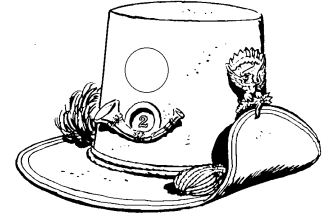

Headquarters

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



February 9, 2018

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have the honor to report,

The 2018 annual meeting for the 2nd Wisconsin skirmish team was cancelled at the last minute. Our Corporal and host, Roy Nelson, is ailing with some sort of bronchial disorder, and the chances of him recovering by meeting time were slim. Our stalwart Corporal usually doesn't report for sick call until he sees a bright light approaching. Hopefully he'll be fit to return to duty soon.

In lieu of meeting minutes, I'm filing this as an annual report.

Roll Call: You cannot participate in ACWSA skirmishes without being a member. Dues collected from now on are late, and must include a \$5 late fee (\$10+\$5=\$15). Send your dues to Gary Van Kauwenbergh, 5692 Williamsburg Way, Fitchburg, WI 53719.

Dues Paid:

Al Bortles
Randy Boyce,
Bren Buck,
Jan Buck,
Gary Elliott,
Dan Graff,
Karen Graff,
Dick Hanson,
Paul Hinds,
Jim Leinicke,
David Listug,
Jeffrey Murphey,
Cathi Nelson,
Roy Nelson,
Doug Ortwerth,
Marty Richards,
David Roemer,
Len Sedivy,
Darlene Van Kauwenbergh,
Gary Van Kauwenbergh,
Rob Weber,
Bill Weedman,
Mike Young

The following member did not pay dues and will be dropped from the 2018 roster:

Bill Graff,
Ben Hoffman,
Zach Immel,
Luke Lybert,
Dan Young

Powder, caps & Lead: I have powder for Roy and Jan. Just hang onto your money until I give it to you. Most people are switching from GOEX to either Old Eynsford or Swiss.

If you need caps, the best deal I've found is from Back Creek Gun Shop. This is the dealer by the exit of the N-SSA range. If you can't get someone going to the nationals to pick some up for you, they do mail up to five thousand caps without charging Hazmat fees.

I have not heard of anyone needing lead, but Pat Kaboskey (cwbulletman@aol.com or 262-363-4625) has offered to buy lead at the going commercial rate for us. Pat would just be adding it into an order for his bullet making business.

2017 Season Summary:

We had teams at all of the eight skirmishes last year, but again had unusually high number of family and work conflicts and illnesses. We finished the season with 24 on the roster, the same as the 2016, but only 10 members actually stepped to the line in 2017.

Personnel: I had some pleasant surprises this year. The biggest one was the return of Paul Hinds; an alumni member who we lost in 2005 when he moved out east. Paul is now retired and living in Webster, WI. We haven't seen Rob Weber in a couple years, but he did send in his 2018 dues. Len Sedivy, a reenactor who thought he'd give skirmishing a try in 2017, but didn't, also re-upped. Marty Richards is another alumni member who now lives in Ohio. Marty originally re-joined to attend the 2016 ACWSA Nationals.

Jim Leinicke, Doug Ortwerth, David Roemer, Gary Elliott, Jeffrey Murphey, and Bill Weedman are all part of our 114th Illinois alliance. If they can field their own 114th team they do, but shoot under the 2nd Wisconsin moniker when don't. When the 2nd and 114th have extra shooters, we usually give each other first dibs on farming people out.

Karen Graff had retina problems and cataracts in her shooting-eye last year. Al Bortles is still coping with Crohn's disease, and we won't see him until he gets it under control. Dick Hanson is the shooter from Montana who occasionally comes to Boscobel. Ben Hoffman and wife Ana's new son, Bjorn, kept him away from the skirmishes last year, but did visit us at the Appleton shoot. Ben has expressed interest in rejoining for 2018, but hasn't send in his dues yet. Dan Young is still busy with a young family, house

remodeling and now has his pilot's license, and we probably won't see him this year. The ten members who did participate in 2017 improved our standings in nearly every category.

		<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Musket Teams:	A	3 rd	4 th
	B	1 st	1 st
Carbine Teams:	A	2 nd	4 th
	B	2 nd	2 nd
Revolver Team:	A	2 nd	3 rd
Smoothbore:	A	2 nd	4 th
	B	3 rd	1 st
Breechloader	A	3 rd	3 rd

Breach Loaders: We now have enough Henry and Spencer rifles to field two breach loader teams. (Graff, Boyce, Buck, Mike Young, Van Kauwenbergh, Listug)

Revolvers: Putting a revolver team on the line was a stretch in 2017, but Jan and Randy are in the process of buying revolvers, so we may have an easier time this season.

Smoothbore Pistols: Rules for Smoothbore pistol are now in place, and it's an official event. Jim Leinicke, Bill Weedman, David Listug, Jan Buck, and Randy Boyce all own smoothbore pistols, so we can field our own team without borrowing equipment.

Non-skirmish Events:

The ACWSA hosted a station on Civil War small arms at Company K's School Days in May, and plan on supporting them again this year.

Our Old Soldier Fiddlers group performed at the Civil War Expo in Kenosha last year, but is going on hiatus for the foreseeable future.

Paymaster Report: Paymaster Darlene reports there's still no money in the kitty, which is just fine. If we ever need funds, we'll get some then.

2018 Outlook:

Elections will be held at the Appleton skirmish.

The team looks healthy again for next year. We have eight competitions:

April 27-29 114th ILL (N-SSA) & 2nd WI @ Springfield, IL
June 2-3 66th NC @ Appleton, WI
June 23-24 Btry H @ Sandy Ford, near Streator, IL
July 21-22 56th VA @ Bristol, WI
Aug 3-5 15th & 8th WI @ Boscobel
Aug 17-19 46th ILL @ Sandy Ford, near Streator, IL
Aug 31-Sep 1 8 & 2 WI @ Rhinelander, WI
Sept 15-16 15th WI @ Bristol, WI

Schedule Notes:

- Both N-SSA skirmishes at Sandy Ford are open to ACWSA participation in 2018.
- We are official co-hosts of both the Springfield and the Rhinelander Skirmishes. Plan on helping.
- The Boscobel reenactors are continuing to rebuild the Boscobel event on the first full weekend in August when we have our skirmish there. It's now called 'Reliving Our History' and invites reenactors from the 1700's to the present day.

Attendance:

Last year I tried to reduce the number of e-mails I was filling everyone's mailboxes with by finding out at the beginning of the year all the skirmishes they planned attending. I assumed everyone was going to shoot everything they normally shoot unless they told me otherwise. Then a week before each skirmish I e-mailed everyone with any information updates, and who I was expecting to see. It worked okay, but we still have a few folks who aren't communicating with me.

We're going to try it again this year with one caveat: Anyone who shows up that didn't tell me they were coming is going to just get added to the bottom of our line-up. I want to stress that its fine if you show up unannounced, and I guarantee you'll shoot, but if you show up without the courtesy of letting me know you're coming please know that you'll be added to the bottom of the line-up regardless of how well you shoot.

Here's why: I have all the A & B team line-ups figured out and stat sheets filled in before I get to every skirmish. I do that so I don't have to take the time out of my shooting day to do it on the ground. I go through quite a bit of work keeping stats and figuring out who should be on our A teams. It's important to me that everyone who's earned a spot on the A team gets to shoot there. Erasing and reworking all the sheets on a shoot day gets complicated and is time consuming.

I'll be sending out an e-mail requesting your intentions when we're closer to our first skirmish. You don't have to tell me you're not coming more than once – and I never beg anyone to reconsider coming to an event. However, you do need to let me know that you'll be there so I have a little time to figure who goes where. I'm certainly not complaining about having a large team that shoots a lot of different firearms, I just need everyone's cooperation so I have some time to figure out who goes on what team.

ACWSA Nationals:

The 2017 ACWSA Nationals were cancelled and there will be no 2018 Nationals.

The 2017 Nationals, were scheduled for May 6-7 in Bristol, Indiana were cancelled after we realized the date conflicted with a Civil War show in Mansfield, Indiana that drew so many so many Michigan folks we didn't have enough participants to make a viable skirmish.

After the 2016 Nationals, the Michigan Region suggested it would be simpler to have one region host our Nationals, and since we pretty much did the first one we let them be responsible for hosting the next. There will not be another ACWSA Nationals until Michigan decides to host one. The Michigan region voted to not host a 2018 Nationals at their meeting in December. With the N-SSA Northwest Territory region now opening all their skirmishes to ACWSA teams, their opportunities for going to local events went from 6 to 11. That makes for a very busy season for them, and complicates finding a date for an ACWSA National skirmish.

Discussion Topics:

I wanted to discuss these topics at our meeting, but instead asked for feedback via e-mail so I could bring your opinions to the ACWSA WI/IL Region board meeting. Here's the comments I've received so far:

1. The Western Region of the N-SSA has opened both of their skirmishes near Streator, IL to us in 2018. Eight events may stretch everyone's calendars, and I'm wondering if we'll be able to field a 2nd Wisconsin team at them. Who thinks they'll be going to them?

June 23-24 Btry H @ Sandy Ford, near Streator, IL

Aug 17-19 46th ILL @ Sandy Ford, near Streator, IL

I will talk to Randy about the Battery H shoot, it may be doable. - JB

Yes – BW

No comment. I am not traveling out of WI. - MY

2. We're looking for more suggestions for 100 yard targeting. Any ideas?

How about a 100 yard rolling thunder event using a 2 liter bottle and flanked by hanging 6" tiles.

Possible battle board with larger targets but fewer of. - JB

No- BW

What we have is ok. - MY

3. Someone wants to talk about using muzzle loading shotguns in smoothbore competitions. We couldn't do that without some rule changes. Yea or Nay?

Nay - JB

Nay- BW

Nay – JL, I am opposed to the shotgun idea. Shotguns were carried by cavalry with buckshot loads. They have no place in a smoothbore musket match.

Nay- MY

4. We're looking for suggestions for awards to replace ribbons. The Michigan region didn't care for the idea of blue, red and white ink pens with the ACWSA logo on them, but went ahead on their own with a laser-engraved wooden disc on a key chain. The wooden nickel cost nearly twice as much as our

ribbons. The pens, with a custom-made multi-color ACWSA logo would cost about \$.12 less than the ribbons we're currently using. What do you think? Either, neither, or stick with ribbons?

To me the ribbons are kind of silly, at least a person could use the pen. The medal awards at the Springfield skirmish are by far the best. Wooden nickels are cool. Maybe hand out metal awards for 1st place, wooden for 2nd and pens or ribbon's for 3rd - JB

Whatever you decide. – BW

I don't really care for either of those awards but prefer the pens to the wooden nickels. My first inclination is to go with the pens, otherwise go with the ribbons. – JL

I like the pens. - DL

Just acknowledge 2nd and 3rd place. 1st place a pen. - MY

Respectfully submitted by,
Yr. Obt. Srvt.,

Gary Van Kauwenbergh

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