

UNIT LEADER DETAILS

Thank you for taking the time to help young people learn and appreciate American History! Following, please find a more detailed timeline of planned events and information on what your unit will need to bring.

Friday will be arrival, check in and setting up camp. All units will be set up in one large area. There will be wood, water and porta-pots provided. **Your unit will be responsible for its own meals on Friday.**

Saturday will begin with reveille. **Your unit will be responsible for getting participants up, fed breakfast and ready to begin.** The exact time to gather together will be provided.

The immersion experience will begin with participants being split into 5 groups. Each group will be assigned to a learning workshop as a starting point, then rotate approximately every 30 to 45 minutes to the next workshop. These workshops are:

- Infantry
- Cavalry
- Artillery
- Signal Corps
- Medical Corps

Each workshop is taught by an experienced reenactor, with certifications.

At the end of the rotations, participants will be dismissed to return to camp for lunch. **Your unit will be responsible for its own lunch.**

A time to re-assemble will be provided at which time each participant will be given a haversack at random. One of the things in this haversack will be a cotton kepi, either blue or gray. This will decide if the participant is part of the Union or Confederate army. The emphasis will be placed on the splitting of families and friends, not on the politics of the war. The participant will then be issued a wooden rifle, either one they purchased or a loaner that will need to be returned.

NOTE: We fully expect units to be divided between the two sides, much like families were in 1860. The scouts will not have a say into which camp they are placed. Scout leaders may change an assignment based on the physical or emotional need of a particular scout. Changing assignments defeats the point of the exercise and we ask that leaders be vigilant and help to prevent this. Please make sure you have at least **two certified leaders** available, one for each camp. If you have scouts sharing tents, we also ask that you be prepared with **one or two extra tents** in case your scouts are not divided equally. (We have a few spare tents but supplies are limited, please contact us if you do not have access to extra tents.)

The participants will then gather in their separate armies to learn drill commands and how to move as a military unit for the afternoon.

Before dinnertime, participants will be dismissed to break down their tents in the communal camping area and move to either Union or Confederate camp. They will be shown how to set up camps as they were during the Civil War, in rows and streets, and help set up a large Civil

War tent that will serve as the mess tent for their camp. GBPA will provide an evening meal similar to what a Civil War soldier would have had during the war. **Participants will need to bring their own mess kit to the mess tent for the meal.** This will need to be a plate or bowl and a spoon or fork. The army will eat together in and around the mess tent. Adult leaders are also invited.

A time will be provided to then gather back at the communal camping area for Kent Courtney's presentation of American History through Song. Once the presentation is complete, participants will head back to their camps for a good night's sleep.

Sunday will begin with reveille. GBPA will provide a continental breakfast in the mess tent of each camp. Participants will gather their kepi and rifle and report for more drill and movement practice as an army. A short presentation about Father William Corby will be presented in each camp. At a set time, the two sides will square off on a battlefield for the mock tactical battle.

Once the battle is over, everyone will come together for a final discussion of what happened during the battle, and how even small decisions can change a larger outcome. Loaner rifles will be collected at this time. All participants are dismissed to tear down camp and head home. We expect this to happen early in the afternoon. **Your unit is responsible for providing its own lunch, if needed.**

If your unit has traveled from a far distance and you would prefer to stay over on Sunday night, please email camping@gbpa.org to make arrangements.

General Notes: Please make sure your scouts have appropriate clothing and sleeping equipment for the weather. April can be blazing hot or freezing cold or somewhere in between. Check weather for Gettysburg, PA before you pack.

Sunscreen and bug spray are recommended.

Each scout should have a water bottle of some sort. GBPA will be providing potable water to refill bottles as needed. Please make sure these bottles are easy for the scout to keep with them while participating in the activities.