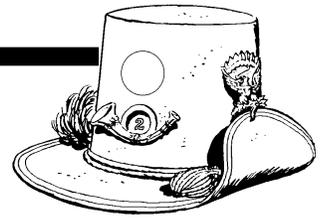

Headquarters
2^d Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry (ACWSA)
5692 Williamsburg Way
Madison, Wisconsin 53719



February 11, 2012

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have the honor to report,

All available forces converged on Camp Nelson for the 2012 organizational meeting at 1 p.m., on Saturday, February 11. With no immediate threat to our front, and ample rations available, we decided to attack the victuals and socialize first. After the feast was soundly defeated and repatriated to the Union, the meeting was called to order around 2:45 p.m. Sincere thanks to Cathi and Roy for inviting us into their home to us again this year. Our comrades from the 8th Wisconsin Dick Tessmann, and Larry Hicks also joined us this year.

Roll Call: The 2012 roster was updated and membership dues were collected.

Present: Lee Arnold, Matt Barbour, Nate Brown, Karen and Dan Graff, Cathi and Roy Nelson, Gary and Darlene Van Kauwenbergh, Rob Weber,

Absent with dues paid: Nancy Arnold, Ben Barbour, Chris Bestul, Angie Brown, Randy Boyce, Bill Graff, Jim Leinicke, Sam Leinicke, David Listug, Jan and Bren Buck, Shawn and Elissa McLane, Doug Ortwerth, David Roemer, Bill Weedman, Mike Young, Dan Young

Absent WITHOUT DUES PAID: William Balsiger, Dorothy Crenshaw, John O'Brien

Roster Changes: Last year we lost one member, but added five to the roster. As reported our good friend and fine shooter Wayne Weinert died last June. Additions were Randy Boyce, Jan and Bren Buck, and Shawn and Elissa McLane, Wayne's wife Bonnie dropped from the roster after the 2009 season. Cody Nelson is now on active duty in the Air Force and will not be joining us this year. William Balsinger is too busy this year to participate. I have no idea about John O'Brien or Dorothy Crenshaw.

Logistics: Black powder and musket caps were distributed at the meeting. Thanks go to Dan Graff for picking them up at his successful foray into Winchester last fall. Anyone still needing lead should contact Roy directly.

Minutes – The group dispensed with the reading of our last minutes.

2011 Season Summary: Last year's roster held 31 members and we slightly improved our participation level. We lost Wayne, but gained three brand-new members at the very beginning of the season, and another two at the end. All new members are uniformed and armed with muskets, carbines, revolvers and some smoothbores. The team attended all five skirmishes offered during 2011, with at least one team in every competition.

Across the board, we finished the 2011 season on the high-side of middle-of- the-pack:

Musket Teams:	A	4 th in a field of 11 (4 th in 2010)
	B	2 nd in field of 3 (None in 2010)

Carbine Teams:	A	3 rd in a field of 8 (4 th in 2010)
	B	2 nd in a field of 3 (1 st in 2010)
	Ladies	1 st in a field of 2 (1 st in 2010)
Revolver Team:	A	1 st in a field of 8 (2 nd in 2010)
	B	1 st in a field of 2 (1 st in 2010)
Smoothbore:	A	3 rd in a field of 8 (3 rd in 2010)
	B	1 st in a field of 1 (2 nd in 2010)
Breechloader	A	2 nd and 4 th in a field of 9 (2 nd & 4 th in a 2010)
Cannon:		3 rd at Boscobel (3 rd in 2010)
Mortar:		4 th at Boscobel (2 nd in 2010)

2012 Elections The parties with qualified candidates split their vote, resulting in the unanimous reelection of Commander (Sergeant) Van Kauwenbergh. Roy Nelson (Corporal) was reelected with one dissenting vote coming from Cmdr Van Kauwenbergh, who can now say he got more votes than Roy. Drunk with power, Cmdr Van Kauwenbergh immediately started telling people what to do:

Darlene Van Kauwenbergh was appointed Paymaster
 Roy Nelson was appointed Carbine Team Commander
 Nate Brown was appointed Revolver Team Commander
 David Listug Smoothbore Team Commander
 Dan Graff was appointed Henry Team Commander

Financial Report: Paymaster Darlene Van Kauwenbergh reported a beginning and ending balance of \$224.00 in the team coffers. The \$244 we have is basically what's left of the cannon bounties received over the years from Boscobel. We didn't make or spend any money last year and there are no "2nd Wisconsin" team dues. The \$10 membership dues paid all go to the ACWSA, and most of that amount pays for insurance.

2012 Outlook: The team looks healthy for 2012, we anticipate Lee and Nancy Arnold and Nate and Angie Brown returning to our ranks this season.

We have five competitions and two non-shooting events scheduled in 2012. They are:

- *March 24 Old Soldier Fiddlers perform at Civil War Expo in Kenosha
- June 9-10 66th NC & 2 WI skirmish @ Appleton, WI
- *June 30-July 1 Hands-on History in Cambridge, WI
- July 21-22 56th VA @ Bristol, WI
- August 4-5 1 USSS, 15 WI & 8 WI @ Boscobel, WI
- August 18-19 Friendship skirmish with 114th IL @ Springfield, IL
- Sept 4-5 8 & 2 WI @ Rhinelander, WI
- Sept 15-16 15 WI @ Bristol, WI

* Non-skirmish events

The 'Hands on History' in conjunction with the reenactment in Cambridge on June 30 and July 1 is new event for us this year. The backstops at the Cambridge sportsmen's club are not large enough to handle a full skirmish, so we will be there with one team doing demonstrations, and letting the public shoot our rifled muskets, smoothbore muskets, revolvers, carbines and Henrys under our supervision. This will be a good recruiting opportunity for us. The Wisconsin

Veteran's Museum wants to have some sort of presence with us at the event. Planning is just beginning, and I'll have more to report later.

One of last year's projects was recreating "The Old Soldier Fiddlers" to perform at the Expo at the Kenosha Civil War Museum and we've been asked back for an encore this year. The group members come entirely from the 2nd Wisconsin shooting family. The "Old Soldier Fiddlers" were a group of both Yankee and Confederate Civil War Veterans, one with ties to the Iron Brigade and Battery B, who performed as a vaudeville act in the early 1900s. You can read the whole story on the web at http://acwsa.org/Pages/old_soldier_fiddlers.htm.

Other Kibitz:

- * ACWSA Judge Advocate General (JAG) Dan Graff with Rob Weber rewrote the Skirmish Rules and By-laws and they're both out for discussion and approval. Next step is 501(c)(3) status.
- * Mike and Mary Young were taking another honeymoon cruise and missed the meeting
- * Bill and Leah Graff had their second child, Ryan, last summer. Want pictures? See Karen...
- * Lee Arnold is officially retired in November, and Nancy is considering retiring soon too. Lee's recovered from his bout with phenomena, and just recently had sinus surgery. He'll be returning to the firing line this year.
- * Nate Brown finished getting certified to teach in Illinois, and he and Angie plan on returning to the firing line this year.
- * Two new smoothbores are in the arsenal this year – Dan Graff and Jan Buck are now armed and dangerous.
- * Gary officially retired last June
- * Bonnie Weinert contacted Gary a few weeks ago, and asked that we keep her on the E-mail distribution list.
- * Matt graduates this coming spring.
- * Dan and Karen just returned from a photo Safari in Tanzania. Quite an adventure
- * Rob Weber is still back working, but now wife Ann is considering retiring.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Yr. Obt. Srvt.,

Gary Van Kauwenbergh
Commander