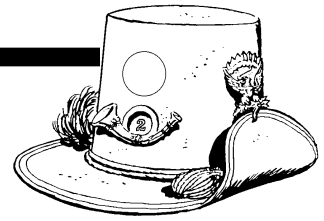

Headquarters

2^d Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry (ACWSA)
5692 Williamsburg Way
Madison, Wisconsin 53719



January 28, 2013

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have the honor to report,

The 2013 organizational meeting for the 2nd Wisconsin skirmish team began shortly after 1 p.m. on Saturday, February 9, 2013 in the home of Roy and Cathi Nelson, located at W4982 Woodside Lane, Watertown, WI. Thank you Roy and Cathi for once again for opening your home to us. Corporal Roy led the meeting; Gary and Darlene were in Superior attending to Dar's father, who passed away the day before.

Roll-call:

Present for duty:

Nate Brown,
Dan, Karen Graff,
Roy & Cathi Nelson,
Rob Weber
Cameron Wagoneer

Absent with dues paid:

Chris Bestul
Angie Brown
Randy & Donna Boyce
Jan & Bren Buck,
Bill Graff,
Jim & Sam Leinicke,
David Listug,
Doug Ortwerth
David Roemer,
Gary & Darlene Van Kauwenbergh,
Bill Weedman,
Mike & Dan Young

Absent Without Dues Paid:

Ben & Matt Barbour
Elissa & Shawn McLane

8th Wisconsin members Dick Tessmann and Pam Kirk also joined us.

Dues were collected, and the roster was updated. 2013 ACWSA dues remain \$10 but veterans paying after the meeting need to include an additional \$5 late. For new member, we still have the "first year free" in place for 2013.

Minutes: A motion to dispense with the reading of our last meeting minutes was made and unanimously approved.

Financial Report: Paymaster Darlene Van Kauwenbergh report shows a beginning and ending balance of \$244 in the team coffers. All the funds came from cannon bounties paid at Boscobel skirmishes that were donated to the 2nd. Boscobel has not paid any bounties for at least two years now. Nothing from your \$10 ACWSA annual dues go into the team coffers.

Old Business

Supplies:

Powder will be distributed at our first skirmish to everyone that got in on the 2013 order.

Musket Caps are being purchased through Pat Kaboskey, and he'll be picking them up at the N-SSA Spring Nationals. We should have them by the Appleton skirmish. There was a shortage of caps at last year's Fall nationals, and Pat was restricted on the number he could buy then.

Free cleaning patches will be handed out at the first skirmish. Thanks go to David Altman from the 6th Wisconsin for the free material.

Anyone needing lead should talk directly to Corporal Roy.

2012 Season Summary:

Last year's roster held 30 members, which is one down from the previous year even though we gained two new members. The team attended all six skirmishes offered, which is one more than during 2011, fielding at least one team in every competition.

Across the board, we finished the 2012 season very well:

Musket Teams:	A	2 nd in a field of 8 (4 th in 2011)
	B	2 nd in field of 4 (2 nd in 2011)
Carbine Teams:	A	3 rd in a field of 8 (3 rd in 2011)
	B	1 st in a field of 43 (2 nd in 2011)
	Ladies	1 st in a field of 2 (1 st in 2011)
Revolver Team:	A	1 st in a field of 7 (1 st in 2011)
	B	1 st in a field of 2 (1 st in 2011)
Smoothbore:	A	2 nd in a field of 7 (3 rd in 2011)
	B	1 st & 5 th in a field of 4 (1 st in 2011)
Breechloader	A	2 nd and 4 th in a field of 9 (2 nd & 4 th in a 2011)
Cannon:		rained out at Boscobel
Mortar:		4 th at Boscobel (4 th in 2011)

New Business

Elections were held for 2013 Cadre.

Commander (Sergeant)	Gary Van Kauwenbergh
Corporal	Roy Nelson
Paymaster	Darlene Van Kauwenbergh

Commander Van Kauwenbergh made the following appointments:

Carbine Team Commander	Roy Nelson
Revolver Team Commander	Nate Brown
Smoothbore Team Commander	David Listug
Henry Team Commander	Dan Graff

2013 Outlook:

The team looks healthy again for 2013. Two new people, Kevin Klandrud and Bob Sienkowski from the 2nd Wisconsin re-enacting association expressed interest in trying skirmishing this year. Randy's son Dan will not be returning in but wife Donna will and is now getting a musket in addition to the carbine she stole from Randy. Randy now has Jan's old Smith carbine and Jan has a new musketoon. Randy is now shooting the musket he bought for son Dan, and Jan will also be shooting a different musket. Cameron Wagoneer will be with us again, and now owns his own musket. Angie Brown now owns a revolver, and her carbine's trigger pull was drastically reduced. Mike Young now owns an original Spencer, and will be amazing us with his feats of marksmanship in the 2013 breach-loader team matches. Hopefully we'll be seeing more of Lee and Nancy Arnold this season.

We've now reached a level of participation where it makes sense to record statistics for our smoothbore team competitions. Revolver team participation isn't high enough yet, but when it does we can start recording stats then.

2013 Schedule: We have five competitions scheduled this year:

April 27-28	114 th ILL (N-SSA) & 2 nd WI @ Springfield, IL
June 8-9	66 th NC & 2 ^d WI skirmish @ Appleton, WI
July 20-21	56 th VA @ Bristol, WI
August 3-4	1 USSS, 15 WI & 8 WI @ Boscobel, WI
August 30 – Sept 1	8 & 2 WI @ Rhinelander, WI
Sept 21-22	15 th WI @ Bristol, WI

Notice the date of the Springfield skirmish was moved to April. This is a joint N-SSA/ACWSA skirmish, and team mates Bill Weedman will be the skirmish director for the ACWSA, and Jim Leinicke will be his counterpart for the N-SSA side.

Rule changes: Individual targets are now scored at the center of the hole - not the edge of the hole. The reasoning behind this is it puts all the different caliber firearms on equal footing. For example, there are folks out there who shoot .69 and .54 cal. rifled muskets. Using the center of the hole takes away the advantage from the .69 cal. shooters and removes the disadvantage for the .54 caliber shooters. The same logic applies for .44 and .36 cal. revolvers.

I had Bob Chabalowski pick up a number of scoring templates, but haven't received them yet. Scoring is no problem even without a template. If you have one that's you can't tell whether it's over half in or over half out, just put a straight edge across the hole, lining it up on the points it crosses the scoring lines. Look at hole and see how much of it is out or in, then flip the straight edge so you can see the other half of the hole, and decide whether the larger part of the hole is in or out of the scoring ring.

Safety Issues: A few safety issues were brought up after the close of the season.

1. When a Safety clears you on the line during a team event, no one can leave until they clear everyone. The team leaves the line as a unit, not as individuals. Safeties should announce 'This team is clear' when they finished with the last person on the team loud enough for everyone to hear.

2. When you are acting as Safeties during team competitions, you need to make sure you know how many shooters are on the team. With pro-rated targeting, the number of people on a team can be more or less than the normal sizes. Who's all on a team can be especially deceptive at an N-SSA joint skirmish if you're not familiar with the people. The person performing the duties of Timer should ask who is calling time for the team, and the Safety should ask that person who is all on their team.

3. We need to be conscience of what's going on around us. That's especially true when Individual and Team competitions are going on at the same time. Someone shooting individuals last year started walking downrange before the teams that just completed shooting were all cleared.

4. We had what I feel is a credible report of lead bouncing back from a metal target. The incident occurred at the N-SSA's 114th ILL spring warm-up last year, and the shooter was a veteran skirmisher from the 46 ILL that was shooting a target at 50 yards. After he shot, he felt an impact on his thigh, and recovered the lead piece that hit him. With the grass still dormant and low the 114th was able to search the ground in front of the firing line, and found a few more lead pieces that obviously came back from metal targets. The impact was not hard enough to make the shooter feel threatened. We do not want to over-react to this incident, but we don't want to ignore it either. There are a lot more Cowboy Action and Practical Pistol League shooters who shoot a lot more rounds at metal targets than we do, and this doesn't seem to be an issue with them.

We're not going to stop using metal targets for now. However, we do want to do two things:

- a. We want to make sure everyone is wearing safety glasses. ACWSA safety rules require both safety glasses and hearing protection. National N-SSA rules do not require safety glasses; the Western Region does, so no one at an ACWSA skirmish should be shooting without them.

- b. If you pick up a lead shard down range, examine it all you want, but please leave it downrange. If you absolutely need to keep it, bring it back and put it in your shooting box. Don't bring it part of the way back then drop it near the firing line or the ready area giving the impression that it got there on its own.

c. We're going to talk about this tomorrow, and could institute more cautionary procedures (like not using them closer than 50 yards)

5. We've got a few newer shooters on the roster, and I'd like to make sure we're breaking them in properly by using the 'buddy' system. Nate will be Cameron's buddy, and Randy will be Donna's.

The Old Soldier Fiddlers performed the past two years at Civil War Expo in Kenosha, and will again this year on March 24. All its members are all either from 2nd Wisconsin or my family. The audio and slide show from past performances are on YouTube. The series of clips begin with <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WyUKkds9Hmk>

The Hands-on History event we were going to host in Cambridge on June 30-July 1, 2012 was turned over to the 1st USSS, so our members could attend the Camp Randall Arch Rededication. The 2013 organizers now want the event on a different weekend than the reenactment, along with paying \$200 for the use of their range. I doubt we'll be supporting the event in 2013.

Miscellaneous:

Nate Brown said he'll like to see more revolver team competitions at our skirmishes. [Note from Gary: This is an on-going issue. The breach-loading shooters have the same complaint. It is the reason we went to having these team competitions running simultaneously with individual competitions. I will continue to address the issue in 2013.]

Members of the Second Wisconsin marksmanship team fill many of the prominent roles in American Civil War Shooting Association (ACWSA). JAG Dan Graff is still working our 501(c) (3) status with the IRS. Rob Weber replaced me as ACWSA Adjutant in 2009, and Paymaster Darlene Van Kauwenbergh has filled the role as Treasurer for over a decade. I'm still serving as the ACWSA webmaster. Members can view copies of the by-laws, skirmish rules, and even the entire insurance policy; see: <http://acwsa.org/Pages/By%20Laws.htm> The 2nd Wisconsin team page has links to all the published photos I know about of 2nd Wisconsin soldiers; see: http://acwsa.org/Pages/Team%20Pages/2nd_wisconsin/2nd_wisconsin.htm

Respectfully submitted by, Yr. Obt. Srvt.,

Gary Van Kauwenbergh