English, TX – It was the night before Christmas without a turkey in hand, only the smell of Texas BBQ and the sound of a band ... Comin' At Cha 2012 was as exciting as Christmas on a beautiful cool November morning this year. 398 shooters met on the Bar 3 Ranch in English, Texas to compete in the SASS Southwest Regional Championships. Also here were (Continued on page 36)

B utte, MT – Bob Munden, known perhaps equally as a fierce Fast-Draw competitor who was recognized by Guinness World Records as The Fastest Man with a Gun Who Ever Lived, as an exhibition shooter of the highest order with all kinds of firearms, and as an entertainer and master gunsmith who developed ground-breaking methods of customizing to perfection the beloved .45 caliber single action revolver and other guns, died December 10th of heart failure.

Munden’s wife and performance partner, Becky, said she was driving home with Bob after treatment at a Missoula hospital for what doctors described as a (Continued on page 15)
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Two Great Events ... One Great Price ... Doily Gang . . .

Fashionable Hair Dressing (Pt. 1) . . .

Comments From SASS Members . . .

Was Custer Really Outgunned? ... Cowboy TV . . .

How To Put On A Great State Match ... Traveling Gun Cart . . .

The Outlaw Trail (New Mexico Territory) . . .

Women Of The West (Elizabet Ney) . . . Little Known Famous People . . .

2012 SASS Scholarship Recipient (Katie Hecox) . . .

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SASS MERCANTILE (Nice Collectables) . . .

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I had other plans for the February editorial … but somehow the other subjects just don’t seem urgent enough to be addressed right now. In case anyone missed it, we’re in a serious fight to keep and use our firearms. And, for all those who have complained from time to time about Col. Dan’s political pieces at the back of The Cowboy Chronicle, it should be clear to all we need to get our collective heads out of the sand and understand a good outcome to today’s politics are very vital in our ability to continuing playing “cowboy.”

First of all, let me say—No one in this country is pleased with the recent well-publicized school and theater shootings. No one. We ALl need to do “something” to prevent or at least reduce the incidences of violence in our schools and our society. However, and now I’m preaching to the choir, we know outlawing “black” guns and large capacity magazines will do little to solve the problem. But, if getting rid of guns is not the answer … what is the answer? There have been precious few real, serious discussions about what should be done.

Politicians know a good catch phrase when they hear it—let’s outlaw “assault weapons!” I’ve wondered for years just exactly what an assault weapon is. So far, it’s simply been “black” guns with plastic folding parts and funny hand-holds. To the uninitiated, there is no difference between that sporting gun and something the military might be issued. They look alike. It makes no difference if a semi-automatic “sportsman’s” rifle with highly polished furniture for a stock and forearm happens to have exactly the same trigger/receiver as a civilian “black” gun … one is “bad” and the other is (sort of) OK for the moment. Once someone realizes there’s really no operational difference, we’ll see how much longer the “civilian” semi-auto is deemed to be “OK.”

(Continued on page 17)
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Two Great Events ... One Great Price

International Centre, Mississauga

March 29 – 31, 2013

Visitors to the inaugural Ontario’s Mane Event featured at the 20th annual All About Pets Show, will be treated to world renowned clinicians, plus some serious “star-power” celebrities at the “2 for 1” show held March 29 – 31 at Toronto’s International Centre.

Award winning country music artist and TV host, Beverly Mahood and Terry Grant, star of six seasons on the hit TV series, Mantracker, will join renowned clinicians including “AQHA Horse Woman of the Year,” coach, judge, and author, Lynn Palm; world acknowledged leading trainer and clinician, Josh Lyons; the “Dr. Phil” for horse owners and best-selling author, Chris Irwin; and world and national championship competitor, coach, and judge, Harvey Stevens.

Horse care, regardless of breed or discipline, will be a key component of the show, with lead-off speakers including Dr. Roxane Pardiac DVM, addressing the benefits of chiropractic and acupuncture treatment for horses, while trusted animal communicator, Lauren Bode, provides the intangible link for horses and their human partners.

“We’re delighted to have OEF as a partner on this inaugural showcase,” says show owner Alan Barnes. “Building on the strength of the All About Pets Show, Canada’s largest consumer pet event, provides a natural synergy for an equine showcase,” referring to the 12,000 to 15,000 visitors that annually flock to the event.

The All About Pets Show...
Two Great Events ... One Great Price ...

(Continued from previous page) Planning Ontario’s Mane Event is proud to support the University of Guelph’s Ontario Veterinary College with the first-ever OVC Pet Trust Fashion Gala. Four-legged “fashionistas” will strut the catwalk with their celebrity owners and special guests at this special ticketed pre-show evening soirée on Thursday, March 28. For gala information, visit www.allaboutpetsshow.com/OVCPetTrustGala; for tickets, contact kscott07@uoguelph.ca.

The dedicated exhibition hall for Ontario’s Mane Event will be a key feature area within the almost 200,000 sq. ft. of All About Pets Show floor space, including a large demonstration ring for clinicians and entertainment, a lively speakers stage, plus the equine trade fair filled with leading suppliers and retailers.

Admission to Ontario’s Mane Event includes entrance to the All About Pets Show featuring the “Who’s Who” of the pet world with hundreds of exhibitors and thousands of products.

For information, schedules, on-line contests, and ticket discounts visit: www.allaboutpetsshow.com/OME

*Animal chiropractor and acupuncture specialist, Roxane Paridaen DVM

Star of six seasons of the hit TV series Mantracker, Terry Grant

ATTENTION!!

Soiled Doves and Parlor House Madams

The SASS Soiled Dove Association is holding a raffle of a “Soiled Dove” 1873 Rifle with all proceeds going to the SASS Scholarship Fund. Doves are being solicited to sell tickets to their club members and friends, and for every ticket you sell, you will also get an entry to win a Soiled Dove “Virtue Protector” Double Barrel Shotgun.

The rifle and shotgun will be awarded at the closing ceremony at END of TRAIL 2013. You do not need to be present to win.

For details please contact Texas Jack Daniels at txjd@sbcglobal.net.

Correction

On the front page of the November 2012 Cowboy Chronicle there was listed: “Pg. 36 — Coon Creek Old West Reproductions.” This should correctly read “COON CREEK OLD WEST,” omitting the word REPRODUCTIONS.

Also, on page 36, there are four or more instances of the name “Coon Creek Old West Reproductions,” which should omit the word “REPRODUCTIONS” in each case. The Cowboy Chronicle was incorrectly referencing outdated company information. We regret any inconvenience caused by these errors.

— Editors, The Cowboy Chronicle and Buck Butler, proprietor Coon Creek Old West

DOILY GANG

In support of Ladies’ Shooting

By Shamrock Sadie, SASS Life #78511

www.DoilgyGang.com

The Doily Gang is a group of cowgirls dedicated to cowgirls helping cowgirls, no matter your age or skill level. The Doily Gang also supports the SASS Scholarship Fund, as well as other charitable organizations. The only membership requirement is to follow the Cowgirl Way.

• Encourage ladies, regardless of their level or style of shooting

• Encourage the development of women’s knowledge and skills of Cowboy Action Shooting™

• Bring awareness of various shooting styles, equipment, and techniques of Cowboy Action Shooting™

• Promote opportunities available to ladies (especially new shooters) that might help them overcome any anxieties about shooting

• Be a dedicated participant-helper at all shooting events

• Celebrate achievements of lady shooters

It is OK to be competitive, as long as it remains friendly

The Doily Gang name came from a chance conversation while a group of shooters were visiting Old Town in St. Augustine during the 2012 Florida State Championship. While strolling through the shopping district, the ladies passed by a store with doilies in the window. One joking word led to another, and the idea of the Doily Gang was formed. It was decided a group needed to be created to support and encourage lady shooters; hence, the Doily Gang was created.

How can you identify a Doily Gang member? By their badges and doilies. Badges and yarn doilies represent the Doily Gang motto, “Attitude & Heart” and allow other cowgirls to easily recognize members.

The Doily Gang’s website has a forum that provides tips for shooting styles, practice, and other ideas such as equipment and clothing. If you would like to know more or become a member, visit the Doily Gang at www.doilygang.com.
A POTENT factor in any woman's appearance is her coiffure. Indeed, no other item of her toilette is really so influential, either to emphasize or to lessen her natural attractiveness, since no fashion is so capable of affecting the actual expression of her countenance as is one that pertains to the arrangement of the hair. The often-admired "crowning glory" may be rendered almost a disfigurement if disposed unbecomingly, while a tasteful and careful dressing of the tresses, even though they are not very beautiful, will lend a decided charm to a plain face.

A knowledge of what is suitable and what the reverse in matters of dress is instinctive with the average woman, and if she disregards it, there must be a lack of that amour propre which is such a precious possession. Of course, considerable time is required to bestow the proper amount of attention upon the hair, but the result of such care fully justifies the daily expenditure.

Few women begrudge the hours required to make their gowns, and the grooming of the hair is not one whit less important.

**Cleaning the Hair**

It is as essential to keep the scalp clean as it is to maintain the rest of the person in a state of purity, for, if the pores of the scalp were clogged, the growth of the hair would be retarded. The oily matter that exudes from the pores would soon become thickened by the particles of dust settling upon the scalp, and the follicles would thus be obstructed, whereas it is necessary for the health of the hair to keep them as free as possible.

The hair should be shampooed once a month, and any dust that lodges upon the scalp between the shampooings should be removed with a moderately stiff brush. The shampooing process is simple enough, the only difficulty being to dry the hair thoroughly. Of course, the drying process is most tedious when the suite is very heavy, and coarse hair dries more easily than fine, since it is by nature less moist. Before the hair is washed the dandruff should be raised from the scalp by means of a brush having stiff bristles set quite far apart in a rubber back, which will yield to the scalp and thus render the bristles less rigid, though taking nothing from their effectiveness.

A good shampoo may be made with pure white Castile soap, which is more beneficial than a soap that contains much alkali, because the oil used in its manufacture is very wholesome, and enough of it remains on the hair to render it soft and glossy. Shave the soap finely, and dissolve it in warm water, using enough soap to make a strong, thick lather, which, for convenience, should be placed in a bottle. When ready to shampoo, pour a liberal quantity of the liquid upon the hair and rub it well into the scalp with the fingers. When the scalp and hair have been thoroughly cleansed, rinse them with clear water until the soap is entirely removed. It is advisable to use warm water for rinsing, as cold water might shock the scalp enough to produce unpleasant results. After the last rinsing, rub the hair as dry as possible with a coarse towel.

The best way to dry the hair in Winter is to spread it in the heat of a grate fire or a coal or gas stove. The heat from a hot-air furnace is not advised, as a register usually discharges too much dust; neither is fanning recommended, because the strong current of air thus produced often causes neuralgia and other affections. In Summer the open air or, better still, the warm sunlight is the preferred dryer.

When the hair is perfectly dry, free it carefully from snarls and tangles with a coarse comb, beginning by combing out the roots and gradually working upward. If the hair is combed too near the scalp at first, it will be far more difficult to remove the tangles, more hair will be lost, and the operation of combing will be quite painful. Unusually dry hair is frequently softened with a little "brillantine," a well-known preparation, which is poured into the hollow of the hand and transferred to the hair, not the scalp, and is then brushed through.

After the hair has been smoothly combed or brushed, clip all split ends. Clipping is more beneficial than singeing, and is less dangerous when a woman takes care of her own hair. The fashion of bleaching the hair has been revived, but it cannot be commended. Very often golden locks are out of harmony with one's eyes and complexion, and the artificiality of the tint is then all too apparent. However, if the bleach is desired, it must be ap-

---

**Note from the contributor:** No matter how historically accurate a lady's outfit may be, the right accessories can make or break the final effect. Shoes, gloves, reticules, jewelry, and yes—her hairstyle all contribute to the "stepped back in time" appearance. For your pleasure, the following is an article taken directly from the pages of a popular Victorian magazine of this era, word for word. May it entertain and inspire you!

– Miss Tabitha
plied once every six weeks or oftener, and to the roots only; otherwise, the hair would grow out from the roots in its natural tint, and the effect would be anything but pleasing. Titian blonde hair is more fashionable than yellow blonde, and those to whom Nature has given tresses in that rare reddish tint may count themselves very fortunate.

**Selecting an Arrangement**

And now regarding the arrangement of the hair. Prevailing fashions in hair-dressing may nearly always be adapted to the requirements of the individual face. At present the protruding knot, familiarly known as the Newport, is considered exceptionally artistic; and while the most approved location for it is just below the crown, it may be raised or lowered to secure perfect becomingness. Thus, for an oval face the knot may be adjusted a trifle above the crown, while the regulation disposal is suitable to a round face, and a longish knot to a long, slender one.

In like manner, the face must be studied for the proper arrangement of the waved side-locks, which are as important an element of the coiffure as the bang. Large, natural-looking waves are approved; and when the waved hair is carried up to the knot, it should be slightly puffed out at the sides for a full, round face, loosely adjusted when the face is oval, or drawn back, but not rigidly, from a long, slender face. It is a common but mistaken idea that a broad effect at the sides will give breadth to a long face; instead, such a disposal of the hair only adds width to the head and causes the face to appear even more slender by contrast.

As to the bang, nearly every woman wears it parted, although round faces are most improved by this arrangement. With the part, curls may be worn upon the forehead, there being the prescribed number for a long face, while a single curl is considered best for an oval face, of which as much of the forehead as possible should be bare.

The simplicity and classic suggestion of the Newport knot, with its accompaniment of waves and curls, make this style a favorite for both daytime and evening. The knot gives the head a charming contour, in which respect puffs and other exaggerated dispositions signal fail; and, besides, it is easy to form without the services of a maid, an advantage that appeals to the great majority of womankind.

To be continued... Detailed and historic directions to arrange the “Newport Knot,” along with illustrations, will follow in a future *Cowboy Chronicle*™.

Many thanks to Catherine Bishop for sharing this article from her book, “Hairstyles and Headdresses of the Victorian, Edwardian, and Ragtime Eras.” A copy of this book, and many others by Catherine Bishop featuring authentic Victorian fashions, can be acquired through Miss Tabitha, a.k.a. Sharon Guli, at www.GuliProductions.com, or by calling 970-221-GULI (4854). If you lack a surplus of your own hair, full wigs and switches can also be obtained through Miss Tabitha.
A gun lobbyist, traumatized by the evil in Newton, CT, under pressure by reporters for an interview, asked me desperately for help. What is he supposed to say? How can he respond to such slaughter, how can he defend guns in the light of this massacre? He is at his wit’s end, ready to give up, throw in the towel. Help me please, he implores. What can he say in the face of such an abomination? There are no words. And there aren’t any.

Why does the media only cover guns in the face of such tragedy? Why don’t they discuss it when we can examine the subject coolly and rationally, and maybe get somewhere?

Because then we might learn something. Because then the public could become educated, and the media does not really want this to happen. Because then you might learn that guns have social utility, and are indispensable—that guns serve good purposes—instead of being wounded with the hopelessly false idea that arms are bad.

If the media covered guns without tragedy as a background, you would learn that guns save lives, which is why we want our police heavily armed with high-capacity magazines and high-powered rifles and all the ammunition they can carry. You would learn that you need guns and ammo and full-capacity magazines—for the exact same reason.

You would learn that your need is even greater, because YOU are the first responders, and police are always second. You face the criminals first, in every event. Police, with all their deadly bullets only show up later. Police are the second responders. Media stories are always wrong about that. That’s what you say.

People would learn that guns are for stopping crime. Guns protect you. Guns are good. Guns keep you safe, and help you sleep quietly at night. Guns are why America is still free. And the media doesn’t want that message to get out. That’s why they only haul out the subject with horror as a backdrop. That’s what you say.

Even the FBI says justifiable homicide happens every day, and they’re only counting the cases that go all the way through court. Most armed self defense is so clean it never even makes it to court—or the gun isn’t even fired. Why isn’t that in the national news every day?

Because you, Mr. and Ms. Reporter, don’t want the public educated about guns. Because you want the public ignorant, misinformed, and terrorized of guns, just like you are. Because you are pushing an agenda to vilify and ban fundamental rights we hold dear, that have helped make America great. Because you want people to have a lopsided unbalanced distorted view, and you’re doing a great job of that. That’s what you say.

And let them try to deny it. Because so-called “news” media gun stories are not news, they are propaganda. Showing the image of a mass murderer 100 times a day isn’t news, it is propaganda. Because staying on the same single event for a week or more isn’t news—even reporters would call it old news, or yesterday’s news, or yellow journalism, if they were being honest—a trait many have long since lost the ability to exercise. It is propaganda by every definition of that term.

It is designed to disgust, and cause revulsion, and motivate mob mentality. It serves no news purpose other than to induce fear and cause terror. In five minutes you have told the story, nothing new is added, yet it rolls on with images on endless loop. It promotes evil, encourages copycats, with zero redeeming news value. It violates every rule of ethical news behavior there is. That’s what you say.

Showing the grief and tears day after day as you are doing, dear reporter, is not news, it is manipulation of we the people. It is an effort to turn people against something you as a reporter personally detest, because you are as poorly educated on the subject as many of your viewers and readers. You are so poorly informed on this subject you need counseling. That’s what you say.

Tell reporters they are acting like holophobes. Let them look it up. When eighty people died that day, with their bloodied bodies strewn all over the place, they didn’t care. When children were torn from their parents, and parents never came home, they didn’t care. When people left home and said, “See you later honey,” and were never heard from again, they didn’t care, and I didn’t care, and they never even mentioned it, because those people died in their cars.

Eighty people. Entire families. Moms and dads, infants, teenagers, all across this great land, not just in one town. That grief was every bit as tragic. And eighty more the next day. And today. And reporters didn’t even mention it. Because reporters don’t care about human tragedy. They just want to use their favorite tragedy, a maniac’s evil, now “[X]” days old, to promote a terrible agenda they and their bosses and their political puppet masters want them to promote. And that’s the abomination. They should be ashamed of themselves. They are a disgrace. That’s what you say.

Even though cars are involved in virtually the same number of deaths as firearms, and typically used by all the murderers, we don’t call for their elimination, because cars serve a purpose greater than the harm they cause. Doctors kill between ten- and one-hundred-thousand people every year through “medical misadventures,” a sugar-coated term for mistakes (the actual number is hotly disputed). We don’t call for doctors’ elimination, because doctors serve a greater purpose than the harm they cause, too.

Guns are precisely the same, but you wouldn’t know it watching the so-called “news.” Think of all the lives guns save and crimes they prevent. We should call for education and training—and the pro-rights side does, constantly, to the media’s deaf ears. Right now, schools and the media are a black hole of ignorance on the subject. Half of all American homes have guns—how is it possible
to get a high-school diploma without one-credit in gun safety and marksmanship? How can you honestly argue for ignorance instead of education and live with yourself? That's what you say.

The greater part of this great nation is on to you. We hold our rights dear. We hold the Bill of Rights in highest regard, while you spit on it with your unethical and vile effort to destroy it from your high and mighty seat. You believe you are protected by the very thing you would use to demolish it. Your use of propaganda, every time a tragedy occurs, to deny us our rights is the highest form of treason, a fifth-column effort, an enemy both foreign and domestic of which we are keenly aware. You will reap what you sow. That's what you say.

The media says it wants more laws but we already know that everything about every one of these tragedies is already a gross violation of every law on the books, many times over. You media types would outlaw all guns, as many of you are calling for. We all know it would be as effective as the cocaine ban—a product many of you enjoy in the privacy of ... Hollywood and Wall Street and Occupy rallies and your upscale parties and across America.

And if you like the war on some drugs, you're going to love the war on guns. That's what you say. And if you think the rule of law is the solution—like for people on Prozac and Ritalin suddenly going berserk—remember that, at least for tomorrow, if the man next to you is going to suddenly crack, you really do need a gun.

Ask yourself why people in greater numbers are suddenly cracking up and taking up the devil's cause, to speak metaphorically. So many reporters have obviously given up on religion and the morality it used to exert, the binding social effect it had on people. Are you a religious person? Ask them. People typically never ask the reporters questions. Reporters don't know how to handle that. Try it. That's what you say.

Do films like American Psycho, where scriptwriters invent characters who enjoy killing and go around gleefully murdering people, and financiers who put millions behind such projects, and which the entertainment industry put in our faces on a constant basis — does that have any effect? Would you argue it has no effect? Thousands of films like that, filling our TVs daily — doesn't that do something to people? Dexter, a mass murderer disguised as a cop who is the hero of the series, does that shift people's thinking, their sense of balance? How do you justify supporting such things instead of shunning and casting such perverts and miscreants from the industry? That's what you say.

But here's the bottom line as far as I'm concerned. Here's the Pulitzer Prize, waiting for you if you want one. Should people who put scores of guns into the hands of drug lords get one-month sentences—like we saw the very day before this massacre—is that right? If you get the laws you're shouting for, would it matter if that's what the Justice Dept. does with them? Why isn't THAT discussed? How did you let that skate by? Don't tell me you covered that story, if you simply reported the government handout, that Fast and Furious smugglers Avila and Carillo were sentenced. That's not reporting, that's reading.

That's the ugly underbelly of this "gun problem" we have. There are the laws for real crimes, and the reckless government role, letting slaughter continue unabated, even abetted. There's the solution you say you seek, squandered. Were the hundreds murdered that way less important? Is it a racist thing—because they were brown-skinned Mexicans and not little White children, is that it? How could Eric Holder's Justice Department—and you—let those perps off so easy? Why isn't that the headline? It was the biggest gun scandal in U.S. history—your own words. One-month sentences? Not even a trial? And you bought into this? That's what you say.

The ringleaders in the biggest gunrunning death-dealing high-powered so-called "assault-weapon" scandal in U.S. history were caught red-handed giving guns to murderers, but they got a plea deal from the administration, not even a trial, and the media had nothing to say.

The media that has so much to say about guns—or so they would have us falsely believe—are shills for the Justice Department that perpetrated this travesty, and now would use their bully pulpit to attack our rights, in the name of little children, day after day. Journalists have become a travesty, that's what you say.

More than 90 of these fearsome guns were delivered by our very government to the worst murderers on the planet. And now, thanks to double-jeopardy protection, we won't have a trial so we can't even find out who in our government gave the orders. And now we have nothing to say.

The event in a small Connecticut town has opened the gun issue again. And that's what you say. Alan Kerwin, Publisher, Bloomfield Press

The Uninvited Ombudsman
GunLaws.com
More on Age Based Categories

By Tenn Critr, SASS #76015

Regard my letter in the November Cowboy Chronicle: I did not mean to indicate I would like a separate Gunfighter category in the Cattle Baron/Baroness and Gran Patron/Patroness categories, but merely that we be allowed to shoot Gunfighter style in those categories.

Colonel Dan’s Hollywood Column Was A Direct Hit!

Hey Colonel Dan – Thanks for being there with pen in hand. As I’m sure all cowboys and cowgirls did also, I watched it all go down last night (November 6). I’m really concerned about the next four years and what might follow for our country. We have reached that point where more people vote for a living, than do those who work for a living. As a young 1st Cav. Lt., I’ve seen the NVAAC come through the perimeter and over my guns in the middle of the night, but I never imagined seeing 51% of my fellow countrymen coming at the rest of us in broad daylight at the voting booth! Your column about Hollywood movies was a direct hit (Nov ‘12). The last Hollywood movie I spent money to see was “Patton” ... Thanks again,

Lucky Lutz Lobo, SASS #55831
Land O Lakes, FL.

Lucky, thank you for that thoughtful note. I very much appreciate you taking the time to express your thoughts. Yes, it was a long night, but the next four years will be much longer.

I’m writing my next column now (January issue) and it is a difficult one ... one I wish I didn’t have to even consider.

Soldier on ..., Colonel Dan.

Pine Mountain Posse
A Branch of the SASS Family Tree

Bend, OR  Last year our middle son, Sgt. Cody Schroeder, was on leave from his first tour of duty in Afghanistan. Fortunately he was able to shoot with us at the Pine Mountain Posse Annual Gunfight in the Badlands.” Bend, Oregon is over 200 miles away, but it is well worth it. We try to get there as much as possible. On arrival, he was greeted with gratitude and appreciation for his service. Cody had yet to be a SASS member, but we gave him the handle, R-Son. Cody is on his second tour of duty as we write this. We found out about a thankful act on Veterans Day weekend. Pine Mountain Posse had constructed four care packages to send to our son (R-Son). It consists of items that are much appreciated by the troops in Afghanistan. They also raised $1000 for the Wounded Warrior Fund.

Pine Mountain Posse is more than just a club. They are a branch of the SASS family tree that makes up our fine organization. In other words, these people make SASS what it is.

Brother Bob, SASS #79444
Ann Marie, SASS #99287
Renegade Riley (Brother), SASS #79445
D-Shoots (Brother), SASS #84602
Otis, OR.

Let’s Get It Right

Christmas was not the same this year. The recent tragic loss of so many young lives in Newtown, CT left a weight heavy in the minds and in the hearts of everyone in America. For the families who lost children or loved ones, life will never be the same. Our hearts and our prayers go out to these people in their hour of need. As cowboys and cowgirls, I think we experience even more of a feeling of helplessness when tragedies such as this occur.

I have only been affiliated with Cowboy Action Shooting™ and a member of SASS for about four years, but in that short period of time I can think of no one I have met that, without hesitation, wouldn’t have laid down their own life to defend the lives of those innocent children. If we could have just been there ...

We, as gun owners, know that any new gun law or bans on firearms or items such as high capacity magazines are only successful in crippling our own ability to defend ourselves and others. It sickens me that the anti-gun crown in America insists on capitalizing on tragedies such as this and use them as a political soap box from which they attempt to strengthen their argument for stricter gun control laws.

It is my opinion as an American gun owner, and as a cowboy, that we should show these poor suffering people in Connecticut the respect they more than deserve and allow them the time to grieve. I’m not suggesting we back down from a fight. I believe we would be better served getting all of our facts and statistics in order and when the time is right, use this information as the harness to help the anti-gun crowd pull their heads out of their butts.

A word to any of the anti-gun crowd that may take offence to these comments: we’re all in this together. Quit beating up on the American gun owners, we’re not the bad guys. We, the armed citizens, are the “first responders” often times in violent conflicts. Don’t take away our ability to defend one another.

Armageddon, SASS #78380
East Peoria, IL.

Morning Dove Knows Her History!

I was absolutely impressed with the article “What the Second Amendment Means To Me,” by Morning Dove, SASS #78889, in the July ’12 Cowboy Chronicle. That young lady would really shape this nation, and we need more like her. She knows her history, and if you don’t know history and its mistakes, you are bound to repeat them.

Should we lose the Second Amendment and the right to keep and bear arms, we would surely fall from without and within. It’s that .22 in every other home that keeps us free. As Morning Dove stated, the Second Amendment is meant for individuals and not just the military or police.

The military is necessary, and I know this as a former combat Navy corpsman, Fleet Marine Force, who observed first hand when a person loses the individual right to keep and bear arms for whatever reason they choose, they have lost their freedom. The military and police cannot guarantee your safety and cannot hunt or cowboy or sport shoot for you. Without being a free state through the Second Amendment guarantee, we could become under military rule or a police state.

Many thanks to Morning Dove for her great insight about the importance of the Second Amendment.

Preacher Bill DDD,
SASS #15661
Spokane, WA.

Little Known Fact

In 1861, the population of the North was 22 million people. The population of the South was only 9 million people. 3.5 million of the 9 were slaves.
mild heart attack. At some point between Missoula and their home in Butte, Bob mentioned he was experiencing chest pains, told Becky to keep on driving, and died. The 70-year-old shooting sports superstar was pronounced dead upon arrival at St. James Healthcare in Butte.

Born February 8, 1942 in Kansas City, MO, Bob began his professional shooting career at age 11 in Big Bear Lake, CA. While still in high school, Bob placed 2nd in a competition known as the Leatherslap. After years of competing in Fast Draw, Bob and Becky performed together beginning in 1968, emphasizing the importance of gun safety when they went on tour in 1969 for the National School Assembly Program. Depending on the venue, Bob and Becky continued to perform together shooting blanks or with live ammunition across the United States, in New Zealand, and London, England. As recently as 2011 the Mundens put on their live-ammunition exhibition at locations in California and Kansas.

Over the years Bob, often with Becky, who is also a champion shooter, appeared on many television shows, most famously American Shooter, Ripley’s Believe it or Not, Shooting USA, and Shooting USA’s Impossible Shots. Munden can be found all over YouTube and appears in entertaining and instructional DVDs, including Bob Munden: Outrageous Shooting and Bob Munden: The Collector’s Edition.

At age 68 Munden appeared on Stan Lee’s Superhumans on the History Channel. The episode shows a scientist reporting Mundens’ hand withstands 10 Gs of force when he draws and fires his gun from the holster. Viewers learn that as a comparison, jet pilots are trained to withstand 9 Gs, and Bob is “faster than a rattlesnake.” In a demo during the same show, Munden draws and shoots two balloons six feet apart with two shots that sound virtually like one. Just eight weeks before his death, at the Butte Gun Club range for Midland Radio Corporation, Munden did exhibition shooting with a .45 caliber single action and Colt 1911 semi-automatic pistol. Bob Munden & Midland XTC High Definition Action Camera – YouTube.

Registered as members #118 and #119 respectively, Bob and Becky entertained at the Single Action Shooting Society (SASS) END of TRAIL World Championships of Cowboy Action Shooting™ 30 times with what Becky proudly said was the most complex presentation ever offered at an exhibition shooting show. Bob placed second one year at END of TRAIL. He and Becky received the 1995 Spirit Award and 2006 Entertainer of the Year Wooly Award from SASS. She added, “Bob was Cowboy Action Shooting’s first gunslinger.”

Becky said, “We had an incredible, memorable life together.” She also said of all the inarguably amazing shots Bob achieved during his lifetime of speed shooting, precision shooting, and showmanship with handguns, rifles, and shotguns, including his opening a safety pin, hitting a target 600 yards away, throwing a knife with a bullet, and others all accomplished with handguns and practiced mostly in his imagination rather than at the range, Bob was definite that splitting a playing card he threw into the air was the most difficult.

Bob was inducted into the SASS Hall of Fame in 2008 for his numerous contributions to SASS over 30 years. Bob is survived by his wife Becky, his daughters Natalie and Mitzi; grandson Levi, granddaughter Kaycee, his mother; three brothers and a sister; nieces, nephews, friends, and millions of fans.
A number of years ago, a prairie fire leveled the vegetation on the Custer Battle Field and gave archaeologists an opportunity to systematically search a part of the area for artifacts. When empty cartridge cases were uncovered, they were submitted to a state police laboratory for identification using the latest forensic methods. It was found possible to identify the type of firearm in most cases by matching the peculiar marks left by an extractor, firing pin, or breech face with those of a Springfield, Sharps, Henry, Winchester, or other arm of which an example was available for comparison. Not only was the type of arm identified, but the old soft brass cases retained the markings so well it was possible to sort the cases into groups which had been fired in the same specific rifle. This, of course, makes it possible to estimate the number of each type of weapon used during the battle.

Naturally, many empty cases will never be found, having been washed into the creeks and rivers by erosion or picked up by relic hunters. Also, only a part of the battle area was searched due to restrictions involving funding and unfavorable terrain. The cases that were found were traced to over 200 specific individual breech loading firearms, about 80 of which were cavalry arms. Government issued ammunition that might have been fired in the area of study at a later time could easily be eliminated, as government ammunition was head-stamped with the arsenal and date beginning in 1877.

Now we know about 200 Springfield 1873 “trapdoor” carbines, caliber .45-55, were in the hands of the 210 troops that fought in this area. Empty cases were found that could be traced to 69 specific Springfield carbines. A few of the carbines may have been previously captured and used by the Indians, but only a few, as the Springfield carbine was only recently issued to soldiers in this area. Therefore, it is probably safe to say the number of weapons identifiable by relic cartridge cases was roughly one-third of the number of that type originally on the battlefield.

The number of repeating rifles identified by found cases was 74. They consisted of 62 Henrys, 7 Winchester 1873s, one Evans first model, and 5 Spencers. Taking into consideration two civilians with Custer were reported to have been carrying Henry rifles, there were still more Indian-used repeating rifles identified than trooper carbines. If we use the one-third survival factor derived from the known number of trooper Springfields as described above, we have an estimated 200-plus repeaters originally used against 200 known trooper single shots.

The Indians had many other rifles, of course. The search identified 42 single shot rifles, including 29 Sharps. 27 of the Sharps were .50 caliber, and most were probably .50-70 carbines captured from cavalry troops in previous fights, as the cavalry in this area had been armed with Spencer and Sharps carbines prior to the recent issue of Springfield 1873 “trapdoor” carbines. Many round balls from muzzleloaders were found on the field also, but with no cartridge cases and the poor condition of the lead balls, identifying individual arms was impossible. Bows and arrows were also used in the battle, as many iron arrowheads were found.

It has been claimed when the 1873 carbines became hot from continuous firing, cartridge cases (made of very soft copper at that time) would stick in the chamber and had to be pried out with a knife or other tool. This was undoubtedly true in some instances, but very few fired .45-55 cases were found showing evidence of such prying. The Army claimed later, in defending itself against a hostile press, that the Springfield was chosen for service because it far out-ranged any repeater available at the time. This was definitely true, and small bodies of troops in open country were often able to keep Indian war parties at a respectful distance using this range advantage. Unfortunately, on the rolling Bighorn Battlefield, this advantage did not exist; the Indians were easily able to stay within the shorter range of their own available weapons. And if not, there were enough Sharps rifles in their hands to match the range of the troopers’ carbines.

Some pistol brass was found, and 12 Colt 1873 .45 caliber revolvers were identified, as were 10 various types of Indian handguns. As the pistol was a last-ditch close range arm, and difficult to reload in that kind of...
Gun Control . . .
(Continued from page 6)
My blood ran cold when I saw an article in the December American Rifleman featuring the Mossberg 464 SPX. This is a 30-30 caliber lever action carbine. It satisfies ALL the requirements to be a SASS-legal long gun for Long Range competition. It has black plastic parts, adjustable stock, and rails where any number of “accessories” can be attached. To the uninstructed, this is as much an assault rifle as the hated semi-automatic rifles! If anyone thinks this battle is not going to spill-over into Cowboy Action and Wild Bunch™, your head is still in the sand!

Right now the Internet is full of messages, letters, and videos decrying more repressive gun laws that do nothing except attempt to turn honest, law-abiding citizens into felons. Taking firearms away from older citizens and minorities prevents both groups from defending themselves against criminals who would prey upon them. Removing guns from the general law-abiding society certainly makes everyone vulnerable to thugs and thieves . . . and destroys any gun games presently played by sportmen, including SASS cowboys.

One Internet video defined “assault weapon” as a fully automatic rifle—a machine gun. Cosmetics have nothing to do with it. Sitting alone on a shelf, it’s tough to make a distinction between an “assault weapon” and a “sporting rifle.” Made sense to me. The video also made the point—assault rifles (machine guns) are already illegal (or at least they require a special permit.) It obviously doesn’t do any good to make them “doubly” illegal. And, I’m not sure how many, if any, instances we’ve had where fully automatic guns have been used in these unfortunate shootings.

What about large capacity magazines? First of all . . . what’s “large”? New York says more than seven rounds! Others say 10 rounds. “Nobody really needs a 30-round magazine!” If banning 30 round magazines really did make a difference, I’d vote for it. However, I’ve seen convincing videos of timed shooting where 20 rounds are loaded into a 30-round magazine and 10 rounds are loaded into each of two 30-round magazines—the difference in overall time for the two 20-round test runs was less than a second. I think of our Wild Bunch™ competitors where we only load five rounds in each magazine. Even I can go through 30 rounds (six magazines) in less than five seconds additional time over shooting 30 rounds in a single 1911 magazine! Yes, we practice magazine changes, but limiting magazines to 30 rounds doesn’t stop the carnage.

Do I want “crazy” people to have guns? No. Do I want gang members to have guns? No. Do I want felons to have guns? No. Concealed carry permit holders have a clean background, they’re trained and know how to use their firearms, and they know when to use those firearms. They know it’s inappropriate to shoot people, short of defending yourself and/or your family. They know in many cases one does not have to “back away” from a confrontation . . . but they also know it’s a good idea to do so if at all possible, and expensive trying to prove you were in the right if you don’t. Clearly it’s “OK” for some folks to have guns. Maybe if everyone had a concealed carry license . . .

It was shameful this evening watching the President parade little children in front of the TV cameras and publicly challenge senators—which would you rather do, vote in accordance with what the NRA demands . . . or give the parents of these children some peace of mind?” He mispoke—what he should have said was which would you rather do, kowtow to the NRA or pass knee jerk legislation that has little to no meaning in terms of stopping violence in the schools. I’m afraid it’s simply a political maneuver to eventually outlaw all guns for everyone in America.

So to recap—the Government wants to outlaw “assault” weapons (machine guns)—oh, wait, they’re already illegal. We could outlaw all “black” guns and high capacity magazines—oh, wait, there’s really no difference between the civilian black guns and sporting firearms, and magazine capacity has little to do with how much damage a determined gunman can do. We could make it illegal for unstable folks to possess firearms—oh, wait, that’s already illegal. We could make it illegal for criminals and felons to possess firearms—oh, wait, that’s also already illegal. But, we MUST do something . . . until someone can find a better solution, we COULD do a much better job enforcing the laws already on the books, and a much better job filtering out the folks who simply should not possess firearms. The rub, of course comes when the filtering out becomes too extreme and arbitrary. In California, for example, when I lived there it was possible to get a concealed carry permit . . . but VERY difficult to do so. The sheriff had to be convinced you had a good reason to have a concealed firearm, and unless you were a crony, you probably weren’t going to qualify.

SASS is joining with other gun-related industry and shooting organizations to develop an industry-wide approach to dealing with the current political turmoil. More will be reported as the plans come together. In the meantime, each and every one of our SASS members should write a short letter to all their state and federal representatives and senators urging them to refrain from passing any more ineffective, restrictive legislation, and look for real solutions to our nation’s troubles. We DO need to do something, and it needs to be even handed, fair, and effective. Otherwise, in my opinion, this is just another thinly disguised attempt to take our guns away.

Was Custer Really Outgunned? . . .
(Continued from previous page)
fight, it is doubtful the number of pistols used can be derived from empty cases. Most of the fired cases were probably still in the chambers of the pistols at battle’s end.

To answer the title question as to whether Custer’s troops were outgunned, I think one would have to say yes, definitely. Just using the number of the separate rifles identified by battlefield cartridges found, there were as many Indian repeating rifles in use as the troopers had single shots. Since a combatant with a repeating could get off at least three shots for every one a trooper could fire, the troopers would be at a tremendous disadvantage even if the numbers of combatants were equal. Since it is pretty well agreed several thousand Indians were involved, there must have been hoards of others with single shots, muzzle loaders, and arrows, in addition to those with repeaters, pecking away at the 210 cavalrymen.

The information used above was gleaned from the book Archaeology, History, and Custer’s Last Battle by Richard Allan Fox, Jr. The book goes much further, tracking the movement of individual weapons across the studied area by the locations of empty cases fired by each, and thus attempting to determine the tactics and movement employed by each side, and the subsequent breakdown of cavalry organization and defense. I find the conclusions thus drawn a bit “iffy,” as there were probably other factors in play we cannot determine on the basis of artifact finds alone. It seems obvious, however, the withering fire of so many repeating rifles against an equal number of single shots must have had an overwhelming effect on the defenders.

An abbreviated list of the arms forensically identified is set forth below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number Found</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colt Model 1873 (pistol)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springfield 1873 Carbine</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Rifle</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winchester 1873</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spencer</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evans</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharps</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springfield .50 caliber</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballard</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maynard</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starr .54 caliber</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enfield .577 Mus Ldr</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown Breaching rifles</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc. Indian-used revolvers</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Rebel starring Nick Adams, with 76 half-hour episodes in black and white, ran originally on ABC from 1959 to 1961. The program was produced by Goodson-Todman Productions, making it one of their few non-game show ventures.

The series is about the adventures of young Confederate Army veteran Johnny Yuma. Haunted by his memories of the war, Yuma, in search of inner peace, roams the American West, specifically the Texas Hill Country and the South Texas Plains. Yuma keeps a journal of his adventures and fights injustice where he finds it with the help of a double-barreled shotgun having a sawed-off stock and barrel.

Nick Adams was the star and sole regular actor of this series. He was also involved in the show’s design, inception, and writing, along with producer Andrew J. Fenady. The only other recurring character was Elmer Dodson (played by John Carradine), the newspaper editor in Johnny Yuma’s hometown.

The first episode, Johnny Yuma, is set in early 1867. It shows Johnny Yuma returning to his hometown, the fictional Mason City, Texas, two years after the war ended. His father, Ned Yuma, was the town sheriff. The town editor, Elmer Dodson, encourages Johnny to keep up his journal as he travels.

The show’s theme song, “The Ballad of Johnny Yuma,” was composed by Richard Markowitz, with lyrics by Andrew J. Fenady. It was recorded for the original broadcasts by Johnny Cash, but it was not released as a single until April 1961, shortly before the show went off the air in June.

After the show’s original broadcast run on ABC finished in June 1961, it was picked up by NBC and rerun as a summer replacement series from June to September 1962.

I’ll be turning the rotary TV channel selector dial now. Stay tuned.

References: Wikipedia, TV.com, Wikimedia Commons

By Wolverine Wrangler, SASS #22963

Wolverine Wrangler, SASS #22963
I grew up in Montgomery County, Indiana. As a kid I spent my days outside working on the farm before, and after, school and, of course, all summer long. Father/son time was usually spent watching John Wayne and Clint Eastwood westerns. My dad would always call my older brother and me “pardner.” We had three channels like everyone else. However, we had a fourth that was independent out of Indianapolis. They played westerns on Saturdays. They also had a show with a character called Cowboy Bob. I had a wonderful childhood, and I miss Indiana very much.

Upon graduating high school I joined the U.S. Air Force and the rest is history so to speak. After twenty years active duty and two wars later, I finally retired in 2010. I ended up in Delaware on the east coast. During my military career I would call home often and speak to my folks. Dad always came on the phone and said, “Hi Pardner.” I can’t think of a time my dad and I didn’t speak about a western or western character. He grew up watching Hopalong Cassidy and Roy Rogers. Since my wife got me into antiquing we started finding all kinds of old “Hoppy” items at antiques shows. Every birthday, holiday, and any other time I felt like it, I would give him something with Hoppy on it, and he would be grinning like a kid. I think Midwest values very much echo cowboy values, and that’s why my dad shared his love of cowboys and the Old West with me, and I will always be grateful for that. He raised me right, and I’m proud to be his son.

One of my military assignments was in San Angelo, Texas. This is when I became interested in Cowboy Action Shooting™. It was the perfect environment. When folks think of cowboys and the Old West, all you have to do is look out your window in West Texas. So I started volunteering at Fort Concho National Historic Landmark. I had a great time shooting their original Springfield trapdoors and firing the three-inch ordnance rifle. They also have a Coehorn mortar, which is a “blast” to shoot! So it was here I joined SASS and began assembling my guns and gear. I thought back to my home state of Indiana when it was time to choose my alias. General Lewis “Lew” Wallace is also from Montgomery County, and played a part in Old West history. So I had my alias. Being a military man, I thought it was apropos to take on a military alias. More on Lew in a future article. I went to a few matches with the Butterfield Trail Regulators in Abilene and had a great time. Soon though, I had orders to move to a new assignment. I became quite busy with deployments and simply stopped shooting. I traded/sold away my guns and gear.

This past May I lost my dad. My wife and I had plenty of time to talk while we were driving back to Indiana. I spoke about my thoughts on getting back into Cowboy Action Shooting™, and you know what she said? “Go for it.” I told her now that I was retired and into my second career I would have more time to enjoy it because no more deployments etc. that come with military life. So we stopped at a gun shop on the way home, and I found a new lever gun. She was waiting in the truck while I shopped. I texted her I found a gun, was doing the paperwork, and would be out shortly. She replied, “only one?” I’m a lucky man! So now I am assembling new guns and gear and have everything I need except a pair of six guns that are on order. I think it’s a wonderful feeling to enjoy a truly American hobby, remember my dad with fond memories, and share something we both loved. This is why I got back into Cowboy Action Shooting™. I miss you, Pardner.
How to Put on a Great State Match

By R.J. Law – Captain, Wolverine Rangers
SASS Life Member #15466
Territorial Governor

Deuce Stevens and I have been primarily in charge of running the SASS Michigan State Championship of Cowboy Action Shooting™ (also known as The Wolverine Rangers’ Range War) for the last six years, and I thought I would pass on some of my thoughts to SASS clubs/members of what we think is important for their consideration.

Anyway, here goes:

1. Define Your Objective –
   This is always a good place to start. You need to decide what goal(s) you want to accomplish with the shoot.

   Our goal is for our shooters to have a good time and want to come back.

   Our goal is for our shooters to have a good time and want to come back.

   This is always a good place to start.

2. Park Your Ego At The Door –
   Having a good Cowboy Action Shooting™ State Match is not about an ego or power trip for the people running the shoot. It is a bad sign if it appears as though being Match Director is one of your shooter’s life ambitions. Someone who gives a lot of thought on whether to accept is probably better than one who pleads for the job. We have a lot of strong personalities in this sport and no one likes to be lorded over.

   It also takes a lot of volunteer help to run a big match. It is much easier to get help if the people running the match know how to work with others. Be positive and encouraging with the people helping out.

   Also, it is important to delegate and trust others to make good decisions. If you have someone responsible for one facet of the match, let them do their job without micromanaging. The people running the match should get their satisfaction from putting on the best match they can under the circumstances, not from being the boss.

3. Pick The Best Match Director Available –
   We have a successful state match because we have one of the best match directors (I think “the” best) in the country in Deuce Stevens. The Match Director should be the one designing the stages and shooting scenarios. It is not a good idea to do this by committee. For our State Match, Deuce designs all of the stages and shooting scenarios (with the help of his wife K.J. Stevens). I may proofread them and make suggestions for clarity, but I don’t make any changes. Our experience is that one person having the responsibility for designing stages is best. Otherwise, you will have people with their own agendas trying to influence the Match Director. Most people like to try to please others. If the Match Director is trying to please too many people, it is almost impossible to have any consistency in the match. If the Match Director falls on his face, get a different Match Director for the next year.

   The Match Director should be an experienced shooter preferably with vast experience in shooting around the country. Keep in mind that plagiarism is good. If the Match Director likes a stage or scenario that he (or she) shot at another good match, he or she should feel free to copy. Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. I have never heard someone complain that one match director copied one of his or her ideas. Also, try to keep the stages and shooting scenarios fresh each year. No one wants to shoot the same stages or shooting sequences each year.

4. Make It Easy For Shooters To Register –
   This year we went to on-line registration with the option to pay via Pay Pal. This allows shooters to register and pay on-line without using snail mail. There is a little bit of cost for this, but we had good responses from our shooters. The on-line registration was in part a function of the old saying “Necessity is the Mother of Invention.” My daughter Emily (Cosmopolitan Christine) handles all of the registration and she has a one-year old son, Jacob. Due to the fact that she works and also has her hands full with Jacob, the circumstances were ripe for some more efficiency in our registration for Range War. She cam up with the idea of the on-line registration with payment via Pay Pal and implemented it in short order. On-line registration saves significant administrative labor and it made her job much easier. It was a win-win because our shooters also like it.

   We also post the entire Shooter’s Handbook on our website (www.wolverinerangers.org) about 2 weeks before the Match, including the shooting scenarios for each of the Main Match Stages. Anyone can download and print our entire Shooter’s Handbook if they want to and to bring it to Range War. We took a little bit of flack for posting our stages when we started this a few years ago, but our shooters like it. In fact, if Deuce is late in posting the stages, he will usually hear about it from our shooters. We know that some of the local clubs in Michigan use some of the Main Match scenarios in their local shoot the weekend before Range War. We don’t mind this one bit. It increases attendance for our member clubs in Michigan and helps to promote our shoot. We also have had some comments from some shooters who were on the fence about coming to our match. When they saw our stages, they decided to come. Posting our stages also helps to reduce some of the anxiety for some of the less experienced shooters in coming to a big match. (Again, it is the average shooters who pay the bills.)

   Let’s face it, this is not rocket science...
many SASS shooters use progressive reloading machines with case feeders. Sooner or later everyone has something that goes wrong and often this requires detaching the case feeder tube so you can clear the machine of brass and fix the problem. (Have you ever jammed a .32 Mag case onto a .38 de-capping spindle or had a nested case jam up the works?) If your brass length is such that the cases span the gap between the feeder and the feed tube getting out, the tube can be a problem. Photo 1. A quick solution is to cut a small slot in the feed tube.

Photo 2. Then you can insert a punch or some other small pointed rod and lift the case rim above the joint between the tube and the case feeder and easily remove the feed tube. Photo 3.
This isn’t so much a story about a party as it is a story of a business survival and revival after extreme difficulties and the success of an obsession with a lost art and producing quality products in a world of cheap factory made goods.

At an early SASS Convention D Bar J Hat Company was offering tours of their shop, showing us how hats are made. I met David Johnson then. It was a small shop up front, but in the back David had a collection of what I would call antique hat making machines, which he demonstrated expertly.

He came to the hat business from, of all things, Western Dance competition. To keep his hats looking good, he learned how to maintain them. Other competitors noticed and began asking him to restore their hats. He began restoring hats in his mother’s garage in Las Vegas in 1988.

As interest and demand for his hat restorations increased, he began researching how to make cowboy hats. While researching the hat process, David discovered the equipment from an entire hat making company in New York was for sale. Michael Santa Lucia began working in “True Hatters” hat shop in 1903 and bought the shop in 1909. Some of the equipment that came with the shop dated back to the Civil War.

When Mr. Santa Lucia died in 1973 his family placed the entire contents of the hat shop into storage. It was still there when David bought it in 1988 under the condition it all be kept together. He kept that promise very well, painfully restoring the historic hat making equipment to its original state or better.

It did not take D Bar J long to outgrow David’s mother’s garage. It moved into a storefront location on Spring Mountain in Las Vegas in 1989. The Clark County Museums listed D Bar J as a historical site. David proudly gave tours to his shop displaying his 1880s equipment.

**Rare Equipment**

Hat making equipment is rare. When Stetson dominated the hat making business, they bought other hat makers and destroyed their machinery. Without machines, the thinking was, you can’t make hats. Thus, the equipment...
couldn’t find its way to new competition. Then in World War II a lot of historically important items were melted down in scrap drives, including a number of hat making machines. Many blocks became firewood, and a few years ago it was discovered Stetson didn’t have any blocks for their original hat, the Boss of the Plains. David told me he hasn’t been able to buy any blocks for their original hat, was discovered Stetson didn’t have any more. Some simply weren’t designed to be used forever. One of the popular head measuring devices, a very complex and fairly delicate item, came with instructions to send it back to the factory every few years to have it rebuilt and readjusted.

Near Failure
In 2005 David’s health began to deteriorate, and he was forced to close down the store. During this time while David was sick, an employee began taking money for hat orders while never making the hats and keeping no records that the orders ever came in. Needless to say, this damaged D Bar J’s reputation and took a long time to repair. David’s health became so bad he tried to sell D Bar J and get his affairs in order. It was reported in one of the Western Chronicles that David had died. Still, he continued to make hats when his health would allow. It turned out he had been misdiagnosed and treated for the wrong illness. Once the correct diagnosis was made and treated, David recovered. He made amends with the customers who had been cheated, which was difficult since there were no records.

A couple of years back I visited D Bar J. The hat making facility was in a converted three-car garage, and all sales were phone, Internet, and mail—no retail facility. SASS was always a big part of D Bar J’s business. They sold a lot of hats at the SASS Convention and major SASS matches, where they are a popular vendor. Over the years D Bar J has made hats for the Smithsonian, Charlie Daniels, Ben Johnson, Clint Black, and Tony Curtis to name a few. At one time David was the only person licensed in the country to recreate Roy Rogers’ signature hat. It was a D Bar J Roy Rogers hat on the head of the Roy Rogers mannequin in his museum. D Bar J hats were chosen and worn by the greeters at the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics in 2002.

Retail Rebirth
In October 2012 D Bar J opened their new 6500 sq. ft. facility with a spectacular grand opening party. The facility is pretty spectacular, too, far larger than needed just for making hats, with a large banquet/party room and an upstairs dance floor. The fact Western Dancing is what got David into hat making and the fact he and his wife, Janet, really enjoy it and are really good at it should be noted when you say, “Dance floor? At a hat shop?” If you saw them dancing at a SASS Convention, you know they are good, and to be that good, they need a place to practice. You would like to have a Cowboy Action Shooting™ range in your back yard to practice, right? This is the same thing, but for Western Dancing.

The decorations also included a couple of very large aquariums stocked with exotic fish. This has nothing to do with hats, but soon it will. David has commissioned a huge 500 gallon aquarium shaped like a top hat to be made by the folks who do the Tanked TV show. It wasn’t ready in time for the Grand Opening.

The party attracted several SASS people, including Bob and Sherrie Mernickle. Old Western clothing was prevalent. So was 1930s “Mob Wear.” The security staff wore ’30s suits and fedoras. D Bar J makes fedoras, of course, and Revolutionary War hats, Old West hats, derbies, top hats, and modern hats, all from fur felt, no wool, and no straw. It also attracted Las Vegas Mayor Carolyn Goodman and County Commissioner Mary Beth Scow, not to mention Bill Clinton. Okay, it was a Bill Clinton impersonator. It is Las Vegas, after all. The list of entertainers was long and distinguished. Among the visitors was Mark Hall-Patton, administrator of the Clark County Museum, known to millions because he appears on the History Channel’s Pawn Stars. He wears pretty impressive looking hats himself.

And what did David do to entertain? He shaped a hat, of course.

Preserving a dying art
You knew at a glance that it was hats that made the place that makes hats. The walls were covered in hats, hat making machinery, and blocks for hundreds of different styles of hats and brims. Aside from David’s enthusiasm and skill for making hats, these machines and blocks make it possible. The 9” crown sombrero I wear couldn’t be made without the correct block (and a really big hat body). David can make a hat from a photograph of the desired style, as he has done for me. As time goes by, fewer and fewer people will be able to make hats. Barring an unlikely resurgence in the popularity of western hats, eventually the only place you’ll see a Boss of the Plains, a Montana Peak, or a fedora will be in old movies and in museums. D Bar J is a bastion in the last line of defense against a world of ball caps, t-shirts, and yoga pants as dress wear. Vendors like these make SASS what it is. After all, SASS is the only shooting sport with a dress code.

D Bar J Hat Company
5960 Topaz St.
Las Vegas, NV 89120
(702) 430-0681
www.dbarjhat.com,
email: dbarj hats@yahoo.com
Un carts are an essential part of Cowboy Action Shooting™. If you have been involved in this game for a while and are handy with tools you are probably already on your second or third cart. In our sport, gun carts are as varied as our outfits. After sizing up what was used at our local club, my first cart had a similar look, had two wheels, and was made out of red oak. It looked great but was so heavy it took two men and a boy to place it in my vehicle. A while later my golf cart was converted into a gun cart for my first out of state shoot. It worked, but didn’t have any bells or whistles. The third cart was to be the cart to end all carts. It was made out of red cedar. This offered both lightweight and great appearance. There was room for five long guns, two good-sized storage boxes on the back, and room for an ammo box on the front. The cart had four wheels for stability, an umbrella stand, and also folded down for transporting. The ultimate team gun cart, and I really thought it would be the last one I would ever need.

After heading south for the winter a couple years in a row, and finding out when packing bigger is not always better, I spotted a sleek, narrow, streamlined gun cart at one of the shoots I attended. It had room for two long guns, a long narrow tray extended out the front bottom for ammo, ear plugs, etc., utilized two wheels and folded up for travel. Sizing it up I was impressed with the concept, but for me, it needed a few extras. If it were a couple inches wider, three long guns would fit nicely—a rifle, double barrel, and ’97. The open tray out the front could be a little higher and incorporate a lightweight hinged cover to keep the sun and rain out. An umbrella rack would also be good. And I like the concept of four wheels, but after my experience with four fixed wheels on the last cart, I thought maybe caster wheels on the front would be better. A couple boxes for storage would be good for stowing earplugs, Balistol, tools, etc. A parking brake would be good when sitting on an incline. So, let the designing begin for the “Traveling Gun Cart.”

One of my old drafting instructors would always say, “It is always easier to change it on paper.” That is very true. You can change your mind, erase, redraw, or totally change the plan on paper a lot easier than you can build a cart and then remake it into what you really want. Using graph paper with 1/4 inch squares, you can sketch your ideas on paper and keep remaking it until it appears to be a working design. It says in Proverbs 15:22 RSV, “Without counsel, plans go wrong, but with many advisors they succeed.” So ask questions. But even so, with a prototype it has been my experience that a few revisions may be needed when finished.

White cedar was the wood of choice. It is fairly strong, long lasting, and readily available in our neck of the woods. Red cedar or pine would also work well. I used about six one-inch rough sawn boards. When using rough sawn boards, it is a good idea to get a couple extra, as after they are planed, usually there are knots and other defects with which to contend.

By Cree Vicar Dave, SASS Life #49907

Traveling gun cart. I made another box for the front of the tray because more equipment is needed when I shoot Frontiersman Category.
PARTS
6 – 1” x 6” x 8” boards planed to ¾-inch thick
2 – 8” x 1-5/8” wheels with ½-inch center holes. I found the 1/2” holes were plastic and had no

Oak is used on the bottom/back of the gun rack for extra strength. Holes are placed in it for the thumbscrews.

My first two gun carts. On the right is the 1st one, a two-wheeler made out of red oak and weighing in at HEAVY!!! I ended up drilling a series of holes in the sides. That helped a little. The second, on the left, was made out of a golf cart. It held two long guns, had a plastic fishing box screwed onto the top for storage, and a small military ammo box was strapped to the front. It worked kind of well on my first out of state shoot a few years back. We took a compact car instead of the pickup. The cart is very light, folds up to fit in a small trunk, but leaves a lot to be desired.

bearing or bushing, so I enlarged the holes and installed brass bushings to prolong wheel life.
2 – 3-1/2” high caster wheels.
1 – 1/2” x 2” threaded rod.
4 – 1/2” flat washers for each side of the wheels.
2 – 1/2” nylon insert narlock lock nuts.
2 – 3” x around 1-3/4” Carriage bolts for the cart hinge point pins.
1/2” copper tubing or some type of plastic tubing can be used for bushings to keep the 3/8” hinge pin bolts from wearing into the wood.
2 – 3/8” lock nuts for the carriage bolts.
4 – 3/8” Flat washers, two on each side between the upright gun rack and bottom tray, for spacers. There needs to be around 3/16” clearance between the tray and the gun rack so it will fold up and down without binding.

2 – 5/16” x 1-1/2” long thumb screws.
4 – 5/16” Flush hidden nuts, two used in the inside back of the tray to hold the gun rack upright and two used, one on each side of the tray toward the front, to hold the gun rack down horizontal for travel.
1 – 0.032” thick or a little more by around 13”x24” aluminum or other metal cut and bent to fit. I cut it around 2” longer then needed both ways, snipped the corners on a 45° angle, then bent the extra under to give the metal added strength. Then it was bent on the lone centerline to fit the top roof pitch.
1 – piano hinge 1-1/2”x48”. This is used for the tray cover and the two storage boxes on the back.
1 – 5/16” x 12” galvanized rod for the parking break. It is bent 90° around 2” from one end and held in place with clips. It’s used to extend through holes in back bottom of tray and wheel for a parking break. The hole in the plastic wheel was reinforced by bolting a washer on each side of it.
1 – 1” x 6” x 13” or so oak board (for the bottom back plate of the upright gun rack.)

Various screws, bolts, washers, nuts, deerskins, dead bolt, small hinges, etc.

CONSTRUCTION
Instead of being a detailed instruction article, this is rather a show and tell. Provided are detailed “tape measure on cart” photos to show what the sizes are. They say a picture is worth a thousand words, and if that would be the case, it would be a good sized book before finished. If interested, many cowpokes would probably change some dimensions to fit their needs anyway. I would suggest that the rear axle holding the two fixed wheels be placed as

(Continued on page 26)
Traveling Gun Cart . . .

(Continued from page 25)

far back on the bottom of the cart as possible for stability. Also, if I were to make another one, I would use larger caster wheels on the front. The ones I have work well on hard surfaces and grass, but tend to give problems on gravel. Larger wheels could then be used for the back or the 8” ones could be used by extending the threaded rod axle down from the cart bottom to match the height of the higher casters. Look for an old lawn mower sitting around as it might be useful. Most have 8” to 12” plastic wheels on the back. If you have trouble reading the tape measure in the photos, check out our club’s website, www.suckercreek.org, this article should be posted by now under “Articles by Cree Vicar Dave.”

One critical measurement is the hinge point to allow the vertical rack of the cart to fold down level with the horizontal tray on the bottom. I used a couple pieces of thin cardboard cut actual size to find the pivot point that would accommodate folding the vertical gun rack down to horizontal. The bottom of the rack will probably have to be trimmed to accommodate missing the 1/2” threaded rod axle. The gun rack is held upright with two 5/16” x 1-1/2” thumb screws tightened through the oak gun rack bottom back plate into the back of the tray. When folded down level, the same screws hold the rack secure for travel by tightening the same screws through the forward front of the folded-down gun rack into each side of the front of the tray. The tray cover is around 1” higher at the front and back center. If the hinge point is located properly the top of the gun rack (or the long gun gate) will also hold the
metal cover closed when folded down by touching the center of the cover.

Deerskin was used on the top of the gun rack to help protect the barrels and also where the butts set. The skin is held in place with DAP acrylic silicone clear caulk used as glue. Guns are held in place with a gate made of cedar, deerskin lined. The gate has a hinge on one end and a dead bolt on the other. The handle is set back to allow for long gun muzzle clearance and can be made to swing forward for travel. The bottom of the tray can be made of 1/2" plywood or a glue up of the wood used on the cart. A rabbit cut was made on the bottom of the tray, and the bottom was cut and glued in place. Weeper holes around 3/16" were placed in bottom corners of tray and long gun butt stop. The galvanized rod was bent and installed to correspond with holes in lower backside of bottom tray and in back wheel. The rod is held in place with small clips. This rod is moved out into the wheel for parking.

The plastic wheel hole is reinforced by using two small bolts/nuts to hold a washer on each side of the wheel hole. To set the brake the rod is lifted up over a stop and pushed out through the hole into the wheel. Finish it up to individual taste. I used a light stain and exterior varnish. But if I had a do over, I would use a natural stain and exterior varnish. I think this is the best gun cart yet, but wait, I’m going on another shooting excursion soon and who knows what I might find along the way?!

The point of this article is not a “how to guide,” but to plant an idea in your mind of what could be done, and have you improve on it. I truly enjoy seeing all the unique Cowboy Action items at the many clubs I attend. One of my goals is to stir your imagination by relating to you what I have encountered in our travels while inspiring, enhancing, and promoting such a great God and Country sport as we have.

Remember to wear all safety equipment needed and follow all tool safety instruction when working on projects and playing with them.

creevicardave@hotmail.com
www.suckercreek.org
Photos by:
Indian Paintbrush
The Vicar’s Wife
Cree Vicar Dave Jr.
Founders Ranch, NM – Traveling across vast waste lands … gentle winds blowing across my horse with two mates, alongside partners I would ride the river with any day… we arrive at the legend in the making ... the famous “Outlaw Trail.” We had a great time participating in the warm up match on Friday, along with Gettysburg Cowboy!! Ivana Huginkiss (a long lost niece) and her daughter, Justa Huginkiss, who is a new Buckerette … got their new membership forms to join SASS and actually attended and participated in their first ever SASS Mounted Match (with a little “encouragement” from us)! And, they must have made great impressions because by Sunday they were sporting their new badges!! Justa Huginkiss had a new trophy concho to wear for winning the Buckerette class!! Winning the Buckaroo class was TR Twister, following in Mom, Firefox’s, tracks of riding hard and shootin’ straight.

Painted Lady always picks the most challenging courses ... and Stuttering Wayne keeps the arena in tiptop shape. Icelady runs the match with ease and grace and makes the match more fun than you can shake a stick at. Gundog Bob and Gettysburg Cowboy were keeping us safe and sound as Rangemasters. Firefox was a hoot!! She was riding youngsters all weekend and did a
fantastic job with all of them. Then Sunset Kit Karson showed off with a flying diamount by the gate … but he landed safely! We gave him a perfect score!! Icelady and Stuttering Wayne not only wrangled the match, but both shot it clean as well and earned the coveted “white buffalo” pin!

Half Cocked Cayuse was duking it out for the top spot with Gundog Bob, and Aneeda and I were neck ‘n neck for a while in our Division. Aneeda and Half Cocked Cayuse finally prevailed and took their Divisions and the Overall!!

Out on the Outlaw Trail you never know what danger is lurking … especially in the Extreme Team Stage!!

(Painted Lady has a great imagination, and she sure used it for this stage!) There were downed trees and snakes in the grass, as well as bridges to cross … dead men laying around and mean men trying to take the money bags right off your saddle! But everyone survived and had a great time. First in the Extreme Team Stage went to Wild Kat Karson and Aneeda Huginkiss with second going to Ivana Huginkiss and her daughter Justa Huginkiss!

We even had a special guest from Magdalena, New Mexico try out the sport of Mounted Shooting, doing a couple of “time only’s” … and darned if he wasn’t hooked … so we signed him up! (We think his handle will be the Zia Kid, if it’s available).

So every good thing you hear about the Buffalo Range Riders and the famous “Outlaw Trail” is true … we wouldn’t lie to you, and we will keep coming back again and again and again. Hope to see YOU on the “Outlaw Trail”!!

 Outstanding! 

Winners

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Stuttering Wayne is seen here negotiating one of the Extreme Stage obstacles. There are the stages that set SASS Mounted Shooting apart from the other Mounted Shooting sports!
In early 1873, there was still plenty of the “Wild West” to be played out on the broad Texas stage. Though neither Colonel Colt’s iconic Single Action Army pistol nor Oliver Winchester’s 1873 rifle had yet made their appearance, the bloody decades of war with the Comanches was still not finished, and some of the West’s most psychopathic killers were in mid-career, some just beginning. The Texas Rangers were well into creating their historic legacy.

There was also a well-established opera and ball season in the state capitol of Austin, with a thoroughly Victorianized society, complete with clearly defined social strata, even in nearby Hempstead, frequently referred to as “Six-shooter Junction.”

Fashionable ladies dressed in the latest Eastern fashions. Men of means had formal outfits, complete with top hat and cane in their wardrobes. The lower classes were appropriately snubbed and excluded from the doings of polite society.

So it was with some reservation that they viewed the newest owners of the Liendo Plantation near Hempstead. They were different – very different.

First to arrive was a strikingly beautiful woman with fiery red hair, a thick German accent, and clothing that was far short of fashionable: flowing Grecian robes, sometimes white trousers, high-topped riding boots, and a frock coat. Her name was Elizabet Ney and she insisted on being called “Miss Ney.” She was arrogant and short tempered; she argued with shopkeepers, came and went as she pleased. She rode her horse astride like a man. She claimed to be an artist. Everything about her was offensive.

Eventually, she was joined by a tall Scotsman who called himself Dr. Edmund Duncan Montgomery, whom Ney referred to as “her best friend.” There were also two young boys, one, an infant tended to by a uniformed maid, also a foreigner. Everyone just knew the children were illegitimate and the “family” was living in sin.

In fact, Ney and Montgomery were indeed married and the children were indeed legitimate. They had met and married in Europe, two like-minded romantics who loved each other deeply. And, Ney was indeed an artist, a sculptor of some fame in Europe, and a pedigree nearing aristocracy, she was a niece of French Field Marshal Michel Ney of Napoleonic Wars fame. She had completed a long series of commissions to sculpt busts of prominent European rulers and military leaders, including Bismarck, Garibaldi, Wagner, King George V of Hanover, and Ludwig II of Bavaria, among others. The lady was who she said she was.

She was also one of the original “free spirits” of 19th Century womanhood. She viewed marriage as a form of slavery of women. She kept her own name and preferred to be seen as independent of the restraints of her marital status. She and the doctor had married under the condition that marriage would not hinder her artistic freedom. They had come to Georgia at the invitation of fellow artists in a failed attempt to settle an artists’ colony. They had moved on to Texas for her husband’s health and because of the large German population that had settled there.

Dr. Montgomery (Continued on next page)
Women of the West (Elizabet Ney) . . .

(Continued from previous page)

busied himself with some sort of abstract medical research, while Ney managed the business of the plantation. She made no effort to cultivate the good will of the ladies in town; indeed, she treated them with disdain and refused to meet with a delegation that came to see her.

Feelings were intensified when the older child, Arthur, suddenly died. There was no public memorial or funeral, and stories were rife about what had happened to the body. The Klu Klux Klan decided to get involved and planned a raid on the family’s home to set things straight, a situation of which Ney and Montgomery, isolated as they were, were totally unaware. Their attorneys, however, knew what had happened and managed to calm the Klan with the truth: Arthur had died of highly contagious diphtheria and his grieving parents had indeed burned his body to prevent the spread of the disease. The physician father had dismembered the boy’s body and performed the awful task in the fireplace in the parlor. They placed the ashes in an urn, which remained on the fireplace mantle until Montgomery’s death. Elizabet had made a death mask of the boy and kept it close to her the rest of her life. With that news, the town calmed down, the Klan put away their wretched sheets, and life returned to normal.

Despite her dedication to the plantation, Ney eventually resigned to failure, as demand for crops fell and transportation costs became prohibitive. So, she turned to her art in a fortuitous meeting with Oren Milo Roberts when he was a candidate for Governor of Texas. Roberts was intent on raising the cultural level of his raw-boned state, and his first act as governor was to commission a bust of himself by Miss Ney. Her future was cast, as the bust received enthusiastic critical review, and her eccentricity now stood her in good stead as a recognized artist. She quickly received a momentous commission to sculpt life-sized statues of Texas heroes, Sam Houston and Stephen Austin, for display at the Chicago Columbian World Exposition in 1893.

Ney moved to Austin, leaving Montgomery to manage the plantation, and built an art studio, named “Fornos,” to carry out her work. The statues received wild praise in the Exposition, and they were subsequently placed in the Texas state capitol. Copies of the originals may now be seen in the national Capitol Hall of Statues in Washington, D. C.

Now eagerly welcomed into Austin’s high society, Ney’s unconventional behavior endeared her to those who formerly shunned her. With friends in high places, she never lacked for commissions, including busts of Confederate General Albert Sidney Johnston and William Jennings Bryan. Her fame and fortune grew—as did her continued eccentric behavior. She found time to sculpt a piece for her own pleasure, a statue of Lady MacBeth sleepwalking after murdering King Duncan, considered to be her masterpiece. It is now in the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D. C.

World famous artists streamed to her studio and reveled in the wonderful glow of Ney’s world. She returned to Europe several times and could have resumed her artistic career in Germany, but her heart belonged to Texas now, and she never considered leaving it for long. She died in 1907 and was buried beneath a live-oak tree she and Montgomery had planted long ago. He was buried next to her four years later and Arthur’s ashes were interred with him.

The studio was willed to the University of Texas and is a famous art museum to this day. Ney was credited as the founder of the art movement in Texas, but she is more noted for being the pioneer that she was, setting an example for freedom of expression, nonconformity, and the right of women to make their own choices.

The Liendo Plantation with its grand house remains today as a Texas Historical Site, partly to commemorate its Civil War history and partly as the home of Elizabet Ney. The fireplace where Arthur’s body was cremated is there with the mantle that bore his ashes. And, the house is said to be haunted by numerous ghosts, including Arthur and his very unique mother.

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**2012 SASS Scholarship Recipient**

**Stephenville, TX** – My name is Kate, alias “Katie Hecox,” SASS #51858. I am a proud recipient of the 2009 and 2012 SASS Scholarships. I come from a long line of SASS competitors. My grandfather, Ace Hullum, SASS #15897, was the first to join the Cowboy Action Shooting™ scene back in the mid-1990s. My parents, Instigator, SASS #51856, and Sweet P. Instigator, SASS #51857, joined the crowd about a decade later. I can remember being a little embarrassed when they showed up at some of my junior high sporting events all duded up in their cowboy gear; however, all my friends thought they were cute! I soon followed suit and began shooting with them. At the time, I also had a couple of cousins that shot with us occasionally. In the past couple of years, my brother-in-law, Ragged Earl, SASS #89796, has taken up the sport and, of course, was joined by my sister, Earl’s Pearl, SASS #92319. We are just one big happy shooting family! We began shooting in Eagle Lake, Texas with the Tejas Pistoleros, and now our home club is the Buck Creek Bandoleros located in Nemo, Texas.

I will be applying my SASS funds at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. Many of my family members are also Aggies! My degree is Industrial Distribution in the College of Engineering, and I will graduate in Spring 2013! I plan to work as an area sales representative for a major tool or chemical supply company and stay in the Central Texas area, close to my roots. I have been an Aggie all my life, and graduating from Texas A&M University will be my biggest accomplishment so far. I have worked hard for this degree and receiving my senior ring was one of my proudest moments!

I couldn’t have made it this far without the support of many outstanding individuals and organizations. My family, along with many other great shooters, have inspired me to never give up and always try to be the best I can be in shooting and in life. As part of the Tejas Pistoleros shooting club, Blacky Vela, SASS #33223, took me under his wing and taught me a lot about shooting and how to be a good person. Texas Paladin, SASS #8982, has always been a positive role model and taught me everything I needed to know about gun safety! Paco Bill, SASS #30822, Prudy Perkins, SASS #30842, Scurrilous John, SASS #52554, Lil’ Bingo, SASS #52555, and Medicine Woman of the Long Snows Moon, SASS #9286, all taught me how to work hard for what you believe in, but never neglect to have a good time and laugh a lot. These are just a few of the many people who have blessed my life, and I am who I am today by following the guidance of all these wonderful people as well as many others.

I thank the SASS members for their generous donations that made my Scholarship possible. I am deeply grateful for the opportunities this award will provide me. By reducing my financial burdens, I will be able to concentrate a little more on keeping my GPA up where it needs to be. I haven’t been able to work as much as I should the past few years due to injuries received in a car accident my junior year of high school. I have undergone four surgeries this past year alone to repair my ankle and to be able to walk normally again. But, through it all, I have never given up or lost sight of my goal, and all the wonderful people who support the SASS Scholarship Program have certainly played a big role in helping me achieve that goal! Once again, thank you all for your generosity and investing in my future!
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FOUR GREAT DAYS OF SHOOTING ★ COSTUME CONTESTS ★ OLD WEST VENDORS ★ CHILI COOK OFF
Bozeman, MT – I. C. Poorly, AKA Harlen H. Johnson, passed away at home peacefully with his loving wife of 48 years by his side, on July 9, 2012. Although he had been fighting pancreatic cancer for 20 months, he still participated in several SASS events, and even placed in the top three at some. One of his greatest joys was attending the Matthew Quigley Buffalo Rifle Match in Forsyth, MT with his boys in June 2012. He was born and raised in Washington where he taught High School science classes, and touched many lives through Boy Scouts and missionary work in Guatemala. He became a Chiropractor and practiced in Washington for 15 years, and then he and Sheila moved to Montana and he practiced for another 15 years before retiring. He also taught at the local community college part time, and was very active in Hunter Safety Education through Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks for over 15 years. He was a long time member and supporter of the NRA and was a certified instructor in seven arenas. He was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying hiking, backpacking, fishing, hunting, and photography. He was introduced to Cowboy Action Shooting™ by The Duck in 2000. Having been a life-long fan of John Wayne, he was eager to play “cowboy” and joined SASS immediately. He was an active participant in many SASS events. He was always willing to help, wrote many stages, shot in several states, and placed third in the Canadian National Championship in 2010. I was happy to ride the trail of life with I. C. Poorly for over a decade. Cheerful in all weathers, never shirked a task, splendid behavior—described I. C. He will be missed, but fondly remembered by all that knew him.
founders Ranch, NM – When one is handed lemons ... it’s time to think about making lemon-aid! And, that’s pretty much what happened this Fall when Outlaw Trail was cancelled. Many folks may have been planning to participate in the match, but only a handful had indicated any sort of commitment six-weeks before the event. So, what to do? Sit back and lament the loss ... or put something else in its place. And, putting something else in its place is just what we did!

Years ago, Doc Bones, SASS #158, a past member of the Wild Bunch, invented what he called “Just Shooting!”—a no-frills match with lots of action, lots of shooting (a bunch of stages!), and was definitely not for the faint of heart. You climbed over obstacles, rolled under wagons, shot from awkward positions, and on and on. In the end, all one received was a brisk right on the rump and a pat on the back. I remember it fondly ... and thought, “Why not?”

In today’s environment, we can’t recreate the “manly” stages Doc Bones provided ... but we could still do something unique—New Mexico style!

Founders Ranch has 17 bermed bays. The first eight were to be dedicated to Wild Bunch™ Action Shooting and the last eight bays were allocated to Cowboy Action stages. The big center bay was to be used for team events.

Texas Tiger, one of our top New Mexico lady competitors, stepped forward and volunteered to design the stages. She then volunteered husband, English Lyn, to set them up. (It’s good she did, because he was the only one willing to continue moving the targets until Tiger was happy with the alignment!) In the end, the stages called for virtually every piece of steel on the Ranch! What wasn’t used for Wild Bunch™ or Cowboy Action went on the center stage for the team events. Without a doubt, these were the most targets ever assembled at one time on Founders Ranch!

The plan was simple, shoot Cowboy Action on Saturday—all eight stages and declare the winners. And, for those who had the stamina, to come back on Sunday and shoot eight stages of Wild Bunch. While the days were a little longer than usual (most of our local shooters are used to six-stage Saturdays or Sundays), they were action packed with stages requiring a bit of movement and a bit of thinking. Several of our local stage designers have been working on stage writing with a minimum of instruction regarding shooting positions and gun handling while maximizing the number of options one has for addressing the scenario. As always, there are good ways and not-so-good ways to shoot a stage ... and the shooter’s job was to find a way that seemed comfortable and efficient (at the time).

Scoring for both Wild Bunch and Cowboy Action were accomplished using the new Wild Bunch Stage Points Scoring system. Founders has been using it at every opportunity to understand what can go wrong and better understand its implications. This scoring system scores by category. By tradition, we have to run an overall listing to determine who the top male and female competitors are for the match ... and determine the top 16 men and women for the end of TRAIL Top Gun Shoot-off. And, like all scoring systems, except perhaps Total Time scoring, it does make a difference in the standings depending upon how the scores are computed—by category or by overall.

How to put on a Great State Match . . .

(Continued from page 20)

science. There is very little that a shooter will see at our match (or any other big match) that they have not seen before. You can only do so much with stage design in this sport. I have played a fair amount of competitive golf in my life and anyone playing in a golf tournament knows what a golf course looks like before he or she shows up on the day of the tournament. In fact, the competitors usually get a chance to play practice rounds on the tournament course ahead of time. This is no different. Everyone still has to perform when the balloon goes up.

5. Seek Feedback From Your Shooters After The Match ... And Use It – We use comment cards that we collect after our banquet/awards presentation and we take the comments very seriously. We compile a summary of feedback and grades for each facet of the match after the match is over. If we have a problem, then we try to fix it for the following year. We like the feedback and the shooters appreciate the fact we want to hear from them. This is good customer service. I will also sometimes poll a shooter or two after the match if we have a complaint I want to investigate. Shooters appreciate the fact you value their opinions and input. It might help to understand a little bit about how we are organized in Michigan. The Wolverine Rangers Cowboy Action Shooting Association, Inc. is the umbrella organization for all of our 14 Cowboy Action Shooting Clubs in the State of Michigan. The Wolverine Rangers was organized in 1998 by a relatively small group of Michigan shooters who had a very good idea. Each club has at least one representative on the Board of Directors of the Wolverine Rangers, and we also have some at-large members of the Board who represent the shooters as opposed to the clubs. We have annual elections of officers with the 4 major positions staggered every 2 years. We don’t have shooting clubs in competition with each other to see who runs Range War. We are all in it together. Shooters from around the State of Michigan are welcome at every club in the State. The only limiting factor is geography. We have some great clubs here with great people.

Anyway, this is how we do it in Michigan. 

By Tex, SASS #4

It has been a bit of a learning process dealing with the “new” scoring system, and CD Tom continues to refine the program and the match reports. Now that everyone has had time to relax and reflect, we realize there were a few “hiccups” in the match scoring. Corrected reports have been produced, and the results are reflected in the listings below.

In the end, the weather was wonderful—fall in New Mexico can be nice. Everyone had a great time. Even General Grant came to New Mexico to shoot the match ... and he shot it clean! The Ranch is very appreciative to all who changed their plans late in September and participated in Just Shooting. Maybe we’ll be able to do it again sometime!

Winners

Cowboy Action

Overall Match Winners

Man... Gunsmoke Cowboy

Lady... Amber Ale

Cowgirl ... Amber Ale, SASS #66175

L 49'er Texas Tiger, SASS #74829

Junior Capital Regulator, SASS #48382

S Senior English Lyn, SASS #74828

E Statesman Dollar Bill, SASS #57784

E S Pale Rider Gunfighter

Gunfighter Vaquero Luna, SASS #47832

S Gunfighter Rio Grande Glenn, SASS #63915

C Cowboy Garrison Joe, SASS #60708

Wrangler Dirty Earl, SASS #94094

49'er Anvil Horn, SASS #90313

B-Western Hostin Owl, SASS #77291

F Cartridge Edward R. S. Canby, SASS #59971

L S Senior Lawless Lil, SASS #80605

L Wrangler Misty Moonshine, SASS #24262

S Duelist Mr. Peabody, SASS #86365

G. Dane Cat Ballo, SASS #453

Duelist James Earl Dalton, SASS #81293

Buckaroo Mino McGuire

G Patron US Grant, SASS #2

Wild Bunch

Overall Match Winners

Man... Northet, SASS #93685

Lady Texas Tiger

Categories

Modern Norfleet

Traditional Tex

L Traditional Texas Tiger
Last, SASS #77334, your favorite parking attendant. He has been on the range for nine years now. Free At Last and with the help of Cripple Creek Jake, SASS #90906, set up the campers and fitted all the shooters into place. The two new electrical hookups down at the arena were a little something we threw together with the aid of Rio Drifter, SASS #49244, and Nuttin’ Graceful, SASS #39117, this year and proved to be a big hit with the campers. No worries for the campers this year and plenty of parking for everyone. Things were coming together quite nicely as Tennessee Tall, SASS #49245, completed the cowboy town by stepping up and bringing Vendor’s row into a spectacular setting with 22 vendors and thousands of products for sale. The weather was great for the event with clear skies until Saturday afternoon.

**TOUGH ENOUGH TO WEAR PINK** was our main match theme this year to support Cancer research. Everyone (and I do mean everyone) was dressed in some sort of pink. If you forgot to bring pink, the Bar 3 gave each shooter a pink custom pistol case, a pink bracelet, and a t-shirt so all would be tough enough. With all range business taken care of, it was time to saddle up and “Let’s go to Texas!” I said, “That’s Nuttin’ Graceful, our Match Director and his trusty steed Ol’ #7.” Nuttin’ looked like a Confederate General riding around the battlefield. Let’s get to some shootin’!

November 1, 2012 was full of surprises for SASS and Comin’ at Cha entries. All side matches started out with the great, one and only, Ringo Fire, SASS #46037, as coordinator. The side matches were unique this year as only Ringo can flame up—he felt it was time to spotlight the cowgirls of SASS.

The match theme, “Tough Enough to Wear Pink,” was designed to raise awareness of the fight against cancer. The match raised a $4700 donation for cancer research.

November 1, 2012 was full of surprises for SASS and Comin’ at Cha entries. All side matches started out with the great, one and only, Ringo Fire, SASS #46037, as coordinator. The side matches were unique this year as only Ringo can flame up—he felt it was time to spotlight the cowgirls of SASS. Turn the lights on, and let’s shine with the ladies starting each side match! Ringo got on the Wire and found 15 volunteers in no time. The cowgirls were given a very special pink jacket for their help. The jackets were adorned with custom logos as only the Bar 3 and Honey B Graceful, SASS #51369, can create.

Side matches started at daybreak with the Plainsman event that received a shot in the arm and a boost, thanks to Kow Katcher, SASS #53134, and Bent Barrel Betty, SASS #33237. These two cowgirls took Plainsman to a new level. We had 34 shooters for the event along with a few cowboys and cowgirls that just wanted to shoot the big .45-70 rifle. Pawnee Brown, SASS #37450 (my momma), only wanted to shoot a big rifle one time. When she shot, she turned around and said, “I want one of these!” She might be hooked now. Only time will tell...

Top overall honors went to The Brisco Kid, SASS #26032, who won the Plainsman event.
Later in the afternoon, The Wild Bunch™ match was set and ready. 59 Aggressive and energetic shooters stepped up to the line. Among the shooters was Wolf Bane, SASS #13557, from the Outdoor Channel and Shooting Gallery. The match featured Doug Turnbull’s 1911 pistol and the newly approved for 2013, Model 12 shotgun. Matt Masterson, SASS #34985, and Fast Hammer, SASS #60707, set up a very challenging and exciting Wild Bunch™ match. Wow, would November 1, 2012 ever end? Not without a big thank you to Goatneck Clem, SASS #16787, for running, yet again, the long range big bore rifle competition. It was especially challenging for Goatneck this year because along with running the side match, Wolf Bane and crew was filming a special segment for Shooting Gallery on the Big Guns of SASS.

If that’s not enough, when you strolled up to Vendors’ Row you smelled the aroma of 300 chickens being cooked in the Tyson Products new cooking machine. The chickens were ready at the end of the shoot day for a Finger Lickin’ Chicken party in the big barn. Wow, just another little something we throw together for everyone and had a large time. Dodgey, SASS #71320, was the cowboy who set us up with Tyson. You might ask, “What happened with the main match?” Well, let’s get to it ... fast forward to Saturday night.

We had three award ceremonies on Saturday night. There was the awards. A large ribbon was built in the middle of the arena by No Regrets Dame, SASS #83748. As shooters entered the arena, they were given candles to light and leave in memory of loved ones lost or survivors who have battled cancer. Once all candles were lit, the lights went out and a moment of silence ensued. It was breathtaking. I sat my candle down, cleared the lump in my throat, and walked away. Sometimes, things are better left unsaid. Not a word was spoken as we gathered as one. If we all fight, maybe someday there will be a cure. Big thanks to all for making it happen.

Oh wait; remember the first line of this story? Well, let’s change it to “Every day is like Christmas on the Bar 3 Ranch!”

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We had three award ceremonies on Saturday night. There was the Texas Three Step (details on our website at www.badlandsbar3.com). The Intercontinental Outlaw Championship of the World that Okaw, SASS #30137, and Rocky Meadows, SASS #18501, won hands down. Then, the granddaddy of them all, the Southwest Regional Championships to finish off the awards.

I decided a while back this match would be like none other. So, the decision was made to have this championship extravaganza unique within itself ... there were no multiple tap targets of any kind on any stages—one shot/one target. There were as many as 24 targets on some stages. The new twist landed a few of the top shooters with a Procedural or a few misses. This year’s winners of the SASS Southwest Regional Championship were Texas Rick O’Shay, SASS #70305, and Bent Barrel Betty. Together they will team up to be the best and head to Winter Range to represent the Southwest Region. But, when the smoke cleared down range, only one cowboy stood above the rest. The top overall 2012 Comin’ At Cha Champion, from the great state of Tennessee, was Presidigitator.

The theme, “TOUGH ENOUGH TO WEAR PINK”, will hopefully further awareness to the need to fight and find a cure to a disease that affects so many. This year’s sizable contribution from our SASS shooters totaling $4700 was donated to Susan G Komen Foundation. A candlelight vigil was held Saturday night in the arena after the awards. A large ribbon was built in the middle of the arena by No Regrets Dame, SASS #83748. As shooters entered the arena, they were given candles to light and leave in memory of loved ones lost or survivors who have battled cancer. A candlelight vigil was held Saturday night in the arena after the awards. A large ribbon was built in the middle of the arena by No Regrets Dame, SASS #83748. As shooters entered the arena, they were given candles to light and leave in memory of loved ones lost or survivors who have battled cancer.

Visit us at sassnet.com
While you’re enjoying your morning coffee and the Cowboy Chronicle, Rio and I are traveling 82 out of Texas, I-30 through Arkansas, and I-40 from Memphis to exit 447 in Cosby, Tennessee. It is a far piece from the Badlands Bar 3 to our house. We’re grateful to Ellie Gent and T-Bone Dooley for sharing their home, friends, family, and critters with us. Wonderful way to wrap up our 2012 shooting season with the SASS Southwest Regional Championship, Comin’ At Cha.

The past month on the Bar 3 has been filled with “Kodiak” moments. We’ve laughed at the ranch cats, “This” and “That,” and the new puppy, “The Other,” playing while Dooley, the old ranch dog, tolerated them. See- ing This and That getting tangled in the tail hair of Handsome, Pawnee Brown’s horse, was a hoot. We saw cranes circling overhead looking for a field to land in, enjoyed watching flocks of geese passing over, and caught a sunrise as a cranes circled overhead looking for a field to land in, enjoyed watching flocks of geese passing over, and caught a sunrise as a herd of Canada geese landed on the lake.

We were on hand for the placement of the Badlands Bar 3 Monument, which was settled in just at sunset. The month in Texas gave us the chance to shoot a Bar 3 monthly match with Bent Barrel Betty, Free at Last, Cbeaux, Cripple Creek Jake, No Regrets Dame, Kow Katcher, J.D. Redeye (who brings his own scorekeeper), Cherokee Lone Wolf, Levi Nitehawk, and Hair Trigger Hayes to name of few of the fast and friendly shooters.

The SASS Southwest Regional Championship, Comin’ At Cha 2012, brought friends and foe from 30 states. Rio and I have been waiting for this shoot since the last Comin’ At Cha, and dang if it didn’t live up to our expectations. The Badlands Bar 3 Ranch could easily be the setting for a western movie with Paul’s Pond, the barns and corrales, a hanging tree, Nuttin’ Graceful in his cowboy duds riding through town, and Ellie Gent working her horse, Hank, on a lead line. T-Bone has a thriving gun shop in his beautifully decorated barn, which will seat 500 guests for events. He has added 22 RV electric hookups and illuminated his arena for mounted events. The arena was the site for a most moving candlelight ceremony honoring cancer survivors and remembering Joe Boy and El Rio Rojo. Joe Boy did some mighty fine cookin’ for us.

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### Regional Overall Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Man</th>
<th>Lady</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B-Western</td>
<td>Copperhead Joe, SASS #39162</td>
<td>Diamond Kate, SASS #95104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cowboy</td>
<td>T-Bone Dooley</td>
<td>Bent Barrel Betty, SASS #62301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cowgirl</td>
<td>Ima Quikshot, SASS #67113</td>
<td>Bent Barrel Betty, SASS #62301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duelist</td>
<td>Lladen F Past, SASS #47576</td>
<td>Done That, SASS #62301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E Statesman</td>
<td>Pineywoods Jim, SASS #68222</td>
<td>HammerRokk, SASS #68222</td>
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<tr>
<td>F Cartridge</td>
<td>Spur Roberts, SASS #14825</td>
<td>T-Bone Dooley, SASS #36388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F C Duelist</td>
<td>Billy Boots, SASS #20822</td>
<td>Copperhead Joe, SASS #39162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G Dame</td>
<td>Ramblin’ Rose, SASS #2811</td>
<td>Prestidigitator, SASS #52251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gunfighter</td>
<td>Nuttin’ Graceful, SASS #39117</td>
<td>Prestidigitator, SASS #52251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Rattlesnake Wrangler, SASS #54580</td>
<td>Done That, SASS #62301</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Winners

- **Regional Overall Winners**
  - **Man**: Texas Rick O’Shay, SASS #70305, TX
  - **Lady**: Bent Barrel Betty, SASS #95104, TX

- **Match Overall Winners**
  - **Man**: Prestidigitator, SASS #52251, TN
  - **Lady**: Bent Barrel Betty, TX

### Categories

- **49’er**: Roy’s Creek Dan, SASS #73697, OK
- **B-Western**: Copperhead Joe, SASS #39162, KY
- **Buckarette**: Diamond Kate, SASS #95104, TX
- **Buckaroo**: Done That, SASS #62301, MO
- **Chipmunk**: HammerRokk, SASS #68222, LA
- **C Cowboy**: T-Bone Dooley, SASS #36388, TX
- **Cowboy**: Ima Quikshot, SASS #67113, TX
- **Cowgirl**: Lladen F Past, SASS #47576, CO
- **Duelist**: Lladen F Past, SASS #47576, CO
- **E Statesman**: Pineywoods Jim, SASS #68222, TX
- **F Cartridge**: Spur Roberts, SASS #14825, TX
- **F C Duelist**: Billy Boots, SASS #20822, TX
- **G Dame**: Ramblin’ Rose, SASS #2811, CO
- **Gunfighter**: Nuttin’ Graceful, SASS #39117, TX
- **Junior**: Rattlesnake Wrangler, SASS #54580, TX

### Regional Winners

- **L Junior**: Sweet Sister Kit, SASS #79916, AR
- **L 49’er**: Sixgun Sallie, SASS #38989, NC
- **L B-Western**: Louisiana Lady, SASS #34986, LA
- **L Duelist**: Iron Maiden, SASS #67188, TN
- **L F Cartridge**: Honey B. Graceful, SASS #51369, TX

### Categories

- **Senior**: Hella Comin’, SASS #56436, AZ
- **S Duelist**: Larsen E. Pettifogger, SASS #29333, AZ
- **S Gunfighter**: Eli Hawk, SASS #39161, TX
- **S Senior**: Krazy Legs Kay, SASS #87857, TX
- **Tennessee Tall**: Ed Sieker Texas Ranger, SASS #15960, LA

### Costume Contest

- **Best Dressed Man**: Texas John Ringo, SASS #10139, TX
- **Lady**: Sassy Puppy, SASS #78115, AZ
- **Buckarette**: Chiquita Bandita, SASS #74292, TX
Comin’ At Cha door prizes and shooter packages are second to none. Stages were well written, and there was no shortage of entertainment. We played Mexican Train with Mose Spencer, Whiskey Creek Johnson, (a dubious pair), Bella, Iron Maiden, Idaho Sue, Fanny Kicker, and Elle Gant. Joe Boy cooked up a low country boil one evening and served us red beans and pork the next night. T-Bone, Rooster Sackett, and Boozy Creek smoked ribs for an open range outlaw family picnic. Titus A. Gnatass and Fanny Kicker hosted a grill night. Halloween night found over a hundred cowboys at Mose-Ihana. Omaha John and Patty hosted a post shoot mimosa morning.

The cowboy yard sale was huge and gave us a chance to shop where prices were cheaper than gasoline. An evening of karaoke proved cowboys take singing and dancin’ as seriously as they do shootin’. Shooter scores and special event information is posted on the Bar 3 website. Some of us even cleaned the infamous chickens, and some of us still hate ‘em! Can you honestly say you’ve ever received a trophy bearing a gener-

We limited registration to 175 shooters, which we reached well in advance of the match. We had the normal number of dropouts, which we replaced from a waiting list. When the dust settled, we had 163 cowboys and cowgirls competing.

Side Matches

Thursday was side match day, with imperfect, but adequate, weather. In addition to the normal selection of events, a Pig Iron Lane inspired event called “Cut the Rope” took place. It was a 1/4” rope out at 30’, and it looked pretty small!

Main Matches

Friday morning was a rain event. It wasn’t a frog strangler, but it managed to produce wet shooters and guns. At the last minute, the rain gods relented and from the safety briefing on, we were rain-free.

Whiskey Hayes welcomed everyone and gave them all the details about the match. He also introduced our honored guests, Judge Roy Bean, SASS #1, and his bride, Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000. Papa Dave gave the Safety Meeting, Sergeant Shooter gave thanks, and then we recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

We shot the first five stages either on the Hill or in the Old Town, depending on which posse you were assigned. Whiskey wrote some fast and challenging stages with no “P” traps in any of them. After the five Main Match stages were finished, we again

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**Winners**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tennessee State Champions</th>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Let’s</th>
<th>Go,</th>
<th>L Duelist</th>
<th>Walking Short,</th>
<th>E Statesman</th>
<th>Silver City Rebel,</th>
<th>F Cartridge</th>
<th>Duck River,</th>
<th>F C Duelist</th>
<th>Blackwater</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Man Prestidigitator, SASS #52251</td>
<td>Buckaroo, Missouri Lefty, SASS #91721</td>
<td>TN</td>
<td>MO</td>
<td>Walking Short, SASS #88000</td>
<td>TA</td>
<td>Wassaso Jot, SASS #31179</td>
<td>GA</td>
<td>SASS #38607</td>
<td>GA</td>
<td>SASS #63679</td>
<td>GA</td>
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<td>Lady Dew R Dye, SASS #59089</td>
<td>Birdshot Pete, SASS #94404</td>
<td>TN</td>
<td>MO</td>
<td>Walking Short, SASS #88000</td>
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<td>Wassaso Jot, SASS #31179</td>
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<td>Top Guns Duke Skywalker, SASS #28871</td>
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<td>MO</td>
<td>Walking Short, SASS #88000</td>
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<td>Wassaso Jot, SASS #31179</td>
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<td>Lady Slick’s Sharp Shooter, SASS #77967</td>
<td>B-Western, Marshal WD, SASS #75089</td>
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<td>MO</td>
<td>Walking Short, SASS #88000</td>
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<td>C Cowboy Six Six Henderson, SASS #7152</td>
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<td>Wassaso Jot, SASS #31179</td>
<td>GA</td>
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<td>Whiskey Hayes, SASS #41999</td>
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**Categories**

- **Buckaroo**: Missouri Lefty, SASS #91721
- **B-Western**: Marshal WD, SASS #75089
- **C Cowboy**: Six Six Henderson, SASS #16594 KY
- **C Duellist**: Joe West, SASS #1532
- **D Duelist**: Randy St Eagle, SASS #64903
had a Team Match consisting of three-person teams shooting the Texas Star with a rifle, a second Texas Star with a pistol, and knockdowns and cleanup with a shotgun. The teams were drawn at random, so it made for a very interesting event. The winning team consisted of Marshal WD, Duck River, and Birdshot Pete.

**Friday Night Dinner on the Range**

Again this year, our dinner on the range was prepared by Rollin’ Chopstix, and it just couldn’t have been any better. Rollin Chopstix was with us for the entire match. A pancake and country ham breakfast on the range is darn hard to beat.

Chickamauga Slim treated us to Karaoke prior to our meal, and Charlie Bowdree gave the blessing.

Whiskey Hayes again recognized our honored guests, Judge Roy Bean and his bride, Justice Lily Kate. After she spoke to us about the fund for the SASS Memorial, we raised a contribution of $500.

After dinner, we had the Side Match Awards and door prize drawings. We continue to enjoy generous sponsors, vendors, and prize contributors, and we handed out well over 100 door prizes. One end of the prize table looked like

(Continued on page 42)
Regulators Reckoning...

(Continued from page 41)

the bottling room at Jack Daniel’s distillery (50 bottles)! A big thanks to Sheriff Frank Canton for rounding up all those door prizes again this year.

Saturday morning brought the final five stages of the match and the weather turned sunny and warm. Everything went smoothly, and folks had adequate time to get to their room and don their dress duds for the big banquet.

The Awards Banquet
Saturday night brought what is certainly one of the best awards banquets in all of Cowboy Action. The food was great, as usual, and this year the Lakewood Country Club made even more efficient use of space. We had great food, good music, and the decorations, ramrodded by Buxom Boo, were just right.

Awards
The Tennessee State Category Champions received plaques, and the top five shooters in each category received belt buckles. There were 21 clean shooters. Congratulations!

Some Conversations
I was sitting on the porch of the old clubhouse, when Judge Roy Bean came along and took a chair. We had a casual conversation, not about anything in particular. It was long enough for me to realize how lucky we all are to have men such as he as Founders of SASS. He is a true gentleman, and we were honored by his visit.

I managed to converse with Dew R Dye after the shoot. I asked her if she knew why she shot so consistently well, and she stated she wasn’t satisfied in that area, but was working on it. She feels she can still improve, but finds it difficult to make time to practice.

I finally pinned down Prestidigitator (not an easy task) to ask him a few questions. I found out he is only a half-century younger than I am. I asked what he was working on to improve even more, and he said self-control. Hard to believe!

Well, many of us are familiar with Dew and Tator, but it seems to me that we have a rising star on our hands.

I did an e-mail interview with Slick’s Sharp Shooter. She was our Ladies Top Gun, won the Young Guns Girl category, and won four-side matches to boot.

Here is the e-mail interview.
Gringo: How old were you when you took up this great sport?
SSS: My grandparents have been bringing me to shoots since before I could walk, and when I was 10, I started shooting. I am 16 now.
Gringo: When was your first competitive event?
SSS: My first shoot was December of '07 at our local club’s Christmas event.
Gringo: Do you still practice regularly?
SSS: I try and dry fire every day—famous last words—but I usually shoot a match every weekend.
Gringo: What’s the most difficult part of a match for you?
SSS: I would say it would be trying to block everything out right before I go up to shoot.
Gringo: Do you still get nervous before a match?
SSS: Oh, yea! I always have those first stage jitters! But after that, I just have fun.
Gringo: Did your grandfather provide most of your instruction?
SSS: He did when I was younger, but now Fast Eddie has been a huge part of my shooting and my life, and I am so thankful for him. I also have many other mentors, all of whom I am also very, very thankful for. Without all of them, I wouldn’t be where I am today.
Gringo: Would you like to comment on anything about the match? Any suggestions for us?
SSS: The match this year was amazing as always. The stages were great, and the evening activities were great as well. The main reason I love coming to this match every year is because of the people. Everyone is so welcoming and willing to help in any way. All of the people who put this match on worked so hard this weekend, and I appreciate that very much.

Some Last Thoughts
I hope everyone enjoyed the 2012 Tennessee State Championship and will return to Wartrace 10-12 October to compete in 2013!

Complete Scores
You can easily find the complete scores. Simply go to the Wartrace Regulators website at: http://wartraceregulators.com and follow the links. Congratulations to all the winners and also everyone who competed. We all had a fun time, and that’s what this sport is all about.

Dixie’s Legendary Catalog offers the world’s largest selection of Civil War replica arms and accessories for re-enactment enthusiasts and history buffs...PLUS a huge selection of the latest blackpowder hunting and sport equipment. Dixie’s 2013 catalog is packed with more than 10,000 items including blackpowder shooting supplies, antique gun parts, and accessories.

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started in October 2011 when the club began brainstorming about the upcoming year. The idea of having a riverboat prop was mentioned early on, and with that, the centerpiece for HR ‘12 was born. Literally nine months in the making, the riverboat grew from a paper sketch remotely resembling the “Liberty Belle” paddlewheeler at Disney’s Magic Kingdom to a portable 34’ long, 12’ wide, 3-story high structure built on a mobile home base. Thanks for this awe-inspiring prop go to work-party organizer ex-

Heluva Ruckus
SASS New York State Championship

By Annabelle Bransford, SASS Regulator #11916

B allston Spa, NY – Time flies when you’re having fun, and it was certainly going at warp speed on the weekend of September 14 – 16, 2012, when the Circle K Regulators (CKR) hosted their 12th annual SASS New York State Champi-

Best Dressed Young’un

The Boy Scouts provided the opening flag ceremony and served as much appreciated brass pickers. They realized $2200 for their efforts! Great job!

Trail Boss, Smokehouse Dan, and wife, Doe Dancer. Smokehouse Dan has been overseeing CKR and HR activities for years, providing stability and a productive working environment for all involved.

In actuality, work on HR ‘12 for 2012. Well, top it they did—and then some, not only in the number of participants, but in the overall quality of the shoot itself. Despite a lagging economy, the final count for HR ‘12 was a record-breaking 281 lead-slingers from 18 States and Canada, making it by far the largest Cowboy Action Shooting™ event ever held in the SASS New England Region. And with all the new props, targets, and range improvements, HR once again secured a place for itself as one of the country’s premiere Cowboy Action Shooting™ events.

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Snazzy McGee and James Samuel Pike.

Front of a 12' long, 2' wide, 1' deep pistol/rifle targets were placed in swinger when knocked down. Gun target that set off a blackpowder blank and activated a no-shoot was moved and rebuilt this year, too, the stage. The Treasure Trove mine added to the authentic look of rect flag), canon, limber, and Gatling place. A flagpole (with period-cast gate) for the fort entrance, was built in its year), and an incredibly realistic cotton bale gun rest.

Smaller scale pirate boat (with a plank, working lights, and cargo), a working carousel of six square targets, a paddle wheel consisting of a rotating carousel of six square targets, the club's nifty new mover for the year), and an incredibly realistic cotton bale gun rest.

The old Fort Misery was totally demolished over the summer, and a much more versatile fort, complete with two guard towers and a new gated fort entrance, was built in its place. A flagpole (with period-cast flag), canon, limber, and Gatling gun added to the authentic look of the stage. The Treasure Trove mine was moved and rebuilt this year, too, with a "Mining Office" added, as well as a working sluice and a shotgun target that set off a blackpowder blank and activated a no-shoot swinger when knocked down.

On the log cabin stage, three pistol/rifle targets were placed in front of a 12' long, 2' wide, 1' deep hand-dug trench filled with 75 gallons of water. The targets were splashed with water (from splatter going into the trench) when hit, simulating lawmen being shot along a riverbank—a pretty cool "special effect." The Boot Hill stage boasted a freshly dug grave and full-size coffin, several tombstones with epitaphs taken from actual period grave markers, and a new interactive prop—a scaled-down hearse, built by Yukon Mike, SASS #23165, where the shooters pulled a rope, opening a curtain and revealing three pistol targets and a mini-coffin inside the hearse.

There were numerous changes made to the already extensive Rukus Flats town stage with the beloved kickdown door moved to the entrance of the boarding house, a new loading area built to resemble a church, and Barry U. Foregod's undertaker shop taking over the space formally occupied by the general store. The general store was relegated to the former livery and undertaker shop taking over the former livery and general store. The general store was "decorated " for the big event, it was "tow n" consisting of a full-size jail cell. The club's attention to detail was evident throughout, with a multitude of antique and Western items being utilized to truly bring the Old West to life.

Despite the fact the shoot itself was not due to start until Friday, folks seemed anxious to get things rolling this year with both vendors and campers arriving as early as Tuesday and actual setup for the shoot starting on Wednesday. There was an overall air of excitement as the stages took shape, and by Thursday night, the total transformation of the range was complete. Wow, what a sight it was!

The vast majority of the shooters checked in on Friday, picking up their shooters packet, drawing for a door prize, and being presented with a nifty six-pack size collapsible cooler bearing the CKR logo, complements of this year's new (and very generous) Match Sponsor, Klassic Laser Works. They then headed out to the range to visit the multitude of vendors, chat with their pard, or participate in the wide range of side events available for their lead-slinging pleasure. Many chose to take part in the rifle, revolver, shotgun, pocket pistol and derringer speed events, while others...
Heluva Ruckus 2012 . . .

(Continued from page 45) Grill—a new and welcome addition throughout the weekend to take a jita bar catered by Moe’s Southwest the yummy (and quite extensive) fa tion, portrait, and posse shots.

100 hungry cow pokes gathered clothing, cowboy hats, and jewelry. Two photographers were on hand throughout the weekend to take action, portrait, and posse shots.

Following side events, nearly 100 hungry cowpokes gathered under the pavilion to chow down at the yummy (and quite extensive) fa jita bar catered by Moe’s Southwest Grill—a new and welcome addition this year. Great food for a great price, and topped off with homemade desserts generously donated by CKR club members—who could ask for a better way to end the day?!

By 7 PM or so, with their hunger for food and shooting at least temporarily satiated, everyone headed back to their campers, homes, or motel rooms to rest up in preparation for the next day’s main event.

The main competition began on Saturday, a perfectly gorgeous fall day with plenty of sunshine and pleasant temps. The club wisely chose to stick with the AM/PM flight schedule first utilized last year, with all 17 stages completing five stages each day, shooting straight through with no break. Those shooting in the morning flight on Saturday shot in the afternoon flight on Sunday and vice versa, giving all the shooters sufficient time to relax, eat, shop, or just hang out with their pals each day. There were two brief safety meetings on Saturday, one for each flight. The shooters were given a special treat at these meetings this year as local Boy Scouts did a presentation of the flag prior to Tom Payne, SASS #13115, playing his rendition of the National Anthem on harmonica.

Another nice addition this year was having Boy Scouts assigned to each posse to serve as brass pick ers, alleviating the shooters from having to perform this tedious task. New food vendor, Christina’s Cantina, joined the local Lions Club in providing breakfast and lunch for the cowpokes, while the Boy Scouts ran a small booth selling fresh fruit and various snack items.

As usual, this year’s stages were written by Range Master, Rowdy Bill, SASS #9628, and they once again proved to be action-packed, creative ones, safe and fair for all. If you were looking for “Stand and Deliver” stages, you were in the wrong place. The stages were intended to keep both the shooter’s body and brain in motion at all times, with plenty of both lateral and downrange movement and numerous “Shooter’s Choice” opportunities. Target sizes, shapes, heights, and distances were varied, and acquisitions were interesting and varied without being “P” traps. Along with the aforementioned movers and kickdown door, shooters also encountered a few knockdown pistol and rifle targets.

The stages, with story lines provided by Annabelle Bransford, SASS #11916, gave competitors the chance to live out several of their Old West “good guy—bad guy” fantasies as they defended the fort from Indians, the mine from claim jumpers, the ranch from pirates, and the wagon train from banditos, broke out of jail, broke up a wedding, and shot up a town. Can ya say “Yee Haa!”?

By late Saturday afternoon, everyone had completed their five stages for the day, and by 6 PM, over 250 hungry cowpokes had gathered for a good, old fashioned cowboy BBQ. Catered by Shane’s Rib Shack, the buffet was expanded this year to include mouthwatering ribs in addition to savory BBQ chicken, baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, corn bread, and brownies and cookies. The Territorial Governors in attendance participated in a brief dinner meeting in the clubhouse, while the rest of the gang pigged out at the outdoor pavilion.

After the cowpokes had finally managed to whet their appetites, Trail Boss, Smokehouse Dan, SASS #12524, took the stage, announcing the costume contest winners in seven different categories and thanking the multitude of sponsors, including 10-year sponsors, Cobra Enterprises and Starline Brass, and 5-year sponsors, Lupare Chenx, Lost

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The props for Heluva Rukus underwent a nearly complete “redo” this year! Not only were all the props well done and “dressed” to the nines … they were FRESH and new! These props provided a very welcome Old West ambiance where our cowboys and cowgirls could play out their fantasies of (mostly!) protecting the innocent, God-fearing citizens from those miscreants who would do them harm!

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Target Shooting Supplies, and EMF. Male and female winners in each of Friday’s numerous side events were then presented with personalized wooden plaques, a nice change from the usual ribbons. Shortly after 8 PM, the shooters dispersed, leaving the range quietly awaiting their return the next day for the culmination of the “big event.”

Sunday was another spectacular fall day with clear, blue skies and comfortable temps. The posses finished up their remaining five fun-filled main match stages by mid-afternoon, made their last rounds of the vendors, and then grabbed a seat for the final awards ceremony. Smokehouse Dan, assisted by Match Director, Homer Suggs, SASS #29505, got things off to a great start by presenting this year’s charity checks. A whopping $1435 was donated to the SASS Cowboy Memorial Chapel Fund, making the CRK the first club to contribute over $5000 to that worthy cause. A matching check was presented to the local volunteer fire department as a “thank you” for providing emergency medical staff and equipment on site throughout the weekend. Next, Smokehouse Dan thanked the Boy Scouts for serving as brass pickers and announced that nearly $2200 was raised for their troops due to their outstanding efforts.

The male and female shooters who finished closest to the “middle of the pack” were each given a certificate good for a complete Frontier Classics outfit, complements of Gunpowder Creek Trading Post. The long-awaited charity raffle was then held with the lucky winners taking home items valued at anywhere from $100 to over $1000, including a custom knife (from Lupare Chenz), custom hat (from Brims & Trims), Wild Bunch gun rig (from JK Custom Leather), handmade quilt (purchased by Calico Sue), pistol action jobs (from Gun Accessory Studio), and several firearms (from EMP, S&W, Remington, Ruger, and Cobra).

Finally, stage winners, clean shooters (30), and category winners (overall and NYS) were presented with their awards. The ceremony culminated in the announcement of the overall Top Gun Male, James Samuel Pike, SASS #53331, and Top Gun Female, Snazzy McGee, SASS #66889, along with this year’s NYS Ladies Champion, relatively new shooter Spinning Sally, SASS #89526, with her first title, and NYS Men’s Champion, the tried-and-true Elder Statesman Rowdy Bill, SASS #9628, who proved that you’re never too old to win. And with that, HR 2012, came to an end. If you missed this year’s match, you missed a dandy! Don’t let next year pass you by — get your name on the mailing list now!

For more information on the Circle K Regulators and the SASS New York State Championship or to see photos from HR, visit their website at: www.circlekregulators.com. There are also numerous videos of the match available for your viewing pleasure on YouTube (just search for Heluva Rukus 2012).
Harvard, MA – Recollections of shooting events over the years can vary. Each shooter may remember something different about a certain match like: “I had my first clean shoot there” or “that was the year we shot with the Cape Guys (Grumpy Ger, SASS #62588, Come Back Shane, SASS #61413, and Mad Dog Gomes, SASS #75496, all from Cape Cod, Mass.)” or “that was the time I was teamed with Belle Evans, SASS #76517, in the team shoot off.” Then there are those matches, like the 2012 Shootout at Sawyer Flats, where just about everyone that attended will remember it for the same reason.

The 7th Annual MA-CT-RI (Tri-State) State Championships had everything that would make it a stand out event. It had an experienced, dedicated committee whose purpose was to put on a safe and super fun match. It had shooters not only from New England, but also from Alaska, Wyoming, New Mexico, Georgia, Texas, and even Canada. It had one of the best Cowboy Action facilities in New England at the Harvard Sportsmen’s Club located near historic Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts. For campers, there was a great campground just down the road, and for shooters needing a room, the Best Western and Hampton Inn provided great lodging and a free breakfast not far from the range. For those that signed up, there was a "prelim" to the match on Thursday and Friday with Half-a-Hand Henri’s shooting school. No matter what level shooter you are, Henri can help smooth out your game and give you tips that can make differences you will see on the timer.
Friday’s side events had folks trying their hand at long range, the speed events, and even a Wild Bunch warm up stage. As always, there were two warm up stages that ran all day long where competitors could load up and shoot as many times as they wanted. It was obvious to the shooters walking the range that there were plenty of props and lots of steel, including over 50 shotgun targets … 10-10-4 is a bit predictable, so we give participants their money’s worth with a bunch of 10-10-6 stages.

Many folks remember certain stages at matches because of unique props. We have the usual wagons and a few cows … okay, so maybe we have a whole herd, but we also have some “cool” stuff like a full size cattle car. Also, the Tri-State boasts a “town stage” that this year had you running down Main Street shooting targets lurking in doorways and windows. Shooting that scenario felt like you were with Charley & Boss Spearman from the movie “Open Range.”

The targets were all painted cowboy red or a bright blue and were a mix of shapes, and just about all of them could be categorized as LARGE. It always gives you a good feeling walking up to a stage and thinking “This is going to be a fun stage to shoot … let me at it!” And, I think folks were saying that a lot. Many of the stages had options of gun order or choice of positions to shoot from, but all when written and set up had been given careful thought to safety, starting position, spotting, speed of resetting, gun ordering, shooting sequence, target acquisition, and that they were fair to both left and right handed folks and those shooting doubles and ‘97s.

Saturday and Sunday were main match days; shooting six on Saturday and four on Sunday. The six on Saturday were a bit more challenging than the four on Sunday; and as is a tradition at the Tri-State, the scores are tallied from that first day and are used to distinguish who made it into the Top Gun Team Shoot-off on Sunday. This shoot-off pairs the top 16 ladies with the top 16 men (#1 cowgirl with #16 cowboy) and the teams compete against each other until one team is left standing. It is always fun hearing who shot their way in and who the teams are. They are announced at Saturday night’s banquet after everyone has had plenty of good food upon which to fill up and side event winners have been announced. As always, this year had lots of new blood like Montana Max, SASS #81717, of Maryland and Ruby Marie, SASS #89174, and Pecos Sam, SASS #83303, of Connecticut to name a few.

Sunday was a great shooting day and the four main stages were done by noon. The Top Gun Team Shoot-off started promptly at 1 pm, and it was neat overhearing the

(Continued on page 50)
Shootout At Sawyer Flats . . .

(Continued from page 49)
teams deciding who would shoot rifle and who would be shooting the shotgun at the end. Typical conversations were, “You are better with the rifle, and I like shooting shotgun,” or, “I’m not very good at aerial targets, so can you shoot the shotgun?” It is a great way for shooters getting to know each other a bit better. The 16 teams were whittled down to just one: Rowdy Bill, SASS #9628, and Snazzy McGee, SASS #66689. Of course in the six years of running this event, Rowdy and Snazzy have been paired two other times without a final round win, so the third time was indeed a charm!

Awards were presented by our Range Master, Yankee, SASS #266, and his lovely assistant, Boston Lady, SASS #3662. Once again, Tazz and Single Rose of Klassic Laser Works did an outstanding job making the plaques, and they also made some unique trophies for the State and Overall winners.

Over the years there have been lots of volunteers helping with this match, but as a special “Thank You,” the Ghost Riders recognized two indispensable assets, Yosemite Kid, SASS #52654, and his wife, Misty West, for their years of service to this event. Another tradition is a Tri-State area cowboy or cowgirl is selected to receive the Star Packer “Spirit of the Game” badge for their contributions to Cowboy Action Shooting. I was surprised with being the 2012 selection. I love this sport and am honored to receive such a beautiful badge and will wear it proudly.

So let’s recap why this match is one that will be remembered. Was it the cool props? Or maybe it was the big targets? Or was it the entertaining shoot-off? Or it could possibly have been the camaraderie the shooters had ringing steel in the pouring down rain all day on Saturday? I think all of the above contributed to a memorable match, particularly since several shooters mentioned they loved the match ... despite the weather. So if you are interested in seeing what makes this event such a great match ... put the 2013 TriState on the calendar (May 31 – June 2). You won’t be disappointed!
END, OR – December
Sunshine in Oregon is
not your normal bill of
fare, but believe it or not,
the Pine Mountain Posse and
guests, shot in the Sun on Decem-
ber 9th! The shoot also served as the
Christmas party for the Posse.

By Palaver Pete, SASS Life/Regulator #4375
Photos by Diamond Willow, SASS #37688, & Arctic Annie, SASS #37265

Winners
1 Gunfighter Whisperin’ Wade,
SASS #36209
2 Duelist Sunrise Bill,
SASS #64301
3 Deadwood Pete,
SASS #57450
4 The Legend,
SASS #36069
5 Shevin Kid,
SASS #79506
7 L Duelist Arctic Annie
Silver Sage Outlaw,
SASS #70532
9 Cascades Annie,
SASS #70533
10 Tetherow Tex LaRue,
SASS #90999
11 Deschutes Bodey,
SASS #78606
12 L 49'er Warm Heart,
SASS #40481
13 Blackpowder I’m Grumpy,
SASS #40135
14 Ammon Granns,
SASS #7920
15 Rifleman Dan,
SASS #7919

After shooting four stages, the
group moved to their comfy club-
house with wood burning stove,
where they were feted to one of the
most sumptuous lunches you could
expect to find on any table. Ham
was the main dish, surrounded by
salad, rolls, potatoes, and a desert
table that resembled Noah’s New
York Bakery. Thanks to our ladies
again for all the hard work setting
the table, and of course, keeping
score and tabulating shoot results.
After lunch, all present participated
in a White Elephant gift exchange

that drew many laughs.

Coveted Category—Clean
Match: Those winning a bar of
Dove Soap, (awarded in hopes they
may remain clean), were: Arctic
Annie, Palaver Pete, the Legend,
and Whisperin’ Wade.

Well, it’s time to dig-out the
long underwear, ‘cause the fore-
cast is for snow, and when it snows
in Oregon, it really snows. For
more information about this and
upcoming Northwest and Pine
Mountain Posse shoots, please
visit our website at:
www.pinemountainposse.com
You're a Daisy if ya do.
Gonna tell you about Nebraska! We drove the Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway from Halsey to Alliance with a stop over in Mason City. Mason City Park offers all services for $10 a night. We found Carhenge two miles north of Alliance. Carhenge is a bizarre, full-scale replica of England's Stonehenge built from 38 old cars, painted gray. In Bayard, Nebraska the city park provides all services for free, and camping is close enough to allow you to day trip Chimney Rock and Scotts Bluff. Out of Scotts Bluff we took the Western Trails Scenic and Historic Byway to Ogallala.

Did you know the Oregon Trail, the Overland Trail, the Texas Trail, the Mormon Pioneer Trail, and the Pony Express National Historic Trails all pass through Nebraska? It is estimated from 1841 – 1869 upwards of 350,000 people walked/rode these trails. The Oregon Trail became a 2,000-mile roadway to the Pacific Northwest. Emigrants shared the Oregon Trail with mail and freight carriers, military expeditions, stagecoaches, and Pony Express riders.

Scotts Bluff National Monument in western Nebraska stands out on the skyline as a reminder of those who passed on their way to making America the country it is today. The National Park Service website www.nps.gov/scbl provides schedules, services, and information for getting to the park from I-80.

The work of Henry Jackson, (a noted photographer and artist) is displayed in the visitor center. A short hike from the visitor center leads up to where Henry Jackson camped during his trip west in 1866. From this site you can see parts of the original road traveled by the pioneers. The National Historic Trails Auto Tour Route Interpretive Guide for Nebraska and northeastern Colorado is available free at the Chimney Rock Visitor Center, state welcome centers, and National Park areas.

If you watched “Lonesome Dove,” you couldn't just drive through Ogallala. Ogallala in the South Platte River Valley in its day was reputed to be the most violent town on the Texas Trail. The Trail Boss, a horse and rider statue depicting a cattle drover, stands overlooking the graves and the trail back to Texas. The bronze is a copy of the Trail Boss found in Dallas, Texas sculpted by Robert Summers.

Another marker at Boot Hill is the Great Western Trail marker. In Texas it is called the Western Trail and in Ogallala it is called the Texas Trail. The Western/Texas trail goes from Texas to Canada. It is estimated over a million cattle were moved on this trail between 1870 and 1885.

The Pony Express was a cross-country relay of horses and riders carrying letters and dispatches in both directions between St. Joseph, Missouri, and Sacramento, California. In 1860 William Russell, William Waddell, and Alexander Majors established a string of stations across the West. The backbone of the business was strong, hardy, fast horses, and riders who ran them full tilt from Missouri to California. The Pony Express Rider oath reads as follows: "I do hereby swear before the great and living God that during my engagement with Russell, Majors and Waddell, I will under no circumstances use profane language; that I will drink no intoxicating liquors; that I will not quarrel nor fight with other employees of the firm; and that in every respect I will conduct myself honestly, be faithful to my duties, and so direct all my acts as to win the confidence of my employers. So help me God." After signing the pledge, the Pony Rider was presented a small leather-bound Bible. Work hard; dodge Plains Indians; rain, hail, and snow; and couldn't swear when you stubbed your toe? Could ya do it for $50 dollars a month?

Gothenburg, an All-American City, and the Pony Express Capital of Nebraska, shows off the Sam Machette Station, an original Pony Express Station located a mile north of I-80 at 15th and Lake Ave.

(Continued on next page)
Shootin’ Across The USA . . .

(Continued from previous page)

ence. The Lafayette Park a few blocks north of the station has full hookups and is across the street from the county fairgrounds and rodeo arena. We stumbled onto a 4-H club horse show at the fairgrounds on Saturday morning, a highlight of our trip. Watched little tykes working horses who were twenty times the size of the child, but the kids knew exactly how to manage them. Lake Helen Recreation Area north of Gothenburg provides fishing, hiking, boating, and campsites with showers.

We made our way on to Grand Island, Nebraska where we found Hall County Park, another wonderful but little known campsite. We will mention just a FEW of the things to do in Grand Island. The Historic Grand Theatre was proclaimed in 1937 as “Nebraska’s Finest and Most Modern Theatre!” The Grand turned 75 in May of 2012 when it was returned to its original Grand appearance with beautiful glass tile. The Stuhr Museum of the Prairie Pioneer would take two or more days to see everything. The Heartland Events Center located at Fonner Park hosts year-round events. The Mid-Nebraska Speedway featured in Speedway Illustrated magazine as “the best track you never heard of” is south of town on South Locust Street. Grand Island is a vacation waiting for you to show up.

There are many folks to thank for a wonderful trip to Nebraska starting with Jim Godeker/Director/Newsletter Editor/Webmaster/Range Officer/and Membership Secretary of the Grand Island Rifle Club. Jim took the photographs for this article. The Flatwater Shootists are a committee of the Grand Island Rifle Club. The Grand Island Rifle Club is located on West Potash Highway just two and one half miles west of Highway 281. In 1996 the original committee consisting of Rawhide Bob and 44 Maggie, Horace E. Rider and Miz Queen of Hearts, Shameless and Shaggin’ Brass, Firewater and Yellow Rose of the Plains, Wes Beckett US Marshal and Pawnee Pearl, and Dog Man met and began putting together targets and props used today.

Our match director for the August match was Duetsch Bottom Belle, SASS #66831, who wrote and managed six good stages. After we wiped out all the bad guys, we had lunch, courtesy of 44 Maggie. The Flatwater Shootists begin shooting in April and shoot through October. In December they get together for side matches and, depending on the weather, either an indoor or outdoor shoot. All shoots are the third Sunday of the month. Gates open at 8 AM, safety meeting at 9, and shooting immediately following.

It was fun running into Slingin’ Sam and Two Wheel Tom. Love hearing where folks get their aliases—“Hold Your Horses” comes to mind. Meeting new cowhands and finding out what they do in REAL life is part of the entertainment. My bucket list starts out with flying a crop duster ... met Mesquite Ranger, SASS Life #177, who has my dream job as a crop duster pilot. I’ll be back, and I’m holding him to that promised ride!

We came, we shot, we had our mimosas, and hung up state sticker #31.

Two Shoots for One Cause

By Riverboat Gambler, SASS #29284

The Wabash Ranger and Pineridge Regulators teamed up and raised $440.00 dollars for charity. The shoots on consecutive weekends in September raised money for the Marine Corps League Toys for Tots.

A good time was had by all the participants and there are plans for the same thing next year. A representative from the Marine Corps League was on hand to accept the donation and was very thankful for the donation.


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Chronicle of the Old West P.O. BOX 2859 SHOW LOW, AZ 85902 (928) 532-2875
thurmont, MD – For the first time in the Northeast and New England regions, a Wild Bunch™ mini match was held separate from Cowboy Action Shooting™ stages. October 4th was a beautiful, sunny day in Thurmont, Maryland when the Wild Bunch™ showed up. Armed with .40 caliber+ rifles, ’97 shotguns, and those newfangled 1911s, they were quite a motley crew! From near and far, they somehow gathered in Thurmont and decided to shoot up the steel.

At the beginning, a whole troop of Pennsylvania Rough Riders ambushed the stages. Later, a couple of Mexicans and posses of cowboys and cowgirls blasted their way through three stages of Wild Bunch™ fun. By the end of the shootin’ day, the Wild Bunch™ berm marshals and ROs were knee deep in spent cartridges, but there were over 40 happy, lead-free Wild people running around and whistlin’ Dixie!

Thanks to Cash Caldwell and Jug Browning for the great scenarios and setup. As the Wild Bunch™ Ambassadors, we were very impressed with the shoot and look forward to a full Wild Bunch™ match in 2013!

Little Known Fact
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania was the site of the largest land battle ever fought in the Western Hemisphere. More than 50,000 men were killed or wounded in just three days.

Winners

<table>
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By Loco Poco Lobo, SASS #36108, and Nawlings Kid, SASS #36107
As with many other Cowboy Action Shooters, I have found SASS to be a way to have fun with other likeminded people from a myriad of diverse economic, social, and ethnic backgrounds. The wonderful diversity of conversations about equipment, shooting styles, costumes, and just about everything else “cowboy” at a match would fill volumes, and this, in part, makes Cowboy Action Shooting™ fun for me.

Last year, while reading articles in The Cowboy Chronicle as well as posts from the SASS Wire and Wild Bunch™ forums, I thought Wild Bunch™ looked like another fun way to have a blast ... sorry about the pun, but I just couldn’t help it. As diverse as Cowboy Action Shooting™ is, I decided to add some more shooting diversity to my life and have even more fun shooting Wild Bunch™.

As I researched Wild Bunch™, the one reoccurring theme I read was “Wild Bunch™ is not Cowboy Action Shooting™ with 1911s.” And for the most part, it’s not. Comparing the two shooting disciplines is like comparing my older brother to myself. We came from the same parents, were taught the same rules, and shared a common abode while we grew and matured into our own distinct and different personalities. Like my older brother and I, Cowboy and Wild Bunch™ shooting were born of the same parents, share similar rules, and are continuing to grow and mature in different ways, yet share what is best about the two, the great folks who participate in each.

After reading the rules governing Wild Bunch™, I located a DVD of the movie and sat down, viewing it through several times. I did this for several reasons, but mostly for determining in which costume I would want to shoot. Watching the movie I realized there are so many costume ideas from which to choose. A person could select costumes depicting themselves in a post-1900 US Calvary uniform, 1900s temperance activist, south of the border Mexican military, soiled Bonita’s, Mexican farmer, typical cowboy clothes of the period, or select one of the plethora of outfits worn by one of the many characters from the movie. As I thought through my costume selection I could not help but think, “Don’t over think this, keep it simple, stupid.”

Next on my decision list was choice of guns and shooting style. Once again I referred to the movie. Pike shot the 1911 with one hand so I would shoot Traditional. But, that raised another issue, I only owned 1911s that met the Modern category. What a great excuse to buy another gun ... at least this is how I explained the purchase to my wife! I chose the Springfield GI 1911. It is as close to the government issued ones I shot in the Navy, so the military sights were not an issue for me. For my shotgun I went with an original 1897 Winchester I had cut down to 22 inches and had a choke tube system installed. (I did not tell the wife about this one, just snuck it in and put it next to the other shotguns. If she noticed, she didn’t say anything. God bless her.) I already owned a .44-40 rifle, so no new purchases there.

With my equipment secured it was time to start shooting Wild Bunch™, or at least try. At my local level there are very few people interested enough to just try it. A good pard of mine, Hog Rider, began shooting with me, and I was no longer the only one. Then, Apalossa Doc joined in, and Wild Bunch™ began to slowly spread. But, with only four or five Wild Bunch™ shooters we still had no stand-alone Wild Bunch™ matches. But, oh boy, were we having fun!

Then in April of 2012 Hog Rider and I decided to do a little traveling and shoot our first ever, real Wild Bunch™ match. We choose the 2012 Illinois State Wild Bunch™ Championships. Arriving in Sparta, neither Hog Rider nor I expected anything other than learning how Wild Bunch™ is supposed to be shot, meet some new pards, and have some fun. We were not disappointed. We were on Posse 2, and shared it with some great folks like Huckleberry, Ugly, and the rest of the “North of I-80” crew who became good friends by the end of the match. Our RO was great, explaining each stage and new terminology like “Pike Ready” and “Wild Bunch™ Ready.” We rapidly picked up on the subtle differences at the loading table and necessary safety concerns when moving with the shotgun and pistol. Other than that it was very similar to but definably not Cowboy Action Shooting™. I now completely understood the phrase “Wild Bunch™ is not cowboy with a 1911.” Stage after stage of 10 rifle, 10 or 15 or 20 pistol, 6 or 8 or 10 plus shotgun was very addictive. There is nothing like putting copious amounts of lead down range while smiling from ear to ear! All I can say is it was more fun than I had hoped for. And more fun can’t be a bad thing!

The 2012 Illinois State Traditional Champions were Man—Silver Sides and Lady—Screaming Squaw.
t. George, UT – This was going to be my first Wild Bunch™ match. Having been a Cowboy Action Shooting™ competitor for over fifteen years this was going to be all new to me. I had already been schooled to understand Wild Bunch™ matches are not Cowboy Action Shooting™ with a 1911, so I was not really sure of what to expect. My knowledge of using a Model ’97 shotgun and a 1911 pistol was limited, to say the least.

After weeks of tutoring from Virgil Earp, SASS #4299, live firing and dry firing and generally practicing the skills needed to safely operate the 1911 pistol and pump shotgun, I was ready for the

The braintrust behind the Utah State Wild Bunch™ Championship: (l – r) Dixie Desperados President, Alaskan; Match Director, Dixie Bell; Assistant Match Director, Kokaac Kid; and Range Master, Capt. Le Phew.
big day—or was it? Gun handling for Wild Bunch™ match is so different to the comfort zone when using my cowboy guns.

Day One of competition dawned, and I was both nervous and excited as we arrived at the home range of The Dixie Desperados in St George, Utah. It was evident right away Dixie Bell, SASS #5366, and her crew had not missed anything in the preparation for the SASS Utah State Wild Bunch™ Championship on the 2nd & 3rd of November, 2012. This Wild Bunch™ match was based on the movie, *The Wild Bunch*, and “Dixie Desperados Go Wild” was the theme.

Stepping up to the Registration table on a bleak and overcast Friday morning, my nerves were starting to settle due in part to the welcoming atmosphere and smiling faces all around. After a group photograph followed by the mandatory Shooters Safety Meeting, it was time to take to the first stage. This brand new “Wild Buncher” by now was again starting to experience what one might call stage fright. Nevertheless as I strapped on my gun belt and loaded the magazine pouches, a quiet and settled determination seemed to overtake my mind. I stepped up to the loading table, loaded my rifle and shotgun with the required rounds, then slapped the magazine home in my 1911. A final check and I knew I was ready. The stages written by Dixie Bell were cleverly constructed, and all the stage props and shooter’s spoken lines related to the movie. Our posse started on Stage Three. Alone on the line with the RO, it was now or never. I called out my line, “Gutter Trash!” and the timer beeped. In what seemed like an eternity, it was all over. I had shot my first Wild Bunch™ stage! My pistol cleared and back in the holster I headed to the unloading table. It was only then the adrenaline rush

### Winners

**Match Winners & Utah State Champions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Winner</th>
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<td>Nellie Blue</td>
<td>Lady</td>
<td>79504</td>
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**Speed Shotgun – 8 rounds**

- **Man**: Twelve Mile Reb, SASS #30634, UT
- **Lady**: Whirlwind Wendy, SASS #79889, CA

**Shotgun Challenge – 10+**

- **Man**: Twelve Mile Reb, UT
- **Lady**: Idaho Sixgun Sam, SASS #28944, ID

**Speed Pistol – Two rounds in five magazines, double tap five targets**

- **Man**: Robber Baron, SASS #75205, AZ
- **Lady**: Lilly Long, UT

**Precision Rifle**

- **Man**: JT Wild, SASS #20399, UT
- **Lady**: Nellie Blue, SASS #54399, NV

**Speed Rifle – triple tap three targets**

- **Man**: Molasses Kid, UT
- **Lady**: Idaho Sixgun Sam, ID

**Costuming**

- **Best Soldadera (female soldier)**: Nellie Blue, NV
- **Best Female Outfit (Spanish or American)**: Dixie Bell, UT

**Best Movie Character**

- **The Gay Caballeros**: Wild Bodie Tom, SASS #67918, AZ & Two Dot, AZ

**Best Male Mexican Revolutionary**

- Dead Eye Doug, SASS #8208, NV

**Best Military Uniform**

- Alaskan, UT

---

*Overall Top Modern and Utah Champ, Molasses, may be young, but he still “towers” over the other “wannabe” (and very well known) Modern competitors. Molasses was also the top male competitor in the Man-on-Man Shoot-off. Outstanding!*
came, and I realised I was hooked on this game. I had completed the stage safely even though I had incurred a number of misses but no “Ps.” I was happy with my achievement, and as I took up the spotter’s stick I was already looking forward to the next stage.

As the shooting day progressed I became more confident and was getting the hang of magazine changes and efficient gun handling. Grateful I had not become over confident, my next really difficult challenge presented itself on Stage Five—the dreaded hostage target. This target consists of a large plate with two small swing-out targets. Having dealt with that one, it was time for a break and lunch.

An afternoon of side events rounded out a most enjoyable and informative day for me. What I had certainly learned was a Wild Bunch™ match is as they say, NOT Cowboy with a 1911! Targets are a little further out, a whole lot more challenging, and only honest loads will do the job.

Day two dawned, and my eagerness to get out to the range and get on with it was unsurpassed. Five more stages and I was learning to balance composure and excitement, which by now had replaced the nervousness of my first day.

The Sheriff’s Office—Stage Seven was a great stage for me. Starting in the jail cell with hands touching the wall, the shooter exclaimed, “El Corazón!” then the beep signalled the start of a flurry of shots. Five pistol targets engaged with ten rounds and then five rounds onto Gen. 

While some may tire of hearing it, costum ing is the key ingredient that sets both Cowboy Action and Wild Bunch™ action shooting aside from all other shooting sports. For those so inclined, it can become a “game within the game.”

Club President, Alaskan (c), won Best Military Uniform. Good job!

Top Lady Modern competitor and Utah Champ, Lilly Long, was on her game (as usual). She’s always a force to be reckoned with on the Range! Congratulations!

(Continued from page 57)

Top Lady Modern competitor and Utah Champ, Lilly Long, was on her game (as usual). She’s always a force to be reckoned with on the Range! Congratulations!

(Continued on page 60)
– Top Traditional competitor –
Top Dot from Arizona.
He was also half of the winning
"Best Movie Character" (The Gay Caballeros) costume contest.
Sheriff Joe has had a huge impact on our Arizona cowboys —
Top Dot and Wild Bodie Tom sported pink "underwear" in their winning bid.

Visit us at sassnet.com
**Dixie Desperados Go Wild ...**

(Continued from page 58)

Maphace’s heart. This target had a small red center hit zone, and the focus required to stay on that hit zone for five shots was considerable. The adrenalin flowed, and then it was done. I had finished my first Wild Bunch™ match and was I hooked? You bet!

This was a truly well organized match without a detail being overlooked. The stages were themed, interesting, and they all flowed for the shooter. I can honestly say for my first Wild Bunch™ match, this was the best.

I would like to thank Lilly Long, our posse leader, for being so helpful in explaining the stages and guiding me through the toughest. Dixie Bell and her team had certainly put together a class act that will be hard to follow.

Will I be back again? ... You bet I will!

What Can I Do? ...

(Continued from page 71)

mean business and will be silent no more—and certainly not sheepishly submissive even if that requires civil disobedience in upholding our constitutional principles. Remember Jefferson’s words, “Rebellion to Tyrants is Obedience to God.” The battle will be won only by personal commitment and enthusiastic dedication to coordinated action. We must set the example for all and push those groups to combine their resources to fight as a coordinated force. People are impressed by good examples and willingly follow those with whom they’re impressed and respect—be an example. Lead, follow, or get out of the way, but do so with determination and dedication. Stay positively focused, never compromise on principle, never give up or permit your resolve to be diluted, challenge the lies at every turn, and pray.

Preserving America’s freedom has always been a tough fight, but the renewal and preservation of that original Spirit of ’76 is worth it. Such personal commitment to live freely will become not only an everlasting memorial to our ancestors who took up the fight in those years that were America’s past, but also a precious gift of ensured freedom to our descendants in those years that will become America’s future.

Contact Colonel Dan:
colonedan@bellsouth.net

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## SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE

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<td>Grizzly Peak Jake</td>
<td>530-676-2997</td>
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To update your SASS Affiliated Club Listing or Annual Match please contact Slipnoose at the SASS Office phone: (877) 411-7277 or slipnoose@sassnet.com
### SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE (Cont.)

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<th>Sched.</th>
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<td>Dave Smith</td>
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<td>Justice D. Spencer</td>
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<td>Circle R Cowboys</td>
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<td>Mustang Bill</td>
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<td>314-740-6465</td>
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<td>601-443-5223</td>
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<td>406-761-0896</td>
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<td>Frank Cee</td>
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<td>Cathy Fisher</td>
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<td>Marshal T. J.</td>
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**SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE (Cont.)**

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To update your SASS Affiliated Club Listing or Annual Match please contact Slipnoose at the SASS Office ph: (877) 411-7277 or slipnoose@sassnet.com

Visit us at sassnet.com
### SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS

#### MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE (Cont.)

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<td>Humphrey Hook</td>
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<td>Fairfax</td>
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<td>Bad Company</td>
<td>540-886-3376</td>
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<td>K.C.’s Corral</td>
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<td>Virginia Rifleman</td>
<td>804-550-2242</td>
<td>Mechanicville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mattaponi Sundowners</td>
<td>3rd Sun &amp; 4th Sat</td>
<td>Flatboat Bob</td>
<td>804-785-2575</td>
<td>West Point</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pepper Mill Creek Gang</td>
<td>4th Sun</td>
<td>Slip Hammer Spiv</td>
<td>540-775-4561</td>
<td>King George</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bend of Trail</td>
<td>4th Sun</td>
<td>Rope - A. - Noo</td>
<td>540-890-6375</td>
<td>Roanoke</td>
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<td>Rivanna Company</td>
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<td>Virginia Ranger</td>
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<td>Doc McCoy</td>
<td>802-363-7162</td>
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<td>Hopalong Hoot</td>
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<td>Hellfire</td>
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<td>Pinto Annie</td>
<td>509-520-2789</td>
<td>Dayton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mima Marauders</td>
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<td>Okie Sawbones</td>
<td>360-705-3001</td>
<td>Olympia</td>
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<td>Mudflatt Mike</td>
<td>425-315-5719</td>
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<td>Cheyenne Sadie</td>
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<td>East Wenatchee</td>
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<td>Doc Neeley</td>
<td>360-417-0230</td>
<td>Port Angeles</td>
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<td>Black River Regionals</td>
<td>4th Sun</td>
<td>Wil Sackett</td>
<td>360-786-0199</td>
<td>Little Rocker</td>
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<td>Custer Renegades</td>
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<td>Joe Cummock</td>
<td>360-676-2587</td>
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<td>Sourdough</td>
<td>360-830-0100</td>
<td>Posholou</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beazley Gulch Rangers</td>
<td>Last Sun</td>
<td>An E. Di</td>
<td>509-787-1782</td>
<td>Quincy</td>
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<td>Hog Country Cowboys</td>
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<td>Cassidy</td>
<td>608-792-1494</td>
<td>Holmen</td>
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<td>817-655-2566</td>
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<td>James Rosewood</td>
<td>920-722-4105</td>
<td>Waupaca</td>
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<td>Wisconsin Old West Shootist, Inc</td>
<td>2nd Sun &amp; 4th Sat</td>
<td>BlackJack Martin</td>
<td>715-949-1621</td>
<td>Boyceville</td>
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<td>Liberty Prairie Regionals</td>
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<td>Dirty Deeds</td>
<td>920-229-5833</td>
<td>Ripon</td>
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<td>Marvin the Moyle</td>
<td>414-254-5992</td>
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<td>Down Ghost Riders</td>
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<td>Coffee Bean</td>
<td>304-327-9884</td>
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<td>Captain Tay</td>
<td>304-265-5719</td>
<td>Thornton</td>
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<td>The Raitail Rowdys</td>
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<td>Miss Print</td>
<td>304-589-6162</td>
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<td>Eddie Rebel</td>
<td>304-397-6188</td>
<td>Eleanor</td>
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<td>Jackson</td>
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<td>Cole McCulloch</td>
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<td>Yakima Red</td>
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<td>Kari Lynn</td>
<td>307-587-2946</td>
<td>Cody</td>
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<td>Doc Fehr</td>
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<td>Slings Lead</td>
<td>307-324-6955</td>
<td>Rawlins</td>
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<td>Sheriff J. R.</td>
<td>307-733-4559</td>
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**Note:** To all SASS Affiliated Clubs! Monthly & Annual Match Listings in the Chronicle & on sassnet.com! Make sure our Club Administrators knows all of your goings-on! Call Sliptune at the SASS Office or email sliptune@sassnet.com.

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**EUROPE**

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<td>Fra Diabolo</td>
<td>43 664 490 832</td>
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<td>42 060 322 2400</td>
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<td>Slim Dane</td>
<td>45 602 013 65</td>
<td>Greve</td>
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<td>Woodbury Kane</td>
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<td>Cheyenne Little Chris</td>
<td>33 67 570 3678</td>
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<td>L’Aquebusco d’Antoine</td>
<td>2nd Sun</td>
<td>Jeppesen</td>
<td>33 1 466 1789</td>
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<td>Handy Hook</td>
<td>33 68 803 1360</td>
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<td>Marshal Dunde</td>
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<td>33 32 856 029</td>
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<td>Sat</td>
<td>Little Shooting</td>
<td>33 655 8063</td>
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<tr>
<td>BeziQ</td>
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<td>Major John Lawson</td>
<td>03 32 3737</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tourists@Hotmail.fr">tourists@Hotmail.fr</a></td>
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### SASS Affiliated Clubs Monthly Shooting Schedule (Cont.)

#### Club Name
- CAS/SASS France
  - As Sch: Frenchie Boy
  - Phone: 336 169 32 076
  - City: Varies
- Germany Territory Shooters
  - As Sch: REPHIL
  - Phone: 320 718 81
  - City: Varies
- CAS Europe
  - Fri: Hurricane Irmi
  - Phone: 29 28 38 5087
  - City: Bocholt
- Cowboy Action Shooting
  - Last Sat: 03 10 52 21 0511
  - City: Edderitx
- Germany
  - Sat: 03 37 20 41 0805
  - City: Wegberg
- SASS Europe
  - Mon: 03 28 39 8080
  - City: Wegberg
- Jail Bird's Company
  - Mon: 03 21 37 42 065
  - City: Bond
- SASS Germany
  - Wed: 28 23 85 07
  - City: Sport

#### Hungary
- Western Rebels
  - As Sch: El Hektico
  - Phone: 260 140 3739
  - City: Galgacsas

#### Italy
- Old Gunners Shooting Club
  - As Sch: Renato Anese
  - Phone: 35 54 24 5391
  - City: Toppi di Travesio
- Green Heirs Rival
  - 1st Sun: 23 33 82 7898
  - City: Trevi

#### Luxembourg
- SASS Luxembourg
  - As Sch: Miles Smiley
  - Phone: 25 36 21 2900
  - City: Varies

#### Netherlands
- SASS Netherlands
  - As Sch: Lightning Anja
  - Phone: 31 6 75 21 2120
  - City: Leeuwarden

#### Northern Ireland
- Kells County Shooters
  - 1st Sat: 28 93 368 014
  - City: Varies

#### Norway
- Black Rivers
  - As Sch: Charles Quantrill
  - Phone: 97 32 96 9696
  - City: Loten
- Quantrill Raiders
  - Sun: 97 32 96 9696
  - City: Loten

#### Poland
- SASS Polish Western Shooting Association
  - As Sch: Trigger Hawkeye
  - Phone: 27 47 09 14 3795
  - City: Ligwino
- Union of Western Shooters of Serbia
  - Hombre des Nudos
  - Phone: 63 72 693
  - City: Humska

#### Sweden
- SASS Sweden Northern Rangers
  - As Sch: Northern S. T. Ranger
  - Phone: 46 72 20 7005
  - City: Varies

#### Switzerland
- Black Mountain Gunfighters
  - As Sch: Blacksmith Pete
  - Phone: 471 949 5800
  - City: Romainmôtier
- Old West Shooting Society of Switzerland
  - As Sch: Hondo Janssen
  - Phone: 44 271 9947
  - City: Zurich

#### International
- Aurora Desperados
  - 1st Fri: 905-551-0703
  - City: Aurora
- Robbers Roost Hamilton
  - 1st Sat: Bear Butte
  - Phone: 905-891-8627
  - City: Ancaster
- South Mountain Shooters
  - 1st Sat: Dutch Charlie
  - Phone: 902-538-9797
  - City: Berwick
- Red Mountain Renegades
  - 1st Sun: Preacher Flynn T. Locke
  - Phone: 604-820-156
  - City: Mission
- Barrie Gun Club
  - 2nd & 4th Sat: Northern Crow
  - Phone: 705-435-2807
  - City: Barrie
- Beau Basin Range Riders
  - 2nd Sat: Frenchy
  - Phone: 506-312-4555
  - City: Riverview, New Brunswick
- Lamont Sportsman’s Club
  - 2nd Sat: Clay Creek
  - Phone: 519-542-4644
  - City: St. Clair, Ontario
- Wentworth Shooting Sports Club
  - 2nd Sun: Stoney Creek
  - Phone: 905-664-3217
  - City: Hamilton
- Victoria Frontier Shootists
  - 2nd Sun: Black Ashley
  - Phone: 250-744-4705
  - City: Victoria, British Columbia

#### USA 2013

### SASS Affiliated Clubs Annual Matches

#### Monthly Mounted USA
- AZ
  - Tombstone Ghost Riders
    - 2nd Sun: Dan Nabbott
    - Phone: 520-456-0423
  - Tombstone Mounted Club
    - As Sch: Old Backaroes
    - Phone: 406-710-1616
- CA
  - Renegades of Montana
    - 1st Sun: Annetta Hugingskin
    - Phone: 970-565-8479
  - CT
    - Connecticut Renegades
      - As Sch: Cowboy Coblber
      - Phone: 860-558-7484
    - FL
      - Bay Area Bandits
        - 3rd Sat: Slow Poke’s Darlin
        - Phone: 813-924-0156
    - IN
      - Border Marauders Mounted
        - As Sch: Bad Buffalo Bob
        - Phone: 208-812-6292
    - ME
      - Maine Cowboy Mounted Shooters
        - NM
          - Buffalo Range Riders Mounted
            - 3rd Sat: Iceland
            - Phone: 506-263-5619
        - NF
          - Islanders Mounted Shooters
          - As Sch: Meatka Kid
          - Phone: 516-610-8166
          - Upstate New York Smokin’ Guns
            - As Sch: Renegade Roper
            - Phone: 518-883-5981
          - OH
            - Buck Irons Mounted Rangers
            - As Sch: Stonebarn
            - Phone: 513-829-4099
            - Middletown
            - As Sch: Ace Montana
            - Phone: 920-960-1714

#### Monthly Mounted International
- LEBANON
  - SASS Lebanon - El Rancho
    - As Sch: Packin Jesse
    - Phone: 911-318-5982
- CANADA
  - Quebec Mounted Shooting
    - As Sch: Dirty Owl Bert
    - Phone: 819-42-7842

#### South Carolina State Championship
- MARCH
  - Scotch's Revenge
    - 21 - 24
  - Cowboy Junky
    - 864-414-5578

#### Vermont
- Manse’s Revenge
  - 21 - 24
  - Charles Goodnight
  - Phone: 281-342-1210

#### Massachusetts
- Butterfield Range War
  - 36 - 27
  - Los Crusens

#### New York
- Big Irons Mounted Rangers
  - As Sch: Stonebarn
  - Phone: 513-829-4099
  - Middletown
  - As Sch: Ace Montana
  - Phone: 920-960-1714

#### To update your SASS Affiliated Club Listing or Annual Match please contact Slipnoose at the SASS Office ph: (877) 411-7277 or slipnoose@sassnet.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Match</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kansas State Championship</td>
<td>07 - 09</td>
<td>El Dorado</td>
<td>913-686-5314</td>
<td>Lenexa</td>
<td>KS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oregon State Championship</td>
<td>07 - 09</td>
<td>Molly b'Dum</td>
<td>541-479-2928</td>
<td>Grants Pass</td>
<td>OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Championship Battle of Rogue River</td>
<td>08 - 09</td>
<td>Flat Top Oke</td>
<td>405-373-1472</td>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>OK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oklahoma State Championship</td>
<td>12 - 15</td>
<td>Jubal O.</td>
<td>801-518-3374</td>
<td>Salt Lake</td>
<td>UT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah War</td>
<td>12 - 15</td>
<td>Sackett</td>
<td>775-721-6619</td>
<td>Fertile</td>
<td>NV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western States Shootout on the Comstock</td>
<td>13 - 16</td>
<td>Washoe</td>
<td>618-521-3619</td>
<td>Sparila</td>
<td>IA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utah HIGH PLAINS TERRITORIAL BP CHAMPIONSHIP</td>
<td>13 - 15</td>
<td>Sandy U.</td>
<td>901-844-3444</td>
<td>Sandia</td>
<td>UT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thunder at Big Salty</td>
<td>14 - 16</td>
<td>Modoc</td>
<td>530-365-1839</td>
<td>Butte</td>
<td>MT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revenge of Montezuma</td>
<td>14 - 16</td>
<td>Stumble Leena</td>
<td>970-739-9705</td>
<td>Cortez</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois State Championship</td>
<td>14 - 16</td>
<td>Beaucoup Joe</td>
<td>618-521-3619</td>
<td>Sparila</td>
<td>IA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Roundup at the Gulch</td>
<td>14 - 16</td>
<td>Wild River</td>
<td>701-588-4331</td>
<td>Kindred</td>
<td>ND</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dakota State Championship</td>
<td>14 - 16</td>
<td>Peace in the Valley</td>
<td>520-390-2263 Tombstone</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ambush in Indian Creek</td>
<td>15 - 16</td>
<td>Hays</td>
<td>724-593-6002</td>
<td>Dodge</td>
<td>PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shootout at Under the Midnight Sun</td>
<td>16 - 16</td>
<td>Chaccaroe</td>
<td>503-831-9666</td>
<td>Dumas</td>
<td>MS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah War</td>
<td>17 - 17</td>
<td>Green Springs</td>
<td>775-753-8203</td>
<td>Elko</td>
<td>NV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Championship Valley Days</td>
<td>17 - 17</td>
<td>Grizzly Bill</td>
<td>406-252-4157</td>
<td>Billings</td>
<td>MT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fort Hallee Days</td>
<td>17 - 17</td>
<td>Steve Despain</td>
<td>601-458-2236</td>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>ID</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yellowstone Valley Buffalo Stables</td>
<td>17 - 17</td>
<td>Grizzly Bill</td>
<td>406-252-4157</td>
<td>Billings</td>
<td>MT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Championship</td>
<td>17 - 17</td>
<td>Joe Cross</td>
<td>307-587-2946</td>
<td>Palmer</td>
<td>NV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ride of the Immortals</td>
<td>17 - 17</td>
<td>Easy Rider</td>
<td>770-954-9696</td>
<td>Griffin</td>
<td>GA</td>
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**USA 2013 Match Dates Contact Phone City State**

**Match Dates Contact Phone City State**

**Cowboy Chronicle**

**Visit us at sassnet.com**

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Charcoal SASS Marshal Cap $19.95
Burgundy SASS Marshal Cap $19.95
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SASS Sanctioned Match:
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☐ World Championship ☐ Territorial Shoot Out ☐ State Shoot Out

Date & Year: __________________________ Location: __________________________

Shooting Category: __________________________ Place of Finish: __________________________
Proof of Placement: __________________________
Club Contact: __________________________ Contact Phone: __________________________

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I get a lot of email on a lot of topics but that which boosts my spirits and tells me there are more solid patriots out there than the media or radical left would have us believe are those asking: What can I do to help restore that “Spirit of ’76”—especially now that Obama has come out of hiding regarding his true intentions for gun control!

What I’ll suggest is nothing magical or complex, just basic. The best operations I’ve ever seen (military or civilian) have been the simplest plans boldly executed by dedicated people. Simplicity works, and there is often a multiplier, so pray for the survival of the heartland is critical to all the suggestions that follow.

Know thyself. First and foremost, you must determine where you’re willing to take a stand before you decide what you’ll do and how far you’ll go. Then when the time comes to “put up or shut up,” you won’t be as torn when the pressure is greatest. Don’t start something you don’t have the heart to finish and don’t be a bar room hero—the ones that have bigger mouths than brains. I avoid bragadocio because those who talk most perform least when the chips are down. Still waters run deep while shallow waters just babble.

Get actively involved. Join one or more active pro-constitution/pro-gun groups and then support them with your time and money. Volunteer to help out with and attend their functions. Read about and discuss current issues, books, articles, and kick around ideas face to face, via email, and over the Internet with your fellow patriots—you’ll be encouraged by all the like-minded folks you meet.

Don’t expect to totally agree with every stance your group takes on every issue nor will you always agree with the tactics employed to fight every battle, but don’t quit just because of a few disagreements. Keep your eye on the big picture. It’s that final objective we’re interested in, not every rock we must step over in getting there.

Push for organization and coordination. Encourage your group to join forces and fight in a combined and coordinated way with other groups … something I’ve always advocated if we are to have a solid chance of success. By this I’m not suggesting all groups fold into one. What I’m advocating is the coordination of specific talents, resources, and actions of these separate groups toward a common objective. Coordinated and combined forces are far greater than the individual parts, and the establishment of such a combined force is the most effective means of taking action. There are an estimated 80 million gun owners in America and if even 10%, 8 million, stood together, they would be an immovable force … but they can’t do it as eight million individuals. They must be organized and focused as a coordinated force—see my SASS Wire post We MUST HAVE a Combined Force.

Speak with conviction, act boldly, and don’t compromise on principle. Politicians, the news media, and the nation must know how strongly we feel about preserving our freedom … we must “yell like hell” and in great numbers! They must realize we mean business and we will act boldly in preserving our constitutionally guaranteed freedom. Weight of numbers with a unified, bottom line message is more important than the exact words sent. Politicians are more impressed by sheer numbers than one or two eloquently written letters. So continually flood them with email, phone calls, faxes, and letters, and be willing to take to the streets if necessary in support of what you know is right. Let your determination and resolve shine through … leftists are frightened of strong and uncompromising resolve built on truth.

Support those that support America. Money talks, so as much as possible, do business only with those companies and people you know who stand up for traditional American values. Banks that issue credit cards to illegal invaders or advocate gun control is not a bank I’d support as an example. Just as important, let those businesses know why you are or are not supporting them. Be polite, but very firm.

Temper your anger and enthusiasm. “Those the gods seek to destroy, they first make mad.” Don’t allow unchecked anger or excessive enthusiasm to overrule good sense. Rushing down that trail will lead you into an ambush, and that’s not what we need to win. A professionally executed plan by a dedicated and focused force is more effective than even the largest band of irrational players. Let your actions speak very loudly and keep your cool. Cool heads always prevail while unchecked rage leads to destruction.

Don’t get discouraged. Don’t be taken in by lies and think all is lost. Question everything that comes from the mainstream press and every politician—take nothing at face value. Many in the anti-freedom camp will make the most outrageous statements telling you they’re winning because this is what the American people want, so you better jump on board … after all, it is for the children! Most Americans will never call them on these lies. Don’t be deceived. You know the right of it, so show them the courage of your convictions. Hang tough and be determined … don’t let down and don’t let up, challenge the lies at every turn and never give up.

Vote and encourage others to vote. Never think one vote doesn’t count. If everyone felt that way, we would indeed be lost—e.g., election 2012 wherein too many conservatives stayed home. I don’t presume to tell anyone how to vote even though I do have strong feelings about my own approach. I see myself as a Traditional Constitutionalist—certainly not a Republican or Democrat. I’ve been gravely disappointed in both major parties and have and will continue to vote my principles. Again, I’m not telling you how to vote, just to vote.

Work for your candidates. The more you actively work to promote those that will honestly stand up for our causes, the more people you will attract to jump on our wagon. That jumping on and joining in builds the momentum needed to make a real difference.

Read about the Founders and their struggle. This can be inspiring and give you inner strength. Pick a few favorites and get to know them. They faced tremendous challenges, but through dedication and perseverance, they won the cause to establish a free country inspired by God. Should we do less to preserve it? Pray for America. Regardless of what political correctness dictates, prayer is a real combat multiplier, so pray for the survival of the country God Himself inspired and we are now in danger of losing—from within.

This battle will be fully joined only when we, the so-called “silent majority,” are motivated enough to show Washington we seriously (Continued on page 60)
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NEW Gunfighter model, an 1873 CATTLEMAN with an army size grip for improved comfort and balance. .45LC or .357Mag, 5 ½" Barrel

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