

American Civil War Shooting Association

Commanders Meeting Minutes September 17, 2003

Present: 1st United States Sharpshooters; 10th Illinois; 2nd Wisconsin; 15th Wisconsin;
56th Virginia; 66th North Carolina

Absent: 7th Wisconsin

1. Commander Pat Kaboskey opened the meeting and called for nominations for 2004 officers. Next years officers are:
 - a. Commander: Patrick Kaboskey
 - b. Deputy Commander: Dan Christiansen
 - c. Adjutant: Gary Van Kauwenbergh
 - d. Treasurer: Darlene Van Kauwenbergh
 - e. Inspector General: Les Knutsen
2. 2004 Tentative ACWSA Skirmish Dates were discussed. Please keep in mind this schedule does not become official until the 2004 ACWSA Board ratifies it at the February board meeting.

April 24-25 6th Wis & 15th Wis are hosting this ACWSA/N-SSA Friendship Skirmish at Sandy Ford, N-SSA Rules (8-man musket, 5-man carbine)

June 5 All teams are co-hosting this "School of the Solder". This is an educational event for the public and a fully sanctioned ACWSA event.

June 19-20 56th VA & 15th Wis are hosting this ACWSA shoot at Bristol.
(6-man musket, 4-man carbine)

July 17-18 66th NC & 15th Wis are hosting this ACWSA/N-SSA Friendship Skirmish at Stone Bank. ACWSA Rules (6-man musket, 4-man carbine)

August 7-8 1st USSS & 8th Wis are hosting this ACWSA shoot at Boscobel
(6-man musket, 4-man carbine)

(August 21-22 there will be an N-SSA only shoot at Springfield – assuming there are no security issues with this National Guard base at the time)

(September 4-5 there will be an N-SSA only shoot at Marseilles)

Sept 18-19 15th Wis & 1st USSS will host this ACWSA/N-SSA Friendship Skirmish, at Bristol range using N-SSA Rules (8-man musket, 5-man carbine)

(September 29-October 3, 2004 110th National N-SSA Skirmish)

3. **Range Questions:** Because of the ongoing uncertainty of being able to use military ranges, and the potential to get “kicked-out” of private ranges a discussion was held that we need to have more than 2 or 3 ranges to use. Several other ranges are being explored for future use. One is near Eagle Wisconsin. Another potential range is the Joliet, Illinois National Guard Range. Members are encouraged to seek out additional ranges and let the Board know so we can follow up.

4. **New Business:**

a. *Sound System.* The ACWSA has been begging and borrowing sound systems up to now. They have been of variable quality and reliability. Poor sound systems are a problem for safety and efficiency in running matches. Everyone needs to be able to hear commands clearly, even if we are wearing sound protection. Commander Kaboskey recommended that the ACWSA purchase it's own, high quality traveling sound system. He has done some preliminary research and found a very good system that will work out of doors for around \$1,500.00. This is a hard wired system. Some discussion was held that a wireless system might be better, but for cost and reliability it was felt that we should go with the recommended hard wired type of system.

i. *MOTION: To authorize Commander Kaboskey to spend up to \$1,500.00 to purchase a sound system that will include amplifier, microphone, speakers, tape player (or CD) and an audio tape (or CD) that has the Star Spangled Banner and Dixie that will travel to all ACWSA sponsored events. - Passed unanimously.*

ii. *MOTION: Raise ACWSA member dues by \$5.00 per year for a period of up to 3-years, or until the sound system is paid off. (The reason for this dues increase should be communicated to the members). Passed unanimously*

b. *Material Storage and Transportation:* It was brought up that Mary and Dean Borsic have volunteered to store and carry back and forth the target frames and other assorted ACWSA materials. This is a difficult and time consuming activity and it was suggested that they be paid some money for rent and this effort. It was pointed out that there is some storage available at the Bristol range that we can utilize. There was discussion about whether or not the ACWSA should create a region storage facility and purchase all of the targeting for ACWSA shoots instead of relying on individual teams to do this. Several members volunteered to check into prices and availability of targeting: Roy Nelson will check on clay pidgeons, Dan Davis will check into clay pots and tiles. Both will report back to the Board before their next meeting. Tabled until next Board Meeting.

c. *Recruiting* - Pat Kaboskey noted that recruiting new members is the life blood of the ACWSA. We need to keep new members coming into the hobby to keep it alive. Pat wanted to make special notice of the 6th Wisconsin Volunteers for the outstanding recruiting effort they have made in 2003 and encouraged all of the other member teams to improve their efforts for next year.

- d. *School of the Solder*: Commander Kaboskey told the Board about the progress that has been made on putting the School of the Solder event together. This ACWSA recruiting/public relations event will be held on June 5th 2004 at Wade House State Historical Park. The ACWSA will have promotional literature printed for distribution and posted on the ACWSA website. The Wade House is happy to coordinate with us to make this event a success and will include the event in all of their promotions and calendars. Pat emphasized that this is not a one or two team effort. We need EVERYONE to help promote and run this event. While details are still being developed, the plan is to give members of the public an opportunity to get hands on experience with live-firing CW era weapons and to attract an audience for a modified ACWSA live-fire competition. We will also run the participants through a mini "school of the solder" that includes not only instruction on the weapons, but some instruction in drill and maneuvers. Jim Boullion will check with the 2nd Wisconsin reenacting group about borrowing their wooden muskets for this drilling. The ACWSA skirmish that will be held that day will count in the official standings, however, we may modify some of the usual events, targeting and target set-up procedures in order to make the events go quickly and keep the crowd interested. We will also hold some sort of raffle or lottery to give some lucky participants the opportunity to live-fire the Gatling guns and fire a cannon. Pat Kaboskey noted that Bob Jaburek of the 6th Wisconsin has donated a large amount of professional time and materials for the public relations effort on the School of the Solder program. As a token of thanks for his efforts on this project and past projects Pat made the following motion:
MOTION: In appreciation of his generous contributions and efforts in promoting the ACWSA, move that Bob Jaburek, a member of the 6th Wisconsin Volunteers, be given a lifetime membership to the ACWSA and that his regular ACWSA dues be waived. - Passed unanimously

The next board meeting is tentatively scheduled will start at 10 a.m. on Sunday, February 1st at the home of Stephen and Elaine Sherry. Stephen's address is 513 Storle Avenue , in Burlington, WI. All commanders need to bring their completed rosters and dues to the meeting. Please make a special effort to have current e-mail addresses for everyone on your rosters. If you can send them to Adjutant Van Kauwenbergh before then, they'll be welcome.

Respectfully submitted by
Yr. Obt. Srvt,

Sgt. Jim Boullion
Commanders Assistant