

**The American Civil War Shooting Association, Inc.  
Minutes of the February 12, 2012, Annual Board Meeting  
& Regional Commanders Meeting**

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:10 AM at the home of Stephen and Elaine Sherry, 513 Storle Avenue, Burlington WI.

2. **Roll Call.**

- (a) The members of the Board of Directors present were:  
Commander: Bob Chabalowski  
Deputy Commander: Dan Gibson  
Adjutant: Rob Weber  
Paymaster: Darlene Van Kauwenbergh  
Judge Advocate General: Dan Graff  
Past Commander: Pat Kaboskey

Absent

Inspector General: Les Knutsen

- (b) Also present were the following team commanders from the Wisconsin/Illinois region:  
1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Sharpshooters – Pat Kaboskey  
15<sup>th</sup> Wis. Volunteer Infantry – Steven Sherry  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wis. Volunteer Infantry – Gary Van Kauwenbergh  
6<sup>th</sup> Wis. Volunteers – Lance Herdegen  
66<sup>th</sup> North Carolina – Bob Chabalowski  
8<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin – Dick Tessman

3. **Minutes.** The 2011 minutes were accepted as posted. The Board also adopted a procedure for the future. The Adjutant will share the minutes with the National Commander and the minutes will be posted on the ACWSA website. Any requested corrections or changes may be called to the attention of the Adjutant who will either update the minutes or put the issue on the agenda for the next meeting. Such questions aside, the minutes will be approved as posted.

4. **Rosters.**

- (a) Prior to the meeting, the Adjutant received the roster for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin and rosters from Wally Gibson for the following Michigan Region teams: 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Infantry, 2<sup>nd</sup> Texas Sharpshooters, 8<sup>th</sup> Arkansas, 8<sup>th</sup> Michigan, 15<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry, 16<sup>th</sup> Michigan, Loomis' Battery, Richmond Purcell's Battery, 1<sup>st</sup> S. Carolina, 18<sup>th</sup> Indiana Battery, Quantrill's Missouri Partisans, and the 7<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin. (The Adjutant wishes to specially thank Wally for the extra effort he put in by not only providing 12 team rosters, but also highlighting each change to each old team roster, which saved the Adjutant much time in updating the ACWSA master roster).

- (b) At the meeting, the Adjutant received rosters from: 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Sharpshooters, 6<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, 8<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Infantry, 15<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, 56<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry, and 66<sup>th</sup> North Carolina State Troops.
- (c) A roster from the 4<sup>th</sup> Michigan is anticipated but has not yet been received.

5. **Pay Master's Report & 2012 Budget.**

- (a) Paymaster Darlene Van Kauwenbergh provided a written 2011 financial report (available separately) showing a carryover of \$2,539.80 from 2010, 2011 receipts and income of \$4,073.04 and 2011 expenses of \$2,599.90, leaving an end-of-year balance of \$4,012.94.
- (b) The Board retroactively approved the expenditure of \$136 for website software (already included in the 2011 expenses reported).
- (c) The Paymaster's projected budget (available separately) estimates that due to the reduction in dues and the purchase of an approximately two-year supply of awards, the 2012 expenses will exceed revenues leaving an estimated balance of \$3,188.96 as of December 31, 2012.

6. **Team Reports.**

- (a) Deputy Commander Dan Gibson reported that two Michigan Region teams are no longer participating in ACWSA: 146<sup>th</sup> New York and USS Michigan Landing Party.
- (b) Lance Herdegen advised that the Iron Brigade Guards and 6<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Volunteers have merged and will be known as the 6<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin with Lance commanding.
- (c) Stephen Sherry reported that 15<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin team members Eric Stockdale and Alison Templeton plan to wed on the skirmish field at Bristol on September 15.
- (d) Pat Kaboskey reported that he is in discussion concerning a possible static display or shooting demonstration at a farm near Horicon also celebrating a 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- (e) Pat will be giving a speech about the Civil War about April 20. Details to follow.
- (f) Also Pat is discussing a Gatling gun live fire demonstration at the Waunakee Gun Club for Safari Club International (Badgerland chapter) as part of a display of historical guns from smooth bore to Gatling. The SCI annual sporting clays shoot is set for June 30 according to their website.

**7. Elections & Appointments.**

- (a) The members of the existing Board of Directors were elected to serve as the National Board of Directors for 2012.
- (b) The following Regional Officers were elected for the Wisconsin/Illinois Region:
  - (1) Commander: Bob Chabalowski
  - (2) Deputy Commander: Dan Christiansen
  - (3) Adjutant: Rob Weber
  - (4) Paymaster: Darlene Van Kauwenbergh
- (c) Commander Chabalowski announced the following appointments for 2012 at the meeting:
  - (1) Quartermaster: Mary Borsic
  - (2) Statistics: Ken Mifflin
  - (3) Inspector General: Les Knutsen
  - (4) Webmaster: Gary Van Kauwenbergh
  - (5) Small Arms Committee: Bob Bucher
- (d) Following the meeting, two additional appointments were confirmed:
  - (1) Artillery Officer: Norm Gibson
  - (2) Deputy Artillery Officer: Dick Tessman

**8. Scheduling of Events.**

- (a) The following Regional Skirmish Schedule was approved for 2012.
  - (1) June 9-10, 2012 – Appleton, WI
  - (2) July 21-22, 2012 – Bristol, WI (with N-SSA)
  - (3) August 3-5, 2012 – Boscobel, WI
  - (4) August 18-19, 2012, Springfield IL (with N-SSA)
  - (5) August 31-September 2, 2012 – Rhinelander, WI
  - (6) September 15-16, 2012 – Bristol, WI
- (b) On March 24, Bob Chabalowski will be making a presentation at the Kenosha Civil War Museum; there will be an ACWSA table, and appearances by the Old Soldier Fiddlers.
- (c) June 30-July 1, Gary Van Kauwenbergh and Pat Kaboskey (and their teams) will be responsible for organizing a live fire “hands on history” appearance at the Cambridge (Wis.) Heritage Day & Civil War Reenactment.

- 9. Mortar Rules (Regional action).** The proposed mortar rules were reviewed and discussed. An explanation of the reference to “auxiliary chambers” was made for the education of the non-artillerists present. The term applies to prohibited inserts placed into the bottom of the mortar bore to alter the powder chamber. A change was adopted in the rules to expressly state that for mortars with a bore of 2.75 inches or less, FFg Goex powder may be used (Fg powder is required for larger mortars). The Mortar Rules were approved as amended.

10. **Cannon Rules (Regional action).** The cannon rules were reviewed and discussed. The eligibility requirement for an “exact” scale reproduction was amended to simply require an actual scale reproduction. Concerning inspections at skirmishes, the mandatory disqualification for non-conformity was dropped in favor of discretionary action, which might include disqualification (particularly if safety is a concern). It was also noted that the cannon rules as written require a registration form, which needs to be created. The Cannon Rules as amended were approved.
11. **New ACWSA Corporate By-Laws (Regional action).** Draft #5 of the new by-laws was reviewed and discussed. The adjective “friendship” to describe skirmishes with other organizations was deleted, necessitating changes in Article II, § 1, ¶ 6 and wherever else the term appears. The title “National Deputy Commander” was substituted throughout for “National Vice Commander.” The Region then approved the new By-Laws as amended.
12. **Additional Topics Discussed.**
  - (a) The new baffles at Bristol were discussed. There is 12 feet between uprights. A team will need to fit into that space. Pat Kaboskey will try to set up a target frame and take a picture to show teams what the range will look like. Club members strongly warned against any deliberate shooting of the baffles.
  - (b) Generally favorable comments were made about including more events at skirmishes than merely musket and carbine. A suggestion was made that skirmish directors allow at least one hour of individual shooting time before beginning team events that will be conducted simultaneously with more individual shooting. Dan Gibson noted that in the Michigan Region (where there are no breachloader teams as yet) they have been scheduling time to shoot breachloaders and simply making mix-and-match teams up on the spot from those persons presenting themselves with breachloaders.
  - (c) Use of score sheets was discussed. The consensus was that their use should remain entirely discretionary.
  - (d) Five-person musket teams were discussed, but the consensus was to continue with six-person teams, except at joint skirmishes with the N-SSA.
  - (e) A consensus was expressed that the Small Arms Committee should tend to approve guns that are safe and “authentic,” meaning that there is good authority that the gun was actually used in the Civil War.
13. **Firearms approvals.** No specific approvals were made. The Small Arms Committee was expected to review and consider proposed firearms and then offer recommendations to the National Board of Directors for final action.

14. **Metal targets.** Discussion was had. Generally favorable impressions were offered. Dan Gibson reported that the Michigan region is using a variety of shapes, some drilled with two holes so that alternative displays are possible (squares or diamonds, for example). Other shapes include stars, Corps symbols and tin can sized rectangles.
15. **Awards.** A supply of ribbons was distributed to each region.
16. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM. The next meeting will be on Sunday, September 16 at the Bristol skirmish.