The Cannoneer June 2020

Greetings. Well I really do not know where to begin. First of all, I hope everyone is in good health. Just when we were ready for the shooting season to begin, the pandemic hits closing down the states and forcing us to stay inside. Then we get 8 inches of rain in May which caused some consternation to those of us in low laying areas. And then in the last 10 days, the protesting, looting and rioting. In short the beginning of this shooting season has been shot to hell like the frame of a D-team carbine team. I do hope we can salvage the remainder of the remainder of the season but only time will tell. Meanwhile here is what we can report.

**2020 Skirmish Schedule: As of now.**

**Canceled** Lefthanders club skirmish**,** Spring Nationals**,** Twin cities skirmish**,** Zerko Relic Show,Frank V Matuszek memorial Skirmish, Streator Illinois**,** Brookield July 4th Parade**,** Wauconda Civil War Days

July 18-19 Bristol Conservation Club

August 15-16 Beloit Wisconsin

September 19-20 Bristol Conservation Club

September 27 Civil War Relic show – Wheaton Ill

October Fall Nationals

**Future possible events**

**July 18-19 Bristol Conservation Club**

This skirmish still has yet to be confirmed like all the other skirmishes. There is no other information available as of this date. I am sure there will be smoothbore, Carbine and Musket team matches.

A**ugust 15-16 Beloit Wisconsin**

This will be a new range for us. Again we are a victim of lack of information and confirmation.

**September 19-20 Bristol Conservation Club**

I really hope that by this time we will be able to attend a skirmish. This will be the last possible skirmish we can shoot at.

**The 142nd National is not a possible event**. I once stated that this skirmish is happening but there is a small cloud brewing. There is talk of a second round of the pandemic reoccurring this fall. If that happens there is a chance that they may cancel the fall event. If we are lucky and it is not canceled, the Battery will be working the event instead of shooting. As stated many times before we are scheduled to assist the 46th Illinois with cleaning the bathrooms. Those that can attend, please try to get out there the last week of September. We need to be out there ASAP to clean and prep the bathrooms.

 There was talk of holding a fun skirmish but there has been no communication about this happening. The commander will try to get more information and push for it.

**Grayling Long Range Artillery Match.** Loom’s Battery, at last September’s event, stated that they would make the effort to host another event in 2020. They did not give a date. Now that we are facing a pandemic and other unrest it is doubtful that they will go forward with this match. But one never knows so we will keep our ears and eyes open. If the Battery is interested in attending they will need to obtain materials for projectiles, find powder and all that other stuff. Being that normally Loomis Battery gives us a 90 day notice and we have heard anything as of yet, would mean the match would be held in the fall.

**September 26th Zerko Relic Show**

Again this will be like the past shows and we hope that it also is not canceled.

**June 27th Work Party at Sandy Ford**

As you know our skirmish has been canceled by both the Sandy Ford president and by John Mark, our Western Region Commander due to the pandemic. Even though it was canceled we will be holding a work party the Saturday, June 27th starting at 10 AM. We need to go through the trailer and clean things up. We also need to work with the 46th Illinois to make a second set of frames. We need to count the targets and make plans for next year. We have a new PA system that we need to check out. And other things. If you wish to do some practicing please bring one or two of your firearms along. Several Battery members hold membership in the club and may be practicing as well. After the work is done, we will go out for lunch or brunch. So if you still have that date open, come on out and get a little fresh air. Meet the commander out there at 10 AM. More information to follow via phone calls.

**U.S. Grant**

On Memorial day, the History Channel presented a three part story about U.S. Grant. Both Stan and the Commander watched it and it got mixed reviews. Stan was pleased with it but the Commander, being he has visited many of the locations presented in the show felt that they heavily misrepresented those locations. This is nothing new to some of the older Civil War movies but he was hoping for better. He found errors in the Battle of Shiloh, Fort Donelson, and the Crater of Petersburg. He also felt that the actors were far from looking like the real people they depicted. It was far worse than the fake facial hair from the movie Gettysburg. Lincoln looked too thin, Grant looked like Sherman, Sherman looked like no one known, and Lee was far from Lee as you can get. Both agreed the content was good and worth watching. And both agree they wanted more about Grant after the war and about his presidential times. Maybe they will do a part two.

**This is all we have for now. Please keep in touch with each other and be safe. Hopefully this will all end soon.**