

Colvin Crew Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2012, NYSAPLS Conference,
The Springs Restaurant, City Conference Center, Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

The following members were present:

Bruce Agard, Randy Paquin, David Schmidt, Mike Webb, Jim Jennings, Brian Magee, Carolyn Wiggin, Art Carpenter, Patti Brooks, Rick Brooks, Chris Westbrook, Ken Salzmann, Bob Marvin, C. Donald Carpenter, Jim Schaller, Howard Wyman, Jim Vianna.

Also present were Ed Rogers, Wayne Wilson and Bert Winne III.

Jim Vianna called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Superintendent's Report: Jim Vianna

1. A report was given on a Colvin compass being offered for sale by a third party (see attached e-mail). Discussion ensued on various ways of financing the purchase of this rare artifact and where it would be stored. Chris Westbrook talked about the "Centennial Room" at the ESF Library being available. This room is secure and will be holding the history of the school. A consensus was reached that we should initiate a fund drive from the members to purchase the items listed and put them on extended display at the Ranger School's "Centennial Room".
2. Upcoming trips: April 28 & 29, 2012. Location to be determined. Summer time, Long Lake.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

Copy of e-mail sent by Jim Vianna to the membership 1/12/12:

Dear Crew,

Every once in a while our little group gets lucky and so it was about two months ago when I was put in touch with a woman by the name of Ashley Wales (Baldwin). Ashley had found our group through the ENYSLS website and her e-mail was forwarded to me by fellow crew member (and webmaster) Kurt Heiss. Turns out Ashley is the great granddaughter of one of the Baldwin boys that grew up next to V. Colvin in Albany (see Nina Webb's book) and was assisting her father (Tom Baldwin) in finding a purchaser for a compass that once belonged to V. Colvin. Her father had inherited two or three of Colvin's compasses and had already sold one or two of them to the Blue Mtn. Museum. The museum had already expressed an interest in this last compass and we had a slim chance to beat them to it. I immediately contacted our Camp Clerk (Mike Webb) and asked him to pay a visit to Mr. Baldwin to check things out. Mike was able to verify the Baldwin/Colvin history and view the compass. Turns out that beside the compass (a Gurley vernier pocket compass) a set of wooden legs stamped with Colvin's name and three postcards would be included in the purchase. Additionally, a notarized statement of how Mr. Baldwin obtained the items and their history would also be included. *See pictures attached to this e-mail*

Not wanting to waste any time in obtaining such a rare find, I asked Mike to secure the deal and he was able to put a deposit down on the items.

Fast forward to this past Wednesday morning. I broke the news to the "Crew" at our meeting held in Saratoga Springs during the NYSAPLS conference. Discussion was held on where the items would be stored and various ways of financing the purchase. It was felt by all that the best location to store the items would be to place them "on loan" to the Ranger School so they could be on display and secured in their new "Centennial Room" which houses the history of the school. This will be under an arrangement similar to what I did with the lithograph I received last spring from our northern contingent. The Crew will own the items and be able to access them for recoveries/meetings etc. The students at the school will get to see a rare piece of history.

So with the above said, I am asking for your help by donating to this worthy project. We need to raise **at a minimum**, \$2,200 as soon as possible to complete the purchase. Considering the "provenance" of the items, I feel it is a reasonable price and it would be the crowning jewel of our little group. Imagine setting it up over a bolt and turning angles with it to find other points on our next recovery, **wow**. I fully understand the state of the economy and ask only that you contribute

what if anything you can. I also feel that the funds for this purchase should come directly from the membership and no other organization. To the best of my knowledge, this marks the first time donations have been solicited directly from the membership.

Ideally, I would like to try to obtain \$3,000 so we have a little left over to handle our website hosting and domain registration etc. This year we did not have enough funds to support NYSAPLS by placing an add in their conference journal (\$300±). I felt bad about this as we are an ad-hoc committee of NYAPLS and they have generously supported us in the past.

For the above stated reasons, time is of the essence and I would like to set a date of February 13, 2012 to reach our goal. The sooner we secure it the better as others are after it. Checks should be made payable to the **Colvin Crew** and sent to our camp clerk at:

Colvin Crew
c/o Ranger School,
PO Box 48, Wanakena, NY 13695
mhwebb@esf.edu

Respectfully submitted,
James Vianna
Superintendent,
Colvin Crew

P. S. set aside the last weekend in April (28 & 29) for a recovery. Not sure of the location yet, but wanted to get the date out. Maybe with a little luck we can have an "un-veiling".

Attachments:

