

ACWSA WI/IL Regional Meeting

February 14, 2016



1. Commander Chabalowski called the meeting to order at 10:25 on Sunday, February 14 in the home of Stephen and Elaine Sherry in Burlington, WI. Many items, e.g. the 2016 Nationals and paper cartridges for revolvers, etc. were covered in the ACWSA Board meeting held just before this one, and those topics are covered the minutes of that meeting.

Deputy Commander Gary Van Kauwenbergh conducted the roll call.

Present

Commander:	Bob Chabalowski
Deputy Commander:	Gary Van Kauwenbergh
Paymaster:	Darlene Van Kauwenbergh
Inspector General:	Bob Bucher
Judge Advocate General:	Dan Graff
1USSS:	Rick Riener
2WI:	Gary Van Kauwenbergh
6WI:	Lance Herdegen
8WI:	Dick Tessmann
15WI:	Stephen Sherry
56VA:	Bob Bucher (representing Tom Brown)
66NC:	Bob Chabalowski

Absent:

Adjutant:	Terry Arliskas (represented by Gary Van Kauwenbergh)
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2. Old Business:

A. Paymaster Darlene Van Kauwenbergh collected 2016 team rosters and dues. Any dues submitted for veteran members after the meeting need to include a \$5 late fee.

B. The group dispensed with the reading of our last minutes

C. Paymaster Report – The 2016 financial report was given during the Board Meeting, and is reported separately. The entire report is on the acwsa.org web site.

3. New Business

A. Team Reports – The group went around the table and gave status reports of their individual teams. Nothing earth shaking was reported. The 2nd WI reported about 5 losses, of which three were 'ghosts', i.e. non participants, with the exception of Nate and Angie Brown, who are moving to North Carolina. The 2nd USSS team merged into the 1st USSS, which is now led by Rick Riener (vice Pat Kaboskey). The 8th WI is down to 3 active shooters. The 56th VA confirmed they dropped their affiliation with the N-SSA, but all their members are still in the ACWSA.

B. 2016 WI/IL Regional Elections were held. Everyone was reelected. They are:

1. Commander: Bob Chabalowski
2. Deputy Commander: Gary Van Kauwenbergh
3. Adjutant: Terry Arliskas
4. Paymaster: Darlene Van Kauwenbergh

C. 2016 Regional Appointments. Everyone was reappointed, except the IG. They are:

1. Judge Advocate General: Dan Graff
2. Quarter Master: Mary Borsic
3. Statistics: Ken Mifflin
4. Inspector General: Bob Bucher (vice: Les Knutsen)
5. Web Master: Gary Van Kauwenbergh
6. Small Arms Committee: Bob Bucher

Bob Chabalowski noted Les Knutsen years of service as regional IG, and thanked him for his service.

Note: National elections were held in February 2015. Two-year terms for Commander Chabalowski, Vice Commander Michael Zandarski, Adjutant Terry Arliskas and Paymaster Darlene Van Kauwenbergh began January 1, 2016, and the next national election will be at the 2017 annual meeting.

D. The proposed 2016 Skirmish Schedule was approved without changes. The dates are:

- Apr 23-24, 2nd WI skirmish near Springfield, IL (Friendship)
- Jun 4-5, 66th NC skirmish near Appleton, WI
- Jun 10-12, ACWSA Nationals near Bristol, IN
- Jul 16-17, 56 VA skirmish in Bristol, WI (Friendship)
- Aug 6-7, 1USSS/8 & 15 WI skirmish in Boscobel, WI (without the Muskets & Memories reenactment)
- Sep 2-5, 8WI skirmish near Rhinelander, WI
- Sep 17-18, 15 WI skirmish in Bristol, WI (Friendship)

E. The 2016 ACWSA Nationals, Jun 10-12, near Bristol, IN was discussed in depth during the ACWSA Board meeting. Basically, the awards are done, the event flier almost completed – but needs some targeting and meal decisions before publishing. The budget is mostly complete, but small items are being added every time we talk.

F. acwsa.org Website: After being locked for about a half year, our old website was replaced in early December with a new one written using Word Press software. Word Press is free, easy to use, and so commonly used today we shouldn't have to do this again for over a decade. Rewriting the website took longer than expected because over 13 years of content needed to be reorganized and reformatted.

The intended audience for the website is both the public, and the entire ACWSA membership. While the Michigan region has its own Facebook page, the WI-IL currently does not. Most of the current content leans toward the WI-IL region. Future goals for the webmaster are to find an additional webmaster from the Michigan Region to broaden the content, and expand into some sort of blogging or forum where members can post on the site.

The new web page is nice, but with smart phones, young folks access Facebook more often than websites these days. Gary Van Kauwenbergh is willing to back-up someone else on a WI/IL Facebook page, but does not want to do it alone. Bob Chabalowski said he would contact Terry Skweres (15WI) about possibly hosting a WI/IL region Facebook page, similar to MI's page.

G. Possible New Range: The curator of the museum on Volk Field near Camp Douglas would like to explore us having an event at their facility now that it's not busy so busy with Middle East deployments. The ACWSA used to skirmish there every year until it was closed to outsiders. Their developed campground and picnic area are pretty much the same as when we left, but their shooting range has been revamped and now seems to be at least partially enclosed. Sometime during the next year Gary will tour the new facilities to see if it's suitable for skirmishing.

H. Recruiting Opportunities

1. Kenosha Civil War Museum Expo – March 12, 2016, 10am-3pm. Stephen Sherry & friends will man an ACWSA table, and the Old Soldier Fiddlers are performing at noon.

2. Dick Tessmann said the 8th Wisconsin would be supporting their school day event in Merrill and Wausau again in 2016.

3. Gary Van Kauwenbergh reported the ACWSA talked to over a thousand students by manning a station at the school day event last May in Milton, WI and intends to support them again on May 20 of this year.

3. Stephen Sherry and Wayne Blatherwick will be supporting a "Field Day" at the Civil War Museum in Kenosha on May 18th.

4. There are additional school days events that reenacting groups are holding that we could help with. The school day event on the Friday before the Wade House reenactment at that site looks especially attractive. If you or your unit can support any of these events, please contact Gary at garyvank@aol.com

May	13	Appleton School Day Telulah Park, Edison School, Appleton, WI.
	13	Hartland School Day, Pewaukee, WI.
	20	School Day West Salem, West Salem
	20	School Day Valley View, Green Bay, WI.
June	3	Prairie River School Day, Merrill, WI.
Sept	23	Wade House School Day, Greenbush, WI.
	24-25	Wade House Reenactment, Greenbush, WI.
Oct	7	Norskedalen School Day, Coon Valley, WI.

4. Next meeting, September 18, 2016 after the skirmish at Bristol, WI.

5. Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted by,
Your Obedient Servant,
Gary Van Kauwenbergh