



The Cowboy Chronicle



The Monthly Journal of the Single Action Shooting Society®

Vol. 18 No. 12

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December 2005

See our
NEW
Mercantile section
(starting on page 90)

REGULATORS ROOST 2005 SASS Canadian Regional

By Grey Fox, SASS Life Regulator #223

Kelowna, B.C. Canada An international assortment of frontier fun seekers and Old West aficionados gathered in Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada for the Canadian SASS Regional, September 23-25, 2005. Kelowna is a beautiful town located in one of Canada's premier wine regions.

The Kelowna Fish and Game Sportsman range reverberated with the report of single actions for three sun filled, fun filled days. The competitors ranged from pre-teen young men to grizzled aging pistoleros. The frontier women were well represented by lovely young damsels to comely mature ladies.

The shootists came from eastern and western Canada, the U.S., New Zealand, and Germany.

The event featured many special guests, SASS #17997 B. Slim, President of the Alberta Frontier Shootists, and the real President, Mustang Heart, SASS #24909; SASS Representatives Tex, SASS #4, and Cat Ballou, SASS #55; and movie stuntwoman, Martha Crawford Cantarini, a recent recipient of the famous Golden Boot Award in



Turkey Will and The Widow Usher are the 2005 Canadian Regional Champions. Congratulations!

Hollywood, California.

The stages varied from Guarding the Gold to Keeping the Gold, plus incarcerating a miscreant. The action was fast paced and the RO's were the best I have seen.

The prize table groaned with treasure due to the enthusiastic support of SASS, Henry Repeating Arms, Marstar Canada, Marlin

Firearms Company, Wild West Shooting Center (Kanada Kid and Kanada Girl), Walter Ostin custom Made Gun Leather, Mernickle Custom Holsters, Miers Building Products, National Firearms Association, Del Selin Gunsmithing, Caldwell Industries, The Bullet Barn, Oma Bullets, Stone & Company, Bushwhacker Western Wear,

See **HIGHLIGHTS** on page 77

and Shoot Magazine.

The Saturday and Sunday night dinners were superb. Saturday's dinner was interrupted by Tex causing mischief with all the saloon girls and consequently being reprimanded by Cat Ballou. Saturday evening was topped off by a Texas Hold-em Poker Tournament.

Sunday's banquet wrapped up the wondrous affair. Both men and ladies costumes were superb. Miss Mary Spencer, SASS #55147, as Queen Victoria captured Best Dressed Lady. Sea Hag, SASS #44583, was Best Shooting Costume-Lady, and Grey Fox won both Best Dressed Man and Best Shooting Costume-Male.

The organizers were acknowledged. Cari On, SASS #53356, did super duty at registration and administration.

With a standing ovation, the final honor went to Match Director Cariboo Lefty, SASS #5391. Cariboo Lefty was awarded the Spirit of the Game award with accolades and kisses from a lot of ladies (and gents, not a pretty sight). Lefty was acknowledged for his determination to make the SASS Canadian Regional one of the finest matches to attend.

The final surprise of the evening was spotting the Judge at the back of the room. Was it the Judge or an alien clone? With respect and trepidation, we ap-

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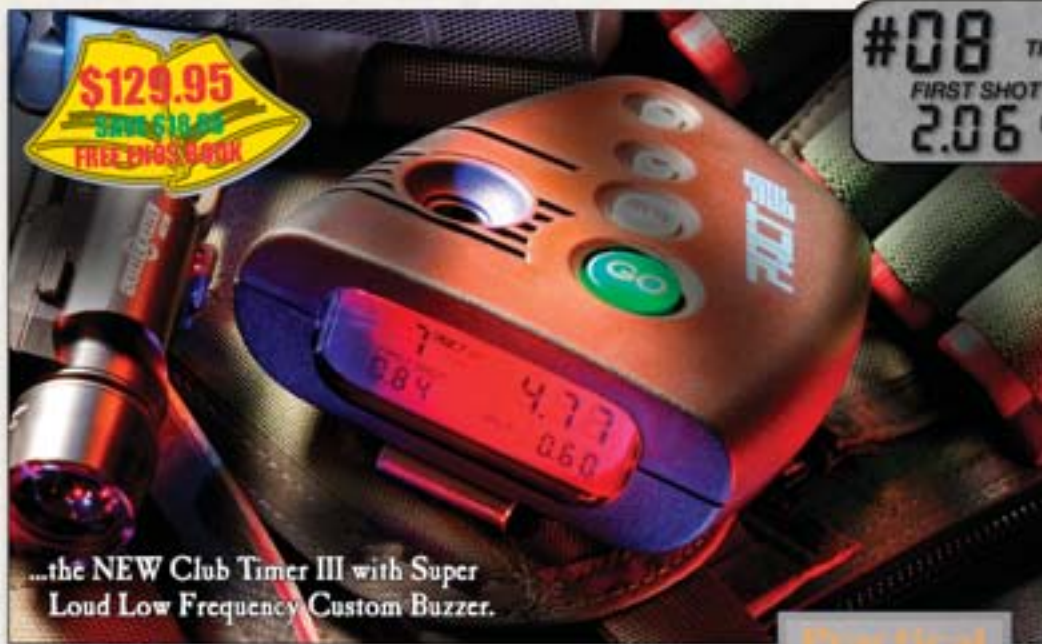
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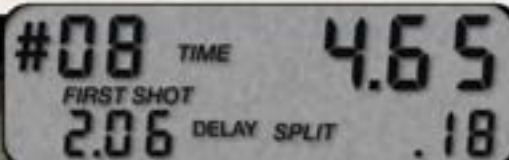
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EDITORIAL



Tex, SASS #4

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

By Tex, SASS #4



TRAIL have been successful, and we have a beautiful ranch in New Mexico. I had the opportunity to travel quite a bit this year ... visiting with SASS members across the country and in Canada and shooting in several exciting, challenging matches. Getting to know these folks and listening to what they had to say was both an enjoyable and a learning experience. I see why the Judge has always enjoyed his time with our members at matches across the country. And, speaking of the Judge, we even enticed him to shoot a couple of matches at the ranch! It was just like old times. Life has been good.

Good, but not perfect. I wish we could have less controversy ... especially on the wire. Everyone has an opinion, and for many, theirs is the only opinion that counts. I wish we could learn to be more tolerant and polite when using the wire ... many have not learned

how to express alternate opinions without dropping into rude behavior.

I wish we could turn the clock back and travel different routes when it comes to things like internal modifications ... we weren't wrong 25 years ago, just naive. Back then no one envisioned the changes being incorporated in our firearms today ... tuning, polishing, and lightening springs were the norm then ... but swapping coil springs for leaf springs, short stroking rifles and pistols, and other modifications that change the way our guns function are the norm today. I wish we could simply admit we all made a mistake and then set about making things right.

When it comes to controversy, one side is "right" and the other "wrong," or put another way, one side wins and one side loses. I wish the losers could be as happy as the winners ... after all, every controversy deals with the good of the sport ...

hopefully every decision benefits the game we play

... so everyone should be happy!

I wish there were more hours in the day. It's impossible to travel as much as I'd like and still keep up with The Cowboy Chronicle and all the other SASS publishing chores that come my way. More hours would also mean more time at the reloading bench ... building my own ammo is as much a part of competing as pulling the trigger. More hours would also mean time to work on my "projects" ... video projects and slide shows from all the matches I visited ... this is also as enjoyable for me as competing in a match!

I wish someone would build an affordable Lightning rifle that would handle blackpowder. We're all continuing to collect firearms, and my collection is nowhere near complete!

I wish all blackpowder competi-
(Continued on page 65)

December is the traditional month to be thankful for all we have and to wish for the things we don't have. This has been an excellent year ... SASS continues to grow, the Convention and END of

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WARNING: Neither the author nor The Cowboy Chronicle can accept any responsibility for accidents or differing results obtained using reloading data. Variation in handloading techniques, components, and firearms will make results vary. Have a competent gunsmith check your firearms before firing.



Founders Ranch is sad to report the passing of Bevo, the ancient Longhorn that annually sired new calves right up to the end. Bevo has had the run of the ranch for as long as anyone can remember. He hung out with the buffalo when it pleased him and rested in solitude at other times. When with the buffalo, he was the clear leader ... none messed with him. Recently when a couple of the young buffalo didn't show enough deference to Bevo, he gave them "the look," then walked away several yards, turned, and destroyed a large juniper with his horns and hooves. He got the young buffs' attention!

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NEWS



SHOOTING COWBOYS??

Shooting cowboys is fast becoming a Colorado pastime, but no need to call the sheriff! Folks who shoot cowboys also shoot horses and the full moon over the Sangres. Perhaps the fastest growing interest in the photography world is its corollary to Cowboy Action Shooting™ – allowing shutter-crazy people access to the gorgeous Colorado ranch wilderness and its strong and wild cowboys.

During the August full moon, Cowboy Bob McConnell sat on the deck of his one-room cabin set on nearly 5000 acres of protected wilderness on Bear Basin Ranch in Westcliffe. As usual, he was awed by the beauty of his environment.

“Wow,” he thought, “more people ought to be able to enjoy this.”

Thus the birth of KB Mountain Adventures’ Shoot Out at Bear Basin, a series of photography workshops that put amateur and professional photographers right where they want to be: in the meadow as 50 horses come pounding to the corral during round up, or at the cusp of a hill as the full moon sets

over the mountains. The three-day Shoot Out workshops are offered in conjunction with Andy Cook of Rocky Mountain Reflections (<<http://www.rockymtnrefl.cfm/>>) and provide lodging, meals, mentoring, scenery, and overnight film developing for its participants. Scheduled around the full moon each month through the winter, KB Mountain Adventures will do what it does best: provide the structure and environment for people to have great fun in the mountains.

“We can’t all be cowboys, but it’s a hoot to be around them and to capture their big spirits on film,” says Phyllis Coletta, Bob’s partner in KB Mountain Adventures. “And horses are powerful photo subjects. We want folks to remember the cowboy spirit in America.”

More specific information is provided on the KB website, <<http://www.kbmountainadventures.com/>> and on Andy Cook’s photography workshop page, www.rockymtnrefl.com/cowboyworkshops.htm. We’d love to share our enthusiasm and

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John and Maggie feel the most important feature of their website is the “click to enlarge” where you can see for yourself the fine craftsmanship and attention to detail that goes into every product they make.

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 - C) Rounds per minute with number of shots, split, 1st shot time, start delay type, time, date & battery condition.
- Review directly or set par time directly with up/down buttons.
- Set shot dead time to eliminate echos.
- Digital shot sensitivity adjustment.
- Random start delay minimum and maximums are settable between .5 & 9.9 seconds. Default is minimum 1 sec and maximum of 4 seconds per USPSA. Setting min. and Max. the same gives a fixed start delay.

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NEWS



SECOND ANNUAL PONY EXPRESS MATCH IS GETTING READY TO START

The 1st Annual Pony Express Match will be finished in December, and if you didn't get a chance to participate in this fun year-long match, Ce Dee Tom, SASS #10411, will be doing it again next year in 2006. You can get all the information, registration form, and check out last year's results on the Pony Express website - <http://www.ponyexpressmatch.com>

The rules have changed slightly from last year, so check them out.

The 2nd Annual Pony Express will again use the Internet as the medium for getting the word out to everybody. From the website, you can download the rules and registration form, along with stages for each

quarter, as well as a setup guide giving layouts on how the stages are to be laid out. You can also see who is shooting, where they're from, and what category they are shooting. The scores will be posted each quarter, so you can check your standings against other shooters.

A portion of the proceeds from this fun match will be donated to the SASS Scholarship Fund.

Sponsors are currently being rounded up. We're asking them to donate prizes that will be given away by random drawing after the fourth quarter scores have been tallied. Only those shooters who shoot all four quarters (eight stages) will be placed in the bucket for these prizes.

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- Mainspring, Uberti ITEM#CC880500 \$15.00
- Sear & Bolt Spring (Flat), Colt/EMF/Uberti ITEM#CC880510 \$6.49
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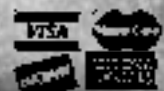
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NEWS



CLEAN-BURNING PINNACLE NOW AVAILABLE IN BLACK DAWGE CARTRIDGES AS NEW REPLIC BLACKPOWDER AMMO

MINDEN, LA—New GOEX Pinnacle Black Dawge Cartridges combine the cleanest-burning substitute blackpowder with the best pre-loaded cartridge to offer a cleaner option and better accuracy for blackpowder cartridge shooters. The new replica blackpowder ammunition joins the growing GOEX product family, combining two of the company's most innovative products.



Pinnacle Black Dawge Cartridges, like all GOEX Black Dawge Cartridges, are cast from a special soft alloy and lubed with SPG lube. Pre-loaded inside is Pinnacle blackpowder substitute, known for its non-corrosive, bore-friendly composition.

With its cleaner composition, the new Pinnacle Black Dawge Cartridge causes less build-up and allows shooters to get off more shots without intermittent cleaning. High velocities provide improved accuracy and more consistent shooting for hunters, competition shooters, and plinkers.

The new blackpowder replica cartridges come in a wide range of calibers, for use in small pistols to large rifles and shotguns, and are available through GOEX distributors and sporting goods stores.

For more information about GOEX Pinnacle Black Dawge Cartridges, call 318-382-9300 or visit www.goexpowder.com.

NEW RELEASE FROM THE AUSTRALIAN STOCK SADDLE COMPANY

The Australian Stock Saddle Company, of Malibu, California, has released a saddle series lined with crocodile.

Southern Cross Saddlery of Brisbane, Australia is building the saddles. The crocodile used is farm-raised and is being imported into the US under permit.

Crocodile is distinctive because of its high quills and deep definition. It is tanned to a golden honey color. Also available: croc-lined breastplates, bridles, saddlebags, and stirrups.

The saddles are built on adjustable wood/metal trees, and web-strung seats. The cost is \$2,995 with optional horn.

For more information, call or write: The Australian Stock Saddle Company, P.O.Box 987, Malibu, Ca., 90265 (818) 889-6988 Fax (818) 889-7271. Email: dangaard@bigfoot.com Web: aussiesaddle.com



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- Cowboy cuffs: \$20 & \$29
- Bullet belt pouch: \$39
- .45 /12 gauge belt sleeve: \$39
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- Army/Navy holster: \$49
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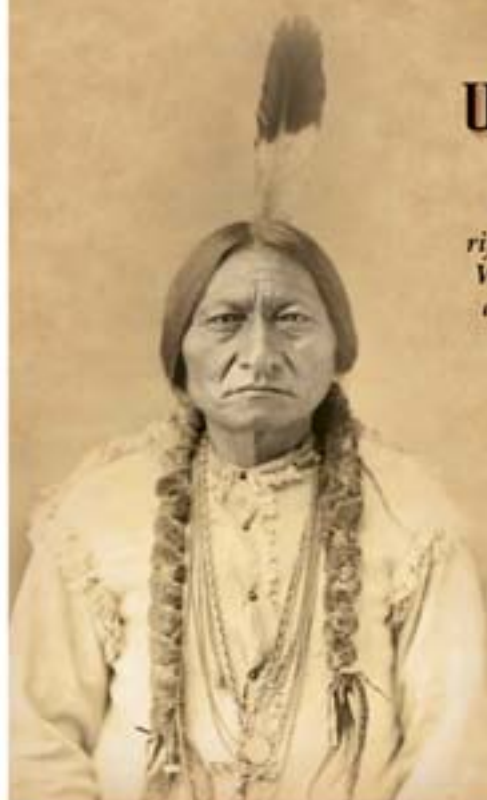




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NEWS



CURLY'S COWBOY CHRISTMAS DINNER AND CONCERT!

Benefiting the Happy Trails Children's Foundation Cooper Home

By Val Verde, SASS #3876

November 7, 2005—Apple Valley, CA—Popular award winning cowboy singer, Curly Jim Musgrave of Lake Arrowhead, CA, along with talented friends, Belinda



Curly Jim Musgrave

Gail, Justus Strummin and the Montanas, and noted cowboy poet, Gary Robertson, will perform in concert at 4 p.m., Sunday evening, December 18, 2005, at the famous Green Tree Inn in Victorville, CA. Share the Holiday Spirit and enjoy an evening of great entertainment and delicious food with good friends at *Curly's Cowboy Christmas!*

Take pleasure in a scrumptious buffet meal followed by a great lineup of the finest cowboy singers and songwriters in the land today! Justus Strummin and the Montanas have performed at END of TRAIL, the Lone Pine Film Festival, the Autry Museum of Western Heritage, the Roy Rogers and Dale Evans Western Film Festival, and other venues throughout the west. Talented and beautiful Belinda Gail has won Female Vocalist of the Year

Correction

By Nubbins Colt, SASS #7802

For the record, my article in the September *Cowboy Chronicle* said CPA's have a Federal license. I actually thought that was the case because of their uniform testing procedures and the IRS rules being

national in scope. I've been under that impression for 30 years! The SASS CPAs have disabused me of that notion, and I want to submit this clarification and apology for being so dense! 🐾

Awards from the Western Music Association several years in a row, and Curly Jim Musgrave is winner of Male Vocalist of the Year by the WMA. Together, Curly and Belinda Gail are a dynamite duo! Gary Robertson is a real working cowboy, whose poetry and tall tales will definitely put a smile on your face! In addition, a drawing will be held to select the winner of the gorgeous Silver Screen Legend VIII, Hollywood style hand carved and silver mounted belt and holster rig with a genuine and unique Colt Single Action Revolver.

The Green Tree Inn is located at 14173 Green Tree Blvd. at the I-15 Palmdale Road exit in Victorville,

CA. Doors will open at 4 p.m. for a Social Hour with a *No Host* bar and entertainment followed by dinner at 5 p.m. and an extraordinary show. Tickets are \$40 each or \$75 per couple. There is a special 10% discount for Happy Trails Children's Foundation Trailblazer Club members, Roy Rogers Riders Club members, and SASS members. Seating is limited and tickets are expected to sell out fast again this year. Bring a *new* unwrapped toy worth \$5 or more and receive a FREE collectible poster of Roy, Dale, and Trigger valued at \$15. All toys will be donated to Toys for Tots. Help the Roy Rogers & Dale Evans Happy Trails Children's
(Continued on page 43)

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Heavy vegetable tanned shotgun cartridge belt with speed strips, 18 shotgun singles (or 12 doubles) & 10 cartridge loops, \$80.00. Also shotgun belt slides with speed strips, \$30.00. Down Under Slide, (cartridge & shotgun) \$35.00. Colors, black or brown.

Over 70 molds for Custom Single Action Pistol Grips including the new Ruger Vaquero. Available in any color you choose including, ivory white, antler white, black buffalo horn, black buffalo horn w/ white streaks & John Wayne yellow, in smooth & checkered style \$40.00 a pair, \$45.00 stag style, brass inlayed snake on one side panel, \$75.00 & solid silver inlayed, \$120.00 one panel.



One skirted holster (4 3/4-7 1/2), or John Wayne holster, (3 1/2-7 1/2), either 2 1/4 Trail or Ranger cartridge belt, \$110.00, Slim Jim \$105.00. Two double skirted holsters or John Wayne holsters combination of your choice with either 2 1/4 Trail or Ranger cartridge belt, \$168.00, Slim Jim \$158.00. 3" Money Belt & John Wayne 2 1/2" money belt, \$22.00 extra. Brown or black.



Easy to put on & take off, Huckleberry Rig, right or left hand, \$100.00. Double Huckleberry Rig, \$180.00, 3 1/2- 7 1/2. Colors, brown or black



John's Red River Belt Buckle, cast in USA, polished in solid gold bronze or silver bronze. John had these made to give to close friends with their initials in the lower left corner. We left it open for you to put yours or who ever in the area. \$30.00. Quality heavy vegetable oil tanned 1 1/2" belt/ buckle comb. black or brown, \$55.00.



Carbine/Shotgun Scabbard, 20", \$75.00, Rifle/Shotgun Scabbard, 24", \$85.00, Saddle straps, removable sling, wide shoulder strap.



Tooled Derringer leather suspenders, \$60.00, right or left hand. Untooled Derringer suspenders, \$48.00 Plain or Quigley leather suspenders, \$29.00. Black or brown.



3 Styles fully lined cuffs, available in two sizes, black or brown, \$50.00-\$55.00. Matching spur straps, \$15.00-\$40.00

Lined John Wayne Vest, \$118.00. Shooters Vest, \$39.00, black or mustard. Lined gamblers vest, \$46.00.



Customer appreciation pricing. Shirts with pockets fabrics from the 1800's, \$27.00. Large assorted scarves, \$20.00-\$22.00. Cavalry Bib shirts navy, black, red, khaki, \$51.00.



South American cast spurs, with jingle bobs, \$80.00. Custom fitted spurs, \$19.00-\$75.00.

New! Tapestry Carpet Bags, quality leather & brass attachments, 3 pockets inside. small, 20X11X7, \$125.00; large, 25X18X7, \$175.00.



Bullet/Brass Belt Pouch, \$20.00

Mustard & Black Unlined Duster, \$59.00. Black, mustard, khaki, & gray pinstripe suspender pants, \$39.00.



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Cat Ballou, SASS #55

(This month's guest columnist, Irish Dove, frequently submits articles of interest from a feminine shooter's viewpoint...Cat)

When we think of the Old West we see visions of cowboys, Indians, saloons, guns, ladies of the night, and horses, but rarely visions of the prairie wife or Conestoga mother. Her every day life was a life of cooking, sewing, washing, cleaning, tending the house and garden, often helping in the fields, and even plowing. Many came from comfortable homes surrounded by family in an urban setting and were ill prepared for the hardships endured on the migration West. Lured by the promise of adventure, opportunity for prosperity, and challenge of a new life on free land, many thought of it as a lark. Newly married, some pregnant or with small children, they set forth with their husbands. During their journey, the women at least had the company of other women.

Once at their destination, they were often isolated and living in a sod hut. Sheets were used as a ceiling under the sod roof to catch bugs and dirt. The floors ran with mud during a rain. Loved possessions had been discarded along the way. The route was marked with crosses of those who perished - husbands, mothers, and children buried where they died with no time to stop and mourn. There were no grief counselors or therapists; they just had to get on with life.

Such was the story of a young group who found its way to Narcissa Whitman. She and her husband, Dr. Marcus Whitman had founded a mission in the Eastern Washington

Territory. Zealous in their wish to minister to the Indians, they established schools, and doctored the populace. After the loss of their only child, a daughter, Narcissa nurtured many children, Jim Bridger's daughter among them. One day, a ramshackle wagon driven by a 14-year-old boy arrived at her door. She asked for his parents and was told they had died on the trail and he and his five sisters and another brother had carried on alone. The Whitmans adopted them bringing their family to 11 children. Subsequently, the Whitmans and the two boys were massacred at the mission on 1847.

Men may have tamed the West, but women civilized it. Women were largely responsible for bringing education, religion, and culture to the frontier. I'm not sure it was completely altruistic because it gave the women the opportunity of much needed companionship of other women.

Mother Joseph was sent by the Catholic Church to the Columbia River Area in 1856 to establish a school. She was not daunted by the tough irreligious boomtown geared to lumber, shipping, mining, and trade. Her feminine spirit soon challenged the man's world. Her father had been a carriage maker, and she had learned carpentry from him and had a natural talent for design and architecture. She designed a chapel and built the altar herself. One time she pointed out an error in the construction of a chimney, and in the morning the workers found she had correctly rebuilt the chimney. She established many schools and a hospital in Washington, and was the first to care for orphans, the aged, and the mentally ill. In recognition of her accomplishments, her statue is now in our Nation's Capitol.

What would you do if you had nine children, your husband was unable to work due to an injury, and you were deeply in debt and facing the loss of your home? Why walk across the United States, of course! And that is exactly what Helga Estby did. This was the position she found herself in after several years of homesteading in Spokane, Washington.

Upon hearing of a contest award-

ding \$10,000 if a woman walked across the United States advertising a certain type of clothing, she decided this was the answer to her dilemma. Despite the pleas from her family and friends, she and her 18-year old daughter, Clara, embarked upon their journey on May 6, 1896. There were certain stipulations. They had to complete the trek to New York City in seven months, start with but \$5 a piece, earn their way as they went, and obtain signatures of prominent people in State Capitols.

They started with satchels packed with a little food, a Smith and Wesson revolver, a compass, map, a few medical supplies, a lantern for night walking, photographs of themselves to sell, and a curling iron. *(It's always important to look good ... Cat)* Not even a change of clothes. They also carried a notebook and pen and a letter of introduction from the Mayor of Spokane that stated, "a lady of good character and reputation" and asked for the "kindly consideration of all persons with whom they may have contact." This was a very important document because it opened the door to important people and the media.

Intending to follow the railroad tracks, they sometimes tried shortcuts and became lost. The revolver was used many times to ward off animals and undesirables. One highwayman was shot in the hand in self-defense, and they were not prosecuted. The hardships they endured are unimaginable, going sometimes days without food. Most towns and people were friendly and supportive. However, one town refused them food or shelter because they thought them "undeserving vagrants."

On December 23, many pairs of shoes, seven months and 18 days, and 3500 miles later, they set foot on Manhattan Island. On Christmas Eve, they were devastated to find the mysterious sponsor refused to honor the offer. They were alone in a big city with no means to return

Mrs. Estby and Her Daughter walk Armed from Spokane.



An artist for the "New York World" newspaper drew this sketch of Helga's and Clara's astounding achievement, which was published on Christmas Day, 1896. (Courtesy General Research Division, The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations).

home, and it took until spring for them to secure a way home. Arriving home almost a year after they had left, they found two of the children had died of diphtheria. The family felt Helga had abandoned them. All letters, notes, diaries, and vestiges of their odyssey were destroyed. Much of their trip remains shrouded in mystery and was never mentioned again. It became a family taboo. What information there is was gleaned from newspapers. Lives are not always lived happily ever after.

With such a heritage it is imperative we protect and preserve those values so valiantly secured for us by these pioneering women. This endowment gained for us through struggle and sorrow must be guarded with all vigilance. We need to ensure their legacy was not forged in vain.

"She may work from sun to sun, but a woman's work is never done."

References:

"Bold Spirit"-Linda Lawrence Hunt
Providence Health Archives
"Converting the West"
-Julie Roy Jeffrey

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Chiz, SASS #392
SASS Marketing Director

IT'S BEEN A GREAT YEAR!

bers whose enthusiasm for the game and SASS is infectious and rejuvenating. I am also impressed when I cross paths with the long time members whose enthusiasm and sense of humor is even more pronounced then when they first started. I'd like to share some highlights of this past year, as best I can remember.

Our newest member as of this writing was sent Badge #68,159. The SASS Scholarship Foundation awarded a record 40 scholarships, thanks to the generous support and contributions of the SASS membership. Teenagers Holy Terror and Badlands Bud took the overall titles at END of TRAIL, proving there is a future for the youth in this game. In fact, Holy Terror applied for and received a SASS scholarship for college. Mule Camp celebrated its tenth anniversary as the first ever SASS Regional. I remember when the Judge and I first visited those Georgia boys more than 10 years ago. Boy, how time flies. New products specifically designed for Cow-

boy Action Shooting™ were introduced, including IMR's Trail Boss Powder, the New Ruger Vaquero, and Taurus' Lightning rifle and single action pistol. END of TRAIL was held for the first time outside the state of California and attracted the largest number of shooters ever to compete in a Cowboy Action Shooting™ match. Tequila Tab and the state of Illinois pulled off a successful SASS State Championship on a brand new range with vigorous support of the industry and the state. Seven deserving individuals were inducted into the SASS Cowboy Action Shooting Hall of Fame. A film was made starring a bunch of well-known SASS members including Evil Roy, Lassiter, Ellsworth T. Kincaid, and many others. The movie is "Hell to Pay," and proves the Western is still alive and SASS members played a major role in not only the film, but the preservation of this genre of our American culture. It's been one heck of a year.

2006 will be a milestone for

SASS, as SASS will celebrate its 25th Silver Anniversary of END of TRAIL. We are pulling out all stops for the big 25 and invite everyone to join us in this grand celebration of the game we have come to love. 2006 will also be the fifth anniversary of the SASS Convention.

As a final thought for my last column in 2005, I'd like to recognize several individuals for their unsung volunteer support. The SASS Wire is a massive presence on the worldwide web. Millions of "hits" and thousands of posts are made every month. The moderation team of Black Harris, The Elder Kate, Dusty Chaps, and Doc Faraday keeps it all together. Without them, there could be no SASS Wire. I commend you all on an outstanding task of managing the deluge of information and putting up with the challenges placed upon you. SASS thanks you, and I thank you for your unwavering support.

Have a wonderful Holiday and a Happy New Year. *See ya next year!*

As another year comes to a close, I reminisce about what a wonderful year it's been. SASS continued to grow and with it the support of the shooting industry and its members. Thousands of new faces joined SASS bringing with them that familiar passion we have for the game and its historic significance. In the ten years I've been with SASS, I am constantly pleased to meet new mem-

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JUDGE'S X-Mas



Judge Roy Bean, SASS #1

(This column by the Judge first appeared in the December '95 Cowboy Chronicle)

We're approaching our 15th END of TRAIL. Cowboy Action Shooting™ has been going on since 1979, and yet there are many people and a few Cowboy Action Shooting™ clubs who don't understand what

A HAPPY AND FULFILLED MAN

By Judge Roy Bean, SASS #1

SASS and Cowboy Action Shooting™ is all about.

Well, everyone grab a cup of coffee with or without adult sweetener, or a cold one, and move a little closer to the fire. I want to tell you a wonderful modern fantasy.

Back in '78 or '79 a man, I'll call him the Judge, had a good job, a nice house in Orange County, California in an idyllic rural development known as Coto de Caza, and a high dollar sports car. He also had a quite a few friends, including three or four special lady companions. He shot trap, skeet, or action pistol on weekends. The Judge was successful and very happy, but he was not content. He knew something was missing.

When not working, partying, or shooting, he watched Westerns, from Roy, Gene, Hoppy, and the Lone Ranger to the Durango Kid, Tim Holt, and Johnny Mack Brown. He also watched modern Westerns, "Tribute to a Bad Man," "Man of the

West," and "The Wild Bunch." Then, one day, the Judge realized what was missing - he was! He wanted to be up on that silver screen fighting it out with his heroes against the bad guys. He knew his '73 Winchester or his Colts could have saved John Wayne in "The Cowboys." He could have helped out in "Stagecoach." His lightning draw could have helped Robert Culp in "Hannie Caulder" and ... well, you know what I mean.

Now hold on to that thought while I get another cup of coffee with a little Irish in it.

So the happy, but not quite content person called a few friends and suggested they shoot their next action match using cowboy guns, single action pistols, and lever action rifles. Seventeen agreed, and the match was on. It helped, but was still not complete. The next match was shot with most wearing as much Old West clothing as they had, Levis and modern Western snap button

shirts. Things were improving.

A few months later, a group was at the Judge's house, and someone had brought a copy of "The Wild Bunch." Watching the film after dinner, the thought went through his mind that if his group of friends with their '97s had been involved, they could have saved Pike, Dortch, Angel, and The Gortch Brothers. At the next match, a few brought 97s. A speed shotgun match was set up and everyone shot it ... a lot.

And the Judge thought, "This is good, but something is still missing." As in tales of fantasy, all was not yet perfect.

About a year later a problem reared its ugly head. People began to inquire if this was a "period shoot" like Mountain Men or the Civil War era. And the answer was, "No, this represents the American West between 1860 and 1900." When some started showing up with pre-

(Continued on page 43)

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LETTERS



THE PROCEDURAL PENALTY RE-VISITED

By Ol' Codger, SASS Life #17270

Quick Cal, Life #2707, has written astute and informative articles on scoring and spotting. Before almost every major match, much is said about giving the benefit of any doubt to the shooter. It is now pretty much standard at the larger shoots to admonish the spotters, "if you think it's miss, it's a hit." Absent from discussion in these forums is any discussion of giving this same benefit of any doubt to the shooter where a procedural penalty, or "procedural," is concerned.

I recently had the privilege of shooting at a Regional match and being placed on a posse with a member of the Wild Bunch and at least one world champion. Included among my fellow posse members were many who proudly wore buckles proclaiming them to be winners of the National and World championships. I was truly in exalted company. It was with this posse that a

problem with scoring arose.

One stage called for the shooter to shoot a knockdown rack with the first pistol and with the second, to shoot any knockdowns remaining, and then dump any remaining rounds on a fixed target. The relevant instructions from the shooter's handbook were, "with second pistol, engage any knock down targets still standing and with the remaining rounds shoot the square pistol target to the right of the knock down targets." One shooter hit three knockdowns with the first pistol. With the second pistol, this shooter knocked down one of the two remaining knockdowns and went to the "dump" target before coming back to the last remaining knockdown. Certainly, this was not the most efficient manner in which to shoot the stage, but in the heat of competition, we don't always run the stage in the optimal manner. After he finished his run, a conference was held among the

spotters and the range officer, with the SASS™ official in attendance. It was decided to give the shooter a penalty. The explanation given was the shooter could not go back to the falling-plate rack after engaging the "dump" target.

The very next stage was a similar layout with falling plates and a "dump" target. On this one, the relevant instructions were very similar to the previous stage; "with your second pistol, engage any knock down targets still standing and with the remaining rounds shoot the left rifle target." A different shooter did the same thing as the first shooter on the previous stage. This shooter went from the knockdown targets to the "dump" plate and then back to the knockdown targets. Again, a lengthy discussion ensued as to whether this second shooter should be given a procedural penalty, and it was decided that he should not. The first shooter then approached the SASS official and protested. The SASS official promptly relented and, without further ado, had the first shooter's procedural penalty erased. All's well that ends well. The problem, though, is illustrative of situations that often

arise where the stage instructions are not perfectly clear. We simply don't always apply the same standards to scoring misses as we do to giving procedural penalties

The success of our very fine sport is based on fairness, accuracy, consistency, and the Cowboy Way. It is not the Cowboy Way, though, that one shooter is treated differently than another at the same match. When we "give" one shooter a penalty and don't give another shooter a penalty for doing essentially the same thing, we are not doing justice to Cowboy Action Shooting™. This problem can be remedied by paying the same level of attention to the issue of procedural penalties we do to scoring misses. Unless the stage is clear, a procedural is to be given if not shot in exactly the manner as described and consistent with the published SASS™ rules, the benefit of any doubt must be given to the shooter.

In the case described above, it is not clear from the instructions the shooter may not return to the falling plates after engaging the "dump" target. The reason the first shooter was initially given a procedural penalty

(Continued on page 27)

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LETTERS



RANGE OFFICER CONFUSION

By Wrong-handed Dave, SASS #57836

I was shooting my first match Gunfighter-style. I'm finally into Real Cowboy, chest all puffed out with pride. And up to the last stage, I'd only taken two procedurals for shooting the targets out of order.

On our last stage, we were directed to shoot "Mudflat Man" in this order: head, arm, arm, leg, leg, and then five shots into the body, all at about five paces. Each of his body parts is a separate hanging target, so we can easily tell when a hit occurs.

Well, Mudflat Man is about as big as a grizzly bear, so his body is huge and most shooters just empty their second pistol as fast as they can into his body, slip-hammerin' away with their opposite thumbs.

But us Duelists and Gunfighters don't do slip-hammerin' - we're kinda short of opposite thumbs. After the five shots around the body, I had my second pistol cocked and aiming at the body and popped away, hitting it. Cocking both pistols at the same time, as I always do, I suddenly was faced with this huge, unmissable tar-

get - right in front of both pistols. "What the heck," I thought as I pulled both triggers simultaneously, hitting the target with both. Cool! Puts a new meaning into Double-Tap! I quickly cocked both again, and pulled both again - and missed with both! One to each side. I was stunned! Double-Tap turned into No-Tap!

That ended my shooting, but then all heck broke loose. ROs were flying all over, cluckin' to each other, trying to figger out what was goin' on. The Unloading Table RO was right confused, because she had counted eight bangs, but there were no live rounds comin' out. The Spotter ROs only saw one miss, depending on which side of Mudflat Man they were on. The Timer Operator RO saw me shoot all 10 rounds, he thought. How do they agree on scoring?

I 'fessed up to two misses, the Cowboy Way. Someone tried to get all rule-booky on me and to tell me that only "aimed shots" were to be fired, and how could I aim two guns

1887 LEVER ACTION SHOTGUN AND 1876 SECOND MODEL LEVER ACTION RIFLE

By Montana Tony, SASS #28335

I think SASS members as well as people who want to own at least one of every gun used in the Old West, have made Uberti rich, and it is time they did a good turn for us. All SASS clubs need to get petitions signed by their members and sent to A. Uberti Company by certified mail so they cannot say they

did not hear from us with our needs. Put your club name and address in the upper left corner on a cover letter with the following information: We need you to make replicas of these two firearms:

First, an authentic replica of second model 1887 lever action
(Continued on next page)

with one eye? Well, sez I, I got two eyes, after all, count 'em, and ain't the definition of an aimed shot one that hits the target? Besides, ain't every shot that misses a target NOT an aimed shot? (I get all redneck in my vo-cab-u-lary when stressed.) At the end, we all agreed to no procedural if I agreed not to do that again.

Now, after reading all them fine articles on how to be a better RO, I know it's too hard to count misses to Double-Tap my way. But, man, was it ever fun, blasting that dude with

both guns at the same time!

(First of all ... what you did was illegal and warranted a procedural ... shooting both guns at once is one of the few things a Gunfighter is not supposed to do ... it's in the Handbook. Secondly, shooting one gun with one eye and the other gun with the other eye is not only possible, but recommended. Many can't do it, but I've used this technique for years. This allows a Gunfighter to shoot the second pistol in very rapid succession at a second target ... editor.)

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1887 LEVER ACTION SHOTGUN AND 1876 SECOND MODEL LEVER ACTION RIFLE . . .

(Continued from previous page)
 shotgun, in 12 gauge three-inch shells, 22-inch barrel like guards used, with magazine long enough to handle five 2-3/4 inch shells (like originals) and magazine clamp like on second model. Wood should be the same wood that's on their Colt SAA replicas, case hardened hammer. Charcoal/carbona blue finish like on originals for original styled checkered steel buttplate, lever action, receiver with groove in front for rear sight like originals, barrel, magazine, and front sight post with brass bead on top. All non-authentic stamped letters such as warnings, etc. to be placed on bottom of barrel, 12-Gauge stamped one inch in front of receiver on top of barrel.

Second, an authentic replica of 1876-second model lever action rifle with case hardened crescent metal buttplate, receiver with intergal rail for dust cover like originals, hammer, and lever. Charcoal/carbona finish on semi-buckhorn/ladder rear sight, beech style front sight where one position gives blade sight and second position gives globe and post sight, 28-inch tapered octagonal barrel

with full length magazine that has the original styled dovetailed position retainer, so magazine can not back out, dust cover, forearm cap, and trigger. Caliber should be .45-75-350 grain lead RNFP bullet like originals and a second caliber of .45-70-350 grain lead RNFP bullet, all non-authentic stamped letters and numbers, such as warnings, etc. to be place on flat of bottom of barrel. If a modern safety is needed to import these guns, then use the screw at the lower part of hammer like Taurus is doing. I am sure Black Hills and other ammunition makers would be glad to make these cartridges in blackpowder as well as smokeless ones of same velocity.

We really need to get these two guns quickly as a lot of us cowpokes are in our mid-50's and older. Let me give thanks to all who help get these two guns from Uberti ASAP. I only know the U.S. address. Maybe someone at *The Cowboy Chronicle* can supply the Italian address.

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LETTERS



REGARDING THE OH S#!* SYNDROME

Cowboy Chronicle, September 2005

I find it hard to believe people are still blowing up revolvers and then scratching their heads for a reason. There is no fault with the gun; the fault is with the re-loader! I have seen a number of revolvers blown up (this never happens with semi autos) and the sound is distinctly like a bomb (detonation). An overcharge doesn't sound the same. The problem is too light a charge in a large case. There can be no argument about this, and those who fail to comprehend the phenomenon are contributing to the continuation of the problem. Even Elmer Keith was familiar with this phenomenon while working for the Army, and it is documented. When he blew up single actions during his experiments, they never looked like this.

Unless shooters take more care and accept that the cavernous .45 case is too big for small charges of powder, then expensive revolvers

will continue to be destroyed. I think it is essential a filler of some kind be used to keep the powder all together. Before I started using a filler, I experienced up to 200fps variations in my loads. Now, they are very consistent.

The reason this never happens with semi autos is you need a factory equivalent round to cycle the action and the cases are smaller since they were designed for smokeless powder.

I realize this is not palatable to users of progressive presses (I reload my .45 Colts on a single stage), but I see no alternative. I don't know how the factories deal with this problem since some of their velocities are very low, around 700 fps. Perhaps some input from them might be useful. There can be no question it is a very low charge of powder rather than an overload that is the cause of the problem, and I encourage shoot-

SASS IS ABOUT PEOPLE

By Clay Buster, SASS Life #28906

There is a dimension of Cowboy Action Shooting™ you and I rarely read about. Most often, we talk about rules, targets, stages, the latest in guns, and competitive techniques. We talk about SASS, big matches, boots that don't hurt our feet, and a host of other related subjects. However, when you have time to really give it some thought, the dimension of our sport that makes it fun and rewarding for all of us is the friendship of our fellow

cowboys and cowgirls. (Forgive me, here is where I get like Augustus McCrae and want to "talk philosophy").

In the final analysis, when all of us have fired the last shot of our last match, few, if any, will remember how we did. What we will remember is what kind of friend we were to all around us and what we did to help others while we played the game. As we have said

(Continued on next page)

ers to use bulky powders and shoot factory equivalent velocities.

Richmond P. Hobson,
SASS #32728
Republic of South Africa

(In my particular case, I'm quite sure my destroyed revolvers were the result of overloads. It has also been reported to be extremely difficult to replicate low powder charge destructive detonations. And, I'm mystified

by the statement these detonations don't occur in semi-autos because they need a factory equivalent to make them cycle ... once the trigger is pulled, the damage is done! However, if tiny powder charges in large cases are the problem, then Hodgdon's new Trail Boss powder would be a good solution. The powder is designed to basically fill the case with powder ... or at least get the powder up high enough to easily be seen ... editor.)

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THE PROCEDURAL PENALTY RE-VISITED . . .

(Continued from page 22)

was because of a subjective interpretation of the stage description. If it had been made clear to all at the outset that the same presumption in favor of the shooter is to apply not only to scoring misses but also to giving procedural penalties, the misunderstanding described above would never have arisen.

Our sport has been around for some twenty years. When compared with some of the more traditional

sports, our sport is in its infancy. Hopefully, we will continue to evolve and nurture and interpret the rules of our sport with the founding principles in mind. We stress that where misses are concerned, all doubt is resolved in favor of the shooter. Isn't it time we extend this fine principle to procedural penalties as well? Isn't it time our RO courses emphasize that where procedural penalties are concerned, all doubt is resolved in favor of the shooter? 🤠

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SASS IS ABOUT PEOPLE . . .

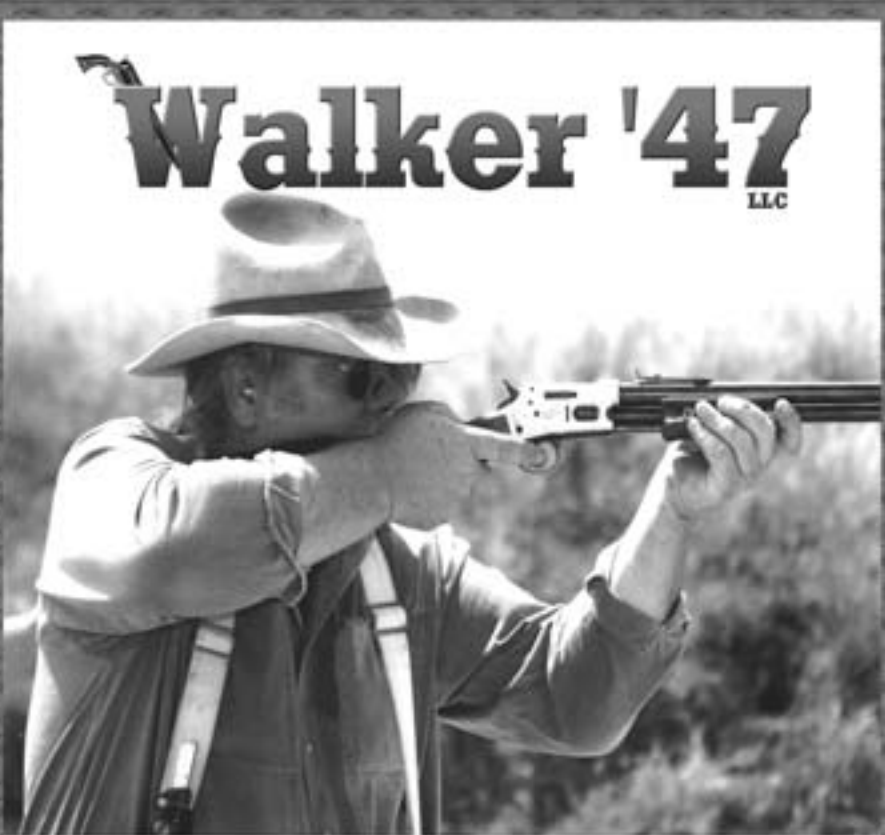
(Continued from previous page)

many times, Cowboy Action Shooting™ will never get you a new car, a pocket full of cash, or any material reward other than maybe a nice belt buckle or an occasional trophy. What it does offer all of us is an incredible opportunity to meet new people, to help people, to become friends, and to build relationships that can last the rest of our lives.

In closing, I challenge all of us to set a goal in the coming months and years to reach out to each other. To

take a new shooter under your wing and help them learn our sport and avoid some of the mistakes we have all made. If people have fun in our sport and are treated warmly, we will continue to grow and prosper, and your personal reward will be the most valuable you can receive - the self-satisfaction of seeing someone else succeed.

So, invite someone new to join your posse, and even though what we do involves a timer, slow down to spend quality time with each other. 🤠



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LETTERS



I REALLY FEEL SORRY FOR SOME FOLKS ... OR SHUT UP AND SHOOT!

I for one am totally thrilled I don't aspire to be a top gun. Now don't get me wrong ... I try and do better at every shoot, but I don't give an unholy rat's butt where I finish in the standings. My time may be near the bottom because it took a little longer for me to move to my shotgun because I linked arms with the timer and we strolled together. Or, maybe I decided to skip to my rifle or that I sang "Big Iron" while I shot a stage. I've been known to stop before I picked up my shotgun and deliver a speech or two about something or another.

I laugh and have a good time. I've had my rifle slicked up because when I shoot it I do want to shoot fast. I've had some work done on my pistols and shotgun as well, but I don't practice once the season starts, and I don't bitch and moan about "race guns."

I think dividing this sport into

"open categories" or divisions within each category would be the day I stop shooting this game because that would mean an overwhelming number of shooters are taking this game ... get that ... GAME ... way too serious. I admire the likes of Lead Dispenser, Holy Terror, Badlands Bud, Frederick Jackson Turner, Evil Roy, and the rest of the top shooters. I'm just sick and tired of all of the whining and bitching and moaning.

Look around at the next shoot you attend. We're a bunch of people dressed like cowboys shooting real guns at steel targets while saying silly lines. I really do feel sorry for those that can't relax and have a good time, but find the need to worry because someone may have short stroked their rifle. Hey-zeus Christee, just shut up and shoot!

*Shoshone Slim, SASS #31347
St. Charles, MO*

DID I MISS SOMETHING?

By Chilkoot, SASS #58803

I don't want to be lumped with the legion of grouzers that infest any given venue, especially not this one that I love beyond any other, and I'm not advocating change (especially after writing "Don't Change Nothin!" in the Letter Column last year). I prefer to call this a "musing."

I have heard my alias and the term "slow shooter" linked on occasion. And yes, when I'm "next shooter," some cowpersons have taken the opportunity to run to Wal-Mart for odds 'n ends, or Burger King for a quick snack. But, I rather see myself as a methodical and deliberate shooter. Except for the odd climatic, mechanical, or biological malfunction, I manage to damage most of the steel most of the time! Yet, I've not been asked to

endorse any shooting products, no production company has beaten a path to my door to film a video on "the Methodical & Deliberate Method of Pistoleering," nor have I been pressured to do a "clinic" for senior duelists, who wish to rise above #48 in a field of 50. So, where is the justice?

Having piqued your interest and hopefully not your ire, and being confident I may strike a resonant chord with dwellers of the lower recesses of the score sheet, I submit this "musing" in the hope occasionally there may appear a photo or two of cowboys in the pages of our Cowboy Chronicle of whom it may be said, "Well, they're not the fastest guns around, but we like their deliberate style!" (Meantime, I'll keep having fun!)

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LETTERS



RACE GUNS!

Just wanted to say a word or two about the Editorial in the October Cowboy Chronicle. I think Tex is right on with this, and it is long over due.

My SASS Shooters Handbook defines Spirit Of The Game to include "You do not look for ways to create an advantage out of what is or is not stated as a rule or shooting procedure. If you do, Cowboy Action Shooting™ is not your game."

I do not understand how anyone could modify their guns from the original design and claim it was not done to give them an advantage.

I grew up in Daytona where NASCAR was king and this same kind of thinking has destroyed what NASCAR was originally all about, Stock Car Racing. They no longer compete with Stock Cars. Ask any NASCAR Official, and he will quickly let you know they now have

RACE CARS not stock cars.

NASCAR may be bigger and more popular, but it is not better. This virus called greed has destroyed the original idea of stock car racing. NASCAR is no longer a sport. Today it is big business and nothing less. I know as I worked there several years.

The same virus that changed NASCAR is trying to take hold of SASS, and it frightens me. I fear the people who could stop it will cower to the big names and big sponsors and be eaten by this same disease.

Taking an unfair advantage or slipping around a rule is not playing in The Spirit of The Game. If they didn't have it prior to 1900, we don't need it in Cowboy Action Shooting™!

*The Hungry Bear, SASS #28669
Pinetta, FL*

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LETTERS



*Sundown Jones,
SASS Life #5403*

COMMON SENSE AND THE INTENT OF OUR RULES

By Sundown Jones, SASS Life #5403

The title words recently appeared in an issue of *The Cowboy Chronicle*, written by a well-known top competitor, sportsman, friend, and all-around good guy with an honest concern for the sport of Cowboy Action Shooting™ and those that play the game. This article addresses several of the statements made in

his recent article and shows good reason why we should have a single, all-inclusive Handbook.

For example, the recent article addressed the 170-degree rule when drawing/holstering a pistol. It used the SASS Handbook, the Range Operation Basic Course, and the SASS Range Officer Training Course documents - three separate documents. It continued to advise you have a complete set of those materials on hand. While common sense would tell most people the Rules are considered to be the SASS Handbook on how the game is supposed to be played, the other two also include, not only in-depth interpretations, but other rules not printed in the SASS Handbook. We are told by a short sentence in the SASS Handbook the other two documents

“offer an in-depth interpretation and further clarification of these rules.”

I’m sorry, but my common sense tells me if the SASS Handbook contains the “rules of the game” then you can’t use the other two documents for rules, which they most certainly are because of the wording of some interpretations. Sound confusing? Well, why should I, as a competitor, a range officer, a match director, or judge on a protest committee have to use three different documents (a rule book and the other two documents that are supposed to interpret it) to determine one rule that is not clearly printed in the SASS Handbook to begin with and is the most important safety rule we have in the game? That doesn’t make “common sense” any way you think about it!

One big reason we don’t have a combined Rule Book is to keep Cowboy Action Shooting™ a friendly game. To many rules turn people off. It’s not “fun” to be penalized for making dumb mistakes in procedure or safety mistakes that are dangerous. People who get turned off don’t play anymore and that means “\$\$\$\$” to a lot of other people. At the same time, the lack of clear and necessary rules to play the game turns others off because it is a competition. Because of the lack of clarity of “said rules,” we see some competitors stretching those unclear rules and interpretations that force many of the other competitors to do the same in order to stay in the competition, and that’s not fun either. In the end nobody wins; we all lose.

(Continued on page 43)

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ARTICLES



BUCKAROO SHOOTERS

By Skeet Shooter #42346

I need to say a great big "Thank You" to SASS for creating the Buckaroo Category. It has created a strong bond between my Granddaughter and me. The hours we spend practicing, traveling, and shooting together are very special. I hope to continue with the other grandchildren as they become older. After years of Skeet and other shooting sports, I have learned lasting friendships can be made and ensured with hours on the practice range.

But now I need your help. When I or someone else shows up at your range to shoot with a Buckaroo, please be supportive and helpful. Talk to the Buckaroo, shake their hand, tell them you are glad they came (and mean it). Most of all be encouraging. Buckaroos have many challenges facing them in a day of shooting.

Loading table: Buckaroos may need someone to assist them with long guns, not run the loading table. It's a strength factor ... they can't hold two guns at the same time. Their firearms may be different than what you normally see. If you want to ask questions, please do it before or after they are loaded, not during

loading. Buckaroos tend to have short attention spans. Let them complete a task before asking them to think about something else. If a yellow flag, or down range call is made, please tell everyone at the table what you would like; i.e., "Please step away from the table. Please place ALL guns on the table." DO NOT say, "Young lady/man I need YOU to put your handguns on the table." Address all the people at the table, not the individual. Buckaroos do not like everyone looking at them, thinking they just did something wrong. If you need to address just the Buckaroo after that, then by all means do so. Be Supportive. Be Helpful.

For the RO's: Parents teach Buckaroos not to talk to strangers. Do not expect them to be chatty Cathy's. They are not scared, but are, shall we say, concerned about what is happening. Don't expect them to yell their line like a drill ser-

geant. Look at their size when they walk up. Can they shoot over that bar or barrel? Can they get on and off that horse safely? Look at the guns, and how they are staged. Buckaroos, or their assistants may not stage guns the way you would. That doesn't make it wrong, just different. Shotguns - is that bar, hay bale, or desk going to be in the way when it gets broken open and closed? Maybe the Buckaroo needs to shoot from beside and not behind the prop? The same applies with handguns. Is the muzzle going to hit something as they draw and extend their arms? Rifles may not be designed to "load one for the bonus." Is the gun too short for sticking the muzzle through the bars? Understand the adult with the Buckaroo is there to assist you, the RO, not run the timer, or count misses. If stung by a piece of lead, a Buckaroo is more likely to drop what is in their hands than an adult.

Watch the gun, not the shooter or targets. If you talk while a Buckaroo is shooting, most will stop shooting. Be aware. Be Supportive, Be Helpful. Assist the Buckaroo with the target sequence, if needed. Don't offer shooting instructions to the Buckaroo. DO offer shooting instructions to the Buckaroo's assistant. Too much information from too many sources is a bad thing for a young shooter.

Unloading table: Let the Buckaroo show you their guns are empty and safe. Don't grab up the long guns and show them. If they had/have a gun malfunction, don't clear it before they get to the table. See if he/she can clear it themselves, or let their assistant clear the gun. Then, they know what caused the problem. If they need your assistance, they will ask. If you want to talk to them, wait until the guns are unloaded. Let them complete one task at a time. Buckaroos tend to have short attention spans. Be Supportive. Be Helpful.

Posse members: If you have a problem with a child on your posse, change posses. If you don't like the
(Continued on page 43)

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ARTICLES



THE CAPGUN KID RIDES! MINT IN BOX

“How fast are you?”

By The Capgun Kid, SASS #31398

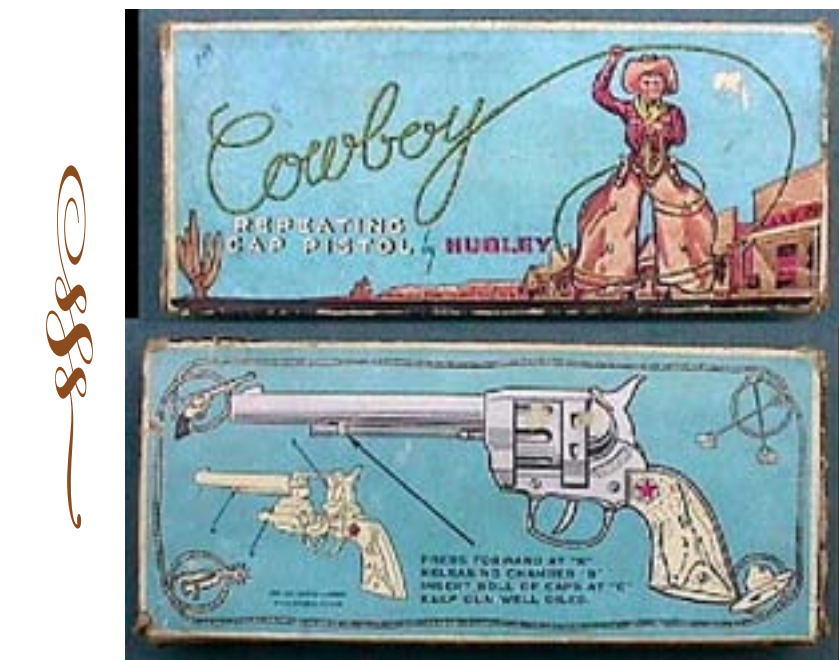
Gramps. There was something special about the name. Gramps. I dunno why all of us in our family called him that. It was convenient for us Geigers (Gramps was mom's own dad) because my brother and I had two living sets of relatively young and vibrant grandparents. So, Grandma Bea Geiger and Grandpa Andy of Same were just that, Grandma and Grandpa.

Gramps was Gramps. Just after fishing a Hershey's Miniature out of his coat pocket, he could find a way to tease you with a challenge like that ... “how fast are you?” So, I whipped out my Nichols Stallion Thirty Eight Capgun and fanned off a couple of shots. Too lazy to load each individual bullet with a round cap, I was content to make those guttural noises a kid could make to imitate gunfire in some imagined western scene.

Gramps made a surprised gesture by throwing up his hands and raising his eyebrows, and we adjourned to his room to watch what I still remember was a Sunset Carson movie. Gramps was a Randolph Scott Fan, but Sunset Carson was what was on that particular day, so that was what we watched.

Back then, circa 1954, you got home from a half day of school because the baby boomers were blowing out the rafters with overpopulation of educational facilities. You could finish your homework and still have time to strap on your Hubleys or load up your Nichols capguns and get to the TV just about when the Patterns would stop and programming would come on the air. Yeah, believe it or not, back in 1954 television had not yet figured out how to fill up the airwaves, and there were maybe three channels available. They'd shut off around midday and kick back up again around four in the afternoon.

You could watch the first baseball games, or plug into shortened news shows, or you could watch westerns. I firmly believe every B Western ever made was a candidate for TV and the clutches of time hungry program directors. On this particular day, a Teachers Conference and kid holiday, we went to Aunt Rita's to visit, and that always



meant using one of the big, plush arms of Gramps' armchair as my horse as we watched a western together.

Now, that was one of the two drivers about Gramps (aka Paulo Diczio) that makes his memory thrive. I cannot even remember the sound of his voice, but I can remember sitting in the special little suite he and Nana had in Aunt Rita and Uncle Joe's mansion styled house in Flower Hill, Long Island. Gramps could not get enough westerns. It was the only thing I had in common with him.



The second driver was Gramps was directly connected to Aunt Rita. Being the dutiful wife of a successful and wealthy corporate executive, Aunt Rita would not be caught dead in a local five and dime store such as Woolworth, but seemed to have this thing about buying us our Christmas and Birthday Presents directly from FAO Schwartz or Lord and Snooty's in New York City. Even Macy's was only an occasional visit for her. That meant when Gramps or Aunt Rita uncorked a capgun present on you, it was a top of the line toy.

I told you that part so I could tell

you this one. If you poke around long enough in Ebay after doing a search on the word “Capgun,” you begin to see a term “MIB” which stands for “Mint In Box.” Drives the true collectors wild, and they throw money at these items with a great deal of ferocity.

My point here is, you need an Aunt Rita type shopper and a nerdy kid to get a mint-in-box capgun. The former had to buy in the right environment, and the latter had to be busy playing with his chemistry set or imagining himself with a corporate future by being obsessed with Monopoly. To get an MIB Capgun in 2005, you had to have a total nimrod of a kid who never took the capgun Aunt Rita secured for him out of the box.

Now, don't get me wrong. I have no arrogance because as a kid who lived through the Mattel Fanner Fifty age, I ran my hardware into the ground within six months after getting the present and fishing into the bottom of my stocking for the inevitable boxes of caps stashed there. The fact my gun leather was soiled or damaged beyond use within a complete change of seasons is not a cause for moral high ground here.

I am, in fact, grateful for all those pre-pubescent nimrods that probably grew up to be executives so I would not have to. After all, I have the time to shoot cowboy action, for example, because I don't give a rat's furry fanny about futures and manpower spreadsheets. I am reasonably certain you won't find any of 'em at the loading or unloading table, or walking around a capgun show, but their legacy makes our hobby a little more interesting. God bless 'em, wherever they are.

Take a look at these Mint-In-Box toys that were uncorked upon us in the days in between The Mickey Mouse Club and The Rice Paddies. They're all pictures off Ebay, and I am glad I trafficked with these sellers. When we go, these capguns and the little chunk of our culture they represent will probably go with us. How sad.

Take a fishing expedition into Ebay by doing a search on the word capgun. If you can find the time, see if you can dig up a capgun show in Harrisburg, PA or Winchester, VA.

Don't shoot yore eye out, kid. 🐾



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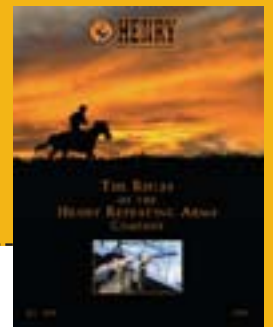
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ARTICLES



Swift Montana Smith,
SASS #52720

THE HOLIDAY GIFT

By Swift Montana Smith, SASS #52720

With the holidays fast approaching, I find myself in the ponderous position of once again trying to find the perfect gift for my wife. A man is the easiest creature in the world to buy for and make happy. Think about it. All you have to do is buy a nice bottle of single malt scotch, or some fine cigars, or at the very least, put some money in an envelope and label it "Gun Money," and there is not a man alive I know that wouldn't

take at least one of those gifts very happily; if not all three. The fact my wife even thinks to buy anything for me, though, just makes me want to jump for joy. And even though I wonder why she purchases the things for me she does, I do not let on my elation on opening a box that contains a Bugs Bunny pocket visor for my pickup truck is anything but true and sincere. But, she really does try, and so I must as well. The problem is "she" lets me know the pearl handled thing-a-ma-bob I thought looked so interesting at the store, and was such a bargain, was a waste of my hard earned dollars.

"Well, this year is going to be different!" I said to myself. "This year I'm going to make opening presents the best day of the year." I then decided I do my best thinking when I'm either loading bullets or cleaning my guns. So, off to that magical place called the basement I went.

Now I have a single stage press

for making bullets. Yes, I know, it takes forever to make bullets; consequently, I'm forever running out and having to make more since it takes me all afternoon to make about 350 bullets. Yet, there is solitude in those quiet, repetitious moments that really do a man some good. Your mind starts to wonder, and before you know it, you have the world figured out. Well, maybe not the whole world, but the part you live in is pretty well figured out.

I spent a Saturday afternoon making bullets just recently, and I thought something would come to me, but press after press ... nothing. I started to worry because after about 200 bullets, the brain juices are usually flowing and the revelations are coming hard and strong, and no, I'm not smoking anything but tobacco in my pipe. Oh, an occasional beer every now and then, but nothing to cause Pink Elephants to start dancing on my worktable.

If I didn't come up with an idea for a gift, I knew I'd have to pay for it for at least six months thereafter. I hate it when she gives me the old, "Oh, that's OK, I don't need anything anyway. Just buy something for the kids." And then she gives me the deer-caught-in-the-headlights look which quickly turns into the hurt-little-girl look and then I'm dead in the water and start stuttering, at which point she knows she can get away with just about anything for at least a week straight and if she pushes it, she'll get me to do at least one load of laundry.

I decided to try something else. I reached for my '73. It had been awhile since I gave it a good going over, and I knew it needed it. I reached for the Hoppes #9 and opened it. The fumes from the Hoppes wafted out of the baby food jar it was stored in and hit my nose.

"Ah, yes," I said, "I love the smell of
(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)

Hoppes in the morning,” trying to do my best Robert Duvall imitation from his character in “Apocalypse Now.”

“Smells like ... victory!”

There are certain smells you have had your whole life, and they always cause a mood or cause you to remember a certain time in your life - like the smell of the ocean, or a certain food when it cooks, or the smell of the barn when you go out in the morning to take the horses out to pasture. Those are good smells you look forward to ... and that, my friends and neighbors, is when it hit me like a 250-grain .45 caliber bullet, right between the eyes.

“I know what to get my wife for a gift,” I said out loud to no one in particular, “I’ll make her a special gift, one she and I will always remember.” It was the smell of the Hoppes that did it. Ever since I can remember I have always loved that smell, and I decided it would make the best perfume a shooter could ask for!

I snuck upstairs and headed for the bathroom to find an old perfume bottle, or at least a half empty one. I started rummaging around in my wife’s drawers on her side of the double sink unit. (You can tell it’s her side because there is no beard stubble, nose drippings, or splashed water anywhere near her sink.) Finally, I found a small perfume bottle that looked almost empty. I sprayed it in

the air. Yuck, too flowery for my taste. I started to wonder if someone made a perfume that smelled like steak and potatoes, but found myself getting off track, so I resumed the project at hand. I took the small bottle down to my workbench. The lid did not come off readily, so I found a Vice Grips and clamped down on the metal rim. After a few twists to the left, and then to the right, the top popped off.

“Did you spray my perfume in the bathroom?” came a call from the top of the basement stairs.

“What? Ah, no, what are you talking about?” I knew I did not have to hide the bottle because my wife seldom ventures into the “Pit” to peruse what I’m doing in the basement.

“I thought I smelled something in the bathroom.” She said.

“No, everything’s fine.” I hurriedly lit my pipe and puffed out a big cloud of smoke.

“Must you smoke that thing in the house?” She yelled down the steps.

“It’s the basement! If you don’t like it, close the door.” I said, trying to cover my tracks.

Slam went the door, and I turned back to my work. I poured the contents of the perfume into a bucket and quickly went up the steps of the outside cellar doors. On my way out I saw one of our cats, and just for a moment, was tempted to douse the four-legged creature with the re-

mainder of the smelly awful. But having a change of heart, I threw it on a nearby patch of poison ivy, hoping that if it did not kill it, it would at least give the plant a somewhat pleasant odor. I returned to my workbench and, very carefully, poured the Hoppes # 9 into the bottle. I took the Vice Grips, which still had the lid in its jaws, and secured it back onto the top. After about a pump or two, the sweet smell of the gun cleaner filled the air.

“Now that’s perfume!” I thought. “I can’t wait until my wife sprays this on the nape of her neck and the inside of her wrist - pure heaven!”

Once I had that done, I began to think of other “homemade” gifts I could give her, so I went to work on making .45 caliber earrings. The big question in my mind at this point was; should I make them out of live rounds, or should I make dummy bullet earrings? After another beer and half a smoke, I decided that dummy bullet earrings were probably more economical. Why waste the powder, right? So I took two spent casings, loaded them with bullets and then soldered a piece of copper wire on to the end of each one in the shape of a hook.

I sat back and looked at my handiwork. “Very nice,” I thought, “except there’s something missing.”

I went back to work and found a sheriff’s badge I bought on sale. I got

out my Dremmel tool and cut the part of the pin off the back that sticks out, which left me a small loop still attached to the back. I found an old piece of small chain and threaded it through the loop. Viola! A necklace!

Profoundly happy with myself, I searched the cellar for boxes and some wrapping paper. Unfortunately, I couldn’t find a box, but I did find a jewel case from “The Good, The Bad, And The Ugly.” It was the new double disk case, so I ripped out the middle disk holder and had plenty of room for the necklace and the earrings. The perfume bottle was another matter. I solved that problem by using an old Quaker Oats Cornmeal container. I use the stuff as filler in my rounds, and it was just about empty. I poured what was left into a newly opened box, took some cleaning wads and stuffed them in so it would have a nice tight fit, and then put the perfume bottle filled with Hoppes #9 into the Cornmeal box.

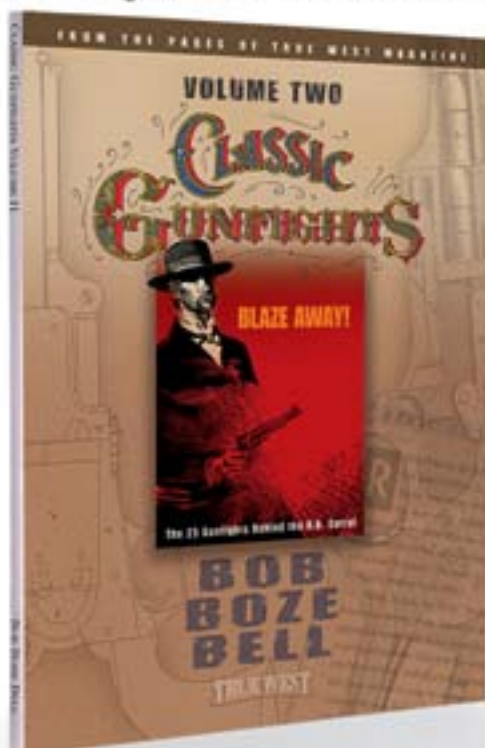
“Mr. Montana,” I said to myself with a grin, “This is going to be one happy holiday she’ll never forget!”

I slept like a baby that night knowing all was well in the Smith house. 🐾



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ARTICLES



~ JOE BOWMAN ~ “The Straight Shooter”

By Bob Crismon, SASS #348245

The year was 1962 (I think). Although many years have passed, and my memory is sometimes challenged, I fondly remember an experience with Joe Bowman. “The Straight Shooter” is often an entertainment highlight at END of TRAIL and the SASS Convention & Wild West Christmas party in Las Vegas. The place was Alexander’s Gun Room in Houston. The mutual interest was the local Fast Draw weekly evening get together to swap Cowboy Action Shooting™ ideas, tell tall tales, shoot our Single Actions, spin our guns, dress in our cowboy duds, and of course, show off a little bit. I was impressed with Joe Bowman from the outset of our first meeting a year or so prior. Joe was one of the most talented and finest fellows I ever had the pleasure of meeting. He was big,

strong, athletic, handsome, gifted, and well respected. Plus, Joe was a really nice guy! Recently he was chosen to participate in the annual Houston Fat Stock Show & Rodeo. Perhaps he was to be the Grand Marshal, I don’t recall. Joe Bowman was a highly decorated WWII hero and commanded considerable local pride. Joe, being the innovative guy he was, borrowed a palomino horse from a friend. Joe would ride the horse in the Houston parade. Normally, a person would go to the local custom shops and purchase necessary accessories such as new boots and hat. Not Joe Bowman! In preparation of the parade Joe first made a saddle complete with silver conchos and the like. This was his first endeavor in crafting a saddle. Of course, Joe also created all of the halter and other tack stuff. Boots - Joe

made his own! I don’t think Joe had done any serious leatherwork before these endeavors. But, Joe Bowman was Joe Bowman.

Joe shot two nickel plated Ruger .357 guns that had been modified to .45 LC caliber. Who did the machine work and tuning you may ask? Don’t ask, you know who it was! Of course, no self respecting Cowboy would be without a hand tooled Buscadero rig. Again, don’t ask. Heck, Joe may have even made his big ten-gallon hat. Was Joe really fast on the draw? Naw, I could take him. However, perhaps I needed an edge from time to time – I conveniently don’t remember any such unsavory details.

Here’s the situation. I was a fairly strong, young feller at the time with impressive physical strength. One evening in Alexander’s the discussion



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turned to hand strength in relation to Single Action gun handling ability. It was stated a test of hand strength could be the ability to tear a yellow pages phone directory in half. The
(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)
 comment was made that a recent TV show (black and white, of course) disclosed the secret of this feat to be a trick. According to the story, one must first grasp the page-exposed edges of the book. Then, slightly ruffle the pages so they are misaligned, and then tear the book into two pieces. In theory, you will be tearing only one page at a time. "Horse manure," I exclaimed, "Let me show you how it is done the Cowboy way!" I grasped the spine edge of the book and tore it in half! Quite impressive, I must say! Of course, all of the self defined 'Studs' attempted to duplicate the feat. We

became concerned with one particular fellow shooter (still active in Fast Draw). He took this demonstrated feat as a personal challenge. Just the sight of him hopping up and down, red faced and all - unable to tear the book spine, gave cause of concern for his personal wellbeing. All the while, The Straight Shooter just quietly observed all of these silly attempts of masculinity display. Finally, Joe Bowman picked up one of the half books I had torn apart. Joe then tore the half book into two-quarter sizes. The Straight Shooter then smilingly looked me in the eye and said, "Let's see you do that!" End of story. *J.*



Donna Oakley
 SASS #13013

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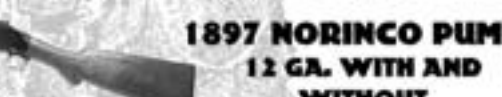
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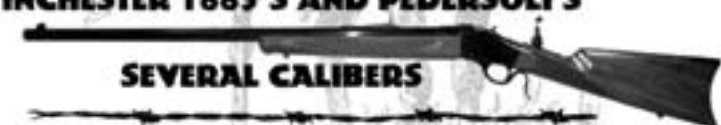
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ARTICLES



Palaver Pete,
SASS Life/Regulator #4375

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT The Liability Risk of Non-Members IS IT WORTH IT?

By Palaver Pete, Life/Regulator #4375

Question: Does your SASS affiliated club allow non-SASS members to shoot Cowboy? Let's assume the answer is yes. The next question is would this non-SASS member be expected by competent legal authority to be familiar with safety rules applicable to Cowboy Action Shooting™? Asked another way, if this individual were injured during the course of a Cowboy shoot, would a trial attorney have grounds for a lawsuit against the hosting club for permitting a shooter to shoot in a discipline of which he/she is not an affiliated or trained member?

Subordinate Club. Is your SASS affiliated club a subordinate member of a larger club with several

different shooting disciplines under its umbrella? If so, does the umbrella organization require subordinate clubs allow all members the right to shoot in any event he/she desires? If so, does the umbrella organization accept responsibility in the event of injury to a non-SASS member, shooting Cowboy?

Answer: I personally don't know. I'm not an attorney, but if I were asked to bet on it, I would bet a shrewd trial attorney would welcome the opportunity to take a case such as postulated above to court. In today's litigious society where lawsuits against fast food restaurants are being considered for causing obesity, I would assume a smart attorney could win a judgment for a shooting injury caused by a non-affiliated shooter. Looking at it another way. What if this non-affili-

ated shooter injured another shooter? Would the injured shooter have grounds to sue the hosting club and range? Simply looking at recent court decision, I would conclude it's pretty risky business to permit non-SASS members to shoot cowboy.

Do Safety Rules Vary?

It might be argued safety rules applicable to shooting are basically similar, and a well-trained shooter can safely shoot in any shooting discipline. Once again, I am no attorney, but I think anything can be argued in a court of law, and when it comes to legalistic argumentation, I believe a shrewd attorney can demonstrate many differences between Cowboy Action Shooting™ and other shooting disciplines. Differences that would, in my opinion, convince a jury to wonder why the injured individual was allowed to shoot in a sport for

which he/she was not trained? Conversely, if the untrained and non-affiliated shooter injured another shooter, why was that untrained shooter allowed to shoot? Would a "waiver of injury" that most shooters are required to sign prior to a match relieve a club of responsibility? I don't know the answer to that question either, but I do know waivers are not iron clad, and I have yet to see a waiver that states, "although untrained in the skills of this sport ...!" I think this is a recipe a shrewd attorney would love to devour.

SASS Safety Training

RO-I and RO-II training have become very popular with SASS affiliated clubs. Most SASS members have received RO-I training as a basic introduction to Cowboy Action Shooting™ competition and

(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)
safety requirements. Those interested in the intricacies of stage design, emergency procedures, and match management take a further step by taking RO-II training. Both RO-I and RO-II training are restricted by SASS rules to SASS members only. Accordingly, a claim that a non-SASS member has received basic Cowboy Action Shooting™ safety training would be negated by this fact—if you are not SASS, you are not eligible for RO-I and RO-II training—another factor a shrewd attorney would latch onto! Therefore, that leaves “the waiver” mentioned above as the only means of legal protection for a club that permits non-SASS members to shoot Cowboy. Once again, back to the argumentation aspect: will this hold up in court or not?

The Shooting Industry Today

The NRA spent millions of dollars to help elect a shooter friendly President to office. We shooters continue to benefit from that election. Now that the election is behind us, we have forgotten, or give little thought to the source of the dollars that helped achieve that victory. Lest we forget, the dollars came from people like you and I and organizations such as SASS. Every time we spend a dollar on a shooting related expense, to include membership, we help the shooting industry and our Second Amendment rights. Membership is part of

that expense. Those who don't join simply evade responsibility by passing it on to those who do pay. Those who evade responsibility by using lame excuses place us all at risk.

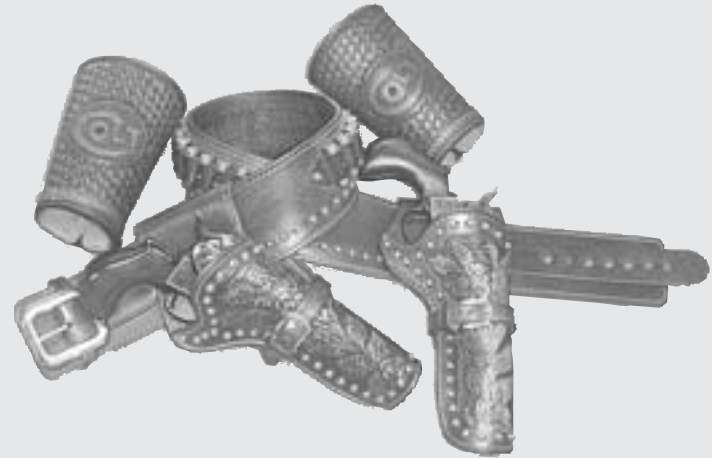
The Bottom Line

To me, the Bottom Line is why take the risk with potentially devastating lawsuits when SASS membership is so affordable? Here, again, we have room for more argumentation. Like you, I have heard all the arguments about affordability, and to me these arguments are pretty lame. In fact, I don't think affordability is the correct word—priority seems more appropriate. Show me a shooter who likes to shoot Cowboy Action Shooting™, but who says “I can't afford to join SASS,” and I'll show you a person who has other priorities, and one of them is to choose not to join SASS. And why should that person join SASS if you and I are willing to foot the bill for his/her enjoyment, and also absorb the risk? I think it's time our SASS affiliated clubs close the door on these thoughtless people and place safety ahead of risk taking. The risk is simply not worth it. And, to think or believe a person who subjects us to this risk would not sue “us” if injured, is “pie in the sky” thinking.

I hope I have given you something to think about, and God bless our Military people wherever they are. 🤠

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ARTICLES



GROWING UP TO BE COWBOYS

By The Rockwood Ranger, SASS #28480

I GREW UP PLAYING COWBOYS. At Christmas I looked forward to receiving a new cap pistol and a cowboy shirt or hat. We saved our pennies and did our chores so we could go to the Saturday matinee and watch double features of Roy Rogers, Gene Autry, Lash LaRue, Rocky Lane, and other western cowboy movies. Now that I'm a grandfather, my favorite movies are old videos of Roy Rogers and friends.

A few years ago, I heard about the Single Action Shooting Society. It seemed membership in that society provided a hobby made just for me. Being a busy pastor for forty-three years, I have never had a hobby. But for the last few years, I have had a great time with several men from my church who also like to play cowboys.

The following prayer quoted by Roy Rogers for his fan club mem-

bers years ago says it all:

THE COWBOY'S PRAYER By Roy Rogers

*"O Lord, I reckon I'm not much just by myself.
I fail to do a lot of things I ought to do.
But Lord, when trails are steep and passes high,
Help me to ride it straight the whole way through.
And in the falling dusk when I get the final call,
I do not care how many flowers they send.
Above all else, the happiest trail would be
For you to say to me, 'Let's ride my friend.'
Amen."*

As Roy Rogers would say, "Happy Trails to You." 🐾

DEPUTY DOUGLAS

By Deadwood Duncan, SASS #47933

*Deputy Douglas was five, or so it was said,
when a shoot out with Santa left one of them dead.
It was exactly one year since he'd gotten that kit
of star, hat, and holsters, cap gun for each hip.
He swore to be true, to obey mom and dad,
to eat all his spinach and never be bad.
But Nasty old Nick had blown in from the north,
he flew in by reindeer because he'd eaten his horse.
This fat man from far north was both feared and admired
for his lightning fast draw and his keen red attire.
His chaps and his duster, the hat on his head,
except for his boots, he was all dressed in red.
It was late in the evening, Nick stopped on the roof,
not one sound he made, not one pounding hoof.*

*Nick snuck down the chimney and hid by a chair.
He ate milk and cookies but he didn't fight fair.
Our lawman came checking the lights on the tree
when Nick reared his head for a mad shooting spree!
The fat man drew first, it was Doug's turn to draw,
his sixguns cleared leather both north and south paw.
The shots were so deafening, Doug's parents awoke
and making their way through the noise and the smoke,
they heard Nick exclaim as he fell to the floor
"You were faster than Santa, there'll be Christmas no more".
(Postscript)
The job of a lawman is terribly hard
when your mother reminds you that you can't leave the yard.
What good is a sheriff who can't stay up late
or chase desperados beyond the front gate? 🐾*

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COMMON SENSE AND THE INTENT OF OUR RULES . . .

(Continued from page 30)

What is needed now and has been for the past five years is one rulebook. It should contain the basic instructions on how the game is to be played by all competitors and clearly defined penalties for violation of those rules. Does that make "common sense" to you? Or, would you prefer to continue to hunt through three different documents in an attempt to be fair and impartial when trying to make a decision? Maybe you are just one of those competitors who lets somebody else make the decision, and then whine and cry when they don't agree with your common sense. It's just a game right, yeah right! But "yes, Cowboy Action Shooting is a competition" (Tex, SASS #4).

Check your common sense in the following event that occurs on a regular basis at every match. A competitor is on the line, the beep sounds, the pistol is drawn from a straight-side right holster. The competitor completes the string with the pistol while facing squarely down-

range, turns slightly to the right preparing to (and sometimes does) move in that direction, and then holsters the empty pistol with the holster in the 220-degree or further position. Did they truly break the safety plane in holstering the empty pistol? Was the competitor within their right to be allowed the "ability to draw and holster pistols from straight hang holsters?" Do you just give them credit for thinking fast on moving to the next position and overlook it? Was the competitor's action made to gain a competitive advantage? Which way would you decide according to the present rule and/or interpretation? Would you be right? Who knows? Only the Shadow knows, and unfortunately, he's not on your posse.

The author of the recent article I mention also stated; "personally, I'm not a big fan of un-written rules." Neither am I. But, I am also not a fan of rules that aren't in the rulebook but are published in other sources or those that lend interpretation three or four different ways. "To

use good judgment and apply the rules for the benefit of all the shooters is the highest goal we can seek to obtain." If that's so, why are we still fumbling around trying to read the rules from three sources? Come on folks; think about it. Use your common sense. If we have to use three different sources of material to define one rule, why can't they be written in one document? Publish all the rules of the SASS Handbook on the website and let each club download them. That would save a bunch of money by not having to print and mail a new handbook each year.

I have to address a statement made by Tex in his recent October '05 article "The Race Is On" to support my position in calling for one complete SASS Handbook of Rules. Tex was talking about a situation that has been happening in the sport that many feel is not for the good of the sport. He said "I truly believe when a cowboy knows the rules, he'll follow them." Well, Tex, how about giving us one set of rules we can follow that common sense clearly shows we

need? Any way you look at it, with or without common sense, one rulebook is better than three any day.

(Sorry, but the basic premise for this article is flawed, in my opinion. There is only one set of "rules," and they are documented in the Handbook. For instance, what part of "don't break the 170 safety rule" don't you understand? From one of your paragraphs above you rightly pointed out several different situations, but to understand how to make the call, one must understand a fair amount of discussion, which is provided in the RO classes and is documented in the RO materials. The intent is for the Handbook to declare the rules and the RO materials explain them. If "new" rules are introduced in the RO materials or there are conflicts within the RO materials, these need to be highlighted, and the RO committee will do whatever is necessary to remove the ambiguities. As for the suggestion the Handbook and RO materials should be on the SASS website - they are and have been for the past few years ... editor.)

A HAPPY AND FULFILLED MAN . . .

(Continued from page 20)

1900 broomhandle Mausers, bolt action rifles, and double action revolvers, again, it seemed all wrong.

So the Judge and the future Wild Bunchers got together to drink and think things out. If they picked the dates they wanted, 1873 and before, the Winchester '92s, '86s, and '94s and all Colts after the first generation would be disallowed. But, if they picked 1894 to allow the Winchester '94 and later Marlins, they had to allow all the other firearms.

Then it dawned on them, the whole idea of the club was to be on the screen with Roy, Gene, and Hoppy, or walk the streets of Tombstone with the Earps, or ride the river with the Texas Rangers. The time era shouldn't have a date. It should be the Old West in your mind and heart. It should be a time zone where a person's word was his bond, where might was right, and women and children should be protected.

Still later, in 1987, we picked the name "Single Action Shooting Society" founded on the John Wayne/Roy Rogers rule: if they didn't use it, you can't either. And since this was a fantasy time, we added the Winchester Model '97 because more shooters liked it than not. Besides, "The Wild Bunch" is one of our favorite westerns.

The only other question was what to do about Bill Ruger's fine single action. The problem was it had a large adjustable target sight. Now, if Cowboy Action shoots are set up the way the game was meant to

be, the pistol targets would be set up close and big, and the sights wouldn't matter. However, even back then we knew some match directors who shot Rugers would set up small, far away targets to give themselves an edge. So, we created a special category for this special revolver. That's how the Modern Category came to be.

Being naive, thinking we had all the problems solved, our little group set out to make magic. In 1982, the Judge and friends staged the first END of TRAIL in Coto de Caza, California, and after it was over, he said, "Yes, yes ..." Now every month he could be with Roy or Gene and save the maidens or stop the stampede or foil a bank robbery. He could be a gunfighter or a cattle baron or a faro dealer or a U.S. Marshal. His lady friends could be Hannie Caulder, out to avenge the murder of her husband, or Miss Kitty defending the Long Branch, or Poker Alice, or whomever they wanted, and it was good. Finally, the Judge was content, and he made more and better friends than a man has a right to expect in ten lifetimes.

Soon we will have Christmas. Christmas is a good time, a magic time. A time to forget at least for a while, all our troubles, and to temporarily forgive our enemies, and wish the best for everyone. Christmas is not an exact time or place. It is a fantasy time, a magic time! And so is Cowboy Action Shooting™!

God Bless You All and Merry Christmas. 🤠

BUCKAROO SHOOTERS . . .

(Continued from page 32)

Buckaroo's assistant, change posses. If shooting with a child bothers you, change posses. Buckaroos need to learn how to be posse members, and they do this by assisting. Encourage them to help you count hits and misses. Get them to help you pick up brass. Rimfire brass needs to be picked up and thrown away, not left on the range. Ask the Buckaroo to help you at the loading and unloading table. They learn by doing. Buckaroos need to belong, be a part of, and team with the Posse. Hot and cold weather is worse on the elderly and young. Buckaroos have high energy levels, but will not let you know when the heat or cold is getting to them, so be alert and watch for it.

Other helpful information: When a Buckaroo is on a posse, the posse may need an extra member or two. Try not to place two or more Buckaroos on the same posse. The Buckaroo's assistant oftentimes is a

shooter. He/she may be so busy with their shooting and assisting the Buckaroo they don't help with the posse as much as you think they should. Don't think badly of them. Instead, help them. Buckaroos do not have to knock down a knockdown target, just hit it. Buckaroos can shoot flying targets, but their guns may not be powerful enough to trip a reactionary target. You may have to come up with something else. If a Buckaroo earns a DQ, give them one. If they miss a target, give them a miss. If they earn a Spirit of the Game Award, give it to them. If they didn't EARN it, DON'T. Be Supportive. Be Helpful.

I hope some of this helps. Angel Shooter, SASS #59297, and I have had the pleasure of shooting with the finest people in the shooting sports today, SASS members. The future of our shooting sports is the Buckaroo age group. Let's all work to make their time shooting a treasured memory. 🤠

CURLY'S COWBOY CHRISTMAS DINNER AND CONCERT! . . .

(Continued from page 14)

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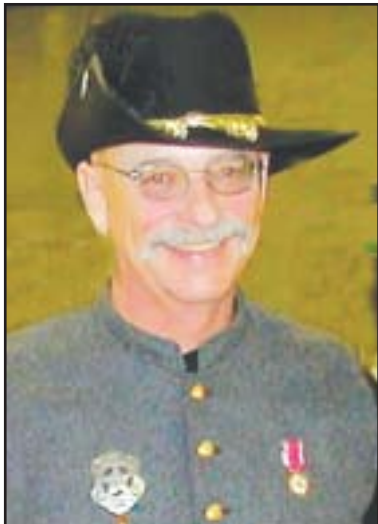
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POLITICAL



CAPTAIN BALTZEL: AN ORIGINAL AMERICAN PATRIOT

By Colonel Dan, SASS Life #24025



Colonel Dan,
SASS Life #24025

me, and I read every one of those intriguing replies.

American history has always held great fascination for me, and personalizing it through captivating accounts drawn from family trees really brings that history to life. I noticed many others are likewise drawn to these posts, as they always generate a lot of interest among this historically focused SASS gang.

In that regard, I'm sometimes asked who this Captain Charles Baltzel is that I mention periodically. I thought I'd answer via this short historical recounting of a man I consider an original American patriot and one who is a personal hero of mine.

Charles was born 15 October 1737 in Klingen, Germany. As a young man, he served in several campaigns of the Seven Years War, which ended in 1763. He and his

family then embarked for America on the good ship "Chance" out of Rotterdam that same year. He arrived in Philadelphia on 1 November as a 26-year-old German-speaking immigrant and settled in Frederick County, Maryland.

Charles (Karl to his family) came from no royal lineage, had no distinctive family history, and was certainly nothing special in the social circles of his day. He merely personified many thousands of like-minded adventurers who came to America in search of a land free from oppression and filled with possibilities, opportunities ... and countless uncertainties.

What I particularly admire about Charles is he came not just to enjoy the promise of God-given liberty that America offered, he came willing to accept extreme risk—risk of his life, his sacred honor, and his personal fortune, meager as that "fortune"

was, and to attain and preserve those dreams of personal freedom and ultimately American independence. The risk incurred over American independence was much more extreme than most modern Americans could ever dream possible.

Reflect for just a minute on the full extent of what these original patriots were putting on the line as measured in human terms. Here you have a fledgling backwoods country of mostly farmers and small merchants, whose day-to-day concerns revolved primarily around making a basic living. They had virtually no real army or navy, yet they marched in armed revolt against the earth's most powerful nation.

Only about a third of America's total population supported this revolt, but for that third, theirs was unquestionably an all or nothing

(Continued on next page)

December's column is normally set aside for my annual disclosure statement revealing a little of the man behind the column. I thought this year, however, I would go back a little further—about 240 years further—and relate a little about a man who had great influence on the man behind the column.

Posts on the SASS Wire asking members about their interesting ancestors of the cowboy era enthrall

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(Continued from previous page)
decision affecting every man, woman, and child involved. Had the Revolution failed, they and their families would have lost absolutely everything—their fortunes, their lives, and their sacred honor. Their property would have been confiscated, they would have been hanged or imprisoned, and their families' out-cast ... or worse. All of them would have been recorded in history as traitors to King and Country while the Tories would have been held in high esteem as true patriots of the crown. Keep in mind, he who wins the war writes its history.

Despite those personal risks, Charles obviously lived the courage of his convictions by taking up his rifle in the service of his adopted country. He joined the Continental Army as part of what was then known as the German Regiment consisting of relatively new Americans of German extraction now living in Pennsylvania and Maryland. Joining immediately upon its activation on 12 July 1776—eight days after the Declaration of Independence was adopted—he was awarded the rank of First Lieutenant and assigned to Capt Keepert's Company. There were four companies from each of the two states in this German Regiment and all would shortly help write an important chapter of our American epic.

On the eve of 25 December 1776, Charles' unit crossed the Delaware River with General Washington around midnight and took part in the well-known attack on the Hessians at Trenton, New Jersey. His regiment's mission was to attack the Hessian guard post on Princeton Road, then block that road and secure the "backdoor" of Washington's force. The regiment's mission was successfully accomplished. Later, as elements of a separate Hessian force began to withdraw from Trenton toward the Princeton Road, they encountered Charles' regiment who successfully

stopped them in an apple orchard just southeast of the road and took several hundred captive.

Charles then participated in the Battle of Princeton on 3 January 1777 where Washington out flanked the British and won the day but lost his good friend General Hugh Mercer. They then moved into their winter encampment at Morristown.

Charles was promoted to Captain on 10 May 1777 and was given command of a company in Lieutenant Colonel Weltner's Regiment of the Continental Army—a company he would lead until the Regiment was disbanded.

On 10 September 1777, his company participated in the Battle of Brandywine where the Americans were out numbered, enabling the British to occupy Philadelphia.

On 4 October Washington attacked the encamped British at Germantown from two directions scoring a costly American victory. Charles was wounded during that battle, but returned to duty shortly thereafter.

On 19 December 1777, Charles led his company into Valley Forge where Washington's army would encamp throughout the severe winter of 1777/1778.

They marched out of Valley Forge on 9 June 1778 and into New Jersey where they successfully engaged the British forces at the Battle of Monmouth on 28 June. It was here Molly Pitcher earned her fame by replacing her fallen husband on the guns.

In February 1779, the German Regiment was assigned to General John Sullivan and became part of Sullivan's Indian Campaign against the Iroquois who had allied themselves with the British. That frontier adventure lasted until October 1779.

The period after Sullivan's Campaign, from late 1779 through December 1780, was not nearly as exciting as the previous three years had been, and I'm betting they were thankful for that unanticipated blessing. During this time, Captain

Baltzel's Company was part of a security force manning various outposts in New Jersey and New York.

When Washington disbanded the original German Regiment on 1 January 1781 as part of an overall re-organization of his Army, reassigning some of its soldiers to other units, Captain Baltzel was honorably mustered out of the Continental Army and returned home to Maryland.

Little is then known of Charles until 23 November 1783 when he became a charter member of a group of former Continental Army officers dedicated to the preservation of America's freedom with General Washington serving as the organization's President. The group, known as the Society of the Cincinnati, still exists today with members who are descendants of the original society.

In 1787, Maryland awarded Charles and other officers of the Revolution four 50-acre plots each in recognition for their service. Private soldiers received one 50-acre plot.

Charles and his wife Barbara raised four children, Samuel, Charles, Katherine, and Barbara.

Charles died on his farm near Woodsborough, Maryland on 31 December 1813.

Now you probably never read about old Charles in your history books, but he is a pretty important guy in my family. He was, like many others of his time, just an ordinary American who dreamed of being free, rose to the call, and accomplished extraordinary things under the divinely inspired leadership of our Founders. Along with the oath I took as a new Lieutenant, Charles' story helps keep me focused. Captain Baltzel was my grandfather (x5) on my mother's side. A copy of his Valley Forge muster roll hangs on the wall of my study along with the saber that belonged to his son, Major Charles Baltzel Jr. who fought in the War of 1812.

Both of these admirable Americans and their personal property used in the service of this country continually remind me of what the *Spirit of '76* and the warning "*Don't Tread on Me*" really meant to patriots of their day—and should mean to Americans of our day.

Contact Colonel Dan: colonel-dan@bellsouth.net

Note: Read more about the German Regiment in Henry J. Retzer's book: The German Regiment of Maryland and Pennsylvania in the Continental Army: 1776-1781.



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GUNS & GEAR



A SIDE-BY-SIDE COMPARISON OF TWO OF THE NEWEST SINGLE ACTION ARMY STYLE REVOLVERS, THE CHARLES DALY CLASSIC 1873 SAA & THE TAURUS GAUCHO

By Col. Nathan C. Riddles, SASS Life #7462

The following comparison is based on .45 Colt stainless steel models of both companies, as that is what I own.

Lets start with price, which will be Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP). The price you actually pay may vary.

The Charles Daly (CD) is manufactured in Italy by Pietta and imported by KBI, Inc. Their stainless steel model has a MSRP of \$659.

The Taurus Gaucho is manufactured in Brazil by Taurus International and imported by Taurus USA. They have two stainless steel models, one in matt finish and the other polished, both have a MSRP of \$500.

Grips on all Taurus models are

checked black plastic and are two-piece second generation size. They fit very well. They feel fine in my hands, but might seem a little small to someone with large hands. However, that problem is easily corrected with after market grips.

The grips on the Charles Daly are one-piece first generation size. The CD logo on the ivory polymer grips is pretty big, impressed into the grip, and painted or died black, not the wine color as shown in their website photo. I antiqued the grips using Rit Sunshine Orange die. The boiling strong tea method does not work on them. I let the grips sit in very strong tea for two days, and it didn't even fade them. If you get them darker than you want, you can dip them in

Rit Die Remover for 1-2 seconds and immediately rinse them under warm running water. Repeat the process until you get the shade you want.

Both Taurus and Charles Daly use Wolf springs. Trigger pull is about two pounds on each of the guns. The trigger pull on all four is very crisp with no creep.

I have not had a chance to check the Taurus guns for accuracy yet, but the CDs are dead on Point of Aim at Cowboy Action Shooting™ distances. I shoot 4.2grs Clays under a 250-gr Bonus cast RNFP bullet in Starline brass with Federal LP primers. When I tested the Taurus guns, I was hitting the targets at Cowboy Action Shooting™ distances. One Gaucho had to be returned to Taurus because

the firing pin is striking the very edge of the primer on one chamber, and the primer will not detonate. I'll test and report on accuracy after I get the Gaucho back.

The CD cylinder face is beveled for easy holstering. The Taurus is not.

All four of my guns are polished stainless steel. The CD is not as highly polished as the Gaucho, which looks like it's nickel-plated.


The Taurus has a transfer bar, as does the Vaquero, which makes it safe to carry fully loaded with six rounds.

The CD has no external safeties; whereas the Gaucho has a tiny lock on the base of the hammer, which is very unobtrusive, and comes with two keys.

(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)

KBI advertises the CD Classic 1873 as a faithful reproduction of a Colt SAA. That isn't quite true. It has the spring-loaded cylinder base pin retainer screw that was introduced in the late 1890s by Colt instead of the under frame base pin retainer screw. Colt introduced the two-piece grips about the same time they switched to the cross-spring base pin screw. The CD also has a coil handspring instead of the flat spring as found on a Colt SAA and most other clones. I prefer the two-piece grips because of ease of removal and replacement over the one-piece grip. But, that's a matter

of personal preference.

Both the Taurus Gaucho and Charles Daly Classic 1873 SAA have excellent factory fixed rear channel and front blade sights. Neither is available with adjustable sights. The rear sights appear to be slightly wider than the average Colt SAA or clone, as are the front blade sights. The CD front sight is .101" thick, and the rear sight is .099" wide. The Gaucho front site is .103" thick, and the rear sight is .094" wide.

The fit and finish on both the Taurus Gaucho and The Charles Daly Classic 1873 SAA is outstanding. Taurus and KBI have entered the cowboy market with a bang, and

are going after your cowboy gun dollars in a big way with quality not found in some of the more expensive cowboy guns.

Lastly, let me address warranties. KBI warrants the Charles Daly for the life of the original owner as long as you or nobody else works on the gun. Should the gun need repair or replacement, all you have to do is call KBI's toll free number, and they will have the gun picked up at their expense. That should not be a problem. In my opinion, neither the Dalys nor Gauchos need an action job, as the actions on both are very smooth.

Taurus warrants the Gaucho, as

they do all their guns, for the life of the gun. It makes no difference if you buy it new or used. But according to their website, you must return it at your expense. However, if the gun is fairly new, they will pay for return shipping. They had mine picked up at my home by FedEx.

That's the best comparison I can do for you pards at this time. Both the CD and Taurus are excellent guns. If price is a factor for you, the Taurus is definitely the better buy. If not, it's a matter of personal taste. If you're in the market for a new six-shooter, you owe it to yourself to have a look at both of these fine guns. ♪

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GUNS & GEAR



Quick Cal, SASS Life #2707

RANGE OFFICER ROUND UP External Modifications - Hot Topic!!! WHERE DO WE DRAW THE LINE???

By Quick Cal, SASS Life #2707, Regulator, and Chairman of RO Committee

There is a great deal of buzz bouncing around Cowboy Action Shooting™ presently about External Modifications. With many opinions on the various sides of the issue, emotions can run very deep. Please allow me to share with you my observations on this subject and bring a unique viewpoint to the table, because as many of you may not realize, I've been through this before. I see many parallels between what is

currently happening to Cowboy Action Shooting™, a relatively new sport with a 25-year history, the sport of Fast Draw with a 50+ year history, and IPSC with a 35+ year history.

I can only assume the vast majority of people reading this column only know of me through Cowboy Action Shooting™. However, I have been actively involved both in competition and administration at the highest levels in both Fast Draw and the International Practical Shooting Confederation (IPSC) for almost 40 years.

Fast Draw was born in the mid-50's, the hey-day of western movies and the birth of the television western phenomenon. There was once a Fast Draw Club in most major cities and several in each region of the country. It was estimated there were

over 100,000 participants nationwide in the late 50's and early 60's. The National Championship was held in Las Vegas at the Sahara Hotel, was sponsored by Colt, and was called the Colt-Hotel Sahara National Fast Draw Championship.

Fast Draw was a sport that could be held on Main Street, U.S.A., and we had sponsors standing in line to host events at their places of businesses. As the sport of Fast Draw developed, the guns, holsters, and other equipment also evolved to the point the sport lost its original meaning, which was to promote the spirit, romance, and legend of the Old West. We used guns with aluminum or titanium barrels and cylinders and blanks so loud spectators would run for cover. But, the worst thing was

what the holsters became. They started to be called "bucket boots."

Over the years, the shooters demanded closer and closer targets, and all out speed was the name of the game. In fact, the equipment became so advanced, we could shoot the same time on the timer whether starting with the gun in the holster and hands clear, as having the gun pointed at the target, finger on the trigger with only having to fan the hammer. My friend and famous holster maker, Ted Blocker, once said, "We should change the name to the World Fast Association, because we have taken the "draw" out of the sport." We even tried to bring back "traditional" holsters, but the targets were still too close, and shooters cut every edge

(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)
they could. Manufacturers kept trying to come out with the latest and greatest, and within a few years the result didn't look much better than what we thought we left behind.

I remember thinking when I started competing in Cowboy Action Shooting™, "How refreshing - no equipment BS. There is just so much you can do to a single action pistol, lever action rifle, or '97 or side-by-side." But as the targets get closer and the speeds get faster, here comes the equipment race again. SOUND FAMILIAR?

IPSC also had dilemmas, as it was a sport that was originally supposed to be based on real life defensive situations one might encounter in the street. Holsters and firearms were supposed to be concealable, but look what happened. It became the Indy 500 of the shooting world. Was that a bad thing? Maybe not in IPSC's case! Most of our nation's law enforcement agencies learned an awful lot from IPSC and changed their training programs to reflect a much higher standard. I credit IPSC with the fact there are so many high quality high capacity pistols on the market with all kinds of innovations installed born from IPSC competition. Plus, they have created a Limited Division that is much closer to the true basis of the sport, and also "IDPA" was born, which gets into more tactically correct stage designs.

The BIG difference between IPSC and Cowboy Action Shooting™ is like Fast Draw, Cowboy Action Shooting™ is supposed to represent a historical time frame. If we breach that time frame too much, we lose the very "Spirit and Integrity" of what we are supposed to represent.

We must draw the line somewhere, but where? Who do we look to, to draw that line? SASS has created its own economy, as new businesses and existing ones alike have geared up to manufacture things our members need and want. Manufacturers are in business to make money, the basis of a capitalist society, so we can't fault them for building a better "mousetrap" and competing within their industry.

I stood by and was an active part in the equipment race in Fast Draw. I started young and had my turn as "That Damned Kid." All I cared about was shaving a few hundreds of a second off my time, and soon it turned into winning margins. I admire all of our young people and everyone else at

any age that strive to be their best. So, we can't fault competitors either, as the definition of a competitor is to complete the stage as quickly as possible and stay in compliance with the rules. However, I didn't realize what Fast Draw was becoming until I spent several years away from the sport and then returned. Sometimes you are really so closely involved, "you can't see the forest for the trees in the way."

So, does this issue fall to the leadership of SASS? The Wild Bunch has passed much of this responsibility to the Territorial Governors who represent all SASS Clubs. They only meet once a year in Las Vegas at the TG Summit, but "innovations" are constantly emerging all year long and the TG Body can't keep up. The RO Committee is in contact with each other on an ongoing basis, and we do the best we can to respond to the constant barrage of requests for opinions on exterior modifications, holsters, cartridge belts, eand the like. But rifle strokes keep getting shorter, and "on the edge" modifications keep appearing. Suppliers keep putting this stuff out, and shooters keep buying it. If the line is drawn and it makes equipment already out on the market "illegal," the folks that bought that stuff are going to be mad. No matter where the line is drawn, there are going to be people mad.

To illustrate the point - recently, there has been a lot of talk about a new product called the "Lightning Rod," a bolt for a '73 that has rollers in it, that its manufacturer claims will make it run faster and smoother. There was a firestorm of opinions on both sides of the issue. The RO Committee discussed it and determined it was an "Interior Modification," since it cannot be seen with the action closed. Therefore, it is exempt under our "Exterior Modification Rules." In SASS, the best analogy has been a Condo; what you do on the inside is your business, and what you do on the outside is our business. Then I went to a match, and a friend told me we made a mistake with the "Lightning Rod." It shouldn't make any difference whether the action is closed or open. It just so happened this same fellow was holding a side-by-side with the action open and pointed at the ground. I noticed his chamber had some minor throat reaming done to assist the placement of shotgun rounds. I then informed him that under his interpretation, his shotgun would be illegal. I can't remember his

exact response, but he walked away shaking his head.

SO, WHO'S RESPONSIBLE? WE ALL ARE! The Territorial Governors are the first step in drawing that line, as it is a line that must be drawn to protect the "integrity of our game." Just like the PGA and USGA had to ban golf clubs that can drive golf balls 500-600 yards; otherwise, the Integrity of The Game of Golf would have been compromised. The Territorial Governors need to draw the line. If they don't, The Wild Bunch must. But, we are all responsible because wherever that line is drawn, we as members of SASS and

its associated suppliers are going to have to support the decision the leadership of our sport must make.

I love to compete on the "edge" as much as anyone. Anyone that has shot with me knows that. However, I personally vow, if a line is drawn that makes any of my personal equipment outside the rules, I will change that equipment to make it comply. I hope you all feel the same. After all, **THE INTREGRITY OF OUR GAME IS ON THE LINE.**

If you have any ideas for upcoming articles please feel free to email me at: quickcal@power.net

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GUNS & GEAR



BLACKPOWDER CLEAN UP

By Madd Mike, SASS #8595

By no means of the imagination, do I consider myself an accomplished scholar on the subject of the "holy black." But I am willing to share some stuff I have learned in the last couple of years.

On my personal quest of placing in the top ten of ten different SASS shooting categories (at END of TRAIL), I have spent the last two years dabbling with the black stuff, powder that is. I will hem and haw, back and forth, between smokeless powders at some local shoots, and move back to black, at the larger shoots in many cases.

I have met some good mentors along the way. Thanks Tex and Ol #4, ya both know how to fill the skies with slowly moving clouds of crowd dispersing agents, and the informative blackpowder articles in The Cowboy Chronicle are very helpful as well.

I was frequently asked a question as I stood outside my 28-foot covered wagon (RV) at END of TRAIL 2005. There I was standing under the great New Mexico skies this past spring, and as folks would wander by, some would ask, "Hey, is it worth all of the extra cleaning, to shoot blackpowder?" My

answer was, "yup." But now giving it better thought, here is why I say, "yup."

I currently believe the rumors of high corrosion come from at least, yet not limited to, a couple of things. The first one is folks looking at the original pocket pistols of the Old West, the ones that consumed the real black. A lot of individuals back then took those little pocket pistols, (the concealed carry gun of the times), went out into the great outdoors, fired a box of blackpowder shells through em, and after that, left em in the nightstand drawer for years, with no proper cleaning. Next, I think when people see the rapid corrosion in their brass, concerns of the same thing happening in their highly prized pistols and long guns becomes distorted a bit. Brass is a pretty soft material, and nickel cases will not show the same rapid corrosion rate as brass cases do. Remember, I am not claiming to be a scholar on these facts.

My pistols clean up marvelously with hot water and dang near any type of soap I can git my hands on. Use water just as hot as your hands can stand, run a bristle brush down the bar-

rel and cylinder holes, and usually one dry patch, and then one oiled patch, and they are clean. Dry 'em really good, and then coat them lightly with oil of your choice. I am incapable of cleaning the same pair of pistols and getting the barrel as clean, with a dozen patches, when I shoot and cleanup after smokeless powders. I use pretty much the same process with my reproduction Winchester '73. Double barreled shotguns - the Windex hints you have all read about on the SASS wire and in The Cowboy Chronicle, work great in the shotgun barrels but do not use Windex externally.

One of the up sides to blackpowder is for most blackpowder shooters, their guns are in, and probably stay in, much better condition than competitors shooting smokeless powders simply 'cuz smokeless shooters clean their equipment much less often than soot lords.

I love it (blackpowder that is). Sweet Shooter works as well as shooters who use it state. In fact, it probably works better than what they say. I even clean parts of my Dillon presses with Sweet Shooter. It makes the primer pickup (slider thingie) on the 550 work



Madd Mike shoots the holy black Gunfighter style ... and after the fun comes the easy task of cleaning up the guns.

flawlessly.

So, clean up behind shooting black is worth it to me in the long run, and besides shootin' through the smoke is more like being in the movies anyway. So do not be intimidated by some of the things about blackpowder you read and hear. Give it a try (shooting the black) - it can be addicting! Try it at YOUR state's official SASS Black Powder State Champion this year. It's growing in all areas of the country.

sassmaddmike@yahoo.com

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Shootout Entry Form

MUST BE A SASS MEMBER

One application per shooter. Copy form for additional entries.

Alias: _____ SASS #: _____
 Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 SASS Affiliated Club: _____
 Posse With: _____

- TRADITIONAL LADIES TRADITIONAL MODERN LADIES MODERN DUELIST LADIES DUELIST SENIOR DUELIST
 FRONTIERSMAN FRONTIER CARTRIDGE LADIES FRONTIER CARTRIDGE FRONTIER CARTRIDGE DUELIST
 LADIES FRONTIER CARTRIDGE DUELIST GUNFIGHTER LADIES GUNFIGHTER CLASSIC COWBOY
 CLASSIC COWGIRL JUNIOR BOY(12-16) JUNIOR GIRL(12-16) 49ER LADIES 49ER SENIOR(60+) LADIES SENIOR(60+) ELDER STATESMAN(70+) GRAND DAME(70+) "B" WESTERN "B" WESTERN LADIES MOUNTED DIV# _____ LADIES MOUNTED DIV# _____ JUNIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____ LADIES JUNIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____ SENIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____ LADIES SENIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____ CART SHOOTER PIONEER CART

Applications received after April 1 include a \$25 late fee per shooter. All refunds are subject to a \$25 processing fee. No refunds after April 1. The Founders Ranch Invitational is a SASS Invitational. You must be a SASS member to shoot. You will be sent a confirmation upon receipt of entry form. All shooters must attend the mandatory safety meeting Friday morning, April 21st at 8:30 am. No Pets Allowed.

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GUNS & GEAR



Purdy Gear, SASS #33315

*I'm probably gonna get myself
in trouble with this one,
but here goes ...*

As one looks through history, it becomes obvious there seems to be a conflict between honesty and marketing ploys, between usefulness and fad or fashion, and between what's actually practical and what's not. There's always truth and fiction in history, as well as controversy about who's right and who's wrong. While I'm expressing some personal perspectives and observations as a maker here, I'm hoping to set some of the more common myths in perspective with logic and theory so these points make sense. My intent is not to ridicule or condemn the work of others, but to simply make you think about what you're doing or what you're buying. As usual, if you disagree or have comments, gimme a holler. I'm at 706-692-5536 or purdygear@alltel.net.

1. Loose "gun bucket" style holsters will speed up your game. I've discussed this in a previous article. They might speed it up a hair, but potential issues with drawing and holstering or loss of firearms while moving may occur. If you truly wish to improve your game, work on ergonomics, mechanics, muscle memory, good shooting habits and a competitive attitude. Those will help you more than any holster – unless, of course, you already have the upper hand on all that stuff I just mentioned.
2. Low cut holsters draw faster than higher cut ones. I've seen some incredibly fast draws from old-style, high on-the-cylinder holsters and some excruciatingly slow ones from low-cut jobs,

GUN LEATHER – COMMON MYTHS, TRUE OR FALSE? PART 1

By Purdy Gear, SASS #33315

but, yes, most folks gain a fraction of a split second with a low-cut holster. Technically speaking, however, you won't knock chunks of time off a stage unless you practice with them. If you think a low cut holster is more advantageous, go for it, but be aware you often have to be more conscientious about how you move so your guns don't end up in the dirt – especially if you use short-barreled pistols.

3. Heavy-built holsters with big trigger welts are faster. Nope. A fast holster is dependent neither on how heavy it is nor on a trigger welt. What's important is fitting the gun. It doesn't matter a whit how heavy or light it is. A badly fit holster is going to mess up a clean draw every single time.
4. Heavy-built holsters will hold up better than lighter ones. Maybe. A good deal depends on what it's made of and whether it's lined or not. Good leather goes a good distance for holster life. Linings are a help, too. Two layers are like leather plywood – one layer re-enforces the other. That goes for both heavy and light holsters. In truth, the real acid test for holster longevity depends more on the care and attention devoted to it than anything else. Abuse and lack of care will destroy leather faster than anything on the planet; so, in retrospective, the point of heavy or light is moot.
5. Trigger welts will save the stitching at the trigger guard: Yeah, they will, *but* So will a well-designed weltless holster. The trick, once again is in design and fit. What a welt *will* do is open up the pouch a little so its overall profile is cosmetically slimmer. Welts are also an important feature of certain styles of holsters, which are built loose (certain quick-draw and law enforcement rigs) so the clunk of the trigger guard against the welt provides proof the gun is safely holstering. Many big-bore handguns and automatic holsters should be built with full or partial welts because of the shape and thick-

ness of their cylinders in the former and barrels in the latter.

6. Toe plugs are only there to make the holster look old-timey. While there's nothing like a really nice toe plug to put you firmly back in the 19th century, their real purpose was to keep the pipe on that era's more lightly-built holsters open. They still perform well in that capacity in our heavier, modern holsters, as many of our punchers (and a bunch of law enforcement folks) have proved.
7. A heavy flair at the side of a holster makes drawing and re-holstering faster. A *modest* flair actually *can* add to the looks and action of a well-fit holster, but it won't help you much on the draw. Where that flair *may* help you is in re-holstering by funneling your gun into the pouch quicker. Watch out, though! It may funnel your pistol in, but that doesn't guarantee it's seated properly down deep in the pouch. If you're moving and not aware of the situation, you could lose a gun. Also, a sharp, heavy flair can act as a ledge that can bounce the gun to the outside rather than guide it into the pouch if you're inexperienced or a tad sloppy.
8. Spraying silicon, Teflon, or graphite into a holster will make it draw faster. Some folks swear by this, but I've never seen the point. A good, smooth draw is dependent on practice as well as proper fit of gun to holster. If you have that, you don't need creative additives.
9. Steel-lined holsters are better than those just made of leather. Not necessarily. The "hard shell" liner was developed for the quick-draw sport. To make time, the cylinder of the gun has to spin inside the holster, so the holster *must* hold its shape. Steel liners work well for this, but I can show you some all leather holsters that are equally as rigid and will hold their shape just as well and just as long. Here's the problem with steel: It rusts, it's heavy, it delaminates, and it gets dented. Steel-lined holsters are hard to



**Welts are an important feature
of certain quick-draw rigs.**

mess up, but if you fall against something or accidentally throw something heavy (like your gun cases or gun cart) on top of 'em when they're empty, just like their all-leather cousins, they'll get squished – and, brother, lemme tell you, once a steel rig is squished, it *stays* squished. I'm not saying you shouldn't get steel. I'm saying you need to weigh up all the pros and cons before you settle on hard shell or all leather holsters. There is no best here.

10. Once fitted, a holster stays that way forever. Nope. Abuse or accident — see note above about badly parked gun cases and carts — can alter a holster's shape. Changes in heat and humidity can too. Keep your holsters in shape by transporting them so they don't get mashed. Hang them in a cool, dry spot for storage, and put your guns in 'em the night before you shoot. That will help the holster "remember" its shape and will help you at the range.

Compadres, this is all I have room for this go-round. There's another one comin' that'll take care of some more myths. I hope you've found this one informative and useful. I've sure enjoyed beatin' my head on the computer getting it typed up!

See ya on down the trail! 🐾

GUNS



25

END OF TRAIL



**WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
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& WILD WEST JUBILEE**



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JUNE 16TH + 25TH, 2006

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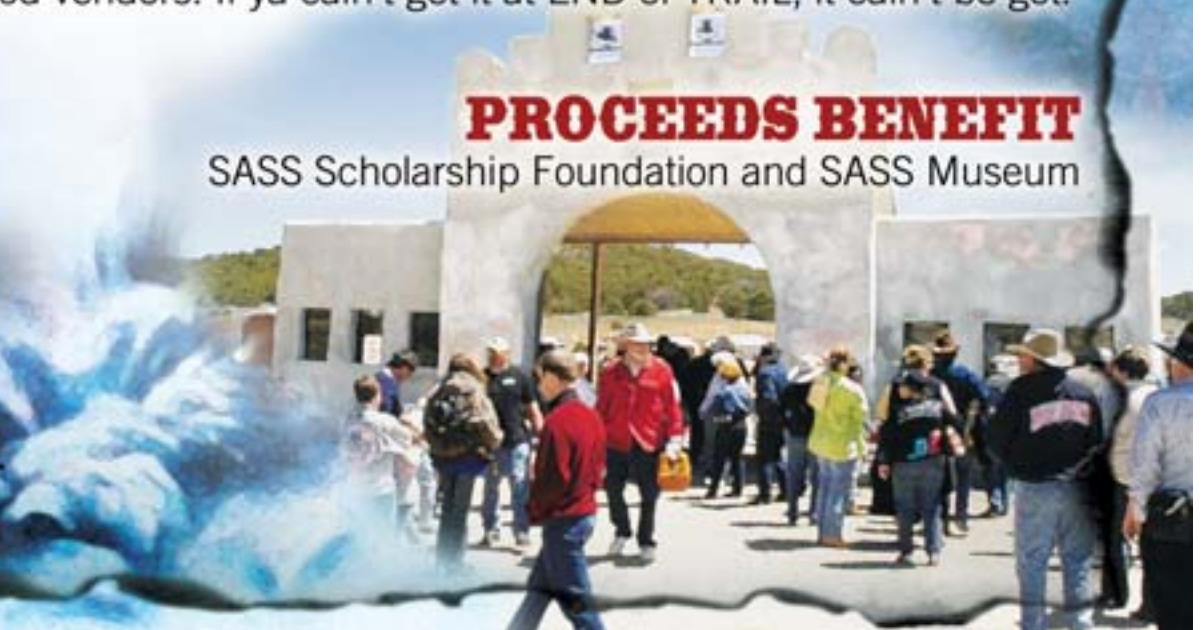
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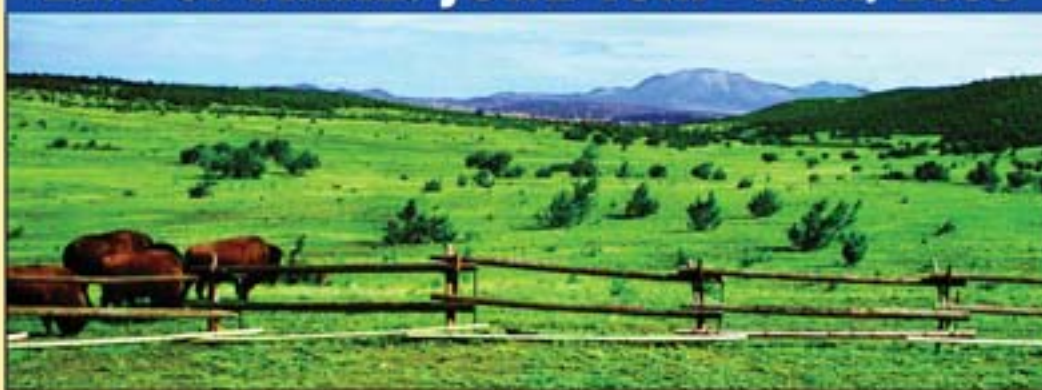
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Camping is available for RVs and tents.
 No hook-ups, but chemical toilets are available. Camping is restricted to one RV or one tent and one car per site.
 Day parking for shooters is provided in a separate, adjacent area.

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Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner is provided at a reasonable cost from an excellent array of Food Vendors all five days. END of TRAIL is a BYOB event. Dinner available from END of TRAIL Vendors.
 You pay direct to Vendors at END of TRAIL.
 No one is permitted to wear firearms where alcohol is present.
 This rule will be strictly enforced.

END of TRAIL: JUNE 16th - 25th, 2006



Directions to Founders Ranch Edgewood, New Mexico

- Head east on Interstate 40 from Albuquerque
- Exit 181-Sedillo Hill Road, at the top of the grade
- Turn Left (east) on Old Route 66 (Highway 333)
 - Turn Right on Highway 217
- Drive approximately 5 miles and turn left at Juan Tomas Rd
- Turn Left on Barton Road and follow to main entry gate



OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Sign Up Online Today at www.sassnet.com

Enclose payment for total entry and other fees and mail with completed Entry Form. END of TRAIL will be held rain or shine June 16th - 25th, 2006. Entry Deadline is June 1, 2006. Refund requests must be received prior to June 1, 2006 and are subject to a \$25.00 processing fee. Shooting starts 10 a.m. Wednesday and ends Sunday afternoon. Shooters packets must be picked up before shooters meeting on Thursday. END of TRAIL is an Invitational event, SASS reserves the right to refuse entry to anyone.

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/COUNTRY/ZIP _____

HOME PHONE () _____ WORK PHONE () _____

REGISTRATION & ENTRY FEES

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WARM-UP MATCH FEENO.....X.....\$45.00	\$45.00	\$45.00
<small>(Warm-Up Matches: Must be a registered Action or Mounted Shooter/No Conventioneers)</small>		
CART DRIVERNO.....X.....\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
2ND ENTRY CART SHOOTER.....NO.....X.....\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
JUNIOR(12-16)NO.....X.....\$50.00	\$50.00	\$
YOUNG ADULT(17-20)NO.....X.....\$75.00	\$75.00	\$
CONVENTIONEER.....NO.....X.....\$55.00	\$55.00	\$55.00
CONVENTIONEER WITH WARM UP MATCH ..\$125.00	\$125.00	
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CAMPING FEE: <input type="checkbox"/> RV <input type="checkbox"/> TENT RV Length: _____ \$75.00	\$	
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Lever Action Rifle (Pistol Caliber)\$5.00	\$	\$
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Single Shot Rifle (Black Powder)\$5.00	\$	\$
Rimfire Rifle Event\$5.00	\$	\$
Rimfire Revolver Event\$5.00	\$	\$
Pocket Revolver Event\$5.00	\$	\$
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Derringer Shoot.....\$5.00	\$	\$
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FIRST ENTRANT:

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 REAL NAME _____
 SASS NUMBER (Required) _____
 TRADITIONAL LADIES TRADITIONAL MODERN LADIES MODERN DUELIST LADIES DUELIST
 SENIOR DUELIST FRONTIERSMAN FRONTIER CARTRIDGE LADIES FRONTIER CARTRIDGE
 FRONTIER CARTRIDGE DUELIST 4ER LADIES 4ER LADIES FRONTIER CARTRIDGE DUELIST
 GUNFIGHTER LADIES GUNFIGHTER CLASSIC COWBOY CLASSIC COWGIRL JUNIOR BOY(12-16)
 JUNIOR GIRL(12-16) SENIOR(60+) LADIES SENIOR(60+) ELDER STATESMAN(70+) PIONEER CART
 GRAND DAME(70+) 3" WESTERN 3" WESTERN LADIES MOUNTED DIV# _____
 LADIES MOUNTED DIV# _____ JUNIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____ LADIES JUNIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____
 SENIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____ LADIES SENIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____ CART SHOOTER

SPOUSE: (For \$35 Guest Badge check this box)

ALIAS _____
 REAL NAME _____
 SASS NUMBER (Required) _____
 TRADITIONAL LADIES TRADITIONAL MODERN LADIES MODERN DUELIST LADIES DUELIST
 SENIOR DUELIST FRONTIERSMAN FRONTIER CARTRIDGE LADIES FRONTIER CARTRIDGE
 FRONTIER CARTRIDGE DUELIST 4ER LADIES 4ER LADIES FRONTIER CARTRIDGE DUELIST
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 GRAND DAME(70+) 3" WESTERN 3" WESTERN LADIES MOUNTED DIV# _____
 LADIES MOUNTED DIV# _____ JUNIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____ LADIES JUNIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____
 SENIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____ LADIES SENIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____ CART SHOOTER

FIRST FAMILY ENTRANT:

ALIAS _____
 REAL NAME _____
 SASS NUMBER (Required) _____
 TRADITIONAL LADIES TRADITIONAL MODERN LADIES MODERN DUELIST LADIES DUELIST
 SENIOR DUELIST FRONTIERSMAN FRONTIER CARTRIDGE LADIES FRONTIER CARTRIDGE
 FRONTIER CARTRIDGE DUELIST 4ER LADIES 4ER LADIES FRONTIER CARTRIDGE DUELIST
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 LADIES MOUNTED DIV# _____ JUNIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____ LADIES JUNIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____
 SENIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____ LADIES SENIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____ CART SHOOTER

SECOND FAMILY ENTRANT:

ALIAS _____
 REAL NAME _____
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 TRADITIONAL LADIES TRADITIONAL MODERN LADIES MODERN DUELIST LADIES DUELIST
 SENIOR DUELIST FRONTIERSMAN FRONTIER CARTRIDGE LADIES FRONTIER CARTRIDGE
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 GRAND DAME(70+) 3" WESTERN 3" WESTERN LADIES MOUNTED DIV# _____
 LADIES MOUNTED DIV# _____ JUNIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____ LADIES JUNIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____
 SENIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____ LADIES SENIOR MOUNTED DIV# _____ CART SHOOTER

*Young Adult is a registration fee category. Also select/mark competition category.
 END of TRAIL is a match for experienced shooters only. No first time shooters.

GUNS & GEAR



IMPORTANCE OF DRY FIRING PRACTICE

Ima Darlin,
SASS #56196

By Ima Darlin, SASS #56196

How can I even begin to describe the importance of dry firing! Well, I know when I practice dry-firing I can just really concentrate and think about everything I usually don't think about when I am live firing, such as the basics. And, it really gives me a chance to remember the safety aspect of shooting, I can just shoot very slow and see where my hands are while I am shooting, I really want to make sure both of my hands are working and doing something at the same time. That is called transitions.

Dry firing also lets me shoot really fast to just see how I am doing; I like to think of that as just a little checkup. But, I just recently discovered that to shoot fast, you have to practice fast. And I really don't want to be unsafe, so that's another reason why I like dry firing. Also when I have been dry-firing these simple basics, I perform much better at the shoots.

I also practice just holding my guns up, to make sure I am holding them the right way. And in doing that it also makes me stronger so I can hold my guns up a lot easier when I am shooting live ammo.

When I dry-fire I also like to practice the suggestions other shooters give me. That way I can tell how they will work for me, and it gives me the opportunity to decide if I can use that technique to shoot better or not. I also get to just make up my own new tricks to shoot better, or find my very own ways I can use that work the best for me. This type of practice isn't boring, and it only takes a few minutes. It can be really fun, and it is a tremendous help to improve your shooting scores! I promise!

Life doesn't have to be perfect to be darlin! 🤠

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GUNS & GEAR



Holy Terror, SASS #15362

WOMEN, GUNS, AND GEAR LEATHER - THE KEY TO SUCCESS

By Holy Terror, SASS #15362

One of the largest struggles in Cowboy Action Shooting™ for women is the holster/belt combination. This is a problem for women because it is difficult to find a holster/belt combination that fits comfortably and works well.

Leather is pretty difficult to fit to most women because of the way we are shaped. There are three basic parts to all leather set ups - the belt, the holsters, and some type of shotgun shell holder. You want each of these pieces to fit well, and to work

properly.

First, the belt. You want your belt to be the right size, width, and material. A belt that is too small will be uncomfortable to wear, and a belt that is too large is going to fall down around your knees. Your belt should also be the right width. A very wide belt can be too hard to bend over in. A very thin belt is not stable enough to support the holsters, and it can cut into you. The right material is also very important for your belt. A very smooth belt can slip on your clothing. Having the right fit in a belt is the basis to a good holster set up.

After you find a good belt, you are going to need some good holsters to go in it. Holsters are a very complicated point for women shooters. There are many different types of holsters, and many theories about what type of holster works best. I think all holsters should do three things.

First, I like a two strong side holster set up. I have shot in both cross draw and strong side, and, for me, strong side wins hands down. I changed because I didn't like having to do the turn or "dance" when I drew. It is just easier and safer to wear the two strong sides where you are not required to do the turn.

Second, for women shooters I recommend they wear their holster belt low. When the guns are worn low, it allows women to have more room for a shotgun belt if they choose to wear one. For most women, a shotgun belt is preferred because they are so tiny around, there is not room to wear a shotgun belt slide. The other reason for wearing your holster low is it gives you more room to draw. If you wear your guns at the waist, by the time the pistol is out of the holster you have reached up to your armpit. By wear-

ing the guns lower, you have more room to draw out the gun with ease.

Third, holsters should work properly. A properly working holster will hold the gun securely, and should make the draw and re-holster simple and easy. If you can't get the gun out of the holster, it is a bad holster. If you can't put the gun back in the holster with one hand, it is a bad holster. If you are worried about the guns falling out of the holsters, then they are bad holsters. You holsters should work properly above all else.

The other really important piece of leather is the shot shell holder. This is probably the most complicated piece of leather because it is so hard to fit to women. Men are easy- you just strap on a belt, and there you have it. Women are little more complicated. Some women can't strap on a belt because their gun belt is very

(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)

high, so there is no more room for a shotgun belt to go. They then have to wear their shells in a shot shell slide that fits between their holsters. Most women are usually pretty small around, which doesn't allow them to wear very many shells. For this reason I don't recommend this type of shotgun shell slide.

The other option is for women to wear a shot shell belt. However, for some women this can be a problem because when she cinches around her waist, the shells get hidden beneath her curves. This is better than wearing a slide, but still proves to be problematic and frustrating.

Fortunately, there are ways to fix

this female problem. First, wear your holster belt low. If you wear your holster belt low, you have an easier time drawing your pistols, and it gives you room for a shot shell belt. Also, try to wear your shot shell belt low as well. The lower you wear it the better chance you have of seeing your shells around your curves.

There is one other trick of the trade I have learned about wearing a shot shell belt. I am not as well endowed as some women out on the range, but if you happen to be that way, there is not much you can do to change it. The trick to improving your chance of seeing your shells is to wear the belt as low as you can and to wear it just a little bit loose. Then you can

hike it up in the back just a little bit, and it will let your shells tip out in range of sight. This only works well if you have a very sticky belt. If your belt is really smooth, then it will slip around on your waist and it will be hard to grab the shells out. If the belt is suede, it should stay in place.

The only other really important thing to watch on the shotgun belt is ease of use. If your shotgun belt will not let go of the shells or if the shells fall out when you move, it is not a good belt. You should be able to draw the shells out with one hand without struggling. Rub a little baby powder or talc powder in the loops. It also really helps to keep your shells in the loops when you store your belt. If you

store your belt without shells, it will shrink up and make the shells hard to draw out.

Leather can be your best or worst friend. A good design can improve not only how you shoot, but also how much you enjoy your shooting experience. The biggest thing you want from your leather is a comfortable fit. Next, you want it to work really well. Leather may seem like a very small part of your outfit, but it usually turns out to be the most important.

If you have questions about this article, or if you have an idea or product you think should be brought to the attention of women shooters or anyone else, please email me at holyterror15362@hotmail.com.

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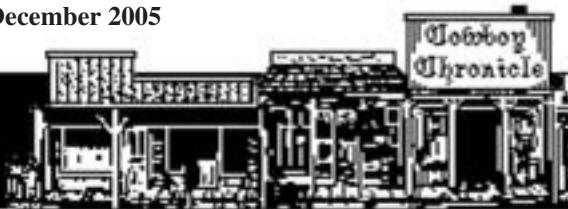
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HISTORY



THIS MONTH IN HISTORY



1890's December

By Ellsworth T. Kincaid,
Life/Regulator #6037

- 12 Dec 1890** General Miles orders Sitting Bull's arrest for encouraging the 'Ghost Dance Craze,' a religious dance the Indians believed would rid them of the white man, bring back the buffalo, and restore their old way of life.
- 15 Dec 1890** 59-year-old Sitting Bull and eleven other tribe members are arrested for their part in the Ghost Dance. Sitting Bull is killed by Indian police at Grand River, South Dakota. Fearing for their lives, hundreds of Sioux flee their reservations and agencies in South Dakota.
- 23 Dec 1890** At Fort Worth, Texas, in the White Elephant Saloon co-owned by Jake Johnson and others, Luke Short is involved in a gambling argument with bartender and local saloon owner Charles Wright. Following the argument, Luke is ambushed by Wright, who shoots Short in the left leg with a shotgun. Luke pulls his hog leg, putting a bullet in Wright's wrist. Although both survive, this will be Short's last gunfight.
- 28 Dec 1890** Soldiers from the 7th Cavalry and First Artillery accept the surrender of 106 Indians near Porcupine Creek, South Dakota.
- 29 Dec 1890** Wounded Knee, South Dakota – When a mystical Indian religious cult called "Ghost Dancers" promises supernatural powers against the white man's weapons, it creates unrest among the Northern Sioux. To prevent an Indian uprising, some 470 infantry and cavalry, including the 7th Cavalry, commanded by Colonel James William Forsyth, surround an estimated 350 Miniconjou Sioux, led by Chief Big Foot. The Indians are ordered to surrender their weapons. Hoisting a white flag in the center of their camp as a 'sign of peace and a guarantee of safety,' the Indians place their guns, knives, axes, and tent stakes in a pile. A shot is fired (some say accidentally. Reports differ: several young warriors fired at K Troop; other reports have the troopers firing first), followed by a volley of fire from Troops K and J, mowing down half the able warriors. Rapid-firing Hotchkiss guns, stationed on a hill overlooking the Indian encampment, begin firing, almost a shell per second. The 7th Cavalry losses are 25 dead and 39 wounded, many shot by their own men. Indian losses are at least 150 or greater (one estimate puts the death toll at 300), including Big Foot. Twenty Medals of Honor will be awarded to members of the 7th Cavalry and two artillery units. This is the last act in the Indian wars, the last major-armed conflict in American history between the U.S. military and Native Americans. Charges against Forsyth will be dismissed. He will become a brigadier general in 1894 and a major general in 1897.
- 30 Dec 1890** Sioux ambush a patrol of 7th Cavalry near White Clay Creek, South Dakota. The 9th Cavalry comes to the rescue. Two soldiers and a farrier will win the Medal of Honor for bravery in this engagement.
- 25 Dec 1891** Mexican outlaw and revolutionary, Catarino Garza fails in his attempt to capture Fort Ringgold in Texas. His forces continue to skirmish with US troops along the Rio Grande for several weeks, until weather forces Garza's retreat south.
- 6 Dec 1893** Pauline Cushman, a captured Union spy sentenced for execution and rescued and a theatrical success, dies.
- 24 Dec 1894** Pike Landusky, Deputy Sheriff of Landusky, in the Little Rocky Mountains of north-central Montana, goes looking for Harvey Logan, aka Kid Curry, who has been dating his daughter, Elfie. In Jake's Saloon, Pike and Logan exchange words that develop into a fist fight. Knocked to the floor, Pike goes for his gun. Logan is faster and kills the fifty-five year old Deputy Sheriff.
- 23 Dec 1896** Wyatt Earp acts as a referee when Bob Fitzsimmons fights Tom Sharkey in the Mechanics Pavilion, San Francisco, California. Wyatt is arrested for carrying a concealed weapon into the ring and is accused of rendering a flagrantly unfair decision in favor of Sharkey.
- 1 Dec 1897** Nashville F. Leslie, aka Buckskin Frank Leslie, marries Belle Stowell in Stockton, California.
- In 1898** In Willcox, Arizona, Constable Burt Alvord has difficulties with cowboy Billy King. King offers to buy drinks to make amends. Alvord asks the cowboy to step outside. When they do, Alvord pulls his pistol and empties it into King's face, killing him.
- 8 Dec 1899** Holbrook, Arizona Sheriff Frank Watron sends out an invitation for the hanging of murderer George Smiley. President William McKinley, not amused at Watron's sense of humor, sends a letter of condemnation to the Arizona governor. Governor Nathan Murphy rebukes Watron and issues a stay of execution for the condemned man. The execution is rescheduled for January 8, 1900, when another invitation goes out. Smiley
- 31 Dec 1899** An editorial from the New York Times reviewing the past century: "We step on the threshold of 1900 ... facing a still brighter dawn for human civilization." The great American frontier – the vast expanse of unsettled land beyond the Mississippi – had largely disappeared.

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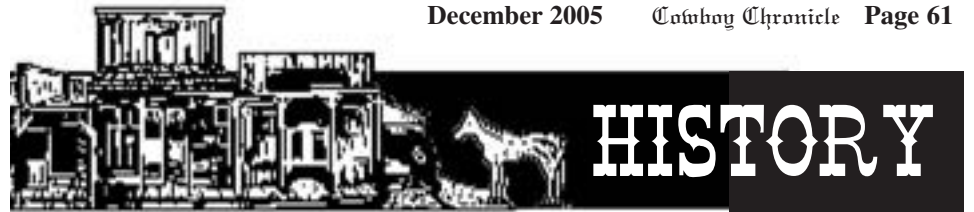
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By Joe Fasthorse Harrill, SASS #48769



Joe Fasthorse Harrill, SASS #48769

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PROFILES



MY JOURNEY TO BECOME SLOW HAND TOM Part 2 of 2

By Slow Hand Tom, SASS #65771

(Last month we learned Slow Hand Tom had a life-long fantasy of being a cowboy ...)

The following week on Monday I called SASS headquarters in California. A very friendly woman informed me I could sign up over the telephone. Within minutes I was SASS member #65771. Prior to that phone call I had come up with a short list of possible aliases I could use, if they weren't already taken. First choice was Slow Hand Tom, and to my amazement it was available.

Tuesday I headed up to Marion to visit Blackhawk Jeff's gun shop. There I acquired a nice used Rossi .45 caliber lever action and an original Winchester model 1897 12-gauge that Blackhawk had cut down for Cowboy Action. As I walked around checking everything out, I spotted a gun belt and holsters. The holsters didn't match, but I liked the workmanship. Griffin Gun Leather of Tombstone, AZ had made them.

Tombstone Slim makes Griffin Gun Leather products, as I learned during our lengthy telephone conversation. I had visited his web page and had a pretty good idea of what I wanted - brown double loop Mexican style with a 2-1/2" drop. I would get my rig in about ten days. Slim is a very friendly guy who does great leather work. I look forward to meeting Slim in person someday.

I had seen several gun carts at Deer Creek and in The Cowboy Chronicle, so I made a sketch and gave it to my friend Shorty, a part time clown



Longline Charlie, SASS #26361, proved to be an excellent mentor, coach, and friend.

and garage woodworker. Shorty cut out the required pieces and assembled the cart, and I did the finish and leather trim and adornment.

I had ordered two .45 caliber Uberti Cattleman the week after the Deer Creek visit, and they would be in store by the following week. The same week I picked up my .45's, I drove down to Seymour, IN to visit the folks at Tonto Rim Trading Co., as I had read about them in The Cowboy Chronicle. They are as their advertisement says, "the complete Cowboy Action supplier."

At this point I have to say I am not retired. I'm in construction sales with a window supplier. I provide



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windows to many of the custom builders in the booming new home market in Indianapolis. With my left hand on the steering wheel of my Durango and my cell phone in my right, I can take care of business while thinking about what I needed next for my up-coming first Cowboy Action Shoot. Talk about multi-tasking!

I mentioned earlier my first SASS contact, Longline Charlie. Charlie has been a SASS member for about four years. However, due to back problems he hadn't participated in a shoot for the last two years. Charlie walks short distances on crutches and moves around his ranch in his golf cart. A book could be writ-

ten about Charlie's life; he was a wild man. He was master marksman while in the Air Force back in the sixties and is a Vietnam Vet. Charlie helped me get rid of my bad shooting habits with a pistol. He has reloading equipment, so when we weren't shooting, we were reloading. Charlie used to shoot at Big Rock and suggested we go there because parking is close to the stages, and he could sit in the shade and watch.

Big Rock is located in southeastern Indiana near the town of Lexington. Big Rock's next shoot would be Saturday June 25th 2005, and that's where my first shoot would take place.

June in Indiana was unseasonably hot, and that Saturday was no exception. It was in the mid nineties as Charlie and I rolled into Big Rock. Charlie had hardly gotten out of the Durango when all his old compadres came up to greet him and welcome him back. "If you're a friend of Charlie's, you must be okay," was said more than once as Charlie introduced me to his friends.

Here I was at my first Cowboy Action Shoot. With all the preparation, anticipation, and fantasizing about how it would be, I never once thought about being nervous - not until I heard a voice say, "and Slow Hand Tom is loading." I would be next at the loading table. Once there, all my fingers seemed to turn into thumbs. I felt like Jerry Lewis doing a comedy routine of a cowboy loading his six shooters. I managed to keep

(Continued on page 65)



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~FUTURE COWGIRL~ Liv-A-Little, SASS #63285

By Crooked Barrel, SASS #29341

Let me introduce you to LIV-A-LITTLE," SASS #63284, aka Olivia Hope Zablocky. She is four years old and cannot wait to begin shooting. She envies her older sister "AL-ZEE" and cousin VICTORIA'S LIL SECRET who began shooting this year as Buckaroos. *J.*



~FUTURE COWBOY~ Shane Strickland

By Macochee Kid, SASS #19170

This is Shane Lansing Strickland, grandson of the Macochee Kid, SASS #19170, aka Papaw. Shane is not quite two years old, but he already loves to be outdoors, and his favorite thing is riding on Papaw's tractor.

We are looking forward to the day when I can begin shooting with him out on my range and teaching him the cowboy way! *J.*



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His years in various law enforcement agencies from state to federal level showed his love for his community.

'Till we meet later down the trail, we wish you a speedy horse, a soft saddle, and a smooth trail. Pardner, you will be greatly missed. 🤠



ROTTEN ROB, SASS #18573

By Lynn Randle

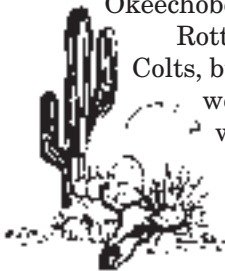
Waxahatchee, FL Rotten Rob, aka Robert K. Randle, passed away suddenly after a fall at his home on May 5th. Rotten Rob became interested in Cowboy Action Shooting™ in 1996. He enjoyed attending matches throughout the state of Florida and shot with the Indian River Regulators, Martin County Marshals, Everglades Rifle and Pistol Club, Southwest Florida Gunslingers, and Okeechobee Marshals.



Rotten Rob enjoyed shooting his two Colts, but always wanted a third one as well. He got his wish on October 8, 1997, when he had a son who was named Colton, or Colt, for short.

Rob leaves behind his wife, Lynn, son, Colton, and daughter, Sierra. He will be sadly missed by all his friends, co-workers, and Cowboy Action Shooting™ pards.

May he rest in peace ... 🤠



DALTON SPENCER, SASS #59164

November 11, 1943 - July 27, 2005

By Osa Hunter, SASS #39773

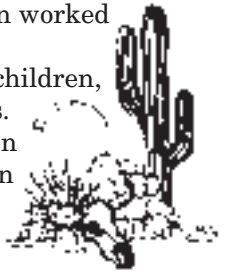
Bloomingsburg, OH Dalton Spencer, aka Jesse E. Straitenberger, died Wednesday, July 27, 2005 at the Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. He had been ill for six weeks. He lived in the Washington Court House, Ohio area for most of his life.

He was an Army veteran of the Vietnam War, serving with the Military Police in both Vietnam and Korea. Dalton Spencer was a SASS member and cowboy club member of the Scioto Territory Desperados. He worked 30 years as a steel forger at A.K. Steel in Middletown, Ohio, and then worked for Easy Oil in Washington Court House, Ohio.

He is survived by his wife, two daughters, five grandchildren, several great grandchildren, three brothers, and two sisters.

Dalton Spencer was a great pard, helping out when requested at the range. He loved playing the Cowboy Action Shooting™ sport and being a SASS member.

Rest in peace, Cowboy! 🤠



MULESKINNER MICAH, SASS #14683

By Annabelle Bransford, SASS #11916

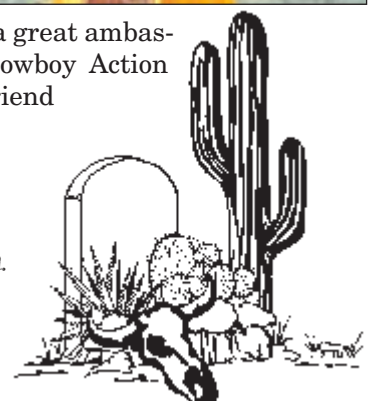
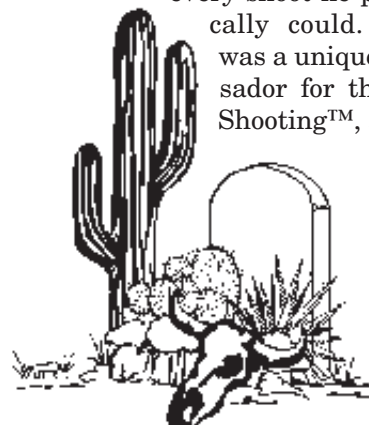
BROADALBIN, NY - It is with great sadness I report our much-loved pard, Muleskinner Micah (Mike Suits, aka 'Skinner'), has left us. Having battled with cancer for a number of years, he passed away peacefully on September 23, 2005, in the comfort of his own home, surrounded by his wife, Myrtle Wells, SASS #23117, and his extended family. He will be sorely missed.

'Skinner was the perfect example of what the Spirit of the Game is all about. He joined SASS and the Circle K Regulators in 1997 and threw himself into the game 100%. He could be counted on to actively participate in club meetings, assist with setup, RO at the shoots, and help with teardown every month without fail. He always dressed in character and shot with the best of 'em. Even during his illness, he attended every shoot he physically could. He



was a unique individual, a great ambassador for the sport of Cowboy Action Shooting™, and a loyal friend

Rest in peace, pard! 🤠



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MY JOURNEY TO BECOME SLOW HAND TOM . . .

(Continued from page 62)

all the bullets on the table and eventually got them into my guns.

I was the next shooter, and as I walked to the first stage, I took deliberate steps so as not to stumble and continue my Jerry Lewis routine. When the timer went off, I managed to remember all the sequences and didn't do too badly. As close as those targets seem, you sure as heck can miss them! I managed not to have a clean stage all day. I had a good time though, and felt a lot better when I

was told by both Long Horn Clem and No More Slim, the range officers, that I had done well for my first shoot.

During the following week I practiced at Charlie's and reloaded in preparation for the next weekend at Thunder Valley. I phoned Thunder Valley and spoke with Redneck Rebel who runs the range, asking him about the terrain and if a golf cart could get to the stages. "Come on down, we got a service road the trucks use." That was all I needed to know. Saturday, July 2nd we hooked up Charlie's trailer to the Durango, loaded up his cart, and it was off to Thunder Valley.

Thunder Valley is just a year old and Redneck Rebel and the other cowboys have done a great job building the stages. It was a fun shoot with some side matches. I should have mentioned who I was bringing with me when I called Redneck. Abu, the range officer, and most of the other cowboys knew Charlie. Redneck said, "If I'd known it was Charlie you were bringing, we would have rented a helicopter to get him down." As it turned out, the golf cart went down the switchbacks with ease.

The weather was perfect, low eighties with a nice breeze. The pledge to the flag and a prayer by Redneck, and we were off to the first stage. I had a clean first stage and one miss on the second and third. I had a miss on the fourth and fifth stage, but had a clean sixth stage. Charlie had been motoring around taking pictures for me and enjoyed his day as well.

The next shoot will be with the Daleville Desperados where I hope to run into Frenchy Yukon again and Swifty Smoothbore. The following weekend is the state meet at Deer Creek, and rumor has it Evil Roy may be attending. My wife, Kathy, will join me at Deer Creek; she's a cowgirl at heart. She grew up in California and played cowboys with her brothers. She figures if she wants to see me on the weekends, she needs to Cowgirl Up.

Well, that's the end of my story to date, but just the beginning of a whole lot of fun. I believe the next SASS badge I'll be wearing will be gold. 🤠



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MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR! . . .

(Continued from page 6)

tors made as much smoke as my fellow shooters did at last week's local monthly match. The "booms" could be heard up and down the firing line, and the smoke obscured everything but the grins. Why can't our top competitors just "load 'un up and shoot 'um" without having to get legal with 15 grains of something or another?

I wish some states and cities were not so repressive when it comes to firearms. I've seen places where juniors cannot touch a firearm, and in others, seen young Buckaroos shooting .22s and .410s with nothing but concentration on their faces and safety in their minds ... the time the junior and the parents or grandparents spend together is priceless. They both are developing memories that will last a lifetime.

I wish our politicians were more honest with us. Whether it's the Republicans or Democrats, we've all felt at one time or another we were betrayed and led astray. I wish our voters were a little less self-serving as well. Entitlements are another way of demanding the government take care of us ... whatever happened to the notion of personal responsibility with a little help from our friends in those rare cases when we come up a bit short?

Life has been good this year, but as always, we can strive for more. I hope life has been kind to you this year, you still find the excitement in playing the game, and you are lucky enough to have a buddy to play the game with you. As always, we've also lost SASS friends and family during the past year. These folks are gone, but will never be forgotten.

Merry Christmas to all and a Happy New Year! *See you on the range next year!* 🤠

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**REVIEWS-
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*Tuolumne Lawman,
SASS #6127*

CLASSIC TEST REPORT

Marlin 1898 12 Gauge Pump Shotgun

By Tuolumne Lawman, SASS# 6127



Most folks say the Colt 1873 Single Action Army revolver is the gun that tamed the Old West. The truth be known, however, as many folks fell victim to the scattergun, as did to the ubiquitous Peacemaker. The shotgun, or "street howitzer" as it was often called, was generally the first choice of lawmen and badmen alike. This was especially true when the odds were skewed in the wrong direction, as

they often were for lawmen then! Black Bart Boles, the gentleman bandit of the California Mother Lode in the 1870s and 1880s, was always armed with a scattergun and a poem as he victimized the local stage lines. Wyatt and Virgil Earp's first choice for patrolling the town and preserving order was the shotgun. Doc Holiday used a 12 gauge at the OK Corral and Wyatt Earp used one at Iron Springs when he killed Curly Bill Brocius. Time and time again, the shotgun decided issues with terminal effectiveness.

MARLIN PUMP ACTION SHOTGUNS

While the first pump action shotguns arrived on the scene relatively late, they did see some use in the West. There were three manufacturers producing pump shotguns at the tail end of the nineteenth century: Spencer, Winchester, and Marlin. The first was the Spencer/ Bannerman around 1882. It resembled the modern pump, except for the external hammer in the bottom of the action. It was a six-shot firearm, fed from an

under barrel tubular magazine like modern pump shotguns. The action is fairly complicated, and prone to jams and breakage. It is chambered for 2-5/8" blackpowder shells only. The next to appear was the 1893 Winchester. It was similar in appearance to its well-known successor, the 1897 Winchester pump. One main visible difference is the larger open ejection port of the 1893. The 1893 (and later 1897) have the distinctive external hammer on the top/rear of
(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)
the receiver. The 1893 was a design fraught with problems. It quickly gained a reputation for unreliability and breakage. Winchester redesigned it, naming the improved version the Model 1897. The Model 1893 had been such a marketing disaster Winchester offered to replace any 1893 model with a brand new improved 1897 model FREE OF CHARGE! That may be the first large-scale product recall in firearms history. It was the success of the 1897 Winchester that prompted Marlin to introduce its own pump shotgun.

The third pump action shotgun to see limited usage in the Wild West was the Marlin model 1898. Some say that it looks like a Winchester model 1897, but it really looks like an 1894 Marlin Lever on steroids! Like the Spencer/Bannerman and the 1893/1897, the Marlin had an exposed hammer and a six round capacity, being fed from an under barrel tube magazine. The 1898 Marlin went through a series of improvements, and was re-issued as the model 19, 21, 24, 26, and 42.

A word is due here about the 1898 Marlin and its later versions. I am a big 1898 Marlin fan, and prefer it to the Winchester 1897. I do, however, have a caveat. While it was designed for smokeless loads, it is not a very strong action, especially the early ones marked Model 1898 or 19. Marlin has recently disavowed any responsibility for accidents involving 1898s, saying they should not be fired. I know personally of one where a guy used a high base 2?" magnum load in an early 1898, and it blew up into shrapnel. Their weakness is two-fold.

First, as I already stated, it is not a strong action. Older versions, especially 1898s, can have the steel crystallized and give way. If you are going to shoot a Marlin hammered pump, get a later version, like a 21, 24, 26, or 42. The second factor is the rather intricate locking mechanism. If it is gummed up, or as I have found on several ... parts replaced but not hand fitted correctly, the locking

mechanism doesn't close all the way, or will fire without being locked. When this happens, it becomes an automatic ejector, and can send the bolt through your face. My understanding is the later models have a firing pin block that does not allow the firing pin to travel forward unless the locking block was lowered into the full locking position.

If it is functioning correctly, however, it is safe with low base birdshot loads. I have owned several Marlin hammered pumps, and fired them with low base loads with no problem. EVERY 1898 (24, 26, 42) Marlin should be checked by a competent gunsmith WHO IS FAMILIAR WITH THE 1898!

The model I tested for this article was a Model 21 Trap model with a 30" full choke barrel. The bluing was about 90% original, and the wood was great, except for an unusual lateral hole in the wrist of the stock, apparently for a re-enforcing screw. The action was smooth and positive, though the mainspring was weak, and the ejector was missing. I can't complain, as I only paid about \$200 for it, less than a third of what a comparable Winchester 1897 would cost! A quick call to Gun Parts Corporation, and a \$35 debit took care of the deficiencies.

The heft and feel was almost identical to the 1897 Winchester, as was the operation. It would be redundant to give a full description, since almost everyone in Cowboy Action Shooting™ has fired an 1897 Winchester at least several times, if not owned several. One difference on the Marlins is on the right-rear corner of the 1898 and Model 19: the bolt had a very sharp point and edge. I know from personal experience with the 1898 I used to own, this will slice the top of your thumb when cycling the action if you are not careful. The later incarnations of the Marlins (24, 26, etc.) had this corner rounded and the edge slightly beveled to prevent this.

The Marlin Pump was a dead on shooter, patterned very well, and even liked my paper hulled Triple 7

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blackpowder loads! Even the infamous "Murietta Pipes" fell before its tight pattern. The large ejection port (actually about 45% of the receiver) opens up and lends itself to single feeding as well or better than the 1897 Winchester.

All Marlin hammered pumps I have seen have been takedown models. They have an unusual "double squeeze catch" on the end of the magazine tube to initiate the take down. After squeezing, pull the magazine tube towards the muzzle, disengaging it from the

receiver. The barrel assembly, including magazine tube, is then unscrewed. The bolt must be forward to remove the barrel.

There are legions of loyal 1897 Winchester owners out there, and I am unlikely to sway them to trade them in for Marlins. There are, however, those who would like a Cowboy Action Shooting™ pump shotgun, and cannot afford a Winchester. There are also those, like me, that think it goes well with an 1889 or 1894 Marlin in .38WCF or .44WCF! Ⓜ

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**REVIEWS-
PRODUCTS**

TAYLOR'S 1865 SPENCER .56-50 CARBINE

Part I-History

By Tuolumne Lawman, SASS #6127

During recent years Spencers have become more popular with Cowboy Action Shooting™ shooters, and received more recognition. One reason for this increased recognition may be that Clint Eastwood's classic western movie, "Unforgiven," had a Spencer carbine as Morgan Freeman's co-star. I suspect the main reason is, however, the folks at Taylor's Firearms had the vision to develop and release their 1865 Spencer replicas. They have re-created Spencer carbines in .44 Russian and .45 Schofield. These are as approved main match rifles to cater to the Cowboy Action Shooters who care more about style and fun than fast times. Taylor's Spencer has also recently been released in a center-fire, re-loadable version of the 1865s original loading, .56-50. This is excellent news for N-SSA, CWSA,

and other Civil War re-enactors. Until now, they had to rely on finding a serviceable original to convert to center-fire, or an expensive custom made Romano Rifle Co. model. It is also great news for Cowboy Action Shooting™ shooters who want a great rifle for side matches. I have already evaluated the pistol caliber .44 and .45 pistol caliber models for a different publication, so now I will be concentrating on this Taylor's Firearms .56-50 version in this article.

I remember the first time I ever saw a Spencer carbine in 1970. I worked at a restaurant in Chicago, named "Aylwards Round-up," that had a Western motif. There were assorted Old West antiques and guns displayed throughout. Just inside the entrance was an original Civil War vintage Spencer, with the well





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known historical tintype of a trooper loading a Spencer with a 10 tube Blakeslee "Quick Loader." I was intrigued then, and have remained intrigued to this day. The next time I remember actually seeing a Spencer was at a gun show in the late 1980's. I turned down a trade on an 1865 Spencer in .56-50 with a center-fire breech block for an AR-15 I was selling! I wish I had the chance again! The Spencer is now my personal favorite firearm, antique or modern!

HISTORY

The Spencer was the most successful breech-loader and repeater of the Civil War. It was also the most prolific repeater in the West prior to about 1880. Not until sometime after 1880 did the 1873 Winchesters finally out-numbered the Spencer!

Along with the Sharps .50-70 conversion carbine, it was the primary issue for US Cavalry troops during the Indian Wars until about 1875, when the 1873 Trapdoor

(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)
Springfield was generally issued. Over 160,000 Spencer rifles and carbines were in circulation after the Civil War.

In the late 1850's, virtually all shoulder arms were single shot. Most were "front stuffers" that required loading each shot by pouring powder down the barrel, ramming a single bullet down with a ram rod, then priming the nipple with a percussion cap. Needless to say, this made repeat shots VERY slow! Some exceptions to the norm were the Sharps rifles and a few other breechloaders that loaded paper or rubber cartridges and were primed with a percussion cap. These were still single shot arms, and though faster than muzzle loaders, were not true repeaters.

It was an inventor, Christopher Spencer, who marketed the most successful repeater during the Civil war, the 1860 Spencer. Official Government and state militia orders exceeded 110,000. Government orders and private purchases by troopers and individual units during the Civil War (depending on which source you read) exceeded 160,000 Spencer rifles and carbines.

Spencer modified the idea of the Sharps falling block, and used a downward pivoting block assembly.

Pulling the trigger guard lever down opened the action and allowed a round to be fed from the stock's tubular magazine. The trigger guard was then lifted, closing the action. The hammer was then cocked manually. The Spencer had a seven round magazine in the butt stock.

According to Marcot in his book on Spencers, the original loading for the Spencer was in .44 rimfire. It was designed slightly different than the Henry rounds, but it is recorded that .44 Henry rounds would function in the Spencer "Light Carbine" as it was called. This "light carbine" was still listed in Spencer catalogues in 1865. Realizing this was too light to attract military orders, Spencer developed a more powerful round called the "No. .56 Spencer rifle and carbine round," though later it would be called the "56-56." The 56-56 designation did not mean it was a .56 caliber bullet, with 56 grains of powder the way the later .44-40 designation from Winchester did. It meant the case head had an outside diameter of .56 inch, as did the case mouth. It used a .54 caliber, 350 to 375 grain bullet over 42-45 grains of blackpowder in a copper, rim fire cartridge case. The 56-56 was much more powerful than the less common Henry repeating rifle's 215 grain, .442 diameter bullet over 25 to 28 grains of

powder. The Spencer would sink this big, heavy bullet 12 inches into soft pine at 15 feet. The Spencer had almost the same "stopping power" of the rifled muskets of the day. It was regarded as very much superior to the Henry in the "stopping power" department, as well as having a reputation for superior accuracy.

From late 1862 onward, the Spencer gained a reputation as an effective, reliable arm. After a personal demonstration to President Lincoln in August 1863, where Lincoln actually fired the Spencer himself in a Washington DC park, the Spencer was on its way to becoming an official issue arm. Because production was simpler than the Henry, and he was better financed with official government orders than Oliver Winchester, Spencer was able to deliver far more rifles than Winchester. Most were Cavalry carbines, though the first Spencers issued were full-length infantry and Navy rifles. At about a yard long, the carbine version offered compact, reliable firepower for Union cavalry units. They were much handier, compared to the longer Springfield, Enfield, and Zouve .58 caliber rifled muskets.

The Spencer acquitted itself extremely well in battle. In June of 1863, Col. John T. Wilder and his small troop of Union Cavalry, called the "Lightning Brigade," decimated a much larger force of Confederates with muzzle-loaders at the Battle of Hoover's Gap, Tennessee. At other battles such as Yellow Tavern, Five Forks, Winchester, Chickamauga, Franklin, and with Custer's troops at Brandy Station, the Spencers proved their superiority. Even in the first day of the Gettysburg campaign, some of Union General Buford's cavalry used their Spencer rifles to forestall the Confederate advance, and ultimately saved the day for the Union. While most of Buford's men were armed with an assortment of Sharps and other carbines, some did have Spencer rifles (not carbines as shown on the monument at the Gettysburg Battlefield Park). The firepower of the Spencers and the other breech-loading carbines was credited with delaying the advancing Confederates long enough for the North to consolidate its position on the high ground. This tactical position would contribute to the North's victory there.

In 1865, the ordnance department modified the original 56-56 Spencer round and developed a .50 caliber round using the same overall length. This round was called the .56-50. From 1865 on, the newly produced Burnside contract Spencers were in this new caliber. Many existing 56-56 guns were also re-barreled to the .56-50 and re-issued. The orig-

(Continued on page 79)

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REVIEWS-
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Capt. George Baylor,
SASS #24287

KIRKPATRICK LEATHER'S LADY TEQUILA RIG

By Captain George Baylor, SASS Life #24287

It's nice to see a leather maker discover something I realized at about age six ... women are shaped differently than men. (Hallelujah!)

Gunbelts and holsters are designed for men. If a woman puts on a regular Old West holster rig either:

a) Since women's waists are higher than men's, at the waist she can't get the gun out of the holster because the gun butt hits her underarm while the barrel is still in the holster, or:

b) If the belt goes down far enough to work, then it tends to fall off her hips. Having your gunbelt around your ankles when you run isn't considered good form.

About the only thing that worked was a Buscadero rig, because at least it would get the holsters down to a usable level. But the belt wasn't comfortable. A contour belt is needed, so it will sit on the top of the hips.

Enter Tequila and the Carolina Belles (*Tornado Alli, Fannie Kikinshoot, Pretty Mean Shawme, and Catawba Kate*). A couple of years ago Tequila asked The Belles what they needed. They asked for a rig for women. Tornado Alli and Fannie Kikinshoot designed the rig, and Fannie made him a canvas prototype, and Kirkpatrick came back with a really neat rig with many typical Kirkpatrick features.

Contour Belt

The belt is a Contour belt with the bottom being longer than the top, so it will sit on the hips and not dig into them. It buckles in the back. The tongue and buckle straps are replaceable, and three different lengths come with each unit, so one size fits all. The front of the belt holds the shotgun loops, eliminating the need for another belt. A separate shotgun belt makes the shotshells awfully high for women. They're at a comfortable height with this belt.

Drop Loop Holsters

The holsters fit over the belt, unlike a Buscadero rig where the holster fits through a slot cut in the bottom of the belt. But the loop is long enough for the holsters to drop two inches, making it better placed for short-waisted women.

Kydex and molding

The holsters have Kydex inside, holding the shape of the gun, and there's an exaggerated lip on top so the gun will slide inside rather than catch on the holster lip. All of the problems of keeping a holster's shape are gone. You don't have to put a tennis ball in the holster between matches any more. The holster won't flatten out, and fumbling is minimized. But then, Kirkpatrick holsters have been that way for some time. It's one of the reasons they're popular among Cowboy Action Shooting™ competitors. They're also cut low allowing you to grab the weak hand gun around the cylinder so when your hands meet in front of you, the strong hand goes right on the grip, minimizing the fumble factor. Those of us who have done a jug-

(Continued on next page)

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Tornado Alli and Fannie Kikinshoot designed this canvas prototype of the Lady Tequila rig, and Fannie cut and sewed it.

(Continued from previous page)
 gling act worthy of Las Vegas to keep from dropping a gun during that handoff know this is a good idea. In a double-strong side holster, having them low cut is a Really Good Idea for safety as well as speed.

Prediction:

Women will be getting these rigs in droves. It's not too late for Christmas, guys. And one size fits all, so you don't have to ask her waist size! ♫



Peggy King used the rig at Tequila's Shooting School, shot for an upcoming episode of Cowboys TV.



Pretty Mean Shawme, the first of the Belles to receive her rig, demonstrates it.



Close up of the left-hand holster showing the revolver well-secured with Tequila's adjustable hammer strap.




Pretty Mean Shawme demonstrates drawing the pistol from the rig is easy and comfortable.



One size fits all with three different interchangeable buckle and tongue pieces sent with each rig (sounds like a good idea for men's rigs, too).



The canvas "design study" that led to the Lady Tequila rig.



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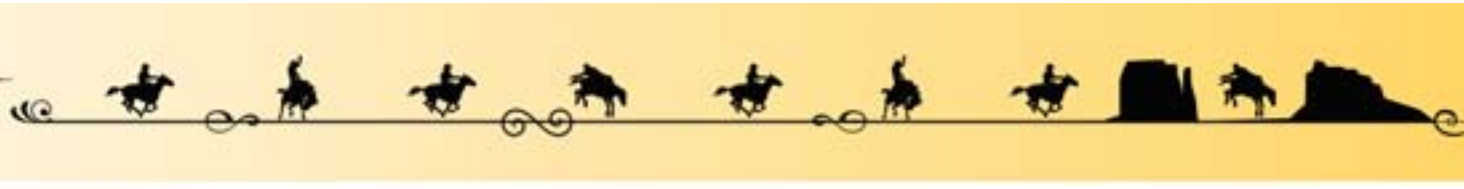
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Lonesome Dove,
SASS #12

Prague, Czech Republic Looking around at the well-outfitted competitors of The Association of Western Shooters' who put on the 2nd annual MISTROVSTVI EVROPY (European Championship) in the Czech Republic, we could have been in Arizona, New Mexico, Tennessee, or any American city. But as soon as they opened their mouths to speak, we knew, to quote Dorothy in the

"DAYS OF TRUTH" ARE DAYS OF FUN IN PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

General Grant Goes to Prague

By Lonesome Dove, SASS #12



Top ten shooters (l-r) — winner Ray Heartless - Sweden, Picadoll Jim - Sweden, Wildbull Bull - Sweden, Gatling - Czech Republic, James Hawkins - Norway, Thunderman - Czech Republic, Ace Curly - Germany, Mr. Derringer - Sweden, Hammer Ben - Sweden, Chico - Czech Republic. Congratulations!



General US Grant, SASS #2, and Picadoll Jim, SASS #51933, from Sweden at Days of Truth near Prague, Czech Republic.

The General had a great time and was impressed with the outstanding job match officials did in organizing and hosting the match.

Wizard of Oz, "we weren't in Kansas anymore, Toto." On September 8-12, one hundred and twenty Shooters from Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Poland, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Austria, and Germany came together on a grassy field in Teplice, fifty kilometers from Prague. When they all spoke in their native tongue, the Tower of Babel came to mind. The setting was out of a storybook, gorgeous purple mountains surrounding pastoral green hills and lush foliage.

We had a luxurious flight from L.A. to Boston and Boston to Zurich, First Class due to upgrades from saved mileage. After that, it was a bad dream with three more connections, long waits in airports and our luggage lost, not to appear until three days later. So, no clothes, no toiletries, and more importantly, no

tor who would call a pharmacy to sell us a few of the vital meds.

The Czech president and organ-
(Continued on next page)

Winners

Traditional	Ray Heartless, SASS #62762 (Sweden)
49er	Crocker (Czech Rep)
Duelist	Hammer Ben, SASS #59725 (Sweden)
C Cowboy	Petr Masopus (Czech Rep)
Frontiersman	Keith Black (Sweden)
F Cartridge	Slim Swede, SASS #47034 (Sweden)
F C Duelist	Kovarik (Czech Rep)
Gunfighter	James Hawkins, SASS #60659 (Norway)
Junior	Mihola (Czech Rep)
Senior	Swedish Hipshot (Sweden)
L Traditional	Thundermaid, SASS #29820 (Czech Rep)

medications for the General who had packed them in his suitcase.

This hurdle was surmounted by the kindness of our guardian angel, Miroslav Komarek, also known as "Mosquito" who waited 1 1/2 hours for us at the airport and then squired us around and found a doc-

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(Continued from previous page)
 izer of the AWS European Championship was Thunderman, SASS #29821, aided by his wife Thundermaid, SASS #29820, and a hard-working committee of ten, including our friend, Miroslav. The stages were inventive and challenging and there



Thunderman and Thundermaid in their finest are ready for the evening celebration!



Picadoll Jim, SASS #51933, from Sweden.

were some exceptional shooters. Many assured us they would be coming to END of TRAIL '06, so "watch out USA shooters!" Categories were Traditional, Classic Cowboy, Duelist, Frontier Cartridge, Frontier Cartridge Duelist, Frontiersman, Junior, Senior, and Women's Traditional. It was obvious to see a lot of work had gone into the props and stages. They were outstanding.

In his speech at the opening ceremony Thursday night Thunderman talked about how the game of Cowboy Action Shooting™ brings together people of the world community with a common interest. Some of his comments were directed to participants from other countries that shoot by a different set of rules, suggesting the sport would be stronger if all countries worldwide used SASS rules, which emphasize safety and sportsmanship. Certainly all SASS rules were observed at this championship event. He cited the example of the National Hockey League that plays worldwide with the same rules. About 50% of the



AWS shooters were SASS members and, of course, we encouraged others to join. His speech and all instructions for the shooting stages were delivered in Czech and then in English as the common language. Some spoke neither and had further translation.

Sunday night was the gala, and out came the beautiful gowns and frockcoats. Two bands played Western music sung in Czech and English and dancing occurred on the grass floor. Excitement mounted

when the time came for Thunderman to announce the winners. The top three overall in Traditional were all Swedish and all SASS members.

We had a great time at the gala – dined on barbecued meats and the beer flowed like wine! We were treated with such warm hospitality, that although we were far from home, we felt at home. The people went all out to help us. A Czech, Jan Sipal, who speaks perfect English, picked us up each morning, took us

back to our hotel in Teplice each night, going completely out of his way, and finally drove us back to Prague on Sunday night.

Out on the range, language was sometimes a problem, but the warm feelings and friendliness came through. The language barrier did not dampen the camaraderie between these people of different nationalities. There were friendly pats on the back, toasts in every language, and lots of rollicking laughter, which always translates perfectly. ♪



~ SMOKE IN THE VALLEY ~

Final Founders Ranch Match of the Year

By Tex, SASS #4

Founders Ranch, NM This was the year of the sunflowers! Frankly, my first thoughts were ... the place has grown up in weeds! Every piece of dirt that had been turned over and not covered with gravel was now fertile ground for a sunflower flowerbed ... and those babies can grow tall! They were generally head-tall with a



Dogbiter installed the Ranch's Patron Saint in the Mission's niche just before Smoke in the Valley. It's a nice touch and appreciated by all.

stem the size of one's wrist. We all had to admit they were beautiful ... but once they are past bloom, they're going to be a big job to clean up!

This was the third and last "big" match at the ranch this year ... and was the smallest. What should have been the culmination of blackpowder shooting across the country wasn't. Look for changes next year ...

As for the match itself, it was great. The weather was fine, many old friends were in attendance, and the chances to renew old acquaintances and meet new



More Or Les invited his family to come out and watch Smoke in the Valley. Everyone adopted aliases for the event, including More Than Enough, A Teeny Tiny Bit, A Little Les, and Almost Enough.



Sunflowers were everywhere for this year's Smoke in the Valley! Where ever the soil had been turned over and not recovered with gravel became fertile ground for these indigenous flowers.

folks were abundant. There were many familiar faces from California, Nevada, Arizona, and, of course, New Mexico ready for Soot-Lord combat, as well as folks from Idaho, back east, and as far away as Alaska.

All of the Wild Bunch except Hip-

about the recoil rather than the targets, he turned one wild shot loose that hit the top of the "buzzard" stand ... the only thing that kept the bullet in the shooting bay ... an instant match disqualification at Founders Ranch!

(Continued on next page)



T. A. and Mist Chance presented the Ranch with a dinner ringer made from an old windmill well rod. It gives off a delightful "bong!" when struck and will give ample warning when the cocinero is ready to serve chow.

shot was in attendance, as well as past Wild Bunch member, Rebel, wife Lady Rebel, and brother Oracle. Not only did the Judge decide to shoot the match, he came within a hare's breath of shooting it clean! Chiz also opted to compete.

Chiz acquired .45 Schofield ammo from Rawhide Red (he didn't want to fight the recoil from manly .45 Long Colt ammo) ... long before the match was over he was whimpering his wrists were hurting because of the heavy loads ... and he didn't finish the match! It's probably just as well. Worrying



Top Gun Shoot-off winners - Mal Ojo and Sheriff Bill Murphy - Congratulations and good shooting!



1st Place Lady's Gambler costume at Smoke in the Valley, Lazy K, SASS #64267.

Winners

<i>FC Duelist</i>	Dandy Don, SASS #25932
<i>FC Gunfighter</i>	Jess Ducky, SASS #4275
<i>FC Ladies</i>	Penny Wrangler, SASS #50750
<i>FC Modern</i>	More or Les, SASS #5529
<i>FC Senior</i>	J. B. Fast, SASS #15395
<i>FC Traditional</i>	Spur Roberts, SASS #14625
<i>Frontiersman</i>	Harry Luck, SASS #35031
<i>Plainsman</i>	Walter Twink Haigh, SASS #6733
<i>F Senior</i>	Olde Roughcut, SASS #21208
<i>F Traditional</i>	Edward R. S. Canby, SASS #59971
<i>Smokeless Duelist/ Gunfighter</i>	Fast Hammer, SASS #60707
<i>Smokeless Ladies Duelist</i>	Mist Chance, SASS #15391
<i>Smokeless Ladies Modern/ B-Western</i>	Lady Rebel, SASS #550
<i>Smokeless Ladies Traditional</i>	Annabelle Peacock, SASS #50114
<i>Smokeless Modern/ B-Western</i>	Pecos Clyde, SASS #48481
<i>Smokeless Senior/ E Statesman</i>	Wheelin Dealin Don, SASS #60913
<i>Smokeless Traditional/ 49er/Junior</i>	Rio Grande Glenn, SASS #63915



TOMBSTONE VILLAGE SASS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH

By Arizona Tom, SASS Life #30872

Edderitz, Germany The cowboys and cowgirls of SASS affiliated club, Cowboy Action Shooting–Germany, hosted a fine array of shooters from many parts of “Old Germany” for the Annual SASS Club Championships 2005 in the tiny western Town of “Tombstone Village” in Edderitz, Germany on October 8th – 9th 2005 to complete this year’s season and also to look back on an eventful year. “Cowboy Action Shooting–Germany” was founded here in the spring of this year, and already has doubled its members to this day in October, Club representative Kid O. Folliard, SASS #55314, was happy to report.

These two days of fun and competition, along with the year’s annual meeting and elections were accompanied by warm sunny weather and many other distractions and events such as fun shooting and plentiful and delicious eating, live music, and entertainment.

Cowboys and cowgirls stood together to accomplish shooting over the three stages of the club’s Annual Match, which ended with Strong Joe, SASS #49975 (Duelist), Shotgun George, SASS #55784 (Frontier Cartridge Duelist), Mercantile Fritz, SASS #63694 (Traditional), Wheel Gunner, SASS #49252 (Traditional 49’er), and Big Fritz, SASS Life #1642 Life (Traditional Senior) taking first places.

Shooters had to not only to cope with a wide array of demanding targets, but also had to comply to a rather tight time schedule, as this weekend not only saw the annual championships, but also was marked for elections and other club administrative business, such as the planning of the club’s trip to END of TRAIL 2006 with all the ramifications posed by air-travel with accommodations and guns from Old Europe to the New World.

Club representatives, Kid O. Folliard and Marshal Heck, SASS #52588, saw to it all participants were adequately informed about these important matters with TG Arizona Tom filling in the details pertaining to travel documents and other legal requirements for the planned visit to the US.

“Cowboy Action Shooting – Germany” plans to also send a full



fledged delegation to END of TRAIL to represent the growing numbers of shooters outside the US that are avid fans of the great sport of Cowboy Action Shooting™.

Germany and its Cowboys have become a significant force in introducing Cowboy Action Shooting™ to other countries in Europe. After Denmark adopted the German version of SASS Rules to become a “Cowboy Nation” in 2004, Hungary has now followed suit. Cowboy Action Shooting™ Championships will be held in Gyal, Hungary (which is not far east of Budapest) October 14-16, 2005 for the first time after the Hungarian Cowboy Action Shooting™ Shooters had their “coming

out” during “Philippsburg Star” in August of 2005.

TG Arizona Tom will be on hand in Hungary to welcome the Hungarian cowboys and present a gift from the German parent organization, BDS, “Bund Deutscher Sportschützen 1975” e.V, at that occasion. Arizona Tom will then also be traveling to Croatia, to attend the initiation of Cowboy Action Shooting™ in that country as well!

In addition, club representatives of “Cowboy Action Shooting–Germany” are proud to announce the club will be hosting the European SASS Championships “Days of Truth” in August 2006. This event is held together with the annual

German Championships, Philippsburg Star, at Philippsburg, Germany August 17th-20th 2006. This will be the biggest such Cowboy Action Shooting™ event on European soil (outside of the US for that matter!), as we expect to welcome some 350+ competitors for this event!

Happenings were finished late in the night (...or early in the morning!) with a hearty feast and lots of delicious drinks, accompanied by live music to round off a wonderful weekend of Cowboy Action Shooting™ and good times. Anett and Walter Hensel did their very best, as always, to make everything just perfect for all attending - and succeeded once again in a most brilliant manner! 🤠

~ 2005 SASS CANADIAN REGIONAL ~

(Continued from page 1)

proached and discovered it was the Highland Whisker, SASS #60778, whose ancestors came from Scotland. Could it be a long lost relative of the Judge? Who knows?

Everyone left the SASS Regional a winner. Cariboo Lefty is contemplating the Regional for 2006 – stay tuned.

Winners

49er	Turkey Will, SASS #43557
Modern	Nickname, SASS #15662
Traditional	Rusty Wood, SASS #50427
Senior	Bandido, SASS #5158
Gunfighter	Tex, SASS #4
Duelist	Wildcat O'Shea, SASS #47844
C Cowboy	Dutchy, SASS #20427
L Modern	The Widow Usher, SASS #9853
L Duelist	Goldie Stone, SASS #18860
L Traditional	Mustang Heart, SASS #24909
L 49er	Dallas Dancer, SASS #42365
F Cartridge	Big Nose Bob, SASS #18020
E Statesman	Hawker McLean, SASS #40473
S Duelist	Rusty Hinges, SASS #22385
Junior	Hustler Kid, SASS #67492
L Senior	True North, SASS #53975



Match Director Cariboo lefty (l) took the stage with Buckshot Bill, SASS #4262, and Manitoba, SASS #8516, who slaved away to ensure stages and everything was in place and running smoothly. With a dedicated group of volunteers, all was accomplished.



The Judge? Was that the Judge smoking that big stogie?



Not only did Grey Fox and Miss Mary Spenser travel well, they dressed well as well! The couple took Best Dressed honors in the Costume Contest.



The Incarcerating the Miscreant stage required the dummy to be returned to the front of the jail (a lurid tale in itself). On Posse 5, Mustang O'Shea from Burlington, Ontario was appointed "dummy wrangler" (he enjoyed the notoriety).





FLORIDA SUNSHINE STATE GAMES 2005

By Sidewinder Dave, SASS #47828

Orlando, Florida The month of May in Florida brings hot, sticky, and balmy weather. It all started with the sun rising over the tall pines and heating up the stages. This day in May is MOTHERS DAY. This is also the Florida Olympics, and the cowboys and cowgirls were all shooting for the gold, silver, and bronze.

A clear nice blue sky with a couple of puffy clouds here and there greeted us on Mothers Day morning with the opening ceremonies recognizing the mothers on their day. Sixty-five shooters and six posses shot ten stages, and the targets were big and close.

Shooting began at 9 am and finished with the awards at 3 pm. Everyone strapped on their leather, grabbed their guns, and the fun began. The stages were fast, but the shooters were not. On one stage, it took a while to get some of those cowpokes out of the outhouse because of the shade it provided, and they got to "set a spell." Also many shooters called time out for a water break, so the watering hole was busy all day. A little later in

the day a slight breeze began to pick up and helped cool things down a little bit.

The Ladies looked mighty spiffy with all that frilly stuff out on the range. They even helped with the chores during the day. The moms

were great - what more can you say! This was one fun day to enjoy some Cowboy Action Shooting™.

Everyone had a great time, and five shot the match clean. Every participant received a t-shirt from the great State of Florida. Shoot

straight and hear that clang every time, and one day you, too, will be in the Stealth Bullet Shooting Society.

I'm plum tuckered out, so hope to see y'all next time on the trail to Weewahootee Vigilance Committee shoots.



Winners of the Gold Metal	
49ers	Dingo Dave, SASS #38987
C Cowboy	Bad Hombre, SASS #28212
Duelist	Snake Bit Bob, SASS #27707
E Statesman	Keystone Bill, SASS #8363
F Cartridge	Turkey Creek Red, SASS #22854
F C Duelist	Shootin' Swede, SASS #39460
Frontiersmen	Buffalo Brady, SASS #24830
Gunfighter	Jesse Toothpick, SASS #41358
L 49ers	Wildcat Elly, SASS #15838
L Duelist	Night Train Kate, SASS #22855
L Modern	Tie M Tight, SASS #47302
L Senior	Chancy Lady, SASS #25650
L Traditional	Sixgun Sallie, SASS #34990
Modern	Tennessee Tonto, SASS #20891
Seniors	Weewahootee, SASS #13169
S Duelist	Deadly Sharpshooter, SASS #35828
Traditional	Lead Pusher, SASS #46931

WELCOME YA ALL

IS IT OVER YET?

THINK I WILL SET THIS ONE OUT

WERE'S MY GUN

THE HOUND CHASING THE FOX

TAYLOR'S 1865 SPENCER .56-50 CARBINE . . .

(Continued from page 69)

inal 56-56 had used a healed bullet (much like a modern .22 LR) with the base of the bullet crimped in the case mouth, and the body of the bullet being the same diameter of the cartridge case. The lube was on the outside of the bullet, in exposed grooves. This allowed debris to stick to the bullet, and the lube would rub off. The new .56-50 round had the case lengthened to cover the sides and grease grooves of the .50 caliber, 350 grain bullet. The crimp was a taper crimp over the ogive of the bullet. The 1865 model also had a magazine cut off designed by an engineer named Stabler added to it. This allowed the gun to be used as a single shot, with the seven rounds in the magazine tube to be held in reserve.

Spencer did not like the new .56-50 round, and introduced his .56-52 round, a variation retaining the healed bullet and the shorter case of the 56-56, but used a 400 grain, .50 caliber bullet. Both the .56-50 and .56-52 were totally interchangeable, however. Shot shells and blanks were even produced that could be used in any .56-50 or 56-56 Spencer rifle. They look like an old 5 in 1 movie blank on steroids! Performance, guessing based on the shot round I have, would be something like a .410 shotgun shell.

After the Civil War, the Spencer continued its popularity in the wild and wooly West. The Frontier Army appreciated the Spencer's awesome firepower, and it was not long until the Spencer also gained a reputation as a fearsome weapon with Native American warriors. The braves, accustomed to the military having single shot muzzle-loaders, were stunned by their encounters with the "long knives" armed with the firepower of the Spencer rifles. Encounters between Spencer armed troopers and Native American warriors are too numerous to count.

Until about 1875, the Spencer was the most common carbine issued to Cavalry units on the frontier. Custer's Seventh Cavalry was armed with Spencers at the infamous massacre of over 100 of Black Kettle's Cheyenne at the Washita in 1869. Custer liked the Spencer so much he personally owned a custom Spencer sporting rifle. Another encounter where the Spencer earned this reputation was the "Hayfield Fight" on August 1, 1867. In the Hayfield fracas, nine troopers and nine civilians were cutting hay when they were beset upon by a large war party. The group held up in a makeshift corral, and held the war party at bay with their Spencer and Henry repeaters. Many of the war party died, but only three troopers and one civilian were killed.

Yet another notable example of

the Spencer's firepower was an incident on September 17 to 22, 1868, the "Battle for Beecher's Island," where a band of civilian scouts under the command of Major George Forsyth and Lt. Frederick Beecher was beset upon by another war party. The party held up on a sandbar in the middle of the Arikaree fork of the Republican River in Colorado. Once again, the Spencers rained lead on the attacking force with their vastly superior numbers. The troopers successfully held them off for five days. White casualties were 25 wounded and 5 killed, while the Indians suffered 75 dead, and an unknown number of wounded.

Spencers were very popular with the Indians when they could lay hands on them. Geronimo owned a fancy Spencer sporting rifle. At the recent excavations and forensic work done at the Little Big Horn Battlefield, it was learned Spencer rifles in assorted calibers were some of the most common firearms carried by the Native Americans. Their onslaught wiped out Custer, whose troops were no longer armed with Spencers. The 7th Cavalry were armed with the newly issued single-shot .45-70 (actually .45-55) Springfield carbines. These were much slower to load than the Spencer and Winchester repeaters carried by many of the attacking warriors.

Civilians in the West also appreciated the Spencer repeater. Initially the former soldiers journeying west for their fortunes often were armed with Spencer carbines. These were either acquired in the service or obtained when tens of thousands were surplus out at the end of the war by dealers like Bannerman's and Carlos Cove in Denver. In the mid to late 1860s, and well into the 1870s, the Spencer was the arm of choice for many Westerners. In 1866, frontiersman William Orway writes of impressing Plainsmen at Carlos Gove's Denver gunshop by shooting out seven pine knots in a corral fence off-handed at over 30 yards. In 1867, western pioneer William Breckenridge (of Breckenridge, Colorado fame) accounts of single handedly engaging six Indians in eastern Colorado as they tried to steal his horses. Wells Fargo and railroads issued Spencers to their guards. In 1867, William Bell writes of a fortified stage stop by Fort Wallace Kansas that was equipped with loaded Spencers in all positions.

After the Civil War, Spencer also introduced a sporting rifle based on the 1865 carbine and rifle. They could be bought in any of the existing calibers, and also in a new .56-46 bottle-necked sporting cartridge. It had a .45 caliber, 330 grain bullet over 45 grains of blackpowder. This potent

(Continued on page 86)

Smoky Mountain Shoot-Out at Pigeon Forge

LIMITED TO THE FIRST 200 SHOOTERS

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Shooter's Registration Form 2006

Please use one registration form per shooter. (Copy form for additional entries.)
Send Spouse and Junior Entry with Main Entry. Entry deadline: February 15, 2006

Name _____
Alias _____ SASS No. (Required) _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ E-mail address _____
Posse me up with _____ (if possible) SASS Affiliated Club _____ (List only one)

- Main Match Categories :** Friday and Saturday, February 24th - 25th
- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Men's Traditional | <input type="checkbox"/> Ladies' Duelist | <input type="checkbox"/> Junior Boys 12-16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Ladies' Classic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ladies' Traditional | <input type="checkbox"/> Men's Senior 60 + | <input type="checkbox"/> Junior Girls 12-16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Men's Frontier Cart. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Men's Modern | <input type="checkbox"/> Ladies' Senior 60 + | <input type="checkbox"/> Men's 49er 49 + | <input type="checkbox"/> Ladies' Frontier Cart. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ladies' Modern | <input type="checkbox"/> Men's Sr Duelist 60 + | <input type="checkbox"/> Ladies' 49er 49 + | <input type="checkbox"/> Frontier Cart. Duelist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Men's Duelist | <input type="checkbox"/> Ladies' Sr Duelist 60 + | <input type="checkbox"/> Men's Classic | <input type="checkbox"/> Frontiersman |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Elder Statesman 70 + |

- Side Matches :** Thursday, February 23rd
- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Long Range Rifle (Buffalo) | <input type="checkbox"/> Long Range Rifle (Lever Action) | <input type="checkbox"/> Men's Gunfighter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Long Range Lever Action Rifle (Pistol Caliber) | <input type="checkbox"/> Fastest Rifle | <input type="checkbox"/> Ladies' Gunfighter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fastest Shotgun (Pump, Double, Hammer Double) | <input type="checkbox"/> Fastest Revolver (Trad., Duelist, Gunfighter) | |
- We will honor requests for another shooting category if we get a minimum of 5 shooters

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"A Way In The West" (Fri. Night) 18
Awards Dinner (per ticket) (Sat. Night) 35
Total Fee Enclosed \$ _____

There will be a \$15 refund fee for any cancellations made before January 15, 2006.
Sorry . . . NO refunds will be allowed after January 15, 2006



SMOKY MOUNTAIN SHOOTOUT - 2005

By Silver Dust, SASS #26518

Pigeon Forge, TN They say "The third time is a charm,"—and it certainly was for the Third Annual Shoot-Out at Pigeon Forge. Held on February 24-26, 2005 it boasted the best weather yet with prevailing temperatures in the 50s and 60s. Some folks that have shot with us before were actually disappointed we didn't have snow on the first day!

The theme was Old West Lawmen, Myths and Legends. All ten stages included scenarios about Wyatt Earp and the like. With brand new targets and great placement, the fast and fun scenarios ensured a great time was had by all.

The Saturday night Awards Dinner included terrific performances by Brenn Hill, Jim Bowman, and Joni Harms, courtesy of the city of Pigeon Forge. Also, two young ladies, Nicole (16) and Gabrielle (13) Ambrose sang an incredible duet of our National Anthem, which had

many of the rough and tough cowboys (and ladies) trying hard to contain their emotions. The two girls followed up with some rousing western songs that had the crowd stomping their feet and clapping along.

The dining room was decorated in a western theme complete with bales of straw, old saddles, leather chaps, and life size cut-outs of favorite western movie characters such as Clint Eastwood, Roy Rogers and Dale Evens, and Matt Dillon. The tables were each decorated as Old West poker tables. Poker chips and dice were scattered about, and the centerpiece of each table was an old-fashioned oil lantern. Each table's place settings had been dealt a "poker hand" from one deck of cards, and the cowboy or cowgirl with the "high" poker hand of the table got to go home with the centerpiece! It was an entertaining way for folks to interact with each other at

the table while enjoying a wonderful meal of prime rib, chicken, vegetable medley, and some great deserts. (By the way, our cash bar was very popular—quite a feat considering the county is dry!)

The awards ceremony went on without a hitch, and shooters received their due recognition. In fact, we had two junior category shooters, Highfalutin Hunter and Spencer Carbine. Spencer Carbine was actually a young Buckaroo from Michigan who did very well. We are very glad to see young shooters participating in our sport.

Vendors sold their wide-ranging quality goods during the three days of the event. Their wares included jewelry, guns, shooting rigs, bullets, and period clothing and hats, just to name a few. We look forward to their contribution every year; after all, top-notch shopping is an important feature at every Cowboy event.

Coming up soon, in February of 2006, is the Fourth Annual Shoot-Out at Pigeon Forge, once again hosted by the Smoky Mountain Shootist Society of Knoxville. Late February is considered a laid back time of year here in the Smoky Mountains of East Tennessee—except when the Cowboys come to town.

The event is held in the city of Pigeon Forge in conjunction with their Wild West weekend "Saddle-Up Celebration." This is their sixth year, and they go all out with lots of fun and different Wild West activities and events.

The Music Road Hotel, Inn, and Convention Center will again be our host hotel, providing wonderful accommodations along with being the "Shoot-Out at Pigeon Forge" and the "Saddle-Up Celebration" headquarters. Many additional hotels and campgrounds are available nearby.

Again this year we will have the "Cowboy Shopping Mall" with over twenty vendors offering many "must have" Old West goodies. There will be four mercantile vendors, Coon Dawg's Emporium, Jackson Western Wear, Hamilton Dry Goods, and GunPowder Trading Post along with 16 other specialty vendors whose wares range from gun carts to western art. The Convention Center and vendors will be open to the general public early in the morning until

9:00 p.m. each evening, at which time the doors will close to the public and only participants of the "Shoot-Out at Pigeon Forge" are allowed in to shop, enjoy the cash bars, and participate in the door prize drawings.

The shooting events are held just outside of town at the "Walden Creek Riding Stables." These facilities are nestled in a valley on 500 acres that butt up against the Smoky Mountain National Park. Trail rides are available, and the Cowboy Mounted University will be offered again this year for those who want to give it a try.

We will shoot ten fast, fun, and exciting stages again this year, five on Friday, and five on Saturday with side matches being held on Thursday. We have permanent shooting structures with storefront's and a two-story hotel to add to the ambiance of the entire event. Look-

(Continued on next page)

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Ladies	Jessee Earp, SASS #25970
Clean Shoots	Hired Gun, SASS #18714
L 49er	Royal Payne, SASS #19719
L Classic	The Lady, SASS #15467
L Duelist	Killin Time, SASS #42234
L Modern	Kill-Em-All-Kate
L Senior	Green Eyed Indian, SASS #51116
L Traditional	Miss Ruby, SASS #47939
Junior Male	Highfalutin Hunter, SASS #62138
49er	Lucky Lee Roy, SASS #31712
C Cowboy	Cherokee Maddog, SASS #48430
Duelist	Rusty Spur Slim, SASS #35133
E Statesmen	Owlhoot Hardin, SASS #17546
F C Duelist	Cherokee Big Dawg, SASS #17531
F Cartridge	Big Bear Lewis, SASS #37601
Gunfighter	Pleasant, SASS #25245
Modern	Buck Sage, SASS #44965
Senior	Red Cent, SASS #29170
S Duelist	Macon Maverick, SASS #44523
Traditional	Hoss Lytle

A complete listing of category winners is posted on our web page: smssgazette.com

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(Continued from previous page)
 ing down the main street takes you back to an old western town such as seen in *Open Range*.

Last year we had shooters from nineteen states and from as far away as California, Florida, and Wisconsin. Many were repeat participants who came to enjoy one of the first and most unique shooting events of the New Year.

The city of Pigeon Forge and its very close neighbor, Gatlinburg, offer a wide variety of other activities for those family members who don't participate in shooting events. There are many forms of entertainment for you

to enjoy in the area, whether it is shopping at one of the numerous outlet malls in the area, or visiting one of the attractions such as Dollywood or Dixie Stampede, and many more too numerous to mention.


Our other activities include special offerings for different events taking place our visitors may chose to attend. On Saturday night we will again have our Awards Dinner where great entertainment and a hootin' good time are in the making. At the dinner we will recognize and award shooters with scores, certificates, and plaques.

Specific information on the de-

tails will be posted on our web site and in *The Cowboy Chronicle* in upcoming months. The shoot dates are, February 23rd, 24th, and 25th (the last weekend in February, 2006).

Due to the current gas crisis, and with some help from the City of Pigeon Forge, we are pleased to announce WE HAVE LOWERED OUR

ENTRY FEES TO \$75 per shooter and \$50 for a spouse. We hope this will help shooters interested in participating in the Shoot-Out at Pigeon Forge with various travel costs.

Come join us for an outstanding shoot with a wonderful group of cowboys and cowgirls. You won't be disappointed! 

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2005 WEST VIRGINIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP Appalachian Showdown XIV

By Jackson County Killer, SASS #60948

Berkeley Springs, WV Dad and I wanted to go to a bigger shoot than our local shoots, so we loaded our gear, mounted up, and headed across the mountains.

I found out during the Friday night barbeque there was another cap and ball shooter, Yakima Stubbs. I was relieved to have some competition. If I would have been the only one in the category, I had planned to switch to gunfighter. I knew I wouldn't stand a chance of winning, but I enjoy shooting gunfighter with cap and ball. If I was only going to be competing against myself, I might as well do it the way I find most challenging

SATURDAY

Seventy shooters headed out with their assigned posses. Because I shoot blackpowder, I prefer to shoot



Frontiersman Champ, Jackson County Killer, kept his '51 Navies working flawlessly through the entire match. The Frontiersman Category was so closely fought, a single bobble would have cost him the match!



Mink Shoals Bandit loads over the top and makes his '97 sing!

After a couple of stages, we headed to the mine. I was really looking forward to this stage. The thought of
(Continued on next page)

first. This gives me time to charge my pistols, load my capper, and clear any malfunctions before the start of the next stage. Jackson was our posse leader and asked for volunteers to shoot first. No one jumped at the opportunity, so I gladly volunteered.

The stages were all well written and most had a thinking aspect instead of just a "spray and pray" scenario where you empty all your guns in the same fashion from the same location. I don't recall each scenario, but I remember some were double tap, progressive sweeps, badger sweeps, and Nevada sweeps. Some were right to left and some left to right. We had one "West Virginia Sweep," which I will explain later.

Winners

<i>Overall</i>	Walker Colt, SASS #3035
<i>Traditional</i>	Hunt'Um Down, SASS #18312
<i>Modern 49er</i>	Punch, SASS #4368 Wingem Wib, SASS #14462
<i>C Cowboy</i>	Bull Shoals, SASS #25400
<i>Duelist Fr Cartridge</i>	Big Fred, SASS #28338 Bad Company, SASS #20195
<i>FC Duelist</i>	Doc Argyle, SASS #12847
<i>Frontiersman</i>	Jackson County Killer, SASS #60948
<i>Gunfighter Senior Sr Duelist</i>	Walker Colt Will Kilya, SASS #9568 Flatboat Bob, SASS #32310
<i>E Statesman</i>	Sgt. Frank Finkel, SASS #7356
<i>L Traditional</i>	Eula Goodnight, SASS #18313
<i>L Senior</i>	Cactus Kay, SASS #15157
<i>L 49'er</i>	Queen of Hearts, SASS #9938
<i>L Modern</i>	Lena Okley, SASS #6987
<i>L Gunfighter</i>	Sagebrush Sal, SASS #7357
<i>L Duelist</i>	Kanyon Kitty, SASS #32243
<i>Young Gun</i>	Sharpsburg Kid, SASS #58544
<i>Buckaroo</i>	Grandpa's Sidekick, SASS #60981

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(Continued from previous page)

dumping full loads of blackpowder in a dark, confined space was puzzling and had me laughing. The mineshaft was roughly 100 feet long with a wooden walkway and an ore cart as the firing line. It was a framed wooden structure covered with black plastic. Inside it was dark even though there was a small lantern that gave just enough light to see the targets. Three rifle targets stood outside the mine, and your shotgun was staged on the ore cart. You emptied your rifle at the three outside targets, ran into the mine, and did a Nevada sweep on three targets on the right with one pistol, then do a "West Virginia sweep" (dump five pistol shots at one target) with the other pistol, and then engage four knock down targets with the shotgun. Captain Hook told me someone in his posse called that a "West Virginia Sweep," so from now on that is what we are going to call it.

The posse leader asked if the blackpowder shooters would mind going last so others could shoot in a relatively smoke-free environment. There was another gentleman shooting Frontier Cartridge, so I volunteered to go last since I was using full power Goex loads in my shotgun.

I staged my guns in the smoky mine shaft and studied the targets. The pistol targets were white, and I could see them with no problems. The shotgun targets were red, but most of the paint had been shot off to make them a flat gray and nearly invisible in the darkness. I took my time letting the smoke clear and studying the shotgun target location in reference to the pistol targets and to each other. I was going through the motions and thinking, "Okay, first shotgun just above the diamond, second to the right, fourth to the left of that pistol target, and the third was slightly above and between two and four." I knew I wouldn't be able to see them once the charcoal started burning. Once I felt it was clear enough to shoot, I was ready.

I said the line, "It comes to mind

if you don't mind that this mine is mine" and waited for the buzzer. At the sound of the buzzer I levered my rifle and shot the rifle targets. I staged the rifle and ran into the mine. I pulled the first pistol and swept the targets to the right, and then pulled the second pistol and emptied it. As I grabbed my shotgun, I could make out two of the shotgun targets closest to me. I aimed in the general direction for the other two I could not see, reloaded and shot where I had seen the two closer targets. I heard a spotter say, "I don't know if he hit them." Another said, "I think he got them all," and the third said, "He got them all, I heard them fall." I emerged from the mine entrance in a cloud of smoke to a grinning crowd. My wife said you could see flashes of orange through the plastic and puffs of smoke rolling out of the mine. I would have loved to see it from the outside. We shot the remainder of the stages and called it a day.

My goal was to shoot a clean match. I was very deliberate, which hurt my raw times, but I was not missing. At the 5th of the six stages for the day, I touched off the rifle before I was on the target. My shot went about three inches over the top. So there went my clean match!

THE BANQUET

After dinner, door prizes were given away with the help of Grandpa's sidekick drawing names out of a hat. Texas Tom kept us entertained as he called out the names for the many prizes. Afterward, the music started and some of the cow folk started dancing. The food was good, and the company was better.

SUNDAY

The stage I most remember from Sunday is one where the shooter has to save his brother from the hangman's noose. He arrives too late, and his brother has already been strung up. You have to shoot the rope (actually a ribbon) until it breaks, and then finish shooting the stage. It took me six shots to cut the rope. I

was worried if I was going to have enough shotshells to finish the stage. Most of the other shooters took four or more shots to break the rope.

After the 10 stages of the Appalachian Showdown were complete, they called out the qualifiers for fast gun. The fast gun competition is head's up racing. Both shooters line up on the line and have an identical set of targets to shoot. The left shooter shot left to right and the right shooter shot right to left. The final targets were beside each other near the center of the lane. The first person to knock down the last target advances in the tournament (assuming they knocked down all the preceding targets).

I heard my name called in the fast shotgun along with Hunt'um Down from our posse. The shotgun targets were five knockdowns. The rifle and pistol targets were the Texas star and one knock down.

They called me for the shotgun, and I lined up against Punch. I knew I had to get lucky because I had seen him shoot. The buzzer sounded, and I heard him "shuckin and shootin." I fired the first two and was reloading. His shots paused for a second, so I knew he had a bobble. I fired the second two, and as I was loading the last two, I heard him shoot and the judges declare him as the winner as I knocked down the

last target. I was out, but Punch went on to win the fastest shotgun.


After the fast gun, the awards ceremony took place. I was surprised when they called my name as the winner of the Frontiersman category. I was expecting Yakima Stubbs to win. After I accepted the award, he congratulated me. I asked him what had happened, and he said he had a couple of misses. One thing I really liked was the memorial awards for people who placed at different places in the overall standings. The first was the Three Barb Benson 64th place. Three Barb Benson had placed 64th in his last Appalachian Showdown. They also awarded the Hardrode 34th place and the Dusty D. Weems 27th place awards as memorials to those shooters.

SUMMARY


The Singing Hills Ranch is a great place. The ranges are set against the hill with berms to divide the lanes. Most of the range is in the shade. The facilities are nice, the stages were great, and the Cowboy Action Shooting™ people that put on the show were better.

I checked the scores for the match later in the week when they were posted on the CASS website. I had shot 53rd overall and Yakima Stubbs had shot 54th. It was a close race with me having a 7.97 second advantage over ten stages! 🐾

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REVIEWS-
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GUNS OF THE NEW WEST
A Close-up Look at Modern Replica Firearms

By David R. Chicoine
Reviewed by Palaver Pete, SASS #4375

Ah, the New West—what a great feeling just to be part of it! What a great feeling simply to say it: “The New West!” Yes, all of us who play the game of Cowboy Action Shooting™ are part of the New West. Collectively we SASS members represent a resurgence of America’s love of our western heritage. I ask you, what other nation in the world can claim any history similar to our western migration? The answer is none. We clashed with Native Americans—we explored new regions, we panned for gold—we homesteaded

barren land. With the exception of the treatment of our Native Americans, we take pride in what we accomplished. We relish what we did—we rejoice in it—we play it! This is our West. This is our game, this is our time, and we



say to the rest of the world, “if you really love our West as we do, then come on in and play with us.”

(Continued on next page)



**SASS INSPIRES
WESTERN NOVEL**

By Aimless Annie, SASS Life/Regulator #6890

The SASS community boasts many talented folks. One of them is an award-winning journalist and writer named Allan C. Kimball, better known to his cowboy friends as The Original Lajitas Bob, SASS #19913. Fortunately for readers, his involvement in Cowboy Action Shooting™ has inspired Lajitas to create a brilliant western novel that is destined to become a classic.



The Original Lajitas Bob, SASS Life #19913.



The Judge congratulates The Original Lajitas Bob on a job well done!

Calamity Creek is Book One in an epic trilogy about Texas’ Big Bend country in the late 1800’s. For my money, this carefully crafted story has absolutely everything. It pits a gang of kidnapers led by a notorious gunfighter against a renegade band of Comanches, an old scout, a young Texas Ranger, a saloonkeeper, and an itinerant

(Continued on next page)

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GUNS OF THE NEW WEST . . .

(Continued from previous page)

And now, with this book titled "GUNS OF THE NEW WEST," David Chicoine has given us a bible of the "new" toys we use in playing our game - toys we cherish as much as our Western heritage. Toys we love to caress. Toys we "tune up" in order to make them shoot quicker and straighter than did their forefathers, the guns of the Old West. Like Cowboy Action Shooters around the world, we Americans love our Western guns. We love to hold them—we love to shoot them, and we like to "strut" with them strapped to our hips. And as we strut, and as we shoot these guns of the New West, we marvel at the ingenuity of our forefathers who invented these works of art, especially Sam Colt. Listen, as the hammer is pulled back—click, click, click, and click. As we listen to the clicks, our thoughts race back to the time when the West was indeed wild, and now we are part of it—we are part of what Mr. Chicoine calls the New West—Hallelujah, we love it—bring it on!

Our author reminds us Cowboy Action Shooting™ has brought about the need for high quality replicas of firearms used on the frontier. Cowboy Action Shooting™ has not only created a resurgence of our Western heritage, it has created a very competitive sport, resulting in participants practicing daily, and in so doing, burning up 500 or more rounds per week (oh heck, make that 1,000). This hard use of our firearms has created a need for manufacturers to achieve the highest of metallurgical standards in their construction. They have met our demands,

and today's replicas are built to accept the challenge of daily Cowboy Action Shooting™ use. The guns of the New West are not only beautiful in their design and craftsmanship, they are now as durable as any found in the modern world. They are ready for the use and abuse we may foster upon them, and they will respond with the same dependability as their forefathers.

Chicoine, an experienced writer, who has already brought us such books as GUNSMITHING GUNS OF THE OLD WEST, and SMITH & WESSON SIXGUNS OF THE OLD WEST, has arranged the new guns in easy-to-read order and provided plenty of photos. Does "chuck-full" of photos sound good enough? I think we Cowboy Action Shooting™ people understand "chuck-full." Chicoine has also integrated the names of the new manufacturers and retailers, such as: Uberti, Pietta, Rossi, Cimarron Firearms, Dixie Gun Works, EMF, and Navy Arms, along with the more frequently heard names like Colt, Smith & Wesson, Winchester, Remington, Marlin, and Ruger. Just the sound of those names, like the sounds of the click, click, click, makes me want to read the GUNS OF THE NEW WEST all over again. I'm sure it will have the same effect on you, Pard! Enjoy this book, as I know you will, and God bless our Military People wherever they are.

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SASS INSPIRES WESTERN NOVEL . . .

(Continued from previous page)

preacher. The plot revolves around an attractive but inexplicable soiled dove who is mistaken for the wife of the Governor. The ensuing adventure is captivating and entertaining.

Lajitas Bob has received praise for his book from the likes of western novelist Elmer Kelton and western historian Robert M. Utley. But in preparation for this review, I solicited the opinions of two of the toughest western critics I know, the honorable Judge Roy Bean, SASS #1, and the venerable Deaf Laws, SASS Regulator #6889. Both men are avid readers of all types of western fare, and both have never been shy about offering an opinion.

The Judge told me he enjoyed reading *Calamity Creek* and thought it was very well done. He is looking forward to the next book in the series. He liked the colorful characters, the subdued realism, and the "no fluff" approach to story telling. "I dislike books that are full of filler just to make them longer," he said. "This book is just the right length, and the author left out all the parts the readers always skip!"

Deaf Laws is a voracious reader and considers this effort as good or better than any western novel out there today. He was highly impressed with the writing and gave

the author glowing marks for including "everything you could ask for" in a good western novel. He also eagerly awaits Book Two, *Woman Hollering Creek*, and Book Three, *Second Coffee Creek*.

Although this story is a work of fiction, many of the events are taken from actual historical encounters. All the locations are exactly as described, which paints a vivid picture of the book's setting. Lajitas Bob has been visiting the Big Bend of Texas since 1969, owns land there, and has guided tours through the rugged Chihuahuan Desert. His knowledge and love of this area is as strong as his love for his favorite pastime, Cowboy Action Shooting™. (He currently serves as TG for the Tejas Caballeros in Driftwood, Texas.)

Calamity Creek, Woman Hollering Creek, and Second Coffee Creek are all part of a fascinating trilogy entitled Rainbows Wait For Rain. The first book was published in a special limited edition of 500, each signed and numbered by the author. We are fortunate to have this gifted writer among our pards. If you are looking for a truly good western book, do yourself a favor and try Calamity Creek by Allan C. Kimball. For information on availability, check out the website: www.RainbowsWaitForRain.com

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CLUB REPORTS



OLD STONE BARN SHOOT-OUT

By Lucky Bill Thorington, SASS #465



Fourteen hardy Wyoming cowboys defended the Old Stone Barn ... five "died."

Our Frontier Action Shooting club took a jaunt into the Peaks to the Old Stone Barn. I'd been there many years ago, but did not remember how I got there.

We set up some cowboy targets and shot a pistol, rifle, and shotgun. Pistol had to be single action or one that was typical of the 1850-1890 period. Rifles were lever action of the same period, and shotguns had to be doubles, with or without hammers, typical of this time period.

We had 10 rifle, 10 pistol, and 4 shotgun targets. The ammo included 12 rounds pistol, 23 rounds rifle,

and 5 rounds shotgun. All ammunition was loaded with blackpowder. If you missed any targets and were out of ammo, you were dead.

No one could view the scenario until it was their turn.

After all had stood their ground and either died or survived, we were treated to a beef 'n' bean repast, including biscuits, roast beef, cowboy beans, and an apricot pie, all cooked over a campfire by Flat Nose George.

It was a fitting finale to the shooting season. Time to clean our guns and return to the 21st century. 🐾



Flat Nose George shooting from the wagon.



The Old Stone Barn.



Lucky Bill defending the barn from hostiles.



Lucky Bill Thorington uses his rifle to finish the job.

OHIO COWBOYS DONATE \$300 TO SASS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

By Ohio Ranger, SASS Life #24105

Urbana, OH The second Annual Urbana Wild West Festival is in the history books. A check equal to last year's donation in the amount of \$300 has been forwarded to the SASS Scholarship Fund.

This year more than 2,500 shooters, spectators, vendors, and entertainers attended the daylong function. The response was good enough for us to begin planning the third Annual Urbana Wild West Festival for next September.

Territorial Governor, Jinglebob Kidd, SASS #29236, and Club President, Buckshot Jones, SASS #18177, from the Miami Valley Cowboys of Piqua, Ohio made sure SASS was well represented with a full line of SASS handout material and an impressive display of cowboy firearms and equipment at their tent. Dr. Eels and Rio Loco, SASS #46867, saw to the range set-up, and Firewater Dave, SASS #54185, made certain everyone adhered to the SASS safety rules.

In addition to a SASS shoot and demonstration, the Ohio Fast Draw Association conducted a

daylong competition. A dozen western movie star look-a-likes strolled the grounds posing with spectators and telling their stories. Whip and rope artists performed twice daily and SASS Regulator #2080, Lassiter from the Miami Valley Cowboys, put on a gun spinning demonstration that was as good as I've seen. In addition, we had vendors, reenactments, best-dressed cowboy and cowgirl awards, and a western auction. SASS #19170, Macochee Kid, and his Smilin Valley Riders provided the music.

In order to make the festival affordable for everyone, we rely strictly on donations and hard work from volunteers to make the festival a success each year.

A Wild West festival has been a goal of mine for a number of years. As trail boss with a top-notch group of ramrods, we hope to make this one-day event into a two-day event next year, and as always, a check will be sent to the SASS scholarship fund when the festival is over. 🐾

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(EXT. 118)

TAYLOR'S 1865 SPENCER .56-50 CARBINE . . .

(Continued from page 79)

round was much superior to the later introduced .44 WCF (.44-40) in the 1873 Winchester.

They were considered by many as being much superior to the .44 and .38 WCFs and as a "thumper" with their 350 to 400 grain bullet pushed by 45 grains of powder compared to their 205 and 180 grain bullets over 38 to 40 grains of powder for the WCF calibers. According to the old "Buffalo Runner," Frank Mayer, an experienced frontiersman would rather shoot a buffalo with a

Spencer than one of those repeating 1873 Winchesters. At varying times, the Spencers could be ordered mail order from catalogues such as Sear Roebuck & Co. and Montgomery Wards. Sears still had Spencers in its 1902 catalog for \$3.65 with a free box of shells! In general, all Spencer calibers stayed very popular until the turn of the century. Ammunition for all of the Spencer calibers was still produced and sold until around 1920!

(Part II next month will review Taylor's .56-50 carbine.) 🐾

CHICKEN RANCH SHOOTOUT

By Wordslinger, SASS #54033

September 25, 2005 at El Dorado Rod and Gun Club range. Organized by Hangtown Vigilance Committee Rebecca Mae had her dear dead Uncle Jed's boot stuffed full of blue ribbons won by her chickens at the county fair, and she was about to bust a gut because two of her champion hens were missing. Was it those dang chicken hawks or those dastardly human vultures, the Bowlegged Brothers?

Next morning, before rooster crow, she spotted two vultures crawling on all fours toward the chicken pen. Rebecca rushed to the bedroom to wake up Oklahoma Red, her husband. But the day before he'd killed the biggest wild boar in four counties with his .45-70 and celebrated well into the night.

Rebecca grabbed her two single actions and stormed out the door, swearing and shooting a blue streak. When the Bowlegged Brothers stood up sputtering excuses, she shot a boot heel off Ned and shot Ted's prized eagle feather off his hat. As the boys beat it down the rutted road they yelled, "Start diggin' your grave Becca, we're coming back with our cousins."

Rebecca Mae grabbed Red's hairy leg and drug him onto the cold, plank floor, hoping to wake him up, but he snored right through it. "Wake up, you good for nothing!" she shouted as she rushed to her pigeon coop and send off an urgent message to the Hangtown sisters, Miss Ellen, Anita Margarita, Philadelphia Rose, and Lady Gambler. She saved Hawk Dodger for an emergency.

The gals set up in the adobe woodshed located opposite the chicken pen. There were four windows and the gals leveled their Winchesters as a big cloud of dust signaled trouble.

"Holy Moly," Rebecca yelled, "they brought their pigeon-toed cousins and their knockkneed uncles. There must be 30 of those ugly no-accounts."

The Hangtown sisters gave her cover fire as Rebecca sent off Hawk Dodger with a plea to Fiddletown Flash. It was hastily written in pigeon English, but Flash recognized Hank Dodger and ciphered out the word "Help." He hurriedly rounded up the Soda Pop Kid, noted for sipping on a sarsaparilla bottle he always carried when the going got rough. Also Ranger Boyd, Fred Fear-

not, Nyack Jack, Flatlander, Hangtown Dale, the tattooed man, the mysterious KW, The Other Guy, deadly with a sling shot, Thumb-breaker, a retired Pinkerton, G. Springer Wills, who never cleaned the blood off his Modoc tomahawk, El Suave, a visiting Mexican gunslinger, Deadeye Dick, Sterling Star, and Jackalope Jasper, who could balance a Bowie knife on his nose. Flash had no idea where Skunk Head and Bird Dog were. Probably down in Perfume Valley huntin' stripers.

The gals were able to hold off the Bowlegged clan until they ran low on loads. Lady Gambler did the reloading, but got sidetracked figuring their odds. Anita Margarita took a hit in the chest and toppled over on her back. Luckily, she had a habit of carrying her grandpappy's bible in her buckskin breast pocket and the .38-40 slug didn't draw blood.

When Lady Gambler said, in her south Texas drawl, "We're down to three bullets ladies," Anita sat up and began reading around the slug in her grandpappy's bible. Afterward, Philadelphia Rose swore she heard the whir of angel wings over their heads.

Suddenly the bullet thunder and smack was cut clean through by Deadeye Dick's hand-me-down bugle, and the gals, sweat lines streaking their dusty faces, began cheering and jumping up and down. Miss Ellen twisted her ankle on a chunk of pine and bent over in pain as the last bullet whined over her head.

Seeing the on-rush of armed sharpshooters on horseback, the Bowlegged clan raced off into the sagebrush, hot lead scattering them like flushed quail.

After counting her chickens, Rebecca Mae broke into a broad smile and began hugging all those cowboy heroes, all except El Suave who spoke funny and was a stranger to her. Only Slim Holt, who pulled up late in his Sunday best, said "Thank you, ma'am."

The real heroes, busy brushing dust off their clothes and shyly running their fingers through their hair to fluff their curls, stepped aside as Oklahoma Red stumbled out the door and muttered "What's for breakfast, Becca?"

Check californiagunslinger.com for scores. ♪

HELP COMES TO COWBOY FAMILIES IN DISTRESS FROM HURRICANE KATRINA

By Dusty Diablo, SASS Life #10211

My wife, Maggie, and I are proud to have had a small part in the Hurricane Katrina Relief Effort for affected and displaced cowboy families in the Gulf Coast Region. The cowboys of Alabama with assistance from Georgia and Canadian SASS cow-

owners of All Creatures Country Club in Mandeville, Louisiana, were excited and able to turn their place of business into the distribution point.

It was an honor and a privilege to meet and work with these wonderful cowboys and cowgirls on such a worthwhile endeavor.



Rattlesnake Blake, Maggie Thomas, and Dusty Diablo unload items destined for cowboy families displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

boys banded together to bring clothing, hygiene articles, water, and Wal-Mart gift cards to the families. We also wanted to bring the knowledge they were not alone in their suffering and will not be forgotten by their extended cowboy family.

A special thanks to Captain Parker, SASS #42884, of Thibodaux, Louisiana, and the Devil Swamp Gang who were our first contacts in the affected area. Captain Parker was a wealth of information in getting set up with logistic help.

From Folsom, Louisiana, Territorial Governor of the Bayou Bounty Hunters, Rattlesnake Blake, SASS #8402, and Soiled Dove, SASS #17365, worked with us extensively on the logistics needed on the receiving end.

Malone LaVeigh, SASS #57945, and Bayou Blessing, SASS #63890,

But, it is not over yet by far. After being a witness to the massive destruction by this horrific catastrophe, I believe we should continue this relief effort to aid our forty plus cowboy families who have suffered so much. And, with Hurricane Rita, we have reports of more displaced cowboy families.

The Old York Shootists of Alabama will continue spearheading this effort. If you, as an individual or a SASS club, would like to help, make your checks or money orders to: Cowboy Relief Fund, c/o Old York Shootists and send to Derringer Di, 563 US Highway 32, Warrior, AL 35180. If you need more information, contact us at oldyorkshootists.org, or call Dusty Diablo at 205-664-7793, or Derringer Di at 205-647-6925. 100% of all contributions will go directly to affected cowboy families. ♪



CLUB REPORTS

SASS COWBOYS BUILD A MOVIE TOWN Welcome to "Sand Prairie"

By *Juaquin Malone SASS Life #44677*
Photos by Wolfgang, SASS #61064

Lying in a stall behind the hotel, Dixie hears Marshal Canfield's voice, but Asa Brown still has his hand over her mouth. She bites his hand, and he jerks it away. She screams. The Marshal yells, "What's going on back there?" Asa looks up and fear seizes him. Once again he slams his fist into Dixie's face and knocks her unconscious. He then jumps to his feet and begins to run. Canfield sees a man running and raises his pistol to shoot, but the man disappears into the trees behind the building. As he starts to run after the shadowy form, he hears a moan coming from the stall. He stops and kneels beside the form in the straw, and then sees her face and yells, "Dixie!"

That is an approximation of a scene in a film being put together with considerable involvement

from SASS members. But I get ahead of myself. Let's start closer to the beginning. What if your day job were owner of one of the most successful firearms stores in the Midwest? Wouldn't you think your dreams had pretty much come true? (Except for the long hours, demanding gun owners, dealing with the government, and almost no personal life.) Well, that is the case for Wolfgang, SASS #61064, of Pekin Gun and Sporting Goods. Wolfgang and a friend of his, Jim Conover, were talking one day and decided they were going to make a cowboy movie. Since Mr. Conover had written and directed documentaries, it wasn't as crazy an idea as it first sounded. It began to sound like a whole lot of fun and a cowboy fan's idea of heaven.

So a script was written, and then

they began to look for land on which to build a town. A spot was located out along the Mackinaw River. A production company was formed and named after the town they were going to build and the name given to the movie. It was called 'Sand Prairie.' The next step was to solicit volunteers and investors. Contact was made with one of the local SASS clubs and the process began. Heavy equipment was brought in and trees were cleared. The branches and trees were placed in a gully in what was to be the town street. The debris was burned, and then the area was filled in to level the property.

It was all weekends and evenings, and it was all-volunteers. Slowly the layout emerged, and the buildings began to appear. The street would dead-end at the Hotel with modest buildings flanking each

side of the street. It would all be there - a store, the Jail, the Undertaker and Barber, an Attorney, a Bank, and a Saloon. If you have ever seen any of the old Daguerreotypes or Tintypes from the second to the last century you can imagine this town is real until you get inside one of the buildings and see there is no roof or back wall. It is planned to make the buildings more complete in time as money allows. When construction on the exteriors is complete, several loads of sand will be brought in and the street paved. The Mclean County Peacemakers SASS club is heavily involved with the film, and many of the extras, the non-speaking parts, will be filled from their ranks.

The story is in the tradition of the gunfight at the OK Corral. You have
(Continued on next page)



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The San Juan Rifle Club is a 501(c)(19) non-profit organization. All proceeds from the match go to the club. The club is a member of the National Rifle Association (NRA) and the Colorado Rifle Association (CRA).

Match Rules: The match will be held on the premises of the San Juan Rifle Club. All participants must be 18 years of age or older. The match will be held on a first-come, first-served basis. The match will be held on a first-come, first-served basis.

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SASS MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED



(Continued from previous page)
 different factions in a town with the law abiding on one side and the lawless on the other. Friends die, people are threatened, and it all culminates in a big chase to save the good folks. Just the kind of stuff I used to wait for on Saturday afternoons as a boy. There is a love story for the ladies and plenty of action for the men folk. They even managed to work in a flashback for added interest.

The plan is to make a movie a year at the facility and maybe rent the place for parties and other get-togethers when a movie is not in progress. They are still looking for more investors, but the movie is underway. Some of the remote scenes are "in the can" to use the vernacular of the business. As shooting moves forward, I hope to get some more photos and maybe manage

another report on the progress. Who knows? They may even need a short, bald, and overweight old man to stand around in a scene somewhere. That just might be fun!

He waits for Mayferd Brown to get closer. Mayferd finally looks up and then stops for he is staring into the barrel of a shotgun. As he starts to reach for his revolver, Canfield shakes his head. Mayferd nods and then raises his hands. The Marshal takes his pistol and motions for him to sit down. Mayferd obeys. He hands the pistol to Dixie. She nods and holds the gun on the outlaw. Canfield walks toward the other three men. With the shotgun at the ready, however, they have not seen him yet.

Lets' ride the trail boys and girls. As always, I can be reached at juaquin@thecowboyway.us



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 - The SASS Marshal is embroidered on the front of the cap and there is a plastic snap size-adjuster in the back so you can get the perfect fit!
 - Available in Navy Blue, Red and Black
 - One size fits all

Black AC0001-BKO
Navy Blue AC0001-NYO
Red AC0001-RDO



JOHN DWAYNE DELUXE BALL CAP

- Price: \$19.95**
- This deluxe ball cap is 15% wool and 85% acrylic with 6 panels and sewn eyelets
 - John Dwayne is embroidered on front with SASS on the back above the plastic snap size-adjuster!
 - Available in Black, Navy Blue and Red
 - One size fits all

Black AC0002-BKO
Navy Blue AC0002-NYO
Red AC0002-RDO

TO ORDER CALL: (877) 411-SASS or visit www.sassnet.com

SASS ACCESSORIES

Mercantile

SASS Collectors Badge rests on top of the ring cut outs



CUSTOM LEATHER POUCH BADGE HOLDER

Price: \$39.95
 • Hand stitched with heavy duty snap
 • Available in Black, Brown, and Tan

Black	L00002-BKD
Brown	L00002-BND
Tan	L00002-TND



CUSTOM LEATHER SASS BADGE HOLDER

Price: \$19.95
 • Hand stitched with heavy duty snap
 • Available in Black, Brown, and Tan

Black	L00001-BKD
Brown	L00001-BND
Tan	L00001-TND



SASS STERLING SILVER MONEY CLIP

Price: \$45.00
 • Crafted from Sterling Silver

G00010-000



SASS STEER HEAD SCARF SLIDE

Price: \$14.95
 • Crafted from Sterling Silver

G00015-000



CYLINDER PENCIL HOLDER BLUE AND NICKEL

Blue Pencil Holder - Price: \$26.95
 Nickel Pencil Holder - Price: \$34.95
 • Available in Blue and Nickel

Blue	G00020-BLU
Nickel	G00020-NIC

Mercantile

CUSTOM ORDERS



CUSTOM ORDER

SASS COLLECTOR BADGES - GOLD AND SILVER

Price: \$43.95 - Gold Collectors Badge (Includes \$9.00 shipping)
 Price: \$33.95 - Silver Collectors Badge (Includes \$9.00 shipping)
 • Law enforcement-type badges are made in the U.S.A. and constructed of heavy brass alloy
 • The Gold Badge is plated in 24 karat gold
 • The Silver Badge is Rhodium plated for a high luster, scratch resistant, non-tarnish finish
 • All custom orders take 4-6 weeks

Gold	C00001-G00
Silver	C00001-S10



CUSTOM ORDER

CLASSIC CAST IRON WALL CLOCK WITH YOUR ALIAS

Price: \$109.95 (Price includes shipping to Continental US. Extra Shipping applies to Alaska, Hawaii and International)
 • Please select a color, and enter your Alias and SASS Number, (see website for form or call 1-877-411-SASS to speak to a customer service representative)
 • Available in Black or Rust

Black	C00006-000-BLA
Rust	C00006-000-RUS



CUSTOM ORDER

SASS DELUXE BELT BUCKLE WITH OR WITHOUT ALIAS

Price: \$84.00 - With Alias (Includes \$9.00 shipping)
 Price: \$80.00 - Without Alias (Includes \$9.00 shipping)
 • All custom orders take 4-6 weeks

C00002-000



CUSTOM ORDER

SASS DELUXE LADIES DRESS BUCKLE WITH ALIAS

Price: \$89.00 (Includes \$9.00 shipping)
 • All custom orders take 4-6 weeks

C00003-000



CUSTOM ORDER

SASS DELUXE MENS DRESS BUCKLE WITH ALIAS

Price: \$89.00 (Includes \$9.00 shipping)
 • All custom orders take 4-6 weeks

C00004-000



CUSTOM ORDER

SASS SUPREME BELT BUCKLE WITH ALIAS

Price: \$124.00 (Includes \$9.00 shipping)
 • SASS Supreme Custom Belt Buckle in Bass Relief Customized with your Alias
 • All custom orders take 4-6 weeks

C00005-000

TO ORDER CALL: (877) 411-SASS or visit www.sassnet.com

SASS COLLECTIBLES

Mercantile



THREE LAYER AFGHAN RUG
 Price: \$56.00
 • A gorgeous 100% cotton, 3-Layer SASS Afghan
 • This 50" x 70" Afghan features a full color SASS logo
 • Made in the USA

G00001-000



EMBROIDERED SASS MARSHAL PATCH
 Price: \$5.95
 • 3" Patch embroidered SASS logo
 • Great for spicing up a jacket or duffel bag

G00012-000



SASS WATCH FOB WITH LEATHER STRAP GOLD AND SILVER
 Price: \$14.95 - Gold Watch FOB
 Price: \$14.95 - Silver Watch FOB
 • Available in Silver or Gold with an adjustable leather strap

Gold G00016-GDD
 Silver G00016-SDD



SASS MARSHAL LAPEL PIN
 Price: \$4.95
 • The SASS Marshal lapel pin is a great collector's item

P00001-000



SASS MOUSE PAD
 Price: \$9.95
 G00011-000



SASS LICENSE PLATE FRAME WITH FOUR-COLOR CAR PLATE
 Price: \$14.90
 • Brute Chrome finish license plate frame with SASS logo plastic plate

G00008-000



SASS HITCH COVER
 Price: \$39.95
 • Made with high quality, durable steel and highlighted with the SASS Marshall in acrylic
 • The ideal way to beautify your hitch

G00022-000



SASS GUN CLEANING PAD
 Price: \$12.50
 • Sturdy green Drymate gun cleaning pad
 • Washable, waterproof stain resistant pad
 • Measures 16" x 54"
 • Folds for easy storage

G00019-000



SASS ZIPPERED KOOZIE
 Price: \$12.95
 • High quality, black, durable neoprene zippered koozie ensures your favorite bottled beverage stays chilled
 • Features a non slip base

G00021-000



SASS BADGE LAPEL PIN GOLD AND SILVER
 Price: \$9.95 - Gold
 Price: \$9.95 - Silver

Gold P00003-000
 Silver P00002-000

MUGS & MORE



SASS TRAILER SIZE DECAL
 Price: \$43.95 (Includes \$9.00 shipping)
 • The SASS trailer size decal is perfect for your recreational vehicle or club
 • Complete color detail, the decal is a peel-and-stick
 • Easy to install with a spray bottle and water

G00003-000



SPILL PROOF TRAVEL MUG
 Price: \$14.95
 • Spill-proof/leak-proof container with SASS logo

M00006-000



8 OUNCE STAINLESS STEEL HIP FLASK
 Price: \$21.95
 • 8 Ounce Stainless Steel engraved Hip Flask
 • Each Flask is 100% Stainless Steel with the SASS Marshall Logo and includes a hinged safety cap

G00020-000

SASS MARSHAL DECAL
 (3 for \$5.00)
 Price: \$5.00 (Includes \$9.00 shipping)
 • Full color self stick decal

G00004-000



SASS BULLET HOLE MUG
 Price: \$9.95
 • Ceramic mug with bullet hole design

M00002-000



JOHN DWAYNE MUG
 Price: \$12.95
 • Ceramic mug with SASS logo on one side and EOT John Dwayne Logo on the other

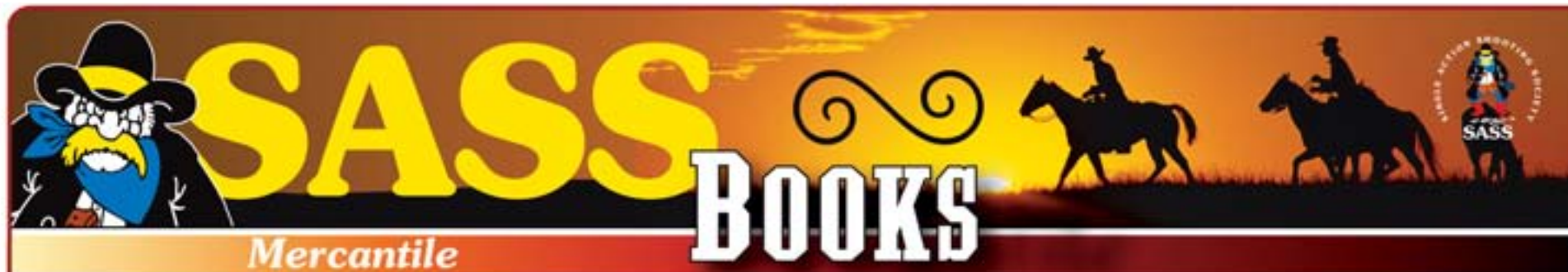
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FOUNDERS RANCH MUG
 Price: \$11.95
 • Ceramic mug with the SASS Founder's Ranch logo in deep red emblazoned on both sides

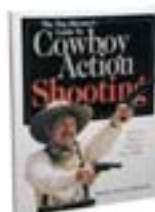
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Mercantile



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 • Teaches shooters of all skill levels how to improve their shooting and their ranking among competitors
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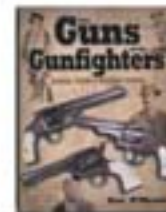
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 • 320 pages - b/w and color photos
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 • 208 pages - b/w and color photos
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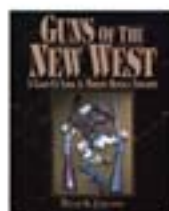
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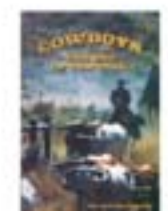
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 • Show your Life Member Status with the distinctly designed SASS Life Member Logo
 • The perfect accompaniment to your Gold Badge
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 • It is sure to keep you warm and comfortable on the range
 • Available in S, M, L, XL, XXL and XXXL
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 Please specify size



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 • Designed with the distinguishable SASS Life Member Logo, this mug is sure to please any SASS Life Member
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 Price: \$19.95
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 AC0005-BKD



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SASS FINE FIREARMS

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Price: \$1,325.00

From the moment you hold a genuine Colt Single Action Army you understand what legends like Hickok, Earp and the original Wild Bunch have known since Colt was first awarded its patent in 1871. Now, as a SASS Member, You can create your own legend with the exclusive Colt SASS Single Action. The *Special Edition Colt SASS Single Action (Model "P" Peacemaker)* is custom built to your specifications with your SASS badge number as the serial number. Choose from three distinct models – The SASS Shooter, SASS Regulator or the SASS Marshal. Each model is hand crafted by the Colt Custom Shop and covered by Colt's Standard Lifetime Service Agreement. Blue with case color hardened or nickel finish, choice of barrel lengths and caliber make your SASS Colt a one-of-a-kind original. You can even have your alias panagraphed down the backstrap. Pairs are available with a second gun having a reversed serial number from the first. (00001-99999SASS). Don't delay. Create your own history and legacy by adding The Colt SASS Single Action to your collection today. After all, Real Cowboys Shoot Colts. America's First Name in Firearms Colt Since 1836.

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The SASS Marshal includes Colt's B-Engraving and comes with your choice of Finish, Barrel Length and Caliber. This model also includes your choice of Custom Grips and your Alias (up to 20 letters) panagraphed down the backstrap in your choice of script or block.

OWN A HANDFUL OF HISTORY

From the moment you hold a genuine Colt Single Action Army you understand what legends like Hickok, Earp and the original Wild Bunch have known since Colt was first awarded its patent in 1871.

Now, as a SASS Member, you can create your own legend with the exclusive Colt SASS Single Action. The Special Edition Colt SASS Single Action is custom built to your specifications with your SASS Badge number as the serial number.

Choose from three distinct models – The SASS Shooter, SASS Regulator or the SASS Marshal. Each model is hand crafted by the Colt Custom Shop and covered by Colt's Standard Lifetime Service Agreement.

Blue or nickel finish, choice of barrel lengths and caliber make your SASS Colt a one-of-a-kind original. You can even have your alias panagraphed down the backstrap. Pairs are available with a second gun having a reversed serial number from the first. (00001-99999SASS).

Don't delay. Create your own history and legacy by adding the Colt SASS Single Action to your collection today. After all, Real Cowboys Shoot Colts.

COLT **SASS**

AMERICA'S FIRST NAME IN FIREARMS SINCE 1836

Allow 9 to 12 months for delivery

IMPORTANT: Stag Grips are no longer available with this program. No alternative configurations are available. This offer valid only to current SASS Members. Buyer is responsible for identifying a dealer to receive the firearms. A photocopy of the dealers Federal Firearms License (FFL) bearing an original signature must be sent to SASS before your Colt SASS Single Action can be shipped or delivered.

Price includes shipping to Continental US. Extra Shipping applies to Alaska, Hawaii and International.

Product Options:
You may customize your fine Colt from the following options. Please enter your 10 or 20 letter SASS Number/Alias in the last box when ordering the SASS Regulator or SASS Marshall.

NOTE: ALL SHIPPING INCLUDED IN THE PRICE

Mail completed form and payment to:

SASS
23255 La Palma
Yorba Linda, CA 92887

SASS#: _____
Alias: _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Country: _____
Telephone: _____
Email: _____

Case color: Blue Nickel
Barrel Length: 4 3/4" 5 1/2"
Caliber: .45LC .44/40 .38/40
Qty _____ X \$1325=\$_____

MODEL #2 – The SASS Regulator

Case color: Blue Nickel
Barrel Length: 4 3/4" 5 1/2"
Caliber: .45LC .44/40 .38/40
Alias: _____
Alias Panagraphed In: Script Block
Alias up to 10 letters: Qty _____ X\$1625=\$_____
Alias up to 20 letters: Qty _____ X\$1680=\$_____
 Imitation Ivory
 Buffalo Horn

MODEL #3 – The SASS Marshal

The SASS Marshal includes B-Engraving
Case color: Blue Nickel
Barrel Length: 4 3/4" 5 1/2"
Caliber: .45LC .44/40 .38/40
Alias: _____
Alias Panagraphed In: Script Block
Alias up to 10 letters: Qty _____ X\$2310=\$_____
Alias up to 20 letters: Qty _____ X\$2405=\$_____
 Imitation Ivory
 Buffalo Horn

TOTALS

International Fees: \$_____
Total Amount of Merchandise: \$_____
CA Residents Add 7.75% Tax: \$_____
Shipping (All Shipping Included): N/A
GRAND TOTAL: \$_____

PAYMENT METHOD

VISA Master Card Discover Card
 AMEX Money Order
 Check #: _____
Card #: _____
Expiration Date: _____
Signature: _____

NOTE: Sorry, no alternative configuration. This offer valid only to SASS Members in good standing. Buyer is responsible for identifying a dealer to receive the firearms. A photocopy of the dealers Federal Firearms License (FFL) bearing an original signature must be sent to SASS before your Colt SASS Single Action can be shipped or delivered.

* Stag Grips and 7 1/2 inch Barrels are no longer available.

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Cowboy Daze

by Marshal Art





SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	State	Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	State
Alaska 49er's	1st Sat, 3rd Sun	David Cook	907-243-0181	Anchorage	AK	Homesteaders Shooting Club	3rd Sun	Kidd Reno	860-536-3342	Ledyard	CT
Golden Heart Shootist Society	2nd Sat, Last Sun	Valencia Rose	907-488-7660	Fairbanks	AK	Congress of Rough Riders	1st Sun	Frank Wargo	203-386-9431	Naugatuck	CT
Juneau Gold Miners Posse	3rd Sat	Buckskin John	907-321-4032	Juneau	AK	Padens Posse	3rd Sun	Deacon Will	302-422-6534	Seaford	DE
Cahaba Cowboys	3rd Sun	Fast Gun	205-980-0115	Birmingham	AL	Big River Rangers	1st Sat	Nimrod Long	850-592-5665	Grand Ridge	FL
Alabama Rangers	2nd Sun	Major Dundee	205-664-4159	Brierfield	AL	Tater Hill Gunfighters	2nd Sun	Judge JD Justice	941-743-4043	Arcadia	FL
Vulcan Long Rifles	3rd Sat	Havana Jim	205-822-1799	Hoover	AL	Hernando County Regulators	1st Sun	Yancy Jack Derringer	352-344-0912	Brooksville	FL
Old York Shootist	4th Sun	Dusty Diablo	205-664-7793	Oakman	AL	Fort White Cowboy Cavalry	2nd Sat	Delta Glen	352-317-2357	Fort White	FL
North Alabama Regulators	1st Sun	Six String	256-582-3621	Scottsboro	AL	Howey In the Hills Cowboys	1st Sat	Ole Glor E	352-455-6508	Howey Hills	FL
True Grit Single Action Shooters	4th Sun	Sister Sundance	479-968-7129	Belleville	AR	Cowford Regulators	4th Sun	Dakota Lil	904-724-7012	Jacksonville	FL
Peach Orchard Pistoleros	2nd Sat, 4th Sun	Doc Sorebones	479-621-1317	Bentonville	AR	Miakka Misfits	3rd Sun	Deedlee Headlee	941-650-8920	Miikka City	FL
Judge Parker's Marshals	1st Sat	Reno Sparks	918-647-9704	Fort Smith	AR	Gold Coast Gunslingers	1st Sat	L. Topay	305-233-5756	Miramar	FL
Critter Creek Citizens						Southwest Florida Gunslingers	3rd Sat	Swamp Fox	239-566-2047	Naples	FL
Vigilance Comm.	1st Sun	Critr Creek Undertaker	903-838-8944	Fouke	AR	Okeechobee Marshals	2nd Sat, 4th Sun	Cheyenne Davis	863-763-0253	Okeechobee	FL
Outlaw Camp	2nd & 5th Sat	Ozark Outlaw	501-362-2963	Heber Springs	AR	Weewahootee Vigilance Comm.	2nd Sun	Weewahootee	407-857-1107	Orlando	FL
Mountain Valley Vigilantes	1st Sat	Christmas Kid	501-525-3451	Hot Springs	AR	Indian River Regulators	4th Sat	Burt Blade	321-242-8163	Palm Bay	FL
Running W Regulators	1st Sat, 3rd Sun	Ark. Mule Skinner	501-824-2590	Lincoln	AR	Antelope Junction Rangers	Fri	Mayeye Rider	727-736-3977	Park	FL
South Fork River Regulators	3rd & 5th Sat	Standing Eagle	870-895-2677	Salem	AR	Panhandle Cowboys	2nd Sun	Panhandle Blackhawk	850-432-1968	Pensacola	FL
Arizona Yavapai Rangers	4th Sat	Pure Lilly	928-567-7291	Camp Verde	AZ	Withlacoochee Renegades	Last Sat	Hungry Bear	850-929-2406	Pinetta	FL
Dusty Bunch Old Western Shooters	3rd Sat	Squibber	520-568-2852	Casa Grande	AZ	Panhandle Cattle Co.	4th Sat	Dead Lakes Walker	850-647-4085	Port St. Joe	FL
Arizona Cowboy Shooters Assoc.	2nd Sat	Sunshine Kay	602-973-3434	Cave Creek	AZ	Five County Regulators	4th Sun	Dead Shot Scott	239-261-2892	Punta Gorda	FL
Cowtown Cowboy Shooters Assoc.	1st Sun, 3rd Sat	Barbwire	480-488-3064	Cowtown	AZ	Martin County Marshals	3rd Sat	Papa Dave	561-747-7588	Stuart	FL
Mohave Marshalls	3rd Sun	Mizkiz	928-753-4266	Kingman	AZ	Lake County Pistoleros	3rd Sat	Brocky Jack Norton	352-253-2547	Tavares	FL
Colorado River Regulators	2nd Sun	Crowheart	928-855-2893	Lake Havasu	AZ	Hatbill Gang	1st Sun	Bad Hombre	321-632-5141	Titusville	FL
Rio Salado CASS	1st Sat	Ariz. Lightning Jack	480-820-7372	Mesa	AZ	Mule Camp Cowboys	3rd Sat	San Quinton	706-335-7302	Covington	GA
Tonto Rim Marauders	3rd Sun	Rye Creek Roberts	928-472-9136	Payson	AZ	Georgia Mountain Marshals	4th Sat	Robin T. Banks	770-869-3036	Eastonlee	GA
Yavapai Recreation League	4th Sun	Willy Longtree	928-379-0041	Prescott	AZ	American Old West Cowboys	1st Sat	Josey Buckhorn	423-236-5281	Flintstone	GA
Cochise Gunfighters	1st Sat	L.B. Good	520-366-5401	Sierra Vista	AZ	Bitter Creek Rangers	3rd Sat	Cherokee Maddog	423-326-3759	Ft. Oglethorpe	GA
White Mountain Old West Shootists	3rd Sat	Timber Kid	928-368-8985	Snowflake	AZ	Cherokee Cowboys	4th Sat	Southern Breeze	770-889-2434	Gainesville	GA
Tombstone Buscaderos	4th Sat	Diamond Pak	520-743-0179	Tombstone	AZ	Doc Holliday's Immortals	4th Sat	Easy Rider	770-954-9696	Griffin	GA
Altar Valley Pistoleros	3rd Sun	Dirty Dave Rudabaugh	520-889-9231	Tucson	AZ	Pale Riders	2nd Sat	Will Killigan	706-568-0869	Midland	GA
Los Vaqueros	3rd Sat	Old Deadeye	520-749-1186	Tucson	AZ	Keg Creek Renegades	2nd Sat	Nooga Kid	770-460-0752	Sharpsburg	GA
Pima Pistoleros CAS	2nd Sat	Wander N. Star	520-744-3869	Tucson	AZ	Valdosta Vigilance Committee	2nd Sat	Big Boyd	229-244-3161	Valdosta	GA
Colorado River Shootists	4th Sun	Cactus Jack	928-726-7727	Yuma	AZ	Lonesome Valley Regulators	3rd Sun	Wishbone Hooper	478-922-9384	Warner Robins	GA
High Desert Cowboys	3rd Sun	Doc Silverhawks	661-948-2543	Acton	CA	Maui Marshals	1st Sat	Bad Burt	808-875-9085	Maui	HI
5 Dogs Creek	1st Wknd	Almost Dangerous	760-376-4493	Bakersfield	CA	Zen Shootists	4th Sat	Rhett Maverick	515-270-8654	Ankeny	IA
Shasta Regulators	2nd Sat	Cayenne Pepper	530-275-3158	Burney	CA	Turkey Foot Cowboys	3rd Sat	Nellie Fulsas	319-266-5259	Cedar Falls	IA
Kings River Regulators	3rd Sun	Slick Rock Rooster	559-299-8669	Clovis	CA	Iowa South West Shootist	1st Sun	Colonel J. Fighters	402-291-2053	Glenwood	IA
River City Regulators	1st Sun	Max Sand	916-359-4041	Davis	CA	Panhandle Regulators	1st & 3rd Sun	Long Rifle	28-245-4142	Bayview	ID
Cajon Cowboys	2nd & 4th Sat	Bojack	760-956-5044	Devore	CA	Squaw Butte Regulators	1st Sun, 2nd Sat	Acequia Kidd	208-365-4551	Emmett	ID
Silver Queen Mine Regulators	1st & 3rd Sun	Walks Fletcher	310-539-8202	Duarte	CA	Southeast Idaho Practical Shooters	1st Sat	Idaho Packer	208-589-5941	Idaho Falls	ID
Escondido Bandidos	1st Sat	Devil Jack	760-741-3229	Escondido	CA	Snake River Western					
Mad River Rangers	4th Sat	Kid Kneestone	707-445-1981	Eureka/Arcata	CA	Shooting Society	4th Sat	Missy Mable	208-736-8143	Jerome	ID
California Rangers	2nd Sat	Melvin P. Thorpe	916-984-9770	Fair Oaks	CA	Oregon Trail Rough Riders	2nd Sun, 3rd Sat	Pinkeye Pinkerton	208-658-0483	Kuna	ID
FaultLine Shootist Society	4th Sun	Marshal Freedom	831-763-7133	Gonzales	CA	Hell's Canyon Ghost Riders	3rd Sat	J.P. Sloe	208-798-0826	Lewiston	ID
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The Cowboys	4th Sun	Captain Jake	714-536-2635	Norco	CA	Dewmaine Drifters	2nd Sat	Wounded Knees	618-997-4261	Carterville	IL
Burro Canyon Gun Slingers	2nd Sun	Smedley Butler	714-639-8723	Orange	CA	The Lakewood Marshal's	1st Sat	Pecos John	618-673-2193	Cisne	IL
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Palm Springs Gun Club	2nd Sat	Deacon Dick	760-340-0828	Palm Springs	CA	Tri County Cowboys	3rd Sat	Sierra Hombre	815-967-6333	Hazelhurst	IL
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Chorro Valley Regulators	2nd & 5th Sun	Fillmore Coffins	805-528-6705	San Luis Obispo	CA	Long Nine	4th Sun	Black Jack McGinnis	217-787-2834	Springfield	IL
South Coast Rangers	3rd Sun	Swiftly Schofield	805-968-7138	Santa Barbara	CA	Vermilion River Long Riders	2nd Sun	Bailey Creek	815-442-6259	Streator	IL
Sunnyvale Regulators	1st & 3rd Mon	Billy Two Bears	408-739-4436	Sunnyvale	CA	Kishwaukee Valley Regulators	1st Sun	MT Mtn Man Mike	815-899-0046	Sycamore	IL
Lassen Regulators	1st Sat	Marshal Hankins	530-257-8958	Susanville	CA	Circle C Cowboys	As Sched	Marshal J.J. Montana	317-842-7316	Indianapolis	IN
Panorama Sportsman Club	3rd Wknd	Desperado	818-341-7255	Sylmar	CA	Thunder Valley	1st & 3rd Sat	Redneck Rebel	812-755-4237	Campbellsburg	IN
Ukiah Gun Club	3rd Sun	Will Bonner	707462-1466	Ukiah	CA	10 O'clock Line Shootist Club	3rd Sun	Bunsen Rose	765-832-6620	Cayuga	IN
Shootists Society of						Schuster's Rangers	2nd Sun	Coal Car Kid	219-759-3498	Chesterton	IN
Pawnee Sportsmens	4th Sat	Governor General	970-484-3789	Briggsdale	CO	Daleville Desperados	2nd & 4th Sat	Frenchy Yukon	765-472-7123	Daleville	IN
Four Corners Rifle & Pistol Club	2nd Sun	Capt. Woodrow Kelso	970-565-8960	Cortez	CO	Deer Creek Regulators	4th Sun	C. Bubba McCoy	765-948-4487	Jonesboro	IN
Windy Gap Regulators	1st Sat	Piedra Kidd	970-565-9228	Cortez	CO	Big Rock SASS	2nd & 4th Sat	South Paw Too	812-866-2406	Lexington	IN
Northwest Colorado Rangers	4th Sat	Sagebrush Burns	970-824-8407	Craig	CO	Wildwood Wranglers	4th Sun	VOODOOMAN	219-872-2721	Michigan City	IN
Sand Creek Raiders	4th Sun	Sweet Water Bill	303-366-8827	Denver	CO	Indian Trail Ambush	3rd Sat	Dorvin Emery	765-853-1266	Modoc	IN
Four Corners Gunslingers	3rd Sun	Cerveza Slim	970-247-0745	Durango	CO	Red Brush Raiders	4th Sat	Brian Cosby	812-490-1009	Newburgh	IN
Pawnee Station	3rd Sat	Breed	970-482-6165	Ft. Collins	CO	Cutter's Raiders	1st Sat	Midnite Desperado	574-893-7214	Warsaw	IN
Thunder Mountain Shootists	3rd Sat, 3rd Sun	Pinto Being	970-464-7118	Grand Junction	CO	Butterfield Gulch Gang	1st Sun	Shylock	785-823-1333	Chapman	KS
Castle Peak Wild Shots	1st Sun	Old Squinteye	970-524-9348	Gypsum	CO	Mill Brook Wranglers	2nd Sun	Glacier Griz	785-421-3329	Hill City	KS
Black Canyon Ghost Riders	4th Sun	Double Bit	970-874-8745	Hotchkiss	CO	Powder Creek Cowboys	2nd Sat	Platte County Kid	816-505-9002	Lenexa	KS
Colorado Cowboys	1st Sat	Mule Creek	719-748-3398	Lake George	CO	Free State Rangers	3rd Sun	Buffalo Phil	913-898-4911	Parker	KS
Montrose Marshals	2nd Sun	Big Hat	970-249-7701	Montrose	CO	Capital City Cowboys	4th Sun	Major Lee Wild	785-539-9508	Topeka	KS
San Juan Rangers	1st Sun	Sapinero	970-323-6566	Montrose	CO	Kentucky Regulators	1st Sat	Kentucky Dover	270-658-3247	Boaz	KY
Colorado Shaketails	1st Sun	Yaro	303-646-3777	Ramah	CO	Crab Orchard Cowboy Shootist	2nd Sat	Rowdy Fulcher	270-389-9402	Clay	KY
Rifle Creek Rangers	2nd Sun	Miles Coffee	970-625-0657	Rifle	CO	Fox Bend Peacemakers	4th Sun	Tioga Kid	859-277-9693	Lexington	KY
Rockvale Bunch	3rd Sat	Nevada Steel	719-784-6683	Rockvale	CO	Knob Creek Gunfighters Guild	1st Sun, 2nd Sat	Mountain Drover	502-817-8124	Louisville	KY
Echo Ridge Regulators	1st Sun	Shiloh Beck	203-467-9577	Colechester	CT	Hooten Old Town Regulators	1st Sat	No Purse Nez	606-633-7688	Mckee	KY
CT Valley Bushwackers	2nd Sun	Johnny Pecos	413-572-2820	East Granby	CT	Kentucky Longrifles Cowboys	2nd Sat	Hoss Lytle	606-784-0067	Morehead	KY

SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE (Cont.)*(Continued from page 103)*

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	State	Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	State
Greene County Regulators	3rd Sat	Tennessee Deadeye	423-349-4924	Greeneville	TN	Donkey Creek Shootists	3rd Sat	Poker Jim	307-660-0221	Gillette	WY
Smokey Mountain Shootist Society	2nd Sat	Tenn. Tombstone	865-986-5054	Knoxville	TN	Southfork Vigilance Comm. WSAS	2nd Sun	Wennoff Halfcock	307-332-5035	Lander	WY
Tennessee Trail Bums	3rd Sun	Wiley Fish	931-728-5327	Manchester	TN	CANADIAN MONTHLY MATCHES					
Tennessee Mountain Marauders	3rd Sat	Ohio Kid	423-421-1690	Ringgold	TN	Alberta Frontier Shootists	As Sched	Mustang Heart	780-464-4600	Kelsey	AB
North West Tennessee Longriders	3rd Sat	Can't Shoot Dillon	731-885-8102	Union City	TN	Rocky Mountain House					
Wartrace Regulators	1st Sat	Will Reily	615-325-9585	Wartrace	TN	Old West Shootists	As Sched	Leather Sticher	403-845-4347	Rocky Mtn Hse	AB
Butterfield Trail Regulators	4th Sat	Cob-Eye Zack	325-698-0685	Abilene	TX	Valley Regulators	3rd Sat	High Country Amigo	250-334-3479	Courtenay	BC
Tejas Caballeros	3rd Sat	Texas Heat	512-219-8280	Austin	TX	Western Canadian Frontier Shootists Society	As Sched	Caribou Lefty	250-372-0416	Kamloops	BC
Big Thicket Outlaws	3rd Sat	Shyne Graves	409-860-5526	Beaumont	TX	Mission Frontier Shootist	1st Sun	Gifford Gringo	604-855-4231	Mission	BC
El Vaqueros	1st & Last Sun	Tom Doniphan	254-559-9896	Breckenridge	TX	Victoria Frontier Shootists	As Sched	Prairie Buck	250-655-1100	Victoria	BC
Texas Troublemakers	1st Sat	Lefty Tex Larue	903-849-2655	Brownsboro	TX	Barrie Gun Club	As Sched	Canadian Crow	705-435-2807	Barrie	ON
Canadian River Regulators	2nd Sat	Capshaw	806-335-1660	Clarendon	TX	Grants Clearing	As Sched	Josie Darlin	519-758-1250	Galt	ON
Texas Historical Shootist Society	3rd Sun	Longhaired Jim	979-373-9938	Columbus	TX	Wentworth Shooting Sports Club	2nd Sun	Stoney Creek	905-560-8939	Hamilton	ON
Tejas Pistoleros, Inc.	4th Wknd	Texas Paladin	713-690-5313	Eagle Lake	TX	Waterloo County Revolver Assoc.	1st Sat	Ranger Pappy Cooper	519-536-9184	Kitchener	ON
Badlands Bar 3	4th Wknd	T-Bone Dooley	903-628-5512	English	TX	Ottawa Valley Marauders	As Sched	Rev. Damon Fire	613-825-8060	Ottawa	ON
Texican Rangers	2nd Sat	Dusty Chambers	830-896-7856	Fredericksburg	TX	Otter Valley Rod & Gun Inc.	4th Sun	Slick Sid	519-842-2142	Straffordville	ON
Comanche Valley Vigilantes	3rd Wknd	Nueces Outlaw	817-508-0774	Glen Rose	TX	EUROPE MONTHLY MATCHES					
Texas Tenhorns Shooting Club	2nd Sun, Last Sat	Hoss Jack	903-546-6291	Greenville	TX	Sweetwater Gunslingers Austria	As Sched	Wyatt H. Ristl	4312721278	Vienna	AT
Old Fort Parker Patriots	1st Sat	Slowaz Molasses	254-412-0904	Groesbeck	TX	Old West Shooting Society Switzerland	As Sched	Hondo Janssen	01-271-9947	Zurich	CH
Bounty Hunters	2nd Sat	Cable Lockhart	806-299-1192	Levelland	TX	Czech Cowboy Action Shooting Society	As Sched	George Roscoe	420-777-220248	Oparany	CZ
Plum Creek Carriage & Shooting Society	1st Sat	Delta Raider	512-376-2602	Lockhart	TX	Cowboy Action Shooting-Germany	Last Sat	Kid O Folliard	49-170-3829406	Edderite	DE
Purgatory Ridge Rough Riders	4th wknd	Eldorado Cole	806-548-0074	Lubbock	TX	SASS Germany	As Sched	Santa Klaus	0049-941-24924	Philippsburg	DE
Texas Regulators	4th Wknd	Shotglass	281-259-0284	Magnolia	TX	Club Hipico Del Maresme	As Sched	Martin Rosell	93-759-1887	Barcelona	ES
Comanche Trail Shootists	1st Sat	Hoodoo Brown	432-682-1422	Midland	TX	SASS-Finland	As Sched	Quincannon	358-41-5794962	Finland	FI
Oakwood Outlaws	2nd Wknd	Texas Alline	903-545-2252	Oakwood	TX	Old West Shooting Society Italy	As Sched	Alchinista	39-335-7322291	Gussago	IT
Orange County Regulators	1st Sat	Huxley Strong	409-886-1692	Orange	TX	Dutch Western Shooting Association	1st Sun	Fat Bob	31-40-242-4076	Oss	NL
Lone Star Frontier Shooting Club	2nd Wknd	Shadrack	817-297-9148	Ormsby Ranch	TX	Scherpschutters Veghel	As Sched	Cloggie Joe	31-4120-652694	Oss	NL
Alamo Area Moderators	4th Sat	Tombstone Mary	210-493-9320	San Antonio	TX	Western Shooting Club Stone Valley	As Sched	Pete Cody	31-4-6433-1075	Stein (LB)	NL
San Antonio Rough Riders	3rd Sat	Dusty Lone Star	210-273-5517	San Antonio	TX	Schedsmoe County Rough Riders	Thurs	Jailbird	47-6399-4279	Korpaasen	NO
South Texas Pistoleros	1st Sat	Long John Beard	830-663-4783	San Antonio	TX	British Western Shooting Society	As Sched	Badas Bob	16-422-53-3333	Redcar	UK
Travis County Regulators	2nd Sat	Shotgun Sally	512-694-6803	Smithville	TX	DOWN UNDER MONTHLY MATCHES					
Red River Regulators	3rd Sun	El Rio Rojo Ray	903-838-0964	Texarkana	TX	Adelaide Pistol & Shooting Club	1st Sat, 3rd Sun	Lobo Malo	61-8-2890606	Korunye	SA
Texas Peacemakers	1st Wknd	Pecos Red	903-984-1951	Tyler	TX	Cowboy Action Shooters of Australia	3rd wknd	Tony Cohen	02-9975-7983	Beacon Hill	NS
Coal Creek Cowboys	3rd & 5th Sat	Lineas A. Puffbuster	435-680-9275	Cedar City	UT	Fort Bridger Shooting Club Inc.	4th Sun	Duke York	61-3-9551-2902	Drouin	VI
Rio Verde Rangers	2nd Sat	Doc Nelson	435-564-8210	Green River	UT	Mount Rowan Rangers	Sat	Brent Squires	613-5342-8400	Mt Rowan	VI
North Rim Regulators	1st Sat	Autum Rose	435-644-5053	Kanab	UT	SSAA Single Action Shooting-Australia	2nd Sun	Virgil Earp	61-7-4695-2050	Millmerran	QLD
Mesa Marauders Gun Club	3rd Sat	Copper Queen	435-979-4665	Lake Powell	UT	Wiski Mountain Rangers	As Sched	Caretaker Hare	03-97724944	Mt. Martha	ME
Deseret Historical Shootist Society	3rd Sat	Porter Rockwell	801-782-3049	Layton	UT	Bullet Spittin Sons O' Thunder	2nd Sat	Billy Deadwood	64-6-3564720	Palmerston N.	NZ
Copenhagen Valley Regulators	1st Sat	Shorty Lamooore	435-723-8614	Mantua	UT	Golden Downs Rangers	3rd Sun	Ian Douglas	0064-3-5418421	Wakefield	NZ
Crow Seeps Cattle Co. L.L.C.	1st Sat	Buffalo Juan	435-528-7432	Mayfield	UT	Quarry Gang	3rd Sat	Kento Kid	64-6-857-7297	Waipawa	NZ
Roller Mill Hill Gunslingers	3rd Sat	Widsoe Kid	435-676-8382	Panquitch	UT	Tararua Rangers	3rd Sun	J.E.B. Stuart	64-6-3797575	Carterton	NZ
Wasatch Summit Regulators	3rd Sun	Chaos Kelly	801-255-7732	Park City	UT	Trail Blazers	2nd Sun	Sudden Lee	64-3-755-8870	Hokitika	NZ
Castle Gate Posse	4th Sat	Cwby Murder'n Maude	435-637-8209	Price	UT	Wairarapa Pistol Club	2nd Sun	Southern Cross	64-6-379-8062	Gladstone	NZ
Utah War	1st & 5th Sat	Jubal O. Sackett	801-944-3444	Salt Lake	UT	SASS MOUNTED MONTHLY MATCHES					
Hobble Creek Wranglers	2nd Sat	Utah Rifleman	801-489-5267	Springville	UT	California Desperados Mounted Shooters	As Sched	Gentleman Joe	661-538-9826	Acton	CA
Dixie Desperados	2nd & 4th Sat	Bit Younger	435-688-1699	St. George	UT	Fresno Stage Robbers	4th Sun	Dewey D. Mented	559-846-6341	Fresno	CA
Diamond Mountain Rustlers	3rd Sat	Cinch	435-722-5118	Vernal	UT	California Range Riders Mounted Shooters	As Sched	Old Buckaroo	408-710-1616	Gilroy	CA
Virginia City Marshals	1st Tues	Virginia Vixen	703-455-4795	Fairfax	VA	Coyote Valley Regulators	1st Sat	Leroy P. Justice	408-842-6694	Gilroy	CA
Pepper Mill Creek Gang	4th Sun	Slip Hammer Spiv	540-775-4561	King George	VA	Roy Rogers Rangers	2nd Sat	Wildcat Kate	951-928-4601	Menifee	CA
Blue Ridge Regulators	2nd Sun	Bad Company	540-886-3374	Lexington	VA	Drive By Shooters Assoc.	As Sched	Nuevo Mike	505-832-4059	Murrieta	CA
Hogtown Wild Bunch	As Sched	Curley Butch	434-528-8543	Lynchburg	VA	Ghost Town Riders Mtd Shooters	As Sched	Buck Cantrel	714-970-5767	Norco	CA
K.C.'s Corral	3rd Sat	Sam Hades	804-264-3608	Mechanicsville	VA	San Joaquin Valley Rangers	2nd Sun	Jim Wild	209-941-4655	Stockton	CA
Cavalier Cowboys	1st Sun	Kuba Kid	804-270-9054	Richmond	VA	LC Cowboys	1st Sun	L.C. Smith	909-926-0070	Winchester	CA
Roanoke Rifle & Revolver Club	4th Sun	Trapper Dan	540-890-5162	Roanoke	VA	Sand Creek Shadow Riders	As Sched	Wildkat Mike	303-257-9565	Byers	CO
Mattaponi Sundowners	3rd Sun	Flatboat Bob	804-785-2575	West Point	VA	Revengers of Montezuma	As Sched	Piedra Kidd	970-565-9228	Cortez	CO
Verdant Mountain Vigilantes	1st Sun	Slippery Slim	802-426-3824	Circle D Ranch	VT	Colorado Cowboys Mounted	As Sched	Mule Creek	719-748-3398	Lake George	CO
Wolverton Mtn. Peace Keepers	3rd Sat	Hellfire	360-260-5299	Ariel	WA	Bitter Creek Rangers Mounted	3rd Sat	Cherokee Maddog	423-326-3759	Ft. Oglethorpe	GA
Smokey Point Desperados	2nd Sun	Mudflat Mike	425-335-5176	Arlington	WA	Broken Spoke Mounted Posse	As Sched	El Paisano	217-964-2433	Mendon	IL
Rattlesnake Gulch Rangers	Last Sat	Crisco	509-628-0889	Benton City	WA	Midwest Rangers, Inc.	As Sched	James B. Hume	630-961-9696	Rockford	IL
Old West Cowboys & Guns Shooting Society	As Sched	Bear Britches	800-735-1348	Cle Elum	WA	Greasy Grass Scouts Mounted	As Sched	Prairie Annie	406-638-2438	Garryowen	MT
North East Washington Regulators	1st Wknd	Crossfire Scout	509-684-8953	Colville	WA	New Hampshire Mtd Shooters	As Sched	Richard Moody	603-487-3379	Holderness	NH
Custer Renegades	4th Sun	Fleetwood	360-318-9758	Custer	WA	Rio Grande Mounted Rustlers	2nd Sat	Buckskin Doc	505-440-0257	Belen	NM
Apple Valley Marshals	3rd Sat	Silent Sam	509-884-3875	East Wenatchee	WA	Buffalo Range Riders Mounted	1st Sat	Nuevo Mike	505-832-4059	Founders Ranch	NM
Black River Regulators	4th Sat	Montana Slim	360-754-4328	Littlerock	WA	Pecos Valley Pistoleros	4th Sat	Yankee Duke	505-308-9245	Hagerman	NM
Webfoot Buckaroos	4th Sun	Alzada Slim	360-308-8384	Poulsbo	WA	Magdalena Trail Drivers Mtd	As Sched	Rimrock Mike	888-823-5709	Magdalena	NM
Beazley Gulch Rangers	Last Sun	An E. Di	509-787-1782	Quincy	WA	Gila Rangers Mounted Division	4th Sun	Captain Eli McDaniel	505-388-4060	Silver City	NM
Renton United CAS	1st Sat, 1st Sun	Jess Ducky	425-271-9286	Renton	WA	Las Vegas Mounted Shooting Assoc.	2nd Sat	Hell-Bent Wade	702-319-7878	Jean	NV
Ghost Riders-Snoqualmie Valley Rifle Club	3rd Sun	Sidewinder Sam	425-836-8053	Snoqualmie	WA	1st Ohio Cowboy Mounted Shooting Assoc.	As Sched	Tatanka Dan	513-932-1021	Middletown	OH
Mica Peak Marshals	1st & 3rd Sat	Missoura Mary	509-926-3665	Spokane Valley	WA	Lone Pine Rangers	3rd Sat	Hawkeye Scout	541-447-7012	Prineville	OR
Rock River Regulators	1st Sat	Stoney Mike	608-868-5167	Beloit	WI	Deadwood Seven Down Regulators Mtd	As Sched	W.E.L.	605-642-4736	Spearfish	SD
Wisconsin Old West Shootist	4th Sat	Mississippi Traveler	715-262-4000	Boyceville	WI	Plum Creek Carriage & Shooting Society Mtd	1st Sat	Delta Raider	512-376-2602	Lockhart	TX
Bristol Plains Pistoleros	2nd Sun	Chicago Steely Bob	847-322-2647	Bristol	WI	Cheyenne Regulators Mounted	1st Sat	Overland Kid	307-635-9944	Cheyenne	WY
The Bad Guys Posse	As Sched	Speedy Dan	262-728-6577	Elkhorn	WI						
Western Wisconsin Wild Bunch	2nd Sat	Sierra Jack Cassidy	608-788-6966	Holmen	WI						
Oconomowoc Cattleman's Assoc.	4th Sat	Wheeler	262-549-0338	Oconomowoc	WI						
Blue Hills Bandits	3rd Sun	Lone Lady	715-458-4841	Rice Lake	WI						
Liberty Prairie Regulators	3rd Sat	Dirty Deeds	920-748-4833	Ripon	WI						
Good Guys Posse	As Sched	Longtooth	847-927-0664	Sharon	WI						
Cowboy Action Shooting Sports	4th Sun	Last Word	304-289-6098	Berkeley Springs	WV						
The Raittown Rowdys	2nd Sun	Miss Print	304-589-6162	Bluefield	WV						
Kanawha Valley Regulators	3rd Wknd	Pike Marshall	304-925-9342	Elanor	WV						
Dawn Ghost Riders	1st Sat	Coffee Bean	304-327-9884	Hinton	WV						
Powder River Justice Comm. WSAS	3rd Sun	Red Angus	307-684-9473	Buffalo	WY						
Bessemer Vigilance Comm. WSAS	1st Sun	Midnite Oil	307-235-1836	Casper	WY						
Cheyenne Regulators, Inc.	1st Sat	Overland Kid	307-635-9940	Cheyenne	WY						

If your Listing is incorrect, please notify SASS office (714) 694-1800.

SASS AFFILIATED STORE LIST

Mountain View Sports Center	Anchorage	AK	David E. Wren	907-563-8600	P.F. Custom Guns	Asheville	NC	Phil Flack	828-252-9487
Don's Weaponry, Inc.	North Little Rock	AR	Don Hill	501-945-2324	The Gun Store Inc.	Lexington	NC	Jim Henriksen	336-249-4388
Piney Woods Trading Post	Texarkana	AR	Robert D. Cooper	870-774-1586	Wolff's Custom Guns	Lexington	NC	J. Spencer Davis, Jr.	336-764-5442
Saber River Gunsmithing	Chino Valley	AZ	Glenn Stolle	928-717-0067	Custom Leather Goods	Grandin	ND	Dale Miller	701-484-5773
Cochise Leather	Cochise	AZ	David LaFlair	520-826-1272	Great Plains Hat Company	Bellevue	NE	Herbert S. Gindulis	402-292-6018
West Fargo Gunsmithing	Cochise	AZ	Wes Flowers	520-826-0012	Run -N- Iron Customizing	Bertrand	NE	Lonnie Meyer	308-472-1445
Smoke N Guns	Cottonwood	AZ	Perry Conrad	928-634-3216	The Bullet Hole	La Vista	NE	Ronald Ewasiuk	402-596-0367
Allsafe Security	Douglas	AZ	Lynn Kartchner	520-805-1970	Philip J. Rezac L.L.C.	Ualparaiso	NE	Philip Rezac	402-784-3557
Sam's Shooters Emporium	Lake Havasu	AZ	Ellie Scarmardo	928-680-4000	Al's Gun & Reel Shop, Inc.	Derry	NH	Allan G. Bacon	603-432-2708
Old Western Gun Repair	Maricopa	AZ	Thomas Thoresz	520-568-2852	Buzz Bowers Sportsmen's Den	Troy	NH	Arthur W. Bowers	603-242-6651
Wild West Merchantile	Mesa	AZ	Thomas Inogolia	480-218-1181	Ken Lane Saddlery	Alamogordo	NM	Ken Lane	505-437-8238
High Country Gun's & Knives	Prescott	AZ	Roger Landsberger	928-445-7704	Tularosa Traning Post	Alamogordo	NM	Richard W Dommers	505-437-0709
Cowboy Corral	Sedona	AZ	Kathleen Cahill	800-457-2279	Wilderness Country	Moriarty	NM	Jim Traver	505-832-0070
Trail Boss Outfitters	Sierra Vista	AZ	Gary Ross	520-515-0048	Eagle Creek Custom Etched	Nogal	NM	Wilfred D. Pote	505-354-0085
Thunderstick Trading Co. Ltd.	Tucson	AZ	Michael C. Gordon	520-290-8599	August Arms	Rio Rancho	NM	David E. Augustson	505-891-1614
Walker 47	Anaheim	CA	Andy Cauble, Jr.	714-871-8171	The Shooting Iron	Socorro	NM	Frank Combs	505-835-4440
Dave's Guns & Ammo	Corona	CA	Dave Bishop	909-737-0904	Tom's Guns & Gunsmithing	Boulder City	NV	Tom Hawks	702-293-9574
The Grant Boys	Costa Mesa	CA	Randy J. Garell	949-645-3400	The Gun Store Inc	Las Vegas	NV	Michael Veitch	702-454-1110
Wild Bill's Old West Trading Co.	Elk Grove	CA	Branden Irwin	916-686-7699	Sunrise Pass Arms Co.	Minden	NV	Harold Parks	775-267-2284
Gunslingers	Glendora	CA	Jeff Taverner	626-914-7010	Emmalee's Guns and Emporium	Pahrump	NV	Daniel White	775-727-5596
JMS Enterprises Unlimited	La Palma	CA	John Saliba	714-761-2609	Gun "R" US	Reno	NV	James J. Leary	775-972-3393
Shasta Leather Works	Montague	CA	Mike Domeyer	530-340-0050	KJS Gun Shop	Bainbridge	NY	Kurt J. Stietz	607-967-7296
Lee's Gunsmithing	Orange	CA	Ross Seymour	714-921-9030	Mud Creek Guns & Ammo	Kennedy	NY	Tracie E. Carlson	716-267-7505
Peacemaker Specialists	Paso Robles	CA	Eddie Janis	805-238-9100	Rosebank Sports	Staten Island	NY	James F. Bartiromo	718-447-3664
Rancho Cordova Guns and Ammo	Rancho Cordova	CA	Gary D. Renville	916-635-7214	The Cowboy & Shooter Supply	Barnesville	OH	W. E. McFrederick	740-425-3839
Ridgecrest Guns 4 Us	Ridgecrest	CA	Thomas R. Wiknich	760-375-1004	Target World	Cincinnati	OH	Joe Blanco	513-772-3343
California Deadeye Dick	Sacramento	CA	Richard Latimer	916-995-9555	Tom's Single Action Shop	New Lebanon	OH	Tom Wildenauer	937-687-1039
Old Sacramento Armoury	Sacramento	CA	Sharon Hurley Rubert	916-446-7079	Cowboy Outpost	Swanton	OH	Michael Dawe	419-875-5270
Tabor's Shooters Supply, Inc.	San Bruno	CA	Frank G. Tabor	650-589-0505	Tippacanoe Frontier Trading Co.	Tipp City	OH	Mara Back	937-667-1816
Bain & Davis	San Gabriel	CA	Peter Stefansky	626-573-4241	Buffalo Trading Post, Ltd.	Wilmington	OH	Kathleen Laub	937-382-0141
Cowboys & Indian Store, LLC	Santa Ana	CA	Jim Lincoln	714-210-2720	Leather, Guns, & Etc.	Colbert	OK	William E. Weaver	580-296-2616
E.M.F. Company Inc.	Santa Ana	CA	Gary Owen	949-261-6611	Meister Bullets, Inc	Oologah	OK	William Casey	918-443-2707
Red River D	Santa Clarita	CA	Leonard S. Duncan	661-296-1013	Bookout Enterprises	Wewoka	OK	Bob Bookout	405-257-3364
Load-X Ammunition Co.	Santa Rosa	CA	Steven Paulick	707-579-0990	ELF Enterprises Inc	Bend	OR	Edward E. Frye	541-388-4523
Dragoons	Sonora	CA	David M. Wright	209-588-1848	H & H Firearms & Tack	Bend	OR	Del J Hamberger	541-382-9352
Gold Creek Trading Company	Sutter Creek	CA	Steve L. Hoffer	209-267-9219	Gunns Gunsmithing	Elkton	OR	Timothy Gunn	541-584-2130
Diamond Jim's Sporting Goods	Ukiah	CA	James A. Tsarnas	707-462-9741	Applegate Arsenal	Grants Pass	OR	Gary Hanson	541-474-7281
Lead N' Feather Club	Alamosa	CO	Glen Stillings	719-589-2167	Shooter's Service Center	Portland	OR	Johnny Semm	503-289-1280
Aspen Filly's Merchandise	Aruada	CO	Jane Nelson-Rud	303-434-1204	Guntraders	Redmond	OR	J. W. Koch	541-923-0686
Stagecoach Trading Post	Cortez	CO	Wanda Martin	970-565-2523	Ted Blocker Holsters, Inc.	Tigard	OR	Shelley Brown	503-670-7972
PWP Outfitter's, INC	Denver	CO	Jerry Earl Depue	303-287-5311	Annville Gunsmithing	Annville	PA	Jerry Calhoun	717-867-5129
Henni Penni Underpinnings					Shooters Safety Products	Connellsville	PA	John R. Romanko	724-628-2437
& Apparel	Fort Collins	CO	Henrietta Richardson	888-392-0017	Americast Bullets	Dillsburg	PA	John Romito	717-432-5559
M Lazy C	Lake George	CO	Randy Myers	719-748-3398	LB Toney's Alamo Gunshop	Dubois	PA	Michael L Toney	814-375-9974
The Blunderbuss	Lakewood	CO	James D Fox	720-207-2843	Allegheny Trade Company	Duncansville	PA	Mark McNeely	814-695-3131
Double B Traders, LTD	Montrose	CO	Robert D. Eakin	970-249-7701	The Timeline Cowboy	Gettysburg	PA	David T. T. Smith	717-334-0776
San Juan Range	Montrose	CO	Paul Miller	970-249-4227	Dennis A. Yoder Custom Leather	Hamburg	PA	Dennis A. Yoder	610-562-8161
Vergamini's Custom Leather	Montrose	CO	David A. Vergamini	970-249-9195	G and J Leather	Johnstown	PA	George Livingston Jr.	814-535-1999
Melchert Enterprizes	Penrose	CO	Ron Melchert	719-372-3286	B&J Dist. Gun Shop	New Providence	PA	Joseph Huddle	717-786-3947
Lead Chuckers	Woodland Park	CO	Rex Workman	719-337-7191	Ace Sporting Goods, Inc.	Washington	PA	George L. Romanoff	724-222-5470
Adale Pawn Shop	Auburndale	FL	Dennis W. Dencker	863-967-7000	Myrtle Beach Indoor				
Coles Gun Shop	Clearwater	FL	David Willis	727-447-0507	Shooting Range	Myrtle Beach	SC	Ted Gragg	843-293-4344
Artistic Blades	Ft. Lauderdale	FL	Gerry Auclair	305-965-1411	Croft's Saddlery	Deadwood	SD	Jerry Croft	605-578-3228
Dan's Gun Room	Inverness	FL	Dan Ashley	352-726-5238	Terry's Toy's	East Ridge	TN	Terry Ray Eischen	423-899-9807
Deadwood Arms	Jasper	FL	Laura E. McDaniel	386-938-3523	Drew's Guns Etc.	Shelbyville	TN	B.A. Hopper	931-680-0192
Sassy Teton Lady	Miami	FL	Betty Woodburn	305-232-6343	Brutha Daves Guns	Arlington	TX	David L. Corbin	817-572-1829
Tomoka Jewelry, Gun & Paun Inc.	Ormond Beach	FL	Jerry Staton	386-676-1353	Cowboy Shootin' Stuff	Arlington	TX	J. L. Hamilton	817-319-5269
Ruby Begonia Emporium	Atlanta	GA	Sarah A. Miller	404-680-6511	Etowah River Leather	Baird	TX	Jim R. Simmons	325-854-1095
Buffalo Western Wear	Conyers	GA	Ronald Bellamy	770-918-0732	P.D.Q.	Corpus Christi	TX	Terry Hass	361-850-0300
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John's Trap Guns, Inc	Libertyvill	IL	John Picchietti	847-549-6226	Diamond Valley Saddles	St. George	UT	Mike Foster	435-574-3551
Pekin Gun & Sporting Goods	Pekin	IL	David Barth	309-347-6060	Gladhatter Sterling Beaver Hats	Clintwood	VA	Charlie Swindall	276-926-6423
Murphy Leather Co.	Evansville	IN	Dan Parmenter	812-963-6828	Degoff's Firearms	Mechanicsville	VA	Neil Atkinson	804-746-0273
Outlaw Ed's Shooting Supplies	Evansville	IN	Edward R. Happe	812-453-9092	Fort Wallula Firearms	Wallula	WA	Mike Larson	509-547-5906
Banana River Outfitters	Greenwood	IN	Greg Tynn	317-640-0172	R&D Gun Shop, Inc.	Beloit	WI	Diana S. Howell	608-676-2518
Kempf Gun Shop	Michigan City	IN	Susan Kempf	219-872-7957	Moe Hardware & Sporting	Black River Falls	WI	Randy S. Bjerke	715-284-4621
Luaco Gun Shop	Parker City	IN	Fred Ludington	765-468-8136	Classic Old West Arms	Bonduel	WI	Joseph A. Hasser	715-758-8380
Work Wears	Warsaw	IN	Curt Ebersole	574-269-9911	Guns of Delavan	Delavan	WI	Daniel R. Labonne	262-728-6577
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Spring Valley Gun Sales	Ewing	KY	Daniel W. Suit	606-849-2581	RLY Enterprises	Cheyenne	WY	Roger Yearick	307-778-9834
Jeff Flannery Engraving	Union	KY	Jeff Flannery	859-384-3127	North Pole West	Cody	WY	Spike Sheehan	307-527-5008
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