

ON THE WIRE

NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT WAR ASSOCIATION

Fall 2011



Final Thoughts

While it may not seem so peering through the incessant rain and warm weather we've been having here in PA, the Fall GWA event is rapidly approaching. Site reports have pointed to a rather large late season foliage explosion thanks to the weather; units will need to get out and work their areas to put the site into "fighting" shape. It has also hampered the efforts for the Death Valley restoration project, as the rain and mud have delayed the initial work efforts, which focus largely on excavation and ironically, drainage.

Some of you may have caught wind of off the field issues such as Bylaws revision discussion. For those who've been through Bylaws discussions before, these are rarely an enjoyable occurrence and this is no different. It has opened a can of worms and pointed to shortcomings in our Bylaws about how Bylaws can be revised, which naturally impacts revising

of Bylaws. Good old Catch-22. At this point I do not expect that we'll have any Bylaws amendments on the ballot in the Fall; getting the language right on addressing how Bylaws get revised will take longer than we have time remaining before the event, and will need to occur over the winter. And that must really occur before other known Bylaws issues that we need to address can take place. So look for more of that "fun" next year.

But that's OK, you'll have lots of other things on the ballot, namely the most populated slate for a G-8 election I can remember. The biographies and campaign statements we've received to date are in this *OTW* issue as well as the GWA website. We'll have a lot of turnover on the G-8 this year, as at least four of the current G-8 members (President, Treasurer, Secretary and Allied Commander) are leaving office. Three other incumbents are in competitive races, so potentially 7/8 of the G-8 could be new.

But otherwise, life goes on in the GWA. New members, units to vote on, continued development of the site, a stronger financial position offering an abundance of options now that we own the site outright.

So pray for some good weather (for site work and for the event) come out Thursday night to the farmhouse for the pre-event soiree and enjoy the rest of your event.

Jim Kidd

President, GWA

GWA Fall 2011 Tactical Event

Friday 4 November

- 1:00 pm** Registration opens at shed
- 5:00pm** Modern vehicles must be moved from all areas beyond the registration shed gate (including the battlefield, roads, rear areas, camps) before 5:00pm and parked in the parking lots. The registration shed gate will be locked to private autos until 6am Sunday
- 5:30pm** Safety briefing at the Memorial site
- 6:30pm** Combat begins.
- 11:00pm** Combat ceases.

Saturday 5 November

- 9:00am** Safety meeting at the Memorial site (mandatory attendance)
- 10:00am** Combat begins.
- 11:00pm** Combat ends.

Sunday 6 November

- 6:00am** Gate at registration shed opened. Modern vehicles may access roads to battlefield. Battlefield cleanup commences.
- 8:00** G-8 meeting at farmhouse

A Few Reminders:

- There will be no personal modern vehicles allowed inside the gate after the 5:30 PM Friday until 6 AM on Sunday. In the case of a bona fide emergency, a member could appeal to the GWA President for a written driving pass, but **ONLY the GWA President** can grant this. The convenience of members who wish an early departure comes in absolutely last in the list of event priorities. If you wish to get out early, seek out someone with a period vehicle or line up some of your mates to help you carry your gear out.
- Be aware that even if the combat is halted, suspended or ended during an event, the event itself goes on; so just because combat may have ended, expect that the living history will continue and anyone wishing to step outside of 1918 must do so out in the parking lot. Please respect your fellow GWA members who are trying to stay in period and enjoy the full aspect of the event for the full run of the event. Only an evacuation of the site by civil authorities will "end" an event.



GWA & GWAA Evening Social

All are invited to the third, evening social Thursday from 2030hrs (8:30pm) until midnight in the Farm House, located just off the southern flank of the CP trench system.

Enjoy good camaraderie, sparkling conversation, excellent adult beverages and superb foods with friends and comrades from both sides of No Man's Land in the GWA and GWAA.

You might want to bring a chair as sitting is usually limited and any donations of liquor or foods to add to the current fare, will be graciously accepted.

GWA Elections Uncontested Candidates

For Treasurer: Chris Garcia

For Secretary: Eugene Poplavsky

For Allied Combat Commander: Jon Kulaga

For Central Powers Combat Commander: Rob Zienta

Contested Positions

Ballots will be cast in person at the Fall 2011 Event as part of the event registration process.

Candidates for President

Bill Cash

My name is Bill Cash; some of you may know me as Wilhelm Cassel; and I'm running for GWA President. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself.

Reenacting Experience:

I started my reenacting career with the IR63 in 1995. Over the last 16 years, I've done WW-1, WW-2, & Civil War. But nothing compares to the friendships and camaraderie I have experienced as a member of the GWA. During my time in the hobby, I have held positions from private soldier to unit commander. I am excited to use my interest, knowledge and experience to enrich school programs by conducting a number of living history programs every year.

Professional Experience:

I have worked at Honda Motor Company Research and Development for 20 years where I am a Senior Engineer/Department Manager for Transmission testing with day to day management of a durability testing facility including 60 staff members.

My duties have included large project manager in charge of all North American Localization for transmission development and project leader of Honda power-train developments. What this means is that I have the experience to listen to ideas and focus the efforts to make positive results happen.

Why I am asking for your support:

We have a strong legacy of men who have served our hobby to get us to this point. The future looks bright for the GWA, with the lease having now been paid off and the organization having a strong membership. Yet, we are at a cross-road, where we can really prosper and grow or maintain the status-quo. In the coming years, the GWA needs strong business minded leadership to move our hobby forward and develop the GWA site. With the 100th anniversary of WWI fast approaching, we have an opportunity to bring in quality reenactors from other time periods if we PR our organization in the proper manner. However, this all starts with the G8. The G8 must listen to and work for the GWA membership. The goal must be for us all to have a safe and enjoyable hobby. To do this, we need to develop a clear plan and timely schedule to move the organization forward. It is imperative that the GWA membership be kept informed of our progress through timely reports.

Leadership is more than having good ideas. It is listening to you. It is focusing the efforts of those who will serve. It is being a good communicator, getting along with people, being a diplomat and a cheerleader. I believe that my experience in business and with the GWA have prepared me to serve you, the GWA membership.

Sincerely,

Bill Cash

(aka Wilhelm Cassel)

Chris Ruff

A little about myself...

I started reenacting in 1989 and have since branched out into multiple timeperiods. I'm of the mindset that reenacting is a strictly volunteer hobby and should be worth while and fun. For me a major part of the fun is trying to get it right and portray the past to the best of my ability. If I look like I stepped right out of a photo from 1918, then I am happy! A major reason why I am running for President of the GWA is to better shape the world of WWI Reenacting for those that take it seriously.

Some of the issues that I am aware of are:

1. Authenticity. One thing I always keep in mind throughout the course of my Reenacting weekend is the constant presence of non-period anachronisms, one cannot travel either the trench site or roads behind without encountering inappropriate/FARB Items. I heard complaints of generators and power tools running during the event as well. Fixing this starts at the individual and unit level. We have the advantage of a great wealth of original photos and extant artifacts from the time. People can do without any modern intrusions for the duration of the



event. To do otherwise is disrespectful to everyone else. Bottom line leave the FARB at home, you don't need it!

2. **Recruitment.** More effort could be made to recruit younger, progressive minded folks into the hobby. WWI is a period that holds great appeal for the Military History enthusiast. Inexpensive and authentic uniforms are more affordable than ever before.
3. There is a motion to bring back the Horse and Wagon as a means to transport supplies from the parking lot to the site. I am in support of this effort! Funds from event registration can be used to pay for this service. This deserves a serious look into because it can really add to the event. The horse and wagon teams, perhaps two to three would encourage the exclusion of non-period vehicles behind the lines and through no man's land. These guys might even consider wearing a cap or overcoat, period attire if we provide it.
4. **Event fees.** We spend a great deal of time and effort toward this hobby. Some of us spend a lot of money to assemble an impression. We all travel long distances to get to the site so why not get a break at the gate? The current event fee is \$25.00. Perhaps this can be lowered to \$15.00-\$20.00. This could be worth looking into.
5. **Site improvement.** I think that the site has a great deal to offer and people get out of the site what they put into it. We can all make the effort to clean the site of anachronisms. Non-period trash should be cleaned up to include plastic grenade trash. Defoliation is also a priority. I will look into better ways to burn off vegetation in prepping the site for events.
6. **Stability for the GWA.** The Newville site has been used for a variety of other events to include WWII and Vietnam. The site has also been used as a setting for film productions. Perhaps we can explore options to bring different projects to the site that would generate revenue to support the GWA.
7. We should also consider the inclusion of pyrotechnic effects and displays to enhance a realistic WWI setting, funding this can be done from within the hobby/in house at cost of supplies. The presence of safe but realistic ground charges and explosions can add immensely to everyone's battle event.

I thank you for your consideration as president of the GWA.

Chris Ruff

Marsh Wise

Recently, I spoke with a member on the phone in what was an enlightening and good conversation. He pointed out to me that I haven't really said what I would do as President. Fair enough. I will say that I don't really like empty political promises and so shy away from making them — if I can't tell you the truth, I am not going to make something up or tell you what I think you want to hear. Over the past 20 years, I have seen a number of men come and go on the board; most

of them good men who tried and in some cases succeeded in doing right for the organization. I have seen some who were less successful and I have seen a couple really stumble. I don't wish to stumble, so I am going to try and be very careful in the things I do as President.

Things I am for:

- Well, **the wagon**, of course. I was one of the people who have been carrying on about it for years. I still want it and think it is a good idea. If you don't, I'm sorry, please tell me why. Am I a dictator? No. Let's discuss it. It's a positive.
- **Recruiting new, younger blood into the hobby.** It is now cheaper than it ever has been w/the exception of the weapons. We need more young guys. Us 40+ guys would have been more the exception. No, I am not trying to get rid of older guys, I am saying we need to infuse new blood in here to move the GWA into the future. I think we really need to work on our recruiting, be it through the web-sites and Internet, to having some more displays by those who like that (Frank, Jay, Caroline, Randall please speak up here). I think a return to a membership committee is a good idea and will work to make it happen.
- **Openness and transparency.** Over the years, I have seen things that were kept more of a secret than the aliens at Roswell. Why? I think there should be more chances for member input and really, I want to see that. Why aren't the committees "populated?" We need to make SURE that things are out in the open and we need MORE commo from the G-8 ... some members of the G-8 are never heard from. In that light, **I will ALWAYS return commo from the membership** — I am available most days for discussion. And ... I will put forth a motion for all G-8 meeting minutes to be published.
- **A real site survey.** I think that we need to see what we have here. We need to make plans to fix things and help those that need it. It isn't to be a "witch hunt," just an honest assessment and then a plan as to where to go with the site. Especially so that we don't end up with a "Hooverville" (as some are calling it). When I look at the site, I see some really cool things and others, well, they need work. Member input is a good thing. However, simply saying "that sucks" is not helpful. HOW can we fix it? If you've not been on a committee, why not volunteer? The GWA needs you!
- **Foster a spirit of comradeship.** We seem to have drifted apart. Now yes, I know that all of us will not always get along, but really, I want to expand the Thursday night social and hmmm (thinks I), an Oompah band at one might be cool, some other kinds of period-like entertainment would be fun. We have some great cooks in our organization, why not have some of the good stuff we don't get to try during events or that's on the other side. Who WOULDN'T benefit from some kind of period cooking contest or trench food cook-off? I KNOW the DRK has some great food. I have had the best biscuits and gravy at the Salvation Army ... who else has some food to



offer? Eugene, don't you guys cook some Russian delicacies that we can all try?

- **More Combat.** Well, sort of. The Centennial is upon us and Rob Zienta had made a great suggestion: WHY not make the event a bit longer with an Early War battle on Friday, run like a WWII event (9-4) so that those of us who have such things could use them. Maybe just for the Centennial ... I can hear the Amis spooling up. Guys, the war was more than the last bit and while yes, the GWA is mostly about the last bit (because, well, we're all really AMERICANS), shouldn't a bit more of it be done? Not permanently, not in the trenches, but some field maneuvering ... I know Lou Brown and Mike Lo had done some of this kind of thing before. Why not? I know Jim Kidd is hankering to wear the red pants of the early war Poiliu! Pickelhauben are cheap nowadays ... :-) And no, before someone says it, the President is NOT the Führer, **it would not be required**, just something for those who wish it. Many, MANY, of us have missed doing some of the early war stuff yet we DO recognize that the Amis had a point about not being included. What's the answer? I don't know, but something is better than nothing due to inaction. At least, let's discuss it.

My Background

I own **reenactor.Net** and through it, try to expose others to our great hobby. I started reenacting in 1989, first doing OpFor with a bunch of reenactors from other time periods who introduced me to WWI. I came out and watched the Fall 1989 and Spring 1990 events at Shimpstown. My first event was the Fall of 1990 event at Shimpstown with JR63, a unit I was with until early 2002. Since moving back to the East Coast, I reactivated and am the C.O. of JR23.

Over the years, I have done a number of things in the GWA, some of which included a stint as Editor of *On the Wire* (back when it was a magazine) ... when it was decided that that *OtW* should be downsized, I moved on and set up and built the first GWA website. I ran it for a couple of years and then handed it off to Jon Novicki who wanted to try running it. It is currently run by Frank James (aka Max Stiebritz) — if anyone can understand what Max goes through as webmaster, it's me! In 2006, then President Rob Zienta asked me to play with a new website format that would be, if possible, easier for members and also the G-8 to easily update things themselves. This project evolved into **Great-War.org** (what Jim Kidd calls the "Member's Portal"). I believe we have accomplished our goals with the Great-War.org's format. I hope for both GWA sites to be merged under Max and, with him overseeing things, flourish under the team concept.

Why am I Running?

You may ask why I am running for this position and my answer is that I wish to help improve things, to better the communication between the G-8 and the membership and provide the leadership that our organization needs.

The GWA is an organization I love! It has some of the finest people I know and I simply wish to make better. While our we recognize the goal of creating "living history" and honoring those who made a supreme sacrifice in the trench-

es in WWI, we also mustn't forget that "Fun" is an integral part of the goal for many. When I first joined the GWA it was known as the "Reenactor's Reenactment." It is my intention to continue that tradition through recruitment of new and younger members who will carry our torch forward. While I reenact other time periods, **none is as important to me as WWI**, which is my primary reenacting time. As most, if not all of our members realize, even though we have only two events a year, participation in GWA planning and participation extends throughout the year and over the years, I have been a part of work parties, committees and unit activities.

The Centennial

The element of time will be more critical with the Centennial coming up. I believe now is the time for us to start planning and getting ready for this event because of the following opportunities:

- A renewed interest in WWI by the media and general public, which will also mean exciting possibilities for recruitment. Therefore, I will initiate the formation of a "Publicity and Recruitment Committee" (like we have had before in the past) charged with developing materials that can be used by GWA members and units to recruit new members. Websites are pretty important, but aren't enough. The biggest majority of recruits come from our own members talking to their friends and those they meet, about our reenactments and our organization.
- More interest and desire for information about WWII will provide more educational opportunities. I also believe in the educational goals of this organization. Our members are a great resource of information about WWI. Therefore, I will encourage more public presentations at universities and schools, which I feel the Centennial will offer excellent opportunities to accomplish this goal because of renewed interest in the subject.
- Our site should appropriately and historically "mirror" the WWI battlefield. This is coming together and has taken a tremendous amount of work by everyone. We still have a ways to go. I also anticipate a number of site improvement projects developed on BOTH sides of the line. The CP has recently benefited from major improvements to our lines and we must now begin to look at developing the Allied side of the lines as well. Improvements on both sides of the line make it "fun" for everyone. Therefore, I will support site development and ways to assist units to improve their areas.

I think that we all have more in common than not and hope to expand the spirit of comradeship that many in the GWA already possess. As always, I would love to hear the member's ideas, thoughts and have the chance to answer their questions as to what I believe. I promise you, you will always know what I think ... they say I wear my heart on my sleeve. I don't know if that is true, but I DO know that I am for open commo, transparent running of the organization, and no "backroom deals."

Some Political Stuff

No, I am not gonna kiss babies. No, I am not going to raise your taxes (and NO, I will not say "read my lips") which



leads me to: A member of IR124 asked me “Why OUR event fees can't be lowered some, if we are renting the site out to other time periods for events?” (And yes, the whole use of site by other time periods might need to be looked at.) Yes, I believe in corporal punishment. No, I am not going to discuss abortion. Yes, I am against gun control.

How's that for some things? Thanks for your time!

Best,

Marsh Wise

“A Brat in every Pot!”

1./J.R. 23, Candidate for President der GWA
and proud member of the Schlesien Party

Candidates for Vice President

Kevin Brown

My name is Kevin Brown and I am running for the office of Vice President of the GWA.

From the beginning of my term as Vice President, I have called for revisions to the GWA Bylaws and avidly support the revision process. As a policy, I specifically advocate the removal of Article 17 which essentially allows the President almost unlimited power, and I endorse the change to a more democratic governance and management of the GWA. I am an ardent champion for more transparency and openness in all administrative and committee procedures. Furthermore, I support and will insist upon more membership participation in formulating decisions made by the administration and all committees. I believe that all elected officials of the G-8 have a fiduciary responsibility to act on behalf of all GWA members first and foremost rather than as partisan Allied or Central Powers members.

As an organisation, we are moving towards a new era of increased democracy, at the same time a very substantial increase in available discretionary money is created by the retirement of our old mortgage. I have the experience that I know will be beneficial, if not crucial, to help navigate our organisation during this especially critical transitional time in our organisation's history. I've been a GWA member since 1988, and have served with the Allied Trenchmaster for the last six years. For the last two years I have also been filling in the vacant Vice President position. I fully understand the challenges that confront us at this time, and I am enthusiastic and highly motivated to implement new bylaws that will best serve the GWA as a whole and advance our hobby. I am committed to the improvement of our hobby and the protection of our monetary and real estate assets for the betterment of our organisation.

Shawn Roberts

My name is Shawn Roberts and I am running for the GWA Vice President.

Like most of you, I have spent the majority of my Great War reenacting career away from the administrative and

political side of our organization. This has changed recently with having entered my name for your consideration to serve as the Vice President of the GWA. It is my belief that I can bring a fresh perspective, relevant experience, and long-term vision to our organization.

Fresh Perspective

I started Great War reenacting in 1995 at the age of 18. I spent my first years in the German ranks until 2001, when I created the 2nd BTN Border Regiment, BEF. Three years ago I was fortunate enough to be asked to serve the BEF as its platoon SGT; followed shortly thereafter as the British/Commonwealth Company Sergeant Major. It is with this increasing responsibility to our members that I have garnered a growing enthusiasm to help lead and improve our organization in the years to come.

I encourage you to talk with some members of the British and Commonwealth units in order to hear their impressions of my efforts to help augment their living history experience and help create a sense of being in military service (while keeping it fun).

Relevant Experience

I have been reenacting since 1994; and have been leading reenacting units since 1997. I believe I understand how diverse, complex, and difficult it can be to satisfy 400 reenactors.

I was 17 years old when I joined the United States Army where I served four years as an enlisted infantryman. After college I attended OCS and have been an infantry officer ever since. I have been a platoon leader, company commander, and have served on battalion staff in several roles. I believe I can be technically and tactically proficient at leading a military-style organization such as ours.

I am an executive officer of a small multi-location company that operates in nine different counties, and two different States. I have solid experience in risk mitigation, contract law, state/local government interaction, as well as working with a board of directors.

Long-term Vision

I am excited about the future of our hobby. I get thrilled when I talk about our members, our organization, and our traditions to people whom have never been to Newville.

Our members are unique in the world of military reenacting. They are more passionate, more devoted, and more eccentric compared to our re-enacting counterparts. We need to take advantage of this enthusiasm and channel it into improvement projects and site development.

Our organization is unlike any I have seen in the reenacting world. While I think the GWA needs some significant revisions to the bylaws in order to democratize our administration and protect our assets, we have a very robust and cohesive association that has not splintered or failed us terribly. We cannot forget, however, that we are no longer a few hundred people running around the woods wearing wool. We are an association that has significant assets. We must protect those assets as we continue to strengthen and grow. We must listen to what



the memberships wants and act on those desires.

Our tradition speaks for itself. We are envied in the reenacting community as the most authentic and cohesive organization of its kind. But while I might find it interesting on how we conducted business back in 1999, I will not let it stand in the way of improving our hobby in creative and logical ways. We must protect and grow our hobby by keeping it safe, authentic, and pleasurable.

If elected I will work to help accomplish these goals.

Candidates for Central Powers Representative

Tom Galleher

I am Tom Galleher (Scampi) of IR92 and I am running for re-election for Central Powers' Representative. I retired from DOD (Dept of Defense) after 37 years and have been married for 39 years.

I joined IR92 and the GWA at the November 1992 event and have been reenacting for 25 years. I retired from all other time periods in 2005 just to do WWI exclusively. I have made every event since we moved to Newville.

When Merlin resigned as the CP Rep in 2008, I was appointed to finish his term and then ran for election in 2009.

The position came with on-the-job training and I immediately moved to represent the CP membership. As your Rep, I have always stood up and taken full responsibility for my actions.

This is what I stand for:

- Finishing the CP projects to improve the CP side of NML that Rob and I began in late 2008.
- Bring the horse and wagons back to the site for our events.
- Not arbitrarily changing our current Bylaws, although they do need some updating.
- Chairmanship of the Site Committee should be one person and not a co-chairmanship. I would like to see the Site Committee (VP, Reps, Combat Commanders and Trench Masters) select its own chairman.
- I believe the G8 (or whatever it ends up being called) should be the governing and decision making body for the GWA for accountability and orderly function of the organization.
- I support eliminating the term limits for G8 positions and allow the "ballot box" to be the determining factor for term limits for anyone wanting to serve on the Board. Let the membership decide who is to lead and for how long—trust the membership.
- I support all Allied efforts to improve the Allied side of NML and have repeatedly told my Allied counterparts on the Board since 2008 they can count on my support for their efforts.
- I support above ground building for units that don't want an underground bunker to sleep in. The building should be

controlled and supervised by the Site Committee and Trench Masters in conjunction with our site regulations. Not every unit wants to be on the battlefield. We have more than enough room on our site to allow for controlled building. But no Hoovervilles!

- I do not support making the GWA a 501 (c) 3 organization.
- I believe in communication to the membership which is why I have sent pre-event messages, an After Action Report after each event and occasional updates between events to all CP units since I became the Rep.
- I have been an active supporter and organizer of the GWA Thursday evening Social at the farmhouse.
- I have supported the Combat Commander's efforts to develop a "Training Day" on the Friday before the event to help units improve their tactics and knowledge of WWI German infantry.
- I supported the Commander's decision to appoint Lou Brown as Training Officer and involvement of other experienced CP members to serve as instructors for the training.
- With the CP phases just about completed, I will appoint a Trench Master for the next term. I wore both hats since I became the Rep because I wanted to make sure there weren't too many cooks in the kitchen while we implemented the plan to improve the CP side of NML. I thought it important to have just one voice when it came to what was being done and working with the units when they wanted to build or improve so that individual unit actions were in sync with what was being done in the larger picture. Too many times in the past I saw where the Commander, Rep and Trench Master were not on the same sheet of music and very little got accomplished. The President and Combat Commander tried several times to get me to spread the work around but I was firm in my conviction that until all the projects were completed that anyone asking got the same answers every time and just had to go to one person to get their answers not three different people.

I have tried to best of my abilities to be a responsive and committed CP Rep and hope I have done a good enough job representing the Central Powers that you will consider re-electing me.

Gott mit Uns!

Scampi

IR92/CP Rep

Steve Murphy

Hello, my name is Steve Murphy and I am running for the position of GWA Central Powers (CP) Representative. I am currently the Unit Commander of the 12th Minenwerfer Kompanie and have been an active member of the GWA since 1998 when I first joined. In that time I have attended every Spring, Summer and Fall event which has been held by the GWA at the Newville site.



If elected to the CP Rep position, I would serve as a spokesman between the GWA and the CP membership. As a voting member of the G-8 board, I would push for the GWA to work on improvements to the CP side to move in a more historically accurate direction. This could include minor modifications to current bunkers and/or using foliage to hide some of the structures which are causing the greatest concern, especially as seen from the Allied side. It would not include tearing down anything which has already been approved and built. I would assign at least one person to fulfill the job as Trenchmaster (TM). I feel it is important that the Trench Master have the background to support the position from a historical perspective as well as a structural and safety perspective. In addition it is important that the TM work with surrounding units who may be affected by any changes that a unit requests. I would work with the Allied Rep and Allied TM to ensure that we are not detrimentally affecting their view with our unit requests and changes, and I would request the same consideration in return. I believe that cooperation between both sides is the key to our success as the premier re-enactment site.

As an engineer and cabinet maker, my personal philosophy is "measure twice, cut once". In other words, it simply takes more effort to fix mistakes than to slow down and take the extra time to do it right the first time.

Thank you for your consideration,

Steve Murphy

Candidates for Allied Representative

Jim Higginbottom

No campaign article submitted

Jeff Holder

No campaign article submitted

Candidate for Secretary (unopposed)

Eugene K. Poplavsky

My Fellow GWA Members,

My name is Eugene K. Poplavsky, and I am running for the position of the GWA Secretary in the November 2011 elections.

For those that do not know me, I would like to provide you some of my biographical information.

I am a GWA member and the Unit Commander of the Russian Legion since 1995. With the help of a small handful

of dedicated reenactors, we have able to take our unit from 3 members to 15, and to develop what was a knee deep trench in the Devil's Corner into an elaborate defensive cauldron, complete with bunkers, mortar and MG positions. Over the last 15 years, we have taken a unit that was barely documented historically as having ever existed, and was quite unwelcome at first in the GWA, and forge it into a respected unit.

Throughout all of this, it has been my personal quest to be mindful and compliant with all of the GWA regulations, including the Bylaws, the Site Regulations, the Safety Regulations, etc. We have not erected any structure in our position without going through the proper channels and obtaining our Trench Master's approval, both in building technique as well as authenticity. We have never failed to modify our structures when the Trench Master deemed that structurally a modification was necessary. We have never failed a pyro check. In general, we do what it takes to follow the rules and then play as hard as we physically can.

Great War re-enacting is the only re-enacting that I do, and I don't do it alone, I do it as part of three generations of men in my family. The land in Newville is our home away from home, and we treat it as we treat our own property. The outstanding group of people involved in the hobby are all considered friends. My passion for this hobby runs very deep, and every motivation I have in seeking the position of Secretary and in being involved in drafting a proposed set of Bylaws is and has been for the betterment of the organization.

When elected Secretary of the GWA, I will embark on accomplishing a few key goals.

The first would be to review, compile and make available to the membership all the legal documents pertaining to the Great War Association, its corporate status, all legal and financial obligations that the organization may have to the local jurisdictions and to the former owners of the GWA site.

The second would be to make the essential business of the G-8 transparent to the membership. This means that I will announce the dates and the times of the G-8 meetings, to encourage the membership at large to come and listen to the proceedings and participate in a Q&A and discussion section.

The third would be that every G-8 meeting will have its Minutes available for Membership review in a digital form on-line.

In addition, I will promote and support an implementation of a survey procedure, which will allow the G-8 to solicit the general membership's opinions regarding matters that are being decided upon.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email me at Begemot@aol.com

Sincerely yours,

Eugene K. Poplavsky

Lieutenant, La Legion Russe

La Bataillon Francais

NOTE: PAPER COPIES OF OTW WILL BE MAILED ONLY TO THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO REQUEST THEM. GWA members are requested to download the newsletter from the website, www.greatwar-assoc.org. **This will help reduce unnecessary costs and administrative burdens. Send requests for hard copies to the GWA Treasurer.**

☐ 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

FALL 2011 REGISTRATION

GWA Membership and Registration Form for the FALL Combat Event

Caesar Krauss Great War Memorial Site, Newville, PA

MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 28, 2011

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 _____
You must be at least 18 to register. You may be asked for proof of age. (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. 2011 dues (Annual dues are due at the Spring Event each year) **\$25.00**

B. Fall 2011 Event fee if pre-registered (see below) **\$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 Registrar on or before OCT 28, 2011. 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 to "Great War Association." Send form and check to:

Chris Garcia, GWA Registrar

418 Chinaberry Ct.

Virginia Beach, VA 23454

(757) 631-0661 e-mail: criostalmiceal@aol.com

Register Online with PayPal

You can now register and pay online by using PayPal (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 GWAtreas@comcast.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

26AEF 26th Div. (Yankee Div.), AEF
27AEF 27th Div., 107th Inf. AEF
109AEF 28 Div., 109th Inf. Co. L., AEF
116AEF 29th Div., 116th Inf., Hdqtrs. Co., AEF
33AEF 33rd Div. (Prairie Div.), AEF
80AEF 80th Div., 318th Inf. AEF
372AEF 93rd Div., 372nd Inf. AEF
49CO 5th Marines, 49th Co., AEF
67CO 5th Marines, 67th Co., AEF

British

2SRFC No. 2 Squadron, Royal Flying Corps
6BWBEF 6th Btn., Black Watch, BEF
BRBEF The Border Regiment, BEF
BUFF 6th Buffs Rgt., BEF
ROYENG Royal Engineers

Commonwealth

5AIF 5th Btn. Australia/New Zealand Army Corps
PPCLI Princess Pat's Canadian Light Infantry
42BNCEF 42nd BN, Black Watch, CEF

French

8BCP 8 Btn. Chasseurs à Pied
18RL 18ème Régiment d'Infanterie (Régiment de Gâtinais)
151RL 151ème Régiment d'Infanterie de Ligne

Russian

RL Légion Russe

Non-Military

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

Austrian

63KUK 63rd KuK

German

1LR Königliche Bayerische Leib Regiment
5SB 5. Sturm-Pionier-Bataillon "Rohr"
8KUR 3. Feldesk., Kürassier Regt. Nr. 8 (Rheinisches)
12MWK 12. Minenwerfer Komp. 12 Division
13PB 13. Pionierbataillon
20MG 20. Maschinengewehr-Scharfschützen-Bataillon
23JR Infanterie-Regt. Nr. 23 (2. Oberschlesisches)(*probationary*)
63JR 3. Komp., Infanterie-Regt. Nr. 63 (4. Oberschlesisches)
73FR Füsilier-Regiment Nr. 73 (Hanoversches)
90FR 10. Komp., Füsilier-Regiment Nr. 90 (Mecklenburgisches)
92JR Infanterie-Regiment Nr. 92 (1. Braunschweigisches)
120JR 5. Komp., Infanterie-Regt. Nr. 120 (2. Württembergisches)
124JR 3. Komp., Infanterie-Regt. Nr. 124 (6. Württembergisches)
129JR Infanterie-Regt. Nr. 129 (*probationary*)
459JR 8. Komp., Infanterie-Regiment Nr. 459 (Rhein. Westf.)
236RIR 5. Komp., Reserve Infanterie-Regt. Nr. 236 (*probationary*)

Great War Association
584 Valley Road
Gillette, NJ 07933

