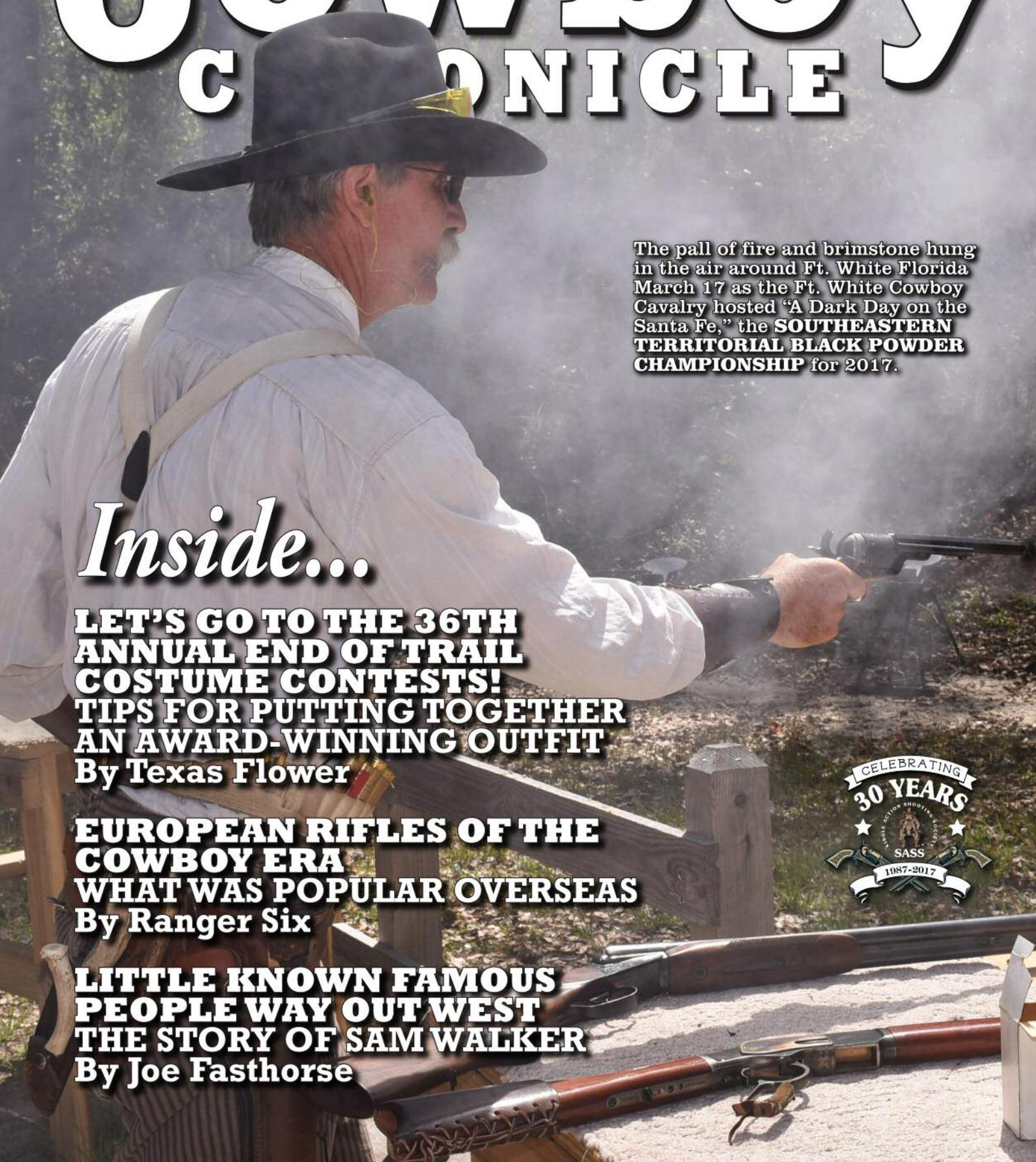


TWED

JUNE | 2017



Cowboy CONICLE



The pall of fire and brimstone hung in the air around Ft. White Florida March 17 as the Ft. White Cowboy Cavalry hosted "A Dark Day on the Santa Fe," the **SOUTHEASTERN TERRITORIAL BLACK POWDER CHAMPIONSHIP** for 2017.

Inside...

LET'S GO TO THE 36TH ANNUAL END OF TRAIL COSTUME CONTESTS! TIPS FOR PUTTING TOGETHER AN AWARD-WINNING OUTFIT
By Texas Flower

EUROPEAN RIFLES OF THE COWBOY ERA WHAT WAS POPULAR OVERSEAS
By Ranger Six

LITTLE KNOWN FAMOUS PEOPLE WAY OUT WEST THE STORY OF SAM WALKER
By Joe Fasthorse



Wild West Mercantile

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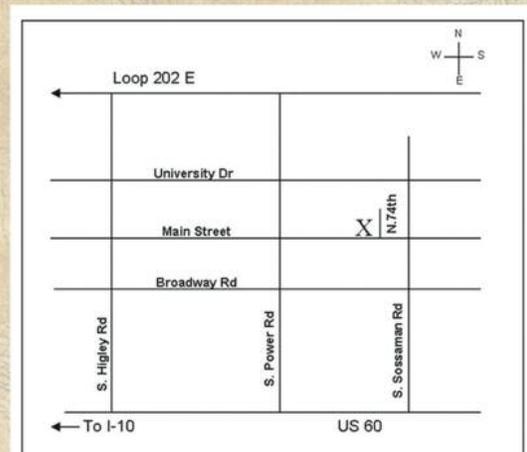
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June 1, 2017 thru September 30, 2017

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The Cowboy Chronicle



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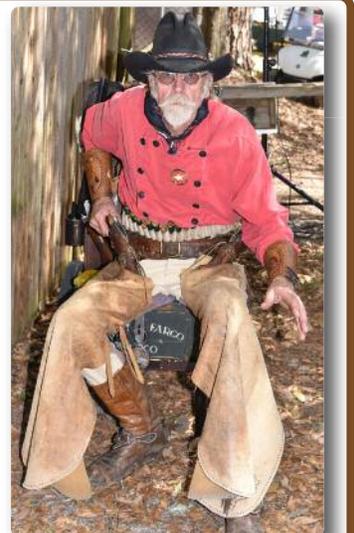
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*Silver Buck Chuck
(SASS #85397)
strikes a dramatic
pose during the
2017 Southeastern
Territorial Black
Powder Champi-
onship near Ft.
White, Florida.
He went on to take
a Second Place
award in Elder
Statesman Frontier
Cartridge Duelist.*





Tennessee Tall, SASS #49245
and Rio Drifter, SASS #49424

THEY CAME FROM ALL OVER! A DARK DAY ON THE SANTA FE 2017

By Tennessee Tall, SASS #49245 and Rio Drifter, SASS #49424



In 2014 fifty-five SASS® cowboys and cowgirls came for A Dark Day on the Santa Fe. In 2015, eighty-seven showed up. In 2016 there were 100 Single Action Shooting Society competitors. And in 2017 there were 104 black powder

shooters and 24 smokeless shooters at A Dark Day on the Santa Fe, and they came from all over! Fifteen states were represented—New Hampshire, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas, South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Louisiana,

Alabama, Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, Ohio, and Florida.

The Fort White Cowboy Calvary, located near Ft. White, Florida, hosted the 2017 South Eastern Territorial Black Powder Championship on March 17. The eight fun-filled, well-



A Dark Day on the Santa Fe Winners.



First Place Senior Frontiersman
Amarillo Rattler (SASS #68423).

A Dark Day on the Santa Fe 2017 . . .

written stages were based on Blazing Saddles, so even if you didn't shoot well, you had to chuckle. Match Directors Confederate Colt (SASS #31216) and Cheatin Chamberlin (SASS #74288) were aided and abetted with a cast of characters: Greta Dee, Oakley Mouse, Iva Gun, Luna Corazon, Major Mishap,

Pat McAlhany, High Springs Drifter, Miss Patty, Deadwood Blackie, Monty Drew, J. Bird Blue, Lightload, Shenandoah Star, Yadkins Hawk, Trooper Brown, Little Man, Ennah Tizzy, Purdy Sharp, Deadly Sharpshooter, Kingfish Dave, Jane Deere, Rocky Creek Shooter, General Lee Smokey, and the whole Fort White Gun Club. All the incredible photos you see here were taken by Macinaw (SASS #62872), the official photographer.

We are most grateful for our sponsors: Gunzilla, Starline Brass, Tandy Leather, Docsoldwest, Tego Ear Gear, Red River Bullets, Bullets by Scarlett, Hodgdon Powder, Mer-nickle Holsters, Cardboard Cowboy, Foxy Filly, Black Diamond Nicki, Bullets by Chance, Midway USA, Dixie Gunworks, Chey Cast Bullets, Klassic Laser Works, Redwing Trading Company, Cowboy Guns, UniqueTek, and American Pioneer Powder. The South River Shootists, Old North State Posse, Ambush at Cavern Cove, Russell County Regulators, The Memphis Gunslingers, The



Top Lady and Top Man
Black Powder shooters
*Shamrock Sadie and
Christian Mortician.*

Lake County Pistoleros clubs contributed support for the shoot showing "United We Stand" is still a working theory. Nothing happens in a vacuum. Without all these people contributing A Dark Day wouldn't

(Continued on page 6)





A Dark Day on the Santa Fe 2017 . . .

(Continued from page 5)

be the success it has become. THANK YOU.

Silver Buck Chuck (SASS #85397) got things off to a BOOMING BIG START with his 10 gauge cannon. (Nobody slept through the opening ceremonies.) We laughed, we shot, we ate lunch, and we found the youngest shooter was 10 years old (Rapid Fire Trouble, SASS #105354), while the oldest shooter was 79 years old (Frank

Loving, SASS #93761) Christian Mortician (SASS #83177) was top Black Powder Cowboy, Shamrock Sadie (SASS #78511) was top Black Powder Cowgirl. Two Step Net (SASS #98311) took top Smokeless Cowgirl, with Delta Glen (SASS #39197) taking top Smokeless Cowboy. All the scores for A Dark Day on the Santa Fe are available at <http://fwcc.net/2017-scores/>.

If you missed it, you missed a darn good time. Start planning now for the Fifth Anniversary of A Dark Day on the Santa Fe, March 10, 2018, featuring scenarios based on Quigley Down Under. Please visit <http://fwcc.net/black-powder/> for more information. 🤠



From The Editor



Skinny, SASS #7361

SKINNY'S SOAPBOX

By Skinny, SASS #7361

European Rifles

This month, Ranger Six (SASS #94237) has presented us with an interesting overview of Cowboy-era military and sporting rifles from overseas. One of the rifles he touches on is the Vetterli, adopted by the Swiss and then the Italian governments *circa* 1869. I found this section of the article particularly interesting in that I own one of each—a Swiss Vetterli that has been converted to .41 Swiss center fire and an Italian Vetterli that has been converted to 6.5 Carcano.

Recently I discovered a source for new .41 Swiss ammo, manufactured by resizing and reshaping 8mm Lebel brass, so I thought it was time to try out my 150-year-old jewel at a local Bolt Action Military match. Though target distances ranged from about 75 to about 120 yards at the match, I soon discovered these old rifles were meant to shoot at extreme distances—the lowest setting on the rear sight of my rifle is for 225 meters. After some trial and error with “Kentucky windage,” I found I could hit a target fairly consistently by aiming at the ground below the target stand! Once that was established, the old warhorse proved itself to be very accurate, as are most Swiss rifles. Next I guess I’ll have to try out the Italian.

Match Reports

Recently, a reader commented there are fewer match reports in *The Cowboy Chronicle* than there used to be. This does indeed seem to be the trend, and the observation is borne out by our present issue, which contains just two reports. The sad truth is, with few exceptions I run as many match reports as I get every month. This month I’m running only two because I re-

ceived only two. A possible reason for this may be many of our regular contributors (Palaver Pete comes to mind), who could be counted upon to supply regular reports, have gotten older and have decided to “retire” from *The Cowboy Chronicle* for a much deserved rest.

While I can understand that part of it, I am distressed that more members have not stepped forward to supply club and event articles. The vast majority of our readers are very interested in learning what other clubs around the country (and the world) are up to, and one of the prime focuses of *The Cowboy Chronicle* is to provide such information. So consider this a call for match reports. And not just State level and above... ALL annual events—and for that matter monthly events, as Palaver Pete proved—are interesting. So I would exhort every club to designate a reporter and a photographer to their matches to provide articles. If you send them to me, there’s an extremely high chance they’ll get published.

Comic Book Corner

Featured this issue is the second comic book adventure of Lone Ranger wannabe, the Lone Rider. “Many Ways to Die” is from *Lone Rider* #2 (June 1951) and was published by Ajax-Farrell. Note that the cover depicts a scene that has nothing to do with the story inside. This was not uncommon for comic books of that era. As always, material for Comic Book Corner comes to us through Comic Book Plus. Visit their website at www.comicbookplus.com to enjoy more vintage Western and other genre comic books.

—Skinny



SASS Scholarship Help Educate Our Youth



News

Silver Screen Legend **XX**

Dedicated To Television's **Wyatt Earp** **Hugh O'Brian** and to **Ned Buntline**

Edward Zane Carroll Judson, better known by his pen name, Ned Buntline, was a writer, publisher and promoter of Dime Novels in the 1800s. He is credited with designing the Colt Buntline Special, a firearm that Stuart Lake described in his 1931 biography, *Wyatt Earp: Frontier Marshal*. According to Lake, Buntline commissioned the production of five Buntline Specials. Lake described them as .45 caliber Colt

Single Action Army Revolvers with extra-long 12-inch barrels. Lake wrote that Buntline presented these special guns to five lawmen in thanks for their help in contributing to the local color of his western stories.

Even though numerous films and TV shows have been based on Lake's book, including the first so-called adult western television series, *The Life and Legend of Wyatt Earp* starring Hugh O'Brian in the title role, re-





Silver Screen Legend XX . . .

search has shown the book was largely fictionalized and there is no record at the Colt factory of an order from Ned Buntline. However, in the popular TV series, O'Brian frequently carried and used a Buntline Special, contributing to the myth and interest in the gun.

Silver Screen Legend XX this year is dedicated to Hugh O'Brian as television's Wyatt Earp *and* to Ned Buntline. Included is a pair of exquisite Colt Single Action Army Revolvers in .45 Colt caliber. One is an engraved Buntline Special with a 12-inch barrel and the consecutive-serial-numbered mate is also engraved in the same pattern with a 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch barrel. Both are in a durable and handsome bright nickel finish. Buntlines are rare and almost never engraved and almost never in a nickel finish, making this pair of extraordinary firearms among the most rare!

The Hollywood style double Buscadero belt and holster rig is masterfully crafted with sterling silver engraved buckles in the style of Hugh O'Brian as Wyatt Earp. This is truly a museum quality cowboy collectible that anyone would be proud to own and display.

The Happy Trails Children's Foundation is pleased to honor legendary lawman Wyatt Earp as depicted by actor Hugh O'Brian with this outstanding tribute. This is the 20th year the foundation, through the generosity of the renowned Colt's Manufacturing Co. LLC of Hartford Connecticut, has used very special guns and holsters to raise money for abused children. Jim Lockwood of Legends in Leather crafted the handsome double holster rig. The magnificent engraving on the guns and the silver buckles on the belt and holsters were provided by Conrad Anderson, Rocktree

Ranch. Ron Love made and donated the prop cartridges. All these wonderful people and companies are enduring examples of that very special American Spirit known as "the cowboy way."

As a result of our association with Roy Rogers and Dale Evans and the positive and wholesome family values and American Patriotic Traditions they represented, the Happy Trails Children's Foundation is the only known children's charity in the country today that actively supports shooting sports, Second Amendment Rights, and responsible gun ownership. In turn, the foundation is supported by generous contributions from shooters, collectors, organized shooting sports, the media, and the firearms industry. We are proud of this unique partnership!

Order your tickets today for this beautiful and unique museum quality one-of-a-kind cowboy collectible. Tickets are \$10 each U.S. or 11 tickets for \$100. The drawing will be held Saturday evening, December 16, 2017. **YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN!** The winner will be notified by phone. You may check our website for the winner's name after the drawing.

The total proceeds of this drawing benefit the Happy Trails Children's Foundation for abused children. The Foundation is a charitable non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. All donations are fully tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. In accordance with postal regulations, no consideration is necessary to participate in this drawing. There are three easy ways to purchase tickets. You may order tickets by our **toll-free ORDER LINE (855) 788-4440**, by mail, **Happy Trails Children's Foundation, SSL XX, 10755 Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley, CA 92308** or online, www.happytrails.org. Discover, MasterCard and VISA accepted. 🇺🇸

News

Devil Pups *Support* **The Dixie Desperados** *Sponsoring* **Four Corners Regional**



Devil Pups Jeff Stouffer and Antesha Tate and Devil Pups Advisor Les Covey chat with match coordinator B. T. Blade (SASS #35685) during a break at the Four Corners Regional.



Devil Pups are introduced to members of the Dixie Desperados.

April 27 2017. The Dixie Desperados hosted the Four Corners Regional shooting match Wednesday, April 27, 2017 through Saturday, April 29, 2017 at their range located at Southern Utah Shooting Range between St. George and Hurricane, Utah.

As an assist to the club, Devil Pup volunteers helped with range duties during the match. For the Devil Pups' service, participants were asked to donate to help them in their programs.

According to Les Covey, counselor to the Devil Pups and a member of the Utah Dixie Detachment 1270 Marine Corps League, "this allows the partic-

ipating youth to raise funds for their trip to Camp Pendleton later in the summer."

Every year, several local youth groups participate in a citizenship program that starts with spring training and ultimately takes them to a 10-day "summer camp" experience at Camp Pendleton, California.

Preparation for Camp Pendleton starts in the spring with early morning and Saturday workouts supervised by volunteers from the Utah Dixie Detachment. Bill Fortune, public information officer for the detachment, said this preparation narrows the field from the start of the program to those who end up attending the camp.

"They start with about 15 to 20 kids," Fortune said. "By the time they get through all their exercises and get physically ready to go down to Pendleton, there are usually about eight or nine of them."

With funds collected at the Regional, more local youths were able to participate.

For further information on the Dixie Desperados Shooting Club at Southern Utah Practical Shooting range see their website, www.dixiedesperados.com or contact club president William Waddy at 435-773-8916.

For further information on the Devil Pups program, contact William G. Fortune at Bill.fortune2@gmail.com or 435-238-7708. Ⓐ

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2017 SASS WESTERN REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



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- 12 Main Stages
- Warm Up Matches
- Cowboy Trap
- Long Range (100y and 400y)
- Black Powder Night Shoot
- Wild Bunch
- Top 16 Shoot-Off
- Team Shoot
- Plainsman
- Buckaroo/Buckarette Match
- Costume Contest



ROGER RAPID

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 - CVR's Famous 5-Star Dinner
 - 2 Dozen Vendors
 - Last Chance Saloon Social
 - Poker Tournament
 - Exciting nearby places to visit
 - Awards ceremony
 - Camping space for 200 trailers
 - Nearby motels
 - Fantastic weather
- and much more....*

And, we've got a lot in store for you - check out this hefty schedule of events:

Wednesday, Aug 9

- 11:00 - 2:00: Shooter Check-in
- 8:00-12:00: ROI Class
- 12:45- 4:30: ROII Class
- 1:00- until: Wild Bunch, 3 stages
- 1:30- until: Warm up Matches, 3 stages*
- 2:00- 5:00: Cowboy Trap*
- 5:00- 7:00: Shooter Check-in
- 7:45- until: Black Powder Night Shoot

Thursday, Aug 10

- 7:00-11:00: Long range, 100y & 400y*
- 8:00- 2:00: Shooter Check-in
- 8:00-11:00: Cowboy Trap*
- 11:00- 3:00: Speed Matches:*
pistol, rifle, shotgun
- 11:00- until: Warm up Matches, 3 stages*
- 1:00- until: Plainsman*
- 2:00- until: Warm up Matches, 3 stages*
- 2:00- until: Buckaroo/Buckarette match
- 4:00- 6:00: Shooter Check-in
- 4:30- until: (Posse leader walkthrough)
- 5:30- until: TG meeting
- 6:00- until: Social at Last Chance Saloon

Friday, Aug 11

- 7:00- 8:00: Shooter Check-in
- 7:30- 8:00: Mandatory shooter meeting
- 8:00- until: Main Match, Posses 1-12
- 12:00- 12:30: Mandatory shooter meeting
- 12:30- until: Main Match, Posses 13-24
- 5:30- until: Social at Last Chance Saloon
- 7:00- until: Texas Hold'em Tournament

Saturday, Aug 12

- 8:00- until: Main Match, Posses 13-24
- 12:30- until: Main Match, Posses 1-12
- 5:30- until: Social at Last Chance Saloon
- 6:30- until: Chorro Valley's Famous 5-Star Dinner and music

Sunday, Aug 13

- 7:15- until: Cowboy Church
- 8:30- until: Team shoot
- 10:00- until: Men's and Ladies's Top-16 Shoot-Off
- 12:00- until: Awards Ceremony

* See registration form for events that are included in entry fee, and for any "additional shoot" charges.

Exact times of events subject to change prior to event.

Want to learn what others say about our event?

Please watch this 4.5 minute video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ob6_42HiJbk

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Mark your calendars now!

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(mail-in registration forms available - see CVR forms, bottom of home page)

Questions or more info?

Shooter or Match questions: Sinful (Match Co-Director) - michaeltgarrippe@yahoo.com

Camping: Miss Lefty O'Neal - floyburkett@yahoo.com

Vendor participation: Roger Rapid - roger@siminoff.net

Costuming Corner



Texas Flower, SASS #43753
With Cat Ballou, SASS #55 and
Kathouse Kelli, SASS #72384

Let's Go To The 36th Annual END of TRAIL Costume Contests!

By Texas Flower, SASS #43753

With Cat Ballou, SASS #55 and Kathouse Kelli, SASS #72384

Photos by Texas Flower

Are you ready? The 2017 END of TRAIL Costume Contests are fast approaching! If you are like some of us, you have been preparing for the costume contests for months! But, if you have not, it is never too late! "Tribute to Clint Eastwood" will be the theme for END of TRAIL this year. Wow, what an awesome theme for a Silver Screen costume! Check out some of his movies and find the perfect costume for you So... let's give some thought to preparing and what to consider for a great costume contest experience.

We probably will all agree costume contests can be a little daunting at times, but the judges are very nice folks doing a "job" that is not always easy, and they are your SASS friends! Don't be shy, put on that costume and "strut" on over to the Gem Saloon for the contests!

There will be several opportunities to "show off" your cos-

tumes at the 36th Annual END of TRAIL. ALL costume contestants MUST be ACTIVE SASS members. NO pre-registration is required for any of the contests, just

show up, sign up, and show off!

First you need to know when, where, and what categories will be offered. Then, you can decide which contest(s) and category (or



EOT 2016 contestants

Kathouse Kelli, Texas Flower, Hawkshaw Fred, and Annie D Vine.

VISIT US AT SASSNET.COM

36th Annual END of TRAIL Costume Contests! . . .



Doc Barium tells the judges about her costume at EOT 2016.

loon on Monday, June 19, 2017 from 2:00 p.m. till 4:00 p.m. Awards will be presented Friday evening, June 23 at the Belle Union Saloon.

The following Daytime Costume Contests will be judged at the Gem Saloon on Thursday, June 22 and Friday June 23.

(Continued on page 14)

categories) are most appropriate for you to enter.

Wild Bunch Costumes – First through third place awards will be given for the Best Male and Best Female costume. Judging will take place in the Gem Sa-



But ladies, I just came in from the range.

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36th Annual END of TRAIL Costume Contests! . . .

(Continued from page 13)

NOTE: Gun Carts will also be judged on these days with three places awarded. Regardless of which shooting relay you are on, times will be scheduled so everyone will have the opportunity to participate on one of the days. Please consult your END of TRAIL program book for the specific times. All awards will be presented Friday evening, June 23 at the Belle Union Saloon.

Shooting Costumes – First through third place awards will be given for the Best Male, Female, Junior Girl, and Junior Boy. The costume being judged **MUST** be the costume in use on the range.

Conventioneer Costumes – First through third place awards will be given for Best Male, Female, Junior Girl, and Junior Boy.

Waddie Costumes – First place awards will be given for Best Male and Female.

Sutler Costumes – First place awards will be given for Best Male and Female. *They will be judged at their booths sometime during the event.*

The Best Dressed Evening Costumes will be judged at the Gem Saloon on Saturday, June 24 from



Soiled Dove Winners, EOT 2009.

5:30 p.m. till 7:00 p.m. A costume promenade and awards presentation will be that evening in the Belle Union Saloon.

Best Dressed Costumes – First through third place awards will be given for Best Dressed Man, Lady, Couple, Military, B-Western/Silver Screen Man and Lady, Soiled Dove, Parlor House Madam, Junior Girl, and Junior Boy.

Scoring criteria for costume contests are usually based on authenticity, originality, details, and contestant's knowledge of the costume. A **short** story is always welcome, but it is not necessary.

Once you decide what contest(s) you plan to enter and what you will wear, let's talk about what to expect and how to prepare.

When called, walk right up to the judges' table and "try" to not be afraid or shy. Smile—this is for fun! After you give the judges your assigned number, give them a moment to find the correct category page. When they are ready, you should be prepared to tell them about your costume and don't forget to mention the accessories. They might have a few questions, but not always. Please remember, there is a *time limit* for each contestant, usually a couple of minutes.

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Junior Girls Ghost Angel and Fast Draw Fawn wait to be judged at EOT 2016.



Best Dressed Ladies, EOT 2013.



Best Dressed Couple Texas Jack Daniels and Shotgun, EOT 2015.

36th Annual END of TRAIL Costume Contests! . . .

Here are a few things you should be prepared to tell the judges:

- What inspired you to create or have the costume made that you are wearing? (A fashion plate, something you saw in a museum, a picture, or a movie character.) If you have a picture, bring it with you to help tell your story.
- What era or time period is your costume?
- Is your costume worn for a specific occupation or for a special occasion?
- What accessories do you have for your costume? Is there anything special about any of them?
- Where did you get your accessories? Details are a very important part of your costume.
- Your costume should not have a zipper unless you are in the B-Western/Silver Screen category.
- Ladies, does your costume have the correct hat for the era? Or maybe it requires a tiara or just flowers in your hair. Do you need a wig or hairpiece for your costume? Does your costume require jewelry, a parasol, or cane? What about gloves? Unless you are entering the Soiled Dove/Parlor House Madam category or have a special fantasy costume, your corset should not be seen.
- Gentlemen, is your costume for a particular occupation, such as a banker, marshal, or saloon

entrepreneur? Are you out for the evening? Do you have all your accoutrements for your costume?

- Do you plan to enter the couple's category? If so, be sure both your costumes are of the same time period (e.g. 1860s) or type of dress (e.g. B-Western). The important thing is to have fun and enjoy the costuming associated with our sport! Encourage each other, be inspired by others, and don't be afraid to ask about costumes others are wearing.

We do hope to see you at the Gem Saloon for the 36th Annual END of TRAIL Costume Contests! 🌟

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Annual Matches

CENTRAL CANADIAN Regional Championship 2016

By Bad Penny, SASS #1453



Bad Penny, SASS #1453



*Critter T. Longshot
with his Pale Rider trophy.*

The Bar-E Ranch is where the fifth annual Central Canadian Regional Championship of Cowboy Action Shooting™ was held. It is also in the center lane of Ontario's Tornado Alley. In Mid July, a wary weather eye is constantly cocked for threatening clouds. Luckily, in 2016 the weather eye was cocked on an empty chamber. No tents were ripped from their moorings, no Wild Bunchers flushed away in torrential down-pours, but lordy, was it hot!

The 15 valiant volunteers who hefted steel and dressed the scenarios with gallows, damsels-

in-distress chained to railway tracks (When ready line: "Dudley Do-Right can't save you now, Nell.") saloons, barns as big as garden sheds, and the wooden cutout peeps of Kitty Katz Arizona, should get medals along with sweat transfusions as every breath of sodden air came right from the Gulf of Mexico.

The molten conditions lasted through Side Match and Wild Bunch day. "I had to wring out my clothes and then clean my guns," complained Chuckwagon Chad (SASS #102623), the stalwart, strapping lad who took over wrangling the Range Burlington Bushwackers from yours truly and has done a great job of it. It was his first Wild Bunch match and he shot it with smokeless powder, something he considers a mere passing fad. For the Main Match he reverted to the dark side, taking second place in Frontier Cartridge.

Day one of the Main Match dawned like Baby Bear's porridge... just right. Light gray cloud cover, cool breezes, and a fun match with no procedural traps and no outlandish sweeps that leave old chuckleheaded



*Top man and lady Chance Arizona and Canadian Two Feathers
show off their Cadillacs.*



Central Canadian Regional Championship 2016 . . .

Cattle Barons like me lost after the first three shots. (And yet only five of the 83 shooters shot clean.) It really doesn't get much better than that. When it did sprinkle a few drops, the only things that were tucked under the slickers were the guns. Everyone else turned sunburned faces gratefully up to the cool shower.

My favorite stage was dubbed, "That feller couldn't hit the broadside of a barn." A red painted barn had a white door. Stage instructions were, "Ten rounds from rifle and five rounds each from the revolvers on the barn." We call that an Ontario Sweep. "That's the target, just the door," the posse thought. "No," said the posse marshal, "the target is the whole barn."

Too easy, eh? When the really fast riflemen tackled the barn, it was as if they were rocketing

through the Van Allen meteor belt. Shiny arcs of ejected live rounds curved into the air—quite the show. Front sights lads and lasses, front sights. (Even though that thought would not have helped me. I grabbed up my rifle, shouldered it and, lo and behold, no front sight at the end of the barrel.) No actual misses and a panicked rummaging in my soft case back at the car park revealed the errant sight safely within. That's the good news. After I showed my posse the absence of front sight on the clock, there was no need to discuss my time.

After guns were put away and virtue and the Cowboy Way made safe for another day, the Columbian Squires, a fundraising arm of the Knights of Columbus, put on a spread fit to founder the Seventh Cavalry. Steak, chicken, piles of salads,

(Continued on page 19)



| <u>Winners</u> | | | FC Duelist | Two Tracks | |
|-------------------|---------------------|----|---------------|-----------------------|----|
| Wild Bunch | | | | SASS #53162 | PA |
| Overall | The Boy | | Gunfighter | The Boy | |
| | SASS #87709 | ON | | SASS #87709 | ON |
| Overall | | | Lady 49'er | Canadian Two Feathers | |
| Man | Chance Arizona | | | SASS #70784 | ON |
| | SASS #80609 | ON | Lady FC | Ruby Rose Longshot | |
| Lady | Canadian Two | | | SASS #67697 | PA |
| | Feathers | | Lady Senior | | |
| | SASS #70784 | ON | | Lady Smith | |
| 49'er | Laredo | | | SASS #41781 | ON |
| | SASS #39142 | ON | L. S. Senior | | |
| Buckarette | | | | Sunny Jo | |
| | Pinkie Pie | | | SASS #94627 | ON |
| | SASS #104637 | ON | Pale Rider | Critter T. Longshot | |
| B-Western | Milton Kid | | | SASS #53811 | PA |
| | SASS #85788 | ON | Senior | Rawhide Wilson | |
| C. Baron | Bad Penny | | | SASS #40834 | ON |
| | SASS #1453 | ON | S. Gunfighter | | |
| Classic CB | Northern Crow | | | Mickey O'Rye | |
| | SASS #39113 | ON | | SASS #86989 | ON |
| Cowboy | Chance Arizona | | Silver Senior | | |
| | SASS #80609 | ON | | Northern Easy Rider | |
| Cowgirl | Kactus Kat | | | SASS #92528 | ON |
| | SASS #94280 | ON | S. S. Duelist | | |
| Duelist | Lock N Load | | | Doc Brant | |
| | SASS #87491 | ON | | SASS #93066 | ON |
| E. Statesman | | | Wrangler | Lucky Hand Luke | |
| | Lefty Lorenzo | | | SASS #100337 | ON |
| | SASS #100744 | ON | | | |
| Fr. Cartridge | | | | | |
| | Snuffy Dave Edwards | | | | |
| | SASS #51055 | ON | | | |





Central Canadian Regional Championship 2016 . . .

(Continued from page 17)

and pie after pie were put away until everyone crawled off to bed.

Day two had four more stages to go before we got to know who won the Cadillacs. Ever since the crew of the Bar-E heard, “You can’t win a Cadillac Cowboy Action Shooting™” a Cadillac has been presented to top man and top lady at their regional championship matches. They started small with matchbox models. They are almost a foot long these days. Convertibles too—with whitewalls.

But for all the happy banging, clanging, joshing and laughter, there was a serious reflective tone to this edition of the Central Canadian Regional. One of our number, a cherished and much admired champion in his own right had his cancer return. Back to the chemo, back to the hospital parking, etc. All the match’s fundraising this year, 50/50 draw, raffles, consignment tent takings, were put into his fund and \$1,850 was raised. We take care of our own. Much generosity was on display, too. Elwood Epps, a local gun shop donated a \$500 powder measure, Tandy Leather gave a holster kit, Stick Man (SASS #85041) gave a 10/22 Ruger in memory of his son Tuco. Shooters Senator Buttercup (SASS #94991—a real live member of the Upper House of Canada’s Parliament) and Black Jack Shellak (SASS #71818) donated his and hers Caravelle watches.

We had competitors travel all the way from New Brunswick, Quebec, and even four shooters who made it up to the boiling north from Pennsylvania to shoot with us. Better still, three of them became Central Canadian Champions. Crit-

ter T. Longshot (SASS #53188) took the Golden Bucket symbolic of Pale Rider winner. He accepted his medal puffing on his corncob pipe. That man loves smoke. Ruby Rose Longshot (SASS #67697) took Ladies Frontier Cartridge, and Two Tracks (SASS #53162) took Frontier Cartridge Duelist. Shop Along Sassy (SASS #67795) was in the hunt, too, taking third in Ladies Silver Senior. Let’s hear it for our Pennsylvanian guests. 🤠

SILVER SCREEN XX

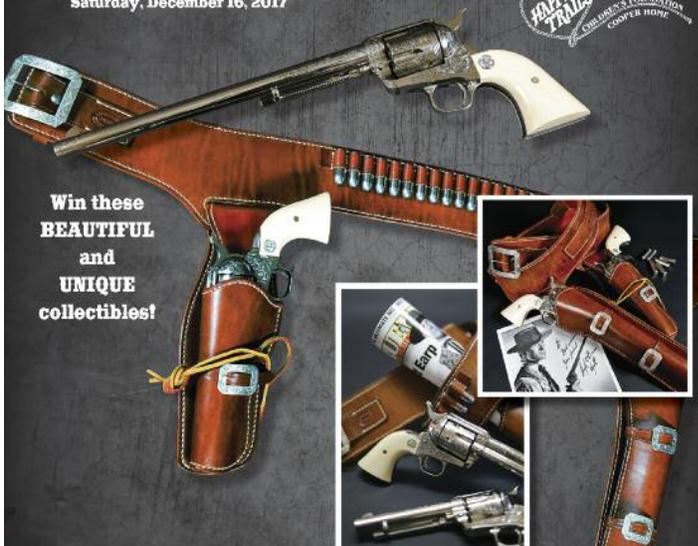
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*Captain George Baylor,
SASS Life / Regulator #24287*

Guns & Gear

DISPATCHES FROM CAMP BAYLOR

The Hat That Won The West and the Suit That Went With It

By Captain George Baylor, SASS #24287 Life Regulator

In 1849 the London company of hatters, James Lock & Co. of St James's received a visit from Edward Coke, younger brother of Thomas Coke, the Earl of Leicester. He commissioned them to design a close-fitting, low-crowned hat to protect gamekeepers from low-hanging branches while on horseback at Holkham Hall, his brother's 25,000-acre estate in Norfolk. The gamekeepers had previously worn top hats, which were knocked off easily and damaged. James Lock & Co. turned to London hat-makers Thomas and William Bowler to design and make the hat.

When Edward Coke arrived in London on December 17, 1849 to collect his hat he placed it on the floor and stamped hard on it twice to test its strength. The hat withstood this test and Coke paid 12 shillings for it.

The hat became popular first with the working class and came to America in droves with Irish immigrants. In America it was called the Derby hat. "The bowler, not the cowboy hat or sombrero, was the most popular hat in the



The photo that enabled the Pinkertons to go after the Wild Bunch.

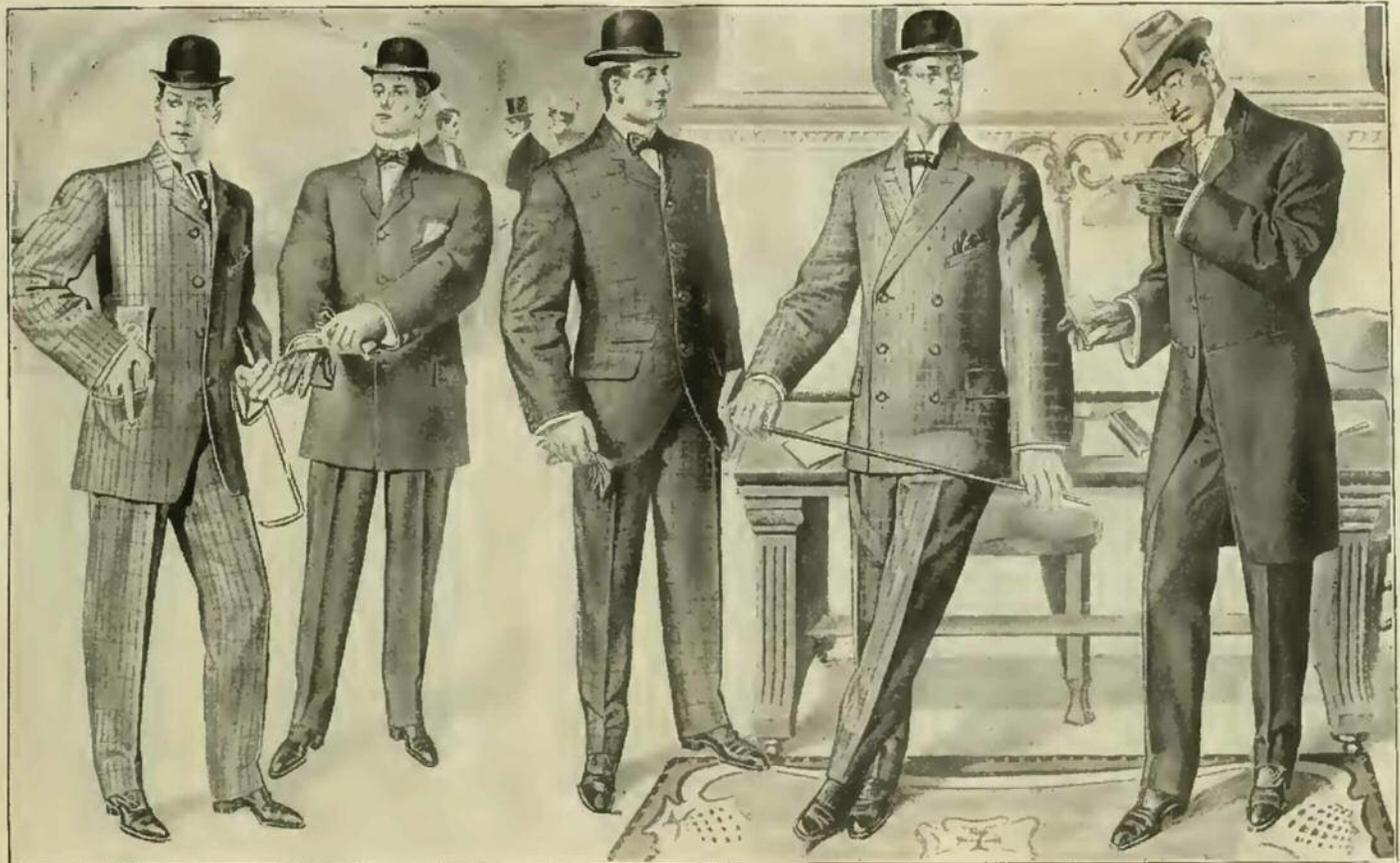
American West, prompting Lucius Beebe to call it "the hat that won the West" (Wikipedia). Photographs of western icons from Bat Masterson to Black Bart to Butch Cassidy all feature derby hats and sack suits.

Derby hats varied considerably, as you would expect with

anything made in the millions by hatters around the world. Crowns could be low or high, brims could be flat or rolled and dipped and varied in width.

After 14 years of dealing with uniforms and things like swords, sashes, helmets, and beards at Saturday night SASS® parties I re-

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STYLE 32 Four-button single breasted straight front sack.

STYLE 4 Four-button single breasted round cornered sack.

STYLE 30 Three-button double breasted square cut sack, with long lapels.

STYLE 5—Four-button frock, usually worn with only the top button closed; generally called a one-button cutaway frock. No outside pockets.

The suits Sears sold in 1906. Apparently men then were very tall, with long arms and very small heads.

Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

cently completed a two-year project to develop a non-military costume for evening wear. It started with a derby.

David Johnson of [D Bar J Hats](#) made a derby for me in granite grey using the one worn by Johnny Behan in *Tombstone* for inspiration. Unlike cowboy hats, which get better and more durable as the percentage of beaver fur increases, the preferred fur is rabbit because the hat gets its stiffness from lacquer, and the beaver fiber is too tight for the lacquer to soak in properly. John B. Stetson, coming from an English hat making family, knew all the details of making the popular hat and used lacquer in the Boss of the Plains to keep the brim and crown in shape.

Sack Suits

The sack suit began in the 1840s as informal wear in France. There are several myths about the name. Sack, sac, sacque, etc., all

refer to the way the back of the jacket is cut; *i.e.* “sack cut.” This simply means the back is formed of two pieces only, cut relatively

(Continued on page 22)

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Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

(Continued from page 21)



Bat Masterson wearing a sack suit with a derby hat. It looks like he has celluloid cuffs on his shirt.

straight down, instead of being made up of four curved pieces with hidden pockets in the tails as on more formal and traditional coats, such as tail coats, morning coats, and frocks.

For the first time in history, sewing machines were being used for commercial purposes. While the sewing machine had been in-

vented about ten years prior, it didn't enter the factories for the mass production of clothing until the 1850s. This was the genesis of ready-to-wear, and the first time the middle class could afford the same styles that the upper class had been wearing for years.

By the 1880s it had moved up the fashion ladder, replacing the frock coat except for formal occasions. The movie *Tombstone* got it right with the sheriff, the mayor, and two US Marshals wearing dapper sack suits.

Like modern suits, sack suits varied with fashion. In cold climates wool prevailed. In warmer climates linen was preferred. The cut went from "full cut" to "close cut," single breasted and double breasted. Length of skirt and sleeve, number and style of pockets, collar, lapels, and the cut of the front skirt were the elements of changing style in the sack coat from 1850 to 1900. Of course they varied in cost and quality. You could wear almost any hat with a sack suit except a top hat and be fashionable. On the other hand, wearing a bowler hat with a frock coat was a fashion



Gene Barry's TV version of Bat Masterson.

faux pas. A cowboy who dressed up in his sack suit might have boots on inside the pants, but everyone else wore dress shoes.

Now that I had a derby I had to get a sack suit to go with it. Geneva at Buckaroo Bobbins offered to custom-make it. She had a secret weapon.

Museum Quality Pattern

In the 1970s the Wisconsin Historical Society published a pattern based on a 1870s-80s suit they

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Johnny Behan in the movie *Tombstone*, grey derby hat and pinstriped sack suit, snappiest dresser in the movie.

labeled “Modern,” the other “Reproduction.” In the reproduction instructions a machine was used to do things an 1880 machine could do, and hand stitching was used for details and difficult parts. Geneva used the Reproduction instructions in making my suit. The workmanship is spectacular.

The cut and fit of the suit is surprisingly different from modern suits. The trousers come up above the navel for one thing. Dress shirts of the day were pullover with four buttons normally, and a band collar for attaching a removable collar using collar studs. I bought one from [River Junction Trade Co.](http://RiverJunctionTradeCo.com) Below the bib-placket was a cloth tab with a buttonhole in it. When I first saw that on a shirt years ago I wondered what that buttonhole was for. The



If you combine a derby crown and a brim from a Boss of the Plains you get a Prescott Boss of the Plains. A shop in Prescott, Arizona sold hats of this style. This one is by D Bar J Hats.

owned. The pattern is long out of print, but Geneva had one. It came with two sets of instructions, one

answer is it attaches to the top button of the pants to help hold them up and the shirt down. Of course
(Continued on page 24)

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Ad—circa 1900— for Brooks Brothers No. 1 suit.

Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

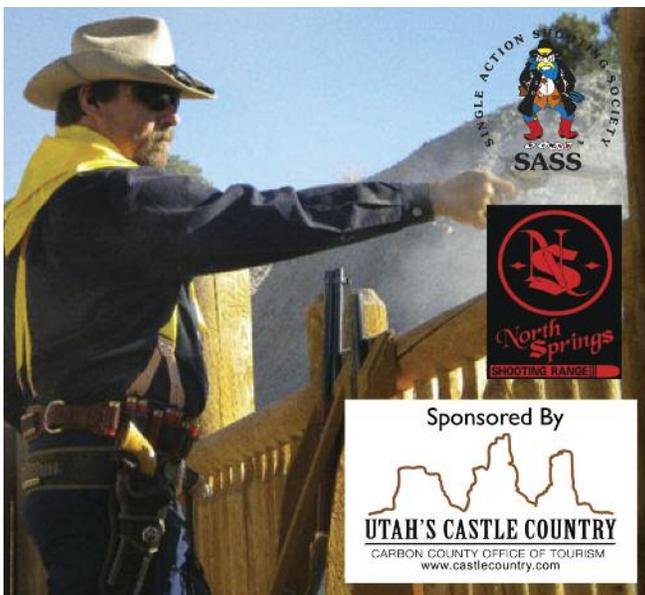
(Continued from page 23)

it won't work with modern trousers designed for "low rise."

Suspenders were necessarily shorter than modern ones designed to work with pants just above the hipbones. Geneva modified a pair.

Gentlemen would usually have suspenders that were cloth in front and elastic in the back, on the bottom of the X. This held the pants appropriately for standing straight up. Yes, elastic was around then.

The U.S. Army specs for suspenders included elastic on the bottom of the X starting in 1856. Remember that fashions for both sexes were very stiff. This suit makes you stand and sit up



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Derby by D Bar J Hats, sack suit by Buckaroo Bobbins.

Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

straight. If the collar is starched, you won't turn your head either.

The material used for the suit was authentic linen, black with a pattern in the weave. Black was popular, and appropriate for a serious gentleman, but brighter combinations became popular as time went on, and some of the existing museum copies are bright plaids.

Cloth covered buttons were popular, which Geneva duplicated beautifully. The coat has an inside pocket on the right side that fit a wallet of the day. The vest has four pockets; two bottom pockets that work well for holding pocket watches and the like, and two upper pockets.

Accessories

The devil, as they say, is in the details. Dress shirt collars were removable (and only dress shirts). Collars were celluloid, paper, and linen. The collar I wore is linen, which in the day could be washed and starched and reused. They don't make celluloid anymore.



Paul Newman, Robert Redford, and Katherine Ross in *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*. The men are wearing sack suits, and derbies.

Photos exist of men wearing all sorts of neckwear, including a band collar with a collar stud. Neckties with four-in-hand knots and bow ties were popular. Cravats were rare in photos of the era.

Of course gentlemen wore dress shoes with their suits. I wore Stacey Adams Madison Boots, a high-topped dress shoe that has been made since 1875. I found authentic nineteenth century wool socks at [South Union Mills](#) "made from the U.S. Sanitary Commission patterns that were designed for relief of the soldiers at the front." They have elastic and don't require garters.

Inside the coat's inside pocket I carried a wallet that was hand made to a nineteenth century pattern monogrammed with the ini-

tials GWB (George Wythe Baylor) made by Blackey Cole several years ago. Another pocket carried a "vintage" cigar case with cigars. To go with the cigars I found a match safe made in the 1880s with the initial B in an antique match safe collection. It was appropriately worn and dented, adding to its charisma.

The double watch chain had my great-grandfather's Elgin watch on one end. A replica of a nineteenth century pocket compass went on the other end. On my left lapel is an antique tussie-mussie, a pin-on mini-vase for a single flower. I'm still looking for nineteenth century stage money for the wallet.

My thanks to everyone involved in the making of this costume. 

Guns & Gear

European Rifles of the Cowboy Era



By Ranger Six, SASS #94237



The breech of a Danish Rolling Block. Notice two holes in block for the rim fire firing pin and the center fire firing pin.

The Cowboy Era, let's say 1865 to 1900, was full of new inventions and technological advancements, but few had the impact on history as those seen in the firearms industry. Rifles using black powder and round lead or minnie balls loaded from the muzzle and ignited by percussion caps dominated the early 1860s. By 1900 rifles were stronger, with better metallurgy and designed to fire multiple rounds at a faster rate. Rifle ammunition had evolved with self-contained brass cartridges using smokeless powder, jacketed bullets and center fire primers. As with many historical advancements, military requirements lead to evolving firearm technology.

By the mid 1860s military leaders were looking at ways to economically upgrade their arsenals of weapons. The three major designs for converting muzzleloaders to breechloaders were all developed by Americans. Jacob Snider's idea was

chosen to modify the British Pattern 1853 Enfield, which became the Snider-Enfield. Russian muzzleloaders were altered, using Hiram Berdan's conversion, becoming the Russian Berdan. The third inventor, Erskine Allin, developed the Allin Conversion which transformed the American Springfield Model 1861 to the Springfield Model 1865. All three conversions cut away the upper rear portion of the barrel and applied a hinged access door. The rifle was loaded by opening the door to the breech, placing a cartridge in the breech, and then closing the door. Snider's version had the hinge on the right side of the breech, while the other two had the hinge placed forward of the breech.

The Snider-Enfield used the existing lock, including the hammer and the breechblock. It retained the same caliber, but now used a self-contained cartridge designed by Col. Edward Boxer of the British Army,



One style of combination gun, the Cape Gun, showing rifling in the left barrel and a smooth left barrel.

the same man who is responsible for the Boxer primer that is now exclusively used in the USA. Originally made with cardboard and a metal base, 70-73 grains of black powder, and a 480-grain bullet, it was later

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Top—The Snider-Enfield hinged breech. Bottom—The Springfield 1873 Trapdoor hinged breech.

European Rifles of the Cowboy Era . . .



made with coiled brass foil and finally a drawn brass case. In general service from 1866 till 1874, when the Martini-Henry replaced it, the Snider was used by the British Indian Army until the end of the century.

Introduced in 1868, the Russian Berdan I was a hammerless trapdoor which fired the 10.7x58R round, the first small arms cartridge to use a Berdan primer. The Russian Berdan II, introduced in 1870, utilized a bolt action and was newly manufactured by Colt factories in the USA and then later in Russian arsenals. The Berdan rifle was the main Russian

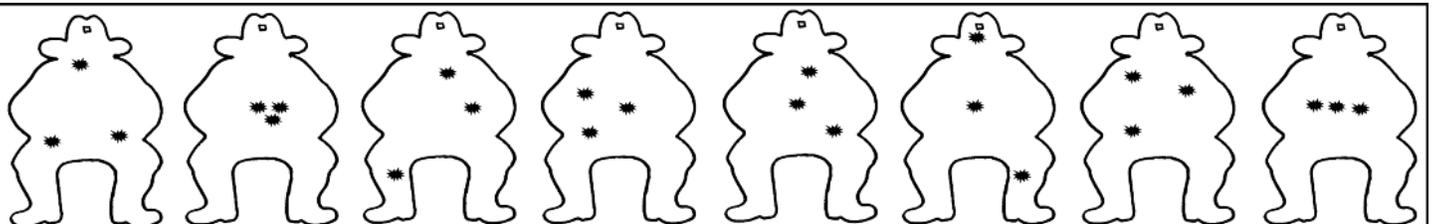
battle rifle until the Mosin-Nagant was adopted in 1891.

Spain had their Model 1857 muzzle-loading rifle that was refitted using the Berdan conversion, which became known as the Spanish Berdan. In use from 1867 to 1870, it fired the 14.5x42R which is also known as the 58 Berdan. It was replaced by the Spanish Rolling Block, firing the 43 Spanish round.

In France, arms development was following a similar course in 1864 with conversions of their muzzleloaders to the Tabatiere rifle, which utilized a process very simi-

lar to the one used in the Snider and Trapdoor conversions and had a center fire cartridge having the appearance of a short shotgun shell. The Tabatiere was found to be inferior to other military rifles of its day and was soon replaced by the Chassepot in 1870. A needle gun, the Chassepot marked the beginning of the modern bolt-action era. The breech was closed by the bolt and sealed by a rubber obturator ring, which expanded under pressure to contain the gases within the breech. The cartridge was made of an outer

(Continued on page 28)



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European Rifles of the Cowboy Era . . .



(Continued from page 27)

wrapper of paper which contained about 86 grains of powder and a 386-grain lead bullet. A percussion cap was seated inside the powder and after the long needlelike firing pin punctured the paper wrap, it struck the percussion cap igniting the powder charge.

Another needle gun, the Dreyse, saw service with the Prussians from 1848 to 1873. It is considered the first breech-loading rifle to use a self-contained cartridge. With 75 grains of powder and a .61 caliber bullet, the Dreyse had a muzzle velocity of 1000 ft/sec. The Dreyse did have its limitations. Its effective range was limited due to pressure leaks from the breech area. As black powder fouling built up, the breech would not seal properly and gases would escape. This led to the soldier firing the rifle flinching, leading to poor accuracy as well as his suffering burns on face and hands. Another problem was the firing pin. During ignition of the



The French Chassepot Needle Rifle with bolt open showing part of firing pin assembly.

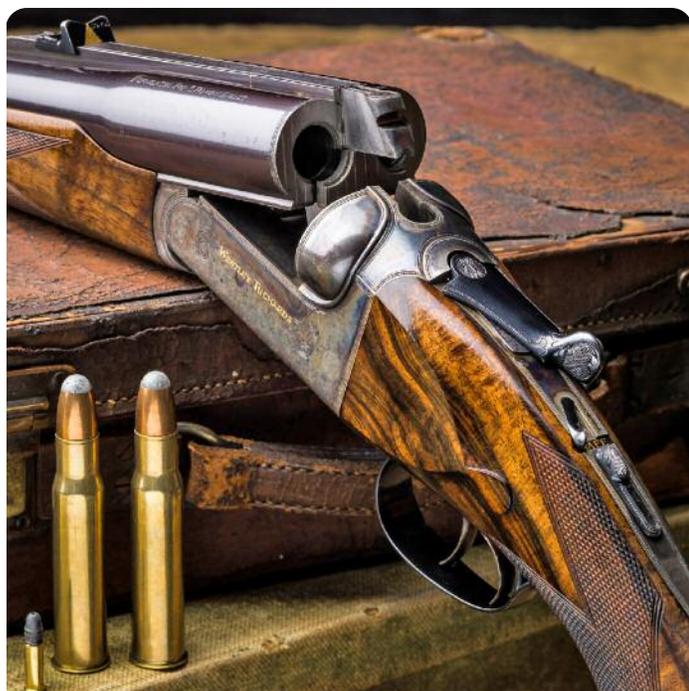
powder, the slender pin would be stressed by the pressure of detonation leading to breakage of the pin after only a couple hundred firings. The Dreyse was replaced by the Mauser in 1871.

The Vetterli rifle became the Swiss army rifle from 1869 until 1890. Many new innovations were seen as with the use of two opposing rear locking lugs and under barrel magazine able to hold 11 rounds. Initially chambered in the 10.4x38 Swiss rim fire, it was later modified to use a center fire round, the 10.35x47R. The Italians adopted a slightly altered version of the Vetterli until they developed the Carcano series of rifles in 1891.

As technology progressed many rifles became obsolete and needed to be replaced. England began using the Martini-Henry in 1874 when the trend toward smaller calibers and stronger actions was seen. The .577 Snider case was necked down to .450 caliber, but the bullet weight remained at 480 grains with a black powder charge of 85 grains offering a muzzle velocity of 1,350 ft/sec. A lever actuated, dropping block action resulted in a stronger breech while the polygonal barrel rifling resulted in better accuracy. In France the Chassepot was retired to make way for the Fusil Gras, a single shot rifle using a metallic cartridge. The Swiss Schmidt-Rubin introduced in 1890 had a straight pull bolt action designed



European Rifles of the Cowboy Era . . .



*A high end Double Rifle with cartridges—
two 577/500 Nitro Express rounds next to a .22 rim fire.*

by Schmidt and the new 7.5x55 Swiss cartridge with a copper plated bullet created by Rubin. The Werndl-Holub single shot of Austro-Hungary was supplanted by the Mannlicher Model 1886. The Jarmann rifle of Norway was replaced by the superior Krag-Jorgensen which also replaced the Danish Rolling Block.

From the mid 1880s through the end of the century military firearms were being adopted that would follow the trend of smaller calibers. Mauser actions had been in use by Germany since the early 1870s, but the 1893 Mauser with its 7x57 Mauser cartridge was the foundation of many other countries' bolt action rifles, including the American 1903 Springfield. Britain again reduced the caliber of its service rifle in 1888 with the addition of the Lee-Netford, which incorporated the .303 British round. The French Lebel was first seen in 1887 and introduced much new technology. Its 8x50mmR was the first military round to use smokeless powder and the first to use jacketed Boat-tailed bullets. 1891 was the year Russia began using the Mosin-Nagant with its 7.62x54mmR cartridge.

The Remington Rolling Block was unveiled in 1864. While of American design, I will include it for a variety of reasons. I believe the Rolling Block could be the iconic rifle of the late nineteenth century. It saw worldwide service in the military as well as civilian use as both a target and hunting rifle. Used by the military of more than 40 nations, the Rolling Block was

the AK-47 of the late 1800s. It was chambered in rim fire as well as center fire in several calibers. The Danish Rolling Block was actually produced in Denmark, qualifying it as a European rifle. When Remington defaulted on their contract to supply rifles to Denmark, the Danes agreed to accept a license to produce their own Rolling Blocks in lieu of the huge fine the breach of contract would have imposed on Remington. Blueprints and machinery were sent to Denmark where the M1867/96 in the 11.7x51R caliber (very similar to the 45-70) was made at the Copenhagen arsenal. Danish ammunition for their Rolling Blocks started as rim fire, black powder cartridges with a lead bullet and finished as center fire, smokeless powder cartridges with a jacketed bullet.

As Europeans set out to explore, conquer, and colonize the rest of the world, they ran into large, thick-skinned, dangerous animals that were not easily stopped by the muzzle-loading guns of the time. Due to velocity limitations imposed by black powder, the only way to penetrate the thick-skins of these animals was to use a larger bullet from a larger gun and that was the beginning of the 4 and 8 gauge/bore guns. The 4 bore, using

(Continued on page 30)

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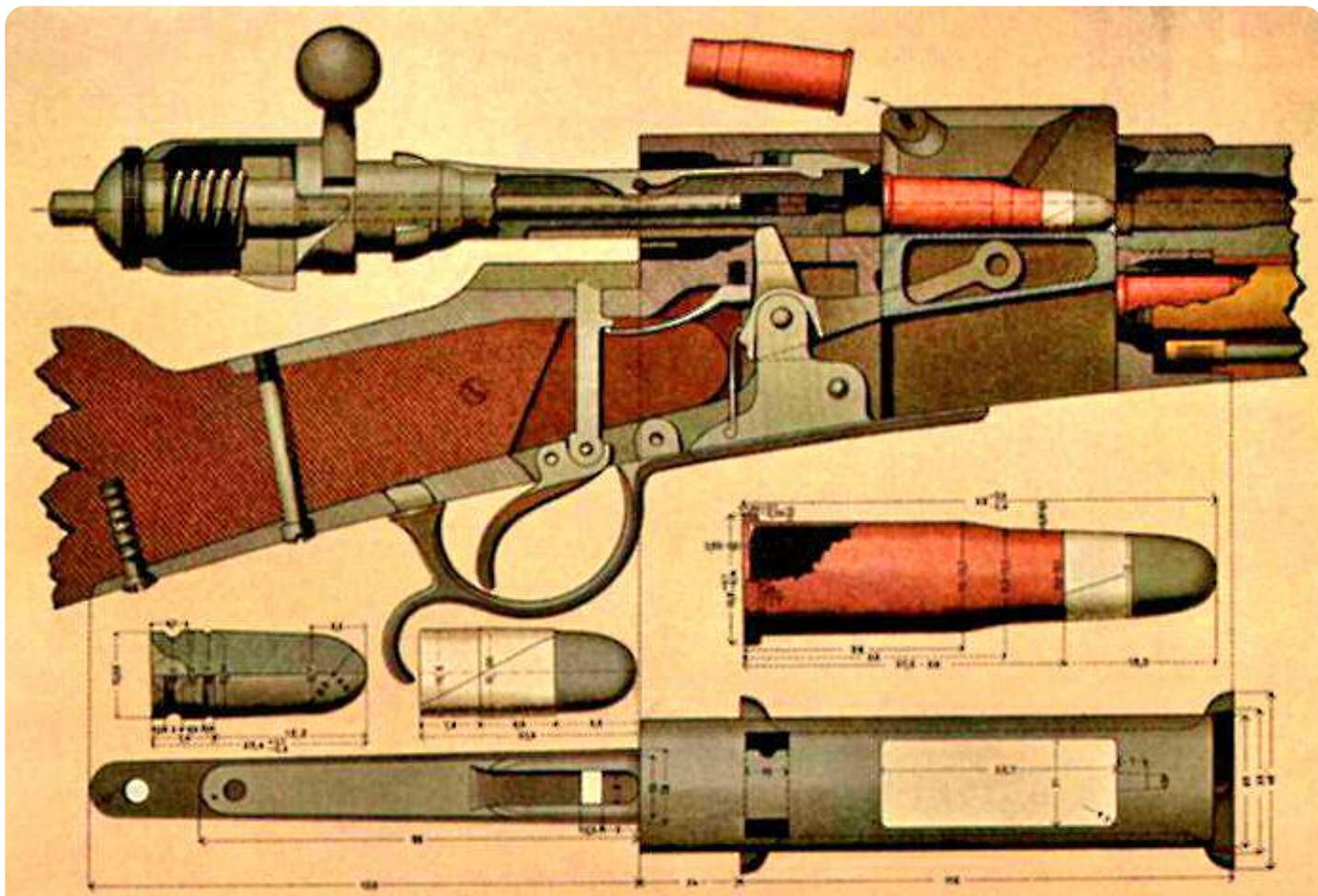


Diagram of the Vetterli Rifle. Notice similarity of lifter arm and carrier block to the Winchester 1873.

European Rifles of the Cowboy Era ...

(Continued from page 29)

a 2,000-grain slug was the standard for elephant hunting, while the 8 bore was standard for other dangerous game. Typical 8 bores weighed 15-16 pounds and fired a 1,250-grain slug.

Around the time of the Cowboy Era, European hunting rifle designs had advanced to the point of breechloaders firing metallic cartridges. Of course many

game animals were hunted with military rifles, but most were pursued with dedicated hunting firearms, which fell into many different styles and categories. Bolt-action rifles were available, but Combination guns were more commonly in use. Combination guns use a break action and one or more rifled barrels and one or more smooth barrels. Usually seen in an over/under configuration, they may be found in other versions. A side-by-side with one rifled and one smooth barrel is known as a Cape gun. The Germans often designed their hunting arms with multiple barrels. A Drilling, German for “triplet,” has three barrels in a variety of configurations of smooth and rifled barrels, while the Vierling, German for “quadruplet,” has even more possibilities with its four barrels. In 1885 a British design by George Fosbery presented a gun that could be used as both a rifle and a shotgun. This gun had two smooth barrels that each had rifling on the last couple of inches of barrel. Shot could be fired or a solid projectile which would be stabilized by the rifling. Holland & Holland

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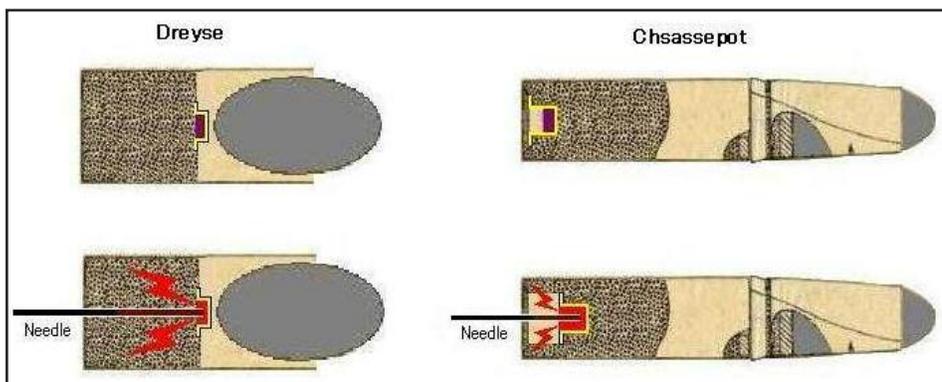
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Top —Danish Rolling Block. Middle —Snider-Enfield. Bottom —Martini-Henry.



Two needle gun cartridges for comparison.

ample, the .577 Black Powder was initially a 3 1/8-inch length .577 case. When necked down to .508 this caused an increase in velocity and became the 577/500 Black Powder Express. As smokeless gunpowder was substituted for black powder, it was possible to further increase velocity. Cartridges loaded with smokeless powder had the term Nitro, from the words nitrocellulose and nitroglycerine, added to the name. As such, the 577/500 Express became the 577/500 Nitro Express.

European Rifles of the Cowboy Era . . .



bought the patent rights to this design and in 1886 the gun was named the Paradox. The word paradox can be defined as a statement that contradicts itself, so was this gun a rifle or a shotgun?

Metallic cartridges allowed for faster loading and easier handling of rifles. Found with either Berdan or Boxer primers, the first cartridges were loaded with black powder. To denote a round capable of a higher velocity, the term “express” was applied. English firearm maker James Purdey coined the term “Express Train” with a rifle and cartridge design that offered a much higher velocity than typical rifles of that time. The word express then came to be

associated with all high velocity loads. To add the word express to a cartridge’s name signified a more powerful and faster round. For ex-

The Cowboy Era of history had some of the most amazing advancements in regards to firearms—muz-

(Continued on page 32)



Solid bullets for an 8 gauge/bore—Left to Right 1,020-grain, 1,350-grain, 1,500-grain.



Military Cartridges Left to Right—41 Swiss Rim Fire; 43 Spanish; 7.5x55 Swiss; 7.65x53 Mauser; 8x50R Lebel; 7.62x54R Russian; 10.4x48R Italian Vetterli; 11.7x51R Danish; 11.15x42R; 11.15x58R; 10.7x58R Russian.

European Rifles of the Cowboy Era . . .

(Continued from page 31)

zle loaders to machine guns; black powder to smokeless; lead balls to copper jacketed boat-tail bullets; and percussion caps to center fire primers. It was a most fascinating time of history. 



Sporting Cartridges Left to Right—4 bore case; 8 bore; 577/500 Nitro Express; 500 Nitro; 500/450 # 1 Express; 475 # 2 Nitro; 470 Nitro; 9x57mmR.



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Left to Right—Snider .577 with 480-grain bullet, parent cartridge to the Martini-Henry cartridge; Coiled-Rolled Brass Foil M-H Buck Shot round; Coiled-Rolled Brass Foil Paper Patched 480-grain M-H round; Standard Paper Patched 480-grain Drawn Brass M-H round; Paper Patched 400-grain M-H round; M-H Blank round.



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WALTER OSTIN

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By Wild Horse Jack, SASS #64334



Walter Osten with Lone Ranger re-enactor Chuck Medwork.

Walt grew up on a farm near Benito Manitoba at a time when farm work was still mostly done with horses. Little did he know his experience with horse harness and his interest in B-Western movies would lead him to become one of the premier craftsmen of cowboy gun leather in North America.

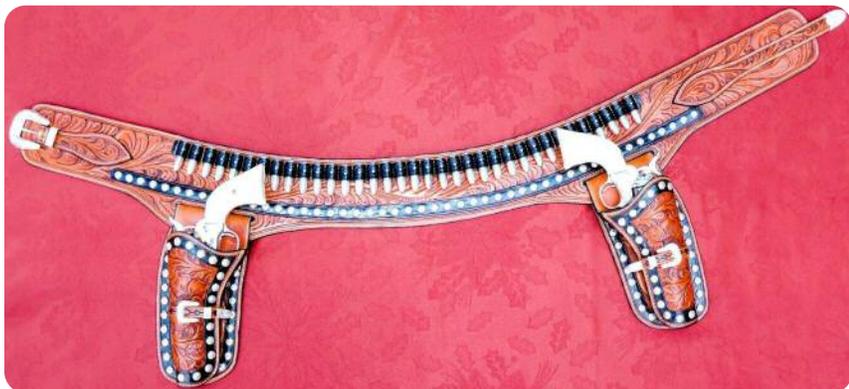
Walt first became familiar with leather because the horses' harnesses needed repairs and maintenance and during the winter months he learned to do that kind of work. In 1948 his dad passed away and most of the responsibility of the farm fell on 15-year-old Walt's shoulders. There were not many diversions on the farm during the long winter months, so on Saturday afternoons when chores were done he would saddle up a horse or harness a team and head

into town. Benito was about six miles away and the local community hall played B-Western movies. Tom Mix, Tim McCoy and Hopalong Cassidy films were all shown at the hall. He liked the horses and fancy outfits the stars wore, but what most captured his attention were their fancy gun rigs.

Walt made his first gun rig as a toy with make-do materials. "There wasn't a lot of money around in those days and good leather was difficult to come by especially just after the war," Walt remembers. The first holster set he made was a two-gun, black buscadero rig bound and stitched with white thread for his little brother. He used a pair of old gumboot tops for holsters and he carved two wooden six-guns and painted them silver with black butts and his brother spent countless hours playing with them. His next leatherwork project was to build a saddle. He made the tree out of



Walter Osten in his workshop.



**Walter Ostin •
(Custom Gun Leather Craftsman) . . .**

hardwood and carved it to fit his horse's back. He covered the tree in leather from two old jackets and used scraps of harness leather to make stirrup fenders. "It worked pretty well and stayed nice and close to the horse's back," Walt said with a smile.

In the 1950s-60s Walt worked as a millwright, welder, and pipe fitter. A self-taught musician, he also played country dances around Calgary but eventually ended up on the BC coast. During this time period the B-Westerns faded but TV westerns caught on to the degree that there were 26 of them playing on prime time TV in 1959. Single action shooting was a spinoff from the TV era and Walt got involved with this sport both as a participant and a gun leather craftsman. This began when he had someone else make him a two-gun rig but he didn't like how it fit so he modified it to be more efficient. When a holster making business came up for sale, Walt purchased all the equipment and, largely self-taught, he began making fancy carved B-western gun rigs. Now 81 years old, he has made and sold in his Cobble Hill shop, gun rigs for Cowboy Action Shooters™ and re-enactors from all over North America.

(Continued on page 36)

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Walter Ostin • (Custom Gun Leather Craftsman) . . .

(Continued from page 35)



When Lone Ranger re-enactor Chuck Medwork needed an authentic gun rig he had Walter make it, as did world champion gun spinner Frank Calabrese. John Taffin, an authority on single action shooting has examples of Walt's work in his various books.

Many people loved the B-Westerns for their stories, locale, rough and tumble action, and the sense of justice that came when the hero prevailed. In a world of economic depression in the 1930s and war in the 1940s they provided escape from life's turmoil. The era of the B-Western movie has come and gone, but the interest has not waned. It has simply changed direction

to one of nostalgia and re-enactment. Perhaps those movies still represent a wish on the part of people for simpler times, more straightforward values, and movie action with less graphic violence. They were a mythological representation of a West that never was, but they somehow left an impression about the values of the real West. They gave insight into the idea of independent spirit and savvy self-sufficiency that is a necessity in the ranching way of life. They let the world know we traditionally value a person's word and handshake like a bond. They re-established the connection to the land and open space that is often forgotten in



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**Walter Ostin •
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more confined ways of living and they informed a largely urban public of the partnership that exists between horse and rider for those who have never sat a horse and most likely never will. Walt shows no sign of slowing down and is busier than ever, producing carved gun rigs for people who remember a particularly favorite western movie or TV show. By the amount of interest in Walt's work, it would seem that even though the B-Western movies have gone, the values they promoted have not and that has got to be a positive situation. 



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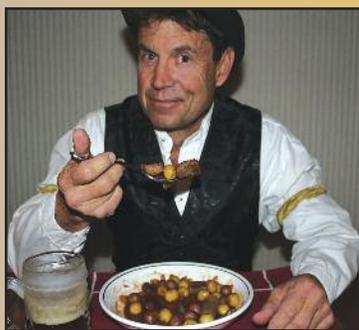


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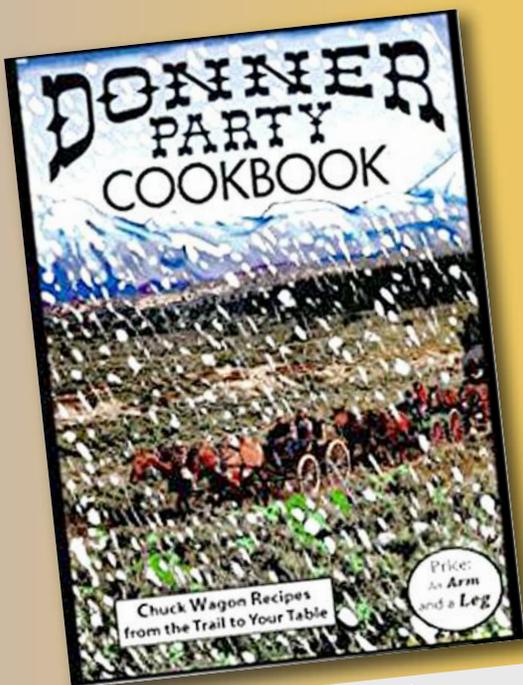
History



Big Dave, SASS #55632

Dining With the DONNER PARTY

By Big Dave, SASS #55632



The Donner Party has been the subject of morbid humor.



Artist's rendering of the Donner Party's ordeal.

An obscure historian wrote something to the effect that no matter how bad things are now you can always find something in history that was considerably worse. For example, the winter of 2016-2017 is one of the worst on record for people living near the Sierra Nevada range that borders California and Nevada. The snowfall reached record levels and caused power outages, flooding and mudslides. It wasn't even all that good for skiers because the snowfall

often blocked access to the resorts or turned into rain. However, the winter of 1846-1847 was also particularly bad and at least nobody in 2017 had to resort to the extreme survival measures that were taken by the Donner Party.

In the spring of 1846, two wealthy brothers, Jacob and George Donner, led a party of 90 emigrants from Independence, Missouri to California, which was

then a part of Mexico. California, of course, was a major issue in what was to become the Mexican War, but it hadn't started yet. The Donner Party, as it became known, followed the established route to California for a while, but then made the fateful decision to try a "short cut."

As any Cowboy Action Shooter™ might attest, you can take a short cut, but you'd better be



The "Hastings Cut Off" cost the Donner Party valuable time.

Dining With the Donner Party . . .

willing to pay the price if it doesn't turn out right. The price for the Donner Party was particularly steep. Only about half of the original 90 reached their destination and the others died or had to endure incredible hardship. A number of the survivors had to eat meat that didn't come from what we would normally consider acceptable sources. Well, Jeffrey Dahmer might have argued otherwise, but he is (or was) somewhat outside the mainstream.

In order to get to California, the wagon trains of the 1840s followed the Oregon Trail into what is now Wyoming, crossed the South Pass where the terrain was easy for the wagons and turned southward once they reached present-day Idaho. The crux of the journey was crossing the Sierra Nevada mountain range. Time was a factor. If you arrived in the Sierras too late in the year, the route could become virtually impassable due to heavy snow. The customary route through southern Idaho added miles to the journey and consequently added more time. Therefore, it seemed to be a good thing if a more direct route could be found.

Lansford Hastings, who had traveled to California in the early 1840s claimed to have found that very thing. His route, which he called the Hastings Cutoff, went through the Wasatch Mountains, across the Great Salt Lake Desert and the

Great Basin, and picked up the established California Trail in the eastern part of present-day Nevada. It was a logical route but, needless to say, encountered some
(Continued on page 40)

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Dining With the Donner Party . . .

(Continued from page 39)

rough territory. Hastings himself had traveled the route, but not encumbered with wagons. This is roughly the same route Interstate 80 follows today, but in the 1840s it wasn't very well traveled.

Hastings figured he could promote his new route and make a ton of money from it. In July 1846, he sent riders from Fort Bridger (in western present day Wyoming) to intercept the wagon trains. He hoped to find some adventuresome souls to try his route. Hastings would guide the route—for a fee, of course.

Most of the emigrants chose to follow the established route, but the Donners opted for the cutoff. By the time they got to the Wasatch Mountains, I'm sure they began to wonder if they'd done the right thing. The Wasatch Range is not such a great place to cross with a wagon train, especially before there was a well-traveled route to follow. Lansford Hastings had left letters nailed to trees along the way, but the Donner Party had no actual contact with him. He was personally guiding another party ahead of the Donners and apparently figured the letters provided adequate directions. The Donner Party had to hack a trail for



The Donner Party on the way to California.

their wagons to pass.

The Donner Party reached the outskirts of the Great Salt Lake late in August. By then the only way to go was forward. They found a letter from Hastings that indicated a 40-mile journey across the desert which should take about two days. Instead, the distance covered was about 80 miles and required six days of hard travel. The route, which skirted the Great Salt Lake, went through salt flats that further impeded progress. This is roughly where present day I-80 runs between Salt Lake City and Wendover, Nevada.

By September 26, the beleaguered party joined the regular route to California along the Humbolt River. Since taking the "cutoff," they had lost only one member, Luke Halloran. Halloran wasn't likely to have seen California anyway, since he had a severe case of tuberculosis. The route got easier, but it is estimated the so-called short cut had cost them a month of travel, as well as numerous cattle and oxen.

In October, an incident involving one of the Donner Party's most prominent members resulted in his banishment. James Reed, a native of Ireland, got into a squabble with a teamster and stabbed him to death. A trial of sorts was held and Reed was driven away from the rest of the party, which included his wife and children. Ironically, Reed's banishment enabled him to reach Sutter's Fort in California earlier than the others and it was Reed who organized the first rescue efforts when the Donner Party became trapped in the Sierras.

The rest of the Donner Party reached the area now known as Donner Pass late in October, about a month behind schedule. This is one of the tricki-

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Dining With the Donner Party . . .

est times in the high Sierras. One year might be relatively mild, but more often than not the weather begins to turn. 1846 was one of those years when the snow fell hard in late October and pretty much kept falling into the next spring. The Donner group became trapped. They built camps and tried to tough it out.

Soon they began to run out of food. A lot of their livestock had perished during their journey, so there wasn't much left to go around. The surviving cattle, horses and oxen were slaughtered and eaten. Next to go were the family dogs. One of the survivors, Virginia Murphy, wrote they were forced to eat their dog Cash. "We ate his head, feet, hide—everything about him." Whatever wild game could be hunted was eaten, but there wasn't much of that to be found, since most of the wild animals had moved to lower elevations. Things like mice and rats were consumed, but there weren't enough of them around to provide adequate sustenance. Matters were becoming desperate.

Whatever animal hides left were boiled down to make a sort of "glue," but that didn't last long and it wasn't very nutritious. People started eating twigs and bark, but that can't sustain a human being for long. Bones and even string were eaten as well.

In mid-December, a party of 15, dubbed the "Forlorn Hope," set off to cross the pass and make their way down to the settlements in California. Once they made contact, they could organize a rescue. Along the way, a member of the "Forlorn Hope" party became so forlorn that he went insane, stripped off his clothes, and died of hypothermia. The others ate him. There were also a couple of Paiute Indians in the party who were in a bad way and they were shot and eaten as well. Apparently those actions enabled the remaining members of the group to reach the settlements in California. James Reed, the banished Donner Party member who had crossed the Sierras earlier formed a relief party.

It must have been distressing for Reed when he finally reached the Donner Party's camp. According to one source, he found human hair, bones, and fragments of half-eaten limbs. Jacob Donner, who was one of the party's leaders, had perished and was found with his limbs, heart, and liver removed. Little children were seen with blood around their mouths and on their faces—an unpleasant reminder

of what they had been subsisting upon. On the plus side, Reed was reunited with his family, all of whom had survived. He probably didn't ask too many questions about what they'd been eating. After all, he had been banished from the rest of the group for stabbing someone to death and wasn't in a position to make moral judgments.

Of the members of the Donner Party who had been stranded in the Sierras, 36 had died and 45 survived. Only two of the adults who were more than 40 years old survived and all the children under five years old died. It took three separate relief parties to evacuate all the people who had been trapped by the winter.

Lewis Keseburg was the last person to be taken to Sutter's Fort in California. The rescuers found a pot of human flesh in his cabin along with George Donner's personal items and \$250 in gold. Keseburg narrowly escaped being lynched, but in the end mercy prevailed and he was evacuated. He arrived at Sutter's Fort on April 29 1847. People went out of their way to avoid him. For the rest of his life, Keseburg was pretty much of a social outcast.

(Continued on page 42)

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Dining With the Donner Party . . .

(Continued from page 41)

Understandably, the survivors were unwilling to serve up the choice bits of information about who ate whom. Once they reached civilization, they wanted to put the ordeal behind them. But the gruesome news about what had happened reached the press, which had a field day. After all, everybody loves a good cannibalism story. Some of the California newspapers went into graphic detail and others used the story to demonstrate that California was so great a paradise it was worth any hardship in order to get there. Presumably, one of those hardships included eating a stew made of your friends and relatives.

It was probably a good thing for the survivors that 1847 and 1848 were hectic years in California. The other consuming event was the Mexican War. While the Donner Party was struggling westward, the American settlers had proclaimed the "Bear Flag Republic" after declaring independence from Mexico. By the time the survivors had been rescued, the republic was dissolved and California was considered *de facto* U.S. territory. The next year, the Gold Rush would be in full tilt.

Some of the Donner Party members fared well while others didn't. James Reed's family prospered. Many of the women who had lost husbands were quickly remarried (marriageable women were a relatively scarce commodity in California at that time). Jacob and George Donner's children were adopted, some of them by the Reed family. One family, the Breens, got through the ordeal without losing any members, moved to San Juan Bautista and operated an inn. They became the subject of an article that appeared in *Harper's Weekly* in 1862. The author, who allowed the Breens to remain anonymous, wrote about his unease upon learning he had stayed at an establishment owned and operated by cannibals. Though I've never read it, I would imagine the article contained a bit of mordant humor.

I wouldn't be too hasty in trying to judge the survivors of the ill-fated Donner Party. They did what they had to do in order to survive. In the nautical world, cannibalism was called "The Custom of the Sea" because a fair amount of mariners



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The Reed family survived the winter intact. Only one other family managed to do so.

away a lot of food in one sitting, particularly if red meat is on the menu. Anybody who's sat next to me at an awards banquet can attest to this fact. The only thing that might have dissuaded me would have been the absence of a decent Cabernet or Malbec.

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Dining With the Donner Party . . .

caught in windless waters had been forced to resort to it. A couple of decades before the Donner incident, the survivors of a whaling ship, the Essex, consumed their dead after their ship had been rammed by a whale. The Essex tragedy became the basis for the book *Moby Dick*, although the cannibalism part was omitted. My home state of Colorado has the infamous Alferd Packer episode, where a miner, stranded by the winter snow, made his way back to civilization with his former companions in his stomach. In the seventeenth century, Virginia Colony went through the “Starving Time” and certain graves were been dug up and the contents devoured. One husband was executed for murdering and eating his wife. Then of course there is Jeffrey Dahmer, although for him cannibalism served a purpose that was not related to survival. (I just had to put that in—it’s really quite irrelevant.)

What would I have done had I been stranded with the Donners? Well, for a little guy I can pack

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History



*Joe Fasthorse,
SASS #48769*

LITTLE KNOWN FAMOUS PEOPLE

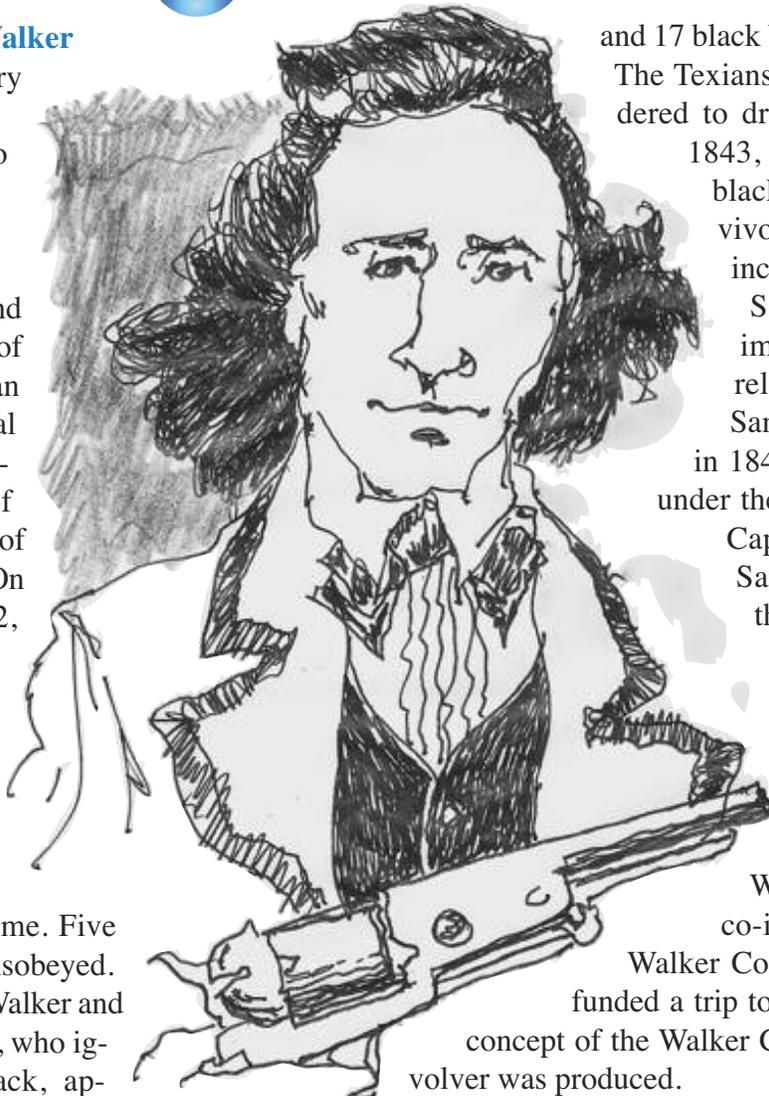
- Way Out West -



By Joe Fasthorse, SASS #48769

Samuel Hamilton Walker

Was born on February 24, 1817, at Tooping Castle in Maryland to Nathan and Elizabeth Thomas Walker, the fifth of seven children. Walker went to Texas in 1842 and took part in the defense of Texas against the Mexican invasion led by General Woll. Walker was also involved in the Battle of Mier and was a survivor of the Black Bean Episode. On November 25, 1842, Alexander Somervell left San Antonio with Walker and 700 men under his command. After Somervell recaptured Laredo on December 7, 1842, he ordered his men to disband and return home. Five captains and their men disobeyed. On December 20, 1842, Walker and 307 other Texian soldiers, who ignored orders to pull back, approached Ciudad Mier. The Texians were unaware that 3,000 Mexican troops were in the area. In the battle that resulted the Mexicans took 243 Texians prisoner. On February 11, 1843, Walker and 180 Texians escaped, but by the end of the month 176 surrendered, Walker included. Santa Anna ordered one in ten to be killed. To determine who would die, 176 white beans



and 17 black beans were placed in a pot. The Texians were blindfolded and ordered to draw beans. On March 25, 1843, the 17 Texians who drew black beans were shot. Survivors who picked white beans included Bigfoot Wallace and Samuel Walker. They were imprisoned at Veracruz and released the following year. Sam joined the Texas Rangers in 1844 when the Rangers were under the command of the famous Captain, John Coffee Hays. Sam was later promoted to the rank of Captain and led a company of Rangers to fight with the armies of General Zachary Taylor and General Winfield Scott in the Mexican-American War. Sam Walker and Sam Colt were co-inventors of the famous Walker Colt Revolver. (Walker self-funded a trip to New York to propose the concept of the Walker Colt.) By 1847 the new revolver was produced.

Sam Walker was killed on October 9, 1847 at Huamantla in Tlaxcala, while leading his troops in the Battle of Huamantla during the Mexican-American War. Walker County, Texas was renamed for Sam after the original namesake, Robert J. Walker sided with the Union during the War Between The States. Sam Walker is buried in San Antonio, Texas. 🐾



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Profiles

Scholarship Recipient 2016

Flaming Star, SASS #71391

Edited & Adapted by Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000



*Justice Lily Kate,
SASS #1000*



Danvers, IL. My name is Caitlin Darnall—AKA Flaming Star SASS #71391—and I am a proud and grateful recipient of one of the SASS® Scholarships. I grew up on a gun range, gun oil and lead always on my hands, and I proudly come from a family of gunsmiths. I was taught the Second Amendment is the American people's most important constitutional right and that is a belief that I will protect until the end of my days. So it comes as no surprise I began shooting at an early age. My grandfather Ron (Marshal RD, SASS #20337) taught me to shoot when I was just five years old. He has been and continues to be my shooting partner and one of the most dedicated supporters of the shooting sports I have ever seen. My shooting skills were later honed by my grandmother Sue, who has spent almost 50 years teaching countless people to shoot, including hundreds of kids through the annual NRA youth camp she started in 1992. It is at my grandparent's gun range in Bloomington, Illinois that I started shooting Cowboy Action Shooting™ with the McLean County Peacemakers in 2003.

It is hard for me to convey exactly how important Cowboy Action Shooting™ has been in shaping the woman I have become. When I first started, I was a bullied kid with very low self-esteem. But now, I am a confident individual aware of my own worth. The people, the places, and the experiences I have obtained through this most beloved sport gave me the supportive environment I needed to blossom. I love the technical aspects of shooting—the control over your body, and more importantly your mind, needed to become a good shooter—but I will always say the true value of the shooting sports goes far beyond the satisfaction obtained when putting holes in a bullseye. Shooting, and Cowboy Action Shooting™ especially, is about community. It's about protecting our most basic of rights while giving others the opportunity to be themselves without judgment. It's this family culture that makes our sport special, and something I will never let go of.

When not shooting, I am a student at the Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla, MO. This December I will graduate with a degree in Petroleum Engineering and in December 2017 I will receive my degree in Mining Engineering. At this point in time, I have plans to pursue a career in the mining industry. Currently, I am in an internship in Elko, NV working for Newmont Gold Corp. at their Leeville underground mine. So far I am really enjoying my internship doing surveying as well as drill and blast work. The future is bright

Scholarship Recipient 2016 • Flaming Star, SASS #71391 . . .

and I will continue to work hard so it remains so.

If you ask any person, there will be people who have influenced their life and helped shape who they are. I would like to take this opportunity to thank some of those people in my life. First my parents, Gunnar and Alison, who taught me to be independent and to stand up for my beliefs even when everyone is telling me I'm wrong. To my Grandma Kitty, who unleashed my sense of adventure and inspired me to study abroad and become a more open-minded, understanding, and worldly individual. To my Grandparents

Ron and Sue for introducing me to the shooting sports and revealing my passion for teaching others to shoot. And last, to all my family and friends who have always been there to support me even when I felt I wasn't worth it. I am truly blessed to know and care for you all and I will continue to be there for you as you have always been there for me.

Life is full of ups and downs, but one thing is for certain; I am a marksman, a cowgirl, and an instructor. And I will continue to participate in, support, and defend the sport I love. 🐾

GUN CONTROL: Introduce Some Education

By Flaming Star, SASS #71391

Adapted & Edited by Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000

Wherever you stand on the gun debate, one thing cannot be argued—guns are used in violent crimes to kill people. This is a problem in our society that needs to be addressed. One extreme would suggest the solution is to ban all guns while the other would protest the violation of their Constitutional rights. It is an argument seemingly without end or compromise. There does exist a solution, but this solution cannot be implemented by pontificating politicians. It has to start with gun owners on a local level. The solution is community education. The key will be the implementation of common sense safety education policies on the local level.

The focus of these policies should be the implementation of gun safety training in schools. Columnist Sherry Fogle wrote, “The solution is not outlawing guns. The solution involves turning people away from violence in the broader sense and away from seeing a gun or other weapon as a way to settle a dispute.” In her [article](#), Ms. Fogle argues the implementation of gun safety training at a young age will result in the dissociation of guns and violence within the minds of young people. The program she describes, Student Pledge Against Gun Violence, involves teaching children what to do in case they come across a gun and has them pledge to never try to use a gun in any dispute. It empowers children to recognize and cease activities that down the road

may lead to violence.

In 2013, upwards of 1,600 children were killed and almost another 10,000 were injured due to gunshot wounds. In the cases of unintentional discharge, the majority happened in the children's home while their parents were gone. Why does this continue to happen when we have the means to prevent it? Bring Eddie Eagle and similar programs back to schools. Teach children what not to do instead of raising a generation of kids who fear guns and associate them with violence. Raise a generation of responsible, well-informed adults.

Even President Obama, whom many might associate with the anti-gun lobby, had this to say in the 2012 presidential debates about gun violence and education: “I think one area we agree on is the importance of parents and the importance of schools, because I do believe if our young people have opportunity, they're less likely to engage in these kinds of violent acts.” Most rational gun owners will support this and hopefully donate some of their time to educate the next generation. From personal experience it can be attested that quality gun education, through both NRA and SASS training, has contributed immensely to this young lady's success. Make a pledge today, as I have, to pass on knowledge to the next generation that will keep children safe and safeguard the future of SASS and the shooting sports. 🐾

Profiles

How I Got My *Alias* Colonel Callan, SASS Life #73944

When I first started Cowboy Action Shooting™ some ten years ago, I struggled to settle on an alias for a few months. I tried out several, finally joining SASS® as “Kimble Jim,” since I lived in Kimble County, Texas and my first name is James. But that just didn’t feel right.

At the time I was aspiring to be a writer and began working on my first book, *Apache Rain*, which is based very loosely on my great grandfather, James Joseph Callan.



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It dawned on me, I didn’t need a funny or clever alias, I could simply use the name of my ancestor who was a Texas Ranger, an officer in the Texas Mounted Rifles Frontier Regiment during the War Between the States, a Justice of the Peace and County Commissioner in Menard County, and founder of The *Coleman County Voice* newspaper. (All of that after having served as an enlisted man in the U.S. Army.) What better alias than to honor my ancestor by using his name? I changed my alias to *Colonel Callan*.

I am proud to use the name as a way to honor the courage and integrity of my great grandfather and the principles and ideals for which he fought. By the way, my grandfather was the Sheriff of Kimble County, my father was a District Attorney, my uncle was an FBI agent, I was a police officer, and my son is a police officer. One might suspect there is a law enforcement gene in our DNA.

My wife “Little Bit Sassy” and I are shooting these days with the Texican Rangers. We hope to see you on the range. 🤠

Profiles

How The Lady Got Her *Alias*



By R.J. Law, SASS Life #15466

My wife, The Lady (SASS #15467) based her alias on the Sharon Stone character from the 1995 movie *The Quick and the Dead*, also starring Gene Hackman, Leonardo DiCaprio, and Russell Crowe. Each time Sharon Stone's character had her name on the board for a gunfight they would write "The Lady." The Lady is a past Classic Cowgirl National Champion and past Regional Champion. She was one of the first women to shoot an 1887 Shotgun in Cowboy Action Shooting™. I believe she started shooting her original 1887 back in the early 2000s, always loading with her right hand. She shot the 1887 better than I ever did. I generally still try not annoy her! 🤠



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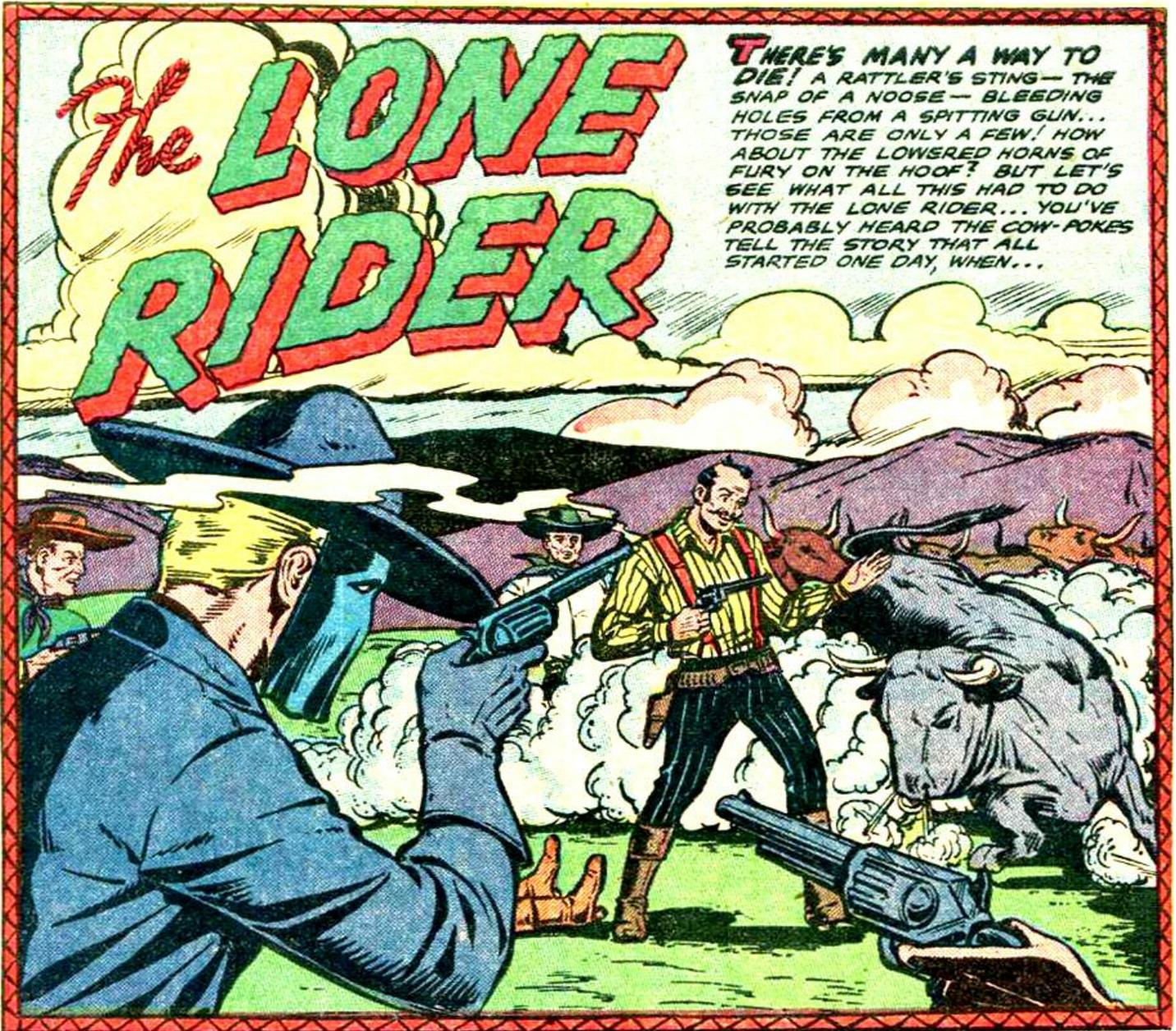
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Articles





THERE'S MANY A WAY TO DIE! A RATTLER'S STING— THE SNAP OF A NOOSE— BLEEDING HOLES FROM A SPITTING GUN... THOSE ARE ONLY A FEW! HOW ABOUT THE LOWSERD HORNS OF FURY ON THE HOOF? BUT LET'S SEE WHAT ALL THIS HAD TO DO WITH THE LONE RIDER... YOU'VE PROBABLY HEARD THE COW-POKES TELL THE STORY THAT ALL STARTED ONE DAY, WHEN...



WELL, I'LL BE HOG-TIED! THAT HOMBRE IS ASKIN' FER TROUBLE!

T-TAKE IT EASY, JOE!



ARE YOU LOCO? THAT'S BLACK PRINCE!

I KNOW IT! HE'S MINE! OLD MAN BLAKE LEFT HIM TO ME IN HIS WILL! SAID I WAS TH' ONLY ONE TH' BULL EVER TOOK TO GENTLE LIKE!



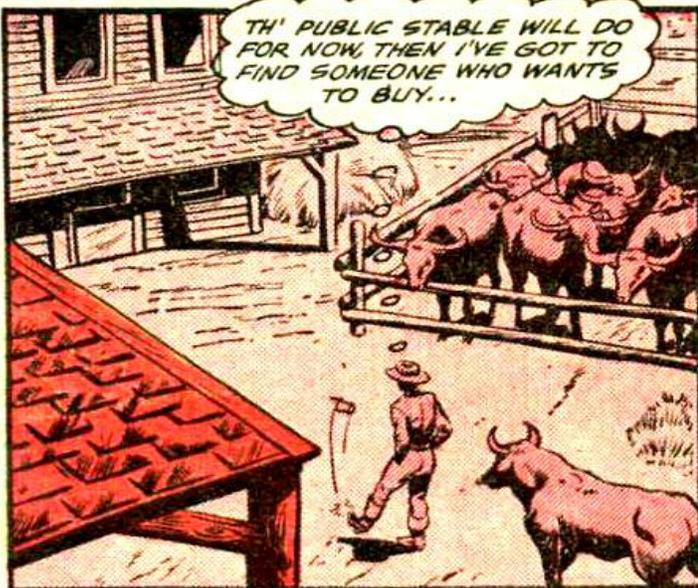
IF HE KNEW WHAT I KNOW ABOUT YOU, HE'D HAVE MADE OTHER PLANS! NOW GET RID OF HIM!

TAKE IT EASY, JOE...

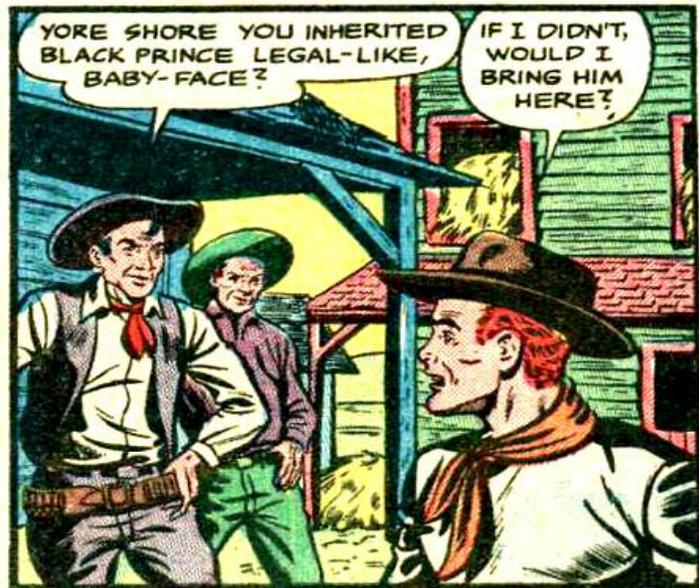


WHAT'LL I DO WITH HIM? HE'S PRIZE STOCK! WORTH PLENTY!

I'LL SEE YOU AT NINE TONIGHT!



TH' PUBLIC STABLE WILL DO FOR NOW, THEN I'VE GOT TO FIND SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO BUY...



YORE SHORE YOU INHERITED BLACK PRINCE LEGAL-LIKE, BABY-FACE?

IF I DIDN'T, WOULD I BRING HIM HERE?



MEANWHILE, A FAMILIAR FIGURE IS SLOWLY LEADING HIS MOUNT TOWARD TOWN...

EASY DOES IT, LIGHTNIN'! WE'LL HAVE A NEW SHOE FOR YOU, PRONTO!



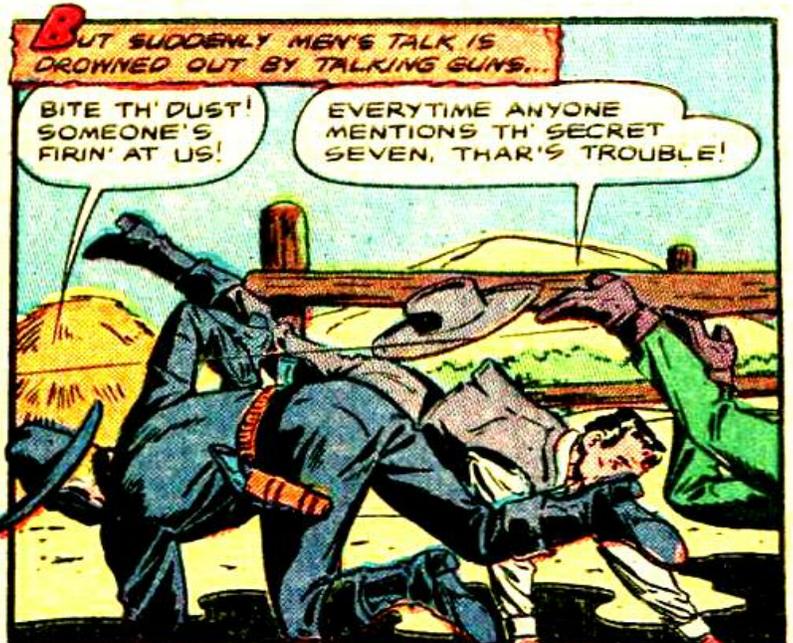
HI, THAR, LONE RIDER! TH' BOYS IN THE STABLE WAS JUST MENTIONIN' YORE NAME!

GREETINGS, SMITHY! I'LL SAY HELLO TO THEM WHILE YOU FIX UP A SHOE FOR MY PAL, LIGHTNIN'!



...AN' WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE BABY-FACE IS MIXED UP SOMEHOW WITH THE SECRET SEVEN GANG, LONE RIDER!

THAT'S PURTY HARD TO PROVE, BOYS!







EVER WATCHFUL OF THE TOWN-FOLK'S NOCTURNAL ACTIVITIES, LONE RIDER WATCHES THE SHADOWY FIGURE WHISPERING TO THE PRIZE STEER...

I WISH I COULD GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO HEAR WHAT HE'S SAYING...



SOMETHING TELLS ME HE'S GOT MORE ON HIS MIND THAN JEST SINGIN' A LULLABY TO THAT STEER...



YOU'VE GOT PLENTY OF VISITORS TONIGHT, EH, BLACK PRINCE? WELL, THERE'S A REASON FOR ME SHOWING UP!



SUDDENLY...

OH-OH! SOMETHING'S HAPPENING! GOOD OLD LIGHTNIN'!

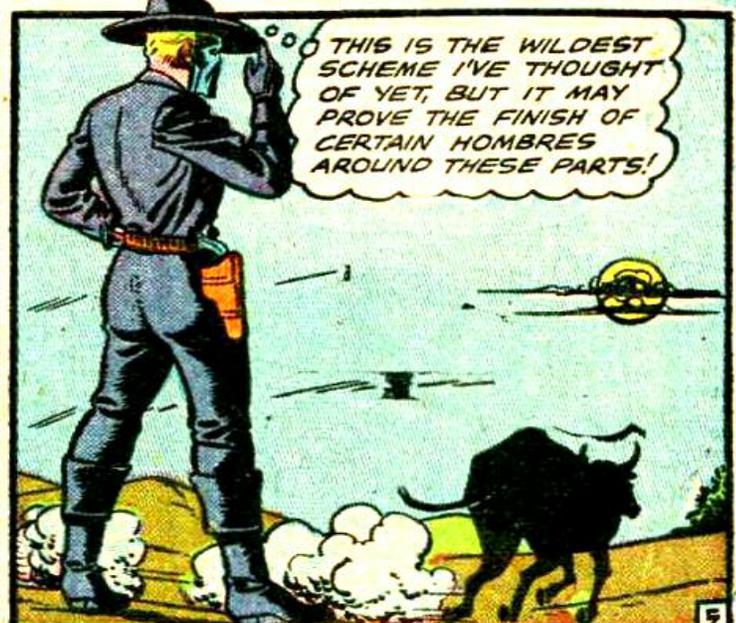


STEADY, LIGHTNIN'! TOO DARK TO SEE THEIR FACES... AND THERE'S NOT SEVEN MEN... BUT I WONDER...

KEEP THOSE BLASTED HORSES QUIET! WE'RE NOT TRYING TO WAKE UP THE WHOLE TOWN!



YOU SEEM TO BE MIGHTY FOND OF YOUR MASTER, BLACK PRINCE, AND NOW'S THE TIME TO PROVE IT!



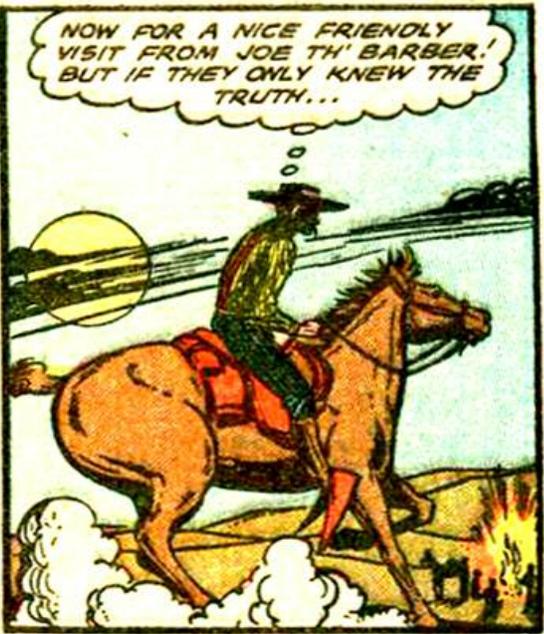
THIS IS THE WILDEST SCHEME I'VE THOUGHT OF YET, BUT IT MAY PROVE THE FINISH OF CERTAIN HOMBRES AROUND THESE PARTS!



ON THE ROAD JUST SHORT OF THE HARRIS RANCH...

YOU CAN SEE TH' BRANDIN' FIRE FROM HERE!

OKAY, BOYS! I'LL GO ON AHEAD ALONE! I DON'T EXPECT ANY TROUBLE, BUT IF YOU HEAR GUNPLAY, COME PRONTO!



NOW FOR A NICE FRIENDLY VISIT FROM JOE TH' BARBER! BUT IF THEY ONLY KNEW THE TRUTH...



JOE PETERS! WHAT BRINGS YOU AROUND THESE PARTS IN TH' DEAD OF TH' NIGHT?

HELLO, FELLAS! JUST GIVIN' MY HORSE A LITTLE RUN. SHE'S GETTIN' RUSTY FROM SITTIN IN HER STALL ALL DAY!



YOU MEN ARE WORKIN' MIGHTY LATE! SINCE WHEN DID HARRIS TAKE TO BRANDIN' AT NIGHT?

HE DON'T! THIS IS JUST SO HE CAN GIT ALL HIS CATTLE INTO TH' AUCTION ON TIME!



WELL, DON'T LET ME HOLD YOU UP! HERE'S YORE IRON!

THANKS. POOR HARRIS IS DEPENDIN' ON US TO FINISH THIS JOB... HE NEEDS TH' CASH OR HE WOULDN'T BE SELLIN' HIS BEST STOCK THIS WAY!



SO LONG BOYS! SEE YOU IN TOWN TOMORROW!



HOW'D IT GO, JOE?

EASY AS EATIN' A PIECE OF PIE! THEY NEVER EVEN LOOKED AT TH' IRON! NOW TH' REST IS UP TO YOU MEN TOMORROW AT TH' AUCTION!

THE FOLLOWING DAY...

JOE PETERS LEAVING TOWN!
STRANGE... I SURE DIDN'T
KNOW HE HAD ENOUGH LIVESTOCK
TO RATE A FIRST CLASS NOTICE!

PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE: This is to inform the townsfolk of town that JOE PETERS is selling at the Public Auction all his livestock and his barber shop, supplies, etc. Because JOE PETERS intends moving east, it is expected to sell reasonable

YOU MEN READY? ALL OF PETE'S LIVESTOCK IS IN

YES, I RECKON WE'VE GOT SIX HUNDRED HEAD IN HERE BY NOW!

GIVE US A CHANCE TO GIT OUT OF CORRAL FIRST. I DON'T AIM TO END MY DAYS GETTIN' CRUSHED TO DEATH!

THERE'S THE SIGNAL! NOW THE FUN WILL START!

WHOOEE! THAT'S THE STUFF! MIX 'EM ALL TOGETHER!

THAT WAS A GUNSHOT! SOUNDED LIKE IT CAME FROM THE CORRAL!

YOU'RE RIGHT! IT'S GOING TO SCRAMBLE ALL THAT STOCK!

SURE ENOUGH! GOOD THING THEY'RE ALL BRANDED, OR NO ONE WOULD KNOW HIS OWN CATTLE!

...AND NOW WHO'LL START THE BIDDING ON ONE THOUSAND HEAD OF CATTLE BELONGING TO JOE PETERS?

ONE THOUSAND! THAT'S A MIGHTY BIG LOT OF STEER!

DID YOU HEAR THAT, LONE RIDER! WHY, I NEVER DREAMED HE HAD SUCH A STOCK!

NEITHER DID I! HE DID ALL RIGHT BEING A BARBER. I'D SAY!



JOE PETERS THOUGHT OF EVERYTHING TO PERFECT HIS MASTER PLAN, BUT EVEN AN EXPERT CAN OVERLOOK A FEW DETAILS AND ONE LOOK AT THE LONE RIDER AND HIS FRIEND, THE SHERIFF IN BLACK PRINCE'S STALL MADE JOE ANXIOUS TO LEAVE IN A HURRY...



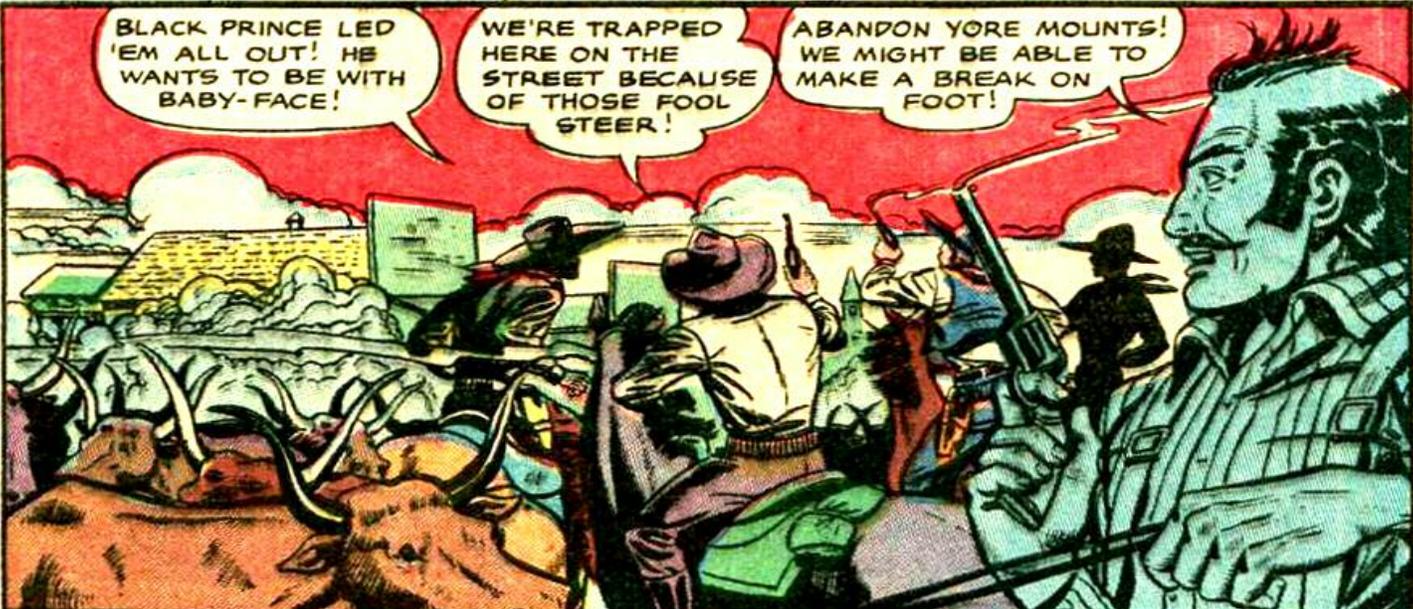
THEY'RE LEAVING! I WANT TO ASK A FEW QUESTIONS!

IF I CAN STOP THEM, YOU'LL GET YOUR CHANCE TO TALK!



THE LONE RIDER'S HASTE MADE HIM FORGET ONE THING... TO CLOSE THE GATE OF THE CORRAL!

BLASTED CATTLE! SHOOT 'EM OUT OF OUR PATH!



BLACK PRINCE LED 'EM ALL OUT! HE WANTS TO BE WITH BABY-FACE!

WE'RE TRAPPED HERE ON THE STREET BECAUSE OF THOSE FOOL STEER!

ABANDON YORE MOUNTS! WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE A BREAK ON FOOT!



YORE THE CAUSE OF THIS! YOU AN' THAT FOOL BULL! WELL, YOU'VE CAUSED ME TROUBLE FOR TH' LAST TIME!

NO - NO! DON'T!



BLACK PRINCE! CALL HIM OFF! SOMEBODY CALL TH' CRITTER OFF! HE'LL KILL ME!

BABY-FACE PERKINS HAD ONE FRIEND... FURIOUS AT THE FATAL ATTACK ON HIS MASTER, THE ENRAGED BULL GORES JOE PETERS WITH DEADLY INTENT.





DROP YOUR SHOOTING IRONS! ALL OF YOU! THERE'LL BE NO NEED OF THEM WHERE YOU'RE GOING! THE SECRET SEVEN HAVE TURNED OUT TO BE THE UNFORTUNATE FIVE!



YOU'VE DONE IT AGAIN, LONE RIDER! THIS IS ONE GANG THE WHOLE TOWN WILL BE GLAD TO SEE BEHIND BARS!

I WANT TO OFFER PROOF OF THEIR GUILT!



MR. HARRIS, I'D LIKE TO RIDE ALONG WITH YOU TO YOUR RANCH IF YOU DON'T MIND.

ANYTHING YOU SAY, LONE RIDER.

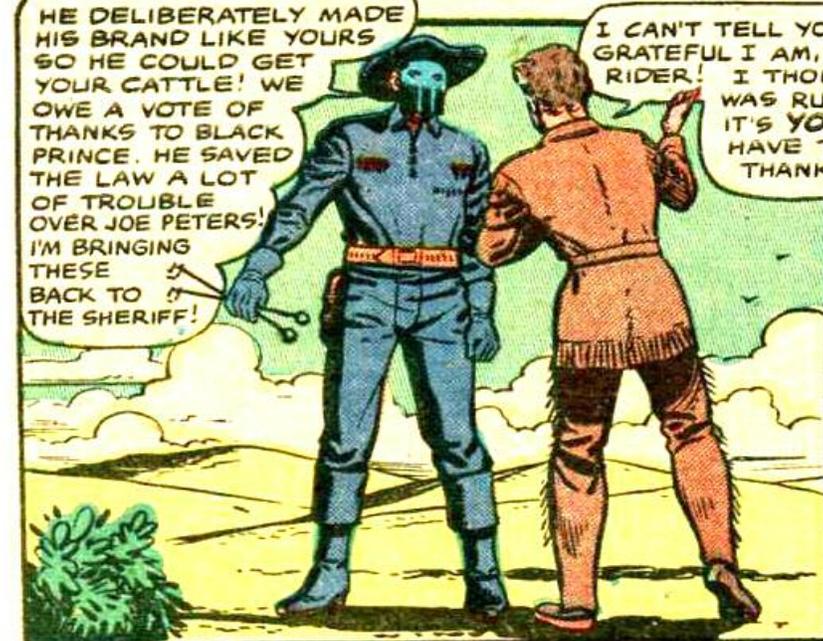


THIS IS LUCK! THE IRONS ARE STILL HERE!

IRONS! WHY, MY BOYS ONLY USE ONE IRON!



LAST NIGHT THEY USED TWO! BOTH YOURS, AND INNOCENTLY ENOUGH, JOE PETERS', TOO! SEE HOW SIMILAR THEY ARE?



HE DELIBERATELY MADE HIS BRAND LIKE YOURS SO HE COULD GET YOUR CATTLE! WE OWE A VOTE OF THANKS TO BLACK PRINCE. HE SAVED THE LAW A LOT OF TROUBLE OVER JOE PETERS! I'M BRINGING THESE BACK TO THE SHERIFF!

I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW GRATEFUL I AM, LONE RIDER! I THOUGHT I WAS RUINED! IT'S YOU I HAVE TO THANK...



DOESN'T PAY TO MAKE AN ENEMY OF A BEAST, DOES IT, BOY?

RIDE, LIGHTNIN', RIDE!

ANOTHER THRILLING TALE OF THE LONE RIDER IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF **LONE RIDER** Comics!

THE **Cowboy** CHRONICLE

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The Cowboy Chronicle welcomes and encourages submissions of articles and match reports from any and all readers.

Please submit articles in MS Word or something compatible.

Open Office and Apple Pages (saved as MS Word) are also fine. A count of 800-1500 words for the printed editions is a good target to shoot for, but shorter pieces are also fine, and we can accommodate larger reports in our virtual-only issues if the material warrants it. We may choose to break very lengthy articles up into two or more parts to run in consecutive issues, or heavily edit them, however.

Please do not embed your photos in the Word document.

They can be extracted for use in the The Cowboy Chronicle, but it can be a chore to do that. Instead, send your photos separately, in one or more emails, as attachments. Three to six photos per email usually works best. It's best to send JPEGs, but other formats are acceptable, and it's best to keep them at about 300 dpi and 3000 pixels (10 inches) on the short side. That will allow us plenty of leeway when it comes to cropping and adjusting them for publication, but in any case try to use photos that are at least 1000 pixels on the short side. If you're unsure of the size of your pictures, or how to size them, send what you have and we'll adjust them.

Usually, six photos are sufficient for an article, especially for the printed version, but we will consider using more for a "big" event, if provided.

The digital editions can accommodate more images, as well. Photos need not have captions, but captions always make photos more interesting. Ideally, the caption would consist of one or two sentences that say something about the picture that is not obvious and/or is not implicit in the body of the article. "Sam making smoke" is a title but not a caption. "Sam, SASS #XXXXX, shooting his first black powder match; after much deliberation, he decided to give it a try and now he's hooked" is much better. A caption may also serve to let everyone know why the picture is worthy of being published in an international newspaper.

For digital editions, short video clips may also be included.

MPEGs, AVIs, WAVs, etc., may all be embedded in Chronicle pages, with MPEGs (mp4) preferable. A better option would be to post your video to YouTube and then provide us with the YouTube link. Those will be viewable provided the reader is connected to the Internet.

Please use editor@sassnet.com for all article submissions.

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Political

Traditionalists Solutions

By Stonehawk West, SASS #102080

I must commend Colonel Dan on his Political essay in the January 2017 issue. Not only was it well written, it was the most concise and spot-on comparison between Progressives and what he called Traditionalists on which I ever laid eyes. And while I do agree that there can be no reconciliation between these political views because they entirely oppose each other on every point, and while I agree if we are compelled to coexist with an increasingly destructive, intrusive, and controlling doctrine then we may be impelled to separate, I do think there are constructive and practical actions we can take to help turn the tide of our culture. May I be so bold as to add to Colonel Dan's essay?

It is important to first understand how the Progressives got to where they are today. For they would have us believe there was an organic, grass roots objection to traditional values in the minds of free thinking Americans that led us to this deep divide. In my opinion, nothing can be further from the truth.

It was way back in 1924 that Progressivism was institutionalized in a little known think tank called the Institute for Social Research, later known as The Frankfurt School. Since Marxism had failed to bring about the utopia they expected after WWI, a couple dozen Marxists decided they would recalculate another way to bring about their utopia. But there was a problem. They were in Germany and there was another socialist named Hitler coming to power and he had an army. So the Frankfurt School founders fled, most of them to America, where they settled in at Columbia University.

I don't have space enough for details (because I want to talk about solutions) but I would encourage your readers to search YouTube for "The History of Political Correctness." Several historians have done research and written books on the subject and others have posted videos with names and dates, theories and strategies, that document how we were led down this destructive path. But I will concisely share two big theories that came out of the Frankfurt School in the 1930s. One was "Critical Theory," which is less about critical thinking and more about criticizing. This led

to the creation of many victim groups and every kind of reason to protest against traditional culture and those in power. We might call this the sword they used to sew dissension among us.

The second big progressive theory was Political Correctness. This was the shield they used to silence everyone who disagreed with them. But still, you might ask, how did 24 intellectual bandits highjack the whole of Western culture?

It was a long intentional plan. Unlike most rebels, the Progressives were instructed to look professional and respectable, in effect, dress up like sheep. But underneath they were wolves. With that, they took jobs as professors to indoctrinate the youth, and textbook editors who could rewrite history, and newspaper editors who could spin the news. They were outspoken and influential.

As our culture invented new ways of sharing information and telling stories, so too, the Progressives adapted. As recorded music, movies and television influenced culture, the progressives were right there to influence the ones who were pulling strings, making decisions, and paying bills. They understood if their plan was to succeed, their ideas must pervade the entire culture. And now, after a long slow march over decades, nearly all the "megaphones" in our culture—education, media, entertainment, and politics are controlled by Progressives. That is, until the Internet. Once again individuals can have their own megaphone without the Progressive filters. Thank God for that.

But still, we have had a 50-year drumbeat of Progressive ideas pounded in our heads. Let me list a few and see if you recognize any: the sexual "revolution" of the sixties, relativism about truth, the Constitution is a "living document," Affirmative Action, Jim Crow Laws, open borders, government dependence, relaxed penalties for criminals, gun control, over regulation, extreme debt, selective tolerance, atheism, reparations for slavery, and dumbing down education. All of these ideas and programs were inventions of Progressives. If there is an idea or program that will decay the social,



*Stonehawk West,
SASS #102080*

Traditionalists Solutions . . .

cultural, economic or religious fiber of our culture, the progressives were (and are) all for it. That is how the Progressives expanded Marxism from just a theory about economic revolution to a battle plan against Western culture. And sadly, they have succeeded.

So what are we to do? Believe me, it's not as hopeless as it sounds. First remember, the home is still a place where traditionalism can thrive. Take interest in what your children (and grandchildren) are learning. Don't leave all their education to government schools. Teach them especially about History and Economics because many schools have eliminated these subjects.

Second, remember the Progressive plan all along was to attack traditional values and culture. It was an actual plan, documented in papers and books and meeting notes. These people are not just random kooks and thugs rioting over stupid things like Trump's tax return or the "war on women." They have been brainwashed and sometimes paid to create chaos. These things are not just happening out of the blue sky. They are organized by people who are not our friends. So let our eyes be open to this.

Third, the other part of their plan is to shut us up with political correctness. Don't shrink back just because they might call you a racist. You know you're not. So resist the lie. I know, some battles are not worth fighting, which is true if you're up against a militant progressive who's been trained to fight. But most people, especially the young, who would call themselves Progressive or Socialist, really aren't. They just think they are because they've been told many lies, like "only Progressives are compassionate" and "the rich 1% are evil." See, they're fine with wealth redistribution because they think that's fair. But when you explain that simply being American puts THEM in the 1% and maybe they should sell their phone because it could feed a family in Africa for six months, and wouldn't that be "fair?" Well, that possibly changes things.

* * * *

Here are some other things we can do to take back our traditionalist culture

Support movies and entertainment that promote traditional values. Regardless of ideology, money usually speaks louder than theories. If traditional entertainment makes money, more producers will make traditional entertainment.

This is obvious for this crowd, but introduce Progressives to shooting, and when you do, teach them the truth about the Second Amendment. Most will find the experience thrilling and it will help dissolve their fears about guns.

Develop a presentation or an interesting lesson in civics or history or science or business, most any subject will do as long as the lesson supports traditional values—truth, individualism, virtue, freedom, courage, responsibility, family, work ethic, etc.

Go to church. Attendance is way down and most of our traditional values are based in the Bible.

If you're intellectually strong, choose a job that is saturated with progressives, like teaching or entertainment.

Run for your local school board. Important decisions are made there.

Get involved with your local community. Traditionalists tend to make better leaders, so be a beacon of light.

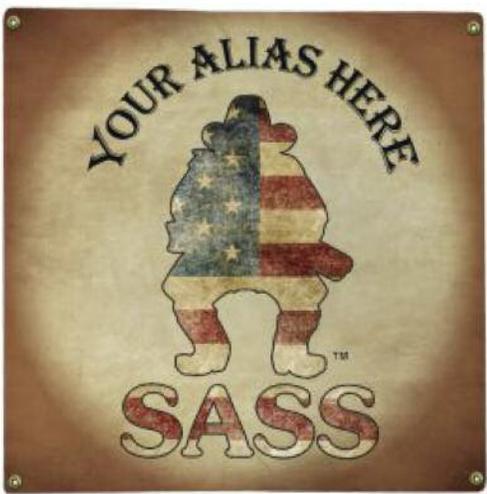
Lastly, if you have significant time to spare, start a blog or a podcast or write articles like this one. And remember this axiom... facts tell, stories sell.

A story is usually more influential than blurting out facts and data. For example, if you were to get in a discussion about welfare or virtue you could rattle off census data about tax percentages paid to support lazy parasites. But it would likely fall on deaf ears because that's boring. You've got your facts, they've got theirs.

Or you could carefully fabricate a story of a 10-year-old boy who knocked on a man's door, asking for donations because he wanted to help a homeless man. You see, his parents were proud and delighted their son had seen the light and the virtue of helping others.) Reaching into his wallet for a \$20 dollar bill, the man said, "I'll tell you what, I'm not just going to give you this money so you can give it to the homeless man, but I have some weeds over there that need pulling. If you pull those weeds, I'll give you this money and you can do what you want with it. The boy agrees, the work takes him nearly two hours and when the job is done the man gives him the money and asks, "So, are you going to give the money to the homeless guy?" He answers, "I might, maybe a little. But I don't see why the homeless man can't pull his own weeds and earn his own money."

So let's start pushing back against Progressives. Speak with kindness and pointed questions and with the intent of sowing seeds, not bludgeoning them with truth. Don't let them shut us up with lies and name-calling. Let's get more involved. It will be required of us if we are to save the greatest culture in History. 🙏

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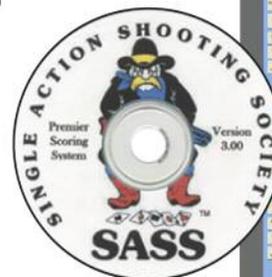
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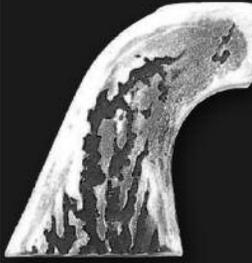
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 105,685..... Buck Shot Bigguns
 105,698..... Beauford C. Montgomery
 105,750..... El Explorador

RI

105,677..... Rickety Buckboard

SC

105,743..... Mississippi Mud

TN

52,250..... Bill Carson
 52,251..... Prestidigitator

TX

105,617..... C. T. Midnight Searly
 105,621..... Marshal Goudy
 105,634..... LB Cash
 105,639..... Wild Cherry
 105,647..... Jim Bill
 105,661..... Don Alejanrdo
 105,695..... Big Bit
 105,696..... Little Bit Bizzie
 105,705..... Moses Harper
 105,748..... Jumpin Justin
 105,769..... 105769
 105,775..... 105775
 105,776..... One Chance Fancy
 105,789..... Pink Higgins
 105,790..... Blackwater Lily
 105,804..... Samuel Walker

UT

105,663..... Little Red Rampage
 105,759..... Tilley Tumbleweed
 105,781..... Sonny May West

VA

105,623..... Pintop Rebel
 105,640..... Ringo Jack
 105,644..... Furious Frank
 105,654..... Jack Stanz
 105,667..... Crazy Kitty Irv
 105,774..... Ricochet Jack

WA

105,632..... COG
 105,662..... Allen James
 105,691..... Jonny Vanquero
 105,714..... Harmonica
 105,761..... Texas Spade

WI

105,683..... Spembo
 105,764..... Hound Dog Beagle
 105,765..... Salina Sam

WV

105,620..... Augustus Wilburn McCrae
 105,711..... Boomstick Bruce

WY

105,717..... Soul Reaper
 105,758..... Slicker Vicar

**MEMBERS
 BY COUNTRY**

SASS # ALIAS

**AUSTRALIA
 Queensland**

105,753..... Fancy Freebird
 105,754..... Footless

South Australia

105,741..... Lady Ellen
 105,742..... Billy Hustler

**CANADA
 Alberta**

105,681..... Reno Rose

British Columbia

105,780..... Dusty Thumb Buster

Ontario

105,706..... Mickey Sicilian
 105,739..... Rio Pek Kid
 105,767..... J.J.E. Undertaker

Saskatchewan

105,659..... Layla Langtry

DENMARK

105,720..... Skinner Dane

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