



Recruit Manual

The Persona and Personal side of Reenacting

Twentieth Maine Volunteer Infantry Regiment

The Colors Company on Little Round Top

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Our Union Brigade

The 20th Maine Volunteer Infantry, Company F, is part of the WCWA's Union brigade. The brigade consists of several units, most of which represent Civil War infantry units. In addition there is a headquarters unit, artillery units, cavalry units, engineers, sharpshooters, a medical unit, and a host of other special units from time to time.

Union camp is set up to resemble a typical Union encampment of the Civil War period, and is made as realistic as possible for public display. Drill is conducted in accordance with Army regulations of the time. Battles are conducted as accurately as possible to demonstrate the tactics used during the war.

Individual and Family Participation

Participation in the 20th Maine and the entire Union brigade is open to individuals and families. Soldiers must be 14 years of age to carry a gun onto the battle field. For folks under 14 we have an active Cadet Corps. They act as musicians, couriers, medical stewards, and in other valuable capacities. One of our goals is to keep these young people interested and involved. Many of our cadets have gotten their parents involved.

Membership Cards, Dues and Permission Forms

All soldiers and cadets need to be current in their WCWA and 20th Maine dues and membership forms to participate in battle. All soldiers should carry their membership cards with them. They will be checked for verification by brigade staff officers during brigade inspection on Saturday and Sunday mornings before battle. A laminated copy of your WCWA membership card carried in your cartridge box is a good idea as you may leave your wallet in your vehicle or tent. All minors (under 18 years of age) must have a signed copy of their parental permission form on file with the unit and carry an additional copy of the same form in their cartridge box or on their person.

Women are welcome in the ranks. We ask however, that women who participate militarily conform to the standards of the time (historical accuracy counts) and disguise themselves as men. This was done often according to research, yet no official cords were kept, because they were not supposed to be there. A woman was often considered to be a trollop if she did such a thing, if discovered she would then be sent away.

If a military impression does not suit your family, then they may join in a civilian impression. Single soldiers sleep in dog tents. Families are invited to use "A" tents.



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About the 20th Maine

The 20th ME Infantry was mustered into service in August 1862, for three years or the duration of the war. The men were mustered in at Camp Mason on Cape Elizabeth near Portland, Maine. They were recruited from the entire state, F Company being primarily from the farms in the central part of the state near Bangor. It was under the command of Samuel Keene, who had been a lawyer in Rockland before the War.

The Regiment originally consisted of 993 men in ten companies. It was initially attached to the 1st Brigade (late the 3rd Brigade), 1st Division of the 5th Army Corps, Army of the Potomac.

In September 1862, the Regiment traveled to Alexandria, Virginia and was involved in the Battle of Antietam. The Maine Regiment continued to see active service throughout the war years, and was involved in Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, the Wilderness Campaign, Laurel Hill, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Bethesda Church, the Siege of Petersburg, Hatchers Run, the Appomattox Campaign and was at Appomattox Courthouse for the surrender of Lee.

The 20th ME Infantry participated in the Grand Review in Washington in May 1865, and was mustered out in Portland, Maine in June and July. The Regiment lost a total of 293 officers and men, about 50% of those due to disease. Total enlistments for the entire war were 1,425. Four men, including Colonel Joshua Chamberlain, were awarded the Medal of Honor for Bravery under fire.

At Little Round Top July 2, 1863

It was a hot July afternoon when the boys of the 20th Reg't. Maine Volunteer Infantry came to rest behind Power's Hill just outside a small Pennsylvania town called Gettysburg. It had been a long march and the boys were ready for relief. As they rested, they could hear the sound of battle only a short distance away. Soon it would be their turn to join in.

The 20th was an ordinary regiment--one of several hundred serving in the Army of the Potomac in the summer of 1863. It had been raised in Maine as the last of the regiments to respond to President Lincoln's call for 300,000 volunteers. They came from all over Maine with those of Company F being mostly farmers from central Maine. They reported to Camp Mason just outside Portland, Maine where they were issued uniforms consisting of frock coats and dark blue trousers--later to be replaced with sky blue ones. Some were issued arms but most would have to wait for their 1861 Springfield and 1853 Enfield rifles. After being mustered into federal service on August 3, 1862, they gathered



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up their shelter tents and departed Maine for the seat of the war. Many would never return.

The 20th was assigned to the Fifth Corps and would remain with that corps until the end of the war. They did not see much service aside from Antietam and Fredericksburg. They missed most of Chancellorsville from being held in quarantine after being inoculated experimentally against smallpox. Battle and illness took their toll, however. Their original complement of 965 officers and men was reduced to 492 as of June, 1863--including those members of the old 2nd Maine.

Company F held the place of honor with the regiment. It was the color company. The 58 members of the company were proud of their regimental color--a Philadelphia Depot standard US flag with the stars arranged in concentric circles. Their regimental name did not appear on it as was common among other federal regiments. They carried it proudly nonetheless. Their pride would soon be shown on a small hill called Little Round Top.

Just before 4 o'clock pm on July 2, 1863, Vincent's Brigade was ordered to support Sickles' line on the left of the Union. Sickles was heavily engaged in the Peach Orchard, Wheatfield and Devil's Den. Before reaching Sickles' line, Vincent was ordered to occupy the small hill known as Little Round Top, which General Warren saw to be vacant. The brigade splashed at the double-quick across Plum Run and scrambled up the exposed northern slope of the small hill. The 20th was leading the brigade, and as such were at the far left of the Union line. It ended with the 20th. By 5 o'clock p.m. they were in position. Company F was in the center of the 20th's line with Company A on their left and Company D on their right. The 20th counted 358 men and 28 officers positioned over the rocks and boulders.

The attack soon came. Law's Alabamians and Robertsons' Texans were attacking from the front. Many were descending the Big Round Top toward the Mainers, and others were attempting to get behind the 20th's line. Col. Chamberlain responded by extending his line to the left and bending the left wing backward to repulse the flank movement. The edge of the fight swayed backward and forward like a wave. Squads broke through each line at one place or another, but the 20th held at great cost. One third were down--killed or wounded. Cartridge boxes were searched, even those of the enemy, for additional rounds. Few were found.

Lt. Melcher, commanding Company F since Cpt. Keene, Company F commander had been wounded, asked for permission to move his front forward in order to protect his fallen men. Col. Chamberlain approved the request, but added, "I am about to order a Right Wheel Forward of the whole regiment." As Company F began its movement, the Colonel's cry of "Bayonet" rang out. The rest of the 20th, seeing the advance of Company F, sprang forward down the slope. The attacking Confederates were



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overwhelmed; fleeing or surrendering. Four hundred were captured, including two field and several line officers.

By 6:30 o'clock p.m. it was all over. Company F had brought 58 men to Little Round Top. 23 were killed or wounded, including all the corporals and one sergeant.

There would be other engagements for the 20th before the surrender at Appomattox, but none would be as important as the hour on Little Round Top that hot afternoon of July 2, 1863.

In the Wilderness May 5, 1864

On the Afternoon of May 5, 1864 the Third Brigade of which the 20th Maine was part was moving west on the Orange and Fredericksburg Turnpike. A strong Confederate counterattack halted the Union advance and the brigade was now retreating to avoid being captured. Most of the men got into the woods and made their way back to the Union breastworks, but a few who had been advancing through the thick woods on the left of the Turnpike did not learn that the brigade had been flanked.

Lieutenant Holman Melcher pushed on with his Company F and noticed that the firing had died away and that there were no Confederates in front of him. To his consternation he couldn't find the rest of the 20th anywhere. One of his men approached him as he was contemplating this new wrinkle and told him to come and let him show him something. Coming to the Turnpike the man pointed toward the Union lines and said "See that!"

Looking down the road Melcher saw something that froze the blood in his veins. A strong column of Confederate infantry was moving across the road behind him, completely cutting off his line of retreat. Surmising that the rest of the brigade had withdrawn, Melcher had a brief talk with his first Sergeant Ammi M. Smith. There seemed to be only two choices: one was to be captured and the other was to cut their way back through the enemy lines. When Melcher counted he found that he had but eighteen men, including himself. Melcher and his sergeant decided that they had best try to cut their way back since in the din of the battle anything could happen and they might succeed. Melcher called the men together and explained the situation and said that he, for one, would rather die trying than to rot in a rebel prison. They all agreed this was the plan to follow.

Melcher order each man to load his musket, fix bayonets and follow him. He then attempted to lead his little band around the Confederates. This was impossible as the Confederates were now too far extended in their line. Their only chance was to drive through them. He formed his eighteen men into a line of battle with Smith on the left and himself on the right. As quietly as they could, the Maine men approached the



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Confederate infantry who were so intent on the Yankees in front of them, that they were not aware of the eighteen coming from behind.

The character of the Wilderness battle was in favor of Company F. With the smoke and the dense underbrush, there was no way to tell if an attack was being made by a battalion or a regiment or a small company of eighteen. When they got within fifteen paces of the line of Confederates, each man picked his target, fired and charged, yelling "Surrender!" This sort of thing happened quite a bit during the Battle of the Wilderness--groups of Confederates and Federals alike thinking they were outflanked or surrendered and giving way to sudden panics.

The impact of the charging Maine men gave a few seconds of confusion and nightmarish incidents. A Confederate turned, pointed his rifle at one of Melcher's men who was only a boy. He pulled the trigger when the muzzle was only a few inches from the youth's face. There was a click but the gun did not go off. The look of imminent death in the lad's face was replaced with rage and he lunged forward and pinned the gray infantryman to the ground with his bayonet, yelling "I'll teach you, old Reb, how to snap your gun in my face!"

In another incident, Melcher saw a Confederate raising his musket to fire on one of Melcher's men and realized he was the only one near enough to help. He sprang forward, swinging his sword in a downward stroke, but in his anxiety to strike before the man fired, he had not gotten quite near enough. The point of the blade nicked the Confederate's scalp and split his coat all the way down his back. That was near enough for the Southerner. He dropped his gun without firing it and surrendered.

This portion of the Confederate line was now astonished and terrified by the unexpected attack and many were fleeing into the woods, but thirty-two surrendered. Melcher had lost two killed and several wounded, but the wounded were moving under their own power. Spreading his men out they surrounded the Confederates and began moving them toward the Union lines. A few of the prisoners, after seeing how small Melcher's force was, hesitated, but Melcher drew his revolver, which he had totally forgotten to use in the attack, and with this he persuaded them to keep moving.

One of Melcher's men suddenly took fright and dived behind a log where he huddled in abject fear. Melcher shouted to him to come along or he would be captured. George, his first name, cried to not let them know he was there. The group had to move on and Melcher later learned that George was captured and starved in Andersonville.

After some distance Melcher's group struck the Union lines through which he passed and delivered his captives at division headquarters in the rear of the Union lines. The company then returned to the rest of the 20th which was behind the breastworks. Seeing



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Melcher approach Captain W. W. Morrell shouted, "Well, Lieutenant, how did things look down at Rappahannock Station?" The inference, of course, was that Company F had skedaddled all the way back to their old winter quarters. Melcher felt the remark as if he had been stung by a viper. There were hard feelings between these two officers after that and they never had a chance to mend the rift. Three days later Morrell was dead and Melcher was on a stretcher, headed for the hospital.



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Camp Life

Tents

The average Civil War Eastern Theater U.S. volunteer, by the end of 1862 was living in a tent that "was hardly big enough for a dog," hence the name of the "dog tent," commonly known today as the "pup." These were two rectangular pieces of canvas with buttons and holes. One side was issued to each man. The soldiers would choose a partner and the two sides would be buttoned together forming the wedge-shaped tents. These tents are used by most of the members of our unit and are the most affordable, as well as the most authentic and storable.

Another tent type used in our unit is the "A" frame tent. These were used at the outbreak of the war and by Western Theater Volunteers until early 1864. These tents are accepted by the unit as well and are good for members with families. They are a little bigger and offer more privacy than the "dogs." When setting up camp we try to keep the "A"s on one side of the street and the "dogs" on the other. This improves appearance of the camp and gives it a military look.

Blankets/Bedding

Many re-enactors use wool blankets and the hard ground to improve not only their impression but also their experience. Many wish to truly learn what it was like for the soldiers of the 1860's, stiff joints and all. However, many choose to use modern convenience and resort to sleeping bags and pads at night. This is completely acceptable as long as this modern gear is not brought out until after the public hours are over. Remember, other re-enactors don't wish to have to explain to the public why there is a Coleman Peak 1 sleeping bag, and a Thermorest pad in the dog tent next to theirs.

Cooking Gear and Eating

Cooking at many events is done in the 20th Maine by a few individuals for the entire company. Participation is always optional. You may want to prepare your own food. These meals usually end up costing very little for the entire weekend. The food is generally of a type that can be prepared fast and is as period as possible. The company owns gear to cook this food with. There are also a limited amount of "loaner" utensils available for new folks.

During public hours if you use cooking gear, please refrain from using aluminum, enamel ware (the blue or black speckled stuff, very little was around at that time, and it was quite expensive, hardly something a private would have), or any other contrivance that



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wasn't around in the 1860s. It is fine to use this stuff after hours. If you need guidance, remember tin, wood, iron, and ceramic. Coleman type stoves are generally frowned on at any time.

To increase the realism of your character, try making hardtack following directions in Appendix C (it looks even more authentic if moldy).

Camp Lighting

Night lighting in the camp is provided by simple oil or kerosene lanterns and candles. The reasonably priced lamps available at most hardware stores are fine when painted black. Candles were used more often and the sutlers have a variety of clever candle lanterns both small and large. Coleman type lanterns and flashlights are to be used only in emergencies. Bring one in case.

Seating

Soldiers sat on the ground, logs or boxes. However wooden chairs or camp type chairs are acceptable. If they look to have an older design, they are probably ok. The same can be said for tables. However, if you are a private, why the heck are you carrying a table on your back? The ground is very acceptable.

General Guidelines

An enlisted soldier in the 20th Maine carried everything he needed in his knapsack. Soldiers would discard any non-essential items except for a small memento or two of home. If your tent is full of gear and it is open for public inspection, it is probably not very accurate.

If you have non-military family that accompanies you, they should not set up daytime camp in the company area. The military discouraged it. If they portray a group providing needed services (i.e. laundress/sutler) to the men, then the periphery of the company is very acceptable. If they wish to be a "lady" or other such "important" civilian, then the officer's tent area is a good place, as officers often entertained ladies. After public hours your non-military family is free to roam the company street and set up camp in your tent.

All non-period items such as coolers, sleeping bags, sodas etc. must be hidden from view during public hours. These items are not appropriate and will be looked on unfavorably. After public hours these items are acceptable with discretion. We want to keep the period feeling alive throughout the event even after public hours.



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As a new member, bring as little as possible to your first event. See what others bring and use. After a few events you will have a really good feel for what you will use in a weekend.

Most folks arrive on Friday night if possible, or Saturday morning. The Union Camp is set up according to the guidelines of the day. Each regiment (unit) will have its own command tent and company street. In the 20th Maine we begin our company street with the Command tent at the head of the street. Then comes the Commander's "A" tent first for FARB ("Farb" is any non-period item or clothing that would be inappropriate during public hours) on one side then the 1st Sergeant's "A" tent. The "dog" tents start on the other side with the commander's dog tent first and work down the street. The fire box is to be located near the middle of the street. Everyone is expected to help set up tents, especially the command tent.

Mess Details

Cooking is something that we often have done for us by some of our accompanying ladies. They do not do this for pay (even though a reimbursement charge is collected for food if you eat). They do this out of their kindness. Often times we are too busy to cook until late if these ladies do not help. Please do not abandon camp for leisurely pursuits until the mess is properly policed and cooking utensils are clean. If they ask for help (of any kind), be an example and be the first to volunteer...no matter how hot and tired you are...remember they are probably just as hot and tired...and have families they usually must care for as well. These folks are a great asset to the 20th and we wish to keep them.

Other Important Details

Other details may be assigned as needed, such as fortifications, trash or water. Please go about them cheerfully even though you haven't had your chance to visit "Sutler Row" yet. These are assigned because they need to be done. Details are handed out as fairly as possible and are important to ensure a smooth flowing event. Eventually, every body gets their share, but if we just get the task done, we are free to get on with the fun. If you feel unfairly treated, read "Hardtack and Coffee", by John Billings and see what the really ugly tasks were.



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Reenacting: Key Points

The key to reenacting is authenticity. In order to ensure authenticity, reenactors must do their research. Always confirm your information with at least two other sources if you are able. There are many knowledgeable people in clubs. But avoid the individual that has all the answers. Verify your information. Have fun discovering your information. If you get stumped ask around, many of us can provide guidance or resources.

There are many untouched fields of the time frame that we purport to represent. Perhaps you have some expertise that we don't. We are always open to new information.

Things to keep in mind at events

We are living historians. We bring to life a bygone era. Our goals are: to learn what people experienced during the period; to recreate these experiences; and to share them among ourselves and with the public. In so doing we seek to honor those men and women who lived and died during this historic period. We work together to create individual impressions, a camp atmosphere and a group impression. Always keep this thought foremost in mind at a reenactment.

Once you are committed to reenacting certain rules must be observed in camp during public hours, so that authenticity is maintained. If you have never served in the military the following guidelines will be helpful.

Military Courtesy

It is standard military courtesy to salute commissioned officers (rank of 2nd lieutenant or above). A lesser rank always initiates the salute and holds it until it is returned by the officer being saluted. The lesser rank always holds the salute until the higher rank drops his. This action not only honors our present day officers but honors the memories of those who served in the past.

When in formation only the Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) (when no commissioned officer is present) salutes the officer. All others are brought to the position of attention and remain so until told otherwise by the NCO. NCOs are never saluted by the enlisted ranks. They are addressed however, by rank (i.e. Good day 1st Sgt. Smith or Corporal Franklin).



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Commissioned officers are addressed as Sir (i.e. Yes Sir, Lt. Smith.). NCOs are never addressed as Sir; they still work for a living.

Recognizing Rank

Each branch of the of the Army has a designator color and insignia. They are as follows:

BRANCH	INDICATOR
Infantry	Blue and Hunting Horn
Artillery	Red and Crossed Cannons
Cavalry	Yellow and Crossed Sabers
Medical	Green
Sharpshooters	Green with Hunting Horn
Engineers	Gold (darker yellow for enlisted than the cavalry) Castle (or shield for some officers)

NCOs may be identified by the following on their sleeves:

RANK	INDICATOR STRIPES
Corporal	Two Chevrons
Sergeant	Three Chevrons
First Sergeant	Three Chevrons with lozenge (diamond centered)
Ordnance Sergeant	Three Chevrons and a star (centered)
Quartermaster Sergeant	Three Chevrons with one horizontal (company) stripe across the top.
Quartermaster Sergeant	Three Chevrons with three horizontal (regimental) stripes across the top.
Sergeant Major	Three Chevrons and three rockers across the top.

Officers may be identified by shoulder straps. The background colors denote the branch to which they are assigned. Blue is Infantry, Red is Artillery, Yellow is Cavalry, Black is Command Staff. All rank insignia (except Colonels and above) are shown on the front and back of the strap.

RANK	INDICATOR
2nd Lieutenant	Blank strap.
1st Lieutenant	One Bar.



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Captain	Two Bars.
Major	Gold Oak Leaf
Lieutenant Colonel	Silver Oak Leaf
Colonel	Eagle
Brigadier General	One Star
Major General	Two Stars
Lieutenant General	Three Stars

Formations

When in formation at the position of attention, the troops are to remain still and quiet. There should be no talking or looking about. This is reserved for the commands In Place Rest or Rest. When the command of "Company - Attention!" is given, the position of attention is resumed and talking ceases.

Ladies in Military Camp

There are many ladies in our club; some are deployed in the camp performing washing chores or other services. Others may act as wives of officers or on certain missions such as the temperance league (if you see her, hide quick, before you have take her pledge!). Ladies not employed by the military should be escorted by military personnel during public hours. In Victorian times it was improper for a lady to be seen alone in the company of so many uncouth men. Her honor would be questioned. Please protect these women and offer to escort an unaided lady through camp.



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Essential “Must Haves” for reenacting

Basic Camp Outfit

- Trousers, sky blue foot pattern kersey wool.
- Forage cap, blue wool.
- Suspenders, linen or cotton, no elastic.
- Shirt, period cut and style.
- Brogans, square-toed, rough out army bootees.
- Gray wool socks.
- Waist belt
- Waist belt Plate, oval "US".
- Canteen, sky blue, smooth side (stainless steel).
- Tin plate, period style.
- Tin cup, period style, soldered bottom best.
- Knife, fork, spoon, period style.

Basic Battle Gear

- Cap box.
- US pattern Cartridge box, US 1855 pattern.
- Brass Plate, cartridge box, oval "US" for Cartridge Box.
- Sling, cartridge box sling.
- Brass Plate round eagle for Cartridge box sling.
- Rifle musket, 3-band 1861 Springfield or Enfield (variety of suppliers and two main manufacturers – EuroArms and Armi Sport, both Italian manufacturers)
- Sling, Rifle musket, russet, period pattern.
- Musket cleaning kit.

Nice To Haves

- Bayonet and scabbard (purchase with musket for proper fit).
- Haversack, black canvas
- Tent, period military "A" style (for encampment scenarios) and/or dog tent (for campaigning scenarios).



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- Tent poles
- Sleeping cot
- US style Gum blanket, rubberized canvas.
- Poncho, rubberized canvas.
- Blanket, gray wool with black end stripes. Actually, any wool

Not Necessary, but helpful at times

- Frockcoat, wool dress coat, blue piping or sack coat, dark blue, 4 button (good in cool or cold weather situations; otherwise, you can use your blanket for warmth as was common)
- Black powder measure.
- Period correct eyeglasses (if applicable).



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Rifle Care

Now that you have invested \$350 plus in a rifle and have learned how to throw it around without hurting anyone, it is time to explore how to care for your investment so that it does not hurt you (as well as others) in the future. As most re-enactors, you may have fired rifles or pistols before but odds are they were modern pieces (or modern military pieces even). If you have never fired a black powder piece before you are in for a treat. These monsters are akin to holding a small cannon and just as dangerous if not properly cared for. These weapons are much easier to clean than modern weapons, but require much more consistent maintenance to assure their safety.

Powder

If you are in this hobby from a historical perspective as most are, chances are you will wish to use "Black Powder". Black Powder is, when stored correctly and fresh (it gets less stable the older it is) a fairly safe propellant. It is water soluble (it mixes with water), and will not explode when wet, hence the phrase, "keep your powder dry". Any heat source will readily ignite it and it burns at a rapid rate creating an "explosion" and when confined will seek any means of relieving the pressure caused by the burning. This is the very principle that makes it such a fine propellant for Minnie Balls. You can buy powder straight from the company (it is usually around \$6.50 a pound), or from the manufacturers.

Always store in a cool dry place and for heavens sake keep it in a spark or open flame free area. This usually eliminates all garages. Also keep all powder locked away from children, as children love to experiment with fire.

For rifles use only FFg or FFFg grade powder. Most re-enactors prefer FFFg (it gives a better bang and doesn't foul the barrel as much). Never exceed 70 grains per firing on the battlefield, this produces a very audible shot, and limits the flaming debris coming from the barrel. Most find that 60 grains is sufficient and economical, only 30 grains were used for charges during the war.

When using black powder, the rifle WILL foul and eventually become inoperable. This is a fact of life, especially when firing blank loads. As we may not draw rammers on the field to clean the barrel, when your rifle malfunctions on field (and it will sometime), your rifle is telling you that it is time to take a hit and a break. If your rifle misfires, NEVER, under ANY circumstances put another charge in the barrel! Immediately, inform an NCO and if that individual is unable to clear the rifle, you either run away and stay out of the fight or take a hit, period. The rifle may not be used again until inspected by a knowledgeable company member.



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Cleaning

Too many re-enactors come on to the field with little or no firearms experience. Many people bring their rifles to events with little more than a promise of cleaning it. This can be frustrating to veteran "shooters", especially when the "promised" rifle jams or misfires and it is then up to the "shooter" to "please look at this thing, it ain't workin' right". Most folks who have been in the military will tell you that your weapon is your best friend and should be treated as such. Armies of both sides during the war were noted for the cleanliness of their weapons (if not their bodies), it was considered to be a sign of low morale when weapons were dirty.

Reliability of weaponry is directly related to the cleanliness of the barrel and firing mechanism, BEFORE use in the field. Debris in the barrel can cause hang fires (embers in the barrel igniting the next charge while loading) and other maladies besides the "jamming" of a weapon. An uncleaned weapon will also eventually "grow" an uncleanable layer of permanent rock hard gluck. Occasional cleaning will not remove this stuff. On top of this permanent fouling, corrosion will eat away at the metal underneath causing many of the safety problems that were mentioned above.

There are two types of cleaning that your "best friend" requires. One is "field" cleaning and the other is regular cleaning. Field cleaning is the essential minimum cleaning required to ensure a safe and well operating piece, DONE ON THE DAY THE PIECE IS USED. It is quick simple and incomplete, but gets the initial fouling out.

Your other gear requires minimal cleaning. Wipe your bayonet with a light lubricant such as 3-in-1 Oil just like your rifle barrel. Leathers can be wiped clean with a damp cloth after each event, and every now and then should be oiled to make them water resistant. Use Huberd's Boot/Shoe Oil or Grease (available from Fall Creek Sutlery)

(As for your uniform, the dirtier it is, the more authentic it looks! If you do want to clean it (before a ball, for instance), you can take it to the dry cleaners. **Remember, no creases!**.)



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Cleaning the Rifle (Enfield)

Items Needed

Musket, hot water w/soap or black powder solvent, small and large flathead screwdrivers, nipple pick, 2"x2" white patches (from an old undershirt or similar material), gun oil or 3-in-1 oil, thick cleaning cloths or old towels, brush set (bristle, 'brass' bristle, wet cleaning swab), ramrod or 4-piece rod (4-piece recommended), bore scraper, nipple wrench.

Procedure for Dry Cleaning

- 1.) Attach black bristle to rod, scrape down barrel, pull back up.
- 2.) Turn musket so mouth is down, shake it so powder or dirt will fall out. Repeat until little or no powder comes out.
- 3.) Pull hammer to 'safety' and run nipple pick through nipple a few times.
- 4.) Leave camp and fire musket to make sure it will work properly.

Preparation

Do outside, preferably near grass or plants. Arrange cleaning items so they are within easy reach. Put wet cleaning swab on rod.

Procedure for Wet Cleaning

- 1.) Remove ramrod.
- 2.) Remove rifle bands (unscrew screws on bands, pull bands upward toward mouth). If sling is on rifle, unscrew it from the trigger guard with small screwdriver and then remove.
- 3.) Remove tang screw. Put in safe place.
- 4.) Remove barrel by simply lifting it out.
- 5.) Run hot water (with soap or powder solvent) through barrel. Put fingers over nipple and over mouth, shake water around, pour out. Repeat until water comes out clean.
- 6.) Fill barrel with water. Take swab (on rod) and push to bottom of barrel. Pull back out. Some water should come out with it. Repeat until water comes out clean from nipple AND mouth.
- 7.) Using nipple wrench, remove nipple.
- 8.) Stick nipple pick through nipple, repeat several times until it is possible to look through the larger hole and see the smaller hole at other end. Run pipe cleaner through several times. Put nipple in safe place.



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- 9.) Remove swab from rod. Attach bore scraper. Put into barrel, push to very bottom. Scrape around in circles for a few seconds, remove.
- 10.) Rinse barrel with water.
- 11.) Attach 'brass' bristle to rod, wrap patch around bristle, run through to bottom of barrel, pull back out.
- 12.) Examine color of patch. If covered in brown, black, or gray, repeat steps 5 & 6.
- 13.) Remove patch, wrap clean one around, run down and back up. Examine color. If dark, repeat steps 5 & 6 again. Continue process until patch comes out with little or no color on it.
- 14.) Use cloth or towel to dry outside of barrel.
- 15.) Apply 3-in-1 or gun oil to old towel or cloth. Rub all over barrel to remove or reduce tarnish. Repeat if nicer finish is desired. Also apply to metal on butt.
- 16.) Take ramrod and, fat end first, lower it down the barrel partway, then drop it the rest of the way. If there is a dull sound or no sound at all, repeat steps 9 & 10. If sound is clear (it should sound like a bell) or fairly clear, leave barrel (horizontally or with mouth down) and nipple out to air dry for several hours. Or, if steps 9 & 10 were necessary, repeat step 11 to dry barrel more, then air-dry it.
- 17.) After drying, replace nipple, put barrel back in place, replace bands (and sling if applicable) and ramrod and put away brushes and cleaning gear (rinse swab a few times to clean it).
- 18.) Cap off (fire cap--and cap only--at grass, holding the mouth a couple inches from the grass blades. If the grass recoils for a second when the piece fires, the barrel is clear.



Recruit Manual

Attachments

WCWA:

- ❖ Adult Application
- ❖ Adult Release
- ❖ Youth Application
- ❖ Youth Release

- ❖ Safety Standards

20th Maine:

- ❖ Application



Company F

Twentieth Maine Volunteer Infantry Regiment

New Membership	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military Impression	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renewal Membership	<input type="checkbox"/>	Civilian Impression	<input type="checkbox"/>
Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$25)	Family	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$30)

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

Liability Waiver

I hereby acknowledge that I am fully aware of the nature and the purpose of the activities associated with the 20th Maine, Company F. I understand that these activities are potentially dangerous and I voluntarily accept any risk involved. In the event of an accident or injury, I agree to hold harmless the officers of the 20th Maine, Company F; the Washington Civil War Association; property owner(s); State/County/Municipal Department(s), and/or their agents. I further acknowledge that I can be held personally responsible for any damages or liability that may occur due to my negligence.

 Signature
 (Parent or Guardian if under 18 years of age)

 Date

Mail to:

20th Maine Volunteer Infantry
 Company F
 Post Office Box 11605
 Olympia WA 98508-1605

Membership Application for Adult

Memberships expire Dec. 31st.

Washington Civil War Association

Adult Membership Application Form

(Ages 18 and over)

Name:		Birth date:	
Address:		Home Phone:	
City:			
State:	Zip Code:	E-Mail Address:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal or <input type="checkbox"/> New Member		<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership \$25.00/yr. or <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership \$ 40.00 / yr. List Family Member actually Paying the dues _____ <i>Each individual family member must complete a WCWA application. Make checks Payable to WCWA</i>	
Choose One <input type="checkbox"/> Union or <input type="checkbox"/> Confederate		Choose One <input type="checkbox"/> Military Persona or <input type="checkbox"/> Civilian Persona	
Unit Requested: _____			
Sutler Name of Establishment: _____			
Type of Sutlery: _____			
Medical History: Please list any medical conditions that your unit commander should be aware of in case of an emergency. _____ _____ _____ Person to contact in case of emergency _____ Relationship: _____ Phone: _____			
<u>CHOOSE ONE</u>			
<input type="checkbox"/> I will access The Dispatch from the WCWA web site. <u>or</u> <input type="checkbox"/> I want to receive a printed copy of The Dispatch by regular mail. (The Dispatch is a monthly news journal published by the WCWA)			

I hereby acknowledge that I am fully aware of the nature and purpose of the activities of the Washington Civil War Association (WCWA). I understand that these activities are potentially dangerous, and I voluntarily accept any risk involved. I agree to be bound by the rules and policies of the WCWA, and to obey the direction of the governing officials at WCWA events.

Signature of Applicant _____ **Date:** _____

<i>For WCWA Official Use:</i>	
Unit Assigned to: _____	Date: _____
Accepted by WCWA Unit Commander: _____	Date: _____
WCWA Dues Paid: _____	Date: _____
Received by WCWA Treasurer _____	Date: _____
WCWA Dues Received: <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$40 Paid under _____	

This application must be submitted to your unit commander before you may participate in any WCWA event.

Washington Civil War Association

(Ages 18 and over)

ADULT GENERAL RELEASE OF LIABILITY

(Sign and or initial this form in all areas initials or signature are requested)

Since reenacting is dangerous, we require all participants to assume all risk by signing this General Release of Liability

I acknowledge that reenacting, black powder shooting and related activities are **HAZARDOUS** activities, and that I have made a voluntary choice to participate in those activities despite the risks that they may present. In consideration of my being permitted to participate in the WCWA activities described above, I agree to assume **ANY AND ALL RISKS OF INJURY OF DEATH**, which might be associated with or result from my participation in WCWA events.

Initial here: _____

I further Release, Waive, Discharge and Covenant not to sue the WCWA, the organizers of any WCWA event, the trustees of, officers of, agents of, employers of or members of the WCWA, or the owner or lessor of any property on which the WCWA conducts any activity from all liability to myself, or any other party claiming an interest through myself for all loss or damage or demand therefore on account of injury to the person or property or death of myself whether caused by their **NEGLIGENCE** or for any other reason, while preparing for, practicing for traveling to or from participating in any WCWA event.

Initial here: _____

I further **INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS** the parties released above and each of them from loss, liability, damage, or claim they may incur due to the presence of my actions during WCWA activities whether caused by their negligence or otherwise.

Initial here: _____

It is the intent of the undersigned that the above release be as broad and inclusive as allowed by law and that if any portion is invalid, the remainder shall continue in full force and effect. The release is entered into solely for the benefit of the WCWA, its officers, trustees, agents and members when engaged in activities which promote the participation in WCWA sanctioned events, or the preparation for or travel to and from such events and does not confer a Release upon parties not acting in such capacity.

Initial here: _____

I, the undersigned, have read and understood this Release and all its terms. I warrant that the above is true and correct in all respects and that no oral representatives, statements or inducements apart from the foregoing have been made. I consent to whatever medical care might be provided or available for *injury* occurring during the above activities.

Signed by: _____ Date: _____

Print name: _____

THIS IS A LIABILITY RELEASE

Submit this completed application to your Unit Commander, with your WCWA membership dues.

Membership Application for Minor

Memberships expire Dec. 31st

Washington Civil War Association
Minor Membership Application Form
(For minors ages 17 and under)

All minors must have a completed application on file with the WCWA

<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal or <input type="checkbox"/> New Member	Parent/Guardian's Name: _____ Parent/Guardian's Unit: _____	Parent's Affiliation <input type="checkbox"/> Union <input type="checkbox"/> Confederate
--	--	---

Minor's Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____	Current Age: _____ Birth date: _____ Home Phone: _____
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Union **Confederate** **Military Persona** **Civilian Persona**

Unit Requested: _____

Sutler Name of Establishment: _____

Medical History: For all minors, please list any medical information that your unit commander should be aware of in case of an emergency.

Person to contact in case of emergency _____

Relationship to minor _____ Phone # _____

For my child, I hereby acknowledge that I am fully aware of the nature and purpose of the activities of the Washington Civil War Association (WCWA). I understand that these activities are potentially dangerous, and I voluntarily accept any risks involved. I agree to be bound by the rules and policies of the WCWA, and to obey the direction of the governing officials at WCWA events.

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Choose One
 I will access The Dispatch from the WCWA web site. Or **I want to receive a printed copy of The Dispatch by mail.** (The Dispatch is a monthly news journal published by the WCWA)

<i>For WCWA Official Use</i>
Unit Assigned to _____ Date: _____
Accepted by WCWA Unit Commander _____ WCWA Dues Paid _____ Date: _____
Received by WCWA Treasurer _____ Date: _____
WCWA Dues Received: <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$40 Paid under _____

Submit completed application through Unit Company Commander.

Washington Civil War Association

MINOR'S GENERAL RELEASE OF LIABILITY

Since reenacting is dangerous, we require all participants and legal guardians to assume all risk by signing this General Release of Liability.

I acknowledge that reenacting, black powder shooting and related activities are **HAZARDOUS** activities, and that I have made a voluntary, choice to allow my minor child to participate In those activities despite the risks that they may present. In consideration of my minor child being permitted to participate in the WCWA activities described above, I agree to assume **ANY AND ALL RISKS OF INJURY OR DEATH** which might be associated with or result from my participation in WCWA events.

Parent / Guardian Initial here: _____

I further Release, Waive, Discharge and Covenant not to sue the WCWA, the organizers of any WCWA event, the trustees of, officers of, agents of, employers of or members of the WCWA, or the owner or lessor of any property on which the WCWA conducts any activity from all liability to my child, myself, or any other party claiming an interest through myself for all loss or damage or demand therefore on account of injury to the person or property or death of my child whether caused by their **NEGLIGENCE** or for any other reason, while preparing for, practicing for, traveling to or from participating In any WCWA event.

Parent / Guardian Initial here: _____

I further **INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS** the parties released above and each of them from loss, liability, damage, or claim they may incur due to the presence of my actions during WCWA activities whether caused by their negligence or otherwise.

Parent / Guardian Initial here: _____

It is the intent of the undersigned that the above release be as broad and Inclusive as allowed by law and that if any portion is invalid, the remainder shall continue in full force and effect. The release is entered into solely for the benefit of the WCWA, its officers, trustees, agents and members when engaged in activities which promote the participation In WCWA sanctioned events, or the preparation for or travel to and from such events and does not confer a Release upon parties not acting in such capacity.

Parent / Guardian Initial here: _____

I, the undersigned, have read and understood this Release and all its terms. I warrant that the above is true and correct in all respects and that no oral representatives, statements or inducements apart from the foregoing have been made. I warrant that I am the parent or legal guardian of the minor child whose name appears below and warrant and represent that I am empowered to execute this release on their behalf. I consent to whatever medical care might be provided or available for injury occurring during the above activities. I authorize any officer of the Administrative Board of the WCWA to consent, to authorize, or contract for medical treatment for the below minor required as the result of illness or injury which occurs during the participation in or while traveling to or from any WCWA activity if I am unable to consent there to.

Signed by Parent/ Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Print Parent / Guardian name: _____

Name of Minor: _____ Date of Birth _____

Submit completed application through your company Commander.