

ACWSA Michigan Meeting Minutes

February 19th, 2011

Teams in attendance: 1st Michigan Infantry, 1st South Carolina Volunteers, 2nd Texas Sharpshooters, 7th Wisconsin, 8th Arkansas, 8th Michigan, 15th Virginia Cavalry, 146th New York, Dygerts Company, Loomis' Battery, Richmond Purcell's Battery, and USS Michigan Landing Party

Teams not attending: 18th Indiana Battery, 4th Michigan, and Quantrill's Missouri Partisans

Meeting called to order by Dan Gibson (ACWSA Deputy Commander) at 11:07 am.

Opening Remarks

Dan thanked all members and team representatives present for taking time out of their schedules to attend. He also extended thanks to the Richmond Area Historical and Genealogical Society for providing the use of their facilities. He then thanked Dianne, Karen and Norm for their volunteer work in setting up the room and providing refreshments.

ACWSA Deputy Commander's Report

Dan explained that Chris Hubbard had stepped down as ACWSA Deputy Commander due to his upcoming work assignment involving a possibly significant amount of time in China during this upcoming year. To fill the position, the ACWSA Commander (Bob Chabalowski) appointed Dan as the new ACWSA Deputy Commander. Dan pointed out to all those present that, while many people donated their time and efforts to establishing the Michigan region last year, Chris was instrumental in the setup of our group and it could not have been done without his initiative and leadership. He further pointed out that Chris' leadership overall with the sport of black powder shooting has been invaluable over the many years he has served.

Last weekend Dan and Norm went to the ACWSA meeting held in Wisconsin. Items that specifically involved teams on that side of Lake Michigan would not be covered during our meeting. The Wisconsin meeting was lengthy with much of the time spent around the approval of the new skirmish rules which would be addressed later in our meeting.

Norm then handed out a budget report provided at that meeting. The ACWSA budget was financially sound and a motion was passed in Wisconsin to reduce dues to \$10 for the 2012 shooting season (next year). Norm pointed out that the 1st year free dues program would be maintained. Dan indicated that these were the ACWSA dues and we would be free to implement our own annual dues if needed for purposes of acquiring needed items. **Motion** made by Loomis Battery to approve the reduction of ACWSA dues to \$10 for the 2012 shooting season. Motion seconded by 15th Virginia Cavalry. No discussion. **Motion carried.** A point of clarification was requested that the reduction applies to 2012 and not the 2011 already paid.

In Dan's discussions with Bob Chabalowski, it is intended that the ACWSA Commander and Deputy Commander positions will be based on a rotating process with the positions switching regions every 3 years. Bob has indicated he would like to see through the completion of the revised ACWSA By-laws currently underway. It is further intended that the Commander and Deputy Commander positions will serve as a liaison between the two regions and will also conduct regional level organizational meetings. Each position would not have a vote on matters unless needed to break a tie vote. However, Bob has indicated that if a decision is contentious enough to have such a large portion of teams dissenting, then the issue should not be decided upon, but be tabled and renegotiated until a suitable compromise can be achieved. **Motion** made by 15th Virginia Cavalry to support a 3 year rotating process for the ACWSA Commander and Deputy Commander positions. Motion seconded by 7th Wisconsin. **Motion carried unanimously.**

It was then reported that at the Wisconsin meeting the revised Artillery rules were approved, but the revised Mortar rules were tabled for a later vote once additional specifics were worked out. There were numerous changes to the revised Skirmish rules and this issue is to be addressed later in this meeting.

Norm reported that he had been in contact with an individual from the North-East region of the country who has a number of individuals interested in setting up an ACWSA region in their area. As a newly established ACWSA region we will be providing them with assistance in the establishment of their region. Norm further stated that he has also had an inquiry from an individual in the Southern portion of the eastern U.S. regarding the establishment of an ACWSA region down there.

Dan then clarified for the attendees of the meeting that the recently revised skirmish rules were separate from the ACWSA By-laws and that the By-laws were next in the process for revision. He further stated that the Michigan region will be developing our own set of By-laws to set forth how we operate and that those regional By-laws will operate within the parameters set by the ACWSA By-laws.

Old Business

Dan started out with a review of 2010 shooting season. This included identifying certain things that didn't go as well as we had hoped and also included a list of what went right for us. We will be looking for improvement on the items that didn't go well and everyone was requested to provide ideas and possible solutions. The following is a summary list of items covered by Dan:

Things that didn't go quite as planned

- Use of latex paint to change/enhance color of clay pigeons (although worked for smoothbore)
- Initial falling of multiple "hit" metal targets (corrected by suggestion from Bruce Miller)
- Positioning of mortar crews that resulted in delay of event
- Late signups by individuals for registration
- Metal targeting falling in mud with no cleanup supplies
- Omission of colors during open ceremonies (to be handled in 2011 by Purcell's Battery)
- Run on targeting by teams before event resulting in confusion and excess disbursement
- Some individuals tasked with too many responsibilities

Things that went well for us

- Metal targeting – reduced cleanup, paid for themselves after 2nd shoot, easy to score
- Allowing teams to provide color for their own water bottles (new ideas for process)
- Break-down of range by all (even improved throughout year as people gained familiarity)
- Everybody was able to shoot even host teams
- For the most part events proceeded quickly and efficiently
- Events were low costs
- Local shooting events – Richmond Sportsman's Club was very pleased according to Norm and Bluewater is very supportive of our efforts.
- Conducting of regular revolver events with shorter distances for targets (well attended)
- Clay pigeons provided at no costs due to volunteer efforts to pickup 11,000 at beginning of year off of trap fields.
- Richmond Area Historical and Genealogical Society was happy to be providing our concessions. Norm indicated this was one of their largest fundraisers last year.
- Participation in educational field trips conducted by Chris Hubbard for Lake Shore High School. These events provide a positive experience for students and parents alike.
- One day shoots with both musket and carbine team events – allowed people to get in both events and still free-up a day out of their weekend.
- Leadership structure operated as a committee and was flexible to adjust promptly to the needs of our organization.

Wally reported that our breast cancer charity fund raiser held at Richmond in October was very successful. Our event raised \$4,332 through a combination of individual donations, shoot profits, special events, and donations from the Bluewater Sportsmen Association and Richmond Sportsman Club. Proceeds were donated to the National Breast Cancer Foundation in memory of Laura Zeeman.

Dan then reminded everyone that the 1 year transition period for uniforms was up for most renewing members and that it was important for us to represent ourselves properly for the upcoming Civil War Sesquicentennial. The 1 year transition period would still apply for any new members. Anyone that had concerns over uniforms should seek out one of the many knowledgeable members and that Chris Hubbard was a good resource for information. Dan went on to state that any concerns over wool pants may be able to be addressed with other acceptable materials such as jean cloth which he himself had recently switched to and found to be a comfortable alternative. He then noted that the 2nd Texas Sharpshooters, a new ACWSA unit, had done a fantastic job with their uniforms this past year and were a model unit for what we are trying to achieve. Suggestions and articles for uniforms are expected to be included again with this year's newsletters.

Wally reported that the ACWSA Michigan account balance started out with a little over \$2,400 in donations at the start of the 2010 shooting season. These donations were used to pay for our initial startup costs including the metal targeting, command tower, etc. Shooting fees were kept at low levels and were only enough to pay for our event expenses with a very small profit remaining. After current outstanding checks clear the account, the total available funds will be \$1,649.80.

Dan asked for any other old business from the attendees. The 8th Michigan had a concern over why there was a problem with sergeant stripes especially with many members maintaining memberships in other Civil War organizations. It was pointed out that this was not feasible to continually modify an individual's uniform every week depending upon which event the individual would be attending. Dan informed him that this provision was in the By-laws initially established by the ACWSA in 1999 and that those By-laws will be revised shortly. It can be addressed at that time and there should be no concern over this issue for the upcoming year and it was not worth jeopardizing membership of participating members.

New Business

Dan referred everyone to the event schedule handout provided by Norm (details provided in an attachment to these minutes). It was pointed out that the shoot dates are also available online at the ACWSA's website or the ACWSA Michigan Facebook page. A correction was pointed out to the Memorial Day Parade. That event should be May 30th (not May 31st) and the point of contact should be corrected from Chris Hubbard to Mike Baker. A recommendation was made by the 8th Michigan to not include light colored fonts on the combined WI/IL/MI schedule available on the ACWSA website due to difficulty in reading.

Dan is still looking into the possibility of a joint championship shoot mid-way between the two regions. At this time, we will be looking at a mid-June, 2012 date for the event. The intention is to pursue the shooting range recommended by Chris Hubbard near Bristol, IN. Dan asked for volunteers and Mike Zandarski (7th Wisconsin) agreed to assist with helping to setup this event.

Since the Bristol range will not be ready for a "championship" shoot in 2011, Dan has invited the Wisconsin/Illinois ACWSA teams to our Bluewater shoot on August 13th – 14th. **Motion** made by the 2nd Texas to allow free team entries for ACWSA teams traveling from outside Michigan Region for the August 13th – 14th event. Motion seconded by 7th Wisconsin. Brief discussion ensued. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Dan suggested we look to hold some events each year at ranges outside of the local metro Detroit area especially with the Sesquicentennial in full swing. It was pointed out that our requirements for shooting line space and camping are such that certain previously unavailable ranges may now be an option. Caseville is an example of this and we will look into it for 2012 as a possible venue. If known early enough, Caseville may be able to have our event published on their annual brochure of events.

8th Michigan suggested Carleton as a possible alternative range for later in a shooting season after the range was done being used by farmers.

Dan requested volunteers for assistance in looking at alternate ranges. Wally volunteered to assist.

Special events held by the Bluewater Sportsmen Association, such as the indoor .22 shoots and woodswalk events, were pointed out and members were encouraged to support these events. A listing can be found on the backside of the handout provided by Norm and are also posted on the ACWSA Michigan Facebook page.

Norm stated that he had been in contact with individuals sponsoring a Civil War demonstration during the 2011 Memorial Day weekend in Coldwater, MI. The event sponsors were at our 2010 display in Port Sanilac and were impressed. Friday will have a large number of students out at the event. Norm and Brian will be taking some artillery and we are looking for volunteers to assist with the display. Anyone interested should contact Norm (norm@firstsouthcarolina.com).

Wally reported that Chris Hubbard will not be available this Memorial Day weekend and will be unable to organize participation in the Dearborn Memorial Day Parade. Mike Baker of the 8th Michigan will be heading this event up and has requested an email listing for the ACWSA team commanders which will be provided by Wally.

Jim Bone reported that the Northville Historical Society was extremely pleased with our Civil War display last July and that they have asked us to participate again this year. They would like to have artillery on display if possible. The event will be on Monday, July 4th. We would be able to setup after 6pm on Sunday evening. This event was well attended by the public. For more information, please contact Jim (jimmbone@sbcglobal.net).

Norm informed everyone that the Richmond Good Ole Days weekend will be September 10th – 11th this year. He pointed out this event is not listed on the handout he provided. The fairgrounds are a block away from this meeting's location and due to parking restrictions much pedestrian traffic flows by the building. Last year Chris and Wally setup a display under a canopy outside the building and had non-stop visitors throughout the day. This is a good educational event for the public and is a possible recruiting venue for our organization. If you are interested in participating in this event, please contact Norm Gibson for further information.

Norm and Brian Haack had discussed the possibility of an ACWSA summer-time woodswalk at Bluewater. However, due to poor lighting deep in the woods and ticks during the summer, it was decided this wouldn't be a good idea. Brian has suggested as an alternative holding a .22 shoot on Friday night at our ACWSA Bluewater events. It was requested that team commanders poll their members to find out if there is interest in running this type of event on Friday evening. If you would like to see this, please contact Brian and let him know (haackfamily@msn.com). If there is enough interest, this will be included on the event invites that will be sent out later.

Dan reported that Mike and Sheila Lauer will be donating a second safety tower in the name of Mike's parents. This second tower will be used at the Richmond range and will eliminate the extra work involved with transporting our current tower back and forth between the venues. Dan thanked Mike and Sheila on behalf of the ACWSA.

Both the current and new safety towers need volunteers to replace the nuts used in the assembly. We are looking for wing nuts or some other fastener that will simplify and speed up the process of assembly and disassembly. It was also suggested that colored tape or paint needed to be used on the tower to identify various joints and connection points to ease in the assembly. Brian Haack and Bob Hubbard volunteered to complete this task.

Dan reported that our region would be acquiring an additional set of CO² bottles so that the clearing bottles will not have to be transported back and forth between our primary ranges. Wally has contacted Warren Flynn (7th Wisconsin), who provided the first set, to inquire about obtaining an additional set.

Brian Haack has suggested that we look into acquiring a new shape metal target in a rectangular shape approximately 3" x 5". **Motion** made by 15th Virginia Cavalry to purchase rectangular shaped targets in a quantity sufficient to provide a separate set for the Richmond and Bluewater ranges. Motion seconded by 1st South Carolina. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Wally has been discussing with Bob Anderson (1st Michigan) the acquisition of conveyor belt material for targeting. Bob provided a test set that was used in the smoothbore event at Grayling last year. The current metal target wires were used and the targets were required to be knocked off the wire. This will be a good alternative to the expensive large ceramic tile used for the 50 yd smoothbore event. Cost will be approximately \$20 for a set of 60. Rivets or grommets were discussed for the holes, but it was decided that this was unnecessary if the wire holes were large enough. **Motion** made by the 7th Wisconsin to purchase a set of this new conveyor belt targeting for our inventory. Motion seconded by the 1st South Carolina. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Dan requested volunteers to provide at least 2 gong style targets for the target line to provide a safe alternative for discharging loaded firearms at the end of an event. Brian Haack suggested a setup using an old tire with a wood front and a metal backside. Rounds that are dumped could then be retrieved within the collection unit. In addition to accomplishing our goal, this would keep some of the lead out of the range's backstop which is a growing concern of some ranges. Brian Haack volunteered to construct a set of 6 collection units. **Motion** made by the 1st South Carolina to approve reasonable costs for oxygen and gas to cut the steel. Motion seconded by the 2nd Texas.

Meeting recessed for break at 12:30pm.

Meeting re-adjourned at 12:57pm.

Review of motion on the table made by the 1st South Carolina. No discussion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Dan asked for any other suggestions for targeting alternatives. The 15th Virginia expressed a desire to use the "Whirly Bird" style target which is inexpensive and easy to make. An inquiry was also made as to whether we should continue to request donations of ½ gallon and gallon milk jugs. We will accept these and retain them in our inventory. Brian Haack suggested applying the idea of having teams supply their own water bottle colors to the milk jugs as well.

Dan described the process for hosting a shoot. He reiterated that all ACWSA events expect to have every participant involved in running the event, but that the host team would be specifically responsible for setting the event schedule, making sure targeting was on-hand, and making sure that everything was properly put away at the end of the event. He stated that the hosting process needs to be spread out among our teams to avoid overburdening any particular team and asked for teams to volunteer for hosting a shoot. Enough teams volunteered to cover all our 2011 shooting events. Please refer to the attachment at the end of these minutes for a listing of the hosting teams.

To help assist a host team with some of the hosting duties, Dan circulated a grid sheet (see attachment for volunteer signups) with specific tasks that needed to be completed at each event and requested that teams signup for a responsibility. As an example, Purcell's has agreed to provide the colors at opening ceremonies with assistance from the 7th Wisconsin if necessary. Other specific tasks include the setting up and breaking down of the safety tower, disbursement and collection of targeting, final review of cleanup of firing line and ready areas, etc.

Doc Mandy inquired about the medical kit. Dianne indicated that nothing currently needs to be replenished and the only items used during 2010 were two bandaids. Doc indicated that we should watch the expiration dates on the AED batteries and that the batteries should be left in the units during the off-season so they could run their pre-scheduled cycle checks.

Because of obvious logistical requirements, full-blown individual events are not a possibility at our events due to the time involved with preparation, actual shooting time, and scoring of targets. However, Dan asked if there was any interest in a championship style event for individual targeting. Teams have been requested to poll their members and report back to determine if we have a minimum number of shooters interested in this type of event. Any individual event would only be at one of our full weekend events this year and there are only 3 possibilities. The other 3 events are 1 day shoots which will not have individual events. It was suggested that any individual events be held to 3 to 4 relays and that the minimum number of shooters needed to provide awards would be 3. Robert Hubbard and Fritz Brohn volunteered to score targets if we proceed with this type of event.

Dan advised everyone that all new members and any changes to contact information for current members must flow through our regional adjutant (acwsa.michigan@gmail.com) who would then report the addition/change to Wisconsin. Failure to follow this process may result in the inadvertent exclusion of a member being left off our Michigan related communications. Complete information is also needed to create our event registration/sign-in reports.

A brief discussion was had about sign-ins at the shooting events. It was reported that it was slightly easier to have a team commander or adjutant take a tally of their members at the event and then register them all at once. However, nearly everyone that commented on the process throughout the year indicated that they really liked the individual sign-up process. We will therefore continue on that basis, but Dan requested that team commanders advise their members to avoid signing in at the last minute. Wally commented that if a team commander loans out, or picks up, a member from a specific team that he needs to be advised of that during the registration period. Otherwise, all extra shooters will be assigned to a team that needs shooters.

Dan brought up the handling of concessions at this year's events. The Richmond Area Historical and Genealogical Society would like to again provide concessions at the events held at the Richmond Sportsman's Club. They will also be willing to do the concessions at Bluewater if needed. Norm stated that this was one of their largest fundraisers last year. Dan also indicated that he would be looking into getting the Hillman Boy Scout troop to handle concessions at our Grayling event in June. Last year we

had individual ACWSA members handle concessions at Bluewater and Dan indicated we would give first preference to any member that wanted to provide concessions with the member providing the outlay of expenses and keeping profits. Bluewater concessions were handled by LeeAnn Hubbard who did it to help benefit the organization and was perfectly happy with turning it over to the Historical Society. **Motion** made by 15th Virginia Cavalry to request the Richmond Area Historical and Genealogical Society handle the concessions at both Richmond and Bluewater this year. Motion seconded by 7th Wisconsin. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Dan requested a Sesquicentennial committee be established. Bruce Miller is already involved on Sesquicentennial committees with other Civil War organizations. Dan appointed Bruce as the committee chair. Also appointed to the committee, pending their acceptance, are Joe Toth (2nd Texas) and Chris Hubbard (146th New York). Bruce promptly provided his first report. There is no observance of the Sesquicentennial at the federal level. Some states, particularly in the South, have large commissions with funding. Michigan has a commission, but with no funding. Bruce encouraged everyone to sign-up for an email newsletter at the following email address – civil-war@comcast.net. He suggested we get all of our events registered on specific related websites and provided www.micivilwar.org as a main site for this purpose. He also showed an example of an official logo for the Civil War remembrance in Michigan and requested it be provided on all of our literature. He will provide a digital copy for this purpose. Bruce also requested a team commander contact listing to be provided by Wally.

Dan again reiterated that the 1st year free program was still in place for new members and used new member Jesse Pleiman (7th Wisconsin) as an example of the success of getting someone immediately involved at one of our events. Also, in an effort to enhance our recruitment efforts, Dan announced that Sean Buckert has volunteered to begin working on an ACWSA recruitment video using resources available to him.

Dan asked for volunteers to promote each of our events with the local media. Norm volunteered to handle the Richmond events. We will look into standard language that can be disseminated to local media outlets prior to each event.

Dan reiterated he was appointed as the ACWSA Deputy Commander, but we currently have no formal leadership structure established for the Michigan region. He suggested we setup a basic structure and that it be kept simple. He suggested to start we have a Regional Commander, Adjutant and Inspector General. These would be interim positions until our regional By-laws are formulated and approved at which time we would hold formal elections.

Motion made by 15th Virginia Cavalry to create an office of Regional Commander until regional By-laws are established. Motion seconded by 7th Wisconsin. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion made by 146th New York to create an office of Regional Inspector General until regional By-laws are established. Motion seconded by Loomis Battery. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion made by 15th Virginia Cavalry to nominate Robert Hubbard as Regional Inspector General. Position declined by Bob due to expected 7 day work weeks later this summer. He would like to serve with Jim Bone.

Motion made by 15th Virginia Cavalry to nominate Jim Bone as interim Regional Inspector General. Motion seconded by Dygerts Sharpshooters. Brief discussion ensued during which it was determined that Jim would be permitted to name his own Deputy Inspector General(s) to assist him. **Motion carried unanimously.** Robert Hubbard named by Jim Bone as Deputy Inspector General.

Motion made by 1st South Carolina to create an office of Regional Adjutant until regional By-laws are established. Motion seconded by 15th Virginia Cavalry. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion made by 1st South Carolina to nominate Wally Gibson as interim Regional Adjutant. Motion seconded by Loomis Battery. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion made by 1st South Carolina to nominate Dan Gibson as interim Regional Commander. Motion seconded by 2nd Texas. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Dan appointed Brian Haack (7th Wisconsin) as the Michigan region's small arms committee chairman. A number of recommended small arms committee members are not present at this meeting and will need to be contacted to determine if they are interested in serving on the committee. Brian will be responsible for appointing committee members.

Dan asked for volunteers for the By-laws committee. The By-laws committee will be responsible for establishing the Michigan regional By-laws and will also assist with the revised ACWSA By-laws. The following individuals volunteered for this duty: Fritz Brohn (Loomis Battery), Chris Einowski (2nd Texas), Paul Lipka (2nd Texas), David "Doc" Mandy (15th Virginia Cav.), and Bruce Miller (1st Michigan).

Dan asked if there were any volunteers willing to take over the electronic newsletter for ACWSA Michigan. Dianne Gibson volunteered to take up this responsibility.

Dan then proceeded to the review and approval of the recent changes made to the ACWSA Skirmish rules, Artillery rules and Mortar rules. The Artillery and Mortar portion of the rules would be deferred until the end of the meeting since this portion of the rules does not affect all teams.

Only one comment was provided on the grid previously distributed to facilitate the review of the changes. This was a correction submitted by Purcells Battery for an omission in Section 6.12(A)3. The last sentence of that section is missing the word "to". Even though there were no other issues turned in, Dan proceeded through the Skirmish rules page by page.

Brian Haack pointed out that the 32" reference in Section 1.20(A) conflicts with Section 7.1(B) in that it eliminates at least 3 specifically approved firearms under Section 7.1(B). He suggested this be changed to be consistent. **Motion** made by the 7th Wisconsin to change the reference to 32" to 27" in Section 1.20(A). Motion seconded by 15th Virginia Cavalry. No discussion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Suggestion made to correct language in Section 2.1(B)(1) from "in the discretion" to "at the discretion".

Motion made by the 146th New York to change Section 6.13(A) to read "If a firearm has reached the firing line, the firearm may not leave the line without the permission of the appropriate safety officer." Motion seconded by 15th Virginia Cavalry. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion made by the 7th Wisconsin to approve the re-amended skirmish rules. Motion seconded by 2nd Texas. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Dan then inquired if there was any other new business.

Mike Zandarski (7th Wisconsin) has lead available and John Gaskill (8th Arkansas) is putting together a bulk order for wingless and winged caps. Mike Zandarski also indicated that Deercreek Products out of Indiana has black powder available for cheaper prices than other traditional sources. Doug Reed reported that powder can also be obtained from Shooters Service in Livonia (6 Mile Rd. and Middlebelt).

Bruce Miller reported on the condition of Rich Cross. He said he is doing well and expects to see us on the line this spring. He said Rich thanks everyone for their cards and well wishes.

Motion made by 2nd Texas to adjourn main meeting at 2:43 pm. Motion seconded by 7th Wisconsin. Motion carried.

Units with artillery and mortars met after the general meeting to discuss revisions to the artillery and mortar rules. Units present: 7th Wisconsin, 146th New York, 15th Virginia Cav., Loomis Battery, 1st South Carolina, and Dygert's Sharpshooters. This meeting was presided over by ACWSA Artillery Officer Norm Gibson. Discussed first were the rules for cannons. The following revisions were made:

7. BREECHLOADING CANNON MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING TOOLS:

- G. Friction primers, percussion primers **(add) including .22 blanks**, quills or firecracker fuse. The use of torches or any other open flame to ignite priming is prohibited.

10. POWDER CHARGES

- E. **(Strike Filled)** Powder charges shall be kept in a limber chest. Ammunition chests shall be kept locked at all times except during artillery matches.

13. ARTILLERY FIRING REGULATIONS

- F. The program shall specify the number of rounds to be fired. The Artillery Officer or his deputies, or the Skirmish Director shall direct the individual artillery matches and provide targets for each cannon. Artillery pieces shall be formed on the line by the Skirmish Director, or the Artillery Officer. Each class must have at least two pieces to compete in its own class. Artillery matches shall be fired in one or more relays at a range of between **(strike 100, insert) 50** and 200 yards. Longer ranges can be used provided that it can be safely done. A match shall consist of no less than 10 rounds and no more than 12 rounds fired within one hour.

Add.

26. EXCEPTIONS

In these rules there are places where exceptions can be granted in writing by the Artillery Officer. If this is done, the Artillery Officer is required to keep a record of exceptions granted, and to inform all other artillery gun owners of exceptions granted.

Motion by 7th Wisconsin, second 1st South Carolina to accept the Artillery Matches (Cannon) rules as amended, carried without dissent.

There was considerable discussion of the mortar rules. Topics discussed were Eligibility, Projectiles, Projectile Construction, shotgun primer ignition systems, Storage and Handling, Scoring, and Crew Members and Their Duties. Units present arrived at a consensus as to what revisions they wanted made and directed the Artillery Officer to draft those changes and email them for a final vote.

2. ELIGIBILITY

Actual or full-scale replicas of Civil War mortars may be fired. The term "Civil War" applies to any mortar whose model antedates April 26, 1865. All mortars must maintain the same construction and ratio to the original in all components, including the bed, bore and exterior of the barrel. Replica mortars must utilize a bore and chamber conforming to the dimensions of the original mortar. No auxiliary chambers (**chamber inserts**) will be allowed. In addition, the bore must be at least 4.6 inches in diameter, and the bed must conform to the style of original Civil War mortars. All reproduction barrels must be made of iron, steel or bronze.

(New wording for second paragraph)

All though the use of full scale mortars are encouraged, all scale mortars that have been in use in the ACWSA up to May 2010 that have bores smaller than 4.62 inches (12 pdr) and larger than 2.25 inches will be allowed. These mortars are to be fired in demonstration matches with a maximum range of 150 yards. Mortars in this size range will not be allowed continued use if their ownership is transferred to another unit.

5. PROJECTILES

- A. Only round balls may be used. Maximum weight shall be the weight of projectile designed for the bore diameter of a pre-April 26, 1865 original mortar (*ex.: 24 Pdr. Coehorn Mortar = 16.8 lb. shell*). Minimum weight shall be 45 percent of the maximum weight.
- B. In mortars with a bore smaller than 4.62 inches and larger than 2.75 inches the projectile shall weigh no more than the weight of a solid zinc ball of bore size. In mortars smaller than 2.75 inches and greater than 2.25 inches the projectile shall weigh no more than the weight of a lead ball of bore diameter. Mortars using these maximum projectile weights shall be fired at a maximum range of 150 yards.

7. PROJECTILE CONSTRUCTION (add C)

- C. If streamers are used the maximum range will be 150 yards.

8. EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

- K. Instantaneous firing primers: friction primers, quills, **(add) or cap primers such as shotgun primers. All require the use of a vent deflector.**

11. STORAGE AND HANDLING (amended in bold)

Powder charges shall be kept in individual containers which are then contained in a securely constructed ammunition box located 25 **or more** feet **from the closest** mortar, **and behind the firing line. The preferred placement is 25 or more feet behind the mortar being served from it. The ammunition box shall also be located at least 20 feet from spectators.** The hinged side of the lid shall be positioned closest to the mortar so the open side does not face the firing line when removing charges.

- A. Once the match has started, the lid of the ammunition chest shall be closed at all times except when removing powder charges. No powder charges may be kept outside of the ammunition chest.
- B. The powder charges must be placed in approved containers that can hold no more than a single charge. If the powder charge is to be adjusted during firing, individual increments of additional powder shall be prepared in advance and stored within the ammunition box. These incremental unit containers shall be of distinctively different color from the main charges.

15. SCORING

A **standard mortar** match shall consist of seven rounds, the best five of which shall be counted for score. **If the match consists of more than seven rounds an additional seven minutes for each additional round shall be added to the minimum 45 minute program. Method of scoring a mortar match with more than seven rounds shall be announced prior to the match.**

Individual targets shall be set out for each mortar. The target shall be a cylindrical stake provided by the mortar crew, and set in the ground at the prescribed distance as determined by the Mortar Match Officer or Event Director. Stakes shall be no taller than 6 feet above the ground and may be painted but shall have no wind flags or other sighting aids attached or painted.

The range distance shall be made known to the registered mortar crews at least two weeks in advance of the shoot to facilitate preparation of charges. If an unknown range is to be used, a minimum/maximum distance will be made known to the registered mortar crews at least two weeks in advance of the shoot to facilitate preparation of charges. The difference between the minimum and maximum distance shall be no more than forty yards.

Each crew must find a different organization to score for them. The total distance of the nearest five balls from the stake will be used to determine the score. The distance shall be measured from the center of the stake to the nearest edge of the ball. The distances shall be recorded for each ball, starting with the closest to the stake. The recorded distances may either be listed as separate distances or cumulative distances. The shortest distance wins. Ties shall be broken by the nearest ball to the stake. If still unbroken, the tie will then be decided by the next nearest ball to the stake until the tie is broken.

Alternative scoring methods *may* be used by Match Officers or Event Directors provided that the method used is explained to the crews before the match.

16. CREW MEMBERS AND THEIR DUTIES

A crew shall consist of a minimum of **(strike four and insert) three**, one of whom shall be a Safety Officer who shall be assigned to perform safety duties for another crew on the line. Basic Civil War period mortar drill, as modified to comply with ACWSA safety procedures, shall be enforced.

The rest of this section 16 was modified to reflect two crew members working the mortar instead of three by combining A & B as gunner duties, and changing No 2 to No 1 in the rest of the section.

Motion to adjourn at 4:13 pm by 7th Wisconsin, second 15th Virginia Cav. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wally Gibson
Adjutant, ACWSA Michigan Region



2011 EVENT SCHEDULE

Shooting and Civil War Educational Events

Date	Location	Host	Notes
March 5 th *	Bluewater (Port Huron)	Brian H. and Mike Z.	.22 indoor shoot
April 2 nd *	Bluewater (Port Huron)	Brian H. and Mike Z.	.22 indoor shoot
May 14 th	Bluewater (Port Huron)	146 th New York	High School Field Trip
May 15 th	Bluewater (Port Huron)	7 th Wisconsin	1 day shoot – Musket/Carbine
May 27 th – 29 th	Coldwater, MI	Norm Gibson	Civil War display
May 30 th	Dearborn, MI	Mike Baker	Memorial Day Parade
June 11 th – 12 th	Grayling, MI (Range 35)	1 st South Carolina	Will include long range events
July 4 th	Northville, MI	Jim Bone	Civil War display
July 16 th – 17 th	Richmond, MI	Purcell's Battery	
July 30 th – 31 st	Grayling, MI (Range 35)	Loomis Battery	Long Range Artillery ONLY
August 13 th – 14 th	Bluewater (Port Huron)	15 th Virginia Cav.	Special Olympics fund raiser
September 10 th – 11 th	Richmond, MI	Norm Gibson	Good Ole Days display
September 18 th	Richmond, MI	2 nd Texas	1 day shoot – Musket/Carbine
October 22 nd	Bluewater (Port Huron)	146 th New York	High School Field Trip
October 23 rd	Bluewater (Port Huron)	7 th Wisconsin	1 day shoot – Musket/Carbine

* - .22 indoor shoots are to support our gun clubs and are not ACWSA sponsored events.

A listing of ACWSA events for the Wisconsin/Illinois area can be found at www.acwsa.org. As an ACWSA member, you are able to attend those events as well if you desire.

VOLUNTEER ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2011 SHOOTING EVENTS

EVENT	COLORS	TARGET DISBURSE & COLLECT	TOWER ASSEMBLY & BREAK DOWN	FINAL READY AREA INSPECTION	TARGET AREA CLEAN UP	TOWER ANNOUNCER	NOTES
BLUE WATER MAY 14 th – 15 th	PURCELL'S BATTERY 7 TH WISCONSIN		7 TH WISCONSIN		KEN GOOD DYGERTS	PETE SIMPSON BRUCE MILLER	
GRAYLING JUNE 11 th – 12 th	PURCELL'S BATTERY 7 TH WISCONSIN	JIM & SUZY BONE	1 ST SC	1 ST SC	1 ST SC	1 ST SC FRITZ BROHN	
RICHMOND JULY 16 th – 17 th	PURCELL'S BATTERY 7 TH WISCONSIN				2 ND TEXAS	8 TH MI CAV CARBINE & MUSKET	
BLUE WATER AUGUST 13 th -14 th	PURCELL'S BATTERY 7 TH WISCONSIN	BRIAN HAACK	7 TH WISCONSIN	BRIAN HAACK	15 TH VA CAV	8 TH MI CAV 15 TH VA CAV BRIAN HAACK CARBINE & MUSKET	
RICHMOND SEPT 18 th	PURCELL'S BATTERY 7 TH WISCONSIN	DOUG REED & 2 ND TEXAS		8 TH MI. CAV.	15 TH VA CAV	15 TH VA CAV BRIAN HAACK	
BLUE WATER OCT 22 nd -23 rd	PURCELL'S BATTERY 7 TH WISCONSIN	JIM & SUZY BONE	7 TH WISCONSIN	8 TH MI. CAV.	USS MI. LANDING PARTY	CHRIS EINOWSKI	