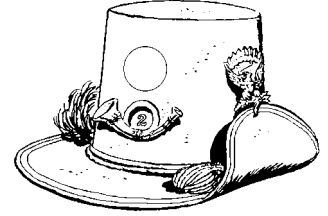

Headquarters

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



February 7, 2015

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have the honor to report,

The 2015 organizational meeting for the 2nd Wisconsin skirmish team was cancelled due to low turnout. The team is more spread out than it used to be, and it's simply impractical for some folks to come. I'm going to explore moving the date next year, but for now I'm offering the notes I prepared for the meeting as a mid-winter report rather than minutes.

2015 ACWSA are \$10 and we still have the "first year free" program for new members.

Roll Call -

Dues Paid: Chris Bestul, Randy and Donna Boyce, Nate & Angie Brown, Jan and Bren Buck, Dan and Karen Graff, Jim Leinicke, David Listug, Roy and Cathi Nelson, Doug Ortwerth, Dave Roemer, Bob Sienkowski, Gary and Darlene Van Kauwenbergh, Yancey and Duncan Von Yeast, Bill Weedman, Dan Young, Mike Young,

New 'First Year Free' Members: Duncan Von Yeast, Lori and Dan Johnson, Mike Moran

Dropped from the roster: Lee and Nancy Arnold (Lee deceased), Bill Graff (out east), Sam Leinicke (hiatus), Luke Lybert (no dues), Cameron Wagoner (hiatus), Rob Weber (?)

Treasurers Report: There are no 2nd Wisconsin Team dues. All dues collected go directly to the ACWSA, and about \$7 of the \$10 annual dues are spent on insurance. The money in the 2nd Wisconsin coffers comes from the cannon bounties collected at Boscobel, and a 2013 donation from the 114th IL after our joint skirmish.

Beginning Balance	\$259.00
Disbursements	<u>0.00</u>
Ending Balance	\$259.00

Old Business:

2014 Season Summary:

The skirmish team had 24 members in 2014, a little down from 2013, but participation was steady. The team attended all six skirmishes offered, and Our A teams finished everything in either second or third place, and our B teams place 1st across the board:

Musket Teams:	A	2 nd
	B	1 st
Carbine Teams:	A	3 rd
	B	1 st
	Ladies	1 st
Revolver Team:	A	3 rd
Smoothbore:	A	2 nd
	B	1 st
Breechloader	A	3 rd

We only competed with the mortar at Boscobel, and placed 4th.

Long-time member and friend Lee Arnold passed away last year. Lee's respiratory problems that had kept him off the firing line for a number of years, but he re-enlisted every year hoping to join back in. Darlene and I saw Lee and Nancy two days before he died when the Old Soldier Fiddlers performed at the Rock County Civil War Round Table. Except for some sinus problems, he sounded fine. He even presented the group with a pen he made from the wood of a 'witness tree' at the Battle of Gettysburg.

The Second Wisconsin skirmishers has attended every ACWSA skirmish and fielded at least one team in every competition is since we started. This year we broke our streak by not fielding one Revolver team, and a Breechloader team at two different skirmishes. The marksmanship team was started the same year the movie Gettysburg was released (1993) which make that a 22 years run. With Jan Buck now owning a Henry, Dan Young coming off hiatus, and Mike Young coming on line soon with his Spencer, breechloader teams shouldn't be a problem in 2015. Revolver teams are hard to field when the Browns aren't there, but I have three stalwart volunteers (Graff, Ortwerth and Van Kauwenbergh) to field a team at the upcoming skirmish in Springfield.

New Business:

No elections were held. Our 2014 officers will continue in 2015, they are:

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

Jim Leinicke made some big commitments to our joint skirmish near Springfield, IL during April. This year he redesigned the medal for skirmish to include the ACWSA and 2nd Wisconsin, then ordered a 2-3 years supply of them. He has also gone to great lengths to add both Henry and Revolver team competitions to the schedule.



2015 Outlook:

The team looks healthy again for 2015. With our new members, there'll be 27 on the roster. Our new members are Mike Moran from Wausau, Yancey Von Yeast and his son Duncan (Yancey runs his own gunsmith business, see <http://www.yvonyeast.com/For-Sale.html>), along with Dan and Lori Johnson (who run

their own Civil War clothing business, see <http://www.johnsonreproductions.com/>).

We have six competitions scheduled. They are:

April 25-26 114th ILL (N-SSA) & 2nd WI @ Springfield, IL
June 6-7 66th NC @ Appleton, WI
July 18-19 56th VA @ Bristol, WI
July 31- Aug 21 USSS, 15 WI & 8 WI @ Boscobel, WI
Sept 4-6 8 & 2 WI @ Rhinelander, WI
Sept 19-20 15th WI @ Bristol, WI

Supplies -

Powder: Thank you Dan Graff for picking up powder at the N-SSA Fall Nationals.

Lead: See <http://www.rotometals.com/Lead-Products-s/20.htm>

Musket Caps: Back Creek Gun Shop <http://www.blackpowderva.com/> \$78 per thousand, and they will ship up to 5 thousand without charging HazMat fees.

Lorenzes - We now have six members who own a total of nine fully functioning guns. I also translated the ninety-page Lorenz manual from German to English last year, and it's available to everyone free on-line at <http://acwsa.org/Documents/LorenzManualTranslation.pdf> . Of interest to everyone regardless of type of musket they use is a three-column table showing common problems with muskets, the probable causes, and what needs to get done to fix it. The manual is much more detailed than the Federal manuals published for the 1855 and 1861 Springfield rifled-muskets.

Eleven of our members also shoot with the 114th Illinois Infantry of the North-South Skirmish Association (N-SSA). N-SSA membership gets you an additional two skirmishes in Streator, IL, and two national competitions in Winchester, VA. If you're interested in joining the N-SSA, please let me know.

I want to thank everyone who responded to my e-mail requests for who'll be at our events last year. Your timely replies make my job easier. I don't enjoy chasing or nagging trying to figure out who's coming to a skirmish. You only need to say 'no' once and I'll leave you alone, and a 'maybe' or 'I don't know' is better than a non-response. It's perfectly fine to show up at a skirmish without letting me know you're coming - I guarantee you you'll shoot. However, I actually spend a lot of time before each skirmish placing people on teams, so even if you're an ace shooter, if you don't let me know you're coming you don't get to be upset if you end up on a B team or are farmed out.

The ACWSA is now registered with Amazon.Smiles program, where .5% of online purchases made through Amazon come back to the organization as a donation. It costs you nothing. I did all our Christmas shopping on Amazon.Smiles this year. I could not find one instance where any product wasn't available there, or where it cost more than on the regular Amazon site. If you do any shopping on Amazon, you should be logging onto <http://smile.amazon.com/> , designating "The American Civil War Shooting Association Inc."

as the organization you're supporting. Once you designate a charity, it saves it until you change it.

Other Non-ACWSA Events

On Friday, May 15 in Milton, WI we have opportunity to help with Company K of the 2nd Wisconsin re-enacting associations School Day. Hundreds of school kids come through a round-robin of stations that present different aspects of Civil War History. We've been asked to do a display of Civil War Small Arms. The event will be held at the Milton House, a historic octagon building that's was a stop on the Underground Railroad.

On Saturday, July 18 at Camp Randall in Madison, WI, if Governor Walker's budget allows it, The **Return of the 6th Wisconsin** may be commemorated by the Wisconsin Veteran's Museum with a one-day living-history event. This event conflicts with 56th VA skirmish at Bristol.

Saturday, March 21, The **Old Soldier Fiddlers** will perform at the Expo held at the Civil War Museum in Kenosha. You can see a past performance YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=po3JRe2xvKg> .

Respectfully submitted by,
Yr. Obt. Srvt.,

Gary Van Kauwenbergh