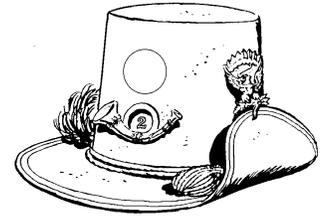


## **Minutes of Annual Association Meeting**

**January 28th 2017**



Meeting called to order at 10:04 A.M. by President Kevin Hampton.  
Scott Frank welcomed everyone and gave brief history of the church (built in 1855), which was used as a meeting place for the original members of Co. A before and after the Civil War.

### **I Call to order**

- A. Invocation given by Gary Klas
- B. Presentation of Colors: Tom Bass
- C. Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Kevin Hampton
- D. Oath: administered to new member Jared Alexander (Co. B), Lenard Sedivy (Co. G)
- E. Moment of Silence for past members of the Association; Led by Pete, names of all members who passed away in recent years were read.

### **II-Minutes**

Motion was made by Ryan Holbrook to approve minutes as written without any changes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Drew Young. (Minutes approved as written by membership).

### **III Treasure's Report**

Scott Frank reported that the Association finished the year with a balance of \$7,097.44, an increase of \$551.90 from previous year. Only one scholarship was given out which reduced expenses. Copies of the report were handed out to those in attendance. Scott's opinion was that we have enough funds to continue the scholarship program. A motion was made by Scott Frank to accept the treasures report as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gary Klas. (Motion carried)

A copy of the Treasures Report is listed below:

The Second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Association  
 Treasurer's Report  
 January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016

Receipts:	
Member Dues:	\$2,340.00
Bank Interest:	\$0.00
Bank Adjustment:	\$140.00
Donations:	\$0.00
Total Receipts:	<u>\$2,480.00</u>

Disbursements:	
Reimbursed Costs and Postage:	\$0.00
Hall Rent:	\$100.00
Membership Cards:	\$0.00
Association Liability Insurance:	\$828.10
Co. K School Day Insurance Rider:	\$0.00
Scholarship:	\$1,000.00
Fees (Wis. Dept. of Financial Institutions):	\$0.00
Total Disbursements:	<u>\$1,928.10</u>

Net Income/(Loss): \$551.90

Beginning Balance:	\$6,545.54
Add Receipts:	\$2,480.00
Less Disbursements:	\$1,928.10
Ending Balance - 12/31/2016:	\$7,097.44

Interest into CD: \$12.91

**Horicon Bank**

Print Date : 01-27-2017 - 15:23:16

Customer Name : ASSOCIATION INC THE SECOND WISCONSIN  
 VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

**History**

12-01-2016 - 12-31-2016

Select an Account \*\*\*\*7584 - Second Wisconsin \$ 7,097.44

History Period 12/01/2016 - 12/31/2016

#### **IV Board and Military Officers Reports**

- A. President Kevin Hampton;** Kevin thanked everyone for attending the meeting and was pleased with the unity, communication and cooperation between the companies. Kevin also apologized for not being as involved as he would have liked in 2016 but plans on being more active in 2017.
- B. Vice-President:** No report given by Tom Bass
- C. Secretary Dave Sielski:** Association membership in 2016 was 124 paid members for the year, a loss of 9 members from 2016. Membership down due to loss of Batty B. Dave reminded everyone that dues and rosters need to be submitted ASAP along with any changes to the event schedule. For a member to be covered by our insurance or be eligible for the scholarship they must be on the official roster. Dave also has blank membership cards for anyone needing them.
- D. Lt. Col. Pete Seielstad:** As an association, we need to continue to recruit and communicate, it's the help of our individual members to make who help make us a strong group. Events went well this season and we presented ourselves well in the field. In closing Pete thanked everyone for helping teach the history of the Civil war and that the commitment of our members is greatly appreciated. Please remember to keep our families in mind for their support in allowing us to participate in this hobby. Pete also discussed the founding of a National Alliance of Western Units from the West called the GAR, The hope is that this will help strengthen regional & National events, Groups participating in this agreement are:, Army of the French Broad, Army of the Wabash, Black Hat Battalion (2<sup>nd</sup> WI), Cumberland Guard, Federal Cav Assoc, First Federal Division, Military Div of the Mississippi, Muddy River Battalion, Western Artillery Reserve, 1<sup>st</sup> Illinois Vol & 49<sup>th</sup> New York. At this point we will need to wait and see how things go during the year to see how effective agreement will be. Please contact Pete should you have any additional questions.
- E. Major Robert Schwandt:** Robert thanked everyone for their attendance during the year as without the men in the ranks the officers would have no men to command. Robert said he appreciated everyone bearing with him on the field under his first year of command.
- F. Company Officers and / or Presidents Reports**
  - 1. Company A Scott Frank:** 2 trips to Gettysburg are planned to do repairs to the battlefield, when dates are finalized information will be sent out for those interested in participating.
  - 2. Company B John Dudkiewicz:** 19 members have paid dues to date for 2017, of which 4 are poor boys over age 18. The Coon Valley event year is back on for 2017 but will be a week later with the dates being October 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>
  - 3. Company C.:** Reported By Pete as still inactive.
  - 4. Company E. Charles Bagneski:** Finished the year with 55 military members with 48 having participated in at least 1 events, Co.E gained 2 new members for the 2016 season. The main events being supported will be Heritage Hill, Pine Crest, Wade House and Menomonee Falls.
  - 5. Company G Gary Klas:** Membership remains at 4 members, looking to assist with school day's and preservation efforts in Gettysburg. Company has added one new member.
  - 6. Company H report:** Report was received from Tony Vranicar, Co. H currently has 8 members with a campaign schedule of 12 events in 2017.
  - 7. Company K. Ryan Holbrook:** The Company currently has 30 members. Co. K looking will again be supporting the event in Galena, IL. In April. They will also be hosting the annual school day May 19<sup>th</sup>. Co. K is also putting together a recruitment video at a cost of \$3,000, any companies looking to become involved please contact Ryan Holbrook or Ryan Schwartz.
- 8. Battery B.** Remains Inactive for 2017

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9. **6<sup>th</sup> WI LA Wally Hlaban:** Wally reported having 12 members, participated in 10 events in 2016. All equipment from Batty B has been consolidated with the 6<sup>th</sup> WI. Both guns were used in 2016 & the same is expected in 2017. Some repairs are needed on the carriage for the Batty B piece, repairs will be covered by the battery as enough funds are available to cover the repairs. The Batty B gun has been moved to a different armory, issues on ownership & use of the gun have been cleared up.
  10. **Field Hospital Stan Graiewski:** Stan reported that he and Jim Dumke participated in 6 events in 2016. The field hospital also is part of the Association of Civil War Surgeons.
- G. Keeper of the Colors- Tom Bass:** took over as keeper of the colors in 2015 from Robert Schwandt. Colors were used at a number of events in 2016, some minor repairs are needed on a seam and will be taken care of by Tom. The Assoc. colors still remain at the Dresang home. Kevin & Dave will make arraignments to get these picked up from Theresa.
- H. Fugelman –James Dumke:** Jim thanks everyone for submitting info to the newsletter.
- I. Website:** Jim Johnson sent a report to Pete, Highlights are as follows, Jim's wife Sue has been dealing with cancer and this has taken up much of Jim's time during the year. Jim continues to update things on the website and Jim asks that people continue to send him stories & pictures so that they can be posted to the website. Pete asks that members keep the Johnson family in their prayers.

## **Headquarters**

2<sup>d</sup> Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry (ACWSA)  
5692 Williamsburg Way  
Madison, Wisconsin 53719

January 28, 2017

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have the honor to report,

The 2017 annual meeting for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin skirmish team will begin at noon on Saturday, February 11, 2017 in the home of Roy and Cathi Nelson, located at W4982 Woodside Lane, Watertown, WI. New members get their first year's dues free.

## **2016 Season Summary:**

Overall participation was steady, even though we had an unusually high number of family and work conflicts and illnesses. The skirmish team finished last year with 24 members, down four from the previous year. Two of our losses were ghosts, but the others were a married couple that were the core of our revolver team who moved to North Carolina.

Our season typically had six skirmishes but last year had nine. The ACWSA added a "National" competition in 2017, then after the beginning of the season the North-South Skirmish Assn. (N-SSA) opened two of their events to us. It was just too much. We did

not go either of the N-SSA skirmishes, but made it all the ACWSA events. In spite everything we fielded teams in every competition offered except for one revolver team competition at one skirmish.

In spite of the high number of absences we still managed to put more than one team on the line at multiple events. Missing some of our better shooters did make us less competitive though, and we placed a little lower than last year. Our "A" teams all finished middle-of-the-pack, but our "B" teams finished either first or second in everything.

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

Breach Loaders: We now have enough members with Henry and Spencer rifles to field two complete breach loader teams.

Smoothbore Pistols: Smoothbore pistol has become popular over the past three years. So far the competitions have been informal demonstrations, but it's close to becoming an official event. We've been using borrowed guns to participate in the demonstrations, but last year enough members bought enough smoothbore pistols to field our own team.

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 and will be there again on March 11. If your unit isn't going to be there, but has brochures that could be distributed, send them with me and I'll hand them out.

### **2017 Outlook:**

The following members served as cadre in 2016, and I don't expect any changes are in 2017.

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

The team looks healthy again for next year. We have seven competitions scheduled.

April 22-23	114 <sup>th</sup> ILL (N-SSA) & 2 <sup>nd</sup> WI @ Springfield, IL
May 6-7	2 <sup>nd</sup> ACWSA National Skirmish near Bristol, Indiana
June 3-4	66th NC @ Appleton, WI

June 24-25 Btry B @ Sandy Ford, near Streator, IL  
July 15-16 56th VA @ Bristol, WI  
Aug 5-6 15<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> WI @ Boscobel (without the reenactment)  
Sept 1-3 8 & 2 WI @ Rhinelander, WI  
Sept 16-17 15<sup>th</sup> WI @ Bristol, WI

Reminders:

1. If your unit making group purchases, you do not need to pay Wisconsin Sales tax. We have a Sales Tax Exemption certificate you need to show at the time of purchase. E-mail me if you want a copy of it.

2. If you use your computer to help the Association, and need to purchase new or upgraded software or equipment, you can get it dirt-cheap through TechSoup. TechSoup is a non-profit organization that provides low-cost software and hardware to other non-profit organizations. They sell everything. For example, you can get Microsoft Office for as low as \$29. I'm the Association coordinator.

3. Amazon Smiles is a program where .5% of online purchases made through Amazon come back to the organization as a donation. This is something our Association should consider. It's easy to set up, and once are, they just automatically transfer donations into your bank account every quarter. It doesn't cost you a dime, and does not limit who you can purchase from. You're not going to get rich from these donations, but it's free money. 2017 was the first full year the ACWSA has been in the Amazon.Smiles program, and last year they received over \$100.

4. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin skirmish team is open to anyone interested. You reenact in the same uniform we wear, and the ACWSA still has a 'first-year-free' promotion. After that annual dues are just \$10.

Just like reenacting, we have more events available than most people can attend. Our philosophy has always been to keep a big roster and not depend on a small group to go to everything. Some of our members only come to one event a year. Before each event, I send out an e-mail with the skirmish information, and ask who's going to be there. You only have to say no once – and there's no hassling. On a good weekend we've put as many as five teams on the firing line, on a weekend where members have a lot of conflicts, we may only muster one.

Even if you're only interested in live-firing once, and not interested in competing with the team, I encourage you to shoot with us first. This is not brain surgery, but there are some things like finding the right bullet and powder charge that aren't intuitively obvious, and it's not uncommon for new shooters to get a round stuck in the barrel, or have ignition problems. We can save you frustration. If your company would like a chance to live-fire, but doesn't want to come to a skirmish, let me know and we'll see if we can't come to you.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Yr. Obt. Srvt.,

Gary Van Kauwenbergh

- Kevin Hampton called for a short break from 10:55 to 11 A.M.

#### J. V. Nomination & Elections

Kevin started by listing the term expiration dates for the board: President 2018, Vice President 2017, Treasurer 2019, Corporate Secretary 2018, Lt. Colonel 2017, Major Infantry 2019, Major Artillery 2019 & Quarter Master 2017.

- A. **Nominations were taken for Vice President:** Tom Bass was nominated by Ryan Holbrook, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Casey Hulbott. John Dudkiewicz was also nominated by declined, motion was made by John Thielmann to close nominations, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Schwartz, and Tom was reelected for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term as VP.
- B. **Nominations were taken for LT. Colonel:** Pete Seielstad was nominated by Dave Vargas with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gary Klas. No other nominations received, Motion to close nominations by Scott Frank, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Holbrook, Pete reelected unanimously as Lt. Colonel.
- C. **Nominations were taken Quartermaster:** Tom Klas was nominated by Scott Frank, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Casey Hulbott. No other nominations received, motion made to close nominations made by Brant Doty, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Holbrook. Tom reelected as Quartermaster

#### VI. Old Business

- A. **Scholarship continuance:** In 2016 1-\$1,000 scholarship were given out. A total of 3 applications were received (3 in 2015). A number of conversations were had on what to do to increase participation, which included increasing the amount scholarship and increase the pool of people that could apply. After a long conversation a motion was made by Dave Sielski to offer for 2017 only one scholarship for \$1,000 and a 2<sup>nd</sup> scholarship of \$500 no matter how many enter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Schwartz, (Motion carried) the scholarship committee has to meet to decide on a new essay questions for the 2017 scholarship, when application form is updated it will be sent to all companies who are encouraged to promote this to unit members. All members in good standing are eligible along with children or grandchildren. The amount of the scholarship will be discussed on an annual basis and amounts will be based on Association funds.
- B. **Surplus funds disbursement:** Scott Frank reported that per by-laws of the association, our current balance is below our ceiling that requires us to use excess funds, with an additional scholarship being given out also in 2017 the recommendation is not to distribute any additional funds. Subject will be revisited at next year's meeting. Motion Made by Gary Klas, 2<sup>nd</sup> Joe Gack not no funds be distributed (motion carried).
- A. **Insurance Update:** Report given by Scott Frank, no claims in 2016. Only Dues paying military members are covered by insurance, event must also be on the Association schedule to be covered by insurance. Insurance premium was \$828.10 in 2016 and has remained the same for a number of years, Scott is still waiting for the current bill for 2017 but expects it to be about the same.
- B. **Handbook Committee:** Nothing reported by Tom Klas.

#### C. VII. New Business

- A. **Awards:** Pete presented David Sielski with a certificate of appreciation for his support in the ideas and principles of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin Association.
- B. **Event Calendar**
  1. **Association Max effort event:** Grant's Home Front April 29<sup>th</sup> 30<sup>th</sup>
  2. **National Event:** Shiloh TN. April 6<sup>th</sup>- 9th
  3. **Company Max effort event (6<sup>th</sup> WI):** Coon Valley. October 14<sup>th</sup> - 15th.
  4. **Battalion Drill:** Galena April 29<sup>th</sup>& any other event were numbers permit.

5. Tentative Assoc schedule was passed out to all in attendance, members were reminded to review and send any updates or charges to the corporate secretary.
- C. **By-Laws:** Motion was made at 2016 meeting to suspend 1.04 of the by-laws until it could be reviewed further. Kevin Hampton explained the current rule and what it would be changed to (see below). After some discussion on why the change was being made a motion was made by Ryan Holbrook with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Frank to make the change. Motion carried.

**2017 Handbook proposed amendment**

*(Current)*

1.04 Officer Restrictions

Officers of the Unit may not have membership in other Civil War re-enactment units. An officer is any member holding the rank of Corporal or higher.

*(Proposed Amendment 2017)*

1.04 Dual Membership

Enlisted

Enlisted members of the Unit may have dual membership in other Civil War re-enactment units. However, while he participates with a secondary unit of which he is a member, he is responsible for his own actions and will not be protected under the auspices of the 2nd Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Association.

Officer Restrictions

Officers of the Unit may have dual membership in other Civil War re-enactment units. To diminish a conflict of interest, he may not hold any elected office and may only hold the rank of private in a secondary unit. An officer is any Unit member holding the rank of corporal or higher or a member of the executive board.

Additionally, while he participates with a secondary unit of which he is a member, he is responsible for his own actions and will not be protected under the auspices of the 2nd Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Association.

- D. Kevin mentioned that the Vets Museum is looking at procuring the Co.B flag from Lacrosse, John Dudkiewicz gave a history of the flags journey. If the flag would get donated, Kevin would like to have some members present for an honor guard for the ceremony. This us a rare flag only a couple like it are still around across the country.

- E. Motion Made by John Dudkiewicz, 2<sup>nd</sup> from Kevin Klandrud to donate \$100 to the Fox Lake Historical society for allowing us to use the building for the meeting. Motion approved by the membership.

**VIII Closing**

- A. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by John Dudkiewicz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Vargas, (motion carried). Meeting adjourned at 12:23 P.M. Lunch & conversation was held after the meeting instead of ½ way through.

**Meeting Attendance**

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Dave Sielski Co.E

Casey Hulbott Co.K

Gary Van Kauwenbergh Co.G

Pete Seielstad Co.B

Scott Frank Co.A

Jared Alexander Co.B

Gary Klas Co.G

Tom Klas Co.A

Kevin Hampton Co.K  
Tom Bass Co.K  
Ugljesha Pirocanic 6<sup>th</sup> WI LA  
Lenard Sedivy Co.G  
Robert Schwandt Co.E  
Ryan Schwartz Co. K  
John Dudkiewicz Co.B  
Ryan Holbrook Co.K  
Kevin Klandrud Co.E  
Lyle Laufenberg 6<sup>th</sup> WI LA.  
Wally Hlaban 6<sup>th</sup> WI LA  
Charles Bagneski Co.E  
Joe Gack Co. E  
Stan Graiewski Field Hospital  
Shelly Hlaban 6<sup>th</sup> WILA  
Marvin Kostka Co.E  
Weston Weisensel Co.B  
Brant Doty 6<sup>th</sup> WILA.  
John Thielmann Co.K  
Dave Vargas Co.E  
Drew Young Co.E  
Connie Sedivy (guest)  
(Total attendance 30 people attended the meeting)

