

WWI Reenactment Parsons, KS Apr. 17 & 18, 2010.

In the spring of 1918, the Germans launched their last great offensive. They were determined to offset the Allies before the fresh American troops could concentrate on the front. The Allies were struggling. But rather than fill the gaps, the Americans acted as their own force and expanded the front, and successfully sustained their first offensive at Cantigny, France.



US troops escorting German prisoners at Cantigny



US troops clearing the wire at Cantigny

The Midwest Great War Living History Association (www.greatwarlivinghistory.org) presents the re-enactment. Held on primitive private land in southeast Kansas north of the town of Parsons (2 ½ hours from Kansas City, Tulsa, Wichita, or Springfield, MO), we will depict late war action in Spring 1918 on the fringes of the German lines. The landscape is very similar to the Cantigny area of France. Being a mobile action, there will not be trenches. There will be opportunity to dig funk holes and recreate tactical maneuvers. Port-a-potty and water will be provided by the host with a request for donations to cover the cost. There is a shed on the property that we will use as a staging and general meeting area. No public will be invited. *All late war impressions welcome.*



Schedule:

- Friday April 16th Arrive, set up camps and socialize.
- Saturday April 17th Dawn - 8am. Breakfast and coffee by individual mess
- 8am-10am. Safety inspection, march, set up outposts and dig-in.
- 10am until about 5pm. Semi-scripted action. German advance thwarted by US troops. Both armies engage in manoeuvres but no one gains a clear advantage. Lunch on the run. Cease fire 5pm.
- 5pm. Supper by individual mess.
- Evening. Campfire and camaraderie.
- Sunday April 18th Dawn until about 8am. Breakfast and coffee by individual mess
- 8am, 2 hours or so. The German forces will unsuccessfully counter attack and surrender. Event ends by noon.

The impression to strive for is Spring of 1918. No camouflage painted helmets yet.



American soldier

German soldier

French Soldier

Mark your calendar! It is going to be a great event!

Pre-registration is required so we can have a head-count. Donations are requested to cover the costs. No public display. It is for the re-enactor! This is not a total immersion weekend, but we ask all participants to strive for utmost authenticity. In addition to uniform and equipment requirements, your weapons must be clean and function properly. Do not bring any live ammunition! Carry blanks only. Safety inspections will be conducted. Participate at your own risk.

Please plan to bring your own food and period shelter.

From Kansas City, drive South on US Highway 69.
South of Ft. Scott, near Franklin, turn West (right) on Kansas Highway 47.
Pass the towns of Girard and St. Paul.
Turn South (left) on to US Highway 59.
Turn East (left) on to 60th Road, it is gravel.
Drive 1 and 3/4 miles East, you'll cross Pratt Road. Don't go as far as Queen's Road.
The gate is on the North (left) side of 60th Road, there is no house with the property.

From Parsons, drive North on US Highway 59.
Turn East (right) on to 60th Road, it is gravel.
Drive 1 and 3/4 miles East, you'll cross Pratt Road. Don't go as far as Queen's Road.
The gate is on the North (left) side of 60th Road, there is no house with the property.

Yahoo! Maps, Driving Directions, and Traffic. The center of the map is near the gate.
<http://maps.yahoo.com/#mvt=h&lat=37.457225&lon=-95.240355&zoom=16>

**For more information and to register, contact
John Naughton 913-636-3055**

greatwarguy@gmail.com

**Visit
Midwest Great War Living History Association
www.greatwarlivinghistory.org**