit commanders to the regular reenactor. Selection was based on those who were most articulate in an authentic manner (i.e. interviewing someone who could speak fluent German). The intent was to take these interviews, combined with sights and sounds of a typical event, and use it all to tell the GWA "story" to any viewer, be it a potential new recruit, the film industry, or a news organization.

The editing process is well underway (as of mid Sept.). The director will be furnishing a rough cut for review by the beginning of Oct. Expected length of the film will be anywhere between 6-10 minutes. Delivery of the final product will hopefully be by the Nov. event. Once received, the promotional film will be copied and furnished to all unit commanders. This is to be used as a recruiting tool to allow potential recruits the

ability to view the site and to understand what it's like to be part of an event, all without having to make the travel commitment to see the site and attend an event. The director has indicated that the footage he shot in April is top notch and expects us to receive a fantastic promotional film.

All that is great, it will really help out the GWA in its recruiting process. But now it's our turn to deliver for the director. His film, "The Truce," will be shot at the site the weekend and week prior to the Nov. event. The film covers a soccer match that took place between the lines on Christmas Day 1914. Expected length is around 20 minutes and will be shot in 16mm black and white. The purpose of this film is to showcase the student film talents of those producing the movie. If any of you are film buffs, you'll remember that those trying to break into the film industry use short films such as this to send to film festivals to highlight their talents. This film will get Hollywood exposure as the director was an intern with Universal Studios during this last summer and has made important contacts within Hollywood. He will be using this film to showcase his talents to progress his own film career. Interest in World War One has been raised there with the contacts the director has made. A good finished film may have some impact on future Hollywood World War One projects. Ongoing details concerning this film can be viewed at the website for the film: www.thetruce.com

Based on the Spring call for volunteers for this project, many of you responded positively. If anyone else is still interested in participating in this film, please let me know and I'll provide additional details. You will need to accurately portray a German or British soldier of the early war 1914 period, no exceptions. Filming that will include GWA participants will be on Oct. 28 & 29 with 10 hours of filming each day. Wrap up each day will be at sundown each day, approximately 6:00pm.

Negotiations were made with the director to insure that each reenactor participant will receive just compensation for his involvement. Each participating member will be fed while on set, including one hot meal and a constant array of snacks, sandwiches, coffee/juice etc. throughout the day to munch on. Each participating member receives written credit at the end of the film and his own personal video copy upon completion. Each member will be invited to the wrap party after the filming of the group scenes. Food (probably pizza) and beer will be served.

The director is also looking to make this a very period film. Any loans that can be made to enhance the accuracy of the film would be greatly appreciated. If you have any 1914 era items that can be used as props (playing cards, cigarettes, shovels, shaving kits, tinned beef, etc.) to liven up the atmosphere, loans of this type of material would be greatly appreciated and will be returned at the Nov. event.

See you on the set!

NOTE: No trench or site work will be permitted the weekend before the event up through Nov. 3 due to the filming!

ZILLEBEKE EVENT, 2001

A group in Belgium is getting reenactors together for the first-ever European WWI event. Here is a schedule and registration form (I have edited the language and spelling a bit). The registration is not a definite commitment, but they want to know how many are at least interested in going. I think that each unit should register separately, but perhaps we can get some kind of group airfare deal. Wouldn't it be fun to go over a week or so ahead of time and tour some of the battlefields in company with other reenactors? Think of the photo ops!

Sue

ZILLEBEKE EVENT SCHEDULE

25, 26 & 27 May 2001

Friday 25th May 2001:

12.00: Opening of the camp and registration. The registration is FREE

for reenactors. We do this to know where everybody is located.

Eating is free for all those who are registered, for the complete weekend, as is the camp!!!

18.00: Supper

20.00: There is a big possibility that a LAST POST ceremony will be held under the MENIN GATE, Transport with an old double decker from Zillebeke to Ypres.

20.30: Start of the annual Karaoké-evening at Zillebeke, 't Riet, entrance 100BF, reenactors Free. On the first floor there will be a reception, walking dinner for sponsors.

Saturday 26th May 2001:

7.00 - 8.00: Breakfast at camp

10.00: Rally with questions for vehicles, reenactors free, with prizes to win!

10.30: A walk with questions, prizes to win, reenactors free!

This activity is especially made for all who are visiting Zillebeke, Ypres, Flanders...

It is a chance to get an idea of all the battles of Ypres in WWI and to visit all the major battle areas. On Saturday we want to offer all participants a day of pleasure.

Museums will be visited, no fee has to be paid by reenactors who want to participate!

We will visit Hooge Crater Museum, Bellewaerde Ridge, Clapham Junction, Hill 60, Hill 62, Sanctuary Wood, Saint Charles de Potyze, Polygon Wood,...

18.00 - 19.00: supper

20.00: Party in the '40-'45-style.

't Riet is the place where it all will be happening. This place will be transformed from an ordinary hall into a place with some old vehicles etc.....

Sunday 27th May 2001:

7.00 - 8.00: Breakfast at camp

7.00 - 12.00: Military-fair at Ridder de Stuers, Zillebeke

11.00: Ceremony at Tuillerie British Cemetery

War-pipes and bugler will be present; several officials are/will be asked to attend.

All '14-'18 reenactors are asked to be present!

11.00: After the ceremony a reception will be held at 't Riet.

12.00: Possibility to eat chips and chicken, reenactors FREE

14.00: Static Show

18.00: Prizes are given for the Rally, the Walk from Saturday! Prizes are given for the Static Show! (The people who are visiting can give their advice with a special numbered form)

18.30: End of the weekend with a last surprise!!!

As you probably will notice, we still have some work to do, but it is all looking promising.

For a good organisation we would like to ask, if you are interested in attending, please let us know as soon as possible. We have already a lot of responses, but if we have too many registrations, we'll have to limit. The first groups will be certain and conformation will follow very soon.

It is possible that little adjustments will be made to the programme!!!

Television will be asked to be present! This is the first reenactment weekend of this kind in Flanders!

Greetings from the old battlefield!!!

Jan Verdoodt

Chairman "We'll Remember, POPS"

Didier Malfait

Secretary "Voute & Brieke"

Steven Vansteenkiste

Secretary "We'll Remember, POPS"

Member "Voute & Brieke"



ZILLEBEKE APPLICATION FORM

Please fill out the following information and e-mail it to the address listed below

"Voute & Brieke" - "We'll Remember, POPS" Present: ZILLEBEKE 25, 26 & 27 May 2001

Name of group:

Reenacting: World War 1 - World War 2 - Other (indicate period please)

Country:

Founded:

Reason:

Name(& rank & alias) responsible:

Second in command:

Members (how many):

Telephone/fax/GSM/E-mail:

Address:

PICTURE: IF POSSIBLE!!!

We will arrive at (place), (We suggest Zillebeke village or Ypres Station), please ask details!!!:

We do open camp on Friday 25th at 12.00u!!!!

Date:

We stay untill:

We stay: at camp(we will provide tents) - have or own tents - elsewhere (indicate please)

We will be present with (how many people):

Structure of the group coming over:

We desire (place for camp):

We desire place for demo (for example, building trenches, performing an attack):

Vehicles (tanks, trucks, aeroplanes, jeeps):

Animals (horses):

We want to sleep separately or share with other groups?
(It will not always be possible!)

Leader (responsible) of the group when present at Zillebeke:

SUGGESTIONS & REMARKS

(We 'll try to find a suitable answer or solution):

Your contacts:

Jan Verdoodt "We'll Remember, POPS" CHAIRMAN
2nd Lt. RFA

Steven Vansteenkiste "We'll Remember, POPS" SECRETARY
"Voute & Brieke" Member
Sjt. 5th (T) Gloucestershire Regiment
Cpl. Parachute Regiment
Pte. 1 Dywizji Pancernej (1st Polish Panzer Division)

Didier Malfait "Voute & Brieke" SECERETARY

Address: E-mail: well.remember.pops@vt.net
Surface mail: Steven Vansteenkiste
Wulvestraat 4
8902 Zillebeke-Ieper
WE DESIRE THE USE OF E-MAIL!
Thank you!!!

WEAPONS AT ZILLEBEKE

This is a note to everybody who is planning on going to the big event at Zillebeke, Flanders next May. I have just spoken to the event organizers, and for customs purposes, they need a list of the different weapons that we plan to bring over with us. This includes, but is not necessarily exclusive to: rifles, machine guns, artillery pieces, tanks, bayonets, etc. If those of you who are planning on going wouldn't mind just sending me a list of these items that you plan to pack, I can forward it to the event planners. This will take care of the Belgian side.

I have also looked at the web page for U.S. Customs, and in order to bring your firearms abroad, you will need to be able to prove to Customs that you acquired those firearms here in the U.S.. The easiest way to do this is to take your weapon to a nearby customs office (any international airport or large town should have one), and fill out Form CF-4457, which declares the place of purchase. This is the same form that you would need for taking computers or other expensive items abroad, so it's not like you're registering your firearm with the gov't. Ultimately, when you book your travel, you will also need to check with the airline to make sure you can check firearms through to your destination. Some airlines have different policies concerning this.

But, at this point, all you need to do is just let me know what you plan to bring as soon as you can and I will take care of the foreign side of things. The meeting with the Belgian Ministry of Economic Affairs is taking place early next month, so I will definitely need to know by then. Thanks, and I'll see you in Flanders!

Peter Geyer
Rekrut JR63

GREAT WAR REENACTMENT IN VIRGINIA

Dear Fellow Great War Reenactors,

On behalf of the Virginia War Museum and the Division of Historic Services and Museums of the City of Newport News, I would like to invite you and your unit to the first ever World War I reenactment in Newport News, Virginia!

Great War Reenactment
Newport News, Virginia
March 2 and 3, 2001

Staging area is located adjacent to Lee Hall Mansion between the mansion and interstate. This site is easily accessible from I-64 from Exit 247. The battlefield is actually visible from I-64.
Check out www.leehall.org for directions.

Proposed Schedule

Friday, March 2, 2001

0900 Registration begins
1000 Guided school tours of trenches begin (included will be firing demos and living history interpretation covering 1914-1918 - lunch in the trenches)
1400 Guided school tours cease

Saturday, March 3, 2001

0830 Registration closes
0900 Safety meeting adjacent to vendor area (mandatory for all participants)
1000 Gates open
1100 Ceremony dedicating all those men and women who died during the Great War (possible WWI veteran to be honored)
1200 Living History in the trenches begins (1914-1918 impressions encouraged - period lunch in the trenches)
1330 Safety check and secure area for 1400 battle
1400 Battle begins (ground charges for 10 to 15 minutes preceding "going-over-the-top")
1500 Battle ceases
1500 Trench work revetting continues and living history tours resume
1700 Supper in the trenches
1830 Safety check and secure area for 1900 battle
1900 Battle begins (ground charges for 15 to 30 minutes preceding "going-over-the-top")
2030 Battle ceases and camps close to public
2400 "All Quiet on the Western Front"

Sunday, March 4, 2001

Event is over and participants are free to leave

Only Great War Association members and their units are invited to participate in this event. GWA safety and authen-

ticity guidelines will be enforced during this event.

Impressions from 1914-1918 are welcome during the living history scenarios for the public and school group tours. It will be late winter 1917/1918 during the battle scenarios.

A registration fee of only \$15 per person will be charged. This fee goes toward the cost of hosting the event. If we have enough funding from outside sources, the registration fee will be refunded in the form of a "payment" to the Great War Association.

Media

The media will be invited to witness this event. Local radio and television stations and newspapers will be invited to attend. The Richmond-Times Dispatch and The Washington Post will also be contacted.

Schools

For those of you interested in educating the public, in particular school children, this event will be ideal since this is what this event is all about! All day Friday schools from all over Hampton Roads will send school groups to visit the trenches and learn about World War I.

Proceeds from this event

Proceeds from ticket sales will go into the preservation of military history in the Division of Historic Services and Museums. This event will be ammunition to try to move the Virginia War Museum adjacent to Lee Hall Mansion which has been designated as a great location for a larger, more modern facility.

Vendors and Static Displays

Vendors selling Great War Era-related artifacts and materials are encouraged to come to the event. We need vehicles, artillery pieces, and more! If you have some stuff and want to show it off, this is a great place to do that! a registraion fee of \$15 per vendor will be charged. Vendor registration is seperate from participant, but if a refund is given, it will be returned to the GWA. Consider your registration fee as either helping to cover the event costs or a donation to the GWA.

Trenches

The trenches must be revetted as per regulations set forth by the City of Newport News, Virginia. It has been suggested that (2), 50 foot sections opposing one another, dug 4' down and revetted will be adequate. Trench-work will be required during Friday and Saturday living history activities. If a section of trench is not revetted, than we can not play in or sleep in it.

.....Continued on back page.....

NOTES ON STURM-BATALLIONS

Translated by Sue Fischer, from

Jürgen Kraus, *Die Feldgraue Uniformierung des Deutschen Heeres 1907 bis 1918*. Osnabrück: BiblioVerlag, 1999.

Formation

As the war on the Western Front solidified into a war of position, it soon became necessary to create an especially-trained unit for shock troop operations and attacks against strongly-built positions. At the beginning, the infantry helped by training its own shock troops itself. In March of 1915, the Prussian war ministry installed an experimental “Sturm-Abteilung” as a core unit with 2 pioneer companies and one 3.7 cm. cannon Abteilung from which the “Sturm-Batallion Rohr” later developed as a teaching unit. Eventually, in Dec. 1916 a Sturm-Batallion was assigned for every army corps, consisting of 2-3 Sturm-companies, 1 Minenwerfer and 1 machine-gun company, 1 infantry-defense battery, and 1 flamethrower Zug (taken from the Garde-Reserve-Pionier Rgt.). At the same time, the Sturm-Batallions were transferred over from the pioneers to the infantry. The number of Sturm-Batallions climbed eventually to 17.

From these, the Sturm-Batallions Nr. 9, 12, and 17 would already be dissolved during the year 1918. In accordance with the prussian edict of 7 June 1917, the men of the Sturm Batallions received the designation “Grenadier” except for Jäger-Batallion 3. Alone of these, Sturm-Batallion 5 “Rohr” would commonly keep the designation “Pionier,” those in the M-G companies were “Schütze,” and those in the howitzer batteries were “Kanonier.”

Field Uniform

Because the assigned Sturm-Batallions were assembled from different branches of the service, the uniforms within a bataillon were also different. A Prussian order of 6 Feb. 1917 (accepted in Bavaria on 11 Feb. 1917) ordered the outfitting something to the effect of the Sturm-companies and M-G companies were to wear the infantry uniform, the Minenwerfer company to wear the uniform of Minenwerfer (pioneer) troops; it was standardized that they should wear the number of the Sturm-Batallion on the sholder boards. Contrary to this, the Jäger (Sturm) Batallion Nr. 3 kept its gray-green Jäger uniform.

A series of exceptions existed with Sturm-Batallion Nr. 5 “Rohr.” According to its composition, the cannon-Abteilung wore the uniform of the field artillery, while all other companies wore the pioneer uniform, likewise with the bataillon number on the shoulder boards. Contrary to that, the flamethrower troops of the battalion bore the uniform of the Garde-Reserve-Pionier Rgt. with litzen on the collar and the death’s-head insignia on the sleeve. Moreover, the troop also bore an unusual distinction as awarded by order of 6 June 1916, a small death’s head with crossed bones on the Garde eagle of the leather helmet, which lay in the lower part of the Garde star. Although

this death’s head was permitted—in the form of the Braunschweig pattern—it was scarcely worn. The small troop had to thank the commander of the 5th army, Crown Prince Wilhelm of Prussia, for these unprecedented distinctions.

In addition, he awarded his cipher [the Crown Prince’s crown] to the entire Sturm-Batallion Nr. 5 on the occasion of its leaving the 5th Army on 18 Feb. 1918, the cipher to be worn on the left sleeve. Although an official approval of this insignia by the Army administration was not granted, all men received the insignia which were handed out directly after the Crown Prince’s speech, and put them on while on home leave; officers already wore it in the form of a golden pinback badge.

If the assigned Sturm Batallions did not already stand out by their special insignia, they received (by orders of 2 Jan. 1917) some of their appropriate replacement clothing items, which consisted of mountain boot-trousers with leather trim [the reinforcements on the knees], wrap leggings, and mountain boots. The still-remaining replacement boots were exchanged for a pair of low boots with the usual nails, by a Prussian order of 5 Nov. 1917 and a Bavarian order of 23 Nov. 1917.

Some divisions set up Sturm-Batallions or companies on their own initiative, which were not assigned [by the Army]. Despite repeated endeavors, the Army administration refused them the special clothing and on 22 Sep. 1917 sought also to stem the wearing of wrap leggings and low boots. Such units liked to pick out armbands as self-obtained insignia. So the Sturm-Komp. of the 23rd Reserve Division wore on the upper left sleeve of the Saxon uniform, a green armband edged in white with a white “S.” This insignia was officially permitted just as little as any other possible insignia obtained by the troops. With the special foot and leg uniform items, cloth trim [on the tunic] was generally worn at the elbow to reinforce the sleeve.

Equipment

In operations the batallions always carried only a light assault pack, hand grenades, and grenade bag. The number of ammo pouches was often reduced and a trench dagger fastened to the belt. In order to better support the equipment, the Sturm-Batallions were permitted from time to time the carrying equipment of the cavalry; still, the Army administration turned down this un-issued equipment on 8 Oct. 1917, just as it did the carbine hook used to fasten the grenade bag to the crossbelt. With the Prussian order of 8 March 1917, they were entitled to carry the long pioneer shovels in the following proportions: 50% spades, 25% double-bit picks, 20% axes, 5% wire cutters, except that every Unteroffizier carried an ax. The carbine 98 and infantry bayonet served as weapons.

ON THE GERMAN HOME FRONT: THE PRODUCTION AND USE OF ERSATZ GOODS

Marc Benedict of IR120,

edited by RW and HG

With the outbreak of WWI in August 1914, the press and government in the Entente countries were sure that Germany and Austro-Hungary could be reduced by hunger in some six months. It was a small wonder, then, that by September it was being asserted that the elephants of the Berlin Zoo had been butchered for their meat. It was also asserted that the Germans had brought all the food they had in the empire's interior to their border towns so that agents and spies would be fooled into believing that there was plenty of food on hand. However, the famine theories were not progressing rapidly enough, for hunger was expected to do a great deal of fighting for the Allies. The German spirit was very strong and resented the assertion of their enemies that they would be defeated by their stomachs, as some famine-boosting university economics professor was insisting. There would, however, come a time when waists would shrink. As prices rapidly moved upward on meat, dairy products and delicacies, more people increased the consumption of food staples, especially bread; something would have to be done to meet these new demands. German scientists and researchers prepared to find solutions for not only the shortages of food but also of clothing-as well as strategic materials that were no longer available from overseas.

ERSATZ FOOD

The area of food substitution was the most interesting. When stretching the food supply became necessary, the German pure-food laws were thrown on the scrap heap by the government. It really was remarkable what coal-tar would do for the Germans and their allies. It provided the base for their explosives, made their dyes, and from one period of the war by actual count provided 446 distinct and separate chemical products used in medicine, sanitation, and food substitution. Theoretically humans could be fed chemically by food in tablet form, but in practice, it would ruin the health of the populace. A diet of inorganic elements will not sustain organic life. The chemical food experts began to see that substitution would have to take the place of inventions and innovation.

ERSATZ BREAD

The first step was the appearance of Kriegsbrot (war bread). Despite its name it was very palatable. It consisted of 55% rye, 25% wheat, and 20% potato meal, sugar and shortening. The potato element was said to prevent its getting stale. Kriegsbrot's flavor improved by the third day and loaves a week old showed no deterioration. Although this first war bread was superior, rye and wheat flour were not always plentiful. Oats, Indian corn, barley, beans, peas and buckwheat meal had to be added as time went on. A

popular cake sold in the cafés was made mostly of ground clover meal, with flour of horse-chestnuts added, a little rice, glucose, sugar or honey and chopped raisins or prunes. Even at the price it sold for-an ounce for three cents-the cake was a success, in nutrition, appearance and taste.

ERSATZ COFFEE, TEA AND COCOA

Coffee imports had become impossible by 1916. The scant stores on hand had been stretched and extenuated by the use of chicory and other supplements. A transition from coffee to coffee substitute began. The first substitute, Kaffee-ersatz, was not a bad one. It was mostly made of roasted barley and oats and the flavor was enhanced by chemicals from coal-tar. The brew had a good percentage of nutritive elements, no caffeine and was quite palatable when taken with milk and sugar-without sugar though, it was impossible. But the grain could be put to better purpose and so this led to the introduction of the substitute of a substitute. Kaffee-ersatz-ersatz was made of roasted acorns and beechnuts, with just enough roasted barley to build up a coffee flavor. It was said to be better than the first substitute but was also more expensive. Unfortunately, there weren't enough acorns and beechnuts, much of which was being fed to pigs. Before long the excellent acorn-beechnut coffee disappeared to be replaced by a third substitute whose original ingredients were carrots and yellow turnips. A substitute for tea was not difficult. The bloom of the linden tree mixed with beech buds and a few tips of pine made an excellent "oolong." A cocoa substitute came from coal-tar and chemistry along with roasted peas and oats.

MEATLESS MEAT

The advantage of the conversion of grains, nuts and vegetables that were used as substitutes was to placate the old eating habits of the public. The same food value would be found if consumed in some other form. This placation was no more evident than on every meatless, fatless, or wheatless day or period. The rice "lamb" chop would satisfy even an exacting taste. Rice was boiled and formed into a lump resembling a chop. A skewer of wood was stuck into the lump to serve as a bone. The illusion was made more complete with a little paper rosette to top off the "bone" and served with green peas and a sprig of watercress. Fried in real mutton tallow, it came to the table with the look and aroma of the real thing. The vegetable beefsteak was a composition of cornmeal, spinach, potatoes, and ground nuts with an egg to bind the mass together. It took becoming used to the thing's interior, which was pale green, in order to achieve the satisfaction of using a knife in good earnest. The paucity of meat was a

result of an economic decision made in 1914. It was easier and less wasteful to distribute cereals and vegetables directly than the more complex food products from animals, which required the same cereals and vegetables to keep alive. It was thought to be of more value to the state to eliminate the step of having animal stomachs convert home-raised cereal into meat and let the human stomach attend to the grain directly. The shortage of meat, lard, suet, butter, and eggs actually helped to improve the health of the public, due to the elimination of three-quarters of the fat normally consumed. Since no animal fat could be produced without sacrificing a good share of the country's cereal supply, the animal-product industry was kept down to its lowest possible level. However, this had the undesirable effect of raising the prices of what meats and fats that were available and encouraging illicit trading.

ERSATZ CLOTH AND FIBERS

Times being hard, there was a reemergence of the nettle plant as a textile. Prior to the war it was looked upon as a noxious weed fit only for goose fodder. To convert nettles into a useful fiber, the plant is cut, packed tightly under water so that the vegetable pulp will decay and then dried and prepared for spinning in a process similar to the production of flax fiber (into linen). It was brought into the market with the imposing name of "natural silk." Germany, Austro-Hungary, Turkey and Bulgaria produced considerable quantities of cotton, wool, flax and silk. But there continued to be a shortage of textiles and raw materials to go around. The wear and tear on uniforms was severe, and the men at the front were wearing out their uniforms at an alarming rate. The military authorities realized that nothing would be gained by making uniforms of poor cloth, so only the best materials available were used. It was the civilian who was forced to wear shoddy-fabric made from reclaimed wool fibers. Shoddy gives ample satisfaction as long as enough new material is added. An old wool suit could be "combed" for fibers and combined with some new wool, cotton or silk, and then re-dyed. Enough material could be made this way to make two "new" suits. First-class shoddy was produced under a formula of 65% new fiber and 35% old. To prevent the spread of disease all shoddy was thoroughly sterilized.

PAPER-CLOTH

The shortage of textiles gave rise to the paper-cloth industry. It was not a question of inventing something entirely new because paper twine had been in use for many years. For many purposes for which textiles were being used, paper-cloth was well suited, especially for all the articles that used imported manila and jute. But from paper-twine to paper-cloth it was quite a step, since the yarn or threads that are used to make fabric are finer than paper twine. These threads had to be made reasonably strong in order to make a relatively durable fabric. Paper cloth's manufacture used machines originally designed to make newspaper. First, rolls of unbleached paper passed through an arrangement of rotary blades which cut the sheet into strips.

The strips were gathered on spools that revolved about their axis but also about themselves giving the paper strip the necessary twist. Fabric made entirely from these threads could be used for bagging and similar uses. But even when hardened by a chemical treatment, paper-cloth yarn still did not have the strength to form a garment-strength fabric. When reinforced by a tougher fiber-cotton, flax or silk as the weft, a fabric suitable for garments that would not see rough use was made. For example, sweater coats for ladies and children or for hats. For military overcoats, a wool weft was used and a waterproof treatment applied. This produced a warm garment that was watertight without the result of being airtight.

SHOES

The endeavor to find a substitute for shoe sole leather was not so successful. Horned cattle in Central Europe are stabled throughout the year. Protected from inclement weather, these animals have thin, tender hides. Thus, there was enough leather for the finest uppers, however, this leather was next to useless for soles. The solution was found in the use of wooden soles. Wooden soles worked well enough for the rural population, but on city pavement it was unacceptable. The question was how to make that wooden sole bend a little at the instep. The first design was a sole whose two halves were held together by a hinge under the instep. However, the hinged sole left the arches unsupported at the very point where the support was needed. Experiments produced a flexible bit of steel plate to replace the hinge. The best wooden soled shoe was the one that gave the foot lots of ankle room, held the instep snug and made up for the flexibility of the leather sole by a rounding off of the wooden sole under the toes. A good and serviceable wooden sole shoe with leather uppers had been created.

A NEW SOURCE OF EXPLOSIVES

Much was done in the field of inventing substitutes for hard to get war matériel. German scientists perfected the system of a Norwegian chemist, who had made commercially possible the process of condensing the practically inexhaustible store of nitrogen in the air into niter crystals. This eliminated the need to import minerals to make explosives. The fact that almost anything could be converted into explosives by nitration resulted in substitutes for more valuable raw materials. Before the war, cotton fiber and fat were the materials used to make nitroglycerin. But the fats that go into glycerin and the cotton that becomes trinitrocellulose could be put to better use. After a new process was developed, which substituted coal-tar in place of fat and birch and willow pulp in place of cotton, a savings in both food and clothing was achieved.

THRIFT, CONSERVATION AND RECYCLING

The campaign against waste was the embodiment of thrift and conservation. All household offal had to be separated into food remains and rubbish. Food leavings, potato peels, fruit skins, the unused parts of vegetables, and the like were

used as animal food. Much of the copper and brass complement of households was turned in and most copper roofs were replaced by tin. Church bells were being smelted, hile in coinage, iron took place of nickel. Sweepings from the streets were being used as fertilizer and dead leaves were gathered for stable bedding. Women and children were sent out to gather nuts, mushrooms and berries in the woods and villagers were permitted to cut dead wood in state forests.

"SUMMER-TIME"

The introduction of "summer time" moved the clocks ahead an hour, so that people rose shortly before dawn, worked their customary ten hours in the shops and factories and then still had enough daylight to work in their gardens. When dusk came they went to bed! The early closings of shops, cafés and restaurants greatly affected savings in light and eatables. This practice endures in today's "Daylight Savings Time." And thus while the German soldier endured at the frontline, the civilians served the cause on the home front.

Source: The Iron Ration: Three Years in Warring Central Europe, George Abel Schreiner, Harper & Bros. Publishers, New York, 1918.



AMERICAN WARTIME SLANG

submitted by Tim Fensch, IR 63

These definitions come from the book "War Slang" by Paul Dickson (Pocket Books, 1994.) I have done some editing, based on the following: I left out the obvious and well-known words that I assume (I hope) everyone in Great War reenacting would know, such as "Bully Beef" or "Ammo" for ammunition. I also skipped words peculiar to the naval and air branches, since we mostly reenact the ground forces. I have, however, included slang that perhaps many of us didn't know first appeared in the Great War, such as the fact that, while A.W.O.L. had been around since the Civil War, it began to be pronounced as a word ("A-wol") in WWI.

Acting Jack--A temporary sergeant.

Amalgam--A section of front where American and French troops mingled.

Apartment--A dugout.

Archie--An anti-aircraft gun.

Artillery--Beans.

Ash Can--A large German shell.

Attaboy--An American soldier. Also, a cry of encouragement for Americans.

Baby Elephant--A small, corrugated--iron shelter.

Barbed--wire Disease--A nervous breakdown brought about by imprisonment.

Barbwire Garters--A mythical award for those who got no special honors or decorations.

Barndook--A gun; a rifle...also "bundook" and "bondook"...a Hindi word for gun that was familiar to the British soldier in India.

Barn Door--Hello or good day. The term is a play on the French *bonjour*.

Baron--An army commander.

Beak Cover--A gas mask.

Bean Tote--Soon; from the French *bientot*.

Beef Villas--Biefvillers, France.

Bertha Pill--A large German shell, such as that fired by Big Bertha.

Bevo Officer--A new officer; one who had not gone through West Point. Bevo was a near-beer.

Big Bow--Wow--A regimental sergeant--major.

Big Boy--A large gun.

Big Push or Big Show--Any major engagement, but usually referring to the Somme.

Big Stuff--Large shells (8" or over.)

Billiard--No-man's land.

Bing Boy--A Canadian soldier.

Bite & Hold--A strategy by which the enemy is forced to consolidate its defenses and required to undertake costly counterattacks.

Bitter Ender--One who was opposed to any terms of peace other than the total defeat of the Central Powers.

Black Jack--In addition to the nickname of Gen. Pershing, a strong physic or coffee.

Black Maria--A high-explosive shell.

Black Pill--A German shell that emitted black smoke on exploding.

Black Strap--Coffee.

Blind--A dud shell.

Blind Pig--A huge shell from a trench mortar.

To Be Continued Next Issue

- ☐ Check this box if you have changed your address since the last event
- ☐ Check this box if you are a unit commander

Print first letter of your last name in this box

GWA Membership Update and Registration Form for the Fall Combat Event at the Caesar Krauss Great War Memorial Site, Newville, PA, Nov. 3-5, 2000

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. 2000 Dues if you have not already paid this year \$25.00
(Annual dues are due at the Spring event each year)

B. Fall 2000 Event Fee if pre-registered \$25.00

C. Rebate, if applicable (see below) (\$25.00)

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

E. Gate registration penalty \$15.00

F. Gate registration total (D+E) \$

All pre-registrations must be received by the Treasurer on or before Oct. 31, 2000. If your pre-registration was not received by that date, you must pay at the event--including the \$15 gate registration penalty. Your original pre-registration, if received in the mail, will be returned unopened.

Rebate: Members who pre-registered for, but did not attend, an event in 1998 and 1999 are entitled to receive a credit of the event fee only. If you believe you are entitled to a rebate, contact Randy Gaulke to verify this before sending in your registration form.

Pre-registration: Members are encouraged to pre-register to save the gate penalty. Beginning in 2000, if you pre-register but are unable to attend the event, your event fee (only) will be returned within two weeks after the event.

Send form and check to Randy Gaulke, GWA Treasurer, 584 Valley Road, Gillette, NJ 07933
Phone: 908-626-1345 E-mail: lavarenned@msn.com

GWA UNIT LIST

(use abbreviations only, when filling out registration form)

American Units

1 AEF 1st Div., 28th Inf. Co. E., AEF
 27 AEF 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
 372AEF 93rd Div., 372nd Inf., AEF
 49CO 5th Marines, 49th Co., AEF
 67CO 5th Marines, 67th Co., AEF
 26AEF 26th Div. (Yankee Div.), AEF (probationary)

British Units

7RIR 7th Royal Irish Rifles, BEF
 6BWBEF 6th Btn., Black Watch, BEF
 17BEF 17th Lancers, BEF
 BUFF 6th Buffs Rgt., BEF
 IRISHGD Irish Guards No. 3 Co., 1st Btn.
 MGDBEF Machine Gun Corps, BEF

Commonwealth Units

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

French Units

151RL 151er Regiment d'Infanterie

Russian Units

RL Legion Russe

Austrian Units

63KUK 63rd KuK

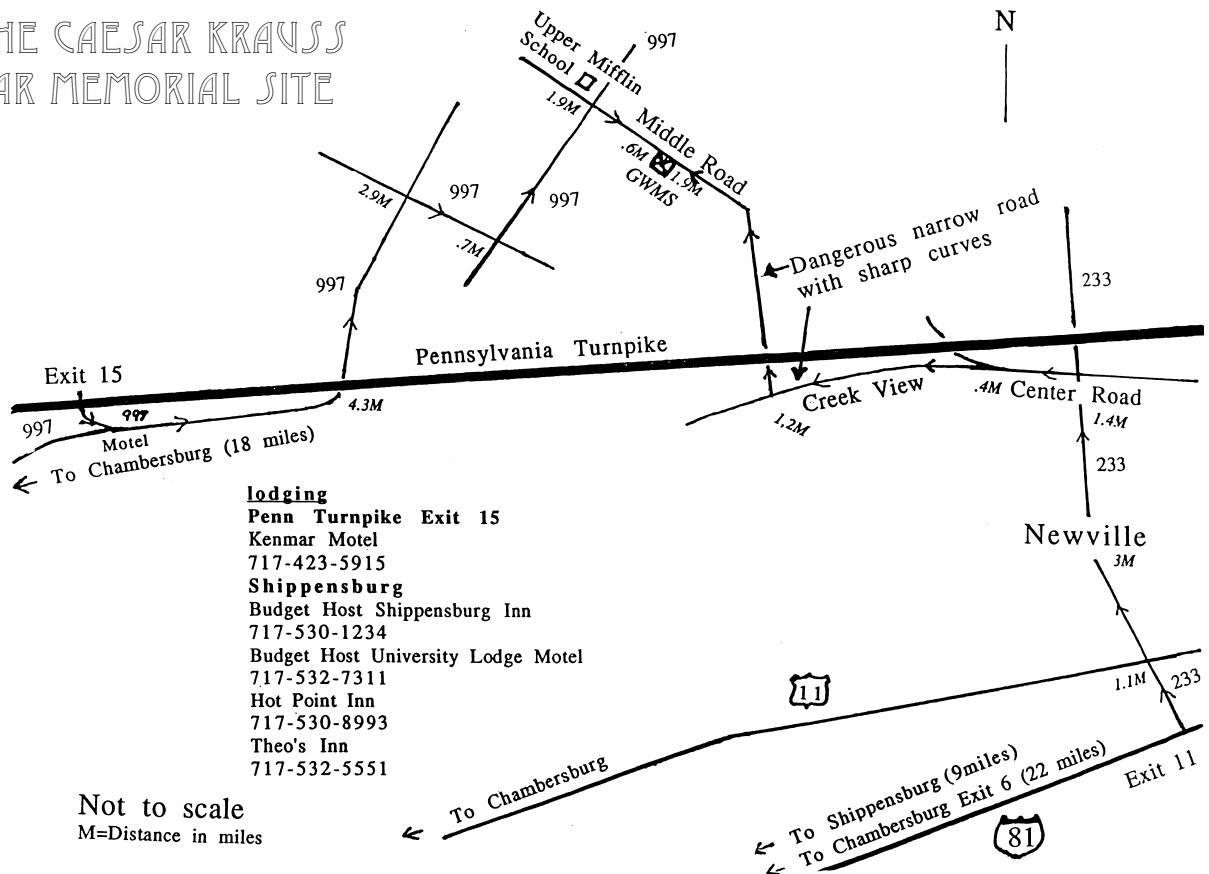
German Units

1LR Königliche Bayerische Leib Regiment
 23JR J.R. 23 (2. Oberschlesisches)
 63JR J.R. 63 (4. Oberschlesisches)
 92JR J.R. 92 (1. Braunschweigisches)
 111JR J.R. 111(3. Badisches)
 120JR J.R. 120 (2. Württembergisches)
 5SP 5. Sturm-Pionier Battalion (Rohr)
 23/12 12. Minenwerfer Komp. 12 Inf. Div., J.R. 23
 20MG 20. MG Scharfschützen Komp.
 8KUR 3. Feldek., Kürassier Regt. Nr. 8 (probationary)
 13LJB Landwehr Infanterie-Battalion 13
 25LJR Landwehr Infanterie-Regiment 25 (1. Rhenisches)

Non-Military

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

MAP TO THE CAESAR KRAUSS GREAT WAR MEMORIAL SITE



SURVEY FOR PROPOSED THIRD EVENT

NAME: _____

UNIT: _____

Are you interested in having a third event that would allow public viewing and interaction?

Yes: _____ No: _____

If your answer was yes, what dates would work best for a third event?

(Number the following 1,2,3,4 as to preference with one being your first choice)

May: _____ Early June: _____ September: _____ Early October: _____

Bear in mind the site is in better shape in the spring than the fall usually.

List date conflicts with other periods you do in the months listed:

Please return your survey to Randy Gaulke,
GWA Treasurer, 584 Valley Road, Gillette, NJ 07933 either by mail or at the Fall event.



FALL EVENT SCHEDULE

Friday November 3rd

1PM - 9PM Registration Tent Operational

7PM Assemble for Safety Meeting at Center of Road in
No Man's Land.

8PM - 12MN Night Combat in First Line Trenches of
Designated Sectors.

Saturday November 4th

7AM - 9AM Registration Tent Operational

9AM to 10AM Safety Meeting at Memorial Site

10AM to 12MN Continuous Scenario, Full Battlefield



Great War Reenactment in Virginia -- cont.

Barbed wire

If you have any, and you want to use it, please bring it.

Sandbags

If you have any correct ones (jute burlap), and you want to use them, please bring them.

Automatic Weapons and Artillery

These are highly encouraged to attend! A bounty may be paid if the funds are raised.

Ground Charges

Light and heavy ground charges will be used during both battles preceeding the infantry assaults.

If you want to put your name and/or the name of your unit on the registration roster, please contact me through any of the following ways:

warmuseum@whro.net
toddballance@mail.com
(757) 887-1862

When registering, provide me with the following information:

-name
-rank

-unit
-impression (example: French medical)
-address
-phone number
-e-mail address

For more information or any questions, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to seeing you all out here!

Sincerely,
Todd Ballance
Great War Event Coordinator



FRIENDS OF THE TRENCHES

The Friends of the Trenches will be serving FREE hot chocolate in the Sutlers' area at the Fall Event this year. We hope you will stop by with your own cup and fill up. We will also sell sandwiches, homemade cookies, and soft drinks, as well as handmade beeswax candles to light up your life.



c/o Randy Gaulke
584 Valley Road
Gillette, NJ 07933

